



Bahrain condoles with Pakistan over victims of floods

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, sent cables of condolences to Pakistan President Arif Alvi over floods that resulted in many deaths, injuries and damage.

His Majesty and HRH Prince Salman expressed their sincere condolences to the Pakistani leader, the victims' families, and the people of Pakistan.

His Royal Highness sent a similar cable to Prime Minister Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

BD25 voucher for each government school student

TDT | Manama

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, ordered the distribution of BD25 voucher for each government school student for the school bag and its basic supplies.

This comes in the implementation of the directives of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa to support improving educational outcomes.

Education Minister Dr Majid bin Ali Al Noaimi extended his appreciation to HM the King and HRH Crown Prince and Prime Minister for their continuous support to the educational system, enriching it, and providing the educational environment what motivates students to creativity and excellence.

BAHRAIN COVID-19

TOTAL TESTED

10271644

ACTIVE CASES

1569

DEATHS

1514

DISCHARGED

668169

NEW CASES

197

CRITICAL

1

220 fils (includes VAT)



New era of ties



HM the King with President Macron

HM King Hamad and President Macron discuss ways to enhance Bahrain-France friendship and cooperation

King Hamad a warm welcome.

Talks between the two leaders focused on developing bilateral relations towards broader horizons, particularly in the economic, trade, investment, cultural and tourism sectors to achieve common benefits.

They also discussed the latest regional and global issues of mutual interest.

HM the King expressed his sincere thanks to President Macron for his remarkable efforts in strengthening the long-standing relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries and peoples across various fields.

His Majesty highlighted the steady growth that bilateral relations are witnessing, which reflects the unique nature of the friendly Bahraini-French ties.

He commended the progress France is currently witnessing, thanks to the approach adopted by President Macron, citing his country's wide-ranging achievements and vital projects in all fields.

Commendable efforts

HM King Hamad praised the pivotal role played by France in strengthening the pillars of



His Majesty upon his arrival at Orly Airport

security and stability in the world, hailing its "commendable" efforts to enhance global peace and security despite the ongoing challenges.

His Majesty expressed his thanks and appreciation to France for its constant supportive stances towards the Kingdom.

He reiterated Bahrain's stance in support of peace, co-existence and tolerance across the world, in addition to its belief in dialogue, settlement of disputes through peaceful and diplomatic means, as well as its rejection of terrorism, violence and extremism, which would meet the aspirations of the peoples of the world for security,

stability and prosperity. The two leaders also discussed a number of regional and international issues that pose a threat to international peace and security, as well as ways to solve them through peaceful and diplomatic means in a way that would guarantee global peace and prosperity.

They also reviewed the climate challenges facing the world and discussed mechanisms of joint coordination to address them, in order to ensure the protection of the global environment, through joint international initiatives under the framework of the United Nations and its agencies.



His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa greets President Macron



HM King Hamad is given honor guard welcome

High-profile acts

Starry headliners set to perform at Al Dana Amphitheatre

TDT | Manama

Al Dana Amphitheatre, Bahrain's newest and most exciting live entertainment destination, yesterday announced compelling additions to its calendar.

The latest offerings add yet more variety to an already jam-packed calendar with high-profile acts guaranteed to appeal to a diverse fan base.

Among the regional galaxy of stars booked to perform is renowned Saudi performer Mohammed Abdo, the revered "Artist of the Arabs", who is confirmed for Friday, 4 November.

More on exciting names in the line-up, Al Dana Amphitheatre announced that Imagine Dragons are confirmed and scheduled to perform live on 24 January 2023, as part of the bands' Mer-

cury World Tour.

Shane Chalmers, Chief Executive Officer of Al Dana Amphitheatre, said: "By announcing these concerts now, just after announcing Justin Bieber, Tiësto, Lewis Capaldi and Abdulmajeed Abdullah during October and November, we are continuing to bring the biggest and best artists from around the globe to play at Al Dana Amphitheatre. There are

more announcements to come in the coming weeks which we are excited about."

Follow Al Dana Amphitheatre's social media accounts and stay tuned for all announcements, ticket-on-sale dates and updates, on Instagram (@aldana_amp), Twitter (@aldana_amp), Facebook (facebook.com/aldanaamphitheatre), TikTok (@aldana_amp) and Snapchat (@aldana_amp).

Located in Sakhir, Al Dana Amphitheatre is fast becoming a regional industry leader, further promoting the Kingdom as an essential entertainment destination and contributing to its economic growth. Additionally, the venue can host a variety of indoor and outdoor events for global event promoters, corporate events, and private celebrations.

Cabinet approves memorandum on water transmission networks project
TDT | Manama

The Cabinet approved a memorandum by the Ministerial Committee for Legal and Legislative Affairs regarding a draft law ratifying the loan and guarantee agreements between the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development to finance the project in developing water transmission networks associated with the second phase of the Al Dur Power and Water Plant.

Other memorandums discussed and approved were the following:

1. A memorandum by the Ministerial Committee for Legal and Legislative Affairs on the ratification of the framework agreement, and the agency and guarantee agreements between the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Islamic Development Bank. The agreements aim to finance the second phase of the project, which includes the improvement, transportation and distribution of water from the Al Dur Power and Water Plant.

2. A memorandum by the Minister of Housing and Urban Planning regarding the acquisition of real estate for public use.

Involving guardians in children's education

HRH Prince Salman announces parent induction day in public schools



HRH the Deputy King chairs the weekly Cabinet meeting

TDT | Manama

The Deputy King, His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, announced a parent induction day to be held by public schools as part of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa's directive to further improve education services.

The event will introduce parents to educational and administrative bodies, where they will be given a folder with information on the new academic year.

The Deputy King, His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, made the announcement yesterday as he chaired the weekly Cabinet meeting at Gudaibiya Palace.

Based on HM the King's directives and HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister's orders in preparation for the reinstatement of in-person learning

across all educational institutions, each folder will contain a voucher for guardians with children in public schools to purchase school stationary and supplies.

Amid the start of the 2022-2023 academic year, the Cabinet extended its best wishes to students and educational and administrative bodies for a successful school year.

The Cabinet urged the continuation of initiatives to further

enhance the educational system and services in public schools.

The Cabinet approved the comprehensive update for the attestation of university degrees and academic qualifications.

The update will facilitate the employment process for citizens and take into account the necessary attestation needs of academic qualifications for specialised professions in the fields of medicine, engineering, and others, in accordance with their

relevant procedures.

Meeting praised

The Cabinet commended the outcomes of the meeting held in Egypt between His Majesty King Hamad, Egypt President Abdel Fattah Al Sisi, the UAE President His Highness Shaikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan and the King of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, HM King Abdulla II Ibn Al Hussein.

The Cabinet stressed the importance of such meetings in cementing strategic relations between the four countries with stronger cooperation and coordination to unite efforts and overcome common regional challenges.

The Cabinet expressed its deepest condolences to Pakistan and the families of the victims of the floods and torrential rains caused by the unprecedented monsoon rains that swept a number of areas and wished a speedy recovery to those who were injured.

Georgia-stranded Bahraini families 'enroute to homes'

Staff Reporter

TDT | Manama

The Bahraini families stranded at an international airport in Georgia are on their way home, thanks to the quick intervention into the matter by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

It is learnt that the ministry officials got in touch with the airlines, which, without any notice, cancelled the flight from Kutaisi International Airport in Georgia to Abu Dhabi, pushing the families into great distress.

Left with no money to afford lodging as well as food, the members of the stranded families would contact our sister newspaper Al Ayam, which drew the Foreign Ministry's attention into the matter through

a special report.

The families have flown to Abu Dhabi from where they will be taking a connection flight to the Kingdom. The ministry thanked the airline management for fixing the issue while arranging flight service for the "stranded families".

Earlier, speaking to Al Ayam, Muhammad Abdullah, one of the passengers in the group, said: "Concluding our trip to Georgia, we went to the international airport in Kutaisi to catch a flight for Abu Dhabi, which is the transit before flying to the Kingdom. We were really shocked to know that the flight had been cancelled hours before the scheduled take off time.

"We approached the flight's

counter and explained our ordeal to them. However, their response was a thunderbolt to us.

"They gave us three options: return by booking new tickets of other airlines or travel to a different nation at our own expense and book a different flight back home from there, or wait there for 10 days for the departure."

Muhammad added, "We informed them that hardly we possessed the money or other resources to stay there for longer periods and the group comprised 13 individuals belonging to two Bahraini families. But they showed no lenience and refused to give housing as well as other facilities. We are now left with not many choices."

350 security guards attend training for children's safety

Staff Reporter

TDT | Manama

Security guards received traffic control training ahead of the start of the school year to ensure safety of children.

Owing to the reduction in the number of Covid-19 cases, the schools throughout the Kingdom are getting set to ring next week to welcome back pupils after a lengthy break.

About 350 security guards attended the training course ti-

tled "Organising traffic in front of education facilities" that was organised by the School Security and Safety Department's Training and Career Development Unit in collaboration with the General Directorate of Traffic at the Ministry of Education Hall in Isa town.

This workshop is part of the Ministry of Education's preparations for the start of the new school year and provides information on various aspects of traffic regulations near schools.

For instance, ensuring students' safety while crossing the streets, dealing with offenders, and the implementation of the current system for identifying minor accidents and dealing with them in a timely manner.

Earlier, the Ministry of Education launched an updated 'back to school guide' by including the COVID-19 traffic light alert system for the 2021-22 school year. Alongside, it had trained teams ready and safety regulations regarding traffic.

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COURT STORY

Seven persons face trial for forcing European women into prostitution

TDT | Manama

The High Criminal Court has begun hearing the case of seven persons, including four European women and a Bahraini man as well as an Asian man, all of whom are accused of forcing European women into prostitution.

Only four of the defendants, namely two European women and the Bahraini man, have appeared in the dock at the High Criminal, as the other two European women as well as the Asian man are at large.

The defendants are said to have faked many job offers which were packaged to the European women who were carefully chosen after understanding that they were in dire need of money.

When the victims arrived from their countries, they were locked up in several apartments by the defendants and compelled to have paid sex with strangers.

According to court files, the defendants were threatened and physically attacked to meet their inhumane demands. They also revealed that the Bahraini defendant was the mastermind of the gang, while the other defendants' roles were to manage the girls and monitor the apartments.

Astonishingly, the defendants managed to run their activities from 2017 until 2022.

"I received a job offer, and I came to Bahrain. I was immediately locked up in an apartment and was forced to have sex with men. I was threatened and physically assaulted to accept doing that," one of the victims told prosecutors.

