



**Soccer**  
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## Kuwait Amir offers condolences to Saudi King over Prince demise

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10, (KUNA): His Highness the Amir Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent on Tuesday a cable of condolences to the Saudi King Salman Bin Abdulaziz over the passing of Prince Abdullah Bin Turki Bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud.

In the cable, His Highness the Amir wished forbearance and consolation for the royal family and loved ones of the deceased.

His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah

Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah also sent a cable of condolences to the Saudi King Salman Bin Abdulaziz over the passing of Prince Abdullah Bin Turki Bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud.

His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah then sent a cable of condolences to the Saudi King Salman Bin Abdulaziz over the passing of Prince Abdullah Bin Turki Bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud.



Left: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah chairs the Cabinet meeting at the new Kuwait Airport Terminal 2 building. Right: The prime minister is briefed on the new airport design.



PM Diwan photos

## Temporary residency service on Sahel app

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10, (KUNA): The Ministry of Interior announced on Tuesday the launch of a new electronic service under the (Residency Services) section for issuing temporary residency permits under Articles 20 and 22, accessible through the unified government e-services app, Sahel.

According to a press release from the General Directorate of Security Relations and Media, this service would allow sponsors to receive a notification containing the electronic residency sticker, eliminating the need for visits to the Residency Affairs sector to print the sticker.

The Ministry highlighted that this initiative was part of ongoing efforts by the General Department of Residency Affairs and the General Directorate of Information Systems to simplify procedures and provide more convenience to both citizens and residents.

## Drilling project aims to increase oil production

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10, (KUNA): The Ministry of Oil said Tuesday that the offshore drilling project supports the country's oil plans that aim to increase production to four million bpd.

This came in remarks by Director of Public Relations and Information at the Ministry, Sheikha Tamadhur Khaled Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, during a discussion panel organized by the ministry titled (Offshore Drilling Project), in which senior geophysicists and geologists at Kuwait Oil Company, Maitham Ibrahim and Iman Al-Shihri, participated.

Sheikha Tamadhur Al-Sabah said that the discovery of 'An Nokhitha' field in Kuwaiti territorial waters is the beginning of a new era for exploring marine resources, as it represents a milestone that paves the way for making Kuwait a pioneer in offshore production from territorial waters.

For their part, Ibrahim and Al-Shihri reviewed the history of marine exploration in Kuwait, as the first exploratory seismic survey was carried out in 1961 by Shell Company, and in 1962 the first two marine exploratory wells were drilled by the same company.

They discussed the Kuwaiti marine area, estimated at about 6,000 square kilometers, where seven exploratory wells were drilled to explore the Cretaceous layers, "and four wells gave good results, while (Well HA-0001) gave expectations of the presence of hydrocarbon materials in a gas layer.

They also mentioned that the Kuwait Oil Company is currently preparing for a high-resolution three-dimensional seismic survey covering the entire marine area, in addition to studying the best options for early production from the discovered wells.

# Kuwait, Saudi Arabia strongly condemn new Gaza massacre

Senior Hamas militants targeted: Israel



KUNA photo

Foreign Minister Abdullah Al-Yahya heads the State of Kuwait delegation participating in the Arab League Council meeting.

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10, (Agencies): The State of Kuwait strongly condemned the new massacre committed by the Israeli occupation forces against innocent displaced Palestinians in Khan Yunis southern Gaza Strip.

In a statement Tuesday, Kuwait's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said this brutal targeting of defenceless civilians, including women and children, is clear evidence that the Israeli occupation forces are waging an extermination war against the Palestinians in flagrant violation of international and humanitarian laws.

The ministry renewed Kuwait's calls to the international community and the Security Council to take rapid action to stop the war of extermination that these forces have been waging on the Strip since October 2023.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia also strongly condemned the Israeli attacks on Khan Yunis, South of the Gaza Strip, that led to the killing of a civilian and dozens of injuries.

The Saudi Ministry of Foreign Affairs in a statement reiterated its strong rejection for the continuous mass annihilation and called for an immediate ceasefire.

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## NewsWatch

**KUWAIT CITY:** His Highness the Amir Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent on Tuesday a cable of condolences to Moroccan King Mohammed VI, over the victims of the heavy rains that poured on several regions.

In the cable, His Highness the Amir expressed deep sentiments and prayed to Almighty Allah to bestow the deceased with mercy and the injured with speedy recovery.

Similarly, His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah also sent a condolence message to King Mohammed VI, conveying heartfelt sentiments and prayers for those affected. (KUNA)

**RIYADH:** The third edition of the Global AI Summit (GAIN Summit), organized by the Saudi Data and Artificial Intelligence Authority (SDAIA), was inaugurated on Tuesday in Riyadh, featuring 450 speakers and attendees from 100 countries, including prominent figures in the field of AI, policymakers, and thought leaders.

In his opening speech, SDAIA President Dr. Abdullah Al-Ghamdi expressed gratitude to the Crown Prince, Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, for his patronage and emphasized the summit's role in furthering the Kingdom's Vision 2030, reported local news agency (SPA). (KUNA)

**BAGHDAD:** A soldier and a civilian were killed, and two others injured in a bomb explosion in the Iraqi capital Baghdad, the Iraqi military said on Tuesday.

A statement by the media office of the Baghdad Operations Command said that the incident occurred at 11:30 p.m. (2030 GMT) on Monday when an explosive device hidden inside a delivery box sent as a gift to a civilian detonated near a military checkpoint in the al-Shu'ala neighborhood in northwestern Baghdad. (Xinhua)

**ADEN:** The Houthi group in Yemen reported on Tuesday that an airstrike, allegedly carried out by U.S. and British forces, has resulted in casualties at a school in the southwestern province of Taiz.

According to the Houthi-controlled Masirah TV, an airstrike targeting Al-Janad School in the Taiziyah district of Taiz province resulted in casualties among female students. The Houthis did not release specific numbers of those killed or injured. (Xinhua)

**ISLAMABAD:** Pakistani police on Tuesday freed the president of the opposition party of former Prime Minister Imran Khan, a day after he was detained outside parliament on a charge of allegedly inciting violence, his party said.

Islamabad police in a statement confirmed the release of Gohar Khan, who is not related to the former premier. He was arrested along with several other leaders of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party as they demanded Imran Khan's release from prison. After his release, Khan, who is also a lawmaker, called the arrests an attack on parliament. He asked the National Assembly speaker to investigate. (AP)

## Kuwait keen for global, Arab help

## KFAED beacon of hope in deprived world

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10, (KUNA): The Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED) has launched numerous initiatives throughout the past 50 years granting and loaning millions of dollars to the UN and international organizations, which contributed to sustainable development in many countries.

The first KFAED cooperation occurred in 1974 through a grant to the World Health Organization (WHO), contributing to the River Blindness Control Program in Africa, a campaign that highlight Kuwait's role as a beacon of hope and assistance.

Over the past five decades, KFAED has provided numerous UN organizations with multiple grants totaling USD 400 million, with USD 290 million of it going to the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to enhance health, food, and water security, and help refugees.

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Al-Bahar

## Set AC at 23°C to mitigate steep jump in power use

By Mohammad Ghanem Al-Seyassah/Arab Times

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: The load index reached the red zone yesterday, recording 16,406 megawatts due to high temperatures and increased electricity consumption.

Due to this situation, the Ministry of Electricity, Water, and Renewable Energy announced that it would implement rolling power cuts in some non-residential areas. This measure is aimed at preserving the stability of the country's electricity system, as emergency maintenance is being carried out on some electricity generation units.

The residential areas affected by the power cuts include Abdullah Al-Mubarak, Farwaniya, Sabah Al-Ahmad, Naseem, Jahra, Jabriya, Nahda, Andalus, Sulaibikhat, Shu-

waikh Residential, and Shamiya.

Informed sources from the ministry explained that two units at the Subiya and South Zour stations, with a combined production capacity of 590 megawatts, were taken offline for emergency maintenance. This action was necessitated by the noticeable rise in temperatures, which approached 50 degrees Celsius. As a result, the ministry implemented programmed power cuts in parts of 13 areas of various governorates.

It is important to continue implementing energy conservation measures, particularly during the peak hours from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm, and focusing on reducing air conditioner usage, as it accounts for 70 percent of energy consumption.

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## Joint efforts to up tax culture

By Abdulrahman Al-Shammari Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: The Ministry of Finance is continuing with its collaboration with the Ministry of Education to deliver awareness lectures for secondary and intermediate school students. This initiative is part of a long-term plan that began in 2005 and was renewed in subsequent years, most recently in 2019. The goal is to enhance financial and tax culture in society.

These programs are designed to increase the level of tax awareness across various segments of society, including students, through educational competitions held during morning assemblies.

Four schools (both boys' and girls') from the intermediate and secondary levels have been selected to participate in these programs, in coordination with the School Activities Department at the Ministry of Education, and facilitate the Ministry of Finance

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## Day by Day

IT is imperative to amend laws, decisions and plans that have been shaped by personal interests, sectarianism, familial ties, and tribal affiliations.

Previous parliaments have neglected this issue, allowing the state to fall into a cycle of distributing privileges based on personal considerations.

This approach has fractured the country into divided sects and tribes, where the dominant group wields power through threats against senior officials.

Appointments to high-level positions were often made not on merit or trustworthiness, but through favoritism and influence, rather than based on competence and qualifications.

Yet tomorrow is another day.

Zahed Matar

## Info Ministry signs cybersecurity deal

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10, (KUNA): The Ministry of Information and the National Cybersecurity Center signed a cooperation agreement on Tuesday in the fields of cybersecurity, training, and media cooperation.

Undersecretary of the Ministry of Information, Dr. Nasser Muhaisen, told Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) on the sidelines of the signing that the agreement aligns with the directives of Minister of Information Abdulrahman Al-Mutairi and is part of the ministry's strategy to establish a strategic partnership with state institutions.

Muhaisen emphasized that this joint cooperation will improve the work mechanisms, particularly in the technical aspects, including servers and technical receivers for Kuwait TV studios. This will positively impact the ministry's work processes.

He added that the agreement will see the National Cybersecurity Center provide a range of services to the Ministry of Information, including continuous technical support during media work periods and periodic inspections of digital devices and servers in radio, television, and news studios.

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## MoH spending on development projects on decline, says Audit

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: The Audit Bureau has raised concerns over a significant decline in health spending on development projects in Kuwait, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

According to its examination of the Ministry of Health's final account for the fiscal year 2023/2024, spending on seven key projects within the annual development plan has dropped by 65.5 percent.

This decline in expenditure, paired with delays in submitting the final account, highlights broader financial management issues within the ministry.

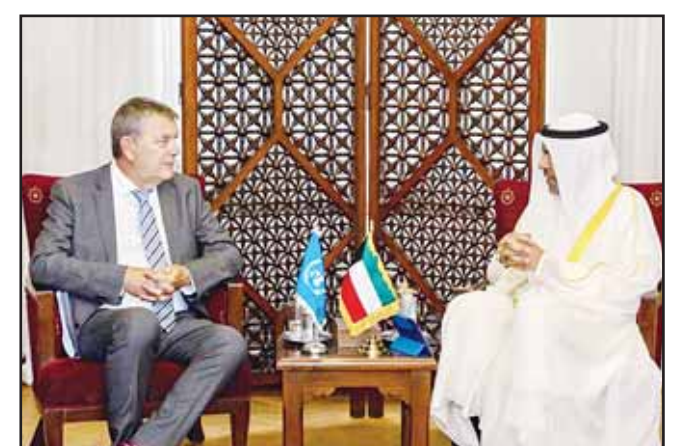
The report revealed that the ministry collected approximately 191.8 million dinars in revenue, falling short of the estimated budget of 264.239 million dinars by 27.4 percent.

Compared to the previous fiscal year, this represents a decrease of around 72.5 million dinars, which further exacerbates the ministry's financial struggles.

The Audit Bureau criticized the Ministry of Health for its lack of accuracy in estimating expected revenues, resulting in a significant deviation from the projections outlined in the Ministry of Finance's 2022 circular. The bureau also pointed to inefficiencies in controlling spending, with some funds being unjustifiably allocated.

In response to these findings, the Audit Bureau emphasized the need for more serious efforts to accelerate the implementation of health projects under the development plan, warning that continued financial mismanagement could further impact Kuwait's health sector.

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KUNA photo

Foreign Minister Abdullah Al-Yahya meets Philippe Lazzarini.

## FM, UNRWA Chief discuss Gaza

Kuwait Foreign Minister Abdullah Al-Yahya met Tuesday with the Commissioner-General of the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) Philippe Lazzarini,

on the sidelines of the 162nd regular session of the Arab League at the ministerial level in Cairo. The two sides touched on the latest developments in the Gaza Strip. (KUNA)



## Prayer Timings

Fajr ..... 04:09 Asr ..... 15:16  
Sunrise .. 05:30 Maghrib .. 18:00  
Zohr ..... 11:45 Isha ..... 19:18

## Local

BIOMETRIC/FINGERPRINT APPOINTMENT: <https://meta.e.gov.kw/En/>

## Weather

Expected weather for next 24 hrs:

**By Day:** Very hot with light to moderate freshening at times northwesterly wind to light variable wind, with speeds of 10-42 km/h.

**By Night:** Hot to rather hot with light variable wind to light to moderate northwesterly wind, with speeds of 08-35 km/h and some scattered clouds will appear.

## Station

Max Exp

Min Rec

Station	Max Exp	Min Rec
Kuwait City	47	32
Kuwait Airport	48	30
Abdaly	48	31

Station	Max Exp	Min Rec
Bubyan	46	28
Jahra	49	33
Failaka Island	46	26
Salmiyah	44	34
Ahmadi	46	32
Jal Aliyah	48	31
Nuwaisib	45	31

## CSC calls on MoE to be accurate in determining its manpower needs

## Ministry provides 5,000 smart screens for secondary school classrooms

By Abdulrahman Al-Shammari  
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: The Ministry of Education has provided about 5,000 smart screens for secondary school classrooms to develop the electronic aspect of the educational process, and raise the efficiency of interaction between teachers and students.

The assistant undersecretary for public education affairs recommended that the educational district directors should continue to provide the traditional whiteboards alongside the smart screens to be ready for any technical failure and to provide diverse educational options that meet the needs of students.

The newspaper obtained a copy of the letter on the continuation of the use of the traditional whiteboard in secondary school classrooms, along with the interactive whiteboard that was introduced at the beginning of the new school year.

Meanwhile, the Civil Service Commission (CSC) has stressed the need for the Ministry of Education to be accurate in determining its manpower needs to ensure the appointment of qualified staff to appropriate positions.

The ministry has prepared a plan to meet its need for non-academic staff for fiscal year (2025/2026) to guarantee the smooth flow of work, while the CSC has affirmed that continuous coordination between government agencies is the best way to avoid the shortage of staff in the educational sector.

## MoH uses paper-based system over tech issues

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: Health sources have assured that specialized teams are addressing the technical issues affecting some systems of the Ministry of Health, reports Al-Rai daily.

The sources confirmed that medical services continue uninterrupted, with alternative paper-based systems temporarily implemented to ensure a smooth workflow.

The sources noted that minor congestion at some centers has not compromised the efficiency of health services.

There have been no delays in issuing medical test results, dispensing medications, or providing treatments for chronic and cancer patients. All services are operating as usual.

Additionally, there has been no impact on scheduled surgeries or the follow-up of hospital patients and outpatients, with procedures continuing without interruption despite the technical difficulties.



Minister Dr Al-Huwaila during the cutting of the ribbon.

Photo by Mohammad Morsi

## 10th 'versary of Kuwait being named global humanitarian center marked

Dr. Al-Huwaila speaks at charitable union-hosted event

By Abdul Nasser Al-Aslami

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: Minister of Social Affairs, Family, and Childhood Affairs Dr. Amthal Al-Huwaila affirmed Kuwait's commitment to support charitable and humanitarian work.

In her speech at the celebration hosted by the Union of Charitable Societies and Foundations at the National Library on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of Kuwait being named a global center for humanitarian work and the late His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad being honored as a leader of humanitarian work on September 9, 2014, the minister highlighted that both governmental and civil charitable institutions in Kuwait have become pioneers in humanitarian efforts, earning global recognition as a center for humanitarian work.

Dr. Al-Huwaila explained that this recognition reflects Kuwait's deep-rooted values of solidarity and generosity. It highlights Kuwait's ongoing efforts to extend a helping hand and offer relief to those in need and to provide humanitarian support across the globe without discrimination.

This recognition is a tribute to Kuwait's boundless generosity, demonstrated by its leadership, government, and people, in alleviating the suffering of those affected by disasters and conflicts. This commitment continues under the leadership of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad.

## Cultural

Charitable work has become a deeply ingrained cultural value in Kuwait, passed down through generations. It is a fundamental component of both the country's local and foreign policies, upheld and preserved by its wise leadership.

Meanwhile, the Chairman of the Union of Charitable Societies and Foundations Saad Al-Otaibi remarked that Kuwait has consistently been a pioneer in supporting the needy, regardless of religion, race, or nationality. This ongoing generosity is not a fleeting trend but an integral part of Kuwait's heritage and humanitarian commitment.

He stressed the importance of continuing to support these organizations by removing obstacles and strengthening the legislative and regulatory environment, as well as providing them with the necessary resources, which is both a national and moral responsibility, ensuring that these associations can fulfill their mission effectively and sustain their noble humanitarian efforts.

Al-Otaibi said, "The achievements of the past decade highlight the relentless efforts of our charitable institutions. The total external transfers for humanitarian work amounted to KD 103 million, representing about 62 percent of internal spending. Of this, 29 percent was allocated to education and 21 percent to combating poverty. These are more than just numbers; they represent success stories that have made a tangible difference in the lives of millions around the world."

In addition, Director General of the National Library Suhaim Al-Az-



Top and above: Sheikh Mubarak Abdullah Mubarak Al-Sabah with the delegation members.



## Sheikh Mubarak Al-Sabah hosts key Malaysian delegates

## Kuwait and Malaysia boost economic ties

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: Sheikh Mubarak Abdullah Mubarak Al-Sabah, Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of Action Group Holdings, stressed the distinctiveness of the Malaysian economic experience, unique in the region and the importance of benefiting from it as a distinguished model in Asia and the Islamic world.

Sheikh Mubarak expressed his delight at the growth of Kuwaiti-Malaysian relations at various levels, pointing out that the bilateral relations, especially economic and commercial, are witnessing promising growth and development.

This came during Sheikh Mubarak Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah's holding a dinner reception at the White Palace in honor of the Head of the Diwan of Ruler of The State of Selangor in Malaysia, His Highness Tengku Sulaiman Shah Al-Haj, heading a visiting delegation that included Chairmen and CEOs of eleven Malaysian companies from various sectors of oil, gas, construction, renewable energy, pharmaceuticals, aviation and

food security.

The dinner reception, which is also attended by the Malaysian Ambassador to the State of Kuwait, His Excellency Alauddin Muhammad Nor, and embassy officials, and leading members of the Malaysian community, and a group of Kuwaiti businessmen that have links to investment relations with Malaysia, Sheikh Mubarak Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah affirmed that Kuwaiti horizons are open to offering all services that would strengthen economic relations between Kuwait and Malaysia in various areas of economic development and stimulate trade cooperation, this will bear fruit on the Malaysian economy, and to the Malaysian community in Kuwait, in addition to the Kuwaiti economy.

Sheikh Mubarak Al-Sabah pointed out that the Malaysian desire to open new channels to stimulate investments is matched by a sincere Kuwaiti desire to cooperate in this field, at the official and private sector levels, hoping that the endeavors will be manifested with success that will reflect positively on

the two friendly countries, in addition, to the cooperation we aspire to in the service of Islam, its issues with an Islamic country are important in the region, furthermore cooperation in the field of tourism sector to the benefit of both parties.

The Head of The Diwan of Ruler of The State of Selangor in Malaysia, His Highness Tengku Sulaiman Shah Al-Haj, is the honorary Chairman of the ALAA Consultancy Malaysia, visited Kuwait accompanying leading economic delegation, on his first private visit to Kuwait, and discussed revitalizing trade and economic relations with leading group of economists and businessmen met during a meeting in the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The delegation chose Kuwait to be their first visiting destination, and will continue their visit in the region, by visiting the United Arab Emirates, then State of Qatar, in order to discuss investment opportunities and strengthening bilateral relations, particularly economic relations.

As we celebrate the tenth anniversary of Kuwait being named a center for humanitarian work, it is clear that this international honor reflects not just the government's efforts but also a deeply ingrained culture of charity and giving that defines the lives of Kuwaitis.

By generosity and compassion.

"This cultural and charitable giving is not a fleeting act but is deeply embedded in Kuwaiti identity, character-

mi said, "Since the early 20th century, Kuwaitis have realized the importance of civil institutional work in education and social services. The establishment of the Mubarakia School in 1911 was a significant step in promoting formal education and raising donations to support it.

"This spirit of giving has per-



Comoros Minister Mohamed Mbae.

## FM meets Comoros, Tunisian counterparts

Kuwait Minister of Foreign Affairs Abdullah Al-Yahya met on Tuesday with Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, in charge of the Arab World, Diaspora, Francophonie and African Integration in the Comoros, Mohamed Mbae.

Al-Yahya later met with Tunisian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Migration,

and Tunisians Abroad Mohamed Ali Al-Nafti.

Both meetings took place on the sidelines of the 162nd regular session of the Arab League in Cairo.

During the meetings, both sides discussed bilateral ties, boosting cooperation and latest international and regional developments. (KUNA)

## Other Voices

## 'Douse the fire before it consumes us'

By Ahmed alsarraf

The beginnings of establishing student unions go back sixty years. I participated in the first elections and won first place, representing the commercial high school. I subsequently left the union because of the chaos I witnessed, which seems to continue to this day!

Despite the passage of 60 years since the beginning of the establishment of these unions, none of them have received state recognition.

However, almost all the ministers of education, and those higher than them, attended the majority of the conferences and activities of these student unions.

The government always played a role in spending on these unions, and these funds were never subject to any oversight, due to the illegitimacy of these entities.

All education officials were also hesitant -- and some were afraid -- to approach these unions, due to the strong connections of the union members with many members of the National Assembly, and the control by religious, political and tribal groups over the majority of them, with a slight sectarian presence on the outskirts!

These unions have grown and have recently become a real threat to the country's internal security and peace, and this is done with the knowledge of all higher education, university and applied education officials, and perhaps with their blessing. As you know, these unions have the power to mobilize student groups, especially in cases of attendance and mass absence, via WhatsApp.

Eng. Hamoud Al-Enezi, an enlightened and independent person in his opinions, and a former member of the Municipal Council, as Secretary General of the 'National Integrity Society', made intensive efforts to uncover the amount of 'idleness and violations' taking place in the student body.

For this purpose, he conducted several interviews, warning and admonishing of its danger, especially what is happening these days in terms of preparations for the upcoming student elections, and their extremely dangerous

negative impact on society, and how huge sums of money being pumped into these unions, the majority of which are of unknown origin, with the aim of financing tribal conflicts within the university and the applied institute. It is believed that the Muslim Brotherhood has a role in the feverish activity taking place!

The government is required to move quickly to douse this fire, stop this tribal polarization, from parties that do not have the slightest sense of responsibility, because it is basically illegitimate.

All the movements of these unions aim to prevent the consolidation of citizenship values and the fight against corruption. Therefore, ministerial decisions must be issued to prevent their existence, and efforts must be made to create alternative unions that are more nationalistic and less sectarian and tribal, while criminalizing the by-elections.

The activities and work of the election committees, inside and outside Kuwait, and the titles of their advertisements that bear the names of the tribes, not to mention raising their flags and anthems, have become a source of concern and panic for those with living national consciences, from all this violation of the laws and the negative impact on national unity, especially those that offer student services through their "tribal" committees, in broad daylight and with the knowledge of all higher education officials.

