The latest fatalities were in Kangaroo Island—a tourist hotspot southwest of Adelaide—where two people were trapped in a car overrun by flames on Friday. But strong winds and high temperatures continued to fuel blazes as low pressures and a high chance of fire in Australia. The latest fatalities were in Kangaroo Island—a tourist hotspot southwest of Adelaide—where two people were trapped in a car overrun by flames on Friday. But strong winds and high temperatures continued to fuel blazes as low pressures and a high chance of fire in Australia.
Number of PhD holders in state departments dropped

By A. Saheb

KUWAIT: The parliament’s human resources committee urged the government to make recommendations to cancel exemptions the Civil Service Commission (CSC) makes to recruit non-Kuwaitans with C and D graduation grades in the public sector, and use the same conditions on hiring non-Kuwaitans in jobs excluded from the replacement policy.

The committee also called for following the parliament’s human resources committee’s recommendation to define in the labor law the role the private sector should play in attracting more citizens instead of it being repelled from them.

Further, the committee demanded that the private sector should encourage more citizens to join it and provide the professional security they need. It also noted that it would urge the government to adopt a new evaluation system based on working achievements in order to qualify an employee for bonuses instead of granting such achievements in order to qualify an employee. It also noted that it would urge the government to adopt a comprehensive plan to absorb the private sector’s steps in implementing the replacement policy in order to absorb the private sector’s steps in implementing the replacement policy.

MPs want end of expat hiring exemptions in public sector

Further, the sources said Education Minister Saud Al-Harbi met assistant secretaries and area directors to urge them to set direct and clear questions for the interviews. The sources said the ministry has a special plan to restructure the entire ministry with help of experts from within and outside the ministry and that the educational facilities’ sector plans to dismantle the project directorate into smaller departments subject to each area’s engineering affairs office.

Firemen handle several cases during weekend

By Hanan Al-Sudun

KUWAIT: Firemen dealt with several accidents reported over the weekend including a report about an elevator stuck in a Steakout restaurant that ministered to a fire. The ministered to a fire. The ministered to a fire.

In the meantime, Hawally and Salmiya firemen battled a fire reported in the basement of a Hawally industrial building consisting of six floors. The building’s residents were evacuated before the fire was extinguished. No injuries were reported, and an investigation was opened to reveal the cause of the fire.

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Recent regional events require solidarity: Kuwaiti Speaker

Kuwaiti oil price up to $69.42 pb

Kuwaiti National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem on Friday stressed the importance of solidarity in light of recent regional developments, adding that Kuwaiti have gone through many difficult circumstances. Regarding the recent political developments, Ghanem revealed that the matter threatens national seriousness, which requires national unity and support for the political leadership.

The government official said that the State of Kuwait is attentively following up on recent rapid regional developments and their repercussions. In a press release, head of the Center for Government Communication (CGC) and official Cabinet spokesman Tareq Al-Mezrem called on all individuals to avoid disclosure that might affect national unity and lead to division and trouble. He added that the government had the legal right to pursue those threatening security and stability in the country, especially during the current turbulent situation.

Mezrem affirmed that the Kuwaiti government was keen on bolstering freedom of speech and expression within the boundaries of the constitution and law. He called on all individuals to avoid discourse that might affect national unity and lead to division and trouble. He added that the government had the legal right to pursue those threatening security and stability in the country, especially during the current turbulent situation.

The source urged the utmost restraint and understanding in regards to these developments in order to reach a political resolution that avoids further escalation and risks in the region. The international community was also called on to hardly bear its responsibilities in maintaining the security and stability of this vital region of the world, steering it clear from escalating actions. — Agencies
KUWAIT: Ooredoo Kuwait, first to launch innovated digital services in Kuwait, is proudly partnered with Al-Souq Murouj for the fourth consecutive year. The third market was held on December 27, 2019, in which Ooredoo supported local entrepreneurs and businesses. The market, which was held at Al-Murouj Complex, included local farm produce, artisanal food products and crafts, with a “street food” section aimed at highlighting the culinary diversity of Kuwait’s local food community. The market also offered a section dedicated for children’s activities. It will be held once a month on weekends, until March 2020.

Commenting on this sponsorship, Ooredoo Kuwait Senior Director of Corporate Communications Mijbil Al-Ayoub said: “We are happy to be supporting local businesses and entrepreneurs through this engaging project. This sponsorship comes in tandem with our social responsibility strategy, which is based on our core values of caring, connecting and challenging. We look forward to meeting those young enthusiastic small business owners as well as our valued customers at the next market.”

Ooredoo Kuwait continues to support entrepreneurs in Murouj

Photo of the Day

KUWAIT: Sunrise over the beach in Wahlba. — Photo by Mohammad Rashid (KUNA)
Jeddah joins popular destinations for Kuwait holidaymakers

Over 255,000 people travelled through Kuwait airport during holiday

By Nawara Fattahova

KUWAIT: The four-day New Year holiday prompted people to travel this year to new destinations that were not common in previous years. According to Kuwait TV, Jeddah ranked as the top destination for travelers from Kuwait. According to the Directorate General of Civil Aviation, over 255,000 people travelled through Kuwait International Airport (departures and arrivals) flying on 1,725 flights from Wednesday to Saturday. In addition, thousands of holidaymakers also travelled by car, especially to Saudi Arabia.

Some people extended their vacation and travelled for over a week to enjoy far-flung destinations. London, Paris, Istanbul, Malaysia, and Dubai were the top travel destinations during this holiday, according to Saleh Al-Ruwayih, tourism and travel expert at Travel Mate agency. "The demand during this vacation was for destinations that are popular for New Year’s celebrations, such as London, Eiffel Tower in Paris, Twin Towers in Kuala Lumpur, Burj Khalifa in Dubai and so on. Also, Istanbul and Thailand were among the most sought-after destinations," he told Kuwait Times.

Early promotions were behind the marketing of faraway destinations. "We attracted clients to book their tickets early through promotions held in June. In September, hotels around the world increase their tariffs, so when our clients booked their trips in June, they got around 50 percent cheaper for the same hotels in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and Dubai, as these are popular destinations during summer as well," he added.

Although Saudi Arabia has become a very popular destination, it’s not on the top of the list of travel agencies. "Most Kuwaitis traveling to Saudi Arabia prefer to stay in residential apartments rather than hotels, so they usually don’t buy packages from our agency. Also, they travel by car especially if they are a group. Furthermore, our agency doesn’t have deals with the organizers of events taking place in Saudi Arabia the same way we have with European countries, such as for football matches, as we market their events," Ruwayih pointed out.

February is also a travel season for travelers from Kuwait for short holidays. "During February, we have more promotions for destinations that include winter activities such as skiing, exhibitions, shopping and more. These winter activities take place in European countries, and we offer special promotions," concluded Ruwayih.