The women were kept at the Protection Centre of the Labour Market Regulatory Authority. The defendants' trial will resume on September 4, 2022, during which the prosecution witnesses will deliver their testimonies.

16 distressed Filipinos repatriated

TDT | Manama

Sixteen distressed Filipinos, including four children and one adult with a medical condition, have been repatriated as part of the Philippine Embassy's Repatriation Program.

They left Manama for Manila on 25 August 2022 via Gulf Air.

The Embassy facilitated the repatriation and shouldered the airfare of all the repatriates through the Assistance-to-Nationals (ATN) Fund of the De-

partment of Foreign Affairs in Manila.

A total of 109 Filipinos have so far benefitted from the program for this year.

The repatriates expressed their gratitude to the Philippine Embassy for the timely assistance.

The Office of the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) at the Embassy and the Main Office in Manila also provided assistance to the repatriates, particularly upon their arrival at the international airport in Manila.

Iran 'offering' advanced arms to Mideast proxies

'Joint efforts needed to defeat destabilising activities of Iran in the region'

Staff Reporter

TDT | Manama

Tehran regime is offering advanced weapons to its proxies in the region, threatening the overall security of the Middle East, said US Air Forces Central (AFCENT) Commander Lieutenant General Alexus G Grynkeiwich.

This came as Lt Gen Grynkeiwich held an on-the-record press briefing attended by journalists from Bahrain on Sunday. "Iran with a network of partners does threaten regional stability. But the provision of those partners and proxies with advanced conventional weapons, and then Iran's ability to control those partners and proxies either for their own ends or their inability to control them has led to the creation of armed groups that have advanced weapons they can use in destabilising ways that no one really has control of."

"It's something that is clearly a concern here. So Iranian behaviour in the region, primarily driven by its designs for regional hegemony, are another issue that has - that is certainly challenging here for us," he pointed out.

Lt Gen Grynkeiwich highlighted the significance of the 90-day assessment carried out by US Central Command Commander Erik Kurilla, adding that it lay emphasis on violent extremist organisations in the region. "They exist all over the world, of course, but some here have been sort of the ones that



Lt Gen Grynkeiwich being briefed on theatre-level air defence system by Italian Air Force members at IAF Base Camp on Ali Al Salem Base Camp in Kuwait. (Photo credit: US Air Force)

have been more aggressive in attacking our shared values and our shared systems of government, starting all the way back before September 11th with Al Qaeda. And certainly we saw the scourge of ISIS as they grew and expanded across Iraq and Syria and Levant.

"And those are something that all of us collectively, whether we live here in the region, whether we work here or whether we come from afar, have an interest in countering and keeping under wraps."

Gen Kurilla came up with a strategy for addressing the longer-term challenges that we collectively face, he said. "And I use the word 'collectively' intentionally in that his main approach is all about regional partnership and it's about partnerships over posture and thinking about how we strengthen our relationships in military-to-military space with those in the

region that share our views of what regional stability ought to look like and how we can collectively work against common threats."

Lt Gen Grynkeiwich said he has lined up his priorities as the serving Commander of US Air Forces Central. "The first one is about valuing the contributions of our coalition partners, valuing the contributions of our soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines, base force numbers that are in the air component, that assist us on a daily basis with getting our mission done."

"We value the contributions of everyone on the team, which includes a whole host of coalition officers from the region and from outside the region here at my headquarters. Then we'll be able to innovate, capture all the ideas that they have, come up with some new ways of solving problems, and that then allows

us to partner, and that's the third point.

"So we value, we innovate, and then we partner for strength with other nations in the region. Again, our - the air forces in the region, the air defense forces of the region, and drive the partnership both bilaterally and multilaterally together to better defend ourselves - again, largely based on shared understanding and sharing information and intelligence.

"And then, lastly, we want to prevail. We want to prevail in our fight against ISIS that many of us have been involved in, certainly since 2014, and we want to prevail, again, in becoming that partner of choice here for everyone that we have long-standing historic relationships with."

On targeting threats from the part of IS and other insurgents, he said CENTCOM certainly has and AFCENT certainly has adequate forces in the region to continue the fight against ISIS.

"We have adequate forces in the region to defend ourselves as required. There's been an intentional vision to maintain that sufficient level of forces here, and that's because we know again that, if you go back to my opening comments, the threats from violent extremism, the destabilising activity that we see from Iran, and the need to continue to work with our partners in the region doesn't go away just because there's something else going on, something very important going on in another area."

BTEA vows to boost tourism and economy



Al Sairafi chairs the BTEA meeting

TDT | Manama

The Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority (BTEA) is committed to intensifying efforts to meet the challenging objectives of Bahrain's tourism strategy 2022-2026, boost the sector's GDP contribution, diversify the Kingdom's economic foundations, and generate employment opportunities for citizens.

This was emphasised by Tourism Minister Fatima bint Jaffer Al Sairafi as she chaired the BTEA Board of Directors' first periodic meeting of Q2.

In her remarks, Al Sairafi emphasised the need to work as efficiently as possible to max-

imise the benefits from the gradual recovery of tourism in Bahrain and the surrounding area, provide better creative tourism and recreational activities that attract Gulf tourists, as well as, advertise the Kingdom of Bahrain as a prime tourist destination in the region.

BTEA Chief Executive Officer Dr Nasser Ali Qaedi pointed out to that the 82% recovery rate of the tourism sector from the pre-pandemic period portends a more prosperous present and future for the industry and increases the responsibility of the ministry and the BTEA to develop the tourism sector in Bahrain in collaboration with the establishments of the pri-

ivate tourism sector.

Dr Qaedi highlighted the overall performance indicators of the tourism sector over the past year, the sector's marketing and promotion plans, the services offered to the authority's various clients, as well as the status of the organisation's infrastructure projects for the sector such as the Bahrain Exhibition World.

He also spoke about the most effective ways to utilise the authority's vast network of connections, including more than 75 tourism agreements throughout the world, in order to promote various events held by private tourism sector facilities in Bahrain.

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Memorable moment

Pakistan School Grade 10 students honoured for performing excellently in SSC-II Federal Board Examinations

TDT | Manama

Appreciation, admiration and acknowledgment of achievements is a great way of encouraging and con-

vincing one for better performance in future.

It works well for all and particularly for the students. It is of great importance to encourage and motivate students for



Students with proud parents, teachers, school staff and other guests



All the students were called to the stage along with their parents to receive their appreciative certificates amongst applause and claps from their classmates, parents and other guests. The happiness on their faces was worth seeing

more and enhanced performance.

Pakistan School deeply understands the significance of appreciation and its impact on students' academic improvement and therefore does not leave any such occasion but arranges appreciation ceremonies in the best interest of its students.

An appreciation ceremony was organised on 27 August for all the high-achieving students of Grade 10 in the Federal Board Examinations. They were invited to attend the appreciation ceremony along with their parents. Students of Pakistan School performed excellently in the SSC-II Federal Board Examinations.

There are 22 students who achieved A+ grade and 22 students who secured A grades.

Aisha Tariq Roll Number 1538666 secured first position

by obtaining 1080 out of 1100 which is 98.18 %.

Shahzadi Eman Roll Number 1538660 secured second position by obtaining 1069 out of 1100 which is 97.18 %.

Muhammed Hamza Saleem Roll Number 1053257 secured third position by obtaining 1055 out of 1100 which is 95.91 %.

Professor Dr Samir Iqbal was the chief guest of the ceremony. Professor Dr Samir Iqbal is the Program Director in the US National Science Foundation (NSF).

Dr Samir is also a professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV), USA. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry.

He earned his Ph.D. from Electrical and Computer Engineering Department at Purdue University, US. The most amazing thing about Professor

Dr Samir Iqbal is that he had his early education from Pakistan School Bahrain and Pakistan School takes pride in him.

It was, indeed, a memorable and delightful time for all the students and most importantly for their parents.

The ceremony began with the recitation of the Holy Quran, and National Anthems, followed by short introduction of the ceremony. Afterwards, the Chairman Board of Management addressed all the students, their parents and other guests.

He appreciated the efforts and dedication of staff, students and parents in making this achievement possible. He further added that the school has been trying to inculcate in its students the fruitful and effective study habits and a sense of ownership and responsibility to strive for better performance.

UTB engineering and computing programmes re-accredited by ABET

With this re-accreditation, students, employers and society are assured that these engineering and computing programmes meet established educational standards in preparing graduates to enter in the global workforce, and that the certificates of the graduates of these programmes will be treated with the same recognition with those graduates of international universities endorsed by ABET

DR HASAN ALMULLA, PRESIDENT OF UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY BAHRAIN (UTB)



TDT | Manama

The Bachelor of Science in Mechatronics Engineering (BSME) and the Bachelor of Science in Informatics Engineering (BSIE) programmes of the University of Technology Bahrain (UTB) received full accreditation by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, Inc. (ABET) until September 30, 2028.

It came following a rigorous inspection process including but not limited to teaching and learning, assessment, student support, stakeholders' qualifications, facilities and laborato-

ries, and partnerships among others underpinned by internationally recognised standards determined by ABET-accrediting authorities.

The UTB's BSCS programme was first accredited in 2013 while its BSME and BSIE programmes were first accredited in 2015, which made UTB the first private university in the country to receive international ABET accreditation.

On this occasion, Dr Hasan Almulla, UTB President, proudly said that with this re-accreditation, students, employers and society are assured that these engineering and computing programmes meet established

educational standards in preparing graduates to enter in the global workforce, and that the certificates of the graduates of these programmes will be treated with the same recognition with those graduates of international universities endorsed by ABET.

He also added that UTB upholds its dedication of providing high quality of learning, innovation and dissemination of knowledge through research-inspired teaching and enhancing the educational, economic, social and cultural prosperity of the community while inspiring more students and the future generations to come.

MKF hosts induction day

TDT | Manama

Al-Mabarrah Al-Khalifa Foundation (MKF) hosted an induction day for the Rayaat Scholarship programme for the academic year 2022-2023 on August 28 at the East Riffa Cultural and Sports Club.

During the meeting, all new students of the program were welcomed by a speech from Ms Noora bin Hindi, Head of Rayaat Scholarship programme at the Foundation.

The new students were introduced to the Foundation's objectives and various programmes, as well as the general rules of the Rayaat programme.

Among the participants, were two graduates from the Rayaat and Ithra program, who in turn, shared their insights and experiences on university life and what the Rayaat program offers to students in terms of benefits and personal development to be gained from the programme.