We repeat that the money spent by student unions on the travel of their members, their conferences and committees, and what is spent on by-elections, requires millions. So what is the source of this money, and who monitors how it is spent?

Engineer Hamoud believes that each list in the United States of America, for example, pays about 200,000 Kuwaiti dinars for the cost of the elections, which includes the voters' travel, hotel reservations, etc., as the tribes undertake the mobilization, and the lists undertake the financial funding, through the political relations of the student lists.

The Brotherhood group, as he sees it, has the largest role to play in the process of financing the student elections and fueling tribal conflicts.

The solution to this dangerous situation exists and is known, and what was done with the National Assembly can be followed with these unions.

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alsarraf



# diwaniya

A DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION

## 'Kuwait & Britain mark historic protection agreement of 1899'

"WE ARE now celebrating in Kuwait and in London the one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary of the signing of the protection agreement between Kuwait and Great Britain in 1899, which was signed by Sheikh Mubarak Al-Sabah in the name of Kuwait and the British representative in the Gulf on behalf of Britain," columnist, former permanent envoy of the State of Kuwait to the United Nations (UN) and the former Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) secretary general **Abdullah Bishara** wrote for *Al-Qabas* daily.



Bishara

"The texts of the Kuwaiti-British agreement differed from those signed by the Gulf Emirates by including Britain's commitment to protect Kuwait, preserve its independence, and safeguard its territorial integrity.

"Additionally, the agreement specifically aimed to support Sheikh Mubarak's authority over Kuwait and ensure that his descendants would continue to govern the state.

"This introduction to the agreement addressed concerns due to the unstable Ottoman presence in Iraq and Al-Ahsa. Sheikh Mubarak enjoyed a level of security and stability that was unprecedented among his predecessors.

"To mitigate potential threats, he took measures to close off any paths of danger. Britain, seeking to bolster reassurance in the Gulf and secure safe navigation for its colonies in India, found no issue with Sheikh Mubarak's requests.

"The agreement proved to be a protective shield for Kuwait, maintaining its independence and countering aggressive actions from tribal raids and other threats.

"Britain's commitment was demonstrated through its vigilant air and sea patrols that thwarted hostile attempts against Kuwait.

"This dedication was evident in various critical moments, including responding to Sheikh Abdullah Al-Salem's appeals to counter Abdul Karim Qasim's 1961 claims of Iraqi sovereignty over Kuwait and playing a crucial role in Kuwait's liberation in 1991, effectively silencing any harmful ambitions.

"The British commitment was distinguished by its inclusivity, garnering support from all political factions and the public, which provided stability and certainty in the relationship. This allowed Kuwait to benefit from British expertise in security, administration, and economic development.

"Notably, British expertise played a key role in the discovery of oil deposits in Kuwait, which facilitated the country's modernization and development. Additionally, Kuwait's establishment of an office in London evolved into a significant financial entity, benefiting both Kuwait and Britain through enhanced investment opportunities.

"Since the liberation, in which Britain played a pivotal role, Kuwaiti-British relations have expanded beyond political and economic spheres to encompass education, healthcare, culture, trade, and manufacturing.

"The partnership has also strengthened in the areas of security and defense. This growth has led to the formation of a comprehensive strategic partnership managed by a high-level committee from both countries, which meets every six months to assess and enhance the relationship.

"This committee oversees the bilateral administration that guides the course of relations between Kuwait and Britain.

"The deepening of this partnership has been marked by significant visits, including the state visit of the late Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad to Britain at the invitation of Queen Elizabeth, and the visit of the late Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad, Amir of Kuwait, in 2012, where I was part of the official Kuwaiti delegation along with members of the Kuwaiti-British Friendship Society.

"These visits reinforced the bond between the leaders, with the Queen's warm reception and the special rapport with Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad adding a memorable touch.

"Inspired by this strong relationship, the Kuwaiti leadership has decided to express Kuwait's gratitude and appreciation for Britain's distinguished role through special arrangements by the Ministry of Information.

"The celebrations will commence this September, featuring a Kuwaiti media and artistic delegation presenting performances in London that highlight Kuwait's cultural and artistic heritage. Additionally, the Investment Office, established in 1953, will host a reception for businessmen to showcase the economic and financial ties between the two nations.

"The Kuwaiti people will honor Britain's role in safeguarding Kuwait and value the reassurance provided by this partnership. They recognize that Britain understands Kuwait's history, geography, and the complexities of its regional disputes. With experience in global crises and a commitment to effective deterrence, Britain's partnership offers Kuwait confidence and stability in navigating its challenges.

"In the 1960s, during the course of Kuwaiti-British bilateral relations, I participated in meetings between the late Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad and British ambassadors. These relations were not always smooth, facing challenges primarily due to the broader Arab-Israeli conflicts.

"During the 1967 war, Kuwait was steadfast in securing Britain's oil needs, and this commitment was reiterated during the 1973 war. Additionally, the late Sheikh Sabah Al-Salem, Amir of Kuwait from 1965 to 1977, rejected accusations of US involvement in the 1967 war, which emerged from the unexpected magnitude of the defeat.

"Despite the shocks and upheavals experienced by the Arab world, both Kuwait and Britain remained dedicated to preserving their relationship and shielding it from accusations and rumors. This commitment continued strongly after the invasion, with both nations maintaining an open and evolving relationship.

"I want to emphasize with great conviction that Kuwaiti diplomacy has evolved significantly since Kuwait's accession to the Arab League, which came with a commitment to remain neutral and avoid alliances.

"This decision led to a shift in Kuwaiti diplomacy towards a broader Arab engagement. The late Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad took on the responsibility of nurturing this engagement, navigating its complexities, and fulfilling its obligations. He actively worked to protect and enhance Arab diplomacy through various mediation, shouldering the associated burdens personally.

"Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad was sincere in his dedication to Arab causes, choosing to stay away from major global capitals while adhering to the fundamental principles of his engagements with their officials.

"He consistently highlighted the Palestinian issue in every meeting with European and Washington officials. This approach continued until the invasion, which shattered his vision of an Arab world bound by affection and mutual trust.

"The invasion marked a pivotal shift in Kuwait's diplomatic strategy, moving from a regional focus within the Arab League to a broader, global platform. This transformation necessitated a focus on securing deterrence through partnerships with those who aided in Kuwait's liberation.

"Consequently, Kuwaiti diplomacy expanded its reach to major global capitals, prioritizing Kuwait's security within the global commitments of these key nations.

"In this context, the relationship between Britain and Kuwait deepened significantly. To commemorate this strengthened bond, preparations are underway to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the signing of the protection agreement between the two nations.

"Looking ahead, Kuwait will continue to rely on Britain's seriousness in bilateral commitments and its expertise in security matters. This partnership is crucial as the region works towards achieving stability and advancing political, behavioral, and cultural development. Such progress is essential to overcoming the scars of the invasion and realizing comprehensive regional security."

— Compiled by PFX Fernandes

## Move marks historic moment for Public Prosecution

### Decision issued on reshuffling of prosecution leaders

By Jaber Al-Hamoud

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: Attorney General Saad Al-Safran has issued a decision to transfer heads of prosecution to the General Prosecution and to reconstitute the departments of partial and specialized prosecutions, as well as the Office of Examining Reports and Complaints.

This decision marks a historic moment for the Public Prosecution, as it includes the first Kuwaiti members assigned to work in the General Prosecution and appoints women to key roles within the prosecution departments. Notably, four female directors have been appointed as part of this reorganization.

The decision on the new Public Prosecution members includes:

- Abdullah Abdulaziz Rashid Al-Mulla Muhammad; - Talal Abdulaziz Abdul Mohsen Al-Fahad; - Muhammad Abdulaziz Muhammad Al-Farih; - Muhammad Saud Ahmed Al-Dosari; - Talal Adel Saud Al-Abdulrazzaq

The new formation is as follows:

Drug and Alcohol Prosecution:- Ali Mansour Hassan Al-Dashti - Director; - Muhammad Talal Shaheen Al-Hajri - Deputy Director; - Ahmad Mahmoud Abdulaziz Al-Faraj - Deputy Director

Criminal Execution Prosecution:- Dhari Saleh Ibrahim Al-Muajil - Director; - Nasser Salem Abdullah Al-Rajbani - Deputy Director; - Salem Abdul Rahman Ayed Al-Mutairi - Deputy Director

Family Affairs Prosecution:- Ahmad Abdulaziz Mahlahal Al-Yassin - Director; - Abdul Mohsen Zaid Hazaa Al-Anzi - Deputy Director; - Rashid Salah Muhammad Al-Hamdan - Deputy Director

Media, Information and Publishing Affairs Prosecution:- Munira Nabil Ibrahim Al-Waqian - Director; - Talal Abdul Latif Abdul Rahman Al-Duajj - Deputy Director;

Ghati Rashid Nayef Al-Mutairi - Deputy Director

International Cooperation and Human Rights Prosecution:- Ahmed Abdulaziz Ahmed Al-Majed - Director; - Abdullah Waleed Rashid Al-Khalaf - Deputy Director; - Abdul Rahman Abdullah Ibrahim Al-Jiran - Deputy Director

Office of Examining Reports and Complaints:-

Ali Abdulaziz Abdul Razzaq Abu Qurais - Director; - Abdullah Najib Rashid Mulla Muhammad - Deputy Director; - Mishari Abdulaziz Abdullah Al-Salem - Deputy Director

Capital and Anti-Human Trafficking Prosecutions:- Smuggling of Migrants and the Stock Market:- Mohammed Salah Abdullah Al-Ali - Director; - Musaed Mohammed Mutlaq Al-Shammari - Deputy Director; - Mohammed Khaled Mubarak Al-Wahib - Deputy Director

Farwaniya Prosecution:- Manouh Abdul Rahman Mohammed Al-Othman - Director; - Khaled

Abdullah Jasser Al-Jasser - Deputy Director; - Dhari Nasser Salem Al-Huwaidi - Deputy Director

Jahra Prosecution:- Rashid Abdullah Rashid Al-Wahib - Director; - Mohammed Falah Fahad Al-Hajri - Deputy Director; - Fahad Nayef Bandar Al-Mutairi - Deputy Director

Commercial Affairs Prosecution:- Ibrahim Jamal Nasser Al-Munaie - Director; - Abdullah Khaled Jaber Al-Jaber - Deputy Director; - Khaled Badr Abdulaziz Al-Jureivi - Deputy Director; - Barak Nasser Rashid Al-Muharib - Deputy Director

Hawally Prosecution:- Ghanima Adel Abdulaziz Al-Sarawi - Director; - Hamad Abdulaziz Ibrahim Al-Rabiah - Deputy Director; - Talal Muhammad Abdullah Abu Salib Al-Mutairi - Deputy Director

Ahmadi and Mubarak Al-Kabeer Prosecutions:- Talal Yousef Abdullah Al-Faraj - Director; - Nasser Khaled Jassim Al-Misbahi - Deputy Director; - Mohammed Ali Hamoud Al-Hajri - Deputy Director

Public Funds and Anti-Money Laundering Prosecution:- Dhari Abdul Latif Thanyan Al-Thanyan - Director; - Khaled Hassan Abdul Karim Al-Enezi - Deputy Director; - Mishari Mohammed Ahmed Al-Mishari - Deputy Director

Juvenile Prosecution:- Nouf Faisal Abdullah Al-Saeed - Director; - Abdul Rahman Dharar Abdullah Al-Waqian - Deputy Director; - Abdullah Ahmed Abdullah Al-Saqer - Deputy Director.



Al-Safran

# Need to prevent students from driving parents' cars: Brig Rajab

Court postpones Al-Jalal's murder case until Sept 16

By Jaber Al-Hamoud

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff & Agencies

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: The Criminal Court adjourned to September 16 the first session of the trial for the individual accused of the murder of Nasser Al-Jalal in Hadiya. The session was adjourned for the appointment of a lawyer for the accused, payment of the civil lawsuit fee, and review and documentation of the case file.

During the session, Lawyer Hussein Al-Asfour who is representing the deceased, requested for civil compensation as well as an extension to prepare and present his case.

The defendant was brought to court from prison and he confessed to the crime. He justified his act by stating that, "The devil came".

He explained that he took the knife from Raqqa to Hadiya and stabbed Al-Jalal in front of the diwaniya with the intent of ending his life, even though there were no personal or financial disputes between them.

In a statement issued on August 22, the Public Prosecution announced that it had received a report about a citizen stabbing and killing another in Hadiya. Following this report, the Public Prosecution initiated an investigation, visited the scene of the incident to conduct an inspection and examine the deceased, and assigned the case to the Forensic Medicine Department.

**Traffic plan for new school year:** The concerned security sectors have taken all the necessary security and traffic measures to fully prepare for the new school year, reports Al-Anba daily quoting a security source.

The source affirmed that these sectors will work according to a clear strategy and several axes aimed at ensuring the safety of students; as per the applicable principles, values, loyalty to the homeland, tolerance, rejection of violence and protection of public property.

The source said the Ministry of Interior's plan for the new school year is entrusted to most of its sectors. He disclosed the Public Relations and Security Media General De-

partment in the ministry plays a pivotal role in coordinating with various media platforms through its social media accounts, news flash on television, and publication of instructions and awareness messages to reach the target segment and achieve the desired goals; in addition to the major role of the Public Security Sector and the Operations and Traffic Sector.

He confirmed that Assistant Undersecretary for Public Security Affairs Major General Hamad Al-Munaifi has instructed the security directors in the governorates to strictly implement the security plan for the opening of schools next week. He revealed the plan includes intensified security presence to monitor traffic flow, remove the obstacles that

parents might face in terms of traffic congestion or requesting assistance, and coordinate with the schools to guarantee quick response in case the presence of securitymen are required to deal with any problem.

He added Director of Ahmadi Security Directorate Brigadier Abdullah Rajab had a meeting with the concerned officials in the governorates, during which he stressed the need to prevent underage students from driving their parents' vehicles to protect their lives and that of other road users.

He went on to say that the Operations and Traffic Sector, headed by Major General Yousef Al-Khudah, will monitor traffic movement on all roads through the foot and fixed patrols, as well as the Control Unit.

He stated that more than 1,000 officers and non-commissioned officers will be deployed from 6:00 am until the students leave the schools. He urged the parents to fully cooperate with traffic patrols and police deployed on main roads, in internal areas, and around schools and universities; and to follow the instructions regarding the roads and alternative routes through the Global Positioning System (GPS) to avoid traffic jams. He called on vehicle drivers to be careful in order to ensure the safety of students, especially those passing

through the pedestrian crossings, and to pay attention when students get on and off vehicles to achieve the highest level of security and safety for everyone.

**39 citations over adverts:** Director of the Audit and Follow-up Department of Municipal Services at Farwaniya Municipality Talal Al-Aqab revealed that 39 citations for violations related to display of unlicensed advertisements for various activities and display of goods in front of stores without a license, and 28 warnings were issued, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

In a press statement, Al-Aqab indicated that the intensive field tours aim to monitor violations and enforce all relevant legal measures.

He explained that his inspection team is dedicated to overseeing compliance in their areas of responsibility through these field inspections. The Public Relations Department of Kuwait Municipality confirmed that the Audit and Follow-up Department's field campaigns focus on verifying the validity of health licenses, shop advertisement licenses, and adherence to shop and market regulations. These inspections will continue throughout the month.

**Man acquitted of drugs use:** The Criminal Court has acquitted an individual who was charged with possessing psychotropic substances with intent to use, resisting security personnel with force and violence, insulting them, and destroying a police car, reports Al-Anba daily.

According to the case file, an officer found the suspect sleeping in his vehicle, and woke him up. Upon being awakened, the suspect allegedly insulted the officer and attempted to assault him with a knife. After he was arrested, the officer searched his vehicle and found drugs.

During the court session, the defense counsel Lawyer Bashar Al-Nassar said the arrest and subsequent procedures were invalid due to the absence of a flagrante delicto case, and claimed that the accusations leveled against his client were malicious and fabricated.

The court ruled in favor of the suspect, citing the invalidity of the arrest and all related procedures.

## Governors need to play more role in regional dev't: Al-Mulla

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: Saleh Al-Mulla, the Secretary-General of the Council of Ministers, has called for improved cooperation and coordination between state ministries, government agencies, and provincial councils, reports Al-Jarida daily.

In a letter to Dr. Nader Al-Jalal, the Minister of Higher Education and Acting Minister of Education, Al-Mulla emphasized the need for empowering governors to play a more significant role in regional development.

Following a Council of Ministers meeting on August 20, where the First Deputy Prime Minister Sheikh Fahd Al-Yousef highlighted the political leadership's directive to support governors, Al-Mulla stressed the importance of forming a council led by governors and including representatives from government agencies and civil society.

This initiative aims to enhance the effectiveness of executive work and achieve state goals more efficiently.

Al-Mulla's letter also directed ministers to work closely with governors to assess their needs and ensure that governors have actual authority over government departments within their provinces, enabling effective oversight and improved service delivery to citizens.



Al-Mulla

## SAB allegedly rejects IT agency's request to issue change orders

By Mohammed Al-Muslih  
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: According to informed sources, the State Audit Bureau has rejected the request of the Central Agency for Information Technology to issue change orders for adding KD 1.9 million to the contract for renting Microsoft programs and licenses, as well as for maintenance, technical support, and other services required by government agencies.

The bureau's review revealed that the Central Agency for Information Technology did

not comply with the provisions mentioned in the State Audit Bureau circular No. 6/2018. This circular specifies the controls and rules that entities under its oversight must follow when submitting documents for prior review, including adhering to guidelines for preparing tender papers, draft contracts, engagements, and agreements. Additionally, the bureau noted that the agency failed to provide the necessary approval from the Central Agency for Public Tenders to issue the change order.

The bureau explained that the total percentage of change orders issued on the contract, in-

cluding the one under investigation, amounted to 12.59 percent of the total contract value.

According to law No. 49/2016 regarding public tenders, change orders cannot exceed five percent of the total contract value without the approval of the Central Agency for Public Tenders. This applies to both increases and decreases in the contract value.

The bureau has returned the matter to the Central Agency for Information Technology, requiring it to address the outstanding issues, and then resubmit the request without delay for further review and a prior opinion from the bureau.



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## LOCAL

# PAHW faces budget deficit, expenses exceed revenues

Al-Mishari pushes for faster, smarter e-services



KUNA photo

Minister of Housing tours the departments of the Public Institution for Housing Care.

## Al-Mashaan reaffirms governance goals

### MPW hosts corporate workshop

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: The National Guide and Framework for Corporate Governance Team at the Ministry of Public Works has organized a training workshop for officials about the application and activation of governance entitled, "Corporate Governance", reports Al-Seyassah daily.

This is under the supervision of the Civil Service Commission (CSC), State Audit Bureau (SAB), Kuwait Engineers Society, Kuwait Direct Investment Promotion Authority and Kuwait Anti-Corruption Authority (Nazaha).

In a press statement Monday, Minister Dr. Noura Al-Mashaan confirmed that the workshop aims to set methodological and practical steps towards governance in the ministry. Certified trainers among the ministry's em-

ployees explained the national framework for governance of the government administrative system and the national guide for corporate governance during the workshop, she added.

She said she is keen on applying the principles and foundations of governance to ensure the safety and sustainability of administrative and technical work in the ministry. She affirmed these principles are in line with the approach of the wise leadership of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled, and in compliance with the instructions of His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmed Al-Abdullah. She added these principles are among the most important pillars of the development plan to achieve Kuwait Vision 2035.

By Mohammad Al-Musleh  
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

**KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: The Public Authority for Housing Welfare (PAHW) revealed that its expenses for fiscal 2024/2025 are 73 times its revenues.**

The newspaper obtained a copy of the authority's provisional budget; in which the revenues for the fiscal year are estimated at KD 8.6 million, compared to expenses estimated at KD 635.4 million.

It stated that the revenues will come from tender fees, biddings and auctions amounting to KD1.032 million; while fines, penalties and supervision costs are estimated at KD4.5 million -- an increase of about KD2.9 million compared to the previous fiscal year.

Despite the decrease in estimated expenses, the authority indicated that transfer payments and various expenses are estimated at KD595 million, while salary expenses amounted to KD 44.1 million.

On the other hand, Minister of State for Municipal and Housing Affairs Abdullatif Al-Mishari recently inspected the departments at PAHW; during which he was briefed on the services provided by the Citizen Service Department including online services, in addition to the public awareness campaigns and communication efforts carried out by the Public Relations Department.

The minister issued a directive on increasing the volume of electronic services provided to citizens. He also praised the efforts exerted and the services offered in partnership with other government agencies that save time and effort of clients.

He listened to the views of some clients and called for accelerating the completion of some types of transactions through electronic linkage with other concerned government agencies.

He looked into the mechanism for receiving allocation requests submitted through the Sahel application, in addition to the method of verifying the data sent and responding to the requests through the specialized team.

He inspected the work of the Sahel team at the authority, particularly in solving technical problems and the difficulties that clients face in using electronic services.

## Mosque, Quran center inaugurated

### Kuwait Food Bank aids 2,050 families with 'Awqaf' support



Kuwait Food Bank charity offers families in need to sign up for assistance.



Mosque and Quran memorization center in the village.

## Al-Mishari delegates key roles to Municipal Director General

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: Minister of State for Municipality and Housing Affairs Abdullatif Al-Mishari issued a ministerial decision delegating some of his powers to Director General of Kuwait Municipality Saud Al-Dubous, reports Al-Anba daily.

As per the decision, Al-Dubous is authorized to exempt certain job applicants from some health fitness conditions for appointment; grant study leave to employees; approve promotions by seniority or selection; refer erring employees for investigations; grant incentives or allowances; transfer employees and job costs internally and externally; and raise the job level.

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10, (KUNA): The Kuwait Food Bank charity said on Tuesday that it offered assistance to 2,050 families within Kuwait in cooperation with the Awqaf (endowment) Public Foundation.

Kuwait Food Bank's Chairman Meshal Al-Ansari told KUNA that the assistance offered consisted of two KD 50-coupons enabling each family to secure its need of food-stuff.

The database of the bank continues to be updated to cover the need of most families in Kuwait, he affirmed, revealing that the charity has a competent team able to receive those in need as well as the www.kuwaitfoodbank.org website, which also enables individuals and groups to seek assistance.

Meanwhile, Kuwait's Al-Safa Charity and Humanitarian Society opened on Tuesday a mosque and Quran center in a town located in Kara-Balta, northern Kyrgyzstan, as part of its 16th charity campaign in the eastern central Asian country.

Secretary of Al-Safa charity Abdullah Al-Shayee told KUNA that Al-Safa had opened the 144 square meters mosque with a capacity to hold 200 worshippers, adding that a 35-square meters Quran center was also established including classrooms.

The educational classrooms within the center would be able to host 12 students, serving in the town with the population of 900 people.

He revealed that a water network was recently erected in a town in Chuy region at an area of 2,500 square meters benefiting 1,800 individuals.

Another similar network is also opened in the region of Osh, he added.

Al-Safa charity campaign was launched last Sunday in Kyrgyzstan and would continue until September 13.

## Farwaniya Governor commends Kafo Team's clean-up campaign

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: Farwaniya Governor Sheikh Athbi Nasser Al-Athbi Al-Sabah met with Dr. Fatima Al-Moussawi, Executive Director of the Kafo Volunteer Team, and Salem Mohammed Al-Abduljader, to discuss the governorate's support for community volunteer efforts, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

During the meeting, held at the governorate's general office, Sheikh Athbi emphasized the importance of backing voluntary initiatives.

The discussion centered on the Kafo team's contributions to improving the community environment and organizing



Farwaniya Governor with Dr. Fatima Al-Moussawi, Executive Director of the Kafo Volunteer Team, and Salem Mohammed Al-Abduljader.

the global clean-up campaign.