KUWAIT: Fireworks light the sky over a camp area in the Kuwaiti desert, 60 km south of the capital, during the New Year’s celebrations, on January 1, 2020. — Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat

Gaza: A monument was designed and erected at one of Gaza’s main roads in recognition of Kuwait’s continuous support for the Palestinian people. The monument, situated at a roundabout and depicts the eminent Kuwait Towers, is still yet to be officially inaugurated. — KUNA

DUBAI: Fireworks explode at the Burj Khalifah, the world’s tallest building, on New Year’s Eve in Dubai. — AFP

Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat on January 1, 2020.

Towers’ monument, Gazans’ ‘thank you’ note to Kuwait

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[Images of fireworks and destinations mentioned in the text]
**US Republicans, Democrats spar over killing of Iranian commander**

There were protests in several cities and towns in eastern Libya against the Turkish military support for their rivals.

The USA has sought Turkey's support as a factor off an offensive by General Khalifa Haftar's forces, which control the east and south of Tripoli. The USA has also increased its presence in Libya in recent weeks. Meanwhile, Turkey has deployed military personnel and equipment on the ground in Libya in support of the GNA, in line with the UN's Libya mission mandate.

**Flights suspended in Libya's capital as violence intensifies**

In the coming days, we will witness an increase in air strikes and shelling in and around the city of Tripoli. Sirte, a coastal city in the east, was recently hit by air strikes and shelling, leading to the suspension of flights at the only functioning airport in Libya's capital Tripoli on Sunday.

**Tens of thousands march in southern India to protest citizenship law**

Tens of thousands of Indians have taken to the streets in southern India to protest a new citizenship law that is considered discriminatory and has sparked widespread protests across the country. The law, known as the National Register of Citizens (NRC), could lead to the loss of citizenship for millions of people, mostly Muslims, who do not have the necessary documentation to prove their citizenship. The protests have continued for several days, with thousands of people marching through the streets of southern cities to demand the repeal of the law.
Syria death toll tops 380,000 in almost 9-year war: Monitor

No progress seen despite intense UN talks on Syria aid

BAGHDAD — Almost nine months of war in Syria has left more than 380,000 people dead, including over 115,000 civilians, a war monitor said in a new toll Wednesday. The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, which closely monitors events across the country, said that since December 31, 2018, 380,000 people had been killed in Syria, with the toll including the US-led coalition’s killing of at least 370,000 dead. The latest toll included more than 380,000 deaths by all sides in the conflict, the Observatory said. The death toll does not include some 200,000 people who are said to have been killed by Syrian government forces and their allies, or byabducting them into conflict.

In the lead-up to the current round of negotiations at the United Nations, Syrian President Bashar Assad has made his way back into the political视野, and international players have been rethinking their approach to the country. That comes after a string of victories against rebels and jihadis since 2015, but also while the regime is facing mounting criticism at home. The latest major battle to be faced by Syria is the battle for Idlib, a region of some three million people that has been under rebel control since 2012.

The latest round of talks between the UN and Syria’s Astana group in February 2019 resulted in the signing of a ceasefire agreement, the first major move towards ending the war.

“Syria is a key player in the region, and its stability is crucial for the region’s security and stability,” said a UN official. “We need to work together to find a political solution to the conflict.”

The UN has been coordinating efforts to end the war in Syria for almost a decade, and has been meeting regularly with the government and opposition sides to explore a way forward.

The latest round of talks, held in February, were focused on the issue of Idlib, and resulted in a ceasefire agreement that was to go into effect on March 15.

However, that agreement has yet to be implemented, and the situation in Idlib remains tense. The government has been accused of flouting the ceasefire, while rebel groups have also been violating it.

Amidst the ongoing crisis, the UN has been working to provide humanitarian aid to those affected by the war. However, the situation remains dire, with millions of people in need of assistance.

“Syria is one of the most challenging humanitarian crises of our time,” said a UN official. “We need to do everything we can to reach those who are left behind.”

The UN has been coordinating efforts to provide aid to the people of Idlib and other conflict-affected areas, but the situation remains dire.

“People are struggling to survive, and we need to do more to help them,” said a UN official. “We need to find a way to provide aid that reaches those who need it most.”

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WASHINGTON Donald Trump’s order to kill a top Iranian commander has laid bare Washington’s heavy-handed politics, with Republicans calling the president and his administration “warmongers.” But the relentless attack could trigger a devastating military confrontation.

The operation appears to be a major escalation in a war that has seen US forces launch air strikes on Iran’s military targets. But the president’s order also raised fears about the potential for a wider conflict in the Middle East.

Democrats were quick to condemn the move, with Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer saying it was a “dangerous escalation of violence.” And Senator Bernie Sanders, independent who has long opposed military interventions abroad, called for a full briefing by the administration on the situation.

But while Democrats joined their Republican opponents in condemning the attack, they also warned that the US must not allow its military actions to escalate tensions in the region.

In a statement, Schumer said: “We will call for a full briefing on the situation, and we will urge the administration to avoid any actions that might escalate tensions further.”

Democrats’ warning that a military strike is not the answer to the current crisis.

How the world is reacting to US killing of top Iran general

**Worldwide reactions**

The world responded with a mix of reactions to the US decision to kill a top Iranian commander.

The United Nations Security Council condemned the strike, with many member states expressing concern about the potential for a wider conflict in the region.

But European Union foreign policy chief Josep Borrell called the US move “an unprovoked attack” and urged all sides to exercise restraint.

The EU also warned that the US action risked provoking a “dangerous escalation of violence.”

China has also offered condemnation of the operation, with the Chinese foreign ministry saying it was a “provocative” move.

But while many countries have condemned the US action, there are concerns that the sanctions and economic pressure could further escalate tensions in the region.

Despite the condemnation, there are fears that the US move could trigger a wider military conflict.

US President Donald Trump praised the operation as a “great service to America” and said it was a “fantastic win.”

But there are concerns that the US move could trigger a wider military conflict.

On January 5, 2020

**Evangelical voters told they have God on their side**

MIAMI US President Donald Trump won crucial support from evangelical voters in the 2020 election, with polls showing nearly two-thirds of evangelical voters support him.

But while Trump was able to appeal to these voters, his campaign was beset by controversies and allegations.

mielinianan@gmail.com 2020-01-03

**Uganda’s Museveni begins jungle march to highlight liberation struggle**

KAMPALA Uganda’s President Yoweri Museveni yesterday began a six-day jungle march through the ruins of his homeland to highlight the liberation struggle that brought him to power.

The president, who is 76 years old, said he needed to re-energize the anti-corruption walk through the capital in a move to re-energize the anti-corruption walk through the capital.

He said the march would be a “test of our people” and a reminder of the sacrifices made for freedom.

The president’s move comes amid a wave of anti-corruption protests in the country, with thousands taking to the streets to demand an end to corruption.

The protest was banned by the government, but the president said he would continue with his march as a reminder of the sacrifices made for freedom.

Despite the ban, the protest continued, with thousands of protesters gathering in the streets.

The president’s move is seen as a way to re-energize the anti-corruption walk through the capital.

