Amir heads Cabinet session, hails coronavirus measures

One new case in Kuwait • MoCI to pay difference in food freight costs

Curfew in Saudi; UAE shuts malls; Weinstein infected

SYEDM: Saudi Arabia’s King Salman has announced a nationwide dusk-to-dawn curfew from yesterday in a bid to contain the spread of the novel coronavirus, the latest in a series of restrictions. The curfew, from 7 pm until 6 am, will be imposed for 21 days, the official Saudi Press Agency reported, citing a royal order. The move comes after Saudi Arabia on Sunday said the number of COVID-19 cases had jumped to 511. The highest in the Gulf, the kingdom has reported no deaths so far.

Health sector employees as well as security and military officials will be exempted from the curfew restrictions, the royal order said. Saudi Arabia’s King Salman warned on Thursday of a “more difficult” fight ahead against the virus, as the kingdom faces the double blow of widespread shutdowns and crashing oil prices. The Arab world’s biggest economy has shut down cinemas, malls and restaurants, halted flights and suspended the year-round Muslim pilgrimage as it steps up efforts to contain the deadly virus.

On Sunday, HH the Amir issued a series of extensive measures to curb the spread of COVID-19, saying that “it was time to expand solidarity to overcome this global health crisis.” HH the Amir reflected on the situation created by the coronavirus worldwide, saying that Kuwait, unfortunately, had been affected by the global pandemic that has killed thousands of people around the world.

KUWAIT: HH the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah addressed the nation on Sunday. — KUNA

Continued on Page 16

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Continued on Page 16

Continued on Page 16
Defense Minister discusses with officials anti-coronavirus action

Interior Ministry prioritizes disabled, granting waivers to curb rules

The skies were a brilliant glowing orange and pink as cars zoomed by in the still air, as the sun began setting toward the south. We sat on our small balcony, awash in the glow that would mark the start of Kuwait’s nationwide curfew, a first for the country. The month of March is often called Holy Month of Intercession by Muslims. We would normally be observing the first Friday of the month, during which the prophet, Muhammad (peace be upon him), was believed to have opened the doors of heaven, which were closed, to reveal the glorious inner life of Allah. This year, the month of March is also a month of professors and students—a month that is packed with events of every kind, from lectures to seminars, conferences to competitions.

As the sun set, I heard only the garble of someone speaking in Arabic, through a headset, incomprehensible and far away. I was disappointed, wanting and almost missing the fun, the piercing drama of the usual scenes as we were about to mark this new era - life under curfew in Kuwait. The curfew is not only physical - it’s time and much of normal life continues during the day, unabated.

The curfew is both scary and reassuring. A sign of the seriousness of the pandemic, and at the same time, of the government’s determination to protect all of us and keep the country safe and habitable. As the sun set, I heard the sounds of the city, coaxed inside the shelter of my flat, working from home where my children play and read and talk around me, life seems to continue throughout Monday and Tuesday for a few times, to go to the office and to the grocery cart, to watch the news of the world, to see the drain of the grocery carts at the jamia (grocery store) or the shops of a colleague at a press conference. Death, or at least serious illness, has found a new, deep meaning right now inside us, inside the safe bubble of our homes.

The pandemic cares not for national borders - it has spread across the world and continues to pull under its weight not only the vulnerable, but also the young and strong. It is certainly worse for the aged and infirm, for those with co-morbidities, age or education. It is certainly worse for the aged and infirm, for those with co-morbidities, age or education. It is certainly worse for the aged and infirm, for those with co-morbidities, age or education. It is certainly worse for the aged and infirm, for those with co-morbidities, age or education.

But those are not normal times. The coronavirus (COVID-19) has now infected more than 338,000 people worldwide, with nearly 15,000 deaths by Monday, March 23. It has spread across the world and continues to pull under its weight not only the vulnerable, but also the young and strong. It is certainly worse for the aged and infirm, for those with co-morbidities, age or education. It is certainly worse for the aged and infirm, for those with co-morbidities, age or education. It is certainly worse for the aged and infirm, for those with co-morbidities, age or education.

Ten days ago, Kuwait climbed its airport to connect all of us - aid workers, medical teams, aid workers, and others who were afraid of the cost offered by those who mattered more in the world. The world has seen a series of events, from the Middle East to China, from the United States to Europe, a series of events that have marked the beginning of a new era, the beginning of a new era.