The Governor praised the Kafo team for their dedication to environmental preservation and public education, expressing his gratitude for their efforts in benefiting the country and its residents.

## Streamlining engineering qualifications

### PAM suspends MoU with KSE amid complaints, accreditation concerns

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: The Board of Directors of the Public Authority for Manpower has decided to suspend the memorandum of understanding signed with the Kuwait Society of Engineers in 2018, reports Al-Rai daily quoting reliable sources.

This agreement had authorized the Society to approve engineering certificates and qualifications for expatriates coming to Kuwait, as well as to verify the related professional titles, whether in government or private sector contracts.

According to the sources, the decision was driven by numerous complaints submitted to the Manpower authority by companies, business owners, and workers themselves, regarding the accreditation procedures.

Moreover, the move aims to simplify the mechanisms for auditing and ap-

proving engineering certificates.

While the alternative entity for overseeing these certifications has not yet been determined, sources suggested that the Ministry of Higher Education could take on this role.

Being a government body specialized in verifying educational qualifications, the ministry would be responsible for sorting certificates for engineering professions and related roles, similar to its practices for other professions in the labor market.

The sources further noted that Private Sector Labor Law No. 10 of 2010, under the fourth paragraph of Article 7, mandates that the Minister issues regulations governing the employment of private sector workers. This includes specifying jobs and professions that require passing professional tests, in coordination with relevant authorities.

## KUNA Center rolls out major media training initiative on language skills

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10, (KUNA): The KUNA Center for Media Development launched a training program titled "Linguistic Skills for Media Professionals" on Sunday. The program included participants from Kuwait News Agency (KUNA), Emirates News Agency (WAM), and various government and private institutions in the country. Presented by Dr. Tariq Al-Bakri, the program employs both theoretical and practical approaches, covering topics such as Arabic language fundamentals, sentence structure, grammatical basics in writing, the relationship between language and journalistic writing, and common linguistic errors in media writing and their corrections.

The program, which will run until September 12, also addresses technical and linguistic principles, writing skills, the use of language in simple and complex news, news coverage, and the rules for linguistically and editorially correct media material. Additionally, it explores the relationship between the Arabic language and



KUNA photo

Part of the training program

different types of media materials in terms of form and content, and the integration of language and knowledge in media skills.

Established in December 1995, the KUNA Center for Media Development is one of the most prominent media training centers. It has offered hundreds of training programs in various media fields and aims to enhance personal media capabilities and advance professional media work.

# September

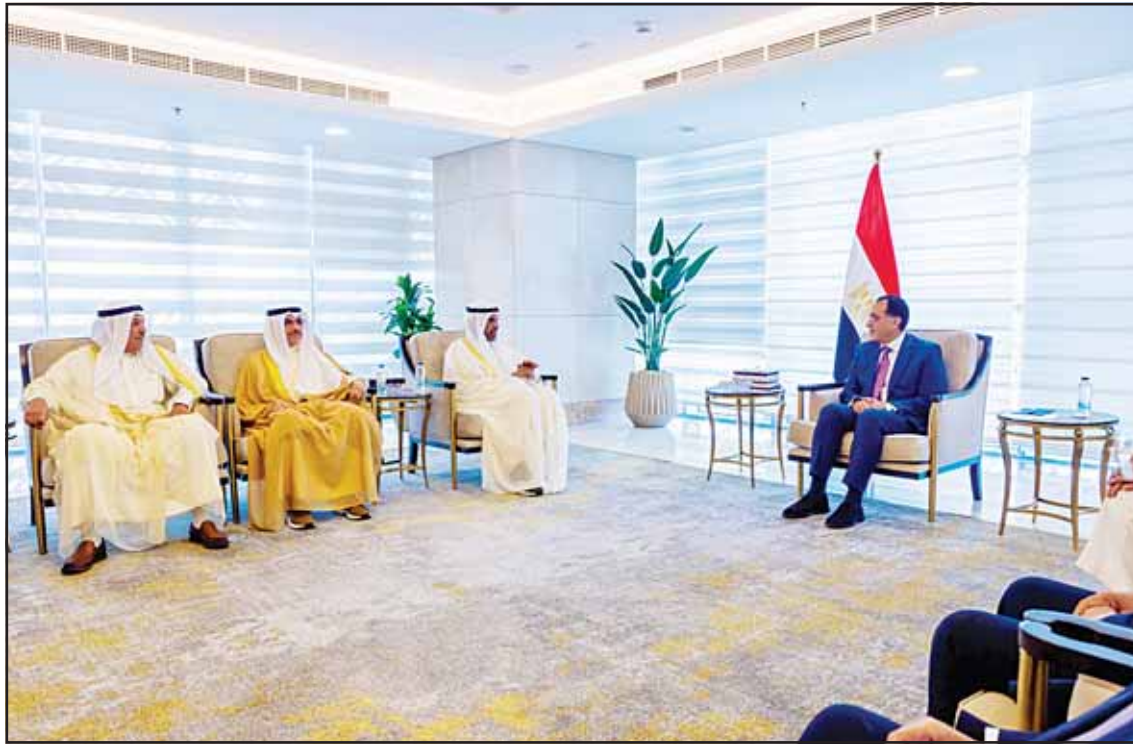
## Room Promotion

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<b>BHD 65.000 net</b>	<b>BHD 145.000 net</b>

Promo period from 1<sup>st</sup> September to 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024    Terms & conditions apply\*



## LOCAL



Egyptian Prime Minister receives Kuwaiti Foreign Minister.

## Egyptian PM receives Kuwaiti FM

## Joint Kuwait-Egypt talks kick off

CAIRO, Sept 10 (KUNA): Egyptian Prime Minister Dr. Mostafa Madbouly received on Tuesday Kuwait's Minister of Foreign Affairs Abdullah Al-Yahya, currently in an official visit to Cairo.

Al-Yahya conveyed greetings of His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah to Madbouly and the Egyptian people, and in return, Madbouly wished Kuwait's leadership, government and people further progress and prosperity. During the meeting, both sides discussed bilateral ties, cooperation and latest regional developments, as well as issues of common interest. (KUNA)

Meanwhile, preparatory meeting for the joint Kuwaiti-Egyptian higher committee on high official level, commenced Tuesday, setting up for the 13th Foreign Ministry committee meeting on Thursday.

Heading Kuwaiti delegation is Assistant Foreign Minister Ambassador Ahmad Al-Bakr, and the Egyptian side Assistant Foreign Minister, Ambassador Mohammad Al-Badri.

This is an extension of 12th committee meeting back in December of 2018, said Ambassador Al-Bakr, adding it will address any obstacles hindering development, as well as instate mechanisms to boost cooperation.

Outcomes of the two-day meetings, including agreements, MoUs, and programs are to be forwarded to the Foreign Ministers on Thursday. The joint Kuwaiti-Egyptian education committee met yesterday and looked into bilateral cooperation in the fields of education, higher education and scientific research.

## Set AC

Continued from Page 1

It is advised to set air conditioners at 23°C instead of 18°C to help manage energy use more effectively.

Also, the rationalization policy should be applied to government agencies and their buildings, which consume large amounts of electricity during official working hours. Electricity use should be minimized in areas that are unoccupied or crowded with visitors and employees.

The sources urged the need to expedite the tendering processes for energy projects and remove all the challenges and bureaucratic obstacles they encounter, adding that this will ensure that projects are completed in both the short and long term.

They highlighted that the current crisis is attributed to a lack of productivity, which has led the ministry to rely on energy imports from the Gulf network and other temporary solutions.

## Info Ministry

Continued from Page 1

Muhaisen also explained that these services will include providing global regulations and systems for computer systems and digital servers at the ministry. Additionally, the center will offer training courses and workshops to enhance the cybersecurity skills of media personnel and improve technical protection systems within the ministry's departments.

He stated that the Ministry of Information will work to raise community awareness of cybersecurity through radio and television programs and create awareness advertisements in coordination with the center to showcase the latest technical developments in this field.

For his part, the head of the National Cybersecurity Center, retired Major General Engineer Mohammed Bouarki, confirmed that signing the agreement with the media is significant as it is one of the most crucial state institutions in enhancing national awareness. Bouarki added that the agreement aims to train workers in the Ministry of Information to achieve the desired level of cybersecurity awareness and that the center is committed to establishing partnerships with various state institutions.

## Joint efforts

Continued from Page 1

team's role in presenting competitions during morning assemblies. Responses are expected by October 3, 2024.

This initiative is in line with the directives of His Highness the Prime Minister and aims to enhance tax culture in the country. The Ministry of Finance team will be supported throughout the implementation of these activities.

Meanwhile, as part of the Education Ministry's intensive preparations for academic year 2024/2025, Assistant Undersecretary for Public Education Affairs Mansour Al-Dhafiri recently issued important instructions on the implementation of distance education system in public schools, if the need arises.

The newspaper obtained a copy of the official letter sent to the directors general of educational districts; stressing the need to update the data of students and teachers in the student record system, and appropriate distribution of students and teachers per classroom to ensure full readiness to use the 'Teams' educational program.

Al-Dhafiri also stressed the need to follow up the educational stage and monitors to complete the internal and

external transfer procedures, as well as to establish a work center for each teacher to guarantee the smooth and effective management of the educational process.

Meanwhile, Director of the Information Systems Center Huda Al-Mutairi confirmed that the center is currently updating school data on the 'Teams' program to guarantee the smooth process of distance education, if the need arises. She said the update will be done accurately upon completion of the tasks assigned to the principals of schools in order to fully prepare for the new academic year.

She revealed the instructions focused on several basic points for the next academic year to be free of technical obstacles; most notably updating students' data, proper distribution of students per classroom, schedule of teachers, and directly entering work for new teachers through the student record system.

Both Al-Dhafiri and Al-Mutairi have underscored the need to complete all the aforementioned procedures before the opening of schools; such that all the data are updated and distance education is activated whenever necessary to guarantee the continuity of classes under exceptional circumstances.

## Kuwait, Saudi

Continued from Page 1

Saudi Arabia holds the Israeli occupation forces fully responsible for the obvious violation of international and humanitarian laws.

It affirmed that the legal, humanitarian and moral responsibilities rely on the international society to end these violations.

Meanwhile, a Kuwaiti delegation, headed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs Abdullah Al-Yahya, is participating in the 162nd regular session of the Arab League Council at the ministerial level on Tuesday.

The ministry explained that the discussions during the meeting covered all items on the agenda, including decisions and topics related to strengthening and advancing joint Arab action in various political, economic, and social fields. They also included the current regional developments, particularly the tragic events in the Gaza Strip and the occupied Palestinian territories.

They also explored ways to enhance collaborative efforts in tackling the challenges facing the Arab world, and studied the impact of regional and international developments on global peace and security.

In addition, they reviewed mechanisms to boost cooperation between the Arab League, friendly countries, and other international organizations.

An Israeli strike on a crowded tent camp housing Palestinians displaced by the war in Gaza killed at least 19 people and wounded 60 early on Tuesday, Palestinian officials said. Israel said it targeted senior Hamas militants with precise munitions.

The overnight strike occurred in Muwasi, a sprawl of crowded tent camps along the Gaza coast that Israel designated as a humanitarian zone for hundreds of thousands of civilians to seek shelter from the nearly year-old Israel-Hamas war.

Associated Press footage shows three large craters at the scene. First responders dug through the sand and rubble with garden tools and their bare hands, using mobile phone flashlights until the sun came up. They pulled body parts from the sand, including what appeared to be a human leg.

"We were told to go to Muwasi, to the safe area... Look around you and see this safe place," said Iyad Hamed Madi, who had been sheltering there.

"This is for my son." "He's 4 months old. Is he a fighter? There's no humanity."

Gaza's Health Ministry said at least 19 people were killed in the strike, and that the toll may rise as more bodies are recovered. The Civil Defense, first responders who operate under the Hamas-run government, had earlier said 40 people were killed. The Israeli military disputed that toll.

The ministry is also part of the Hamas-run government but its figures are widely seen as generally reliable. Neither the ministry nor the Civil Defense immediately responded to a request for comment on the discrepancy of their tolls.

## MoH spending

Continued from Page 1

The report revealed significant issues in financial management and project execution. It pointed out weaknesses in the ministry's procedures for controlling spending, which led to the unlawful disbursement of funds in previous years.

These sums, totaling around 5.765 million dinars, were recovered in 2023/2024, artificially boosting revenues for the current year while increasing expenses from previous years. The report also criticized the ministry for not exercising due diligence in preparing its financial forms, failing to provide the required data.

Regarding expenditures, the report highlighted the ministry's inability to spend allocated amounts, leading to unrecorded expenditures of 555.375 million dinars. This reflects challenges in processing dues before the fiscal year's end and inaccuracies in budget estimates.

## KFAED beacon

Continued from Page 1

In a statement to KUNA, KFAED's Acting Director General Waleed Al-Bahar, said that this reflected Kuwait's foreign policy aimed at providing humanitarian support to people all over the world, especially in Arab countries.

He added that KFAED works in full coordination with Kuwait's Foreign Ministry and is considered one of the most prominent official national entities supporting foreign policy.

KFAED has worked with a number of international organizations over the past five decades, among them the UN's Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), the UN's Development Program, the Office of the UN's High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and the UN's Children's Fund (UNICEF) and especially WHO.

Al-Bahar added that KFAED, through the grants it provided to those organizations, executed a great number of humanitarian projects and initiatives that directly contributed to combating diseases and epidemics.

KFAED continuously contributes to supporting the Palestinian cause through its humanitarian aid to the Palestinian people and the grants provided to UNRWA, which amounted to about USD 22.5 million, which focused on developmental and educational aspects and providing water, food, and health security.

The grants to UNICEF amounted to about USD 21 million, which aimed to support the organization's efforts to combat famine and the cholera outbreak in Yemen, South Sudan, Nigeria, and Somalia.

In addition, the KFAED provided clean water to the Gaza Strip, measles vaccines to Syrian and Lebanese children in Lebanon, and supported mothers and newborns in areas affected by conflict in Yemen.

Al-Bahar also added that the grants to UNHCR amounted to about USD 22 million, the last of which was a grant to contribute to financing an infrastructure project for the internally displaced and host communities in Yemen.



Ambassador of the State of Kuwait to Austria Talal Al-Fassam during his reception in his office of a high-level medical delegation from the Kuwait Cancer Control Center, which is currently visiting the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Medical University of Vienna.

## Kuwait strengthens cancer therapy with IAEA support

Delegation seeks to enhance radiotherapy methods

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10, (KUNA): Kuwait's Ambassador to Austria and Permanent Representative to the United Nations and International Organizations in Vienna, Talal Al-Fassam, stated on Tuesday that a delegation from the Kuwait Cancer Control Center (KCCC) is currently visiting Vienna to meet with technical officials from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to discuss the development and implementation of radiotherapy techniques.

Ambassador Al-Fassam told KUNA, following his reception of the visiting Kuwaiti delegation, that the upcoming meetings are an "important step" toward enhancing

cooperation and knowledge exchange between the Kuwaiti Ministry of Health and the IAEA in the fields of nuclear medicine and radiotherapy, with the goal of improving cancer treatment standards in Kuwait.

He added that the meeting with the delegation members included a review of KCCC's efforts in promoting the use of three primary radiotherapy techniques, which are regarded as "among the latest medical research findings," and its endeavors to apply these techniques to improve patient outcomes and the quality of healthcare provided.

In this context, he emphasized the importance of strengthening cooperation with specialized international organizations and agencies, reflecting Kuwait's commitment and dedication to providing the highest levels of care for cancer patients and enhancing its capabilities in combating the disease.

Ambassador Al-Fassam praised the expertise of the Kuwait Can-

cer Control Center members, commending their efforts in advancing knowledge in medical technology development and its application in Kuwait.

The delegation is scheduled to visit the facilities of the International Atomic Energy Agency in the Seibersdorf area of the Austrian capital, as well as the Medical University.

The Kuwaiti delegation includes Dr. Yasser Hassan, Head of the Radiation Oncology Department; Dr. Ahmed Boushehri, Radiation Oncology Specialist; Dr. Sarah Murad from the Nuclear Medicine Department; and Dr. Nader Al-Awadhi, National Liaison Officer with the IAEA.

Established in 1968, the Kuwait Cancer Control Center is a governmental facility affiliated with the Ministry of Health, dedicated to providing care for cancer patients. It employs more than 600 highly qualified oncology specialists and is equipped with state-of-the-art medical equipment and services.

## Al-Mustaqila challenges executive board

## 'Independent List' refuses to partake in KU's student elections, citing violations

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: Al-Mustaqila (Independent List) has announced its decision to boycott the upcoming Kuwait University Students Union elections, reports Al-Jarida daily.

In confirmation of an article published recently in Al-Jarida regarding some student lists' reluctance to participate in the elections of the National Union of Kuwait University Students scheduled for September 22, the Independent List has stated its intention to boycott the elections.

The list cited its objections to the presence of the executive body, which it claims has violated student rights and decisions. The announcement of the election date on the 22nd of this month is also contested.

In a press statement, the Independent List called upon other student lists to support the student movement rights.

It said, "The Kuwaiti student movement is being hijacked by the executive body, as they have seized control in a manner that has nothing to do with the law and regulations. There are set regulations that determine the mechanism for students to select the executive board by students."

The Independent List explained that, despite submitting complaints to Kuwait University (KU) administration regarding financial, legal, and moral violations by the executive board, the administration responded by stating that it cannot hold the board accountable or question its actions, as the board is not subject to KU's laws and regulations.

The Independent List wondered why the administration facilitates the board's access to university facilities and organizes elections if it cannot oversee their conduct, stressing that the Students Union is a member of the university council and receives annual funding from the KU administration.

It had called for an investigation into the legitimacy of the student representative's legal standing within the university council and for monitoring the expenses and subsidies disbursed by the Students Union, but the request was rejected on the grounds that the Students Union is not officially registered or licensed.

Earlier, the Head of the Executive Body of the National Union of Kuwait University Students Khaled Al-Ajmi announced that the University Students Union elections for the 2024/2025 academic year will take place on Sunday, September 22.

In a press statement, Al-Ajmi explained that the elections will be held for the seats of the administra-



National Union of Kuwait University Students file photo.

## Ahmadi tops list

## Kuwait Municipality receives 1,158 hotline calls in August

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: Kuwait Municipality announced that it received 1,158 calls in the month of August, reports Al-Jarida daily.

In a press statement, the municipality revealed that the Emergency Department of the Transportation Control Department affiliated with the Public Services Department issued statistics on the reports it received via the Hotline No. 139 and the municipality's WhatsApp No. 24727732 from all governorates.

The Emergency Department explained that the reports it received were related to various issues, including the presence of garbage and used furniture in yards and in front of houses, bachelor housing, rubble obstructing roads, fallen trees, street vendors, abandoned cars and boats. Citizens were provided with the contact numbers for municipal centers in each governorate.

He called on all student lists to engage in fair competition and respect the union's constitution and electoral traditions.

He said, "Candidates will only be registered on any list if a representative of the list is present and provides

a copy of their identity card and academic schedule."

Al-Ajmi affirmed the commitment of the executive body to maintain impartiality among all participating lists with the aim of serving the interests of the student movement and upholding its achievements.

He called on all student lists to engage in fair competition and respect the union's constitution and electoral traditions.



## World News Roundup

## Europe

**Over 140 Ukraine drones target Russia, 1 dead:** Over 140 Ukrainian drones targeted multiple Russian regions overnight, including Moscow and surrounding areas, killing at least one person, officials said Tuesday, in one of the biggest drone attacks on Russian soil in the 2 1/2-year war.

A woman died and three people were injured in the town of Ramenskoye, just outside Moscow, where drones hit two multi-story residential buildings and started fires, Moscow region Gov **Andrei Vorobyov** said. Five residential buildings were evacuated due to falling drone debris, Vorobyov said.

The attack also prompted the authorities to temporarily shut down three airports just outside Moscow - Vnukovo, Domodedovo and Zhukovsky. A total of 48 flights were diverted to other airports, according to Russia's civil aviation authority, Rosaviatsia.

It was the second massive Ukrainian drone attack on Russia this month. On Sept. 1, the Russian military said it intercepted 158 Ukrainian drones over more than a dozen Russian regions in what Russian media described as the biggest Ukrainian drone barrage since the start of the war. Russia's Investigative Committee announced a criminal investigation into what it described as a terror attack.

Russia, meanwhile, has pummeled Ukraine with missiles, glide bombs and its own drones, killing over 10,000 civilians, according to the United Nations.

Ukraine has invested a lot of effort in developing domestic drone production, extending the drones' range, payload and uses. (AP)

**Starmer says he has to make tough decisions:** British Prime Minister Keir Starmer faces a battle of nerves with his Labour Party on Tuesday, when lawmakers vote on a contentious decision to cut a payment that helps millions of pensioners pay winter heating bills.

Starmer says the decision to remove the winter fuel allowance, worth between 200 and 300 pounds (\$262 and \$393) a year, from all but the poorest retirees is needed because of the dire state of the public finances left by the previous Conservative government.

But the decision to hit people on fixed incomes in one of the government's first economic moves since winning a landslide election victory in July has caused disquiet in the center-left Labour Party. Seventeen Labour lawmakers have backed a call to postpone the cut.

Labour's large House of Commons majority means the measure should easily be approved, but the government is trying to deter unhappy Labour legislators from rebelling or abstaining. (AP)

**Germany expands border controls:** Germany's government ordered temporary controls at all land borders Monday, expanding checks it already has in place at some borders, saying that it was responding to irregular migration and to protect the country from extremist threats.

"We are strengthening our internal security through concrete action and we are continuing our tough stance against irregular migration," Interior Minister Nancy Faeser said at a news conference.

The ministry said that it notified the European Union on Monday of the order to set up border controls at the land borders with France, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Belgium and Denmark for a period of six months. They will begin next week on Sept. 16.

This adds to restrictions already in place on the land borders with Poland, the Czech Republic, Austria and Switzerland. (AP)

**Cyprus, US sign defense deal:** Cyprus and the United States have signed a defense cooperation framework agreement that outlines ways the two countries can enhance their response to regional humanitarian crises and security concerns, including those arising from climate change.

Cyprus Defense Minister Vassilis Palmas and U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs Celeste Wallander hailed the agreement on Monday as another milestone in burgeoning Cyprus-US ties in recent years that saw the lifting in 2022 of a decades-old U.S. arms embargo imposed on the east Mediterranean island nation.

"The Republic of Cyprus is a strong partner to the United States, in Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean, and plays a pivotal role at the nexus of Europe, North Africa and the Middle East," Wallander said after talks with Palmas. (AP)

**Poland thanks army dogs for their service:** The new privates received their ranks amid military pomp in a town near Warsaw where a Napoleonic fortress attests to a long military history. The group was made up of a German shepherd, a Dutch shepherd and two Belgian Malinois.

The dogs - Einar, Eliot, Enzo and Emi - were bestowed with their ranks Friday as part of a new Polish program aimed at honoring the service of dogs used to detect explosives, a job valued for its role in protecting human life.

Gen. Wiesław Kukuta, Chief of the General Staff of the Polish Army, decided last year that dogs serving in the Polish army would qualify for six military ranks ranging from private through corporal to sergeant. The change has been welcomed by their loyal human handlers. (AP)

**Poland's cybersecurity experts foil attacks:** Poland's security officials said Monday they have foiled cyberattacks and online blackmail attempts by groups acting for Russian and Belarusian services.

Poland has registered up to 1,000 online attacks daily targeting government institutions and agencies, officials said, linking them to the country's support for neighboring Ukraine in its 2 1/2-year war against Russia's invasion.

The group that was broken up was seeking access to information in state and individual companies with the goal of blackmailing them, said Digital Affairs Minister Krzysztof Gawkowski. The government plans new legislation to increase Poland's cybersecurity, Gawkowski said. (AP)

**Belgium top migration official slams Hungary:** Belgium's top migration official on Monday criticized Hungary for threatening to send a bus convoy of migrants to Brussels in retaliation against European Union policies and suggested they would be stopped at the border.

