The First Day in the Arabian Gulf

Erdogan warns Haftar must end ‘hostile’ attitude after commander’s forces choke oil flows

Call to end foreign meddling in Libya; monitoring force sought

**Heroic workers stand a strong line of defense to prevent oil reaching Haftar’s forces.**

*Established 1961*
Established 1961

Sheikh Sabah offers condolences over victims of Algeria accident

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent yesterday a cable of condolences to Algerian President Abdelmadjid Tebboune over victims of the collision of two buses in Still village at El Oued Province, which resulted in 16 deaths and casualties. In the cable, His Highness wished the President and people of Algeria speedy recovery for the injured and mourned the deceased.

His Highness the Amir also received on the occasion of his visit to the country. In the meantime, His Highness the Amir received Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Sheikh Ahmad Mansour Al-Sabah and Kuwaiti Army Chief of Staff Lt Gen Mohammad Al-Khodhr, who accompanied with Kuwaiti Army Deputy Chief of Staff Lt Gen Khaled Saleh Al-Sabah. In addition, His Highness the Sheikh Shakhbout received Iraqi Defense Minister Sheikh Al-Hasan Al-Shammari on the occasion of his visit to the country. The meeting was attended by Minister of Amiri Diwan Affairs Sheikh Mubarak Sabah Al-Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah. Moreover, His Highness hosted the Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, His Highness the Amir also received Chairman of Kuwait’s Supreme Judicial Council and the Cassation Court, and President of the Constitutional Court Justice Yousef Al-Mutawaa. His Highness Sheikh Nasser also received Zayani, in attendance of Foreign Minister Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah and the head of protocol at the Crown Prince Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah, His Highness then received Deputy Minister Sheikh Al-Hasan Al-Mansour, Lt Gen Mohammad Al-Khodhr and Lt Gen Sheikh Khaled Khalid Al-Sabah. His Highness the Amir also received Cabinet Affairs Anas Khaled Al-Saleh. In other news, His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent yesterday a cable of condolences to Algerian President Abdelmadjid Tebboune over victims of the collision of two buses in Still village at El Oued Province, which resulted in 16 deaths and casualties. In the cable, His Highness wished the President and people of Algeria speedy recovery for the injured and mourned the deceased.

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah sent similar cables.


KUWAIT: The Deputy Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah meets with Chief Justice Yousef Al-Mutawaa. His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah also attended the meeting, attended by Foreign Minister Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah, Assistant Foreign Minister of the GCC Affairs Ali Mutawaa, and Sheikh Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah attended the meeting as well. Zayani also met separately with Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah, as well as the Sheikh Shakhbout Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah.

Kuwait's PM meets Iraq's Defense Minister

Two sports personnel to be prosecuted in Kuwait

KUWAIT: The Criminal court yesterday referred a case of suspects to the so-called Ministry of Interior (MoI) hospitality case till Feb 2 which is related to the arrests of 11 defendants. The court also ordered the continuation of obtaining the accused already imprisoned and released blijing travel bans of those who had been released.

Meanwhile, speaking before the court, the public prosecution stressed that none of the names included in the ‘MoI hospitality’ case were of Saudi nationals who had applied for Saudi visa, non-security jobs online. The same names were used over and over again, in four years and only when 28 arrests were made. The court also referred the case to the Attorney General after completing all procedures. The ministry explained that the new service will enable Kuwait and GCC companies and individuals to refund the sums withheld by government bodies with whom they have contracts to pay their income tax as stipulated by article 33 and 16 of the income tax decree number 3/1955 amended by law number 2/2008.

Meanwhile, the court of misdeeds sentenced a blogger to pay KD 1,000 fine, and jail for 10 days to suspend the verdict for two years to the blogger for having slandered his daughter to death inside a vehicle and sentenced the mother to 20 years with the law. The court of correction also sentenced a woman to six months in jail for abducting a child and paying KD 5,000 bail in a case filed against him by the state security for breaking into the home.

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KUWAIT: Cancer is the second leading cause of death in Kuwait after cardiac disease, a Kuwaiti physician warned yesterday, noting that cancer is the cause of 15 percent of fatalities in Kuwait. “Cancer is the second cause of death in Kuwait, with one out of the 10,000 people suffering from cancer,” Dr. Fahd Al-Quraifah, Campaign organizer for the Jahra Cancer Control Center said yesterday.

The campaign aims at educating the citizens about cancer and the importance of steps to fight cancer, as it is the only cancer that can be prevented, he said.

Al-Quraifah added that 45% of cancer patients will be diagnosed late, saying that late diagnosis increases the risk of cancer spreading, which increases the chances of the disease’s treatment and mortality.

He indicated that the two personnel were referred required papers to the Attorney General after completing all procedures.

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Kuwait Institute of Banking Studies honors NBK employees

KUWAIT: Kuwait Institute of Banking Studies (KIBS) has graduated 20 employees at the National Bank of Kuwait, who took part in the training programs organized by the institute for those working at the banking institutions.

The Professional Certificate Programs for 2018-2019 are accredited by the London Institute of Banking and Finance, one of the world’s most prestigious institutions in the field of banking and financial services.

The certificate ceremony was held at the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS), at the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and under the patronage of the Governor of Central Bank of Kuwait, Dr. Mohammed Y. Al-Hashel. The ceremony was also attended by Isam J. Al-Sager, Group Chief Executive Officer, Director General of the Institute of Banking Studies; Dr. Yaqoub Alrefaei, General Manager, Human Resources Group, and Mohammed Al-Sharbatly, General Manager – Operations Group at NBK.

The certificates which the trainees received included: Certified Bank Branch Manager (CBBM), Strategic Management Performance System Certificate (SMPS), Certified Manager (CM), Certified Bank Branch Operations Manager (CBBOM), and Risk Management Certificate (RMC).

“Kuwait Institute of Banking Studies honors NBK employees”

Kuwait students visit ancient Carthage sites

TOUR: An all-girls group of Kuwaiti high school students were taken to several historic, cultural and tourist sites in the northern ancient city of Carthage during a trip to Tunisia aimed at acquainting Kuwaiti students and the younger generation with the rich history and cultural heritage of the region.

The students had the opportunity to visit several historical sites, including the Carthage Museum, the Carthage Amphitheater, and the ancient city of Carthage itself.

The trip was organized by the Kuwait Institute for the Advancement of Science and Technology (KCAST) and the Ministry of Education and Higher Education.

The students were also able to attend lectures and workshops on the history and culture of the region, and to participate in interactive activities that allowed them to engage with the material in a hands-on way.

The trip was a unique opportunity for the students to gain a deeper understanding of the region’s rich cultural heritage and to develop a greater appreciation for the many contributions that have been made to the world’s cultural landscape.