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**US Republicans, Democrats spar over killing of Iran commander**

Dems warn attack could trigger a devastating military confrontation.

US President Donald Trump’s order to kill a top Iranian commander has laid bare Washington’s heavy-handed politics, with Republicans calling the president and his administration “warmongers.” But the relentless attack could trigger a devastating military confrontation.

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To skirt police curbs, Sharjeel Imam, who helped fuel the protests that have raged on for months, protesters adopted a “be flexible” tactic. They began to borrow tactics used in protests from Hong Kong, said a 30-year-old IT professional, who declined to be identified. In another opportunity, Morrison told his Japanese counterpart, “we’re just a barbeque”. We’re here until we can go home,” said his wife Ulla. “They’re saying we’re probably not going to get power for another week. And if we’ve got no power, we’ve got no phone service either.”

Australia PM puts off visits to India, Japan amid bushfire crisis

MELBOURNE, Australia: Prime Minister Scott Morrison has cancelled official visits to India and Japan this month as bushfire conditions in southeast Australia continue to intensify. Morrison told the ABC on New Year’s Eve that he would not visit India or Japan in February. “The priority right now is bushfire recovery in southeast Australia,” Morrison said.

“Morrison said yesterday he had spoken to Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the prime minister of Japan,” Morrison told the ABC on New Year’s Eve. “We are in for a long night and we have still to hit the worst of the disaster. A very large fire front came and we are dealing with the trauma of what they have lived through.”

“Today, we’ve had nothing short of a national disaster and army to produce legal provisions and down the extension in November, ordering the government follows parliamentary procedures,” said the government introduced a lower house bill to the army chief in line with a Supreme Court order that it do so. The government introduced a lower house bill to the army chief in line with a Supreme Court order that it do so. The opposition has accused the government of failing to support Khan, while limiting civil liberties and muzzling the media. The military denies any interference in politics.

On Friday, the first day of a new parliamentary session, the government introduced a lower house bill to the army chief in line with a Supreme Court order that it do so. The opposition has accused the government of failing to support Khan, while limiting civil liberties and muzzling the media. The military denies any interference in politics.

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Australia's bushfire crisis "We're stuck."
No good will come of this

U.S.-led airstrike that assassinated General Qassem Soleimani, Iran’s top military commander assassinated by the United States military, has created a significant ethical dilemma. Soleimani was a key figure in Iran’s military and had been responsible for much of the region’s security. His assassination has raised concerns about the potential for increased violence and instability in the Middle East.

Trump’s ‘no-stupid’ war doctrine faces best test

The U.S. President Donald Trump has repeatedly stated his belief in a “no-stupid” war doctrine, which he believes is better than engaging in costly and protracted military conflicts. However, the situation in the Middle East has changed dramatically since his inauguration, with Soleimani’s assassination and the ongoing tension with Iran.

Soleimani strike will be felt well beyond Mideast

The killing of Iran’s top military commander, Qassem Soleimani, has serious implications for the stability of the region. Soleimani was a key figure in Iran’s military and had been responsible for much of the region’s security. His assassination has raised concerns about the potential for increased violence and instability in the Middle East.

Washington Watch

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been informed about the plan in advance. "But anger was turning lawyer Takashi Takano wrote in his blog, stating that he had not charges of financial misconduct that he denies, jumped bail and yesterday he felt betrayed by his client's escape from Japan but were widely considered draconian compared with the West. Ghosn), they would do the same thing or at least consider for Istanbul. It is believed he headed from there to Beirut.

In this file photo, flames rise from a Total Elf Fina offshore oil rig off the Angolan coast. World oil prices jumped on Friday after the US launched a strike in Iraq ratcheted up tensions between Washington and Tehran. Traders were spooked as much as $3 a barrel as gold, the yen and safe-havens surged on Friday after the US killing of Iran's top military commander in an air strike aimed to disrupt an "imminent attack" that would have endangered Americans in the Middle East. The moveImmediately he was out from the White House, the US administration said it "regretted" the killing of Qassem Soleimani, who the US said had ordered the attack on Saudi Arabia. The move had led to a spike in oil prices, with Brent crude rising as much as 4.5 percent to $69.20 a barrel, the highest level since since crude futures were settled a contract in the Middle East. The impact hit almost every asset, with the euro in the 1.0900s region, the dollar at a 10-year high, and gold at its highest level in 7 years.

The US dollar on Friday rose to 1.0929, a 10-year peak, while Brent crude hit $69.22 a barrel, a level last seen in 2014. "It just goes to show how badly the market is run," said Pierre Veyret of Societe Generale. "It's not a vintage market, it's a market where there is no logic." The US dollar rose to 1.116. "It's a very strong move," said Carsten Brzeski of ING. "It's a strong signal from the US that they are willing to use force if necessary." The US dollar had been sliding in recent months, but the move on Friday was a sharp reversal. "It's a very strong move," said Carsten Brzeski of ING. "It's a strong signal from the US that they are willing to use force if necessary." The US dollar had been sliding in recent months, but the move on Friday was a sharp reversal. "It's a very strong move," said Carsten Brzeski of ING. "It's a strong signal from the US that they are willing to use force if necessary." The US dollar had been sliding in recent months, but the move on Friday was a sharp reversal. "It's a very strong move," said Carsten Brzeski of ING. "It's a strong signal from the US that they are willing to use force if necessary." The US dollar had been sliding in recent months, but the move on Friday was a sharp reversal. "It's a very strong move," said Carsten Brzeski of ING. "It's a strong signal from the US that they are willing to use force if necessary." The US dollar had been sliding in recent months, but the move on Friday was a sharp reversal. "It's a very strong move," said Carsten Brzeski of ING. "It's a strong signal from the US that they are willing to use force if necessary." The US dollar had been sliding in recent months, but the move on Friday was a sharp reversal. "It's a very strong move," said Carsten Brzeski of ING. "It's a strong signal from the US that they are willing to use force if necessary." The US dollar had been sliding in recent months, but the move on Friday was a sharp reversal. "It's a very strong move," said Carsten Brzeski of ING. "It's a strong signal from the US that they are willing to use force if necessary." The US dollar had been sliding in recent months, but the move on Friday was a sharp reversal. "It's a very strong move," said Carsten Brzeski of ING. "It's a strong signal from the US that they are willing to use force if necessary." The US dollar had been sliding in recent months, but the move on Friday was a sharp reversal. "It's a very strong move," said Carsten Brzeski of ING. "It's a strong signal from the US that they are willing to use force if necessary." The US dollar had been sliding in recent months, but the move on Friday was a sharp reversal. "It's a very strong move," said Carsten Brzeski of ING. "It's a strong signal from the US that they are willing to use force if necessary." The US dollar had been sliding in recent months, but the move on Friday was a sharp reversal.

In the wake of the move, oil prices surged, with Brent crude rising as much as 4.5 percent to $69.20 a barrel, the highest level since since crude futures were settled a contract in the Middle East. The impact hit almost every asset, with the euro in the 1.0900s region, the dollar at a 10-year high, and gold at its highest level in 7 years.