Hungary's anti-immigrant government signaled Friday that it is serious about a plan to provide asylum-seekers free one-way travel to Brussels, a measure meant to pressure the European Commission into dropping heavy fines against the country for its restrictive asylum policies.

In June, the European Court of Justice ordered Hungary to pay a fine of 200 million euros (\$216 million) for persistently breaking the bloc's asylum rules, and an additional 1 million euros per day until it brings policies into line with EU law. (AP)

**Golden eagle attacks toddler in Norway:** At first, Francis Ari Sture thought a human was trying to shove him down the steep Norwegian mountainside. Then he saw the golden eagle land. "We are staring at each other, for maybe, a whole minute," Sture told The Associated Press on Monday. "I'm trying to think what's in its mind."

The bird then attacked Sture five more times Thursday, scratching and clawing the 31-year-old bicycle courier's face and arms over 10 to 15 minutes as he sprinted down the mountain. The same eagle is believed to be responsible for attacks on three other people across a vast mountainous area of southern Norway over the last week, including an assault on a toddler Saturday that required the child to get stitches. (AP)



Firefighters battle the Airport Fire along Trabuco Creek Road in Trabuco Canyon, Calif. on Sept 9. Inset: Firefighters monitor the advancing Line Fire in Angelus Oaks, Calif on Monday. (AP)

## Cool weather forecast offers hope in battling Southern California blaze

Several days of triple-digit temperatures have stoked a wildfire in Southern California that burned so hot it created its own thunderstorm-like weather systems, but firefighters are hoping to gain the upper hand as cooler weather is expected to move into the area after Tuesday.

The Line Fire has forced at least 6,000 people to evacuate and threatened thousands of home and

commercial structures as it burns along the edge of the San Bernardino National Forest, about 65 miles (105 kilometers) east of Los Angeles.

Firefighters have been working in steep terrain and challenging conditions in temperatures above 100 degrees (37.7 Celsius), limiting their ability to control the blaze, which has created the type of clouds that can spawn gusty winds and lightning

strikes. "We're dealing with triple-digit temperatures and hard-to-reach steep areas where there has not been fire in decades, or in recorded history, so all that vegetation has led to significant fuel loads," Cal Fire spokesperson Rick Carhart said. State fire managers said three firefighters have been injured since the blaze was reported Thursday. (AP)

## Politics

## Helmy sworn in as replacement for Menendez

## Trump rhetoric on polls turns ominous

WASHINGTON, Sept 10, (AP) - With early voting fast approaching, the rhetoric by Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump has turned more ominous with a pledge to prosecute anyone who "cheats" in the election in the same way he believes they did in 2020, when he falsely claimed he won and attacked those who stood by their accurate vote tallies.

He also told a gathering of police officers last Friday that they should "watch for the voter fraud," an apparent attempt to enlist law enforcement that would be legally dubious.

Trump has contended, without providing evidence, that he lost the 2020 election only because of cheating by Democrats, election officials and other, unspecified forces. On Saturday, Trump promised that this year those who cheat "will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law" should he win in November. He said he was referencing everyone from election officials to attorneys, political staffers and donors.

## Increase

"Those involved in unscrupulous behavior will be sought out, caught, and prosecuted at levels, unfortunately, never seen before in our Country," Trump wrote in the post on his social media network Truth Social that he later also posted on X, the site once known as Twitter. The former President's warning - he prefaced it with the words "CEASE & DESIST" - is the latest increase in rhetoric that mimics that used by authoritarian leaders.

Election experts and several state and local election officials were quick to condemn the former president's comment, which they viewed in part as an attempt at intimidation as offices are preparing for the start of voting.

Barb Byrum, the clerk of Ingham County, Michigan, said she thinks Trump's post is an attack on democracy aimed at driving election officials out of the profession.

"But I know that we are not going to be bullied," said Byrum, a Democrat. "We are civil servants that signed up to make sure every qualified registered voter has the opportunity to exercise their right to vote, and we will do that."

## Outline

In one possible conservative outline for a new Trump administration known as Project 2025, a former Trump Justice Department official writes that Pennsylvania's top election official should have been prosecuted for a policy dispute -- in deciding that voters there have a chance to fix signature errors on their mail ballots.

Trump has disavowed Project 2025, but his rhetoric matches that example, said Justin Levitt, a former Justice Department official and Biden White House staffer who now teaches law at Loyola Marymount in Los Angeles.

"He is increasingly showing us what type of president he hopes to be, and that involves using the Justice Department to punish people he disagrees with - whether they committed crimes or not," Levitt said.

Levitt said he was skeptical that a Trump Justice Department would be able to simply file charges against people who contradicted his election lies, but he and others said the suggestion was dangerous nevertheless.

"Threatening people with punishment for cheating is deeply disturbing if 'cheating' simply means that you don't like the outcome of the election," Steve Simon, a Democrat who is Minnesota's secretary of state and the president of the

National Association of Secretaries of State, said in a post on X.

## Also:

**WASHINGTON:** New Jersey has a new US senator after the August resignation of Democrat **Bob Menendez**.

Sen. **George Helmy**, a Democrat and former chief of staff to New Jersey Gov. **Phil Murphy**, was sworn in on Monday and will serve in office for about two months until the November election. Democratic Rep. **Andy Kim** and Republican hotelier **Curtis Bashaw** are vying for the seat in November and the winner will immediately replace Helmy.

Menendez resigned in August after he was convicted on charges that he used his influence to meddle in three different state and federal criminal investigations. Prosecutors said he helped one bribe-paying friend get a multimillion-dollar deal with a Qatari investment fund and another keep a contract to provide religious certification for meat bound for Egypt.

**LANSING, Mich.:** The highest courts in two states ruled differently Monday on efforts by **Robert F. Kennedy Jr.** to be removed from their presidential ballots, with a divided North Carolina Supreme Court affirming he should be omitted and the Michigan Supreme Court reversing a lower court decision and keeping him on.

Kennedy suspended his campaign more than two weeks ago and endorsed Republican nominee **Donald Trump**. The environmentalist and author has tried to get his name removed from ballots in several battleground states where the race between Trump and Democratic nominee **Kamala Harris** are expected to be close.

The defendants, identified as Dallas Humber and Matthew Allison, face 15 federal counts in the Eastern District of California, including charges that accuse them of soliciting hate crimes and the murder of federal officials, distributing bomb-making instructions and conspiring to provide material support to terrorists.

Humber, 34, of Elk Grove, California, and Allison, 37, of Boise, Idaho were arrested Friday. Humber pleaded not guilty in a Sacramento courtroom Monday to the charges. Her attorney Noa Oren declined to comment on the case Monday afternoon after the arraignment. (AP)

**Gov saves man from choking:** Christian Moreno was choking on a lobster roll at his first competitive eating contest when a man to the side of the stage noticed what was happening and rushed over to give him the Heimlich maneuver. It turns out it was New Hampshire's governor, **Chris Sununu**. Video shows the governor lifting Moreno off his feet as he gives him several abdominal compressions at the Hampton Beach Seafood Festival on Sunday. A paramedic then stepped in and continued the compressions until the food was dislodged. Moreno quickly recovered, and even continued eating.

He said Monday he was grateful for the governor's actions. "He wasted no time in stepping in and trying to remedy the situation and making sure that others were aware," Moreno said. (AP)



US Senator-designee George Helmy, (left), hugs Sen. Cory Booker, prior to taking the oath of office in the Old Senate Chamber at the Capitol in Washington, on Sept 9. Helmy was sworn in on Monday and will serve in office for about two months until the November election. (AP)



Lemoine



Sununu

## America

**Man charged in killing nurse:** A neighbor of an Oregon nurse who was found dead just days after her wedding was arraigned Monday on charges of second-degree murder, kidnapping and abuse of a corpse.

Bryce Schubert, 27, was formally informed in court of the charges against him in the death of Melissa Jubane, 32. Police said early Saturday they had arrested Schubert but have not released details about how they believe he was connected to the case.

Authorities entered Jubane's name as a missing person in national law enforcement databases on Wednesday after she missed her nursing shift that day. Police failed to find her when they conducted a welfare check at her apartment in the Portland suburb of Beaverton.

Schubert's public defender, Greg Scholl, said his client tried to plead not guilty, but that the Washington County Circuit Judge **Elizabeth Lemoine** said she could not accept it. Court rules do not allow defendants to enter felony pleas before they are indicted by a grand jury, the news organization said. (AP)

**'Suspect vows to kill lot of people':** The man suspected of opening fire on a highway in Kentucky sent a text message vowing to "kill a lot of people" less than 30 minutes before he shot and wounded five people on Interstate 75, authorities said in an arrest warrant.

"I'm going to kill a lot of people. Well try at least," Joseph Couch, 32, wrote in the text message, according to the warrant affidavit filed in court. In a separate text message, Couch wrote, "I'll kill myself afterwards," the affidavit says.

The Lexington Herald-Leader identified the woman Couch sent the text messages to as his ex-wife. The affidavit does not describe the relationship between Couch and the woman who received the texts.

The affidavit, written by Capt Richard Dalrymple of the Laurel County Sheriff's Office,

said that before authorities received the first report of the shooting about 5:30 pm Saturday, a dispatcher in Laurel County got a call from a woman who told them Couch had sent her the text messages at 5:03 pm. (AP)

## 2 charged with soliciting attacks:



Britain's Queen Camilla is presented flowers from local nursery school children, during her visit to RAF Leeming, Northallerton, England on Sept 6. (AP)



## Africa

## 47 inmates escape

## Poll monitors accuse Tunisia's ISIE of bias

TUNIS, Tunisia, Sept 10, (AP): Election officials in Tunisia doubled down Monday on their decision to deny accreditation to some election observer groups who say the move shows the October presidential contest in the North African country won't be free and fair.

The Independent High Authority for Elections, or ISIE, said in a statement that several civil society groups that had applied for accreditation had received a "huge amount" of foreign funding of a "suspicious origin" and therefore had to be denied accreditation to observe the election.

Though the ISIE did not explicitly name the groups, one of its commission members said last weekend that it sent formal allegations against two specific groups to Tunisia's public prosecutor, making similar claims that they took funding from abroad.

The two organizations, I-Watch and Mourakiboun (which means "Observers" in Arabic) are not the first civil society groups to be pursued by authorities in Tunisia. Under President **Kais Saied**, non-governmental organizations have increasingly been targeted for their work, which spans from aid for migrants to human rights to local development efforts.

Saied has throughout his tenure accused civil society groups of having nefarious motives and being puppets of foreign countries critical of his style of governance. He has alleged that NGOs that receive funding from abroad intend to disrupt the North African nation's social fabric and domestic politics.

## Targeted

Some of the groups targeted have increasingly criticized authorities' decisions to arrest potential candidates and bar others from running over the past several months. Other groups, including I-Watch and Mourakiboun, have applied for accreditation to act as independent election observers for the Oct. 6 vote.

In a statement, I-Watch blasted ISIE's efforts to call its funding into question and called it "a desperate attempt to distract public opinion by hiding the violations it committed and its failure to implement law."

Siwat Gmati, a member of the watchdog group, told The Associated Press that any foreign funding that I-Watch received for specific projects in the past was provided in accordance with Tunisian law and disclosed transparently.

Financial disclosures published on I-Watch's website show some of its past programs have been bankrolled by groups such as Transparency International and Deutsche Welle Akademie (DW) as well as the European Union and the US Embassy.

**47 escape from Liberia jail:** Dozens of inmates escaped from a maximum security prison outside Liberia's capital over the weekend, authorities said Monday.

The 47 inmates were able to escape because of a breach in the prison security system, the Justice Ministry said in a statement. The prison is in Kakata, a town 55 kilometers (34 miles) northeast of the capital, Monrovia.

The ministry said that it was "deeply concerned about this incident and is taking all necessary measures to ensure the recapture of the escaped inmates."

The country's national police have also deployed additional officers to assist in the search for the fugitives, the ministry said.

Prisons in Liberia are often severely overcrowded, and inmates lack access to enough food and basic medical care. Last year, a prison in Monrovia ran out of food, and two other prisons briefly stopped taking inmates because of food shortages.

A large number of inmates are also detained without a trial. In November 2022, a U.N. report found that 73% of the nationwide prison population were pretrial detainees.

**4 dead after boat capsized off Senegal:** A boat carrying migrants capsized off the coast of Senegal over the weekend, leaving at least four people dead and several others missing, local authorities said Monday.

The artisanal fishing boat left the town of Mbour, nearly 80 kilometers (50 miles) south of the capital, Dakar heading to Europe on Sunday afternoon before capsizing a few miles off the coast. Amadou Diop, the district's prefect told The Associated Press.

Local fishermen rescued three people who were brought back to shore by naval authorities.

Senegal's navy is looking for those missing, Diop said, adding that the exact number of passengers remained unknown.

**Tanzania opp'n official found dead:** Tanzania's most prominent opposition party says an official who went missing last week has been found dead with signs of beatings and acid poured on his face.

President Samia Suluhu Hassan, who has loosened past restrictions on the opposition in the East African nation, quickly condemned the killing in a statement posted on X and said her administration does not condone such acts.

Armed men abducted Ali Kibao, a secretariat member of the CHADEMA party, from a bus traveling from the commercial hub of Dar es Salaam to the port city of Tanga, on Friday. His body was found on Saturday, opposition leader Freeman Mbowe said late Sunday.

Mbowe said an autopsy would be done on Monday and urged the president to form a commission to investigate Kibao's death. The president in her statement said she has asked investigating agencies for an in-depth report.

**Athlete attacker dies of burns:** A man accused of dousing gasoline on an Ugandan Olympic athlete, causing her death days later, has succumbed to burns sustained in the attack, according to the Kenyan hospital where he was treated.

Dickson Ndiema was admitted at the Moi Referral Hospital in the western Eldoret city for burns covering 30% of his body. Ndiema is alleged to have sustained the injuries after setting on fire Olympic athlete Rebecca Cheptegei, who died last Thursday with 80% of burns on her body.

The hospital spokesperson, Owen Menach, told The Associated Press on Tuesday that the hospital would issue a statement later but confirmed that the patient had died.



Cai Qi, a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and a member of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee, meets with a delegation led by Vivian Balakrishnan, chairman of the External Relations Committee of the People's Action Party and minister for foreign affairs of Singapore in Beijing, capital of China on Sept 9. (Xinhua)

## Chinese FM holds talks with Singaporean counterpart

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi held talks with Vivian Balakrishnan, minister for foreign affairs of Singapore, in Beijing on Monday.

Wang, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, said that as two forces working for stability, China and Singapore need to strengthen strategic coordination and communication in the turbulent world.

Noting that both China and Singapore have important domestic political agendas this year and are

making steady progress toward their respective national development goals, Wang said the two sides have worked closely and learned from each other, providing significant impetus for the development of their modernization.

China is ready to strengthen synergy with Singapore in the development strategies, put into practice the all-round high-quality future-oriented partnership established by the leaders of the two countries, and make new contributions to regional peace, stability and development, Wang said.

The two sides should give full play to dialogue mechanisms at all levels and in all fields, make good use of their mutual visa exemption policy, and deepen the construction of a China-ASEAN community with a shared future, thereby pooling greater joint forces and injecting sustained impetus into regional integration and economic globalization, he said.

Cai Qi, a senior official of the Communist Party of China (CPC) also met with a delegation led by Balakrishnan. (Xinhua)

## Asia

## Robot begins mission at Fukushima plant

## Kim vows to make N-force ready for combat

SEOUL, South Korea, Sept 10, (Agencies): North Korean leader Kim Jong Un vowed to redouble efforts to make his nuclear force fully ready for combat with the United States and its allies, state media reported Tuesday, after the country disclosed a new platform likely designed to fire more powerful intercontinental ballistic missiles targeting the mainland US.

Kim has repeatedly made similar pledges, but his latest threat comes as outside experts believe Kim will perform provocative weapons tests ahead of the US presidential election in November. In recent days, North Korea has also resumed launches of trash-carrying balloons toward South Korea.

In a speech marking the 76th founding anniversary for his government on Monday, Kim said North Korea faces "a grave threat" because of what he called "the reckless expansion" of a US-led regional military bloc that is now developing into a nuclear-based one. Kim said such a development is pushing North Korea to boost its military capability, according to the official Korean Central News Agency.

Kim said North Korea will "redouble its measures and efforts to make all the armed forces of the state including the nuclear force fully ready for combat," KCNA said.

## Growing

North Korea has been protesting the July signing of a new US-South Korean defense guideline meant to integrate US nuclear weapons and South Korean conventional weapons to cope with growing North Korean nuclear threats. North Korea said the guideline revealed its adversaries' plots to invade the country. US and South Korean officials have repeatedly said they don't intend to attack the country.

Since 2022, North Korea has significantly accelerated its weapons testing activities in a bid to perfect its capabilities

to launch strikes on the US and South Korea. The US and South Korea have responded by expanding military drills that North Korea calls invasion rehearsals.

Many analysts believe North Korea has some last remaining technological barriers to overcome to acquire long-range nuclear missiles that can reach the US mainland, though it likely already possesses missiles that can hit key targets in South Korea and Japan.

South Korean officials and experts say North Korea could conduct nuclear tests or ICBM test-launches before the US election to increase its leverage in future diplomacy with the US. Observers say North Korea likely thinks a greater nuclear capability would help it win US concessions like sanctions relief.

## Staged

North Korea as of Tuesday morning did not appear to have staged any major military demonstration to mark this year's anniversary. But the North's main Rodong Sinmun newspaper on Sunday published a photo of Kim inspecting what appeared to be a 12-axle missile launch vehicle, which would be the largest the country has shown so far, during a visit to a munitions plant. This sparked speculation that the North could be developing a new ICBM that is bigger than its current Hwasong-17 ICBM, which is launched on an 11-axle vehicle.

When asked about the photo on Monday, Pentagon spokesperson Maj. Gen. Pat Ryder refused to provide a specific assessment of North Korea's missile capabilities and reiterated that Washington was working closely with Seoul, Tokyo and other partners to preserve regional security and deter potential attacks.

North Korea flew hundreds of huge balloons carrying rubbish toward South Korea for five straight days through Sunday, extending a Cold War-style psychological warfare cam-

paign that has further stoked animosities on the Korean Peninsula.

## Also:

**TOKYO: Natsuo Yamaguchi**, leader of Japan's ruling coalition party Komeito, said on Tuesday that he would step down and not run in the party's upcoming leadership election.

Stressing a smooth generational shift within the party, Yamaguchi made the announcement at a press conference during the day, marking the first leadership change for Komeito in 15 years.

The 72-year-old politician will step down upon the expiration of his eighth term on Sept. 28 following his decision not to run for the leadership election scheduled on Sept 18.

Yamaguchi, who has led Komeito since 2009, has played a significant role in the coalition government with the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, notably contributing to the party's successes in national elections.

With Yamaguchi's departure, Secretary-General **Keiichi Ishii**, 66, is expected to run unopposed and likely to be formally approved as the new leader at the party's convention on Sept 28.

**TOKYO:** An extendable robot began on Tuesday a two-week mission to retrieve the first sample of melted fuel debris from inside one of three damaged reactors at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant.

Highly radioactive fuel and other materials in the reactors melted when a massive earthquake and tsunami in 2011 damaged the plant's cooling systems.

The plant's operator, Tokyo Electric Power Company Holdings, has previously used small robots to examine the inside of the reactors, but this is the first time for it to collect a sample of the melted debris in what will mark the start of the most challenging part of the plant's decadeslong decommissioning.

Machado told an online meeting Monday of opposition leaders, reporters and others that her group still hopes to see Maduro leave office in January, even if for voters

those hopes seem increasingly tenuous since González's decision to flee into exile to Spain over the weekend.

She said the former diplomat could ful-

fill the role of opposition candidate "with much greater protection and security" from abroad. She herself has gone into hiding in the weeks since the election, while Maduro's government has arrested more than 2,000 people and cracked down on demonstrations throughout the country protesting the election results. (AP)

**Concerns over reform raised:** Mexico's Catholic leaders said Monday that the judicial reform pushed by President Andrés Manuel López Obrador might not necessarily bring justice for victims of the crime wave that is rampant across the country.

"The proposal promoted by the Executive does not respond to a comprehensive review of the judicial system nor does it guarantee a better and more qualified administration of justice," said Archbishop Gustavo Rodríguez in a video released by the Catholic bishops conference of Mexico.

López Obrador, who has clashed repeatedly with judges throughout his six-year term, has claimed that the judges in the current court system are corrupt. The governing party's proposal would make the country's entire judicial branch - around 7,000 judges - stand for election.

The proposal has fueled a wave of protests and drawn extensive criticism from analysts, judges and international observers. Some of the critics contend that it would compromise the independence of the judiciary and the system of checks and balances. (AP)



In this photo provided by the North Korean government, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un delivers a speech, marking the country's 76th founding anniversary in Pyongyang, North Korea on Sept 9. (AP)



Machado



Chicas

## Lat/Am

**El Salvador copter crash kills 9:** El Salvador's military says the national police director, other high-ranking police officials and a fugitive banker were among nine people killed in a military helicopter crash in a rural part of the country.

The cause of the crash on Sunday night is under investigation. It occurred after the banker, Manuel Coto, was captured in Honduras over the weekend and handed over to Salvadoran authorities at the border.

Coto, the former manager of the COSA-VI savings and loan cooperative, had been the subject of an Interpol arrest warrant and one of 32 people implicated in the embezzlement of more than \$35 million by the cooperative's directors and employees.

El Salvador's military in a post on X said the air force helicopter crash occurred in the area of San Eduardo, Pasacuina, La Unión. It said the director general of the National Civil Police, Mauricio Arriaza Chicas, and two deputies were aboard.

El Salvador's President Nayib Bukele said in a post on X that "what happened cannot remain as a simple 'accident'" and must be investigated thoroughly "and to the ultimate consequences. We will request international help."

Bukele noted that **Arriaza Chicas** had led the government's fight against the gangs that once dominated daily life for much of the Salvadoran population. Bukele's harsh crackdown on the gangs and mass arrests of more than 80,000 people with little due process have been condemned by human rights organizations. (AP)

**Opp'n hopes to unseat Maduro:** Venezuelan opposition leader **Maria Corina Machado** tried to reassure supporters Monday that her coalition still hopes to gain control of the presidency despite the departure into exile of their candidate **Edmundo González Urrutia**.

Machado's group maintains that it has evidence that González won the July 28 presidential election by a wide margin against Venezuela's authoritarian incumbent president, Nicolás Maduro, despite his claim to have won.



Women walk past floods caused by heavy rainfall in Tagounite, Zagora, southern Morocco on Sept 7. Torrential downpours hit North Africa's normally arid mountains and deserts over the weekend, causing flooding that killed nearly two dozen people in Morocco and Algeria and destroyed homes and critical infrastructure. (AP)



	Change	Closing pts		Change	Closing pts		
SAUDI	- TASI	+23.70	11,986.60	JAPAN	- Nikkei 225	-56.59	36,159.16
DUBAI	- DFMGI	+28.36	4,387.48	EGYPT	- EGX 30	-270.61	30,104.35
PHILIPPINES	- PSEI	+0.38	6,984.63				
PAKISTAN	- KSE 100	+596.45	79,300.38				

# Business

## Bank participates in opening ceremony of Taihan Kuwait Fiber Optic Cable Company

### KFH's support to Kuwaiti companies stems from its pioneering development role: Almutawa

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: Kuwait Finance House (KFH) was a key participant at the opening ceremony of Taihan Kuwait Fiber Optic Cable Company. The new facility, located in Mina Abdullah, is the first of its kind in Kuwait to manufacture fiber optic cables. This collaboration with Taihan and Rank General Trading & Contracting Company highlights KFH's dedication to offering support to its corporate clients that contribute to local economic growth through financing and consultation services.