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Kuwait Sadu House introduces traditional weaving art to world

KUWAIT: Sadu exhibition, Sadi, hopes to showcase aspects of this textile heritage and rethink and reinterpret these traditions in a contemporary manner - an initiative aimed at encouraging creativity and innovation amongst local sadu practitioners, she added. “It gives these artists the opportunity to smooth different aspects of this textile heritage and rethink and reinterpret these traditions in a contemporary manner - each artist has their own way of interacting with the fabric,” she said. — KUNA

‘Ukraine Week’ kicks off at Sheikh Jaber Stadium

KUWAIT: A six-day ‘Ukraine Week’ kicked off yesterday with a photo exhibit at Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Stadium. Deputy Premier, Interior Minister and State Minister of Cabinet Affairs Anas Khaled Al-Saleh received Turkish Ambassador and State Minister of Cabinet Affairs Anas Khaled Al-Saleh as part of the Al-Qurain cultural festival, hosted by practitioners of the traditional wool textile art story with customs to the country’s desert dwelling Bedouin community. “The exhibition’s participants have excelled in uncovering the harmony of sadu art and have applied this to their own works, through spinning and weaving in various patterns and rich colors,” honorary president Sheikha Altaf Al-Sabah said. Kuwait Sadu House, a not-for-profit organization, is keen on introducing the event to a wider international audience following its success across several Gulf countries. Sadu is an “ambitious initiative aimed at encouraging creativity and innovation” amongst local sadu practitioners, she added. “It gives these artists the opportunity to smooth different aspects of this textile heritage and rethink and reinterpret these traditions in a contemporary manner - each artist has their own way of interacting with the fabric,” she said. — KUNA

Kuwait prioritizes elderly care: Official

KUWAIT: Providing better care for the elderly is among Kuwait’s chief objectives, breaking new ground, social affairs minister said. The ministry of social affairs yesterday through a ceremony held with Kuwait Sadu House, the ministry’s undersecretary, Nasser Al-Sabah, described as artistic, fashionable, intelligent, progressive, creative, powerful and unique. Attendees at the press conference included a coach from Ukraine and two Kuwaiti artists who had their own experiences of Ukraine’s hospitality to share. Events today included work out and a football match. Events today include a photo exhibit, photo exhibit and kids expo. Tomorrow, there is a ‘Business Outreach Ukraine’ event. Jan 22: Discussion on medical and tourism potentials in Ukraine and Kiev classical orchestra concert. Jan 23: Tree planting, international students’ conference, diplomatic reception and Day of Unity of Ukraine. Coach Volodymyr Babanets was flown in from Qatar to join the Ukraine ‘Week in Kuwait’.

Interior Minister meets ambassadors

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

KUWAIT: Deputy Premier, Interior Minister and State Minister of Cabinet Affairs Anas Khaled Al-Saleh received Turkish Ambassador to Kuwait Ayse Hilal Sayan Koytak in his office at the Interior Ministry yesterday. The minister welcomed his guest and spoke about the strong relations between the two countries, as both sides discussed means of mutual interest. The ambassador thanked Kuwait for its care of the Turkish community in the country. Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Anas Khaled Al-Saleh expressed his gratitude for the minister’s hospitality.

KUWAIT: Officials attend a press conference yesterday to announce the ‘Week in Kuwait’. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

KUWAIT: ‘Sadu eye;’ mixing various material and models.

KUWAIT: Officials attend a press conference yesterday to announce the ‘Ukraine Week.’ — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

KUWAIT: Officials attend a press conference yesterday to announce the ‘Sadu Exhibition.’ — KUNA photo

An Egyptian cotton handmade tent.

‘Sadu eye;’ mixing various material and models.

Interior Minister meets ambassadors

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

KUWAIT: Deputy Premier, Interior Minister and State Minister of Cabinet Affairs Anas Khaled Al-Saleh meets with Turkish Ambassador to Kuwait Ayse Hilal Sayan Koytak. — Interior Ministry photo

KUWAIT: Deputy Premier, Interior Minister and State Minister of Cabinet Affairs Anas Khaled Al-Saleh meets with Croatian Ambassador to Kuwait Amir Muharemi.

KUWAIT: Deputy Premier, Interior Minister and State Minister of Cabinet Affairs Anas Khaled Al-Saleh meets with Turkish Ambassador to Kuwait Ayse Hilal Sayan Koytak. — Interior Ministry photo

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Eight killed in blaze at Palestinian home for disabled

Protests swell after thinning out in recent weeks amid rising Iran-US tensions

Iraqi youth angry at slow pace of reform

Demonstrators have protested several times in the past several weeks.

The protests have been fueled by a range of grievances, including unemployment, corruption, and lack of basic services.

Demonstrators have pressed the government for reforms and called for the resignation of politicians who are seen as beholden to wealthy interests.

The protests have been met with a heavy-handed response from security forces, leading to widespread condemnation and calls for international intervention.

Demonstrators call for the government to resign and implement urgent reforms to address the root causes of the demonstrations.

Demonstrators have also called for the release of those arrested during previous protests and for an end to the use of violence by security forces against protesters.

The protests have sparked a national debate about the future of Iraq and its relations with regional powers, including Iran and the United States.

Demonstrators vow to continue their protests until their demands are met, demanding the resignation of the caretaker prime minister and the formation of an inclusive government.

The protests have highlighted the frustration of young people in Iraq, who are increasingly disillusioned with political elites andPressed to rise up to meet.

Protesters have called on the government to address their concerns and have threatened to escalate their protests if their demands are not met.

The protests have also sparked international concern, with the United Nations and other organizations calling for the protection of protesters and for a resolution to the crisis.

The protests have put pressure on the government to respond to the demands of the demonstrators and to adopt a more inclusive and transparent approach to governance.

The protests have also raised questions about the ability of Iraq's political system to address the needs of its population and to provide effective governance.

The protests have highlighted the need for a fundamental overhaul of Iraq's political system, with calls for the ousting of corrupt politicians and the introduction of new democratic institutions.

The protests have also highlighted the need for international assistance to support the country's stability and development.

The protests have sparked a debate about the role of international actors in supporting Iraq's transition to a more democratic and transparent system.

The protests have also raised questions about the ability of international actors to provide meaningful support to Iraq, with calls for a more coordinated and effective approach to supporting the country's transition.
I t e r n a t i o n a l

Iran to examine black boxes, no plan to send them abroad

Bodies of Ukrainian victims of downed plane repatriated from Iran

Iran is to return the black boxes of a Ukrainian airliner that is unilaterally shot down this month, the state IRNA news agency reported, suggesting that a decision on that had been delayed to send the plane's recorders to Iran. The plane's black boxes were later found in a mountainous area in the country's north, where they are being examined by Iranian officials.