The government has asked since the beginning of people to stay home and not go out, except for emergencies. An order that is difficult to enforce, as many people ignored the request and carried on with their daily lives. The government asked for volunteers in the curb, as we have seen in the past, a demarcation of normal that is meant to keep us safe. We have no choice but to act according to the law.

Kuwait is not an exception to the rule of curfew. The government has taken several measures to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. The government has also allowed restaurants to host a maximum of five people to a table and said that the government will allow gatherings of up to 10 people to take place in a public place.

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Kuwait has so far recorded 101 cases infected with the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). With the exception of five cases in critical conditions, all of the infected are in self-isolation at their homes. The government has taken several measures to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. The government has also allowed restaurants to host a maximum of five people to a table and said that the government will allow gatherings of up to 10 people to take place in a public place.

On March 31, the Ministry of Interior ordered police to enforce a nationwide curfew starting from 5:00 pm until 4:00 am until further notice. The curfew, which is currently in effect, was announced by the Ministry of Interior on March 20 and has been extended several times since.

The Ministry of Interior announced that the curfew would remain in effect until further notice, due to the coronavirus pandemic. The curfew is currently in effect until further notice, due to the coronavirus pandemic. The curfew is currently in effect until further notice, due to the coronavirus pandemic. The curfew is currently in effect until further notice, due to the coronavirus pandemic. The curfew is currently in effect until further notice, due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Kuwait Ministry of Interior

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A court has ruled that a new partial curfew has been imposed for 12 hours per day from 3 pm to 3 am.

KUWAIT: As a result of the new partial curfew, all Kuwaiti citizens and residents are ordered to stay home from 3 pm to 3 am for 12 hours per day, and to work from home from 5 pm to 4 am.

The government has announced that all schools and universities will be closed for the duration of the curfew.

In addition, all public and private transport will be suspended, and all restaurants and cafes will be closed.

The decision is aimed at containing the spread of Covid-19, which has reached 5,000 cases in Kuwait, with 189 new cases reported yesterday.

Minister of Health Dr. Fahd Al-Ajmi said that the new curfew will be extended for a period of 12 hours per day and that all supplementary rules and plans will be implemented.

The government has also announced that all Kuwaiti citizens and residents will be required to wear masks in public places, and that all public and private transport will be suspended.

The decision is also aimed at containing the spread of Covid-19, which has reached 5,000 cases in Kuwait, with 189 new cases reported yesterday.
Once thriving part-time jobs most affected by the crisis

By Ben Garcia

KUWAIT: Several workers from various companies in Kuwait are experiencing tough times and are wondering whether they will get their salaries for this month and the next. One company forced its employees to work 16 hours a day, offered vacation without pay, and fired all employees without providing compensation or severance packages. Another company, with whom we are also working, is struggling to pay the salaries of its employees. These developments have caused a great deal of anxiety among the workers. According to a Kuwaiti employee, “My company has decided to suspend classes until August. We will go back to our countries once flights resume.”

Enas Al-Demardash, a 39-year-old geography teacher, expressed her worries. “My company said they will pay us and told us that we should not be worried. I don’t trust them. I will only get the regular salary.”

There are some workers in Kuwait whose jobs are considered as part-time. Although illegal, they are considered to be part-time jobs. "I’m risking not only my health but also my income. What if they suspect that we got the COVID-19 virus? Now it means I will not get any money this month. Plus, imagine wasting your vacation in a curfew zone," said Amador, a salesman who works for a company that has decided to suspend classes until August.

Municipality closed 55 shops in two governorates

By Mohamad Al-Beat

KUWAIT: Kuwait Municipality director for Capital and Juiliets affairs Faisal Al-Juma announced on Sunday that the municipality has closed 55 shops and cafes in two governorates since it received notifications, closed 29 shops and cafes, filed 85 citations for violations, and issued 1,285 warning notices, closed three amusement centers. Juma added that the teams had reviewed the efforts exerted by both governorates’ Capital and Jahra affairs Faisal Sadeq Al-Juma.

Businesses that can open outside curfew

By Fajer

1. Have your employees work from home utilizing many resources. Here are a few tips to keep in mind if your business has always been open.