Global stock markets, which had been volatile in recent months, were also affected. The US dollar rose to 1.116. "This is a very strong move," said Carsten Brzeski of ING. "It's a strong signal from the US that they are willing to use force if necessary." The US dollar had been sliding in recent months, but the move on Friday was a sharp reversal. "It's a very strong move," said Carsten Brzeski of ING. "It's a strong signal from the US that they are willing to use force if necessary." The US dollar had been sliding in recent months, but the move on Friday was a sharp reversal. "It's a very strong move," said Carsten Brzeski of ING. "It's a strong signal from the US that they are willing to use force if necessary." The US dollar had been sliding in recent months, but the move on Friday was a sharp reversal.

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GM reports lower 04 inventories, sales after strike

NEW YORK: General Motors reported lower profits in its fourth quarter on a strong sales growth, which helped to offset a significant impact from a worker strike that continued into the quarter. The company said it had reduced its workforce by 10 percent in the fourth quarter.

S&P 500 snaps win streak as ME tensions push down Wall Street

NEW YORK: Wall Street stocks fell on Friday after tensions between the US and Iran escalated, pushing down oil prices. The S&P 500 broke its weekly winning streak for the fourth time this year. The index fell 0.23 percent to close below its 50-day moving average.

Sterling sags as risk of no-deal Brexit in focus

LONDON: Sterling was weak for its biggest daily loss in more than two months on Thursday as concerns about the risk of a no-deal Brexit continued to weigh on the currency.

German jobless count holds steady, but inflation climbs

FRANKFURT: Growth in the eurozone’s primary labor market slowed in the final month of 2019, according to European Central Bank (ECB) figures released on Friday. The jobless rate remained steady close to record lows, but inflation averaged just 1.4 percent, below the ECB’s target of 2 percent.

Eurozone jobless rate drops to lowest level in four years

Eurozone unemployment fell to its lowest level in four years in December, official data showed Friday, a relief after a year of economic uncertainty. The jobless rate fell to 6.9 percent, the lowest level since 2015, according to Eurostat.

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Economy could contract 40% in 2020 without plan

Lebanon’s economic crisis needs $20bn-35bn bailout: Ex-minister

Business

Lebanon’s economy could contract 10% in 2020 without a rescue plan, an official from France said in Paris on Friday. The government in Beirut has been unable to agree on a rescue plan since it took power last month amid a financial crisis that has left Lebanon’s economy in dire straits.

Credit rating agencies have downgraded Lebanon’s foreign ratings and the country is on the verge of default as the World Bank, the United States and its Middle East allies. In turn, Iran has pursued its own version of forward defense, trying to push the conflict away from its own backyard, as well as on US bases in Iraq and oil storage facilities in the region disrupting oil supplies.

The US air strike that killed the chief commander of Iran’s revolutionary Guards in Baghdad seems to have been intended to restore strategic dominance in the region amid deteriorating ties between the US and its allies, leaving Iran with little prospect of absorbing the blow rather than trying to match it or risk escalation that the United States and its allies remain committed to a policy of co-existence with Iran’s rival proxies, according to officials.

The strike, although it did not kill General Qassem Soleimani, the head of Iran’s Quds force and the architect of the country’s regional proxies, has been hailed as a victory for US President Donald Trump and his administration, as well as on US bases in Iraq and oil storage facilities in the region disrupting oil supplies.

Economist said in a statement that gas began "to become the Brent while everything was going on amid what is now the longest continuous strike by SNCF and Paris transport operator RATP against the strikes called by French national trade union General Confederation of Labor (CGT) and its affiliates."

"You can’t do anything, go to work... you are not going to get the gaming technology and force a resumption of negotiations on their own terms," French Prime Minister Edouard Philippe told a press conference.

Economist said in a statement that gas began "to become a significant commodity trade" last month amid a surge in oil prices following the US air strikes targeting Iran’s Quds force commander Qassem Soleimani.

"As Iran has refused to negotiate under sanctions, the only solution is to absorb the blow rather than trying to match it or risk escalation that the US and its allies remain committed to a policy of co-existence with Iran’s regional proxies, according to officials.

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**KFW launches purchasing gold biscuits, and instant cheque printing services**

New digital services under slogan ‘New Generation of Easy Banking Services’

**Business**

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**E-car sales in Norway reach new record high**

*OIEO* Sales of new electric cars in Norway hit a record high last year, according to data from local news services, new figures show on Sunday.

In 2019, Norway sold 78,652 new electric cars, representing an increase of 26.3% from 2018’s sales of 62,070.

This year, Norway aims to invest in its electric car industry to further boost it.

The number of electric cars is expected to grow significantly in the coming years as the government continues to offer incentives to motorists.

**HiSB kicks off with Hong Kong branch closed, vandalized**

**Hong Kong** HSBC, being drawn into the political turmoil in Hong Kong, has closed one of its branches in the city.

The bank said it had received reports of vandalism at the branch and had taken steps to secure the area.

**KFW** US car sales for the year.

**Tesla** Tesla’s latest move is the introduction of a new Model 3 variant that will be priced at 25,000 yuan per car. The company has been focusing on expanding its footprint in China, where electric cars are gaining popularity.

**UK house price growth tops 1% for first time in a year**

**London** British house prices rose in annual terms by more than 1% for the first time in 12 months in December, according to the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS).

The survey found that house prices in the UK rose by 1.1% in December, compared with the same period the previous year.

**Tesla** Tesla’s Model S sedan has sold more than 300,000 units worldwide, making it the best-selling electric car in history.

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Dear Reader:

This issue of the Kuwait Times includes a range of stories from various sectors, highlighting the richness and diversity of life in Kuwait and beyond. From cultural events and accomplishments to international relations and local developments, the Kuwait Times serves as a platform for sharing news and insights across different domains. Whether it's the latest news from the diplomatic circuit, updates on academic achievements, or profiles of Kuwaiti literature, our goal is to provide a comprehensive overview of what's happening in Kuwait and its regions.

Join us in celebrating the rich tapestry of life in Kuwait, and stay tuned for more updates from the Kuwait Times.

Sincerely,

The Kuwait Times Team

What’s On

Concert of Youth Symphony Orchestra of Uzbekistan ‘Peace Message Night’

2020 recently held in Kuwait.

Do you have any information or questions related to the following text or topics? Please provide your input or feedback to help us improve the quality of our content and services.
The ‘supercells’ that cured an infant’s grave genetic illness

WASHINGTON: Dr Michael Keller, an immunologist and Assistant Professor at Children’s National Hospital, displays a T-cell research sample from an inoculator as he explains a new kind of tailored treatment taking on interview with AFP at his home in McLean, Virginia, December 26, 2019. — AFP

When a 2-month-old baby developed a genetic disease in his bone marrow that could lead to a lifetime of chemotherapy, his mother had no idea what the future held for her child.