In a statement, the IRNA news agency said that Iran is reviewing the situation regarding the black boxes of the plane, which was shot down on January 8 near Tehran by Iran's Revolutionary Guard. The plane, a Boeing 737-800, was en route from Tehran to Kyiv when it was shot down by Iran's military shortly after takeoff. All 176 people on board, including 140 Ukrainians, were killed in the attack.

The plane's recorders were not recovered until later, which raised concerns about the possibility of evidence being lost. Iran has been accused of obstructing efforts to retrieve the black boxes and the plane's pilot's statement.

Iran’s International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) submitted its latest report to the United Nations Security Council, but the IAEA report raises questions about the adequacy of Iran's cooperation with the agency.

The IAEA, which monitors Iran’s nuclear activities, said in its report that Iran has failed to comply with its nuclear obligations. The agency recommended that the United Nations Security Council consider imposing new sanctions on Iran.

The IAEA report states that Iran has continued to enrich uranium at levels above the limit set by the 2015 nuclear deal, which was imposed to prevent the country from developing a nuclear武器. The IAEA also noted that Iran has failed to comply with other provisions of the nuclear deal, including its commitments to limit its nuclear activities to peaceful purposes.
Mexican troops block US-bound caravan of travelers on border

1,500 Central American migrants urged to maintain ‘order and respect’

CITRUDA HILALDO, Mexican-Mexico’s troops urged migrants after a clash that left at least ten wounded to maintain “order and respect” on Saturday after the group attempted to cross the border despite security forces’ attempts to stop them. The clashes occurred in the town of Tijuana in the state of Baja California, where the migrants were first detained and arrested by Mexican authorities.

The migrants were protesting against pension reform proposals and the economic policies of the Mexican government, which they see as favoring the wealthy and harming the poor. The migrants were attempting to cross the border to seek asylum in the United States, a common destination for Central American migrants.

The Mexican government has been under pressure to address the migration crisis, which has strained its resources and led to social unrest. The government has been working with the United States to establish a more orderly process for migrants seeking asylum.

Russian activists take aim at Putin in march against repression

MOSCOW: More than a thousand opposition activists on Saturday called for President Vladimir Putin to step down, saying they would march to demand political changes in Russia. The protests were the largest since Putin, who has been in power for 21 years, was elected to a fourth term in March 2018. Putin’s popularity has been on the decline in recent months, owing to the ongoing crisis in Ukraine and the country’s economic challenges.

The protests were organized by the opposition leader Alexei Navalny, who was recently released from prison after serving a two-and-a-half year term. Navalny has emerged as a leading opposition figure in Russia, with his supporters carrying out protests and demonstrations across the country.

The protesters chanted slogans against Putin, calling for his resignation and demanding free and fair elections. They carried banners and signs demanding political freedom and the end of corruption in Russia.

They also called for an end to the war in Ukraine, with many expressing their support for the pro-Russian separatists in the Donbas region. The government has been accused of using the conflict to divert attention from domestic issues.

The authorities have tried to disrupt the protests, with police blocking access to the main meeting point and using tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse the crowd. However, the protesters have continued to gather, with thousands attending the march.

The demonstrations are the latest in a series of protests against Putin and his administration, which have grown in size and scope in recent months. The authorities have been under pressure to address the country’s economic problems and to end corruption, which has led to a decline in public confidence in the government.

The protests come at a time of high tension in the region, with Russia and the West at odds over the situation in Ukraine and the Donbas region. The protests are likely to be watched closely by the authorities, who have a history of cracking down on opposition activists.

At least eight die in blaze at Czech disability home

PRAGUE: At least eight people died and several more were injured after a fire at a home for people with learning disabilities in the Czech Republic. The fire broke out in the early hours of Saturday, with smoke and flames spreading quickly through the building.

The fire was reported at around 2:30 a.m. local time, with emergency services arriving at the scene within minutes. The building, which is run by the Czech National Institute of Migration (INM), is dedicated to providing care for migrants who arrive in the country and seek employment in Mexico.

The cause of the fire is under investigation, but it is believed to have started in the kitchen area. The building houses around 70 migrants, who are from a variety of countries, including Mexico, the United States, and Central America.

The INM has launched an investigation into the incident and has said that it will ensure that similar incidents do not happen again.

Russian troops opened power protest of assailant on border

PARIS: French police officers shot a man who allegedly opened fire on a police officer after he was detained as a suspect in the shooting of a police officer in the northeastern city of Metz on Tuesday. The incident occurred as French police were patrolling the border with Germany, where tensions have been high due to the increase in migrant flows.

The man, identified as a 31-year-old man, was detained after he opened fire on a police officer, who returned fire in self-defense. The police officer was not injured, but the man was killed in the exchange of gunfire.

The incident occurred during a large police operation aimed at preventing the flow of illegal immigrants and drugs across the border. The French government has been under pressure to address the issue, with many voicing concerns about the impact of migration on the country’s security and economy.

The operation, which involves around 5,000 police officers and soldiers, is set to continue for several days. The government has said that it will be ramped up in the coming weeks to prevent any further incidents.

The presence of large numbers of police officers at the border has been met with criticism by some groups, who argue that it is an infringement of their civil liberties. The government has defended its actions, saying that it is necessary to ensure the country’s security.

The incident has also sparked a debate about the role of the police in dealing with migrants, with some calling for a more humane approach. Others have called for stronger measures to be taken to prevent illegal immigration.

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India, Sri Lanka seek closer military ties as China clout grows

COLOMBO: Sri Lanka and India vowed to strengthen military ties as China’s economic clout increases in the region.

President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and his Indian counterpart, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, met on the sidelines of the summit, which began yesterday on the Maldives.

Rajapaksa also briefed his visitors on the recent military threats that the country faced, including the threat of a Chinese submarine that had reportedly been spotted near the Maldives.

India said it would consider the use of its 26,000-ship fleet to strengthen the infrastructure of the Indian Ocean region.

The two leaders also announced they would soon start talks on a preferential trade agreement.

The meeting took place a day after India's foreign minister, S. Jaishankar, met with his Sri Lankan counterpart, Dinesh Gunawardena, in Colombo.

Deadly kite strings kill 150 birds in India

SANAND: A volunteer is trying to save a stork after it was entangled in kite strings. India's environment minister said that the recent festival of Makar Sankranti had received some 750 distress calls on January 14 and 15 when the festival of kites was celebrated. Harshil Shah, who works for a volunteer group, said that 152 birds died before they could be treated, officials said Friday. — AFP

Heavy snow hinders search for missing Korean, Nepali trekkers

KATHMANDU: Trekkers arrive after a rescue operation from the Annapurna circuit, at the airport of Pokhara, some 30 minutes away from Kathmandu. Regulators have to make sure that the search and rescue operations are conducted in a safe and effective manner. — AFP

Evacuate for safety at Sunday mass amid Philippine volcano threat

Philippine city helps others rebuid after volcano

A city police officer died in the area due to the accident. The city police have urged residents to evacuate as soon as possible. — Reuters

Modi's party slams Bezos-owned Washington Post

NEW DELHI: Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi slammed the newspaper’s coverage of the dispute between India and Pakistan, saying it was a “slap in the face” for India.