The ceremony was attended by the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Ziad Abdullah Al-Najem, the Acting Chairman of the Communications and Information Technology Regulatory Authority (CITRA), Abdullah Al-Ajmi, the Ambassador of the Republic of South Korea to Kuwait Park Chongsuk, along with Taihan's Chairman of the Board of Directors Kuwait, Atallah Al-Mutairi, and KFH General Manager Corporate Banking, Yousef Almutawa.

In his statement during the event, KFH General Manager Corporate Banking, Yousef Almutawa, said that supporting Kuwaiti companies and development efforts is a reflection of KFH's national commitment and prominent role in economy growth plans. It also affirms its leadership as the largest bank in Kuwait in terms of market capitalization, and the



Yousef Almutawa and team at Baitak.

world's second-largest Islamic bank, recognized for its expertise and stability. Almutawa also noted that KFH's financing activities have expanded across

multiple sectors, with a focus on industries including oil, petrochemicals, energy, infrastructure, startups, environmentally friendly businesses, real estate

development and other major development projects.

He added that the new manufacturing facility, equipped with the most advanced environmentally friendly technology, is a significant collaboration and accomplishment between the local Rank General Trading & Contracting Company, the Korean Taihan Company, and KFH. It is the first factory in Kuwait dedicated to producing fiber optic cables, boasting ISO certificates and a dedicated staff to ensure high quality production that meets both international and local standards.

"The factory's focus on quality is paramount due to the extreme temperatures in Kuwait, requiring exceptional products to withstand potential damage," noted Almutawa.

He hoped for continued and expanded cooperation in various areas in the future, with the goal of successfully opening a local factory specifically focused on producing fiber optic cables.

Almutawa commended the achievements of Taihan Kuwait in innovation and its significant role in developing modern industries that cater to local market demands and facilitate exports. He stressed KFH's commitment to supporting such initiatives by Kuwaiti companies, as they are crucial for boosting the national economy, creating employment opportunities, and driving development efforts forward.

## KOC reveals major organizational overhaul

106 team leaders promoted and rotated in KOC restructuring

By Najeh Bilal

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: In what is being hailed as the largest organizational overhaul in its history, the Kuwait Oil Company has unveiled a sweeping restructuring plan.

The move, announced by CEO Ahmed Al-Eidan, introduces significant changes across the company's departments, aimed at enhancing efficiency and aligning with strategic goals.

The comprehensive restructuring, effective from Wednesday, includes the promotion and rotation of 106 team leaders, along with the elevation of 16 managers and the appointment of 9 new consultants and senior specialists.

This ambitious initiative is set to maximize the company's assets, improve business operations, and

address future challenges with increased flexibility and independence.

The following are the key changes:

Engineering Project Management Group -- Sami Al-Yaqout has been appointed as an advisor to the Executive Vice President for Project Management and Engineering.

Hazaa Al-Azma will lead Project Management Team 14, Najib Al-Zaid will head Project Management Team 15, Hidayan Al-Ajmi will manage Project Management Team 21, Nizar Al-Rayes will oversee Project Management Team 24, and Abdul Latif Shaaban will direct Project Management Team 25.

Senior Specialists -- Muthanna Al-Moumen, Abdulhadi Al-Zoubi, Mohammed Al-Rashidi, Jassim Al-Wazzan, and Sabah Maarefi have been promoted to senior specialists.

Mohammed Al-Qahtani will lead Project Management Team 31, Mohammed Dhabib will head Project Management Team 33, Nahed Ayed will manage Project Management Team 34, and Ahmed Al-Fuzai will lead the design team in the Engineering Projects Support Group.

Project Monitoring and Standards -- Nasser Abu Talib will continue as head of the Project Monitoring Team, with Dalal Al-Abyan joining as head of another Project Monitoring Team.

Khaled Al-Mazid will become the head of the Standards Team, and Obaid Al-Shammari will lead the Planning and Support Team in the Planning and Innovation Directorate.

Production and Support Teams -- Abdulaziz Mohammed is appointed as director of the Production Integration Group, while Mishari Al-Saqabi will head the Production System Management Team.

Abdulaziz Al-Qassar will oversee the Al-Ahmadi Hospital Maintenance Team, Muhammad Al-Kandari will manage the Medical Facilities Services Team, Abdulrahman Al-Shammari will lead the Compensation Team, and Anfal Al-Shalan will head the Career Development Team.

This restructuring aims to foster rapid decision-making, optimal use of expertise and continuous improvement to ensure that KOC maintains its leadership position in the oil and gas sector, adhering to global industry standards.

## Brent crude up 78 cents

Kuwaiti oil price drop to \$73.55 pb

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10, (KUNA): The price of Kuwaiti oil went down by USD 1.09 to USD 73.55 per barrel on Monday in contrast with USD 74.64 pb last Friday, said the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) on

Tuesday.

The prices of the Brent crude and the West Texas Intermediate went up each by 78 cents and USD 1.04 reach, to settle both at USD 71.84 per barrel and USD 68.71 pb.

## CBK issues 240 mln dinars in bonds

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: The Central Bank of Kuwait has announced the issuance of bonds and securitization instruments totaling 240 million dinars. These bonds are set for a three-month term with a return rate of 4.375 percent, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

Bonds are debt instruments used by governments to raise funds, obligating them to repay the principal amount to bondholders on the maturity date along with interest.

Securitization, on the other hand, involves pooling various debts or receivables and converting them into tradable securities.

The "bonds and corresponding securitization" issued by the Central Bank are primarily aimed at local banks.

They help regulate liquidity within the Kuwaiti banking sector by withdrawing excess liquidity from the market and providing additional liquidity when needed. This process is crucial for implementing monetary policy, particularly in managing interest rates.

Additionally, these debt instruments are classified as risk-free on bank balance sheets, adding a layer of security for financial institutions holding them.

## Indian envoy highlights \$350 million bilateral food trade

### Kuwaiti delegation to join 'World Food India' conference

By Paulo Francisco X. Fernandes

Arab Times/Al-Seyassah Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: The Indian Ambassador to Kuwait, HE Adarsh Swaika, said a high-level Kuwaiti delegation will participate in the "World Food India" (WFI) conference, organized by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries in India in partnership with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), from September 19 to 22.

This delegation will include representatives from various Kuwaiti governmental bodies and institutions, as well as a large group of businessmen.

The Indian envoy made these remarks during the opening of an exhibition featuring products from 30 Indian companies operating in the food and agricultural sector, led by Israr Ahmed, Deputy CEO of the Federation of Indian Export Organizations (FIEO).

Dr Swaika highlighted that the visiting Indian delegation has showcased their products in the food and beverage sector, emphasizing that this sector plays a significant role in the bilateral trade between India and Kuwait, which is worth approximately \$350 million annually.

He noted that while Indian exports are traditionally focused on products such as rice, legumes, and spices; they will now include new items packaged in eco-friendly materials.

The ambassador added, he is optimistic that the upcoming conference will garner increased interest from Kuwaiti friends and business leaders to explore available investment opportunities. He described the meeting between the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry members and the visiting Indian delegation as highly successful, reflecting the mutual interest in enhancing existing relations.

He noted that the leaderships of both countries encourage the growth and strengthening of bilateral and historical ties.

Dr Swaika also urged Indian businesses not only to seek trade opportunities in Kuwait but also to present Kuwaiti investors with opportunities in India, particularly in the food processing sector. He suggested that Kuwaiti businesses should consider establishing food production facilities in India to ensure Kuwait's food security and potentially export to other regions.

Meanwhile, Ahmed emphasized that Indian companies are eager to export their agricultural and food products to Kuwait, noting that Kuwait is a key trading partner for India.

India's exports to Kuwait amount to \$2 billion, while India imports \$8 billion worth of oil exports from Kuwait. He expressed hope that Indian exports to Kuwait will continue to grow year after year, believing that Kuwait offers



Indian envoy hosts exhibition showcasing Indian food products in Kuwait.

an excellent opportunity for expanding these business endeavors.

Ahmed also mentioned Kuwait's interest in involving major Indian companies in the execution of large-scale projects in Kuwait, hoping for future collaboration.

He further highlighted that for Kuwaiti investors and entrepreneurs, the best investment opportunity in India is currently in the food processing sector, where products can be processed, packaged, and then exported to Kuwait. This will contribute directly to supporting Kuwait's food security.

During the meeting at the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce Industry, Ahmed praised Kuwait's warm reception and noted that India's rapid growth and development over the past 20 years, particularly in infrastructure, have made it an attractive destination for foreign investment.

He pointed to the electronics sector as an example, mentioning that the new iPhone 16 will carry a "Made in India" label, showcasing India's

emerging role in global manufacturing.

Ahmed concluded by stating that India's total exports of food and agricultural products to Kuwait reached \$344.36 million during the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

He emphasized the vast potential for increasing bilateral trade in this sector, given that India is one of the world's largest producers of agricultural products.

The Indian food industry is currently valued at \$258 billion, and the country's primary goal is to become the "food capital of the world" by 2030.

Meanwhile, the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry has highlighted that non-oil trade between Kuwait and India exceeded \$2 billion in 2022, underscoring the depth of the bilateral relationship which extends beyond mere trade and business partnerships.

Earlier in a collaborative effort, the Indian Embassy, working with FIEO and the KCCI, organized a Buyer-Seller Meet on Sept 9-10, 2024 at the KCCI Exhibition Hall. The event saw

delegation of 30 leading Indian companies showcasing an extensive array of food and agricultural products.

The expo included not only traditional offerings but also value-added products derived from millets, latest innovations in food processing and sustainable packaging, organic farming, Indian spices, and frozen food items, demonstrating the cutting edge technologies of the Indian food & agro processing industries and India's growing influence in the global food industry.

The Indian envoy formally inaugurated both the events at the Hotel Grand Majestic and the KCCI Exhibition Hall, signifying the importance of these events for bilateral collaboration. The inaugural event was graced by Emad Al Zaid, Asst Director General of KCCI, Dr Reem Alfulaj, Director General of Public Authority for Food and Nutrition (PAFN), representatives from the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fisheries Resources (PAAAFR), commercial banks and press and electronic media.

## Silver falls, platinum & palladium rise

### Gold dips prior to US inflation data

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: Gold prices experienced a slight decline today as investors held off for upcoming US inflation data, which is anticipated to provide insights into the Federal Reserve's interest rate decisions, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The spot gold prices dropped by 0.2 percent to \$2,492.54 per ounce as of 05:41 GMT while the US gold futures fell 0.1 percent to \$2,526.10.

The US Consumer Price Index (CPI) for August is scheduled for re-

lease on Wednesday, with the Producer Price Index (PPI) to follow on Thursday. Market expectations suggest a 71 percent probability that the Federal Reserve will reduce rates by 25 basis points during its meeting on September 17-18, and a 29 percent chance for a 50 basis point cut.

In other precious metals, spot silver decreased by 0.5 percent to \$27.81 per ounce, platinum increased by 0.9 percent to \$929.65, and palladium rose nearly 0.5 percent to \$914.73.

## Al-Yahya leads delegation at meeting

### First GCC-India ministerial conference held in Riyadh

RIYADH, Sept 10, (KUNA): The first GCC-India Ministerial Meeting for Strategic Dialogue was held in Riyadh on Monday.

Indian Minister of External Affairs Subrahmanyam Jaishankar affirmed in his speech that the Gulf-Indian ties are deep-rooted in various fields, making progress on creating new partnership in multiple areas.

In the course of time, these ties developed and grew in different sectors such as technology, defense, culture and others, Jaishankar added, pointing out that there are nine million Indians working in the GCC, contributing to the region's economic development. On the situation in Gaza, the Indian top diplomat said it was of the foremost concern, deeming "painful" the continuing death of innocent civilians and expressing hope for an immediate ceasefire.

On his part, GCC Secretary General

Jassim Al-Budaiwi emphasized that the first GCC-India meeting aims to strengthen and develop bilateral relations based on shared interest to establish stability and prosperity in the region. Economic cooperation is as well a key factor as the trade exchange between GCC countries and India reached USD 174 billion in 2022, which shows a great strategic cooperation between the two sides, he added.

He underscored that these investments work to ensure mutual success and opportunities for both sides, reaffirming the need to achieve a great economic benefits as well as opportunities for joint investments in different fields such as renewable energy, contributing to preserve the environment and achieve sustainability. Minister of Foreign Affairs Abdullah Al-Yahya headed Kuwait's delegation, participating in the Ministerial Meeting.

## India, UAE expand cooperation in nuclear, gas and oil sectors

NEW DELHI, Sept 10, (Xinhua): India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) signed five agreements in various areas, including nuclear energy, gas and petroleum on Monday during the ongoing two-day official visit of Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Sheikh Khalid bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, said an official statement by India's Ministry of External Affairs.

The Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) include a pact on the Barakah Nuclear Power Plant Operations and Maintenance between the Emirates Nuclear Ener-

gy Company and the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited.

Besides, an agreement for a long-term Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) supply between the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) and the Indian Oil Corporation Limited was also signed.

Both sides also signed an MoU between the ADNOC and the India Strategic Petroleum Reserve Limited.

The MoUs were inked following bilateral talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the visiting Crown Prince.



## BUSINESS

### China's foreign trade shows resilience

China's foreign trade has continued to demonstrate strong resilience during the first eight months of the year, despite the complex and challenging external environment, official data showed on Tuesday.

The goods trade volume expanded 6 percent year on year in yuan terms in the first eight months of this year, according to the General Administration of Customs (GAC).

Exports rose 6.9 percent year on

year in the January-August period, while imports climbed 4.7 percent, according to the General Administration of Customs.

In U.S. dollar terms, the country's foreign trade in goods stood at 4.02 trillion dollars from January to August, up 3.7 percent year on year. Exports rose 4.6 percent from a year ago, while imports increased 2.5 percent year on year.

Trade surplus expanded by 11.2 percent year on year to 608.49 bil-

lion dollars during the eight-month period. Lyu Daliang, director of the GAC's Department of Statistics and Analysis, attributed the increase in foreign trade to thriving demand both at home and abroad.

"China's economy has seen a continuous recovery since the beginning of this year. In the first half of the year, China's shares of global exports and imports have both posted a stable increase," Lyu said. (Xinhua)

### China's August exports grow a robust 8.7%

China's exports grew for a fifth consecutive month, in a sign of growing demand abroad even as imports fell amid a slowing Chinese economy.

Exports in August expanded by 8.7% to \$308.65 billion compared to the same period last year, according to data released by China's customs office Tuesday, beating economists' estimates of about 6.5%. The export figures for August were also up

from the 7% rise in July.

The reading in August is the strongest in 18 months, thanks in part to a low base in August 2023, when exports declined 8.8%.

By comparison, imports grew just 0.5% compared to a year ago, falling short of the approximately 2% estimate by economists.

Chinese leaders have ramped up investment in manu-

facturing to rev up an economy that stalled during the pandemic and is still growing slower than hoped.

"Export values grew year-on-year at the fastest pace in 17 months, with export volumes hitting record highs. We expect exports to remain robust in the near term, supported by the decline in China's real effective exchange rate," said Zichun Huang of Capital Economics. (AP)

### The Conversation

# US oil and gas production surged to record highs under both Trump and Biden-Harris, despite very different energy goals

The Conversation is an independent and nonprofit source of news, analysis and commentary from academic experts.



By Valerie Thomas

Georgia Institute of Technology

The United States is producing more oil and natural gas today than ever before, and far more than any other country. So, what roles did the Trump-Pence and Biden-Harris administrations play in this surge?

The answer might surprise you, given the way each has talked publicly about fossil fuels: former President Donald Trump embracing them, and President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris focusing on reducing fossil fuel use to fight climate change.

Under each of the three most recent presidencies, Republican and Democratic alike, U.S. oil and gas production was higher at the end of the administration's term than at the beginning.

That production has both pros and cons. Together, oil and gas account for nearly three-quarters of U.S. energy consumption. Producing oil and gas in the U.S. provides energy security, and high production generally keeps prices down. Burning oil and gas, however, releases carbon dioxide into the air, contributing to climate change. And natural gas is mostly methane - another potent greenhouse gas.

As a scholar who works on both energy and public policy, I follow the federal government's actions involving oil, gas and coal. With Trump and Harris facing off in the November presidential election, let's take a look at how each influenced fossil fuel production and emissions.

Both the Trump-Pence administration and the Biden-Harris administration took actions that supported additional oil

and gas drilling. Both also took actions that restricted additional oil and gas drilling.

Trump has been aggressively pro-fossil fuels in his rhetoric and actions, dating back to his first run for office. Under his administration, the federal government leased more land for drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska and in the Utah wilderness.

To further help the industry, Trump urged agencies to waive environmental reviews and loosen regulations in ways that could speed up permits for pipeline construction and other energy infrastructure.

The Trump administration also opened more U.S. coastal waters for oil and gas leasing, but Trump later rolled this back, banning coastal drilling for 10 years in the eastern Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic coasts of Florida, Georgia and South Carolina. At the time, opposition to drilling in those states threatened several Republican candidates' 2020 election bids.

The Biden-Harris administration focused on clean energy and climate change. It issued several regulations targeting fossil fuels, including efforts to reduce methane leaks from natural gas pipelines and increasing the royalties that companies pay for production on federal lands. In 2021, it issued a moratorium on new federal leases for oil and gas, but that was blocked by a federal judge.

However, the Biden-Harris administration also gave the go-ahead for the nation's largest oil drilling operation, ConocoPhillips' vast Willow project in Alaska. And the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, considered the administration's signature climate law, included additional oil and gas leasing and incentives to capture carbon dioxide for use in enhanced oil recovery.

When land is leased for drilling, it takes some years for production to begin. So, the increased oil and gas production

during the Biden administration is to some extent a result of leases issued during the Trump administration. Trump auctioned off the leases; the Biden administration signed the permits.

In many cases, presidents have little discretion and are essentially required to approve when permits meet the legal requirements.

Global events can also have large effects on production. The COVID-19 pandemic reduced U.S. oil demand as activity slowed worldwide in 2020.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022 led to greater energy demand from Europe. Natural gas has to be liquefied to ship it overseas, however, and the U.S. has limited export capacity. To send more supply to Europe, the U.S. had to reroute natural gas exports intended for other countries.

The Biden-Harris administration paused approvals for additional liquefied natural gas terminals in 2024, but a federal judge blocked the move.

Drilling technology has been an important driver of the industry's success.

U.S. oil production had reached a peak in 1970 and went into a slow decline that lasted more than three decades. It was widely believed that the U.S. had pumped its best reservoirs and that the country would be inexorably dependent on foreign oil.

Then, in the early 2000s, innovations in hydraulic fracturing and horizontal drilling changed everything. These techniques gave drillers access to previously hard-to-reach fossil fuels and opened up opportunities for oil and gas drilling at lower cost and in greater quantities. Since around 2009, U.S. oil production has surged.

Natural gas followed a similar trajectory. U.S. natural gas production had peaked in 1972 and leveled off. But with fracking, natural gas production has risen since around 2005.

Trump supports fracking. Harris opposed fracking in the past, but she told CNN in August 2024 that she won't ban it.

U.S. coal production is a different story. It peaked in 2008 and has been going down sharply since then.

Coal is more susceptible to government actions than oil and gas - 40% of it is produced on federal land, compared with 24% for oil and 11% for natural gas. And it has seen federal policy swings.

For example, in 2016, then-President Barack Obama banned new coal-mining leases in the Powder River Basin in Montana and Wyoming, where the majority of coal production on federal land takes place. The Trump administration lifted that freeze a year later, but a court ordered a pause of Trump's move. The ban was eventually revoked by a court during the Biden administration. Then the Biden administration again ended new leases in the Powder River Basin.

But coal's decline was also about economics. As natural gas became cheaper, it increasingly replaced coal in U.S. electricity production.

The decrease in coal production is the main reason U.S. carbon dioxide emissions have been falling even as fossil fuel production rises. Rising renewable energy production and increasing efficiency in some technologies have also helped cut emissions.

Trump can take credit for allowing more leases for oil and gas drilling. The Biden-Harris administration, while it issued permits for oil and gas drilling and production increased on its watch, established several rules to limit greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuels.

Presidents' actions can matter for the industry's future, but the major factors in U.S. oil and gas production so far have been increased production efficiency, increased global demand and the lower cost of natural gas compared with coal. (AP)

### Antitrust shopping case

## Google loses 'the final' EU court appeal against 2.4 bln euro fine

LONDON, Sept 10, (AP):Google lost its final legal challenge on Tuesday against a European Union penalty for giving its own shopping recommendations an illegal advantage over rivals in search results, ending a long-running antitrust case that came with a whopping fine.

The European Union's Court of Justice upheld a lower court's decision, rejecting the company's appeal against the 2.4 billion euro (\$2.7 billion) penalty from the European Commission, the 27-nation bloc's top antitrust enforcer.

"By today's judgment, the Court of Justice dismisses the appeal and thus upholds the judgment of the General Court," the court said in a press release summarizing its decision.

The commission's original decision in 2017 accused the Silicon Valley giant of unfairly directing visitors to its own Google Shopping service to the detriment of competitors. It was one of three multibillion-euro fines that the commission imposed on Google in the previous decade as Brussels started ramping up its crackdown on the tech industry.

"We are disappointed with the decision of the Court, which relates to a very specific set of facts," Google said in a brief statement.

The company said it made changes in 2017 to comply with the commission's decision requiring it to treat competitors equally. It started holding auctions for shopping search listings that it would bid for alongside other comparison shopping services.

"Our approach has worked successfully for more than seven years, generating billions of clicks for more than 800 comparison shopping services," Google said.

At the same time, the company appealed the decision to the courts. But

the EU General Court, the tribunal's lower section, rejected its challenge in 2021 and the Court of Justice's adviser later recommended rejecting the appeal.

European consumer group BEUC hailed the court's decision, saying it shows how the bloc's competition law "remains highly relevant" in digital markets.

"Google harmed millions of European consumers by ensuring that rival comparison shopping services were virtually invisible," director general Agustín Reyna said. "Google's illegal practices prevented consumers from accessing potentially cheaper prices and useful product information from rival comparison shopping services on all sorts of products, from clothes to washing machines."

Google is still appealing the other two EU antitrust penalties, which involved its Android mobile operating system and AdSense advertising platform. The company was dealt a setback in the Android case when the EU General Court upheld the commission's 4.125 billion euro fine in a 2022 decision. Its initial appeal against a 1.49 billion euro fine in the AdSense case has yet to be decided.

Those three cases foreshadowed expanded efforts by regulators worldwide to crack down on the tech industry. The EU has since opened more investigations into Big Tech companies and drafted new laws to clean up social media platforms and regulate artificial intelligence.

Google is now facing particular pressure over its lucrative digital advertising business. In a federal antitrust trial that began Monday, the U.S. Department of Justice is alleging the company holds a monopoly in the "ad tech" industry.

## East Timor balancing green energy with economic woes

JAKARTA, Indonesia, Sept 10, (AP): East Timor is at an energy development crossroads.

While the small Southeast Asian nation - and one of the world's youngest countries - has made international and domestic pledges to reduce its carbon footprint through untapped solar and other renewable energy potential, it faces a looming economic crisis as the gas fields its economy depends on near depletion, hampering its ability to pay for the high cost of transitioning its energy sector.

Access to electricity is a modern development for many of East Timor's 1.3 million people, after much of the country's infrastructure was razed by Indonesian forces during the war for independence. Recovery was slow after East Timor gained formal independence in 2002. By 2015, just 60% of the population had access to electricity, according to the World Bank.

Efforts to electrify the country have jumped since then, with 100% of residents having access to electricity since 2021, according to the International Renewable Energy Agency. Experts said that transmission issues remain,

resulting in regular blackouts.