For Johan, a year and a half after his bone marrow transplant, everything points to a complete success. “It’s neat to see him processing things, and especially play outside in the mud,” his mother said. “You know, what a gift!” Her only concern now is the same as any mother would have—that when her baby falls ill, others in the family might catch the same bug. — AFP

For their first children, she and her husband Ricardo had chosen in-vitro fertilization, allowing the embryos to be genetically tested before implantation. Their twins Thomas and Tania were born — both disease-free — three and half months ago. But in Johan’s case, their genetic test pclinted the worst.

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After confirming with experts at Children’s National Hospital in Washington, the couple took one of the most important decisions of their lives. Johan would receive a bone-marrow transplant, a risky procedure but one that would give him a chance of cure. “Obviously, we initially started with an allogeneic transplant, using a donor,” said Keller, an immunologist and assistant professor at Children’s National Hospital. “But as the need for donors is often quite small, we turned to an autologous procedure.

In total, doctors extracted 17 litres of blood cells. From that sample they extracted “supercells,” as Thomas calls them — stem cells, which they reprogrammed into Johan’s tissue. Those cells would eventually be the bone marrow, which would then be injected into Johan’s veins. The procedure is known as T-cell therapy, and is being used to treat more and more patients, many of whom are suffering from cancer.

The chief obstacles to that happening are the complexity of the process and the costs, which can run to many thousands of dollars. These factors currently restrict the procedure to some 30 medical centers in the United States.

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From Thomas’s blood, doctors extracted six viruses. Keller grew them for 10 days in an incubator, creating an army of hundreds of millions of those specialized T-cells. The result: a fluffy white mass that grew in the petri dish. Those T-cells were then injected into Johan’s veins. It was the moment of truth: did it work?

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Aries (March 21-April 19)

A goal that you may have been working toward for a long time might still seem very distant right now. Aries, therefore, today could be a good day for you to take stock of your situation and plan your next steps. In the process you might come to the realization that there is something you want to do differently.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

A member of your household may be having troubles, Taurus, and therefore you might consider dropping hints here and there in order to help them through this period. If you are the one who is currently having some problems, you might consider staying home from work in order to help them get through it all.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

A crisis of values may confront you today, Scorpio. Someone you care about might need you to do something for them that you don’t feel comfortable doing, and this could put you in a tough spot. You probably won’t want to do it, but your friend needs your help. Consider every possible contingency before you both decide what you can afford to do for your friend. Only in this way can you really fairly treat your friend.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)

A friend that you wanted to take time have may be postponed. Cancer, probably for good reason. It’s important to make the journey in the company of someone who financially might not right now. This is disappointing, but remember that this is only a delay. Nothing is impossible if you want to make it happen. Don’t allow it to stop making the arrangements. By this time, your friend should have the money.

Leo (July 23-August 22)

The need to complete an important task could have you moving a far higher level of self-control than you’re used to, Leo. Perseverance and determination can dominate your mood, and therefore you could accomplish wonders.

Virgo (August 23-September 22)

A business or romantic partner could be in a rather isolated mood today, Virgo. You probably spend a lot of time together, and during the course of your relationship you could feel yourselves drifting apart. This could drive you crazy, as you won’t know how to respond. All you can do is make sure all attention stays focused on the issue at hand. This changeability shouldn’t last but by the end of the day.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

On Tuesday night you might feel a little lonely without knowing why. Sagittarius, and you could spend all night trying to find the reason. There actually may be no concrete reason. It’s likely, that you simply respond to low biorhythms. This is, therefore, a good day to go out and find you. This way you can get the endorphins going and feel a lot better by late afternoon. Then you should actually feel ready to go out and enjoy this great evening.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

Today you might feel a little uneasy without knowing why, Capricorn. You therefore could spend all day trying to find the reason. There actually may be no concrete reason. It’s likely, that you simply respond to low biorhythms. This is, therefore, a good day to go out and find you. This way you can get the endorphins going and feel a lot better by late afternoon. Then you should actually feel ready to go out and enjoy this great evening.
Folk puppets keeping heritage of Egyptian satiric alive

I t's an era of on-screen entertainment, a single glove puppet named Aragoz still lives Egyptian audiences with comic sketches showing how wise and still can detect the shrewd and corrupt. Recounting stories with a thought provoking moral in their tails, puppets evade posts of laughter from spectators, mainly children, as they mock the country’s exploits some of which date back centuries to Ottoman times.

“Tales as old as time” he said. “All plays are authorless,” Bahgat added. “Practitioners have been in the habit of learning them by heart from their predecessors and passing them on to the new generations,” he said.

None of the plays can be traced to a certain time or specific person, said troupe member Mahmoud Sayed. “All plays are authorless,” Bahgat added. “Practitioners were in the habit of learning them by heart from their predecessors and passing them on to the new generations,” he said.

Aragoz is a 29-year-old singer from New Delhi who is not sure how Obama first heard his music. But he knows it was in 2019 tour across North America and Europe that helped him through international fame and his music reached a new level, Indian singer Prateek Kuhad gave a performance on stage in New Delhi.

Puppeteers of Egypt’s Wamda troupe manipulate puppets during a Aragoz puppet show in Beit al-Salame, in Cairo’s Gamaliya district, on Nov 15, 2019. — AFP

Tales as old as time

Like his father before him, Metawly has been working as a puppeteer for more than 50 years, following in his father's footsteps. He learned the stories - which are passed down orally - from his father and committed them to paper.

All the Aragoz sketches, still performed today, are part of the country's cultural heritage, passed down from one generation of performers to the next, without being properly documented, he said. “All plays are authorless,” Bahgat added. “Practitioners were in the habit of learning them by heart from their predecessors and passing them on to the new generations,” he said.

Aragoz humorously criticizes the actions of the powerful and resists the corruption, it does not target specific figures of current politics or specific persons, said troupe member Mahmoud Sayed. In fact, “Aragoz humorously criticizes the actions of the powerful and resists the corruption,” said Nabil Bahgat, founder of the Wamda troupe, of which Metawly is also a member. “But he does not target specific figures of current politics or specific persons, said troupe member Mahmoud Sayed. In fact, Metawly added. “Practitioners have been in the habit of learning them by heart from their predecessors and passing them on to the new generations,” he said.

Members of Egypt’s Wamda troupe manipulate puppets during a Aragoz puppet show in Beit al-Salame, in Cairo’s Gamaliya district, on Nov 15, 2019. — AFP

Obamas nod sets up bright year for Indian ‘heartbreak’ singer

Standing out, Indian singer Prateek Kuhad grew internationally one year to make it. He is still no manager to self-doubt, but now even Barack Obama is a fan of the heartbreak-inspired songs. The 29-year-old was enjoying a quiet New Year's Eve at his family home in New Delhi when he received a message saying: “This is big.” Former US president Obama had included Kuhad’s rendition of “Cold” in his annual list of favorite music, alongside the likes of Bruce Springsteen, Beyonce and Lizzo. Kuhad told AFP that being mentioned in Obama’s viral Twitter and Instagram posts was still “unbelievable.”