2. Try to use the time of your employees to conduct research your business has always needed.

3. Think creatively of how else you can serve your clients, providing them with tips or creative ideas to do at home, while still delivering goods for orders received online.

4. Provide packages for online delivery, for example, if you operate a bookstore, you can do a box for the family, or if you operate an art supply store, provide a box with art supplies and instructions on activities.

5. Sell gift cards with flexible expiration dates, so that people can gift them in quarantine and you have a cash flow coming in.

Administrator Attorney Fajer: Please note that your employees also have obligations and responsibilities and families to feed so remember this, unless you are in absolute distress, then if you are to terminate, terminate according to Kuwait Labor Law. Please provide a box with art supplies and instructions on activities.

Question: Can I terminate employees right now if my employees are not coming into work?

Administrator Attorney Fajer: Yes, but with many questions from business owners, and will surprisingly are booming. I have received so many questions from business owners, and will surprisingly are booming. I have received so many questions from business owners, and will surprisingly are booming.

Question: What can I do to support the community? How can we secure our employees’ rights, how we can support the community and so on.

Administrator Attorney Fajer: There is a current shift in the economy, so many businesses are closing branches while others, surprisingly are booming. I have received so many questions from business owners, and will surprisingly are booming.

Question: What are the new decisions that might prevent him from coming back home. Other airlines are expected to follow suit. Kuwaiti man,” said Lovely, who works as tea-girl at a Kuwaiti hotel.

Three dead, seven injured in bus crash

By Hanan Al-Sawwan

KUWAIT: Three people died and seven were critically wounded in a bus crash on Wednesday. Mubarak Al-Kabeer firemen rushed to the scene in response to an emergency call received at 6:35 am after the bus crashed. The accident occurred on a road leading to Boushehr after the driver lost control of the bus.

Question: How can the workers help each other from home? How can the workers help each other from home? How can the workers help each other from home?

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Question: What are the new decisions that might prevent him from coming back home. Other airlines are expected to follow suit. Kuwaiti man,” said Lovely, who works as tea-girl at a Kuwaiti hotel.
Kuwait streets empty during curfew

Kuwait streets and highways around Kuwait were deserted due to the state-wide partial curfew the government imposed as part of stringent measures against the spread of the coronavirus. The Cabinet declared on Saturday the imposition of a partial curfew from 5:00 pm to 4:00 am effective Sunday, as part of the wide scale efforts to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. — Photos by Fouad Al-Salik and KUNA
SHANGHAI: Researchers at one of China’s top universities are designing robots that they say could help save lives on the frontline during the coronavirus outbreak. The machines consist of a robotic arm on wheels that can perform ultrasound, take vital signs and even connect to a patient’s oxygen tank, all with a single swipe.

Such tasks are normally carried out by doctors in protective suits that can block their way. “No-one told us that the churches were closed,” said Zheng Gangtie, a professor at Shanghai Jiao Tong University and lead designer of the robot.

“We can use robots to perform the most dangerous tasks,” he said. “This virus is just too contagious.”

The team now has two robots, which have been trialled in the city’s Changping hospital. “The hospitals that are the hardest hit are those in Wuhan,” Zheng said. “Zhe is not set to work in the corridors, but in the rooms where patients are infected.”

Zheng said they had received positive feedback from doctors about the robots. “It would be better for them to be less automation, as a personal presence would comfort and calm the patients,” he said.

The team now has two robots, which have been trialled at hospitals in Wuhan. The team has received feedback from doctors about the robots. “But the feedback from doctors was that it would be better for them to be less automation, as a personal presence would comfort and calm the patients,” he said.

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First French doctor dies as virus death toll rockets

PARIS, The first French doctor battling the coronavirus has died as the death toll in the country continues to rise almost daily, with 111 new fatalities registered overnight.

Eloise Perrier, a 29-year-old anaesthesiologist, was treating patients in Mulhouse, in the eastern region of Alsace, when she died on Thursday.

The hospital where she worked said in a statement that she had been taken to hospital with symptoms of the disease and died despite all attempts to save her.

The death came as the French government tightened lockdown measures nationwide, ordering people to stay at home under penalty of fines.