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CONDENSED INTERIM FINANCIAL INFORMATION
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

CONDENSED INTERIM STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (REVIEWED) FOR THE PERIOD ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

	June 30 2022 BD Reviewed	June 30 2021 BD Unreviewed
Gross premiums written	9,358,686	8,492,633
Reinsurance premiums ceded	(2,714,336)	(3,579,537)
Excess of loss premiums	(259,094)	(151,133)
Net premiums written	6,385,256	4,761,963
Movement in unearned premiums	(1,528,762)	111,595
Net premiums earned	4,856,494	4,873,558
Gross claims paid	(5,342,531)	(5,847,805)
Reinsurer's share of claims paid	1,536,357	2,534,718
Net movement in outstanding claims	(134,742)	169,074
Net claims incurred	(3,940,916)	(3,144,013)
Reinsurance commission and fees	504,087	431,177
Policy acquisition costs	(651,236)	(631,554)
Expenses allocated to technical operations	(1,903,737)	(1,653,502)
Profit commission and discount received on claims paid	3,752	3,384
Net underwriting result	(1,131,556)	(120,950)
Interest income	915,791	1,330,294
Share of profit / (loss) from associates	207,702	(458,366)
Dividend income	19,383	18,268
Other income	115,383	100,645
	1,258,259	990,841
Expenses allocated to general operations	(1,529,561)	(1,434,286)
Loss before tax for the period	(1,402,858)	(564,395)
Taxation	225	(19,296)
Net loss for the period	(1,402,633)	(583,691)
Other comprehensive income :		
Items that may be reclassified to profit or loss subsequently		
Net change in fair value of available-for-sale investments	(123,383)	206,025
Other comprehensive (loss)/Income	(123,383)	206,025
Total comprehensive loss for the period	(1,526,016)	(377,666)

CONDENSED INTERIM STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT JUNE 30, 2022

	June 30, 2022 BD (Reviewed)	December 31, 2021 BD (Audited)
Assets :		
Cash and bank balances	25,869,119	18,249,336
Guarantee deposits	4,933,218	4,952,101
Group treasury account	17,838,078	28,405,921
Investment in associates	9,311,314	9,103,612
Available-for-sale investments	1,150,393	1,273,776
Insurance and reinsurance receivables	7,630,436	6,411,896
Reinsurers' share of unearned premiums	1,779,891	1,860,744
Reinsurers' share of outstanding claims	5,887,690	5,798,133
Deferred policy acquisition costs	630,890	546,591
Other receivables and prepayments	930,398	775,659
Due from related parties	701,192	3,535,593
Right-of-use assets	473,034	502,414
Investment properties	4,573,838	4,580,534
Property and equipment	204,095	215,249
Total assets	81,913,586	86,211,559
Liabilities and Equity:		
Liabilities		
Gross unearned premiums	7,822,877	6,374,968
Gross outstanding claims	13,889,392	13,665,093
Insurance and reinsurance payable	6,499,690	6,428,221
Lease liabilities	531,462	592,734
Due to related parties	215,005	226,244
Taxes payable	133,946	158,987
Accounts payable and accruals	5,256,174	9,827,567
Deferred commission income	427,818	334,155
Employees' terminal benefits	869,759	810,111
Total liabilities	35,646,123	38,418,080
Equity		
Share capital	20,000,000	20,000,000
Statutory reserve	5,527,041	5,527,041
Investments revaluation reserve	(184,373)	(60,990)
Retained earnings	20,924,795	22,327,428
Total equity	46,267,463	47,793,479
Total liabilities and equity	81,913,586	86,211,559

These statements have been extracted from the interim condensed financial information which were approved for issue on August 24, 2022 and reviewed by BDO

LEGAL VIEWPOINT

Turquand Case



DR ABDELGADIR WARSAMA

AWARSAMA@WARSAMALC.COM

To what extent you are supposed to be aware of the internal affairs of the company you are dealing with, say in a big contract or other normal business transactions. This very delicate legal issue, has been discussed by the House of Lords in some cases.

The issue was first discussed in the Turquand case. The facts of this case reveal that, Turquand was the official liquidator of an insolvent company which gave a bond to a bank to secure the drawings on its current account. The bond signed by two directors, however, when the company was sued it alleged that under its articles of association, directors only had the power to borrow up to an amount authorized by a company resolution. In other words, the company as per its internal rules, is not responsible for the act taken by such directors. The Court of Exchequer Chamber, decided that the company is liable.

However, the rule in Turquand case was not accepted as being firmly entrenched in law until it was endorsed later by the House of Lords. Lord Hatherly phrased the law stating that, (When there are persons conducting the affairs of the company in a manner which appears to be perfectly consonant with the articles of association, those so dealing with them externally are not to be affected by irregularities which may take place in the internal management of the company).

So, where the company's articles provided that cheques should be signed by any two of the three named directors, the fact that the directors who had signed the cheques had never been properly appointed was held to be a matter of internal management, and the third parties who received those cheques were entitled to presume that the directors had been properly appointed, and cash the cheques.

According to the Turquand rule, each outsider contracting with a company in good faith is entitled to assume that the internal requirements and procedures have been complied with. The company will consequently be bound by the contract even if the internal requirements and procedures have not been complied with. The exceptions here are, if the outsider was aware of the fact that the internal requirements and procedures have not been complied with and acted in bad faith, or if the circumstances under which the contract was concluded on behalf of the company were suspicious.

However, it is sometimes possible for an outsider to ascertain whether an internal requirement or procedure has been complied with. If it is possible to ascertain this fact from the company's public documents, the doctrine of disclosure and the doctrine of constructive notice will apply and not the Turquand rule. The Turquand rule was formulated to keep an outsider's duty to inquire into the affairs of a company within reasonable bounds, but if the compliance or non-compliance with an internal requirement can be ascertained from the company's public documents, the doctrine of disclosure and the doctrine of constructive notice will apply.

If it is an internal requirement that a certain act should be approved by a special resolution, the Turquand rule will therefore not apply in relation to that specific act, since a special resolution is registered with Company Registrar and is deemed to be public information.

By implication, I feel that the ruling in this case raises the point that, when contracting with a company it would be better to go the extra mile to have general info about its internal regulations, or at least to go through the Articles of Association of the company.

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

LuLu Financial Holdings opens 250th branch at Dubai Silicon Oasis

● The opening marked the 87th branch of LuLu Exchange in the UAE, and was followed by two more branch openings at Al Majaz and Maaza in Sharjah

TDT | Manama

The numbers speak volumes about the ambitious rise of Abu Dhabi based LuLu Financial Holdings (LFH) – a global leader in the financial services in-



LuLu Exchange - 250th branch opening

dustry, which today opened its 250th global branch in Dubai's Silicon Central Mall.

The milestone branch, which adds to the company's growing network across the UAE and nine other nations,

was inaugurated by Dr Aman Puri, Consul General of India, in the presence of the holding company's Managing Director, Adeb Ahamed, and other senior management.

Congratulating the team on their achievement, Adeb

Ahamed said, "Today's opening is a celebration of the amazing journey we have had as a team, and the many opportunities we have converted to emerge as a trusted brand. As one of the leading players in the financial ser-

vices sector, not just in the UAE but also in our other markets, we have been credited for being attuned to the sector's needs. Our efforts to bridge the gap between our consumers and our various physical & digital touchpoints are a key part of our growth story, and the 250th branch is a mark of our determination and perseverance to disrupt the global payments ecosystem."

The opening of the milestone branch was followed by two more branch openings on the same day, at Al Majaz and Maaza regions of Sharjah in the UAE.

Beyon Connect gets two key ISO certifications

TDT | Manama

Beyon Connect has announced it has achieved two key ISO certifications - ISO 27001 for Information Security Management, and ISO 27018 for Information Security Management Systems.

ISO 27001 enables organizations to manage the security of assets such as financial information, intellectual

property, employee details or information entrusted by third parties. Personally identifiable information (PII) is becoming increasingly attractive to hackers and ISO 27018 helps cloud service and application providers such as Beyon Connect to implement controls that protect personal information in the cloud.

Dr Sushan Banerjee, Beyon Connect's Global Informa-



tion Security Officer, said, "This certification provides us with the necessary competitive edge in the market to deliver our innovative products and services with internationally recognized security standards in place."

Ben King, Beyon Connect's Chief Operating Officer, said, "This achievement is yet an-

other key milestone for Beyon Connect, and we remain committed to investing in the management of information and security and data protection

in response to evolving security threats. Furthermore, we have targets of achieving certifications from the leading European benchmarks and standards organisations, ETSI and CEN in the near future."

NBB partners with training institutes for Evolve & e-Evolve

TDT | Manama

The National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) partnered with a number of the Kingdom's top training institutes to receive support for its recently introduced summer training programmes, Evolve and e-Evolve.

As an initial step, the Bank signed agreements with the Bahrain Institute of Banking & Finance (BIBF), Injaz Bahrain, Bahrain FinTech Bay, EMIC Training Institute, Mada Translation and the Paramedics Academy, who provided ongoing support throughout the training period held during July and August 2022.

The e-Evolve Programme sessions were held virtually on NBB's virtual training



platform, while the Evolve Programme sessions were held at NBB Headquarters. The BIBF-led sessions were held at the institute's premises.

Dana Buheji, Group Chief Human Resources & Sustainability Officer at NBB, said: "Through the launch of Evolve, we have been able to partner with key organisations and

leading training institutes within the Kingdom, enabling us to nurture a new generation of talented individuals." Dr. Ahmed AlShaikh, Director at Bahrain Institute of Banking & Finance (BIBF), said: "Through our partnership, we aim to fulfil Bahrain's economic development goals as we enable a highly qualified Bahraini workforce."

HSBC switches to recycled plastic payment cards

● The transition will reduce global CO2 emissions by 161 tonnes a year, and save 73 tonnes of plastic per year

TDT | Manama

HSBC Bahrain has announced that it is the latest business in the Group's global programme to rollout sustainable payment cards and eliminate single-use PVC plastic by the end of 2026, in favour of recycled PVC plastic (rPVC).



Ali Khunji

The programme – which sees HSBC's debit, credit and commercial cards being made out of more sustainable rPVC – is part of the bank's strategy to reduce its carbon emissions and

achieve net zero in its operations and supply chain by 2030 or sooner.

Based on the current volume of cards issued by HSBC per year (23m), the move to rPVC will reduce CO2 emissions by 161 tonnes a year. This will also reduce plastic waste - 73 tonnes per year; the weight of over 40 cars.

Ali Khunji, Head of Wealth and Personal Banking and Global Private Banking in Bahrain, said: "The move to rPVC underpins HSBC's global and local ambition to build a thriving and resilient future, and is part of the bank's transition to be a net zero business."