Obama clearly looks like Obama scouts his music well.” Kuhad is not sure how Obama first heard his music, but he knows it was in 2019 tour across North America and Europe that helped him through international fame and his music reached a new level.

French president Emmanuel Macron has made a name for himself as an innovator in his generation - which has seen a fairly clean image, as can be the political президент that the world has seen,” he said. He listened to Big Thief. I love them, but they’re not a really big band. I clearly look like Obama scouts his music well.” Kuhad is not sure how Obama first heard his music, but he knows it was in 2019 tour across North America and Europe that helped him through international fame and his music reached a new level.

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“I fell in love with Aragoz as I grew up. Everyone loves it actually,” said Bahgat. Metawly, one of the dimming band of veteran puppeteers still putting on performances of Egypt’s most adored folk figure. “Aragoz humorously criticizes the actions of the powerful and resists the corruption. It does not target specific figures of current politics or specific persons, said troupe member Mahmoud Sayed. In fact, Metawly added. “Practitioners have been in the habit of learning them by heart from their predecessors and passing them on to the new generations,” he said.
Istanbul Jews fight to save their ancestral tongue

I TURKEY, a once Jewish city before World War II, is not passing on the 500-year-old language of its Jewish youth. Ladino, once the language of local Jews, is no longer part of the picture. "After us, will there still be people who speak this language?" says 90-year-old Beraha. "Sadly, very few. It is possible that it will disappear." Ladino is a unique mix of Hebrew, Italian, and Arabic, and is the language of Turkey's Jews. "Many Turkish Jews left Turkey around the 1930s," Beraha said. "It is a difficult thing to teach, but I have a long list of contacts to whom I teach the language." The fight to preserve a crucial piece of the Turkish Jewish heritage is a battle for survival. The language is at risk of disappearing if not passed on to younger generations.

A worker shovels powder during the preparation of incense sticks. • AFP

A woman places incense sticks on a wooden platform to dry. • AFP

A worker covers incense sticks with colored powder. • AP

Burning issue: China’s incense makers toil ahead of Lunar New Year

D uring the New Year, incense sticks are crucial in bringing families together and ensuring prosperity. In China, incense is burned in temples and at home to honor ancestors and bring good fortune. With the Lunar New Year just around the corner, incense makers are busy preparing for the holiday's peak demand.

A worker sorts incense sticks at the Fujian Xingquan Incense Factory in Quanzhou in China's Fujian Province. — AFP photos

A worker covers incense sticks with colored powder. • AP

Established 1961

Established 1983

A worker piles incense sticks at the Fujian Xingquan Incense Factory in Quanzhou in China's Fujian Province. — AFP photos

A worker covers incense sticks with colored powder. • AP

Established 1984

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A worker shovels powder during the preparation of incense sticks. • AFP

A worker covers incense sticks with colored powder. • AP
**Gervais back to roast Hollywood in ‘filthy’ Globes role**

`Sat up your egotistical, self-pitying decent smug ass!` Those were the words Ricky Gervais used to open the star-studded Golden Globes in 2011 – the last time he hosted Hollywood's most-overflowing awards show. So, Gervais in the audience will be on their guard today, as the provocative British comic is set to oversee the annual prize-giving gala for the "very last time."

The multi-talented humorist has dished praise and criticism in previous years, with everyone from Caitlyn Jenner to Harvey Weinstein considered potential targets for his jokes. "If you can't have everything, can you?" he once joked of Leo DiCaprio's record-breaking oscar. "I'm 50 years old, 55 women months before the former Olympian:.Anchorless cancer patients with a passion for living."

"Roman Ointment" called the bests male actor ever. He’s a no-nonsense comedic actor who makes you say, "no matter what he's going to do." Gervais is now one of the world's wealthiest and most successful comedians. She continues to court accusations of transphobic last year walking into a Beverly Hall about a woman’s best guess after seeing people can’t change their biological sex. — AFP

"Little Women" director ‘sad’ at awards snub of female filmmakers


"The Morning Show" about a new host by a woman. It's hard to recall the feminine moment in the history of the Globes.

The rolling award show. So A-listers in the audience will find it hard to resist the temptation to laugh. The zany actor took to the stage with the words: "F**k Hollywood!"

"Men in Black" (1997), "The Wolf of Wall Street" (2013), and "The Big Short" (2015) are some of his most memorable performances, which he has been nominated for and won five awards. Gervais is now one of the world’s wealthiest and most successful comedians. She continues to court accusations of transphobic last year walking into a Beverly Hall about a woman’s best guess after seeing people can’t change their biological sex. — AFP

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At the 84th Annual Academy Awards, Gervais was snubbed for his work on "Little Women." However, the British comedian has been nominated for an Oscar seven times, including for his role in "The Office." He has also won two Emmy Awards for his work on "Derek.

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The fall from Hollywood’s golden girl was sudden and steep, with critics and fans alike expressing shock at the news. She was one of the most successful actresses of her generation, earning critical acclaim for her roles in films such as "The Big Short," "The Offices," and "The Wolf of Wall Street." Her career had been marked by numerous awards and nominations, including five Academy Awards and a Golden Globe. With her passing, the world of entertainment was left in mourning, with fans and colleagues alike paying tribute to her talent and dedication. — AFP
London Fashion Week Men’s seeks new audience

London Fashion Week Men’s, which started yesterday, is being partly hosted in Milan, in an unprecedented move designed to shore up the beleaguered British industry before Brexit. London Showrooms, featuring emerging British and Scottish designers, are an instalment and a callout by a young English designer Samuel Rosén’s A-Go-Go band, who will stage it in the Berkley Hotel.

In another bid to broaden its reach onto the main London catwalk, the event will be broadcast live on TV and Instagram accounts. The three-day event is dedicated to autumn/winter 2020-2021 collections. Hosted by British radio DJ bananas in Bath Radio, AFP’s shows showcase promising young designers like Bellanique Williams, who presented her collection yesterday.

The 50-year-old, who stands out for her ecological and social approach, was named British Emerging Talent finalists but last month at Britain’s Fashion Awards 2018 Grace Wales Bonner, 28, is another name to follow. Now founding her company in 2014, he is a member of the Independent Mash oko’s Bazaar and skew. 

This Fashion Week the last week before British leaves the European Union on Jan 31, introducing the 60’s with London, Carlos Capasa, president of the Italian national chamber of fashion, said last month that a collaboration was “a message” on Brexit that the industry is ready to welcome the arrival of shoes and new collections.

People printed in the last week of the opera at the stadium during the demonstration called a national French trade union General Confederation of Labour (CFDT) yesterday in Paris. — AFP

Ballet dancers down tutus in longest strike ever at Paris Opera

With the ballet warning that the lost box office takings have already sunk a huge hole in the opera’s €14-million pension fund, as it stands, the French state picks up half the bill for the opera’s €14-million pension fund, because a lot of dancers get into great difficulties.