Perrier's family said in a statement that she had been a "brave" doctor who had fought "for the French and the world with all her strength for the last few days." They added that she had been "a light and a hope for all of us." 

The French government has already deployed thousands of military personnel and medical staff to hospitals in an effort to relieve the burden on healthcare systems and prevent the spread of the virus.

The death of Perrier, who became the first French doctor to die of the virus, has led to an outpouring of grief and tributes from colleagues and the public.

"We have lost one of our own," the French Medical Confederation said in a statement. "We are mourning the loss of our colleague Eloise Perrier, who died this morning in Mulhouse."

"Her untimely death is a terrible blow to our profession and to all of France," it added.

The French government has taken a series of measures to contain the spread of the virus, including strict lockdowns and restrictions on social gatherings.

But despite these efforts, the number of confirmed cases continues to rise, with over 100,000 infections now reported in the country.

The death of Perrier also highlights the challenges facing healthcare workers, who are working under extreme conditions to treat patients with the virus.

"We are all in pain, we all feel it," French Health Minister Olivier Veran said in a televised address. "We are all touched by this tragedy."
A raging Taleban insurgency and rising coronavirus cases

LOS ANGELES: James didn’t apply to open a new restaurant in a Los Angeles restaurant and it’s two days later finishing out money for rent and food. But as an undocumented immigrant, the 25-year-old Californian couldn’t turn to the social security system for help. In the name of the same social security card he was on, he was out to lose any benefits, had no police cover and was unable to get any protective order.

He usually gets on by around $400 a month from a welfare fund and has a “ghost town” to call his own, a room he shared with four roommates and food, and with this situation, he can’t pay the rent.

But he’s not the only one who’s been hit by the coronavirus. Many immigrants’ chief concern is the new “public charge” rule, which allows for deportations of non-citizens who use government services for coronavirus. Slovakia’s new government has implemented the rule, and others have followed.

The agreement established a framework for bringing the new “public charge” rule to an end America’s longest war following the1961 establishment of the OPEC, whose members are producers and large economies. Meanwhile, at least two dozen Afghan security forces were killed in an attack on their bases in the country’s south earlier this week.

Afghan security forces say 1,500 prisoners have been freed since March 21, 2020, 2,000 in May and 3,000 more in June. Meanwhile, at least two dozen Afghan security forces were killed in an attack on their bases in the country’s south earlier this week.

A furious Taleban insurgency and rising coronavirus cases are “health first”, but doesn’t make any sense, Gallegos said. “It’s a community that doesn’t have any medical tests to detect coronavirus or use government services for coronavirus,” Gallegos added.

The impasse and continuous fighting along the border usually require a peace process. The government has promised to release 1,500 inmates from 11,500 in the nation as an urgent situation for the community. However, the coronavirus is spreading as tens of thousands of inmates have been infected in recent weeks after flooding into Iran.

Inmates: US Secretaries of State visits Kabul amid multiple crises

Los Angeles: Inmates extend their hands at the Modelo prison in Bogota after a riot.

BRATISLAVA: Justice Minister Margarita Cabello de-Ordaz, who heads the 16-member center-left Smer party-led administration established 1961, confirmed the delegation was on its way to Afghanistan. The OLaNO anti-graft party and President Zuzana Caputova (center right) pose for a family picture with Ministers after a swearing in ceremony of the new four-party coalition government on February 29 outside of the Presidential palace in Bratislava.

Inmates: US Secretaries of State visits Kabul amid multiple crises

The authorization to release inmates was signed by the Afghan government on March 21, 2020 outside of the Presidential palace in Bratislava. — AFP

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**Business**

**Tuesday, March 24, 2020**

10 trillion-dollar economic rescue package crashes in US Senate

11 Central banks deploy record sums to support markets, but may need more

11 Dollar rises but doubts about stimulus vote narrow gains

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**Airbus cancels 2019 dividend, 2020 forecasts**

**PARIS:** Airbus and to ensure we can return to efficient operations once the situation will overcome this critical period.”

With these decisions, Airbus would help to ensure Airbus’s liquidity and balance sheet wise and will continue to invest in additional cash requirements. Airbus said the measures were intended to “ensure business continuity for itself even in a protracted crisis.”

To secure Airbus’s financial health, the board of directors had agreed to reduce as much as possible short-term cash requirements and to react to any potential setbacks.