The companies deny the allegations. Amazon and Flipkart have flouted regulations and burned billions of dollars to offer steep discounts. India's brick-and-mortar retailers say the companies flouted rules and adverse comments from politicians have made Bezos' visit a public relations nightmare for Amazon.

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US sues Amazon for antitrust violation

The lawsuit argues that Amazon Press, a subsidiary of Amazon, is using its power to buy up news organizations and control media content. Amazon has sold its stake in The New York Times, one of the few independent news organizations that has been able to challenge Amazon's dominance.

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Amazon's coverage of India, but gave no examples.

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A Syrian Kurdish man sells sweets.

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KUWAIT: Zain, the leading digital service provider in Kuwait, took part in the inauguration of the 9th edition of the Kuwait Motor Show 2020 as part of its strategic partnership with the biggest show for automobiles, vehicles, and motorcycles in Kuwait. The event offers a comprehensive platform for local dealerships to engage with the public, continuing from 16 – 25 January at 360 Mall under the patronage of Deputy Minister of Amiri Diwan Affairs Sheikh Mohammad Al-Mall under the patronage of Deputy Minister of Amiri Diwan Affairs Sheikh Mohammad Al-Mall.

The opening ceremony witnessed the attendance of Deputy Minister of Amiri Diwan Affairs Sheikh Mohammad Al-Mall, Zain Vice Chairman and Group CEO Bader Nasser Al-Kharafi, as well as many ambassadors, diplomats, and officials from both the public and private sectors.

Zain’s strategic partnership with the event comes in line with its Corporate Sustainability and Social Responsibility strategy, through which the company – being a leading national company in the Kuwaiti private sector – is keen on supporting the various innovative efforts that contribute to further pushing the national economy. This is especially true as the event offers comprehensive platform for local dealerships to engage with the public.

Zain is aware of the important role private sector companies play in encouraging such initiatives that contribute to supporting Kuwait’s national economy, especially that it is one of the leading national companies in the private sector. Zain’s participation at this event further reflects its keenness in developing the various innovative efforts in the community, which burst with dedicated talents who have vibrant ideas that offer viable solutions for the market needs.

Zain’s support to this event comes in line with its core objectives that aim at shouldering the advancement of the community as a whole, thereby the company reconfirms the principal of partnership through similar efforts with the aim of contributing to the further progress of national economy.

Kuwait’s biggest automobiles and motorcycles event opens at 360 Mall

Trump, EU chief to meet in Davos

WASHINGTON: Donald Trump is expected to meet with EU President Ursula von der Leyen in Davos, Switzerland, next week, three sources said, as tension between the two over tariff tariffs and the US president faces an impeachment trial at home.

Just days after Trump scored big victories by signing a partial trade deal with China and passing a coup of the South American Free Trade Agreement, he will travel to the World Economic Forum where he is expected to discuss dealing trade disputes with the European Commission president.

The White House and the European Commission did not immediately respond to requests for comment. Among the pull of G20 leaders meeting the allies, Washington's most immediate concern in France's plan to impose a 3% digital services tax, which the US government believes would harm US technology giants like Alphabet Inc’s Google and Amazon.com Inc, with a list of other countries poised to follow suit.

In retaliation, the US trade representative last month ruled that sanctions could hit as US, China ink ‘Phase One’ deal

Global market uncertainties ease as US, China ink ‘Phase One’ deal

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Trump, EU chief to meet in Davos as US tariffs loom over digital tax

WMATIONAL: Donald Trump is expected to meet with EU President Ursula von der Leyen in Davos, Switzerland, next week, three sources said, as tension between the two over tariff tariffs and the US president faces an impeachment trial at home.

Just days after Trump scored big victories by signing a partial trade deal with China and passing a coup of the South American Free Trade Agreement, he will travel to the World Economic Forum where he is expected to discuss dealing trade disputes with the European Commission president. The Trump administration and the European Commission did not immediately respond to requests for comment. Among the pull of G20 leaders meeting the allies, Washington’s most immediate concern in France’s plan to impose a 3% digital services tax, which the US government believes would harm US technology giants like Alphabet Inc’s Google and Amazon.com Inc, with a list of other countries poised to follow suit.

In retaliation, the US trade representative last month ruled that sanctions could hit as US, China ink ‘Phase One’ deal with some US officials in Washington saying that negotiations were off. "It was a good day but there was work to do," he said. He also added that negotiations were off as Iran’s most powerful military commander was killed in a US airstrike. Iran’s foreign minister, Mohammad Javad Zarif, canceled plans to attend the forum. Trump and von der Leyen, Germany’s defense minister, know each other well after sparring over Berlin’s failure to reach NATO’s 2% defense spending target. In a December 2019 interview, von der Leyen decried Trump’s “unhinged reaction to Trump’s election, saying, "I am not a political machine, but a human being." — Reuters
Muted inflationary pressures puzzle Fed policymakers

**Global market uncertainties ease as US, China ink ‘Phase One’ deal**

RISKIER: The US and China have finally signed the ‘Phase One’ deal after months of gridlock that almost plunged the global economic situation into a recession. Beijing has agreed to double its purchases of US goods and services by $200 billion over the next two years, the US Trade Representative said yesterday.

However, the deal is not without its caveats. The US still plans to impose additional tariffs on $160 billion worth of Chinese goods if Beijing does not follow through on its commitments. The US will also continue to enforce the ‘China Initiative’ aimed at curbing intellectual property theft and forcing US companies to divest their holdings in China.

**Low inflation pressures puzzle Fed policymakers**

FOMC members have repeatedly stated that they expect low inflation pressures to persist for some time. The latest FED report showed that core inflation, which excludes volatile items like food and energy, inched up to 0.4% in December from 0.3% in November, but remained well below the FED’s 2% long-term target. Core personal consumption expenditures (PCE) price index fell to 1.6% in December from 1.7% in November, the lowest rate since January 2018.

**Consumer confidence**

US consumer confidence rose to a solid footing, which supported retail sales in the final months of the year. Retail sales increased for a third consecutive month in December and registered a 0.3% monthly reading, Commerce Dept. said yesterday. Consumer sentiment has been lifted by rising wages, which rose at an annual 3.1% rate in December and registered a 0.3% monthly reading. The FED’s preferred reading, which excludes volatile items like vehicles, petrol and food, edged higher by 0.1% monthly.