The country's electricity is generated from heavily polluting diesel oil-powered plants, with small diesel-fired generators serving as a main alternative power source in remote areas, according to Tony Heynen, a coordinator in the University of Queensland's Sustainable Energy postgraduate program in Australia.

East Timor has made domestic and international commitments to scale up its share of renewable energy generation. In 2016, it was one of nearly 200 countries that signed the United Nations' Paris Agreement. Its state-owned electric company, Electricidade de Timor-Leste, updated its strategic development plan to switch from diesel to gas for fuel, while aiming for renewables to provide up to 50% of the country's energy mix by 2030.

Renewable energy potential is strong in East Timor, according to the Asian Development Bank, with almost the entire territory having the potential to successfully generate solar energy.

Other renewable sources include hydropower, wind and biofuel.

# Draghi proposes solutions to Europe's 'sluggish' economy

Will EU governments listen?

**BRUSSELS, Sept 10, (AP): A long-awaited report on how to rescue Europe's economy from weak growth and red tape is in. The question is, how many of its recommendations will actually be enacted by the drawn-out decision-making process of the European Union?**

The report stands out from other recipes for improvement because the project was headed by Mario Draghi, the former head of the European Central Bank who also served as Italy's prime minister in 2021-22.

Draghi is regarded as having saved the euro currency union with his 2012 promise that the ECB would do "whatever it takes" to save the shared currency from the debt and financial crisis then engulfing it.

Now the EU and its 440 million people are facing a persistent and growing growth gap with the US, the report says. Last year the EU economy grew 0.4% compared with 2.5% in the U.S.

Europe is also struggling with three areas where it has become dependent on outsiders: Russia for energy, China for growth and trade, and the U.S. for defense. All three are now disrupted or in question. Draghi says the EU and its 27 member governments have to work better together to develop their own capacities.

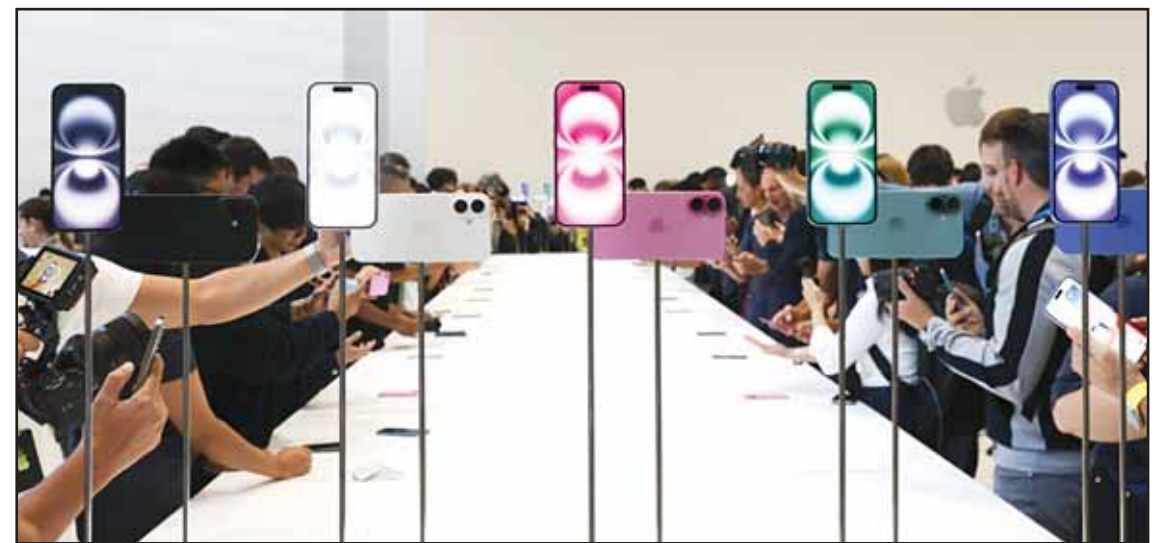
The report, requested by the European Union's executive commission, says Europe needs to massively ramp up infrastructure and green energy investments while slashing burdensome regulation in order to return to consistent, strong growth.

Whether any of it will actually take effect over the upcoming 5-year term of the re-elected commission President Ursula von der Leyen depends on backing from the EU's member governments and its parliament.

Here are some key takeaways from the report's nearly 400 pages:

To pay for the transition to clean energy and boost defense capacity, the EU would need to increase public investments by a massive 5% of annual economic output, levels not seen since the 1960s and 1970s, and dwarfing the post-World War II Marshall Plan. To find the money, the EU needs to integrate its financial markets so that companies can raise more capital through stock and bond sales rather than bank loans as they tend to do now. That has been one of the EU's long-standing projects, but it has moved slowly amid resistance to some aspects, such as shared deposit insurance.

Draghi also said that issuing shared debt would be one way to both fund investment in specific projects such as defense or cross-border energy grids.



The new iPhone 16 is displayed at Apple headquarters Monday, Sept. 9, 2024, in Cupertino, Calif. (AP)

## Apple embraces the AI craze with newly unleashed iPhone 16 lineup

CUPERTINO, Calif., Sept 10, (AP): Apple on Monday charged into the artificial intelligence craze with a new iPhone lineup that marks the company's latest attempt to latch onto a technology trend and transform it into a cultural phenomenon.

The four different iPhone 16 models will all come equipped with special chips needed to power a suite of AI tools that Apple hopes will make its marquee product even more indispensable and reverse a recent sales slump.

Apple's AI features are designed to turn its often-blundering virtual assistant Siri into a smarter and more versatile sidekick, automate a wide range of tedious tasks and pull off other crowd-pleasing tricks, such as creating customized emojis within seconds.

After receiving a standing ovation for Monday's event, Apple CEO Tim

Cook promised the AI package will unleash "innovations that will make a true difference in people's lives."

But the breakthroughs won't begin as soon as the new iPhones - ranging in price from \$800 to \$1,200 - hit the stores on Sept. 20.

Most of Apple's AI functions will roll out as part of a free software update to iOS 18, the operating system that will power the iPhone 16 rolling out from October through December. U.S. English will be the featured language at launch but an update enabling other languages will come out next year, according to Apple.

It's all part of a new approach that Apple previewed at a developers conference three months ago to create more anticipation for a next generation of iPhones amid a rare sales slump for the well-known devices.

That's what the EU did to fund its pandemic recovery program. But the idea faces political resistance, and von der Leyen, the commission president, said at a news conference introducing the report that Europe's national governments would have to "look at the political will to have these common European projects."

Europe needs to "close the innovation gap with the United States," Draghi said, pointing out that regulatory barriers and lack of startup financing meant that fast growing European companies - so-called "unicorns" valued at \$1 billion or more - often moved to the U.S. in search of venture capital

backing.

That, and too much regulation, leaves Europe stuck with an economy based on older, "middle technologies" such as autos instead of digital tech. The report pointed out that no EU company worth more than \$100 billion has been set up from scratch in the last fifty years, while all six U.S. companies worth more than \$1 trillion - such as Apple and artificial intelligence chip maker Nvidia - were started in that period. Only four of the world's top 50 tech companies are European.

"We have many talented researchers and entrepreneurs filing patents," the

report says. "But innovation is blocked at the next stage... innovative companies that want to scale up in Europe are hindered at every stage by inconsistent and restrictive regulations."

While Europe's regulations on artificial intelligence and data privacy are "commendable, their complexity and risk of overlaps and inconsistency" can undermine the EU's own tech companies as use of AI becomes more widespread.

The loss of cheap Russian natural gas over the invasion of Ukraine means Europe - which unlike the U.S. must import the bulk of its energy - must hustle to build out renewables.



## Empowering younger generation as part of its digital transformation strategy and sustainability program

# stc concludes successful 2024 summer internship program

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: Kuwait Telecommunications Company – stc, a world-class digital leader providing innovative services and platforms to customers, enabling the digital transformation in Kuwait, concluded its 2024 summer internship program that aimed to provide youths with real life work experience in a dynamic work environment to prepare them for their future career paths. The program comes in line with stc's recent recognition as the employer of choice for engineers and IT professionals in Kuwait according to Universum's custom research. As part of its digital transformation strategy and sustainability program for 2024, the internship program was organized in line with stc Kuwait initiatives to empower the younger generation.

Throughout the summer internship program, 10 interns participating from different universities in the Middle East were assigned to different departments based on their academic backgrounds, where they were placed in challenging environments to showcase their true capabilities. The students spent more than 90 hours completing assigned tasks and learning about the different products and services at stc. Throughout their journey, they each got a chance to explore various aspects of stc's comprehensive business model and operation. At the end of the program, the 10 participants brought their unique experiences together to present the knowledge they had gained while working at stc to the Company's management.

In its ongoing pursuit to attract bright young talent, stc organized various education programs throughout the years that have achieved a high success rate in hiring interns based on their performance. Additionally, the Company leverages these programs to educate students on aspects related to digital transformation as well as applying sustainable practices that focus not only on the environment, but all aspects of life.

Abdulaziz Al-Mathkoor, Acting Chief Human Resources Officer of stc, said, "As we conclude the 2024 summer internship program, we are proud to witness the experience and knowledge gained by the students. At stc, we believe in the importance of empowering the next generation of Ku-



A group photo of the trainees with stc employees.

### Al-Mathkoor:

■ Al-Mathkoor: We believe in the importance of empowering the next generation of Kuwaiti professionals by providing them with the skills and experiences needed to excel in their careers

waiti professionals by providing them with the skills and experiences needed to excel in their careers. We aspire to continuously invest in the talent development of Kuwait's younger generation by providing meaningful opportunities

that will enrich them with the right tools and skillsets to enter the workforce."

Al-Mathkoor added, "As an enabler of digital transformation, we believe that it is essential to educate the younger

generation on the benefits tied to the adoption and implementation of digital technologies to translate business processes. That is why we are diligent in structuring our internship programs in a way that provides hands-on experience as well as knowledge building tasks and initiatives. Having said that, we will continue introducing programs tailored to the younger generation as part of our sustainability program and commitment to support the community."

stc's internship programs are open to university students and recent graduates who demonstrate outstanding academic performance and a strong commitment to personal and professional development. The programs provide participants with an opportunity to enhance their competencies, develop effective time management skills, and gain a superior understanding of the job environment. Upon successful completion of the program, interns may have the opportunity to pursue permanent career positions based on their performance.

It is mentioning that stc Kuwait was ranked the number one ideal employer of choice for engineers and IT professionals in Kuwait according to Universum's custom research in comparison with 19 of the strongest brands in Kuwait. The recognition serves as a testament to stc's progressive approach to fostering a dynamic and innovative work environment.

### About stc

Kuwait Telecommunications Company (stc) is a Kuwaiti shareholding company incorporated pursuant to Amiri Decree No. 187 on 22 July, 2008, to operate and manage the third GSM mobile network in Kuwait as per Law No. 2 of 2008. Accordingly, stc launched its operations in December 2008 and was listed on Boursa Kuwait in December 2014.

stc Kuwait is a world-class digital leader providing innovative services and solutions to customers, both for individuals and enterprises, enabling the digital transformation in Kuwait, and is a subsidiary of stc Group. stc Kuwait has expanded its portfolio by acquiring companies such as Qualitynet General Trading and Contracting Company (solutions by stc) in Kuwait, and e-portal Holding Company and its subsidiaries.



ABK logo

### Digital branch open at Al Khiran Mall

## ABK announces official closure on the occasion of Prophet's (PBUH) birthday

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) extends its greetings to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Crown Prince, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khalid Al-Sabah as well as the government, people, and residents of Kuwait on the occasion of the Prophet's (PBUH) birthday, hoping it bestows an abundance of blessings.

ABK disclosed that its branches will be closed on Sunday, 15 Sep-

tember 2024 to resume operations on Monday, 16 September 2024. During this time, ABK's digital branch in Al Khiran Mall will be functional to service customers from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

The Bank has also confirmed its full operational readiness to serve customers 24/7 via its various digital platforms throughout the holiday. This includes Online Banking via eahli.com, Mobile Banking through the ABK app, as well as the Bank's call center Ahlan Ahli 1 899 899.

## Best account of its kind offering highest monthly expected returns

# KIB announces winners of Al Dirwaza account's draw

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: Kuwait International Bank (KIB) announced the winners of the weekly draw held under the Al Dirwaza account's 2024 campaign, which is distinguished by the highest number of winners throughout the year. The second weekly draw, based on customers' August deposits, recently took place in the presence of representatives from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, as well as representatives from the Bank. The KD 1,000 prize was awarded Khaled Khalaf Humoud AIKhalidi, Mohammed Azeem Basheer, Mishal Abdullah Fahad Fahad, Lailah Hussein Ghuloum Hussein, and Kawther Abdulghani Abdulredha AIMutawa, whilst the KD 500 prize was awarded to Fawaz Abdullah Aayed AlAzmi, Serageldin Omar Ali Mohieldin, Ibrahim Yousef Yousef El Alamy, Majdah Zaki Jebrael Hanin, Ebtasam Ahmad Mohammed Ghuloum, Ahmad Falah Hashash AlAzmi, and Yaseen Mohammad AlZokani.

It serves to note that Al Dirwaza account is a savings account for individual customers, based on the Wakala investment principle, launched by KIB as one of its banking products for individuals. The account is currently the best of its kind in the sector, with annual expected profits of up to 2% disbursed on a monthly basis, where the customer gets an expected profit of 2% for the first 3 months from the account opening date and up to 1% expected rate onward. The expected profits are automatically deposited into the customer's account within the first day of the beginning of each month.

Al Dirwaza account holders are eligible to enter the weekly, monthly and annual draws on the condition of maintaining at least KD 100 in their account. For the weekly and monthly draws, each



KIB's Al Dirwaza account

KD 1 that has completed a full month's cycle in the account will count for one chance, and chances are calculated based on the lowest monthly balance preceding the draw. As for the mega draw, chances are calculated for each KD 1 that completes a two-month cycle in the account – based on the lowest two monthly balances prior to the draw.

Al Dirwaza account is also in compliance with the provisions of Islamic Sharia and approved by the KIB's Sharia Supervisory Board. Furthermore, the account comes with a wide range of benefits, including the ease of opening the account, which does not require a salary transfer, and the customer's ability to open it remotely without visiting a branch through KIB Online on the Bank's website or KIB Mobile application on

smartphones.

Additionally, Al Dirwaza account automatically grants customers instant issuance of an ATM card, with a KD 2,000 ATM daily withdrawal limit, as well as the ability to issue credit cards against the cash collateral in the account. To open the account and participate in its draws, a minimum of KD 100 is required and can only be withdrawn upon account closure.

### About KIB

Kuwait International Bank (KIB) is a bank that operates according to the Islamic Shari'ah, based in the State of Kuwait. Incorporated in 1973, and originally known as Kuwait Real Estate Bank, KIB made the transition to its current Islamic operating model in 2007. In 2018, KIB embarked on a new phase of its journey full of innovation and development. As part of its new strategic direction, the Bank focuses on offering a next-level customer experience under the slogan: "Bank for Life".

Through a network of branches spread across the State of Kuwait, KIB offers a broad range of banking products and services, as well as innovative digital banking solutions in line with international best standards. As part of its duty towards the community, the Bank also encompasses a leading social responsibility program that aims at positively impacting all members of the community through a wide range of impactful initiatives and activities.

Today, KIB has taken concrete steps in implementing its new strategic objectives. The Bank has cemented its role as a key player in the local banking industry and has continued to maintain its strong financial performance; enabling it to be globally recognized for its strong credit rating and financial position.

## Ms. Fadheela Ebrahim inspires students with insightful speech

# Pearls of Islam - IMA Kuwait hosts summer camp for young girls in Kuwait

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: For many, the holidays are a time when distractions are abundant. To optimize summer vacations Pearls of Islam, an educational annex of IMA Ladies Wing Kuwait, presented young girls with an amazing opportunity to participate in a perfectly tailored Summer Camp. Starting from the 25th of June until 14th of August 2024, a total of 55 students enrolled mostly from the Jleeb and Khaitan Zones.

The students were upskilled with an array of subjects such as Qur'an Tafseer, Tajweed, Calligraphy, flameless cooking and art activities that include embroidery, paper Quilling, etc. Not inhibiting to classroom learning, the students were further taken to Venue 56, Salmiya where they made great memories to cherish for their future.

Ms. Fadheela Ebrahim, very popular among the younger generation, a mentor, an educator herself, interacted with the students and gave them a deep insight into the world of knowledge, wisdom and the importance of their actions.

As the summer came to an end, it was time for the well-deserved Felicitation, which was held on 23rd August 2024, in which an assembly of over 130 Ladies was observed, including the students, their mothers and distinguished guests. All the 55 students were awarded certificates and Gifts for their dedication and performance.

The program would have been incomplete without the powerful and motivating speech by Daiya, Sis. Ameena Tamimi from the Islam Presentation Committee and the support from the ministry of Foreign Relations, Islamic Affairs & AWQAF.

The program further evolved into an interaction between the audience and the host, over a series of Quizzes and the celebration was marked by the praise of the Almighty Allah, in the form of a beautiful Nasheed.



Certificates and gifts awarded to students for summer camp performance.



Such type of programs help young girls grow spiritually, by offering a structured learning environment, empowering them to live in accordance with Islamic principles.

Pearls Of Islam (POI), a subsidi-

ary wing of IMA Ladies Wing Kuwait, is currently active in six areas in Kuwait namely, Fahaaheel, Mangaf, Abu Halifa, Salmiya, Abbasiya and Khaitan. The POI, has opened registrations for Girls across Kuwait

for its Six Months Islamic Course, starting September 2024 until February 2025.

For Enquiries and Registration, you may contact (Sisters only) on: Mrs Shabana 65596722

**The Institution of Engineers (India)**  
(ESTABLISHED 1920, INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1935)  
KUWAIT CHAPTER

**TECHNICAL SEMINAR INVITATION**

Chief Guest : Mr. Elie Emile Khalife  
CEO, EcoverFM

Topic - AI Based Facilities Management  
Eng. Ershad Mohammed, B.E.,

Topic - Importance of Building Commissioning  
Eng. V. Arulselvan, B.E., CXA.,

Topic - Financial Engineering : Design Your Financial freedom  
Mr. VR Aiyappan, CFA., FRM.,  
Economic Times 2021 Award – Most Influential Volatility Coach  
Author – Unleash your Financial Freedom

On 16<sup>th</sup> Sep' 2024  
7 pm Onwards

Venue: Yaqout Hall,  
Millennium Hotel & Convention Centre,  
4th Ring Road Salmiya, Kuwait

Register

Location

Technical Seminar

**The Institution of Engineers (India)**  
(ESTABLISHED 1920, INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER 1935)  
KUWAIT CHAPTER

**CORDIALLY INVITED TO LADIES WING ACTIVITY**

**"Let's Act" Acting workshop**  
Mentor : Eng. Shemej Kumar  
KOC - I&C Engr. Design

On 12<sup>th</sup> Sep  
2024  
07:30 PM to  
10:00 pm

Venue : Spark Dance Academy,  
Salmiya Block 10,  
Behind Al Rashid Hospital

Register

Location

For members of IEI Kuwait chapter and their families

Ladies Wing Activity



'Out of darkness, can come light, so let that light shine bright'

# Princess of Wales ends chemo, will return to public duties

LONDON, Sept 10, (AP) - Kate, the Princess of Wales, has completed chemotherapy and will make some public appearances in the coming months, bolstering Britain's royal family after it was rocked by the twin cancer diagnoses of the princess and King Charles III.

The 42-year-old wife of Prince William released a video Monday in which she appeared alongside her husband and children as she described how difficult the past nine months have been for her family and expressed "relief" at completing her course of treatment.

"Life as you know it can change in an instant, and we have had to find a way to navigate the stormy waters and road unknown," she said in the video, which was shot in a woodland near the family's summer home in Norfolk. "The cancer journey is complex, scary and unpredictable for everyone, especially those closest to you. With humility, it also brings you face to face with your own vulnerabilities in a way you have never considered before, and with that, a new perspective on everything."

The royal family has been buffeted by health concerns this year, beginning with the announcement in January that the king would receive treatment for an enlarged prostate and Kate would undergo abdominal surgery. In February, Buckingham Palace announced Charles was receiving treatment for an undisclosed type of cancer. Six weeks later, Kate said she, too, was undergoing treatment for cancer, quieting the relentless speculation about her condition that had circulated on social media since her surgery.

While the announcements triggered an outpouring of good wishes for the ailing royals, they also put the royal family under tremendous pressure. Queen Camilla and Princess Anne, the king's sister, took on additional duties to cover the seemingly endless list of public events

that make up the daily routine of the House of Windsor. William also took time off to support his wife and their three young children.

Charles began his return to public duties in late April when he visited a cancer treatment center in London. He is scheduled to make the first long-haul trip since his diagnosis when he travels to Australia and Samoa in the fall.

## Treatment

Kate said Monday that while she had completed her chemotherapy treatment, the path to full recovery would be long and she would "take each day as it comes."

"William and I are so grateful for the support we have received and have drawn great strength from all those who are helping us at this time," she said. "Everyone's kindness, empathy and compassion has been truly humbling."

In June, the princess acknowledged that she had good days and bad days while undergoing treatment.

While she stepped away from most public duties during her treatment, Kate has made two appearances this year. First, during the king's birthday parade in June, known as Trooping the Colour, and most recently during the men's final at Wimbledon in July, where she received a standing ovation.

"To all those who are continuing their own cancer journey - I remain with you, side by side, hand in hand," Kate said Monday.

"Out of darkness, can come light, so let that light shine bright."

Her updated statement Monday says it has been a difficult year for her family but it has provided perspective on life and being grateful for simple but important things, such as "loving and being loved."

"As the summer comes to an end, I cannot tell you what a relief it is to have finally completed my chemotherapy treatment."

"The last nine months have been incredibly tough for us as a family. Life as you know it can change in an instant and we have had to find a way to navigate the stormy waters and road unknown."

"The cancer journey is complex, scary and unpredictable for everyone, especially those closest to you."

"With humility, it also brings you face to face with your own vulnerabilities in a way you have never considered before, and with that, a new perspective on everything."

"This time has above all reminded William and me to reflect and be grateful for the simple yet important things in life, which so many of us often take for granted. Of simply loving and being loved."

"Doing what I can to stay cancer free is now my focus. Although I have finished chemotherapy, my path to healing and full recovery is long and I must continue to take each day as it comes."

"I am however looking forward to being back at work and undertaking a few more public engagements in the coming months when I can."

"Despite all that has gone before, I enter this new phase of recovery with a renewed sense of hope and appreciation of life."

"William and I are so grateful for the support we have received and have drawn great strength from all those who are helping us at this time. Everyone's kindness, empathy and compassion has been truly humbling."

"To all those who are continuing their own cancer journey - I remain with you, side by side, hand in hand. Out of darkness, can come light, so let that light shine bright."

Royals

Variety



This image released by Searchlight Pictures shows Amy Adams in a scene from 'Nightbitch.' (AP)

Film

Adams and Heller put their life experiences into film

## Motherhood's complexities in 'Nightbitch'

TORONTO, Sept 10, (AP) - The day after the premiere of their film "Nightbitch," Amy Adams and Marielle Heller are sitting in a Toronto restaurant reflecting on all that went into, as Heller puts it, "birthing" a movie that captures some of the truest, rawest but seldom Instagrammed things about early motherhood.

Their film, which writer-director Heller has described as a comedy for women and a horror film for men, stars Adams as a woman credited only as "Mother." With her husband (Scoot McNairy) often away on work and when he's there, he refers to solo parenting as "babysitting"). Adams' character experiences a wide range of emotions raising a newborn.