Airbus also said it expected the group's liquidity and balance sheet to improve significantly by the end of 2020, allowing it to invest in new technologies and to continue its growth strategy. Airbus will also consider further cost-cutting measures in the future.

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**Oil prices remain volatile as virus saps demand**

**SINGAPORE:** Oil prices were mixed in volatile Asian trade yesterday but remained more than five percent lower than their level before the coronavirus pandemic. Brent crude was off 2.3 percent in afternoon trading on the weekend. International benchmark Brent crude was at $25.33 per barrel. US benchmark West Texas Intermediate (WTI) was off 4.4 percent to $23.14 per barrel.

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**Australians revive Great Depression memories**

**SYDNEY:** Morrison warns coronavirus pandemic could cause economic havoc

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The bill had proposed funding for America's families, thousands of shuttered or suffering businesses and the nation's critically under-equipped hospitals. Oil markets began plunging earlier this month after top exporter Saudi Arabia launched a price war to reduce its public spending in the wake of a coronavirus-induced collapse in hydrocarbon prices that has caused a noticeable recovery in demand, which is unlikely in the near term. Meanwhile, Oil producer Algeria decided to reduce its public spending in the wake of the US oil price war with Saudi Arabia. The nation has revised its budget for the current year.

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**Australians revive Great Depression memories**

**SYDNEY:** Morrison warns coronavirus pandemic could cause economic havoc

The bill had proposed funding for America’s families, thousands of shuttered or suffering businesses and the nation’s critically under-equipped hospitals. Oil markets began plunging earlier this month after top exporter Saudi Arabia launched a price war to reduce its public spending in the wake of a coronavirus-induced collapse in hydrocarbon prices that has caused a noticeable recovery in demand, which is unlikely in the near term. Meanwhile, Oil producer Algeria decided to reduce its public spending in the wake of the US oil price war with Saudi Arabia. The nation has revised its budget for the current year.
WASHINGTON: A bipartisan Senate proposal to rescue the rudderless US economy bruised by the shrinking inactivity of businesses and the need for more cash has been put aside by Congress. The proposal, which would give $41 billion to $100 billion in relief funds, was the first to be brought forward by the Senate in several weeks, and efforts to get the package passed have been averted by the refusal of some Senate Republicans to vote for it.

The main beneficiaries of the program, which includes $90 billion in loans to small businesses and $35 billion in direct payments to individuals, are those hit by the severe strain of the coronavirus and the financial crisis.

Sen. Chuck Schumer, the Senate majority leader, has been urging for a swift resolution to the crisis, and has been working with Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin to get the package passed.

"We need to get this thing done," Schumer said in a statement on Sunday. "We need to act before the markets go down further and the harm is done. We need to do everything we can to save our economy." But the Senate has not acted promptly.

"The notion that we have time to play games here is utterly absurd," Schumer said. "We need to signal to the public that we’re ready to get this thing done.

"The bank has prepared and adjusted for a recession," Montezano added. Bolsonaro said that the measures will be particularly felt in the maintenance of economic stability and tax cuts.

"Some said yesterday’s move should get small businesses enough cash to pay laid-off workers for at least six weeks," Bolsonaro said. The measures include suspending direct and indirect taxes on small businesses and reducing minimum wages.

SoftBank to sell up to $41bn in assets to buy shares, cut debt

Tokyo: SoftBank Group Corp said yesterday it would sell up to $41 billion in assets to buy back shares, cut debt and increase its cash holdings as the firm’s health.

"This program will be the largest dividend in the history of the company," SoftBank said in a statement. "This will allow us to thoroughly reduce debt," he added, saying the assets being sold would take the company's leverage ratio to less than 20 percent of the company’s assets.

The move comes as SoftBank is facing a $9.5 billion financial loss in the quarter ending March 31, and its market capitalization has fallen to $40 billion, with the company’s share price dropping 70 percent since the end of 2018.

"It’s not a bad strategy to use their assets to buy back shares and cut debt," he said. "It’s the right thing to do." The company’s shares fell 2.4 percent in early trading on Monday, but the decline was overstated on a previous week. The firm’s share price has declined from over $100 to around $10.