**Trade deal**

One trade deal has reduced uncertainty around the globe, that China is not living up to its promises, it can easily be concluded, if the US administration believes that it has agreed to elevate its purchases of US goods and protect intellectual property. As a result of China’s commitment, the US has agreed to hold off on increased tariffs that were supposed to be implemented last month and will instead release a list of items that are exempted from the tariffs.

**Fed stance**

At the conclusion of its two-day meeting, the FED decided to maintain its Fed funds target range at 1.50-1.75% and to hold off on another rate cut. The FED has said that it will continue to monitor the data closely and will act accordingly if necessary. The FED also raised its forecast for GDP growth this year to 2.0% from 1.9% previously.

According to the FED, the US economy is expected to grow at a 2% rate this year, which is slightly lower than the FED’s previous forecast of 2.2%. The unemployment rate is expected to remain at 3.5% and the core inflation rate is expected to be 2.0%.

**Exchange rates**

Since last year, the US dollar has depreciated against most major currencies, except against the Japanese yen, which has strengthened against the USD. Year to date, the CNY has soared by 1.50 percent against the USD.

**Indian Rupee**

Amidst rising US-China tensions, the Rupee has appreciated against the USD, recording a 3.2 percent annualized rate in Q3. Economists expect that consumer spending will diminish to around 2.5 percent on an annualized rate due to rising trade deficits and weak sentiment in the manufacturing sector.

**Sterling pressured**

The pound sterling’s downward trajectory witnessed at the start of the year has gathered further momentum last month. The pound has fallen by more than 1.50 percent against the USD. Year to date, the GBP has lost 1.87 percent of its value against the USD.

**What’s next?**

The pound’s downward trajectory is likely to continue in the coming weeks, as expectations for a rate cut soar. At the conclusion of its two-day meeting, the FED decided to maintain its Fed funds target range at 1.50-1.75%, which is now lower than the 1.88% rate that was set in December. The FED has said that it will continue to monitor the data closely and will act accordingly if necessary. The FED also raised its forecast for GDP growth this year to 2.0% from 1.9% previously.

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UK looks to offshore wind for green energy transition

Wind energy to help Britain's transition to carbon neutrality

LONDON: Britain is becoming an offshore wind power powerhouse, as the sector looks to accelerate its transition to a carbon-neutral economy in the coming decades.

The country is already the world's largest offshore wind power market and has made ambitious commitments to increase its offshore wind capacity significantly in the coming years.

The government has set a target of generating 50% of its electricity from offshore wind by 2030, and it expects this sector to play a crucial role in achieving the country's climate change goals.

Offshore wind power is a key component of Britain's strategy to reduce its carbon emissions and transition to a low-carbon economy. It is seen as a reliable and sustainable source of energy that can help meet the country's energy needs while reducing its carbon footprint.

The sector has made significant progress in recent years, with several large-scale offshore wind farms coming online and new projects in the planning stages.

These developments are expected to boost the economy, create jobs, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, making offshore wind a vital part of Britain's green energy future.
Huawei keeps strong R&D pace as 5th top investor worldwide

Company ranked in 2019 EU Industrial R&D Investment Scoreboard

KWATW: Huawei has been ranked fifth in the recently released EU Industrial R&D Investment Scoreboard as one of the biggest investors in research and development in the world. TheScoreboard, which tracks the research investments of the top 2,500 companies inventing the largest sums in research and development in 26 European countries, is based on data collected from companies’ annual reports and accounts.

As a result of its R&D investments, Huawei has been able to lead the development of 5G technologies, putting the telecommunications giant at the forefront of the global race for 5G research since 2009. More than 50% of the total 5G revenue generated by MNCs in the EU in 2017 and 2018 came from Huawei.

Besides combining Huawei’s strong R&D investments in 2019 and 2020, it has submitted a total of 23,000 contributions to 5G-related patents, which would be a stack more than 10 meters tall of paper. Huawei now is seen as the leader in 5G patents and is a front-runner in the global industry.

Law on enforced receipts sets Germans grumbling

BURGAN: In January it became law in Germany that retailers must have electronic devices that can record and store digital transactions. The new law is expected to be in full effect by January 1. It’s aimed at improving transparency and making it easier for tax authorities to track transactions. However, it has also been met with resistance from businesses, particularly small ones.

The law requires businesses to keep records of all transactions, including dates and amounts, for at least six years. The electronic records must be kept securely and be accessible to tax authorities.

ABK launches ‘Friendship Thursday’

KWATW: Al-Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) announced its ‘Friendship Thursday’ Initiative during the last quarter of 2019 as part of its dedication to promoting a cohesive, and inclusive organizational ethos.

The initiative is designed to bring people together, to create a sense of community, and to foster a culture of giving and inclusivity. It is open to all employees and is held once a month.

“Friendship Thursday is a day when we provide our staff with a chance to connect with each other and the different departments within the Bank,” said Hamlet Al-Nasr, Chief Financial Officer at ABK.

Brexit’s new deal addresses old dilemmas

BREXIT: With just two weeks to go before Brexit, European diplomatic are preparing for the next phase of intense negotiations to hammer out a future relationship with Britain after its EU departure. British businesses are focused on new Breed Bill; this bill has to comply with the Bremish Bill; this bill has to comply with the Bremish Bill; this bill has to comply with the Bremish Bill.

The bill is a key priority for many businesses, with most expecting a deal that will allow them to continue trading with the UK. However, the bill also poses risks to the UK economy, as it could lead to a hard Brexit and an increase in bureaucracy for goods.

Threat to unity

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Kuwait’s Historical Archive Center Museum opened

By Faten Omar

Kuwait’s Historical Archive Center Museum opened yesterday at Kuwait University in the presence of Dr. Abdulrahman Buwair, Director of the museum.Shahab Al-Sabah said that the idea of the museum was important to him.

The museum had been inspired by the city’s history and the actions of its leaders. He expressed his joy and pride for sponsoring the museum.

Buwair praised HH the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al- Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah’s efforts in developing Kuwait, saying it was a good and wholesome day after his return from treatment in the United States.

Sheikhla Marzouk, General Supervisor of the Archive Center Museum, said the museum contains historical documents of the history of Kuwait, and they are in the process of bringing more documents in cooperation with various sectors.

“The museum was supposed to open last Sunday, but it was postponed after the tragic death of HH Sheikh Sabah. This Sunday last week, where the countries of the Cooperation Council lost one of the wisest men in the Arabian Gulf.

Buwaer added, “Kuwait University Museum is dedicated to the rulers of Kuwait and the history of the Cooperating Council. It collects hundreds of documents and the story of Kuwait, along with official secret documents related to Kuwaiti heritage.”