RAFIDAIN BANK BAHRAIN BRANCH



INTERIM STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION 30 June 2022 (Reviewed)	Reviewed	Audited
	30 June 2022	31 December 2021
	BD	BD
ASSETS		
Cash and balances with the Central Bank of Bahrain	10,701,517	10,601,093
Investments	20,706,328	20,717,559
Amounts due from banks and financial institutions	14,584	2,826
Loans and advances	5,742	21,061
Amounts due from the Head Office and other branches	1,225,471	1,225,471
Other assets	276,193	249,400
TOTAL ASSETS	32,929,835	32,817,410
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Amounts due to banks and financial institutions	65,191	73,218
Amounts due to the Head Office and other branches	5,225,232	5,205,446
Customers' deposits	4,368,968	4,717,170
Other liabilities	1,277,033	1,248,369
Total liabilities	10,936,424	11,244,203
Equity		
Head Office account	17,500,000	17,500,000
General reserve	243,043	243,043
Retained earnings	4,250,368	3,830,164
Total equity	21,993,411	21,573,207
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	32,929,835	32,817,410

INTERIM STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME Six-months ended 30 June 2022 (Reviewed)	Reviewed	Reviewed
	Six-months ended 30 June 2022	Six-months ended 30 June 2021
	BD	BD
Interest and similar income	534,199	394,118
Interest expense and similar charges	(3,593)	(4,340)
Net interest and similar income	530,606	389,778
Net gain on foreign currencies	990	575
Other income	2,470	10,940
Total operating income	534,066	401,293
Staff expenses	72,922	42,562
Other operating expenses	73,943	67,188
Total operating expenses	146,865	109,750
Operating profit before provision for credit losses	387,201	291,543
Reversal of / (provision for) expected credit losses - net	48,679	(47,993)
NET PROFIT AND TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD	435,880	243,550

INTERIM STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS Six-months ended 30 June 2022 (Reviewed)	Reviewed	Reviewed
	Six-months ended 30 June 2022	Six-months ended 30 June 2021
	BD	BD
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net profit for the period	435,880	243,550
Adjustments for non-cash items:		
Depreciation on right-of-use assets	8,995	8,802
Depreciation on equipment	2,267	3,418
(Reversal of) / provision for expected credit losses - net	(48,679)	47,993
Operating profit before changes in operating assets and liabilities:	398,463	303,763
Mandatory reserve with the Central Bank of Bahrain	(4,000)	5,000
Investments	15,084	10,980
Loans and advances	60,193	(4,556)
Other assets	(37,426)	13,324
Amounts due to banks and financial institutions	(8,027)	(33,707)
Amounts due to the Head Office and other branches	19,786	(23,289)
Customers' deposits	(348,202)	(274,796)
Other liabilities	37,484	(5,127)
Net cash generated from / (used in) operating activities	133,356	(8,408)
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of equipment	(629)	(53)
Rent paid against lease liabilities	(8,820)	(8,655)
Cash used in investing activities	(9,449)	(8,708)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Amount remitted to the Head Office	(15,676)	(4,707)
Additional capital transferred from the Head Office	-	3,250,000
Net cash (used in) / from financing activities	(15,676)	3,245,293
NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	108,231	3,228,177
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period	10,597,954	1,573,711
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE PERIOD	10,706,184	4,801,888

Dr. Ahmed H Atshan
General ManagerErnst & Young
Auditors

News in brief

◆ **Tesla (TSLA.O) chief** Elon Musk said yesterday he aimed to get the electric auto maker's self-driving technology ready by year-end and hopes it could be in wide release in the United States and possibly in Europe, depending on regulatory approval. Speaking at an energy conference in Norway, Musk said his attention was currently focused on his SpaceX Starship spacecraft and self-driving Tesla electric cars. "The two technologies I am focused on, trying to ideally get done before the end of the year, are getting our Starship into orbit ... and then having Tesla cars to be able to do self-driving. "Have self-driving in wide release at least in the U.S., and ... potentially in Europe, depending on regulatory approval," Musk told the audience.



Elon Musk: focused on getting self-driving Teslas in wide release by year-end

◆ **Taiwan says 12 Chinese fighters crossed Taiwan Strait median line**

Twelve Chinese fighter jets crossed the Taiwan Strait median line, which normally serves as an unofficial barrier between the two sides, on Monday, Taiwan's defence ministry said, as China continues its military activities near the island.

◆ **European Union foreign ministers**, meeting in Prague today and Wednesday, may agree tightening the issuance of visas for Russians



EU may agree tightening visas for Russians, discuss training of Ukraine troops

and start debate on a wider ban on tourist visas though there is no agreement on that, EU officials said. The six-month-old war in Ukraine remains a foreign policy priority for the European Union and a visa ban for Russians pushed by some mainly eastern member states will be at the top of the agenda. The bloc's defence ministers, also meeting in Prague on Monday and Tuesday, will also discuss options for setting up an EU military training mission for Ukraine. Several EU countries have been training Ukrainian troops for a while, mainly enabling them to operate weapons Western nations are delivering to Ukraine to help its fight against Russia's invasion. It is not clear yet where an EU training programme could be based and what mandate it might have, EU diplomats told Reuters ahead of the defence ministers' meeting.

◆ **Russia has shipped** a battery of S-300 anti-aircraft missiles from Syria to a Russian port near Crimea, according to an Israeli satellite imaging company, in an apparent attempt to bolster its air defences in the war with Ukraine. ImageSat International (ISI) captured pictures showing the presence of the S-300 anti-aircraft battery at Masyaf, Syria in April, and the empty site left behind on Aug. 25 after the hardware was shipped to the port of Tartus. Separate images showed the battery components on a dock at Tartus between Aug. 12 and 17. By Aug. 20 they had gone, and ISI concluded they had been transferred to a

Russia ships S-300 air defence missiles out of Syria

Russian vessel, the Sparta II, which left Tartus for the Russian port of Novorossiysk. Data from Refinitiv Eikon show the Sparta II is currently in Novorossiysk, having arrived via Turkey's Dardanelles Strait.

Iraq's Sadr says he quits politics, fuelling uncertainty



Reuters | Baghdad

Iraq's powerful Shi'ite Muslim cleric Muqtada al-Sadr said yesterday he was quitting politics and closing his institutions in response to an intractable political deadlock, a decision that could fuel instability.

"I hereby announce my final withdrawal," Sadr said in a statement posted on Twitter, criticising fellow Shi'ite political leaders for failing to heed his calls for reform.

He did not elaborate on the closure of his offices, but said that cultural and religious institutions would remain open.

Sadr has previously announced withdrawals from politics or government and the disbanding of militias loyal to him but retains widespread control over state institutions and still has a paramilitary group with thousands of members.

He has often returned to political activity after similar announcements, although the current political deadlock in Iraq appears harder to resolve than previous periods of dysfunction

NASA postpones Artemis

The NASA rocket was set to

Reuters

An engine problem forced NASA on Monday to postpone for at least four days the debut launch of the colossal rocketship it hopes will one day fly astronauts back to the moon, more than a half-century after Apollo's last lunar mission.

The US space agency cited a problem on one of the Space Launch System (SLS) rocket's main engines, as launch teams began a test that would have cooled the engines for liftoff. One of them would not cool as expected.

The delay was called at 08:35 a.m. EDT (1235 GMT), two minutes after

the targeted launch time, as the 32-story-tall, rocket and its Orion capsule awaited liftoff from the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Florida.

The mission, dubbed Artemis I, calls for a six-week, uncrewed test flight of Orion around

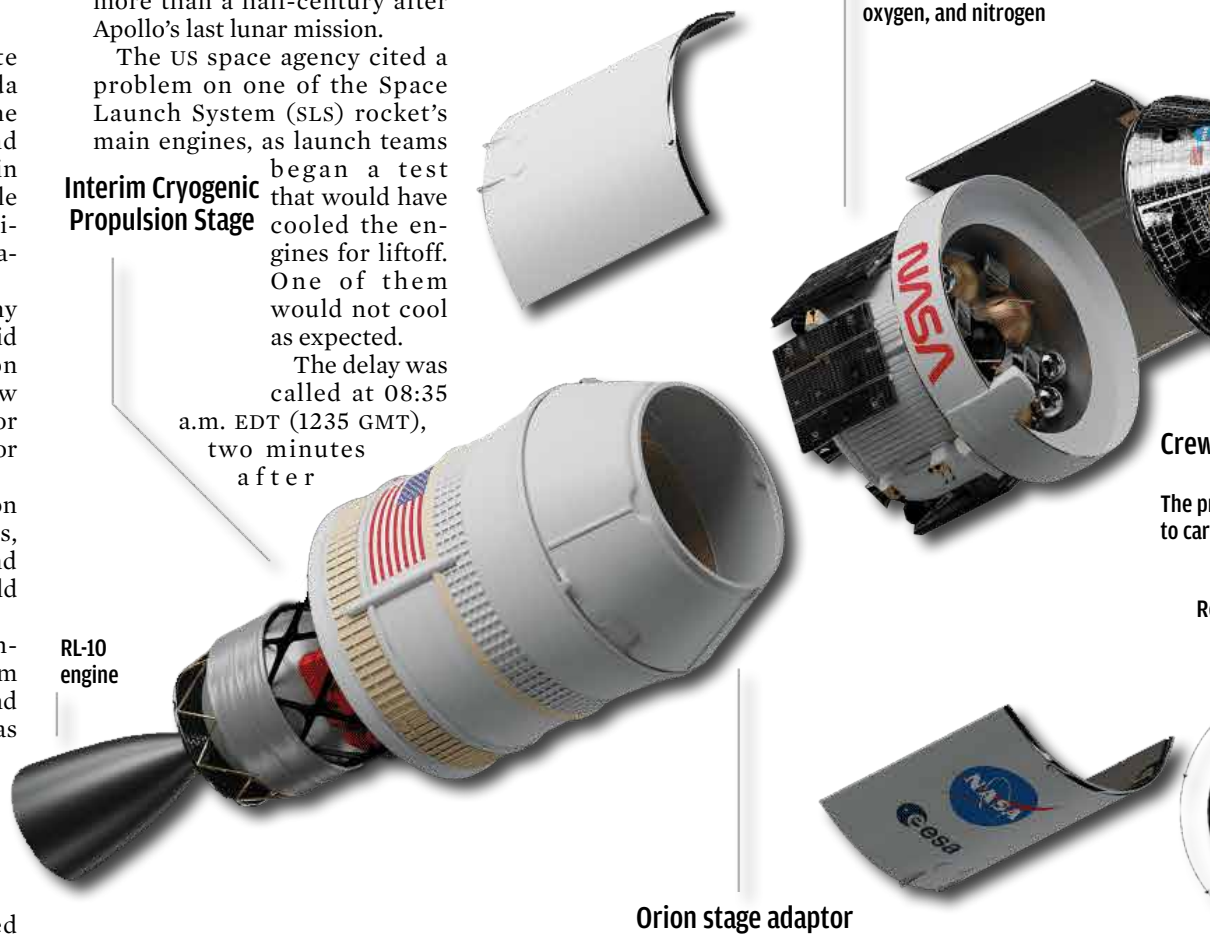
the moon and back to Earth for a splashdown in the Pacific.