"This program will be the largest dividend in the history of the company," SoftBank Chief Executive Officer Masayoshi Son said in a statement.

The move comes as SoftBank and the government were looking into ways to support the company’s health.

"We are working on sectoral measures too, and we will announce them as soon as we can," Bolsonaro said. "We are working on sectoral measures too, and we will announce them as soon as we can." He added that the measures would include suspending direct and indirect taxes on small businesses and reducing minimum wages.

SoftBank said it would buy back its own shares up to 15 percent of its total shares, which would amount to about $10 billion.

"This program will be the largest dividend in the history of the company," SoftBank said in a statement.

New Zealand CB to inject $17.1bn into economy

Wellington: New Zealand’s central bank said yesterday it would injection of $17.1 billion into the economy, and making more resources available for the government to invest.

"We are optimistic it will succeed in bringing New Zealand’s economy to a new normal and facilitating the required large ramp-up in government spending," the central bank said in a statement. "This program will be the largest dividend in the history of the company," SoftBank said in a statement.

The Bank of New Zealand last week slashed its base rate to 0.25 percent, with theMM

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Central banks deploy record sums to support markets, but may need more

Large ups and downs in asset prices and high volatility in forex markets

London: Central banks have offered trillions of dollars of support to markets in an effort to keep them from collapsing in the face of the coronavirus pandemic, which has upended global economies and financial markets.

The coronavirus pandemic has hammered markets around the world. Airlines have faced the biggest challenge of delivering in social-distancing requirements. Many airlines have stocked up ahead of the Lunar New Year gift sets, break them more locked-down customers.

Dubai Brownie 2020 ‘to adjust’ preparations

Dubai: Organizers of the Dubai Expo 2020 global trade fair said on Tuesday that they will “reschedule and adapt” preparations, in line with the ongoing impact of the coronavirus pandemic.

How Alibaba’s Freshippo adapts to virus-hit China

Shanghai: As China continues the country and the world to adapt to the economic consequences of the epidemic, Alibaba’s superpowerful Freshippo is one of the companies that has been able to maintain its operations.

The coronavirus pandemic has had a significant impact on the global economy, with many sectors experiencing significant disruption. This has led to widespread job losses, a slowdown in economic activity, and a significant increase in volatility and uncertainty.

How Lloyd’s syndicates adapt to virus-hit China

Dubai: Lloyd’s syndicates have been adapting to the coronavirus pandemic, with some making changes to their operations to help their clients.

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AMMAN: Complaints and concerns over water shortages rose by 58 percent in Jordan in the first day after a country-wide curfew was instated, water authorities said Sunday. Jordan, the world’s fifth most water-stressed nation due to climate change and overuse, is trying to cope with increased demand from the public, during coronavirus lockdown measures, said Ministry of Water and Irrigation spokesman Omar Salameh.

With schools and businesses shut down, and a full-fledged lockdown in place since Saturday, people are consuming more water at home, he told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

Climate change, water theft and groundwater used twice as quickly as it’s replenished make water security challenging in Jordan where the population has grown to about 10 million from 7 million at the start of the Syrian refugee crisis in 2011. In Jordan, municipal water is distributed on a rotational cycle of once a week to urban areas and about once every two weeks to more accessible rural areas.

“People are consuming water from areas that were not yet due for their distribution,” Salameh said. “This means to make sure their water supply is coming.” The government announced Wednesday it would bring water to a number of northern cities, as well as parts of the capital Amman where it had been cut off days earlier due to contamination concerns caused by disruptive spring rains. In the hours after Jordanians were ordered to stay at home or face a year in prison, panicked citizens reached out to water authorities on Facebook to complain about water shortages. “Water distribution should be constant during this difficult time as we use more of it to clean and sanitize,” wrote one person. In response to people’s growing water anxiety, local radio station Husna FM launched a community initiative promising to help secure water for people struggling with shortages.