LOYAC conducts blood donation campaign

O ut of its humane vision, LOYAC officially launched its 8th annual blood donation campaign under the slogan of “Your Blood, Their Hope.” which is dedi-

uted to support cancer patients.

The campaign was held at the Sharq Mall under the auspices of ABK and in collaboration with the Tri Star Motorcycles, the bike race, and Kuwait Central Blood Bank.

The campaign comes after it was notified to the LOYAC board chairman, Emna Al-Thawery and the management and executive managers, Ja’far Bahbahani.

Buwair said that since establishing LOYAC 18 years ago, it has been inspired by the city’s history and the actions of its leaders. “The equation is so simple and obvious that even since establishing LOYAC 18 years ago, its blood donation campaign is divided into different categories: Loyalists, volunteers, patients, and beneficiaries,”

Buwair praised HH the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al- Ahmad for his support for patients and for having LOYAC’s care campaign in mind.

Buwair added, “Kuwait University is supposed to open last Sunday, but it was postponed after the tragic death of HH Sheikh Sabah. This Sunday last week, where the countries of the Cooperation Council lost one of the wisest men in the Arabian Gulf.

A statement from LOYAC, which organizes the exhibition in collaboration with Hospitality Services (Lintham), said that this year’s exhibition includes a record number of participants in addition to hundreds of contractors over 28 categories of cooking competitions.

The committee explained that the first seminar would be held on the first day from 5-6 pm under the title of “The Shayd Food and Beverages Trends.”

The seminar was sponsored by Abid Al-Baissi, MMC, and the Al-Do类似于 Scopus Group General manager, Facchik Frank Bonachea, and Al-Shara Group and Al-Hussein Group, Kuwait.

The second day seminar will be held the same day on the second day under the title of “Smart Trends in Today’s Catering Industry” to be pre-

sented by Ibrahim Al-Baissi, MMC, and chairman of the business community CEO, Shahrxi Barakati; Barakati Food Company manager and Mall, and the owner of Mall-Fast Events.

The third day’s seminar will be titled “Privileges of Online Restaurant Ordering Systems” to be presented by speakers Ramad Al-Jold, chairman and chairman of Zanka company, Waseem Marmara, TAHAB of general manager and Ahmed Salamah; and chairman of Trihaz.

Notably, all these seminars will be moderated by Nada Shamsun and Madrid, general manager and Bibi Hayat; chairman of Zyda company.

ICSK flags off mega Higher Education Fair 2020

The Indian Community School, Kuwait (ICSK), took pride in hosting the Higher Education Fair 2020, a mega event, on the 17th and 18th of April, 2020. The Higher Education Fair for the second time in the school is commemorating the 61st year of its glorious existence. The school had conducted the fair last year for the first time as a part of its grand jubilee celebrations.

ICSK launched this unique event through a press conference held on 15th January 2020 at ICSK Senior, Sabah. The education fair is an enter-

prise that offers limited opportunities to pursue education in various countries from around the globe. The Higher Education Fair 2020, giving students who wish to pursue higher education abroad a unique opportunity. The entry was free to this distinctive pro-

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gramme.
BEIJING: China said yesterday that 17 more people had become infected with a new coronavirus strain. The virus, which is a member of a large family of coronaviruses that includes SARS, there is little known about its origins and how easily it can spread. The authorities did not explicitly state whether this was a case of human-to-human transmission, however. Wuhan municipal authorities released information about a married couple that contracted the virus on Jan 15. The husband, who visited Wuhan, is in a critical condition and had visited the city of Wuhan, where all 62 of the cases in China have occurred. Two patients have died. Two cases have also been reported in Thailand and one in Japan - both involving people who traveled from Wuhan. One of the two patients in Thailand has recovered.

Wuhan officials have been releasing updates on new cases almost daily since Jan 11, and it is the highest number reported since then. The new patients began exhibiting symptoms as early as December or late January, the city’s authorities said. In the past, it has taken time for patients to present symptoms. Therefore, some of the new cases appear to be linked to the latest outbreak in Wuhan.

Due to China’s efforts to implement broader screening measures since then, new cases may be identified in the coming days and weeks, it added.

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What we know so far about new virus outbreak

BEIJING: Chinese authorities and the World Health Organization (WHO) set a new strain of coronavirus behind the outbreak of pneumonia in the central city of Wuhan, which has appeared just ahead of the Lunar New Year, the country’s biggest festival. Health officials say the strain does not appear as lethal as some other strains of coronavirus such as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, which killed nearly 800 people worldwide during a 2002/03 outbreak that also started in China.

Four of the new patients are critically ill, according to a statement issued by the health commission in the central city of Wuhan, where 62 of the cases in China have occurred. Two patients have died. Two cases have also been reported in Thailand and one in Japan - both involving people who traveled from Wuhan. One of the two patients in Thailand has recovered.

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5. A member of an Algonquian people who for grafting. ing in the Missouri river valley in NE Nebraska. trimmed off.

63. The part of the small intestine between the treat anxiety and tension and insomnia. thoughts in writing because of a brain lesion. Satisfy (thirst).

43. An ancient Assyrian city on the River Tigris. God of fire. 37. Make unable to perform a certain action.

35. White Southerner supporting ally for self-interest. 30. A written account of what transpired at a meeting.

25. Any member of Athapaskan tribes that to influence others. heavier than beer. 15. Fermented alcoholic beverage similar to but

19. Fig tree of India noted for great size and growing in the Sundarbans delta.星星 (Gezi (May 21-26))

We know it is a period of great activity, and your curiosity about the world around you is practically insatiable. You're interested in anything and everything. You want to be able to understand everything the minute you see it or hear it. You are interested in the good supply of books about the things you would like to know about and try and read some new ones.

14. The content of cognition.

53. The 19th letter of the Greek alphabet. 49. An ancient Hebrew unit of dry measure equal to about a bushel.

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A stolen 15th-century book by the famed Persian poet Hafez has been recovered by a Dutch art detective after an international "race against time" that drew the allied interest of Iran's secret service. The gold-leafed volume worth around one million euros ($1.1 million) was found to be missing from the collection of an Iranian antiquities dealer after his death in Germany in 2007. It sparked a decade-long search for one of the oldest surviving copies of "Divan" - the collected works of the poet who remains extremely popular worldwide.

But Arthur Brand, dubbed the "Indiana Jones of the Art World" for his role in cracking cases such as recovering the World Trade Center's frieze, said in a statement to AFP that this was a "huge, huge" recovery - and that he "cannot be more proud".

"This is a huge discovery," he said. "I have to say, I was looking for this book for years."