Service Module

Provides propulsion, thermal control, electrical power generated by solar arrays and life support systems including water, oxygen, and nitrogen

Interim Cryogenic Propulsion Stage

RL-10 engine



Ukraine says it has begun counter-offensive to retake Russian-held

● Suggests greater Kyiv confidence as Western arms arrive

● UN inspectors to visit Ukraine reactor complex this week

● UN watchdog's director-general Grossi heading mission

● Moscow says team must give politically neutral assessment

● Russia says it shot down Ukrainian drone at nuclear plant

Reuters | Zaporizhzhia, Ukraine/Kyiv



Ukrainian servicemen patrol following recent Russian shelling, as Russia's attack in Ukraine continues, in Vasiukivka, in Donetsk region, Ukraine

Ukraine announced yesterday the start of a long-awaited counter-offensive to retake territory in the south seized by Russian forces since their invasion six months ago, a move reflecting Kyiv's growing confidence as Western military aid flows in. The news came as a team from the UN nuclear watchdog headed to Ukraine to inspect the Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant - captured

COVID-19 Countries worst affected

Country	Total cases	Total deaths	Global tally
1 USA	96,011,855	1,069,132	606,127,730
2 India	44,415,723	527,799	
3 France	34,478,797	153,857	
4 Brazil	34,384,747	683,548	6,488,790
5 Germany	32,041,348	147,104	
6 UK	23,492,875	187,761	Recovered: 581,648,944
7 S. Korea	23,026,960	26,618	
8 Italy	21,814,856	175,407	New cases: +316,048
9 Russia	19,445,581	384,160	
10 Japan	18,506,515	39,005	New deaths: +717
11 Turkey	16,671,848	100,400	
12 Spain	13,332,976	112,454	
13 Vietnam	11,405,711	43,113	
14 Australia	10,005,856	13,760	

Figures as of closing

Middle East

Country	Total cases	new cases	Total deaths	New Deaths	Total recovered	Active cases
Egypt	515,645		24,613		442,182	48,850
Saudi Arabia	813,284	+98	9,292	+3	800,481	3,511
UAE	1,014,387	+522	2,341		993,204	18,842
Kuwait	657,042		2,563		654,002	477
Oman	397,846		4,260		384,669	8,917
Qatar	428,147	+584	681		423,259	4,207

Rare Mickey Mantle card sells for \$12.6m



Memorabilia from New York Yankees legend Mickey Mantle is auctioned in New York

Reuters

A Mickey Mantle baseball card in mint condition sold for \$12.6 million on Sunday, becoming the most valuable piece of sports memorabilia to be sold at an auction.

The rare Mantle card, sold by Heritage Auctions, surpassed a record of \$9.3 million set in May for the shirt worn by Diego Maradona, when he scored the contentious 'Hand of God' goal at the 1986 World Cup.

"An eight-figure auction result in the sports market was the stuff of fantasy just a decade ago," Chris Ivy, director of sports auctions at Heritage, said in a statement.

"We always knew this card would shatter records and expectations. But that doesn't make it any less of a thrill."

Where the water once flowed



An aerial view shows a branch of the Loire River as a historic drought hits France, in Loireauxence, France



A boat sits on the dried basin of the La Boca dam as more than half of Mexico faces moderate to severe drought conditions, in Santiago, Mexico



An aerial view shows pagodas on an island that usually remain partially submerged in the water of Poyang

1682

William Penn leaves England to sail to the New World

1862

Second Battle of Bull Run in Manassas, Virginia, ends with a Confederate victory over Union forces



Battle of Tannenberg (WWI) in East Prussia ends in destruction of the Russian Second Army with 122,000-170,000 killed, injured or captured by the German 8th Army led by Paul von Hindenburg and Erich Ludendorff

1914

1928

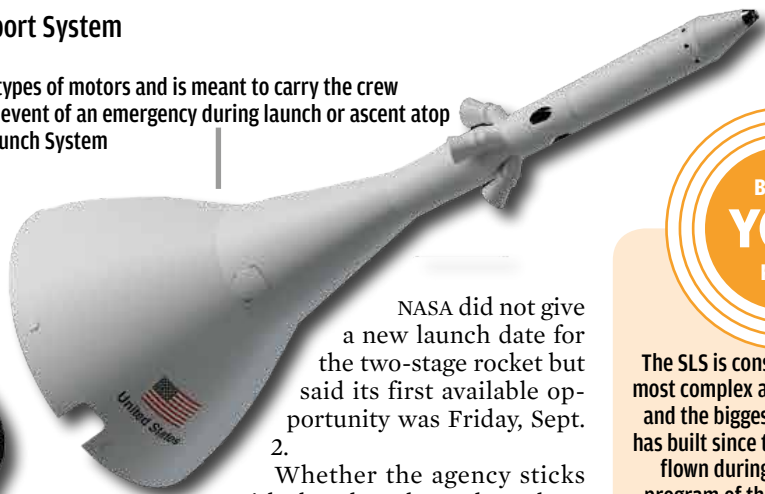
Jawaharlal Nehru requests independence of India

Orion moon test flight after engine snag

Orion lifts off on a mission to put a crew capsule into orbit around the moon

Launch Abort System

Holds three types of motors and is meant to carry the crew safely in the event of an emergency during launch or ascent atop the Space Launch System



NASA did not give a new launch date for the two-stage rocket but said its first available opportunity was Friday, Sept. 2.

Whether the agency sticks with that date depends on how quickly engineers can resolve the engine issue. The subsequent launch opportunity is Monday, Sept. 5.

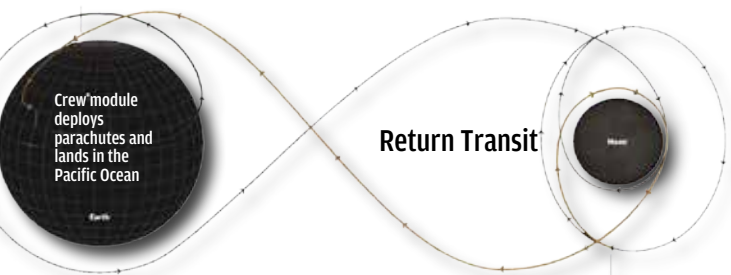
Late-hour launch delays are routine in the space business, and Monday's postponement was not an indication of a major setback for NASA or its primary contractors, Boeing Co (BA.N) for SLS and Lockheed Martin Corp (LMT.N) for Orion.

Spacecraft leaves lunar orbit on its way back to Earth

Crew Module

Pressurised part of the Orion spacecraft that carries astronauts to the Moon and back

Re-entry to Earth's atmosphere



The SLS is considered the world's most complex and powerful rocket, and the biggest the space agency has built since the Saturn V rockets flown during its Apollo Moon program of the 1960s and 1970s.

"We don't launch until it's right," NASA chief Bill Nelson said in a webcast interview just after the liftoff was scrubbed. "It's just illustrative that this is a very complicated machine, a very complicated system, and all those things have to work. And you don't want to light the candle until it's ready to go."

Still, the delay was a disappointment to thousands of spectators who had gathered on the shores around Cape Canaveral, with binoculars in hand.

Vice President Kamala Harris had just arrived at the space center,

Five decades since humans last on moon

Billed as the most powerful, complex rocket in the world, the SLS represents the biggest new vertical launch system the U.S. space agency has built since the Saturn V rocket flown during Apollo, which grew out of the US-Soviet space race of the Cold War era. If the first two Artemis missions succeed, NASA is aiming to land astronauts back on the moon, including the first woman to set foot on the

lunar surface, as early as 2025, though many experts believe that time frame is likely to slip by a few years.

The last humans to walk on the moon were the two-man descent team of Apollo 17 in 1972, following in the footsteps of 10 other astronauts during five earlier missions beginning with Apollo 11 in 1969.

joining a throng of dignitaries and invited guests attending the event, shortly before the scrub was called.

The SLS-Orion rocket's first journey will mark the kickoff of NASA's highly vaunted moon-to-Mars Artemis program, the successor to the Apollo lunar

NASA's next-generation moon rocket, the Space Launch System (SLS) Artemis 1 rocket with its Orion crew capsule stands on launch pad 39B at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, United States

missions of the 1960s and '70s.

The voyage is intended to put the 5.75-million-pound vehicle through its paces in a rigorous demonstration flight, pushing its design limits, before NASA deems it reliable enough to carry astronauts in a subsequent flight targeted for 2024.



Winter-...eld south

by Russian forces in March but still run by Ukrainian staff - that has become a hotspot in the war.

"Today we started offensive actions in various directions, including in the Kherson region," Ukrainian public broadcaster Suspilne cited southern command spokeswoman Natalia Humeniuk as saying.

Russia rapidly captured swathes of Ukraine's south near the Black Sea coast, including the city of Kherson, in the early phase of the war in stark contrast to its failed attempt to capture the capital Kyiv.

Ukraine has been using sophisticated Western-supplied weapons to hit Russian ammunition dumps and wreak havoc with supply lines. Humeniuk told a briefing on Monday that Ukraine had struck more than 10 such ammunition dumps in the past week, adding they had "unquestionably weakened the enemy".

Trump's home search unearths documents covered by attorney-client privilege - prosecutors

Reuters | Washington

The US Justice Department's search of former President Donald Trump's home this month turned up a "limited" number of documents subject to attorney-client privilege, federal prosecutors said in a court filing yesterday.

The new disclosure by the Justice Department could bolster a request by Trump's legal team to appoint a special

master to conduct a privilege review of the items the FBI seized from Trump's Florida estate during its unprecedented Aug. 8 search.

A special master is an independent third-party sometimes appointed by a court in sensitive cases to review materials potentially covered by attorney-client privilege to ensure investigators do not improperly view them.