The ministry is carrying out an emergency response plan to the coronavirus crisis and is sending water distribution tanks to areas in need, Salameh said. — Reuters
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**Kim Kardashian West has urged her followers to “stay home” during coronavirus pandemic.**

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**Gigi Hadid embraces farm life.**

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**Jennifer Lopez is a ‘born sneakerhead’.**
Puncturing Japan's cherry blossoms 'like taking hugs away from Italians'

Scraping Japan cherry blossom 'like taking hugs away from Italians'
Online tutors boosting incomes as demand surges due to lockdowns

Uncertainty in Qatar area sealed over virus fears

Continued from Page 1

Established 1961

Online tutoring companies in Qatar have reported a significant increase in demand for their services, with many students and parents turning to online platforms to continue their education during the coronavirus pandemic. According to local media, the number of sign-ups for online classes has risen by more than 30% in recent weeks, with many parents and students citing the need to continue learning despite the closure of schools.

In addition to traditional tutoring services, some companies have introduced new features such as virtual classroom sessions and interactive sessions with teachers, in order to provide a more engaging and effective learning experience.

Continued from Page 1

Amir heads Cabinet session, hails...
If you’ve been thinking about taking a trip, now is a great time to do it. This will be a favorite music with you so you can do something while waiting. The most important thing is to keep your spirits up and enjoy the day. You could have some paperwork to do today, so if you can, try to get it done as quickly as possible. You may feel a bit of mind. Hang in there!

If you’re feeling a little under the weather, Cancer? You could be feeling rather overwhelmed today. You might have a lot of work to do and you might feel that it is not possible for you to get everything done. If you put your schedule on hold for a while, you might be able to get more done. If you put your schedule on hold for a while, you might be able to get more done.

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IOC admits postponing Olympics an option, but cancellation ‘not on agenda’

Around 70 percent of the support athletes postgame support

LONDON: The International Olympic Committee said Sunday that postponing the 2020 Olympics is one of its options as the coronavirus pandemic, but that canceling the Tokyo Olympics was “not on the agenda.”

“Some of the games on schedule have shown a downward trend of cases,” said IOC President Thomas Bach on Sunday.

He added that one of the options that could be considered is to “proceed with the Games, but to do it without spectators.”

The announcement comes after the IOC announced last week that it would contact each of the 2020 Olympic athletes, but that it would only consider postponing the Games if the new virus cases fall below 100.

“Over the next four weeks,” Bach said, “we will decide whether to proceed with the Games or to delay them.”

In his comments, Bach acknowledged that “there are significant improvements in Japan,” and that the situation could improve in the next four weeks, providing time to make a decision on the Games.

The IOC also announced that it would postpone the 2020 Tokyo Olympics until next year.

“Proponents of the Games must be realistic about the situation,” Bach said.

“I think it’s really difficult for an athlete to prepare, to train, to keep their motivation if there’s complete uncertainty,” he said.

“A more comfortable situation would be two years and it’s in the year with the Winter Olympics, so they would have the Winter Olympics, then the Tokyo Olympics, then the Winter Olympics,” he said.

“A final decision about the date of the Games, even if that would present logistical difficulties,” Bach said.

The Tokyo Olympics, scheduled to begin on March 24, were postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic.

“The best part about that is that we’re creating something that can have a ‘wow’ factor in the message,” Lewis said.

The Tokyo Olympics were originally scheduled to begin on July 24, but were postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic.

“The idea is to clarify which of you might want to take part in the Olympic Games,” Lewis said.

The IOC will announce its decision on the date of the Games in the next four weeks.

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Italy football boss wants season cancelled over plague

The head of an Italian football club based at the epicentre of the Covid-19 pandemic said it was time to cancel the Serie A season as a precaution because of the coronavirus, which has claimed over 13,580 lives worldwide and has so far killed close to 5,000 people in Italy.

"Everyone needs to be ready so that when the health advice says resume, we can resume straight away," Inter Milan's Belgian striker Romelu Lukaku is reported to have told Sky Sport on Wednesday, while players submit reports to the doctors on their health and fitness. "Players know if they don't do their job they will be at a clear disadvantage against their teammates," said Betis doctor Manuel Alvarez told AFP.

Players may even need to get their summer break shortened, there will be no cricket in England until May 28 and no football in France until autumn, the French Football Federation said on Wednesday. "It is up to them to take it," said Manuel Alvarez told AFP. "It is not the case for those based around Rome or playing in southern regions that have been relatively spared but were not allowed to take part in the tournament as they were not in the right competition," Betis doctor Alvarez said on Twitter.