She is exhausted and resentful. Fresh postpartum horrors await a glance in the mirror. Animalistic urges bubble up. New powers emerge. The movie turns increasingly surreal. There are dogs.

"I just met her where I was at," says Adams, whose own daughter is now a teenager. "That was me at that time in my life. It wasn't a transformation that I made for the movie. I just was like: This is who she is. This is who I am, let's marry the two and let's be proud."

The adaptation of Rachel Yoder's bestseller that Searchlight Pictures will release Dec. 6, is about as close to the bone as it gets for Adams and Heller. In "Nightbitch," the rage and bitterness of an overburdened, self-sacrificing mother - Adams' character has given up her successful career as an artist - find well-deserved expression. Aside from pulling from Yoder's book, the movie comes directly from Heller and Adams' experiences. Extreme as it can be, "Nightbitch" is essentially reportage from a little-documented chapter of parenthood.

Heller, the filmmaker of "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood,"

"Can You Ever Forgive Me?" and "The Diary of a Teenage Girl," wrote the script while raising her second child with her husband Jorma Taccone. They had moved out of New York during the pandemic, but Taccone was away for several months working on a TV show.

"I wasn't sleeping. My daughter was getting up at 5 every day. I was out of my mind," says Heller. "When you're sleep deprived, you sort of feel more connected to the mythological world because you're not in a literal headspace."

The only way Heller could write was to put her infant

daughter down for a nap and let her older son watch TV.

"And I'd get two hours. And in those two hours I wrote the script," Heller says. "It was my one little moment that I could carve out, and I could just get out all of my frustrations from the day."

When Adams, a producer on the movie, read Yoder's book, she recognized a more honest perspective on motherhood than she had read before.

"It really reminded me of 'Metamorphosis,' my favorite book in high school," she says. "This idea of transformation. Outside of just being a mother, the loss of identity, the isolation, those were things that spoke to me so deeply."

"I struggled after my daughter was born," says Adams. "I definitely was not one of those women that bounced right back. I think that's a really common experience."

## Performance

Adams, the six-time Oscar nominee, gives a performance without a hint of vanity. She growls. She eats meatloaf like she's in a pie-eating contest. She runs around on all fours.

"You didn't blink," Heller says, admiringly.

Adams shrugs. That's how her family sees her around the house, she says, though not the running on all fours bit. "I mean," Adams adds, "watching it is a different story."

Many of Heller's favorite, most cathartic scenes to write came from the kind of passive-aggressive exchanges that can happen in a relationship, especially one tested by the pressures of child-rearing and the inequities that can arise between parents.

"The thing is, you can be in a very equitable relationship, then the moment you have kids, even in an equitable relationship, suddenly gender roles peek their way out," Heller says. "My husband and I were together for, like, 14 years before we had kids. So it was shocking to suddenly find ourselves falling into gender roles we had never been in before."

There are delightfully cutting observations laced through "Nightbitch" that might serve as a wake-up call to plenty of fathers. As much as many women will cheer Heller's film, men - horrified or not - may be its best audience. The dad in the film often appears useless,

even when it comes to making coffee.

"Jorma would read scenes from the movie and be like, 'F--- you, that's really rude. I know how to make coffee,'" Heller says, laughing.

"It's funny, I didn't remember the bit about the coffee until I watched it again. Darren (Le Gallo, Adams' husband) and I literally had a conversation this summer. He was like, 'How did you get the coffee machine to work?'" Adams adds. "I was like, 'If I can figure it out, you can figure it out.'"

Early on, Heller and Adams began to get the sense that they had tapped into something. Heller called it "an invisible experience" at the Toronto International Film Festival premiere.

"It started on set with crew members coming up to us," Adams says. "People kept saying, 'This is a little too on the nose. I really see myself in this.'"

"I first shared the script with a lot of other mothers and women who I trusted, and they all thought it was hilarious," says Heller. "Then I started sharing it with my husband and Brandon (Trost), our cinematographer, or other male friends who were like, 'This scared the s--- out of me.'"

"Nightbitch" - Heller says she still loves saying the title - will open in theaters just weeks after a US presidential election where women's rights are at the forefront.

"Women's bodies are being attacked. Freedom of choice is being attacked. It's a very volatile moment for women," says Heller. "Inevitably making a movie that I don't think we even thought of as radically feminist in any way - it's just about where we are in our lives, in our bodies, and we don't think our own bodies are taboo."

Adams, who starred in the movie adaptation of J.D. Vance's "Hillbilly Elegy" years before Vance was the Republican nominee for vice president, says she's more hopeful. She made "Nightbitch," she says, for her daughter.

"It's not a surprise but I really always try to find a celebration in a moment that can be challenging. My daughter is going to be voting in four years. To have these conversations with her - women's issues, bodily autonomy, misogyny - that's kind of where I'm at with this," Adams says. "Let's keep our eye on the future. I'm really excited that her generation will be voting in four years. And they're listening."

Features

ARABIC TIMES

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2024

NEW YORK: Jailed ex-movie mogul Harvey Weinstein underwent an emergency medical procedure at a New York City hospital on Monday to remove fluid on his heart and lungs after he complained of chest pains over the weekend, his representatives said.

Weinstein, 72, was rushed to Bellevue Hospital in Manhattan from the Rikers Island jail complex late Sunday "due to severe medical conditions," his publicist Juda Engelmayr and prison consultant Craig Rothfeld said.

"We can confirm that Mr. Weinstein had a procedure and surgery on his heart today," Engelmayr and Rothfeld said. Weinstein was out of surgery as of Monday afternoon and is in recovery, they said.

Rothfeld identified the procedure as pericardiocentesis surgery. He said Weinstein had not been feeling well for several weeks and was worsening by the day.

Weinstein's lawyer, Arthur Aidala, said they requested that jail officials immediately move Weinstein to Bellevue "based on his complaints to us regarding chest pains." In one email, Aidala said, he told them: "This guy is going to die on your watch if you don't do something."

The city Department of Correction's public inmate-lookup website was updated Monday to show that Weinstein was moved to the Bellevue Hospital Prison Ward from the West Facility at Rikers Island, which is used to isolate inmates with contagious diseases such as tuberculosis, or for other reasons.

News of Weinstein's hospitalization was first reported by ABC News.

Weinstein has been in and out of Bellevue Hospital since returning to Rikers Island from state prison in April after an appeals court overturned his 2020 rape and sexual assault convictions and ordered a new trial.

In July, he was hospitalized with COVID-19 and pneumonia in both lungs, his representatives said.

After his February 2020 conviction, Weinstein left court in an ambulance and detoured to Bellevue, complaining of chest pains and high blood pressure. He later had a stent inserted to unblock an artery.

After his sentencing a few weeks later, he returned to the hospital with more chest pains. He later tested positive for COVID-19

just days after being transferred to a state prison near Buffalo. (AP)

NEW YORK: The White Stripes sued former President Donald Trump on Monday in a case that alleges he used their hit song "Seven Nation Army" without permission in a video posted to



Weinstein



Trump

social media.

The band has accused Trump and his presidential campaign of copyright infringement for playing the song's iconic opening riff over a video of Trump boarding a plane for campaign stops in Michigan and Wisconsin last month.

The Trump campaign did not immediately return an emailed

request for comment.

The lawsuit, filed in federal court in Manhattan, said the band was also objecting to Trump's use of the song because members Jack White and Meg White "vehemently opposed the policies adopted and actions taken by Defendant Trump when he was President and those he has proposed for

the second term he seeks."

Several prominent musicians have previously criticized Trump for using their songs at rallies. Last week, a federal judge in Atlanta ruled that Trump and his campaign must stop using the song "Hold On, I'm Coming" after a lawsuit from the estate of Isaac Hayes Jr. (AP)



## People &amp; Places

## Music

## CMA nominations

## Swift rules &amp; Eminem opens '24 MTV VMAs

NEW YORK, Sept. 10, (AP) - Rapper, singer, songwriter, businesswoman, hot girl summer purveyor and now... award show host? **Megan Thee Stallion** will both host and perform at the 2024 MTV Video Music Awards.

It marks her first time hosting an award show, though she's guest hosted "Saturday Night Live" and served as a co-host for "The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon" in the past. This time, it's in front of her musical peers.



Megan

The 2024 award show promises star-studded performances - including an opening set by Eminem, tons of moon people, and even more Taylor Swift.

Here's everything you need to know about the MTV VMAs.

The VMAs will air live on Sept. 11 at 8 p.m. Eastern from the UBS Arena on New York's Long Island.

The award show moved back a day because of the forthcoming U.S. presidential debate. ABC News recently confirmed that the campaigns of both Vice President Kamala Harris and former President Donald Trump had agreed to participate in a debate on Sept. 10.

Swift tops the VMA nominations with 12 - eight for her "Fortnight" music video, two social categories and nods in the artist of the year and best pop categories. She's followed by her "Fortnight" collaborator Post Malone, who has 11. He is nominated along with Swift 10 times and earned his 11th nom for his country hit "I Had Some Help," featuring Morgan Wallen.

Rounding out the artist of the year category nominees are Ariana Grande, Bad Bunny, Eminem, Sabrina Carpenter and SZA.

Eminem boasts eight nods; Ariana Grande, Megan Thee Stallion, Sabrina Carpenter and SZA have seven each.

Benson Boone, Billie Eilish, Chappell Roan, Charli XCX, GloRilla, Blackpink's LISA, Olivia Rodrigo and Teddy Swims follow with four nominations each.

This year features 29 first-time nominees, which include Wallen, Carpenter, Swims, Boone and more.

Performers (cross head)

Eminem will open the VMAs, returning to the stage for the first time in just two years, when he performed "From the D 2 The LBC" alongside Snoop Dogg.

Performers will include Perry, Boone, Carpenter, Megan Thee Stallion, Chappell Roan, GloRilla, Halsety, Lenny Kravitz, LISA, Rauw Alejandro, Karol G, LL COOL J, Shawn Mendes, Camila Cabello and Anitta, who will be joined by Fat Joe, DJ Khaled and Tiago PZK.

Katy Perry will receive the Video Vanguard Award. She will also perform.

Previous recipients include Shakira, Beyoncé, Nicki Minaj, Madonna, Janet Jackson, Jennifer Lopez, Rihanna and Missy Elliott.

Perry will return to the VMA stage for the first time since 2017, when she performed and hosted the award show.

The pop singer has won five VMAs across her career. She took home her first three awards in 2011: video of the year ("Firework"), best collaboration and best special effects (both for "E.T.," featuring Kanye West).

Fan voting across 15 gender-neutral categories is live right now and ends Friday.

Voting in the best new artist category will remain active throughout the show.

Addison Rae, Alessandra Ambrosio, Amelia Dimoldenberg, Big Sean, Busta Rhymes, Carson Daly, Cyndi Lauper, Måneskin's Damiano David, DANNA, DJ Khaled, Fat Joe, Flavor Flav, French Montana, Halle Bailey, Jordan Chiles, Lil Nas X, Miranda Lambert, Naomi Scott, Paris Hilton, Suki Waterhouse, Thalía and Tinashe will present at the VMAs.



**Morgan Wallen** tops the 2024 Country Music Association award nominations with seven.

For a third year in a row, Wallen is up for both the top prize - entertainer of the year - and the male vocalist categories.

Rounding out the entertainer of the year categories are **Luke Combs**, **Jelly Roll**, **Chris Stapleton** and **Lainey Wilson**.

**Post Malone's** massive radio hit, "I Had Some Help," which features Wallen, is the main reason why the country singer leads the pack this year. It is up for single, song, musical event and music video of the year. His last nomination is a second one in the musical event category, for his collaboration with Eric Church, "Man Made a Bar."

Single of the year is awarded to the artist, producer and mix engineers; song of the year is given to the songwriters.

Ahead of the nominations announcement, some fans speculated that **Beyoncé**, whose landmark country-and-then-some reclamation "Cowboy Carter" was released during the eligibility window, could receive a nomination at the 2024 CMAs. She did not.

Earlier this year, the album hit No. 1 on the Billboard country albums chart, making her the first Black woman to top the chart since its 1964 inception.

## Categories

The album was five years in the making, a direct result of what Beyoncé has called "an experience that I had years ago where I did not feel welcomed ... and it was very clear that I wasn't," most likely a reference to a 2016 CMAs performance that resulted in racist backlash.

The CMA Awards are nominated and voted on by members of the Country Music Association, which includes music executives, artists, publicists, songwriters and other industry professionals.

Wallen is followed by both **Cody Johnson**, who is also nominated in the male vocalist category for the third year in a row, and 7-time male vocalist of the year winner, Stapleton.

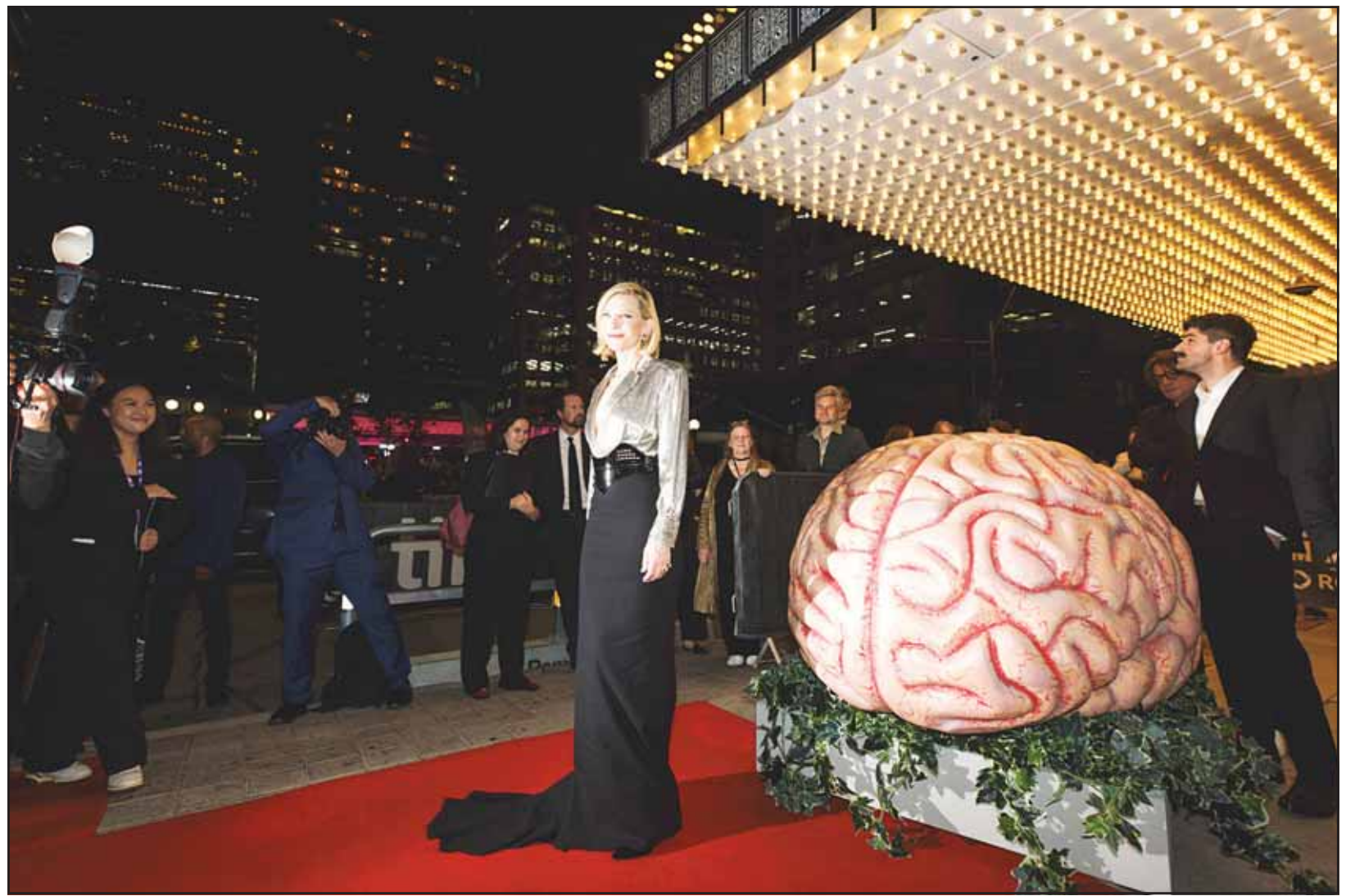
Stapleton and Johnson have five nominations each. But Stapleton could take home seven trophies, should he sweep his categories.

Stapleton is both an artist and producer on "White Horse," up for single of the year, and "Higher," up for album of the year.

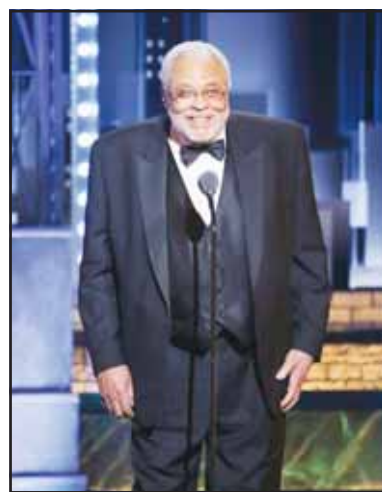
At the Country Music Awards, production credits are not counted as separate nominations, although they are factored into trophy counts.

First-time nominee Post Malone and Wilson, last year's entertainer of the year winner, are tied with four nominations.

All of Malone's nominations are for "I Had Some



Cate Blanchett arrives on the red carpet for the premiere of 'Rumours' at the Princess of Wales Theatre during the Toronto International Film Festival, in Toronto, Monday, Sept. 9. (AP)



James Earl Jones accepts the special Tony award for Lifetime Achievement in the Theatre at the 71st annual Tony Awards on June 11, 2017, in New York. Jones, who overcame racial prejudice and a severe stutter to become a celebrated icon of stage and screen has died at age 93, Monday, Sept. 9. (AP)



Seacrest



Lamar

## Variety

**LOS ANGELES:** For the first time in almost 8,000 episodes, "Wheel of Fortune" did not open with a hello from longtime host **Pat Sajak**.

**Ryan Seacrest** stepped into Sajak's shoes after his 41-year tenure as host of the famed game show, joining co-host and letter turner **Vanna White**. Seacrest, a familiar television and radio presence known for hosting "American Idol," New Year's Eve programming and a long-running radio show, debuted as the series' new host Monday night.

"I still can't believe my luck being here with you tonight to continue this legacy of this incredible show with all of you, and, of course, my good friend Vanna White," Seacrest said as he opened the show. "Thank you for the very warm welcome."

In a brief opening monologue before the gameplay began, Seacrest acknowledged Sajak's impact as host and his retirement at the end of the 41st season. (AP)



**LOS ANGELES:** **Kendrick Lamar** will pop out on the NFL's biggest stage next year: The Grammy winner will headline the Apple Music Super Bowl Halftime Show in **New Orleans**.

The NFL, Apple Music and Roc Nation announced Sunday that Lamar would lead the halftime festivities from the Caesars Superdome on Feb. 9. The rap megastar, who has won 17 Grammys, said he's looking forward to bringing hip-hop to the NFL's championship game, where he performed as a guest artist with **Dr. Dre** and **Snoop Dogg** in 2022.

"Rap music is still the most impactful genre to date," Lamar said in a statement. "And I'll be there to remind the world why. They got the right one."

Lamar has experienced massive success since his debut album "good kid, m.A.A.d city" in 2012. Since then, he's accumulated 17 Grammy wins and became the first non-classical, non-jazz musician to win a Pulitzer Prize for his 2017 album "DAMN." (AP)



**GENEVA:** A concert blending Chinese classical masterpieces and Western orchestral traditions was staged at the renowned Victoria Hall in **Geneva** Monday evening, marking the 75th an-

## Obituary

## Memorable voice of Darth Vader and 'Lion King'

## James Earl Jones dies at 93

NEW YORK, Sept. 10, (AP) - James Earl Jones, who overcame racial prejudice and a severe stutter to become a celebrated icon of stage and screen - eventually lending his deep, commanding voice to CNN, "The Lion King" and Darth Vader - has died. He was 93.

His agent, Barry McPherson, confirmed Jones died Monday morning at home in New York's Hudson Valley region. The cause was not immediately clear.

The pioneering Jones, who in 1965 became one of the first African American actors in a continuing role on a daytime drama ("As the World Turns") and worked deep into his 80s, won two Emmys, a Golden Globe, two Tony Awards, a Grammy, the National Medal of Arts and the Kennedy Center Honors. He was also given an honorary Oscar and a special Tony for lifetime achievement. In 2022, a Broadway theater was renamed in his honor.

He cut an elegant figure late in life, with a wry sense of humor and a ferocious work habit. In 2015, he arrived at rehearsals for a Broadway run of "The Gin Game" having already memorized the play and with notebooks filled with comments from the creative team. He said he was always in service of the work.

"The need to storytell has always been with us," he told The Associated Press then. "I think it first happened around campfires when the man came home and told his family he got the bear, the bear didn't get him."

Jones created such memorable film roles as the elusive writer coaxed back into the spotlight in "Field of Dreams," the boxer Jack Johnson in the stage and screen hit "The Great White Hope," the writer Alex Haley in "Roots: The Next Generation" and a South African minister in "Cry, the Beloved Country."

He was also a sought-after voice actor, expressing the villainy of Darth Vader ("No, I am your father," commonly misremembered as "Luke, I am your father"), as well as the benign dignity of King Mufasa in both the 1994 and 2019 versions of Disney's "The Lion King" and announcing "This is CNN" during station breaks. He won a 1977 Grammy for his performance on the "Great American Documents" audiobook.

"If you were an actor or aspired to be an actor, if you pounded the pavement in these streets looking for jobs, one of

the standards we always had was to be a James Earl Jones," Samuel L. Jackson once said.

Some of his other films include "Dr. Strangelove," "The Greatest" (with Muhammad Ali), "Conan the Barbarian," "Three Fugitives" and playing an admiral in three blockbuster Tom Clancy adaptations - "The Hunt for Red October," "Patriot Games" and "Clear and Present Danger." In a rare romantic comedy, "Claudine," Jones had an on-screen love affair with Diahann Carroll.

LeVar Burton, who starred alongside Jones in the TV movie "Guyana Tragedy: The Story of Jim Jones," paid tribute to X, writing, "There will never be another of his particular combination of graces."

## Awards

Jones made his Broadway debut in 1958's "Sunrise At Campobello" and would win his two Tony Awards for "The Great White Hope" (1969) and "Fences" (1987). He also was nominated for "On Golden Pond" (2005) and "Gore Vidal's The Best Man" (2012). He was celebrated for his command of Shakespeare and Athol Fugard alike. More recent Broadway appearances include "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof," "Driving Miss Daisy," "The Iceman Cometh," and "You Can't Take It With You."

As a rising stage and television actor, he performed with the New York Shakespeare Festival Theater in "Othello," "Macbeth" and "King Lear" and in off-Broadway plays.

Jones was born by the light of an oil lamp in a shack in Arkabutla, Mississippi, on Jan. 17, 1931. His father, Robert Earl Jones, had deserted his wife before the baby's arrival to pursue life as a boxer and, later, an actor.

When Jones was 6, his mother took him to her parents' farm near Manistee, Michigan. His grandparents adopted the boy and raised him.

"A world ended for me, the safe world of childhood," Jones wrote in his autobiography, "Voices and Silences." "The move from Mississippi to Michigan was supposed to be a glorious event. For me it was a heartbreak, and not long after, I began to stutter."

Too embarrassed to speak, he remained virtually mute for years, communicating with teachers and fellow students with handwritten notes. A sympathetic high school teacher, Don-

ald Crouch, learned that the boy wrote poetry, and demanded that Jones read one of his poems aloud in class. He did so faultlessly.

Teacher and student worked together to restore the boy's normal speech. "I could not get enough of speaking, debating, orating - acting," he recalled in his book.