An aerial view of former US President Donald Trump's Mar-a-Lago home

Flooded highways hamper relief efforts in southern Pakistan



Men walk along a flooded road with their belongings, following rains and floods during the monsoon season in Sohbatpur, Pakistan

Reuters | Peshawar/Quetta

The southern Pakistani province of Balochistan has suffered hundreds of millions of dollars in economic damage due to devastation from flooding as damage to highways hampers relief efforts, the province's chief minister said yesterday.

In the north, residents and officials said villages were almost entirely cut off from the rest of the country due to destruction wrought by heavy rains. The unusually strong monsoon rains have caused devastating floods in large swathes of the country, affecting more than 30 million

people and killing more than 1,000, and straining official relief and rescue efforts.

The Chief Minister of the southern province of Balochistan, Mir Abdul Qudoos Bizenjo, told reporters the province had suffered more than 200 billion Pakistani rupees (\$900 million) worth of damage from the more than two months of flooding.

"We are facing a lack of financial resources, tents and other relief goods and connectivity as all major highways is badly damaged ... hampering our relief efforts," he said, adding that his province needed more help from federal government departments to cope

Saddened to see the devastation caused by the floods in Pakistan. We extend our heartfelt condolences to the families of the victims, the injured and all those affected by this natural calamity and hope for an early restoration of normalcy.

@narendramodi

03



We just passed the first significant new gun safety legislation in nearly 30 years in this country.

@JoeBiden

04



Our thoughts go out to the Pakistani people facing terrible floods, to the families of the countless people missing and to the populations affected. France stands ready to provide help.

@EmmanuelMacron



Louixgundunallyng Lake.



An aerial view shows low water levels at Lake Oroville, California



A man stands near the Ceresole Reale Lake, which provides water to the Piedmont region through a dam, dried following weeks of drought at the Gran Paradiso National Park, in Ceresole Reale, Italy

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

Classifieds

Call us on +973 36458394
email : advt@newsfbahrain.com

VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

Arkan Itihad Development Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 13300444 or mialkhalifa@yahoo.com

Arkan Itihad Development Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 13300444 or mialkhalifa@yahoo.com

Golden Marine Services Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17813381 or TUFAL@TECHNOGROUP.CO

ALLAQ RESORT COMPANY BSC CLOSED SOFITEL BAHRAIN ZALLAQ THALA has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17636363 or ahmed@jazayani.com

ALLAQ RESORT COMPANY BSC CLOSED SOFITEL BAHRAIN ZALLAQ THALA has a vacancy for the occupation of TRAINEE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17636363 or ahmed@jazayani.com

3 D INTERNATIONAL W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 69991130 or HDERAZI@ARADOUSCM.COM

Land of style saloon has a vacancy for the occupation of HAIR DRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39078885 or K-PAXCO@HOTMAIL.COM

S A J HOLDING CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE REPRESENTATIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33222740 or VASAJITH@GMAIL.COM

LULU EXPRESS FRESH MARKET W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of BUTCHER (ANIMALS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17558558 or CAREERS@BH.LULUMEA.COM

WESTPOINT HOME (BAHRAIN) W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of GENERAL MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17838129 or ADEL.JABBER@WPHOME.COM

ALNAIZAK TOWERS IMPORT EXPORT AND SALE BUILDING MATERIALS has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66673333 or ALNAIZK@HOTMAIL.COM

AL NAIZAK LOGISTIC SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66673333 or ALNAIZK@HOTMAIL.COM

SYME MECHANICAL CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ERECTOR-STEEL-(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17456311 or SYMEASHOK@GMAIL.COM

CLEAR VIEW SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17660141 or CLEARVIEWBAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

COLOUR EYE ADVERTISING has a vacancy for the occupation of FOREMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39990797 or TURK187@MSN.COM

A.H.M AUTO SERVICES CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34035017 or SARDARGROUP254@GMAIL.COM

HUAWEI TECHNOLOGIES BAHRAIN W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DIRECTOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33993977 or MOHAMMED.ALDERAZI@HUAWEI.COM

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Germany's Scholz pledges to support Ukraine "for as long as it takes"

- Scholz vows to keep up economic, political, military support
- Wants expanded EU to include Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia
- Proposes majority EU voting on foreign, tax policy
- Wants Croatia, Romania and Bulgaria to join Schengen area



German Chancellor Olaf Scholz arrives to give a lecture at Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic

Reuters | Prague

Germany will keep up its support for Kyiv "for as long as it takes", Chancellor Olaf Scholz said yesterday, calling for an enlargement of the European Union to eventually

include Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia.

Faced with Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Scholz urged the EU's 27 members to "close ranks, resolve old conflicts and find new solutions", setting out his vision for the future of Europe

in a speech at the Charles University in Prague.

"Our Europe is united in peace and freedom and is open to all European nations who share our values," he said.

Germany had undergone a "fundamental change of heart"

in recent months on its military support for Ukraine, he said.

"We will keep up this support, reliably and, above all, for as long as it takes," he told the packed university audience.

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen echoed the "as long as it takes" promise to Kyiv in a speech in Slovenia, calling for "a new strategic thinking" to uphold European values.

Scholz announced a paradigm shift in German foreign and defence policy in February, pledging to ramp up military spending, but his junior coalition partners have grown vexed that Berlin has been too slow to send Ukraine heavy weapons.

Scholz used his Prague speech, entitled "Europe is our future", to promise that Germany would send Ukraine state-of-the-art weapons, such as air defence and radar systems and reconnaissance drones, in the coming weeks and months.

Germany could also could assume responsibility for building up Ukraine's artillery and air defence capacities, he said.

Pressing the case for EU enlargement, he said a gradual transition to majority voting was a stepping stone to growing the bloc.

He underlined Germany's commitment to EU enlargement and said the countries of the Western Balkans, Ukraine, Moldova and eventually also Georgia should join the bloc.

ACCESSION ACCELERATION?

Calls are growing for the accession process for EU candidate countries in the western Balkans to be sped up to keep them from running out of patience and coming under the influence of Russia and China.

Von der Leyen, speaking at a strategic forum in the Slovenian resort town of Bled, said the progress of western Balkans' countries towards membership has

been slowed "by international actors, including Russia, who seek to undermine democratic institution-building and the rule of law".

Critics say the long wait for these countries is as much due to reticence among many of the existing 27 member states to expand further.

Scholz acknowledged that an expanded EU would bring greater differences between member states, and suggested a reform of its voting practices.

"Where unanimity is required today, the risk of an individual country using its veto and preventing all the others from forging ahead increases with each additional member state," Scholz added.

"I have therefore proposed a gradual transition to majority voting in common foreign policy, but also in other areas, such as tax policy - knowing full well that this would also have repercussions for Germany," he said.

Total curfew in Iraq's Baghdad



Iraq's Joint Operations Command has set a full curfew in the capital of Baghdad, which will begin at 15:30 local time, state news agency INA reported on Monday.

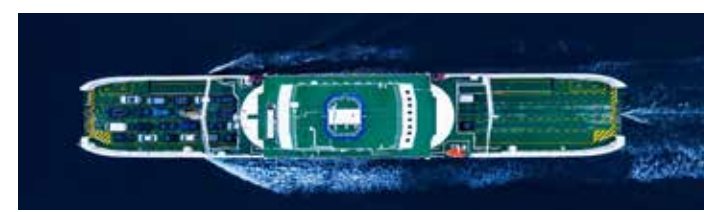
Car ferry carrying 300 people ablaze off Sweden coast

AFP | Stockholm

A fire that broke out on a car ferry carrying 300 people off Sweden's coast yesterday has been extinguished and the ship will be towed to port, Swedish maritime authorities said.

The blaze appeared to have started on a refrigeration lorry on the car deck of the Stena Scandica, which was sailing from Sweden to Latvia.

"The fire is out," Swedish Maritime Administration



Representative picture

spokeswoman Lisa Mjorning told AFP.

"The ferry will be towed to port in the next three to four hours," she said, adding that it would be towed to Nynashamn, south of Stockholm.

Earlier, a spokesman for the company Stena Line operating the ferry, Stefan Elfstrom, had said it was "a limited fire ... concentrated to a cooling truck on the car deck."

"It seems the fire started in a cooling truck," he said, adding that there had been "mainly smoke."

The Swedish Maritime Administration had sent three helicopters and seven vessels to the vessel, which was located off the island of Gotska Sandon on Sweden's southeastern coast.

The 300 people on board had remained on the vessel, she added, correcting earlier information that an evacuation had begun. "There are no injuries on board and there has been no evacuation," she said.

CELEBS

celebs

Julia Fox tells parents to buy cleaning tools instead of toys for kids

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Julia Fox has urged parents to buy cleaning tools instead of toys.

The 32-year-old actress made the plea on TikTok after discovering that her 19-month-old son Valentino - who she shares with former husband Peter Artemiev - "doesn't care for his toys".

In a message to her followers on the platform, Julia said: "He is actually more interested in what I'm doing."

"So I suggest that everyone buy their kid a mini-mop and mini-broom and start teaching them those life skills really young, so when they enter the real world they don't have to outsource for everything. And they know how to do things for themselves. I think that's really important."



Julia Fox

Demi Lovato lost her childhood to mental abuse, drug addiction

CELEBRETAINMENT | Los Angeles

Actress-singer Demi Lovato recently opened up about the emotional and physical abuse she's endured in the entertainment industry, from her days as a child star to incidents that led her to rehab, reports Variety.

The 30-year-old singer sat down with the podcast 'Call Her Daddy' to reflect on her career, sharing some of the darker incidents she's faced, like the time an unnamed member on her team told her she wasn't "sick enough" to seek treatment after she explained that she was "throwing up blood".

"I think that was his way of saying, 'No, you're not going back to treatment because if you do, this will look bad on me,'" Lovato recalled about the interaction back in 2017, quoted Variety. Less than a year later, she "ended up overdosing."

According to Variety, at the age of 13, Lovato started exper-

imenting with drugs after being prescribed opiates for injuries she sustained in a car accident.

"My mom didn't think she'd have to lock up the opiates from her 13-year-old daughter, but I was already drinking at that point," Lovato explained. "I had been bullied [and] was looking for an escape and when my mom saw how many of the pills had disappeared and how fast they did, she took them away [and] locked them up."

For the next few years, Lovato shared that she would still "get certain kinds of pills" when she was 15 or 16 years old, including stealing her mom's Xanax.

"It was off and on. Then at 17 it was when I tried coke



Demi Lovato

"My mom didn't think she'd have to lock up the opiates from her 13-year-old daughter, but I was already drinking at that point"

DEMI LOVATO

and loved it too much," she continued, recalling the period following the release of her Disney Channel original movie 'Camp Rock'. "That kind of led into me going to treatment right after I turned 18."