Even so, rehearsals are still going on for the upcoming productions, with the French baritone Thomas Hampson turning every day to look forward appearing to the “Bar of Words” and none other than Blackpools playing a violin of himself leading up for “Giselle”, his last major role in the Paris Opera in 2003 left to the cancellation of 18 performances, existing the institution 152 million. The same trend was behind the selection of “The Nutcracker” done without costumes and the staff to resolve the standoff that wiped those who joined the ballet after 2021. Aesthetically can take on dancers’ bodies.

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Before the attacks, the US intelligence community had reason to believe that Soleimani was involved in Iran’s proxy operations in Syria, Yemen, Lebanon, and Iraq, as well as in the sale of advanced weaponry to a number of countries, including Iraq, Syria and Lebanon, which were reported to be receiving military equipment from Iran in large quantities.

Several Iranian officials have been named in the attacks that were carried out by the militias that were controlled by Qassem Soleimani, the director of Iran’s Quds Force, which has been designated by the US as a terrorist organization.

Fury, tears as crowds mourn...

The attacks sparked two days of violent protests and rioting in Baghdad, where local officials have announced a state of emergency and the closure of schools and universities.

Gulf allies of US fear reprisals...
Kerber backs Barty to handle world No 1 pressures

ERINNSAL: Former world number one Angelique Kerber praised her compatriot Ashleigh Barty for stepping into her shoes as the world’s top female player. Kerber is bracing herself to be playing as a middle-ranking player when the season begins next month.

“The first match with this weather, you know, 45 degrees,” she said. “It was our first match and we didn’t know what to expect...and also a great match to start the year. I think we improved a lot of things.”

The round of the day belonged to another past Grand Slam winner Lukasz Kubot in the deciding doubles rubber against Croatia’s Borna Coric and Martin Cilic. Kubot and his partner Laslo Djere put in a strong performance. Kubot hit 15 aces and won all of his service games.

“Thank you,” said Kubot. “It’s a special feeling to win the Australian Open a few weeks later.”

Wells Martin, winner of the Australian Open, used his experience to down Austria’s Dominic Thiem in stifling heat for his defeat.

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The following year then climbed back to number two when she won Wimbledon in 2018.

Now ranked 20, she has a new coach — and knows for a fresh start; it was really looking forward to 2019 being over and we are now; 20 is really looking forward to starting again, she added — AP

Thiem slumps

Wins ensure Spain, Serbia clinch their ties at inaugural 24-nation team event

ST PETERSBURG: Former world number one Angelique Kerber backed her on-court revival against a wily Ashleigh Barty. The German, who has won seven Grand Slam titles, faces Barty on Sunday.

But she is confident the level-headed Barty has what it takes to rise to the top rank. Barty, who won her first Grand Slam title at the Australian Open, used her experience to down Austria’s Dominic Thiem in stifling heat for his defeat.

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Barty, who won her first Grand Slam title at the Australian Open, used her experience to down Austria’s Dominic Thiem in stifling heat for his defeat.

For the first time in her career, you know, 45 degrees,” said Kerber. “It was our first match and we didn’t know what to expect...and also a great match to start the year. I think we improved a lot of things.”

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Kohli opposes four-day Tests

GUWAHATI: India captain Virat Kohli on Saturday dismissed calls for proposals to conduct Test matches from five days to four as the world body rushes with the crowded cricket calendar reported. Kohli said the International Cricket Council could decide to cut the lengths of Test matches from five days to four. He said that he was not a huge fan of four-day Tests. Kohli said: “I am not a huge fan of four-day Tests. I think it’s a marketing exercise to bring in more numbers and more years. But I think the format should not be tweeked.”

Elgar shines but England on top in second Test

CAPE TOWN: The South African captain Dean Elgar had a stand of 79 with Kyle Abbott in the second session of the day, but England dominated the rest of the day and bowled the hosts out for 311 on the second day of the third Test. Elgar was bowled by Stuart Broad for 57. The rest of the South African lineup struggled, with the exception of Elgar and Abbott. Australia was 304-7 at stumps, trailing by 84 runs.

India’s Pathan announces retirement

MUMBAI: Indian all-rounder Ravi Patan announced his retirement from all forms of cricket on Sunday, ending a career which included a World Cup win.

The 38-year-old left-arm seamer played 14 Tests and 73 ODIs for India, taking 118 wickets and scoring 1,021 runs. He is one of only three Indian bowlers to have bowled international wickets. "I don’t endorse that (change) at all. I don’t think that’s fair to the purest form of the game — how cricket started," Kohli said in Guwahati, being captain of the number one Test side. "Then you will speak of three-day Tests or four-day Tests. I think it’s a marketing exercise to bring in more numbers and more years. But I think the format should not be tinkered with too much." Kohli said. "Day-night tests are another step on the way to ease a calendar now packed with T20 internationals and Tests, 50 over internationals and the World Cup. I mean, where do you end," he said.

Wickets tumble

Wickets tumbled quickly just before tea with James Pattinson bowled by Neil Wagner for 20 and Mitchell Starc caught off Astle’s bowling for eight and Mitchell Starc bowled by Neil Wagner for two, Pat Cummins batted for 33. The hosts’ top two wickets in the morning session — Marnus Labuschagne and Steve Smith — fell on consecutive off-stumps while attempting to sweep-off-spinner Will Padden, with one on the leg side.

Labuschagne will face tougher assignments overseas and much tougher opposition, especially after he broke a 67-year-old series record for South Africa but was relegated to third on the list on 62.84. The knock took him to 837 runs at an average of 49.85 after his 153 not out against England in the third Test against New Zealand yesterday with the 363rd delivery the tenth century of his career. "I wouldn’t like to thank my family for the support and of course the fans because they were always supportive," Patan said. "I want to wish my Indian team-mates all the best in their future career. I will look forward to contributing in my remaining matches in the World T20 against Pakistan in February."

Labuschagne hits record heights

SYDNEY: Steve Smith has set some pretty good standards for Australian batting in recent years but Marnus Labuschagne’s exploits in the five-home-Tests series this summer, especially after he broke a 67-year-old record for South Africa, have raised the bar. The 24-year-old right-handed batsman is now up to fourth on the list on 62.84. The knock took him to 837 runs at an average of 49.85 after his 153 not out against England in the third Test against New Zealand yesterday with the 363rd delivery the tenth century of his career. “I wouldn’t like to thank my family for the support and of course the fans because they were always supportive,” Patan said. “I want to wish my Indian team-mates all the best in their future career. I will look forward to contributing in my remaining matches in the World T20 against Pakistan in February.”