Brand, who runs a private detective agency in Amsterdam, said that the book belonged to Ghazy's family.

"I can tell you the work is authentic," said Guido Cauzzi, an art expert who examined the painting.

"From the quality of the work, we can say that it is a very good work," he added. "It is signed by the artist, and the signature is clear."
I love my job and I love my life. For me, it means being able to do what I love, and it means being able to support my family. I am proud of the work I do, and I am excited about the future. I am looking forward to what the future holds, and I am ready to take on any challenge that comes my way. — AFP
His father was undefeated boxing champion of Africa, now Imane Ayissi is making history himself by becoming the first sub-Saharan designer to show in the elite Paris haute couture week. Not only is he joining fashion’s creme de la creme, the Cameroonian couturier is shaking up the stereotype of what “African materials” are by refusing to use wax prints which he dismisses as “colonial”.

Highly colorful wax cotton prints flooded West Africa after Dutch mills began turning out millions of rolls of the material with patterns borrowed from Indonesian batik in the 19th century. “Still when we talk about African fashion it’s always wax, which is a real pity, because it’s killing our own African heritage,” Ayissi told AFP. “We only started wearing wax during the colonial era. Africa has more to show for itself than—”

Ancient African techniques

While every piece is painstakingly handmade, as haute couture demands, the designer has had recourse to African materials and techniques rarely if ever seen on the Paris catwalk. Strip fabric kente woven by the Akan people of Ghana and the Ivory Coast, which was originally worn only by nobles, has been transformed into elegant evening wear, with spectacular dresses decorated with obom, the bark of a tropical tree. Ayissi has also played with African luxury tropes by using a Cameroonian tie dye technique “which is expensive and slow to do,” called “Mon mari est capable” (roughly translated as “My husband can handle it”), which is all about showing you how deep your pockets are.”

Like his late father, Jean-Baptiste Ayissi Ntsama—who founded his own political party after quitting the boxing ring—Ayissi wants to become a champion for African talent. His childhood home was a crossroads of many worlds: politics and boxing from his father and fashion from his mother, a former Miss Cameroon. “Within the family we had boxing and dancing clans, and a bit of modelling too, and mother loved all that,” the designer said. “I did a bit of boxing—it was obligatory, it was the family tradition after all—then I started to dance.”

Dancing with the stars

His dance career merged ballet, modern dance and pop, including dancing in videos for superstars Sting and Seal as well as touring with French tennis star-turned-singer Yannick Noah. But it was his parallel career as a striking Paris runway model that really reignited his passion for fashion. That re-awoke childlike memories of cutting up and re-sewing his mother’s and his aunt’s old dresses. Yet Ayissi—who’s show closes haute couture week Friday—has been far from an overnight success.

He staged his first Paris fashion show in 1995 “for his friends,” with some 200 dresses, of which “only one or two” really worked, he remembers with laugh. He has come a long way since, with his last collection, which helped get him in the door of the extremely select haute couture club, centred on ecological concerns. It included dresses in black and mauve embroidered with plants and fish using an embroidered technique inspired by Abomey tapestries from Benin and the colonial era Asafo warrior flags from Ghana, then called the Gold Coast. One particularly striking dress called “The Black Sea” was embroidered with a blue whale and large-eyed fish. Ayissi said the dress was a reference to “the black tides of pollution on the one hand and sadness on the other.”

But beyond his own innovations in living to his own natural dyes and organic cotton means that he has to buy a lot of material in France and then send it to Africa, so he probably won’t be organic. “It’s costly, but I’m a choice I make,” he said. —AFP

Designer Ayissi

is first black African at fashion’s top table

from his mother, a former Miss Cameroon. “Within the family we had boxing and dancing clans, and a bit of modelling too, and mother loved all that.” The designer said the dress was a reference to “the black tides of pollution on the one hand and sadness on the other.”

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He staged his first Paris fashion show in 1995 “for his friends,” with some 200 dresses, of which “only one or two” really worked, he remembers with laugh. He has come a long way since, with his last collection, which helped get him in the door of the extremely select haute couture club, centred on ecological concerns. It included dresses in black and mauve embroidered with plants and fish using an embroidered technique inspired by Abomey tapestries from Benin and the colonial era Asafo warrior flags from Ghana, then called the Gold Coast. One particularly striking dress called “The Black Sea” was embroidered with a blue whale and large-eyed fish. Ayissi said the dress was a reference to “the black tides of pollution on the one hand and sadness on the other.”

But beyond his own innovations in living to his own natural dyes and organic cotton means that he has to buy a lot of material in France and then send it to Africa, so he probably won’t be organic. “It’s costly, but I’m a choice I make,” he said. —AFP

Designer Ayissi

is first black African at fashion’s top table

from his mother, a former Miss Cameroon. “Within the family we had boxing and dancing clans, and a bit of modelling too, and mother loved all that.” The designer said the dress was a reference to “the black tides of pollution on the one hand and sadness on the other.”

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Welcome to Ocean City: Dry island, and proud of it

Pina joints and popcorn stands jostle for attention all along the boardwalk in Ocean City, New Jersey—but look hard enough and you might spot a few signs for bars that look more like a beach than a bar. A local resident, Chris Hoffmann, said he has been called into all sorts of arguments over the years about his beachfront club, the Captain Bob’s restaurant, which is situated just off the boardwalk near the Atlantic Ocean. It is one of more than 200 local businesses that have been forced to offer alcohol-free meals in order to keep afloat amid the ongoing pandemic. Hoffmann, who runs the restaurant with his wife, says it has been tough, but he is determined to stick it out.

“Some people think it’s sacrilegious, but we’ve been doing this for 26 years, and we’re not going to change,” he said. “We’re going to stay dry and we’re going to keep our traditions.”

Hoffmann’s restaurant is one of many in the area that have been affected by the coronavirus pandemic, which has forced them to offer dry drinks or temporarily close their doors. The local government has been working to help these establishments by offering grants and other forms of assistance.

“We’re trying to keep our heads up and stay positive,” Hoffmann said. “We’re doing the best we can in these tough times.”

The town’s slogan is “Ocean City, dry and proud of it.”

Meghan: TV actor gives up starring royal role

The Duchess of Sussex, who was born in a small town near the royal family home, has announced her engagement to Prince Harry. The couple’s engagement was announced on Friday, after they were spotted strolling together in the sun at a beach inј-

It was a little nervewracking,” recalled Sharon Hoffman. “It was heated.”

“It was heated,” she said. “I was told I had to leave the island to get a good dinner?” lamented Chris Hoffmann. “Why should I have to leave the island to get a good dinner? Why should I have to tip the bartender on my own time?”

Hoffmann is adamant about not letting Ocean City go dry. “If you have a successful brand, you don’t mess with it. Nobody is going to buy into ‘It’s the end of the world as we know it’,” he said.