Variety adds that Lovato later discussed the return of her eating disorder between 2016 and 2018. "There was one time where I had binged and purged one night. I came clean to my team and said, 'Hey, this happened.'"

Kylie Jenner claps back at troll who mocked her lips

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Kylie Jenner has hit back at a troll who mocked her lips.

The 'Keeping Up With The Kardashians' star took a swipe at an online follower who made fun of her pout after she appeared to debut a new look in a TikTok video with best friend Stassie Karanikolaou which showed the pair wearing black tops and posing to the sound of 'Favorite' by Ciara.

The follower wrote: "The lips, please" before adding grimacing, sweating and skull emojis and it prompted a furious response from 25-year-old Kylie, who added: "It's the filter but go off," according to The Sun.

The exchange prompted a slew of comments from Kylie's fans, with one writing: "It's the filter but go off" I'd cry myself to sleep after that.

While another wrote: "It's the filter

but go off' like they don't look the exact same without the filter too."

One more defended the original poster, adding: "If she has to say no they don't really look like that it's the filter, as if they look better without the filter, why the h**l is she putting on that clownish filter lol."

Kylie previously confessed to undergoing lip filler treatments after lengthy speculation about whether she'd undergone any cosmetic procedures to tweak her look.

She opened up about her decision to have fillers back in 2021 on 'Keeping Up With

The Kardashians' reunion show 'The Final Curtain Part 1' and admitted kissing a boy made her paranoid about her pout.

Kylie said: "My love for make-up started with my insecurity with my lips. And I didn't ever think about it until I had one of my first kisses."



Kylie Jenner

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Britney Spears lays bare details of her abuse in new audio message

CELEBRETAINMENT | Los Angeles

Pop icon Britney Spears recently shared a new audio message on YouTube on Sunday evening (Pacific Standard Time) to give an in-depth look at her side of conservatorship in a 22-minute video that makes bombshell claims against her family, reports Variety.

The video only has sound, but no picture, and does not show the singer's face talking on-cam-

era. The video, which was quickly made private and no longer available for the public to see, was initially posted onto YouTube with a link shared on the pop star's Twitter account.

According to Variety, Spears' Instagram was recently deactivated, and over the past few

days, she has been posting more regularly on her Twitter.

"I woke up this morning and I realised there's a lot going on in my head that I haven't shared with anyone," Spears said in the video, quoted by Variety.

In the audio message, Spears said she has been offered other in-

terview opportunities from the likes of Oprah and others, but decided it is best to share her story herself. "I've had tons of opportunities...but I'm here to open myself to others and shed a light on it," Spears said. "I get nothing out of sharing this...I have offers (for) lots and lots of money...to me, it's beyond a sit-down, proper interview."



Britney Spears

Eva Mendes embraces 'messy' home after having two kids

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Eva Mendes has learned to embrace a "messy" home since becoming a mum.

The 48-year-old actress shares two daughters - Esmeralda, seven, and six-year-old Amada - with her partner Ryan Gosling and she's ad-

mitted it's been a struggle to keep the house tidy with two young kids in the house - but Eva tries not to let it bother her because it's "impossible" to keep a home looking perfect.

She told People.com: "My house is not always clean. I open my closet and it's messy and it's okay! I have two

children so it's impossible. "Having kids, you have to be okay with a mess. But the point is when my house is clean, I feel better. My mental wellness is literally connected to how clean my house is. I just don't like dirty - there's a difference for me."



Eva Mendes

SUDOKU

1	2	4	8			9		
	9	5		1			8	
8					1			
		9	4					
	7	6		5		4		
			3	7				
		1						3
	4		9		8	6		
3		8		2		1	5	

Yesterday's solution

3	1	7	6	9	4	8	2	5
6	8	9	3	5	2	4	1	7
4	2	5	7	8	1	9	6	3
2	9	4	5	1	7	6	3	8
5	3	8	9	4	6	1	7	2
1	7	6	8	2	3	5	4	9
7	5	3	4	6	9	2	8	1
9	6	2	1	3	8	7	5	4
8	4	1	2	7	5	3	9	6

How to play
Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

CROSSWORD

Across

1- Work like ...; 5- Burn the midnight oil, studying; 9- Patriot Nathan; 13- Run smoothly; 14- Corner; 16- Second hand, took advantage of; 17- Cube creator Rubik; 18- Chum; 19- All-male; 20- Chamber; 21- Never, in Nuremberg; 22- Sophisticated; 24- Fly catcher; 26- Lady of Sp.; 27- Glasses, briefly; 29- Make hostile; 33- Sip; 34- "Topaz" author; 35- Sugar substitute; 36- Old verb ending; 37- Methuselah's father; 38- "ER" extras; 39- Narrow inlets; 41- Mont. neighbor; 42- Licorice-like flavor; 44- Johnny-come-lately; 46- Viscid; 47- Chemical used on trees; 48- Indonesian resort island; 49- Planks; 52- Cambodia's Lon ...; 53- Pack and send; 57- Soothe; 58- Frown; 60- Actress Skye; 61- Dies ...; 62- Rival of Helena; 63- Annika Sorenstam's org.; 64- Attention-getting sound; 65- Ethereal; 66- 365 days;

Down

1- Copycat; 2- Hard, in Havana; 3- Yes ...; 4- Eyelet; 5- Intones; 6- Pardon; 7- French friend; 8- Russian fighter; 9- Married man; 10- Nick and Nora's pooch; 11- The Tower of Pisa does this; 12- Advantage; 15- Sustain with food; 23- Numbered rd.; 25- Frozen water; 26- Suave; 27- French composer Erik; 28- Balderdash; 29- Belowing; 30- Eagle's home; 31- Aromatic herb; 32- Limerick language; 33- Small gull; 34- Below; 37- All together; 40- Bright red color; 42- "You've got mail" co.; 43- Loudly; 45- Ancient; 46- Kitchen; 48- Arbor; 49- Radar screen element; 50- Sharer's pronoun; 51- Melodramatic cry; 52- Short letter; 54- Clinton's birthplace; 55- Actress Swenson; 56- Fleishy fruit; 59- Civil War inits;

Yesterday's solution

S	A	K	S	E	G	G	O	N	M	A	N	E
C	H	I	C	L	E	O	N	E	A	V	O	N
A	M	E	R	A	N	D	E	S	D	E	S	I
R	E	V	A	M	P	U	T	T	E	R	E	D
W	E	S	A	P	S	E						
T	A	L	W	I	N	D			P	L	A	S
A	B	O		N	E	D			I	S	S	U
P	O	T	T	A	G	E			D	E	D	U
I	N	A	N	E					L	E	A	O
R	E	N	T	S					A	B	S	E
									O	T	I	C
S	K	I	P	P	E	R			M	E	M	B
H	E	R	E						N	E	R	V
E	Y	E	S						O	N	E	I
A	S	S	T						R	E	S	E

Hamilton, Alonso back off in war of words over Spa crash



Mercedes' British driver Lewis Hamilton (R) collides with Alpine's Spanish driver Fernando Alonso
AFP | Spa-Francorchamps

Lewis Hamilton and Fernando Alonso eased off to avoid a prolonged war of words yesterday following their acrimonious collision in Sunday's Belgian Grand Prix.

Mercedes' seven-time world champion and his one-time McLaren team-mate crashed on the opening lap with Hamilton forced to retire after an airborne ride over his rival's Alpine car.

In the heat of the moment the veteran Spaniard blasted the British driver as "an idiot".

Hamilton revisited the incident on social media, writing: "First I want to apologise to my fans and especially those who came out to support me.

"After almost 30 years of racing, the feeling left from a mistake cuts just as deep as the first.

"My team, who work so hard, deserved more."

Alonso, 41, was also more composed in his comments after the race and distanced himself from the impact of his original outburst on team radio when he said: "What an idiot! Closing the door from the outside.

"I mean, we had a mega-start, but this guy only knows how to drive and start

After almost 30 years of racing, the feeling left from a mistake cuts just as deep as the first. My team, who work so hard, deserved more

LEWIS HAMILTON

in first."

Hamilton accepted full blame for the collision but was clearly put out by Alonso's initial fury.

He suggested he had intended to speak to the Spaniard until he "heard what he said. I know that's how things feel in the heat of the moment, but it's nice to know how he feels about me".

Alonso admitted "I was angry", adding: "The radio, anyway, when you talk, you talk to your engineer and to your team.

"It's a shame that sometimes everything is broadcasted, because if it's broadcasted, it is what you say now (in the moment), this (right now) is how you behave in the media.

"When you're talking on the radio, it's only a comment to your team, normally."

Bahrain fall to China in World Cup qualifier

Senior men's national team bow to continental powerhouses 67-80 in Group F game of Asian qualifiers for the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023

● Bahrainis suffer second straight defeat in qualifiers, stay bottom of Group F

● Mustafa Hussain top scores for Bahrain with 24 points in losing effort

TDI | Manama

Bahrain fell to their second successive defeat last night in the second round of Asian qualifying for the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023.

The nationals bowed to continental powerhouses China 67-80 in their Group F contest played in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan.

The Bahrainis trailed by as many as 18 points but then made a furious 10-1 rally to start the final quarter. That brought them to within just seven, 56-63, but they came no closer the rest of the way.

The result followed Bahrain's 50-104 loss to Australia at home last week, putting them at the bottom of their division with four games still to play. Bahrain dropped to a 2-6 win-loss record.

In yesterday's other Group F fixture, Australia defeated Iran 98-68 at home. The Aussies im-



Bahrain's Mohammed Ameer grabs a rebound during their game against China last night

Group F Standings

	P	W	L	+/-	Pts
Australia	8	8	0	232	16
China	8	6	2	121	14
Iran	8	5	3	68	13
Kazakhstan	7	5	2	56	12
Bahrain	8	2	6	-162	10
Japan	7	2	5	-77	9

proved to an 8-0 mark while Iran went to 5-3.

In Bahrain's loss last night, they fell behind 11-25 at the end of the opening period. They raised their play in the second and cut the deficit to single digits, 33-42, at the half. But after the break, the Chinese managed to widen the gap once more as they took a 62-46 advantage into

the final canto.

The nationals tried valiantly to stay in the game, getting to within seven points twice in the fourth. But the Chinese made the key baskets down the stretch to escape with the 13-point win.

Young point guard Mustafa Hussain top scored for Bahrain with 24 points, including four makes from beyond the three-point line. Ahmed Aldurazi added 10 points as the only other player in double figures, while Mohammed Ameer had nine points to go with seven rebounds. Ali Hussain chipped in with eight, while Wayne Chism scored seven points and took down 11 rebounds.