Labuschagne has now batted in five Test matches against England this season and his form has been crucial to Australia’s success. He has scored 210 runs at an average of 52.50 with a highest score of 153. Labuschagne’s form has been so good that he has been included in the Australian Test squad for the upcoming series against Pakistan. The left-handed batsman has scored 1,357 runs in 10 Test matches against England this season and has hit three centuries and seven fifties. He has become the first Australian to score 1,300 runs in a calendar year since Steve Smith in 2014.
Canyucks outlast Blackhawks to win sixth straight

Drury, who scored twice and added an assist in Thursday’s victory over Minnesota, had a goal and an assist on Saturday. Elias Pettersson also had the scoring with an empty-net goal to cap a three-point night. Bo Horvat rounded out the mark with 4:11 left on the clock. Miller collected four points as Vancouver claimed its sixth win in the last seven games.

Jordan Binnington made 34 saves while giving up a career-streak. Robert Thomas scored twice and Alex Pietrangelo added an assist as the Blues. Joonas Donskoi also scored and Samuel Girard had two assists for the Avalanche. Nikita Zadorov also scored and an assist and Tristan Jarry also scored for the Penguins, which lost its third straight game. Girard finished with 32 saves. Golota finished with 13 of them.

Sharks, 3-1 (OT)

Beast Brooks scored the second goal of the period at 2:02 of overtime to give the Sharks a 2-1 win over the Pittsburgh Penguins on Saturday. Brooks was the game-winner after the Sharks won possession of the puck after the Penguins were unable to clear it from their defensive zone.

Golden Knights, 5-4, St. Louis

Max Pacioretty scored two goals. Max Pacioretty had a goal and two assists in the game, including one on a penalty shot, as Vegas won in overtime in a game on the road in St. Louis. St. Louis’s goal on the power play was scored in the third period, and goalie Marc-Andre Fleury finished with 34 saves. St. Louis had 13 straight wins in the series, and Vegas was 5-0-1 in its last six games.

Blues, 2-1, OT

Nico Sturm scored the second goal of the period at 1:17 of overtime to give the Blues a 2-1 win over the Pittsburgh Penguins on Saturday. Sturm was the game-winner after the Penguins won possession of the puck after Pittsburgh was unable to clear it from its defensive zone.

Devils, 2-1, OT

Nico Hischier scored the second goal of the period at 1:17 of overtime to give the Devils a 2-1 win over the Pittsburgh Penguins on Saturday. Hischier was the game-winner after the Penguins were unable to clear it from their defensive zone.

Avalanche ends six-game losing streak to St. Louis by beating the Blues 7-3 in Denver. The Avalanche won for the first time this season and are 6-2-1 in their past nine games for the first time this season.

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Sports

Kadri scores twice as Avalanche roll past visiting Blues 7-3

DENVER: Nazem Kadri scored twice as the Colorado Avalanche improved to 11-2-0 when scoring at least five goals. Kadri scored on a penalty shot in the third period, and the Avalanche won for the first time this season after losing six straight.

Stone’s must-improve fitness record: Guardiola

LONDON: Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola believes John Stones has the ability to become one of the best defenders in the world, provided he can improve his fitness. The 25-year-old has been forced to play limited games this season due to injury problems and is currently on international duty with England.

Ibrahimovic vows to kick-start Milan as Conte’s Inter seek rare win at Napoli

MIAMI: Zlatan Ibrahimovic has vowed to kick-start his Milan career after scoring a hat-trick against Inter Milan on Sunday. Ibrahimovic has struggled to find his best form at Milan this season, but his effort against Inter could be a turning point for the forward.

Sharks, 3-2 (OT)

Ivan Fedorov scored the second goal of the period at 1:17 of overtime to give the Sharks a 3-2 win over the Pittsburgh Penguins on Saturday. Fedorov was the game-winner after the Penguins were unable to clear it from their defensive zone.

Devils, 2-1, OT

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Solskjaer dismisses Van Persie’s criticism

LONDON: Manchester United manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer has dismissed suggestions from former Red Devils striker Robin Van Persie that the club needs new players. Van Persie said that United should sign more attacking players to challenge for titles.

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PANTHERS 6, SENATORS 3

Erik Karlsson had two goals and an assist and Jonathan Huberdeau added a goal and an assist as the Florida Panthers extended their point streak to nine games (8-0-1). K yle Connor, Patrik Laine and Mark Scheifele scored for the Winnipeg Jets, who extended their point streak to nine games (8-0-1) on Monday.

The Panthers were 2-1-2 in their past five games, and the Jets were 3-1-2 in their past five games. The Panthers have scored a league-high 31 goals in their past five games, including Sunday’s 6-3 win over the Devils.

Kingston, 3-2, OT

Max Pacioretty scored two goals. Max Pacioretty had a goal and two assists in the game, including one on a penalty shot, as Vegas won in overtime in a game on the road in St. Louis. St. Louis’s goal on the power play was scored in the third period, and goalie Marc-Andre Fleury finished with 34 saves. St. Louis had 13 straight wins in the series, and Vegas was 5-0-1 in its last six games.

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**SPORT TIMES**

LONDON: Aston Villa and Brighton made their FA Cup exits at their very first attempt as they were beaten by Fulham and Peterborough United respectively in the third round, with the latter side claiming a 1-1 draw against the Magpies of Newcastle United.

In need of a lift, Rochdale, sitting 18th in League One, endured further disappointment as they were held to a draw by fourth-tier side Rochdale, with a late leveller from old stager Wilbraham.

**NEWCASTLE STUMBLE**

But Newcastle’s FA Cup form is so bad that they have not gone beyond the fourth round for 13 years. This year, they were sunk by a second half own goal from old stager Wilbraham.

**BRIGHTON MAKE FA CUP EXIT**

Once again they endured embarrassment as Rochdale, who took Tottenham to a fifth round replay in 2018, have not gone beyond the fourth round for 13 years. This year, they were sunk by a second half own goal from old stager Wilbraham.

**HArden records triple-double in Rockets win**

Harden records triple-double in Rockets win

**26**

India’s Irfan Pathan announces retirement

December 10, 2020

India’s Irfan Pathan announced his retirement from all forms of cricket. The 38-year-old pace bowler made his debut in 2002 and played in 121 Tests, 194 ODIs, and 6 games of T20Is. In his 12-year career, he took 327 wickets in Tests, 291 in ODIs, and 13 in T20Is.

**25**

Salad and Djokovic off to winning starts at ATP Cup

January 5, 2020

Novak Djokovic continued his dominance at the Australian Open by defeating Australian Open champion Nick Kyrgios in straight sets. The win took him to the semifinals, where he will face Rafael Nadal. In the women’s singles, Serena Williams defeated Iga Swiatek to advance to the final. In doubles, the Bryan brothers defeated the Murray Brothers in straight sets.

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Brahimovic vows to kick-start Milan as Conte’s inter seek rare win at Napoli

January 10, 2020

Zlatan Ibrahimovic has vowed to play a key role for AC Milan under new coach Gennaro Gattuso. The 38-year-old striker, who has been out of action since November, says he is ready to help the side challenge for the European Cup. Milan faces Napoli, who are in fourth place, in a match that will test both teams’ ability to hold their own in Serie A.