"It's extremely difficult for them," he said. "Some of our foreign guys have missed the opportunity to go home," Brighton's Murray said. "It's extremely difficult times for everyone," he said.

"Some of the teams based in the region have managed to largely avoid the outbreak were "foolish to argue for normalcy," a Spanish government minister said. "There were not allowed to take part in the tournament as they were not in the right competition," Betis doctor Alvarez said on Twitter.

Players of football clubs have been given the guidance to use their sera, and then they'll have to use the same sera tomorrow to check it. "It means fitness coaches and club doctors are creating very strict measures and that's something that will be in place in the coming weeks, it's totally exclusive," Madrid's doctor Carlos Cuesta told newspaper Marca.

"The tournament, which was also broadcast on television in Spain, was scheduled to take place over 15 days of training so what it will take there is three weeks at the very, very least, clear to say," Betis doctor Alvarez said on Twitter.

"It's a strange and completely new situation for everybody," — AFP.
TOKYO: Canada pulled out of the Tokyo Olympics over coronavirus fears as Japan's prime minister yesterday admitted a delay may be inevitable and the International Olympic Committee said a decision should come within weeks.

Australia also told its athletes to prepare for a Tokyo-Olympics in 2021 as expectations grow that the Games — scheduled to start on July 24 — would be postponed.

Jesuit Father Hans Zollner, a Vatican diplomat involved in the talks, said: “The IOC is responsible for making any final decision that they'd postponed it hoping to hear an announcement on Monday, but it remains uncertain whether the next step could be taken.

“Not solely about athlete health”

Athletes and sports bodies have become increasingly vocal after restrictions imposed because of the coronavirus pandemic and Australia on Monday told its athletes to prepare for a year's postponement.

“Athletes will continue to train as there is no clarification on the worldwide health situation and its impact on the Olympic Games, including the scenario of postponement,” with a decision expected “within the next four weeks.”

Even though Van der Burgh was critical, British swimmers have taken the view: “We are not going to make a decision to postpone,”

A Tokyo Olympic torch relay for the South Korean flame was greatly encouraging,” a 70-year-old woman told public broadcaster NHK. — AFP

TOKYO: Japan said the 2020 Olympic Games would be postponed for up to two years on Tuesday, with infection rates in Japan rising and fears growing about the virus's impact.

Van der Burgh, 31, said athletes “face up to another FOUR weeks of finding ways to fit in training — whilst potentially putting themselves, coaches, support staff and loved ones at risk just to find out they were going to be postponed anyway,” she revealed.

“Any physical activity like walking on the treadmill for 90 minutes plus, swimming, has exhausted me completely. I have only been able to do two hours of work each day, working from home,” Bach added.

Rising number of athletes

More than 14,600 people have died globally since the coronavirus outbreak began. Van der Burgh, 31, said athletes “face up to another FOUR weeks of finding ways to fit in training — whilst potentially putting themselves, coaches, support staff and loved ones at risk just to find out they were going to be postponed anyway,” she revealed.

The virus has already had an impact on the Games, with qualifiers cancelled and events to celebrate the Olympic torch arrival and relay scaled back.

The IOC is responsible for making any final decision on the Games, and has come under increasing pressure as the coronavirus emergency grows, with more than 14,400 deaths worldwide, according to an AFP tally.

“Athletes will continue to train as there is no clarification on the worldwide health situation and its impact on the Olympic Games, including the scenario of postponement,” with a decision expected “within the next four weeks.”

Although the most severe symptoms (extreme fever) have eased, I am still struggling with serious fatigue and a residual cough that I can’t shake. Any physical activity like walking leaves me exhausted for hours.

More than 14,600 people have died globally since the coronavirus outbreak began. Van der Burgh, 31, said athletes who contract the virus will struggle to get back in peak condition for the Games, which are scheduled to start on July 24.

The IOC said it had not made a decision on postponing the Games, including the scenario of postponement, but the stress and uncertainty has been extremely challenging for them," said Australian chef de mission Ian Chesterman.

However, Australian Olympic officials said “it’s clear that the Tokyo Games can’t go ahead as scheduled and athletes need to prepare for a year’s postponement. Our athletes have been magnificent in their positive attitude to training and preparing, but the stress and uncertainty has been extremely challenging for them," said Australian chef de mission Ian Chesterman.

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