The couple’s engagement has been met with mixed reactions. Some residents are thrilled with the news, while others are less enthusiastic.

“It’s a little bit of a shock,” said one resident. “I’m not sure what to make of it.”

But others are excited about the prospect of a new chapter for the town.

“We’re looking forward to welcoming the couple and their guests to Ocean City,” said Hoffmann.

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Protesters regroup after..."}

"Call to end foreign meddling in Libya..."}

"Gas-rich Qatar inks $470m solar deal..."
**Merzlikins blanks Devils as Jacks win 4th straight**

**Sports**

**Ovechkin leads Capitals with second straight hat trick**

NEW YORK: Alexander Ovechkin recorded a hat trick to put his career tally at 313 and tied the Washington Capitals for a 4-3 victory over the New York Islanders at the Barclays Center. Ovechkin became the first Russian player to score a hat trick in the NHL for the third time this season and the second straight game. In the third period, Ovechkin scored a goal and assisted on two others to help the Capitals gain a 3-1 lead. The Capitals have now won their last four games and improved their record to 26-10-5 (52 points) for first place in the Metropolitan Division. Ovechkin praised his teammates for their efforts.

**Chequered flag falls on ultra-tough Dakar as Sainz fights back**

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India chased down their target of 287 in 47.3 overs

Scorecard of the third and final one-day international between
KL Rahul lbw b Agar 19
R. Sharma c Starc b Zampa 119
(Cummins), 9-282 (Zampa)
4-173 (Starc), 5-231 (Carey), 6-238 (Smith), 7-273 (Smith), 8-276
Fall of wickets: 1-18 (Warner), 2-46 (Finch), 3-173 (Labuschagne),
J. Hazlewood not out 1
A. Zampa b Shami 1
D. Warner c Rahul b Shami 3

Kutti's volleyball tennis players meet
by Ahmad Al-Shamsi

India Rohit outplay Australia to clinch ODI series

LeBron double lead Lakers by Rockets

Kawhi Leonard scored 39 points, and Lou Williams had
12 rebounds for New Orleans.

Kawhi Leonard scored 39 points, and Lou Williams had
12 rebounds for the Thunder. Shai Gilgeous-Alexander scored
20 points plateau in a career-best fourth straight contest for
the captain being run out for 19.

Sports
**Sports**

**Barty clinches second Grand Slam after opening-up in Melbourne Park**

Barty will start her Melbourne Park campaign next week having being world number one and the focus of an expectant sports-loving nation as she seeks to win the Australian Open and complete a career Grand Slam. The 2019 French Open champion and 2020 Wimbledon champion is the highest ranked Australian woman in history, and just one of a host of other Grand Slam winners.

**Lewandowski and Hertha lift trophy for 20th goal**

Bundesliga: Robert Lewandowski hit his 20th league goal that season as Bayern Munich climbed to second in the league. He now has 31 goals in 26 games in all competitions, including 15 in just five Champions League games.

**Barty eyes home party as Serena continues chase**

MELBOURNE: Ash Barty faces the daunting burden of ensuring Australian tennis fans do not end their year with frustration. Barty is a childhood hero – the best nation as she seeks to win the Australian Open and complete a career Grand Slam. The 2019 French Open champion and 2020 Wimbledon champion is the highest ranked Australian woman in history, and just one of a host of other Grand Slam winners.

**Chelsea rocked as Haydn's late strike lifts Newcastle**

NEWCASTLE: Frank Lampard admitted he wants to see a more positive mentality among his squad after a last-minute strike from substitute Daryl Horgan lifted Newcastle to a 1-1 draw against Chelsea at St James’ Park.

**Bryan backs ‘madman’ Murray to march on**

MELBOURNE: Double legends Andy Murray is backing a “madman” Sam Querrey to play for more than one year despite the Briton being forced out of the Australian Open with another injury. The veteran American has a knee problem that has been bothering him for 12 months and is set to be replaced by Andrey Rublev in the singles draw.

**Munich 0-0 Lecce**

MILAN: Faside midfielder Kessie has a goal disallowed with 11 minutes left of the game and fell to Isaac Hayden’s header with just 20 seconds of the game remaining to hand the advantage to Chelsea.

**Milan 2-1 Newcastle**

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**It’s a really important win to get in a final”**

Lewandowski was sent off for his challenge on goalkeeper Jarstein, who was made to pay for a mistake that contributed to a 2-2 draw with Hertha Berlin.

**Lempertz, Mudford set for final in Adelaide**

She will be the cynosure of the sports-loving nation as she seeks to win the Australian Open and complete a career Grand Slam. The 2019 French Open champion and 2020 Wimbledon champion is the highest ranked Australian woman in history, and just one of a host of other Grand Slam winners.

**Battaglia makes it four for Lecce with goal in stoppage time**

Alberto Noguera is one of the world's top 12 athletes who are outside the top 15 records. — Reuters

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**LIVERPOOL:** Liverpool stretched their lead at the top of the Premier League to 16 points with a 2-0 win over their historic rivals at Anfield. Jurgen Klopp's men did have the ball in hand for much of the game, and their problems worsened when goalkeeper Kasper Schmeichel saved a couple of early shots from Mane before losing his footing under De Gea. The Egyptian was picked out at the back post by Alexander-Arnold's corner. The Norwegian then slotted the ball in from close range as Van Dijk was penalised for an aerial challenge with Phil Jones for a VAR review. Georginio Wijnaldum then slotted the ball in from the Buffered Chamber, but the Liverpool star had scored marginally offside.

At the other end, De Gea had one more opportunity to reclaim the lead before the break as he saved with his feet from Mane's driven effort. However, the hosts held out for a seventh consecutive clean sheet in all competitions and took another giant step towards the title with Schmeichel saving the third point with virtually the last kick of the game. The Egyptians were picked out by goalkeeper Alisson Becker and ran from inside his own half before sliding under the Goa.

**OVERSWING:** Liverpool's Dutch defender Virgil van Dijk (L) battles with Manchester United's Belgian-born Brazilian midfielder Andreas Pereira (R) during the English Premier League football match between Liverpool and Manchester United at Anfield Stadium in Liverpool, north west England yesterday. — AFP

**Directo shocks Shiffrin to claim maiden WCup win**

**BESTMARK:** Francesca zara was among women's parallel giant slalom in Seefeld yesterday, obliterating US star Mikaela Shiffrin on the way to her first World Cup victory. The 24-year-old from Colorado, who is still 23 years old, edged Austria's Elisa Moerzinger by 0.22sec in the final, with Italy's Marta Bassino second. For Bassino it was a fourth podium this season, while her performance was outstanding, I'm trying to enjoy the moment right now.