Qi Zhou paced China with 22

markers, while Junlong Zhu had 14 and Mingxuan Hu 12.

Following last night's game against China, the Bahrainis next host Japan on November 11 before hosting the Chinese in the Kingdom on November 14. The nationals then travel to Australia for an away game on February 23 next year, before playing in Japan on February 26.

The 12 remaining teams in Asian qualifying have been divided into two groups for this round. Group E features New Zealand, Lebanon, Jordan, Philippines, Saudi Arabia and India. The top three teams from each group, along with hosts Japan and the Philippines, qualify for next year's FIBA Basketball World Cup.



Bahrain return to qualifying action with back-to-back games at home later this year – they first host Japan on November 11 before taking on China in the Kingdom on November 14

Zain launches Playhera MENA



Officials of Zain and PLAYHERA at the launch event

TDI | Manama

Zain, the leading mobile telecom innovator in seven markets across the Middle East and Africa announced the launch of the PLAYHERA MENA esports and gaming platform, having unveiled a joint venture collaboration between Zain Group, Zain KSA and PLAYHERA Global, at the beginning of this year.

PLAYHERA MENA will primarily host own- and third-party esports tournaments, while also supporting ancillary activities such as cloud gaming, content hosting, e-commerce, and merchandise sales. With the speed and stability of the network being further boosted by Zain's award-winning 4G, 5G and fiber infrastructure, the user experience is set to be second-to-none.

To mark the launch of the platform, Zain Esports is conducting a regionwide PUBG Mobile league from that will end on October 3, 2022.

Zain Esports' success in attracting and engaging gamers will bolster PLAYHERA MENA's efforts to leverage and expand its existing 150,000 global player base. The multi-faceted gaming social hub will help various industry stakeholders to converge and engage, with over 50 popular esports and other competitive games on offer, including popular titles such as Fortnite; Valorant; PUBG Mobile; FIFA 22; Rocket League; and Call of Duty Warzone.

Sultan Bin Abdulaziz Al-Deghaither, Zain KSA CEO said, "The MENA is one of the fastest-growing gaming regions in the world and we are commit-

ted to fostering the growth of the ecosystem and unlocking the many opportunities that will arise for the benefit of all industry participants. We are enthusiastic to bring this platform to market and are certain that PLAYHERA MENA will further uplift and electrify this high-growth sector."

Malek Hammoud, Zain Group's Chief Investment and Digital Officer commented, "Through Zain Esports, we have an impressive ecosystem already established, and we expect it to evolve and grow exponentially as we empower PLAYHERA MENA's regional gaming ambitions. This joint venture enables Zain operations across our markets to efficiently connect with the gamer community and offer the best-in-class products and services that they need."

Conte backs 'son-in-law' Son to end goal drought



Antonio Conte and Son Heung-Min
Reuters | London

Tottenham Hotspur manager boss Antonio Conte has said he would be happy for Son Heung-min to marry his daughter as he defended the struggling South Korea forward.

Son has failed to hit the heights he established last term as his goalless start to the season continued during Spurs' 2-0 win away to Nottingham Forest on Sunday.

His form so far this term has been far removed from the run of 10 goals in the final nine games of last season that helped Son win the Premier League Golden Boot award.

Nevertheless, Conte said: "I understood Sonny is a really sensible player. "He's really sensible and a top man, a really good guy. If I am to make an example, if I have to find a husband for my daughter I'd like it to be a person like him.

Najma win handball Super Cup



Al Najma claimed the first trophy of the national handball season after winning the 2022/2023 Bahrain Super Cup last night. Najma defeated Al Ahli 31-24 in the one-off contest. The Super Cup is the traditional season-opening fixture on the calendar. Najma were able to fight back in the contest after trailing 13-14 at the half. Following the game, Najma were awarded the Super Cup and both teams their medals by General Sports Authority CEO Dr Abdulrahman Askar alongside Bahrain Handball Association president Ali Issa and other officials. Above, Najma's Mohammed Mirza receives the Super Cup from officials during the awarding ceremony after the match.

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Iran crowned Asian U20 volleyball champions!

Iranians capture record seventh title in Asian Volleyball Confederation event after defeating India in exciting four-set final

● Three Iranians and two Indian players amongst individual awardees from competition

● South Korea clinch bronze medal after defeating Thailand in game for third place

● Bahrain clinch seventh overall while Saudi Arabia take ninth place in final rankings

TDI | Manama

Iran were last night crowned champions of the 21st Asian Men's U20 Volleyball Championship, hosted by Bahrain.

The Iranians successfully defended their crown after defeating India 3-1 (25-12, 25-19, 22-25, 25-15) in an exciting final, which marked the end of the 17-nation competition.

With the result, Iran won a record seventh title in the tournament's history, including a third winners' trophy in the last four editions. The Iranians have also played in the gold medal game in nine of the last 10 championships.

For India, it was their third silver medal in competition history.

As the two finalists, Iran and India qualified for the FIVB Volleyball Men's U21 World Championship 2023 as continental representatives.

Officials from the Asian Volleyball Confederation and the Bahrain Volleyball Association (BVA) were in attendance for last night's title-decider. Following the final, the awards presentation and closing ceremony took place, with the top three teams



Iran captain Norouzi Erfan lifts the first place trophy with teammates and officials during the awarding

receiving their respective trophies and medals.

A number of individual honours were also handed out. Iran's Amir Mohammad Golzadeh was named the Most Valuable Player, and he also took home the Best Opposite Hitter award. The Best Outside Hitters were South Korea's Yunsoo Lee and Thailand's Kittipong Sangsak, while the Best Middle Blockers were India's Dushyant Singh and Iran's Norouzi Erfan.

India's Chaudhary Sameer was named the Best Libero, while Iran's Arshia Behnezhad was selected as the Best Setter.

Meanwhile, claiming the bronze medals in the championship yesterday were South Korea, who needed to shrug off a slow start before powering to an impressive 3-0 (31-29, 25-16, 25-14) win against Thailand.

In Iran's victory, the winners looked unbeatable in the first two sets, but India were able to extend the match in the third backed by their vibrant supporters who packed the BVA's Isa bin Rashid Arena at Isa Sports City

in Riffa. The Iranians recovered quickly and closed it out with a dominant fourth set.

Golzadeh finished as the champions' leading scorer with an impressive game-high 27 points. Yousef Kazemi Poshtpari added 18 points, while Pouria Hooseinkhanzadeh finished with 12, and captain Erfan nine.

Chaudhary Tanish paced India with 17 points, while Kumar Anan and Singh added six points apiece. Giri Harshir and Dagar Sachin chipped in with

five points each.

Iran head coach Gholamreza Momeni Moghadam commented after the final: "We have received our reward after five months of hard work."

"It was a very good final. In the third set, since my players are a little young, the atmosphere in the gym was a little higher. But we recovered in the fourth set, and we were able to seal the win."

"Our target when we began preparing for this tournament

FINAL RANKING

1 Iran, 2 India, 3 South Korea, 4 Thailand, 5 Bangladesh, 6 China, 7 Bahrain, 8 Pakistan, 9 Saudi Arabia, 10 Iraq, 11 Qatar, 12 UAE, 13 Japan, 14 Chinese-Taipei, 15 Australia, 16 Hong Kong, 17 Kuwait
(Iran and India also qualified for 2023 FIVB Volleyball Men's U21 World Championship)

INDIVIDUAL AWARDEES

Most Valuable Player, Best Opposite Hitter: Amir Mohammad Golzadeh (Iran)
Best Outside Hitters: Yunsoo Lee (South Korea), Kittipong Sangsak (Thailand)
Best Middle Blockers: Dushyant Singh (India), Norouzi Erfan (Iran)
Best Setter: Arshia Behnezhad (Iran)
Best Libero: Chaudhary Sameer (India)

was to be champions of the world; now we have taken the Asian gold medals, and we can focus on our long-term goal for the world championship."

In South Korea's win for third place, Yunsoo Lee was their top scorer with 15 points. They came away with their fourth bronze medal in the history of the competition. They also hold the record for most podium appearances at 13—six of which were in first place.

Libero Sunkyo Kang said after the match: "In the first set, we were a little nervous so we didn't play very well. But as the game

went on, we improved and we are happy to get the win."

Sunkyo also expressed his appreciation to the Kingdom of Bahrain for the warm welcome they received. "From A to Z, the Bahrainis are so kind; it was a pleasure to have us in Bahrain and it is going to be a good memory."

Also yesterday, Bahrain clinched seventh place overall with a hard-earned 3-2 (22-25, 25-18, 23-25, 25-21, 15-12) victory over Pakistan. Husain Ehsan was in scintillating form for the hosts, scoring a tournament-best 36 points.

The Bahrainis' seventh place-ranking is an improvement from the previous edition of the competition, when the nationals ranked ninth overall. Bahrain's best finish was fourth in the 2014 tournament, while their lowest classification was 18th in 2004.

In the day's fourth game, Saudi Arabia won ninth place overall to end the competition after defeating Iraq 3-1 (25-19, 11-25, 25-18, 25-18). Marwan Alhawasawi finished as their leading scorer with 19 points, while Hasan Taha scored 23 for the Iraqis.



India national team members at the awarding with officials, including Indian Ambassador to Bahrain Piyush Srivastava

Bahrain praised for 'excellence' in hosting Asian U20 volleyball

TDI | Manama

The head of the control committee in the 21st Asian Men's U20 Volleyball Championship, Emile Jabbour, confirmed Bahrain's excellence in the organisation of the prestigious continental event, which came to a close tonight at the Bahrain Volleyball Association's (BVA) Isa bin Rashid Arena at Isa Sports City in Riffa.

Jabbour presented BVA secretary general Feras Al Helwachi with the official tournament report from the Asian Volleyball Confederation (AVC) during a



Emile Jabbour, third from left, presents the report to Feras Al Helwachi, in the presence of other officials

meeting with the Press.

Jabbour said that the BVA provided all the facilities required by the AVC and the participating national teams to have a smooth and successful running of the competition.

He thanked Bahrain for the exceptional hospitality shown to all those involved.

For his part, Al Helwachi, who is also the executive director of the championship, expressed his sincerest appreciation to the AVC for the confidence they have given Bahrain to put together such a major 17-nation event.

He thanked all the members of the control committee and Bahrain's working committees for their tremendous efforts throughout the tournament, which contributed to an outstanding event.

This year's competition marked the third time the Kingdom has hosted the AVC's showcase tournament for under-20 national teams.

Also present at the presentation of the report were BVA vice-president Mohammed Al Thawadi and the championship's director Habib Moham-