At the University of Michigan, he failed a pre-med exam and switched to drama, also playing four seasons of basketball. He served in the Army from 1953 to 1955.

In New York, he moved in with his father and enrolled with the American Theater Wing program for young actors. Father and son waxed floors to support themselves while looking for acting jobs.

True stardom came suddenly in 1970 with "The Great White Hope." Howard Sackler's Pulitzer Prize-winning Broadway play depicted the struggles of Jack Johnson, the first Black heavyweight boxing champion, amid the racism of early 20th-century America. In 1972, Jones repeated his role in the movie version and was nominated for an Academy Award as best actor.

Jones' two wives were also actors. He married Julianne Marie Hendricks in 1967. After their divorce, he married Cecilia Hart, best known for her role as Stacey Erickson in the CBS police drama "Paris," in 1982. (She died in 2016.) They had a son, Flynn Earl, born in 1983.

In 2022, the Cort Theatre on Broadway was renamed after Jones, with a ceremony that included Norm Lewis singing "Go the Distance," Brian Stokes Mitchell singing "Make Them Hear You" and words from Mayor Eric Adams, Samuel L. Jackson and LaTanya Richardson Jackson.

"You can't think of an artist that has served America more," director **Kenny Leon** told the AP. "It's like it seems like a small act, but it's a huge action. It's something we can look up and see that's tangible."

Citing his stutter as one of the reasons he wasn't a political activist, Jones nonetheless hoped his art could change minds.

"I realized early on, from people like Athol Fugard, that you cannot change anybody's mind, no matter what you do," he told the AP. "As a preacher, as a scholar, you cannot change their mind. But you can change the way they feel."

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niversary of the founding of the **People's Republic of China**.

The majestic venue, celebrated for its acoustics and architectural splen-

dor, heightened the event's grandeur. Attended by diplomats, musicians and music enthusiasts from around the world, the event was a tribute to China's cultural



This photo provided by Kensington Palace on Monday, Sept. 9, 2024, shows Kate, Princess of Wales and Prince William with their children Prince George, (right), Princess Charlotte and Prince Louis, (left). (AP) - Details Page 11

history and its ever-evolving global connections.

The concert featured a rich selection of iconic Chinese compositions, such as the Butterfly Lovers' Violin Concerto. Performed by a talented soloist with the backing of a full symphony orchestra, the piece beautifully interpreted the legendary love story of **Liang Shanbo** and **Zhu Yingtai**, the original version of **Romeo and Juliet**. (Xinhua)

**PARIS:** Givenchy has named **Sarah Burton** creative director for women's and men's collections, with immediate effect, the fashion house announced on Monday.

Burton, who stepped down from Alexander McQueen last year, said she was excited "to bring to Givenchy my own vision, sensibility and beliefs."

"It's a great honor to be joining the beautiful house of Givenchy, it is a jewel," she said.

Her first collection will be presented during Paris Fashion Week next March. Givenchy, owned by the LVMH conglomerate, named a new CEO, **Alessandro Valentini**, in July. (AP)



## Kuwait achieves landmark in organ transplants

## Kuwait conducts first successful kidney swap between families

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: In a remarkable medical achievement, Kuwait's Ministry of Health announced the success of the country's first kidney transplant exchange between families, marking a new milestone in its organ transplantation services, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

This breakthrough coincides with the launch of the National Kidney Transplant Exchange Program, a pioneering initiative designed to improve the chances for patients in need of kidney transplants by expanding the pool of potential donors.

Dr. Saja Sorour, Head of the Organ Transplantation Department at

Jaber Hospital, explained that kidney transplants through exchange offer a solution for patients who have a willing relative donor but face compatibility issues due to immune system mismatch or differing blood types.

The exchange process involves swapping donors between two families facing similar challenges. In such cases, a donor from the first family gives a kidney to the patient in the second family, while the second family's donor gives a kidney to the patient in the first family.

This innovative approach increases the likelihood of successful transplants for everyone involved.

This achievement is part of the Ministry of Health's broader strategy to enhance organ transplant services in Kuwait.

According to Dr. Sorour, the new program is expected to reduce waiting times and improve the success rates of transplants, reflecting Kuwait's commitment to providing top-tier healthcare and advanced treatment options for patients.

Dr. Nada Al-Shatti, Head of the Immunology Unit and Tissue Matching Laboratory at the Yaqoub Behbehani Center for Bone Marrow Transplantation, emphasized the significance of this development.



Left: Dr. Saja Sorour, Head of the Organ Transplant Department at Jaber Hospital. Right: Dr. Nada Al-Shatti, Head of the Immunology and Tissue Matching Laboratory for Organ and Stem Cell Transplants and Supervisor of the Exchange Program.

She highlighted the program's role in reducing patient suffering by shortening waiting periods and expanding treatment possibilities.

Dr. Al-Shatti also underscored the collaborative effort between various medical departments, noting that this success opens new horizons for organ transplantation in Kuwait.

Both Dr. Sorour and Dr. Al-Shatti expressed their hope that the kidney transplant exchange program will continue to grow, providing more patients with access to life-saving transplants and demonstrating Kuwait's dedication to medical innovation.



A SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket with a crew of four lifts off from pad 39A at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Fla., Tuesday, Sept. 10. (AP)

## Daredevil venture

## SpaceX rockets billionaire on first private spacewalk

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla., Sept 10, (AP): A daredevil billionaire rocketed back into orbit Tuesday, aiming to perform the first private spacewalk and venture farther than anyone since NASA's Apollo moonshots.

Unlike his previous chartered flight, tech entrepreneur Jared Isaacman shared the cost with SpaceX this time around, which included developing and testing brand new spacesuits to see how they'll hold up in the harsh vacuum.

If all goes as planned, it will be the first time private citizens conduct a spacewalk, but they won't venture away from the capsule. Considered one of the riskiest parts of spaceflight, spacewalks have been the sole realm of professional astronauts since the former Soviet Union popped open the hatch in 1965, closely followed by the US. Today, they are routinely done at the International Space Station.

Isaacman, along with a pair of SpaceX engineers and a former Air Force Thunderbirds pilot, launched before dawn aboard a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket from Florida. The spacewalk is scheduled for Thursday, midway through the five-day flight.

But first the passengers are shooting for way beyond the International Space Station - an altitude of 870 miles (1,400 kilometers), which would surpass the Earth-lapping record set during NASA's Project Gemini in 1966. Only the 24 Apollo astronauts who flew to the moon have ventured farther.

The plan is to spend 10 hours at that height - filled with extreme radiation and riddled with debris - before reducing the oval-shaped orbit by half. Even at this lower 435 miles (700 kilometers), the orbit would eclipse the space station and even the Hubble Space Telescope, the highest shuttle astronauts flew.

All four wore SpaceX's spacewalking suits because the entire Dragon

## NASA okays Jupiter moon ocean study

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla., Sept 10, (AP): NASA on Monday approved next month's launch to Jupiter's moon Europa after reviewing the spacecraft's ability to withstand the intense radiation there.

Questions about the reliability of the transistors on the Europa Clipper spacecraft arose earlier this year after similar problems cropped up elsewhere. With the tight launch window looming, NASA rushed to conduct tests to verify that the electronic parts could survive the \$5 billion mission to determine whether the suspected ocean beneath Europa's icy crust might be suitable for life.

Liftoff remains scheduled for Oct. 10 aboard a SpaceX Falcon Heavy rocket. NASA has three weeks to launch the spacecraft before standing down for more than a year to await another proper planetary alignment; the spacecraft needs to swing past Mars and then Earth for gravity assists.

capsule will be depressurized for the two-hour spacewalk, exposing everyone to the dangerous environment.

Isaacman and SpaceX's Sarah Gillis will take turns briefly popping out of the hatch. They'll test their white and black-trimmed custom suits by twisting their bodies. Both will always have a hand or foot touching the capsule or attached support structure that resembles the top of a pool ladder. There will be no dangling at the end of their 12-foot (3.6-meter) tethers and no jetpack showboating. Only NASA's suits at the space station come equipped with jetpacks, for emergency use only.

By Nancy Kressin, Boston University; Christine M. Gunn, Dartmouth College; Priscilla J. Slanetz, Boston University, and Tracy A. Battaglia, Yale University

The Conversation is an independent and nonprofit source of news, analysis and commentary from academic experts.

The Food and Drug Administration implemented a rule to go into effect on Sept. 10, 2024, requiring mammography facilities to notify women about their breast density. The goal is to ensure that women nationwide are informed about the risks of breast density, advised that other imaging tests might help find cancers and urged to talk with their doctors about next steps based on their individual situation.

The FDA originally issued the rule on March 10, 2023, but extended the implementation date to give mammography facilities additional time to adhere.

The Conversation US asked a team of experts in social science and patients' health behaviors, health policy, radiology and primary care and health services research to explain the FDA's new regulations about these health communications and what women should consider as they decide whether to pursue additional imaging tests, often called supplemental screening.

Breast density is categorized into four categories: fatty, scattered tissue, heterogeneously dense or extremely dense.

## Complicated

Dense breasts are composed of more fibrous, connective tissue and glandular tissue - meaning glands that produce milk and tubes that carry it to the nipple - than fatty tissue. Because fibroglandular tissue and breast masses both look white on mammographic images, greater breast density makes it more difficult to detect cancer. Nearly half of all American women are categorized as having dense breasts.

Having dense breasts also increases the risk of getting breast cancer, though the reason for this is unknown.

Because of this, decisions about breast cancer screening get more complicated. While evidence is clear that regular mammograms save lives, additional testing such as ultrasound, MRI or contrast-enhanced mammography may be warranted for women with dense breasts.

The FDA now requires specific language to ensure that all women receive

## Breast density and mammograms

## FDA rule ensures women have more information after cancer screenings

## Study finds new method

## 'Bacterial therapy' could prevent colorectal cancer

LANZHOU, Sept 10, (Xinhua): Bacterial therapy could offer a promising new method for the prevention and treatment of colorectal cancer, according to a study carried out by Chinese researchers.

The recent study conducted by the School of Life Sciences at Lanzhou University in northwest China's Gansu Province, has revealed that the probiotic *Limosilactobacillus fermentum* GR-3, derived from "Jiangshui," a traditional fermented food in northwestern China, demonstrates potential for promoting apoptosis in colon tumor cells and inhibiting their proliferation.

Professor Li Xiangkai, head of the research group and a professor at the university's School of Life Sciences, explained that studies have shown that colorectal cancer patients often experience an imbalance in their gut microbiota and a persistent state of peroxidation in tumor cells. Unlike conventional antioxidants, probiotics like *Lactobacillus*

GR-3 could specifically target the tumor microenvironment while also regulating intestinal flora.

Li's team successfully isolated *Lactobacillus* GR-3, a strain with strong antioxidant properties. In both hyper-uricemia mouse models and clinical trials, this strain has shown promise in promoting uric acid degradation by modulating the gut microbiome. Building on these findings, the research team explored the potential of *Lactobacillus* GR-3 in preventing colorectal cancer through its effects on gut flora and the host immune system.

The results showed that *Lactobacillus* GR-3 significantly reduced the growth of colon tumors in drug-induced mice and demonstrated positive therapeutic effects. The strain not only lowered tumor mass but also improved the composition of intestinal microbial metabolites, promoted apoptosis in colon cancer cells, and inhibited their proliferation.

the same "accurate, complete and understandable breast density information." After a mammogram, women must be informed:

- Whether their breasts are dense or not dense

- That having dense breasts increases the risk of breast cancer

- That having dense breasts makes it harder to find breast cancer on mammograms

- That for those with dense breasts, additional imaging tests might help find cancer

They must also be advised to discuss their individual situation with their health care provider, to determine which, if any, additional screening might be indicated.

Prior to the federal rule, 38 U.S. states required some form of breast density notification. But some states had no notification requirements, and among the others there were many inconsistencies that raised concerns by advocates, including women with dense breasts whose advanced cancer had not been detected on a mammogram.

The FDA standardized the informa-

tion women must receive. It is written at an eighth grade reading level and may address racial and literacy-level differences in women's knowledge about breast density and reactions to written notifications.

For instance, our research team found disproportionately more confusion and anxiety among women of color, those with low literacy and women for whom English was not their first language. And some women with low literacy reported decreased future intentions to undergo mammographic screening.

Standard mammograms use X-rays to produce two-dimensional images of the breast. A newer type of mammography imaging called tomosynthesis produces 3D images, which find more cancers among women with dense breasts. So, researchers and doctors generally agree that women with dense breasts should undergo tomosynthesis screening when available.

There is still limited scientific evidence to guide recommendations for supplemental breast screening beyond standard mammography or tomosynthesis for women with dense breast

tissue. Data shows that supplemental screening with ultrasound, MRI or contrast-enhanced mammography may detect additional cancers, but there are no prospective studies confirming that such additional screening saves more lives.

So far, there is no data from randomized clinical trials showing that supplemental breast MRIs, the most often recommended supplemental screening, reduce death from breast cancer.

However, more early stage - but not late-stage - cancers are found with MRIs, which may require less extensive surgery and less chemotherapy.

## Benefit

Various professional organizations and experts interpret the available data about supplemental screening differently, arriving at different conclusions and recommendations. An important consideration is the woman's individual level of risk, since emerging evidence suggests that women whose personal risk of developing breast cancer is high are most likely to benefit from supplemental screening.

Some organizations have concluded that current evidence is too limited to make a recommendation for supplemental screening, or they do not recommend routine use of supplemental screening for women based solely on breast density. Others recommend additional screening for women with extremely or heterogeneously dense breasts, even when their risk is at the intermediate level.

Because personal risk of breast cancer is a crucial consideration in deciding whether to undergo supplemental screening, women should understand their own risk.

The American College of Radiology recommends that all women undergo risk assessment by age 25. Women and their providers can use risk calculators such as Tyrer-Cuzick, which is free and available online.

Women should also understand that breast density is only one of several risks for breast cancer, and some of the others can be modified. Engaging in regular physical activity, maintaining a healthy weight, limiting alcohol use and eating a healthy diet rich in vegetables can all decrease breast cancer risk.

Amid the debate about the benefits of supplemental breast screening, there is less discussion about its possible harms. Most common are false alarms: results that suggest a finding of cancer that require follow-up testing. Less commonly, a biopsy is needed, which may lead to short-term fear and anxiety, medical bills or potential complications from interventions. (AP)

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## Agency voices serious concerns regarding protection of clean sport in the US

# WADA calls for 'root and branch reforms' of US anti-doping system

BEIJING, Sept 10, (Xinhua): The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has voiced serious concerns regarding the protection of clean sport in the United States, calling for "root and branch reforms" in its anti-doping system.

In a letter to Tobie Smith, chair of the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) board of directors, WADA highlighted that 90 percent of American athletes compete outside the jurisdiction of the World Anti-Doping Code, specifically those in professional leagues and college sports.

"Of primary concern is the matter of college sports, which account for so many athletes who go on to compete at the very highest levels, including the Olympic Games," WADA stated. "75 percent of U.S. athletes competing in Paris came through the collegiate system. That

is three-quarters of American Olympians who were at one time part of an elite system that operates far below the globally recognized clean sport standard." WADA also raised alarms about the broader impact, noting that the issue extends beyond just U.S. athletes. According to media reports, National Collegiate Athletics Association (NCAA) schools sent more than 1,000 former, current, and incoming student-athletes, representing over 100 countries and regions, to the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. Of those, 272 athletes won 330 medals for 26 countries and regions.

Given the number of top international athletes competing in U.S. systems, WADA expressed concern for their welfare, performance, and health. "We are sure it horrifies you to know that top overseas athletes may be taking 'doping vacations' on U.S. soil," WADA further criticized US-

ADA's testing performance as inadequate. In 2023, according to its own data, USADA collected just 7,773 samples from 3,011 athletes. WADA labeled this as a "disappointing number" given the country's population, the large pool of athletes, and the size of its Olympic team.

"The French National Anti-Doping Organization (NADO) collects significantly more samples than USADA, despite having a budget that is just a little more than one-third of USADA's. USADA also collected fewer samples than the NADOs in China, Russia, Italy, and Great Britain," WADA pointed out.

Additionally, WADA criticized USADA for reportedly running a scheme that allowed certain athletes who committed serious doping offenses to go undercover and continue competing for several years, which WADA deemed unfair to

## Corinthians sign Dutch forward Memphis Depay

RIO DE JANEIRO, Sept 10, (Xinhua): Corinthians have completed the signing of Dutch forward Memphis Depay, the Brazilian Serie A club said.

The 30-year-old, who arrives as a free agent after parting ways with Atletico Madrid in May, agreed to a deal that runs until December 2026,

according to a statement on Corinthians' official website.

Corinthians reportedly beat off competition for Depay's signature from clubs in Saudi Arabia, Spain and Mexico.

In addition to Atletico, his career has also included spells at Manches-

ter United, Barcelona, Lyon and PSV Eindhoven. He has been capped 98 times for the Netherlands and scored 46 goals.

Depay is expected to make his debut for the Sao Paulo-based club in a home clash against Atletico Goianiense on September 21.

clean athletes.

"In addition to jeopardizing the safety of the cooperating athletes, this scheme threatened the level playing field that is at the core of the fight against doping in sport. There is simply nothing under the Code that would allow for such a scheme to be operated," WADA commented.

In July of this year, WADA re-

ceived a letter from the Central European Anti-Doping Organization on behalf of a group of 32 National and Regional Anti-Doping Organizations from Europe, Asia, and Africa, seeking clarification on the global implementation of the World Anti-Doping Code.

In its letter to USADA, WADA emphasized, "In the face of ongoing

geopolitical interference, WADA will continue applying the Code without fear or favor, working with athletes, the sport movement, national and regional anti-doping organizations, and governments." "It is our mandate to ensure the rules are upheld consistently, regardless of which country or sport is involved," WADA concluded.



San Diego Wave's Alex Morgan, right, battles for the ball with North Carolina Courage's Malia Berkely during an NWSL soccer in San Diego. (AP)

# Uganda blanks Republic of Congo in Africa Cup of Nations qualifier

### Cranes top group with victory

KAMPALA, Sept 10, (Xinhua): Uganda Cranes secured their first win in Group K of the CAF Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) 2025 qualifiers, defeating the Republic of Congo 2-0 at the Nelson Mandela Stadium in Namboole, Kampala.

The Republic of Congo started the game strongly, making several

attacking moves toward Uganda's goal, but it was Czech Republic-based player Abdu Aziz Kayondo who opened the scoring for the hosts after 21 minutes. He delivered a perfect curling shot from outside the box, beating goalkeeper Pavel Ndzila.

### SOCCER

In the second half, the Republic of Congo intensified their attacks, with skipper Silvere Ganvoula Mboussy

and Mons Rogeani Andre Basouamina dominating play. However, Uganda's defense stood firm, repelling the opposition's efforts.

Jude Ssemugabi extended Uganda's lead in the 85th minute with a simple tap-in after receiving a well-placed pass from substitute Allan Okello.

The victory propels Uganda to the top of Group K with four points, following their 2-2 draw against South Africa in their opening match last Saturday. South Sudan, who lost 1-0 to the Republic of Congo in their first game, will host South Africa on

Tuesday in Juba.

Paul Put, the Uganda Cranes coach, praised his team's efforts and the fans' support. "I thank the players for the job well done and the fans for coming in large numbers to cheer the team," said Put.

Republic of Congo coach Isaac Ngata acknowledged his team's shortcomings. "We did not defend well and gave the opponents some space to score," Ngata told Xinhua.

Uganda last participated in the Africa Cup of Nations in 2019, held in Egypt.

# Deadline approaching for appeals in the case that exonerated Sinner

ROME, Sept 10, (AP): Time is running out for appeals to be filed in the case that exonerated U.S. Open champion Jannik Sinner from doping.

The World Anti-Doping Agency and Nado Italia, Italy's anti-doping agency, likely have only a few more days to challenge the decision announced by the International Tennis Integrity Agency on Aug. 20.

There is a 21-day window to appeal that started when the parties received the decision. Any appeal would be filed to the Switzerland-based Court of Arbitration for Sport.

Sinner tested positive twice for an anabolic steroid in March but was not suspended because the ITIA determined the banned performance-

enhancer entered his system unintentionally through a massage from his physiotherapist.

The doping case was kept secret until last month's announcement and the top-ranked Sinner went on to beat Taylor Fritz in the U.S. Open final on Sunday.

An appeal could jeopardize his U.S. Open title but Sinner and his legal team have provided detailed scientific evidence to show that his explanation is credible.

Sinner said after winning his second Grand Slam title that the months before his case was resolved were not easy.

"It was very difficult for me to enjoy in certain moments," he said, "so whoever knows me better, they know that

something was wrong. But during this tournament, slowly I restarted to feel a little bit more how I am as a person."

While other players have expressed concern with how Sinner's case was kept secret, WADA and Nado Italia would likely be interested only in the scientific details.

### TENNIS

An appeal verdict at CAS could come quickly - even within just a few months - if the parties agree to cooperate. At least that's how it worked in another high-profile doping case in tennis involving Maria Sharapova.

Sharapova tested positive at the

Australian Open in January 2016 for the newly-banned heart medication meldonium. She was banned for two years in June that year by the International Tennis Federation.

The Russian star appealed to CAS, had an appeal hearing in New York before three judges that September, and four weeks later got the verdict that cut her ban to 15 months.

The entire process for Sharapova with CAS took just four months - far shorter than most doping cases, which typically last about one year. The timeline can stall with the complexities of picking a judging panel, finding a hearing date and parties exchanging documents and evidence from expert witnesses.



Jannik Sinner, of Italy, returns a shot to Taylor Fritz, of the United States, during the men's singles final of the U.S. Open tennis championships in New York. (AP)

## F1 car design great crosses over

# Newey to 'join' Aston Martin after leaving Red Bull team

SILVERSTONE, England, Sept 10, (AP): Formula 1's most influential car designer, Adrian Newey, is joining Aston Martin in March 2025 after leaving Red Bull, ending months of speculation over a backroom figure who seemed more in-demand than any driver.

Newey has spent nearly two decades with Red Bull and is widely credited with putting the team on its path to dominance in F1. Now he's joining a team that has big ambitions to challenge for the title and the backing of

### MOTOR RACING

billionaire Lawrence Stroll - but no race wins yet.

Newey will arrive in his new role as "managing technical partner" in time to help shape how Aston Martin responds to the new F1 car regulations coming for 2026. He'll also be made a shareholder in the team.

Newey said he and Stroll got to know each other while training in the gym during F1 race weekends in Asia. Newey visited Aston Martin's new headquarters in June as Stroll closed in on a signing which the Canadian billionaire called "another demonstration of our ambition to build a Formula 1 team capable of fighting for world championships."

"You have to be honest with yourself and you have to keep yourself fresh and so I felt I needed a new challenge," Newey said.

He added that Stroll's hands-on approach as an owner was an "old-school model" that reminded him of his old bosses at teams like Williams and McLaren, which both won titles with Newey-designed cars in the 1990s.

"I was very flattered to have a lot of approaches from various teams, but really, Lawrence's passion and commitment and enthusiasm is very endearing, it's very persuasive."

The last time the regulations had a big change, with the return of "ground effect" aerodynamics for 2022, it was Newey's Red Bull that dominated as Max Verstappen won the championship. Newey had a lifetime of experience to draw on, having written his university thesis on ground effect in the 1980s, back when it was previously used in F1.

Aston Martin's drivers are Fernando Alonso, the two-time champion and Lance Stroll, the son of team owner



Adrian Newey, newly-appointed managing technical partner of Aston Martin Aramco Formula One Team, speaks during a press conference at the AMF1 Team Technology Campus, Silverstone, Northamptonshire, England. (AP)

Lawrence Stroll. Newey said he'd known Lance Stroll from his teenage years competing against Newey's son in Formula 3, and said Alonso seemed like "a kind of archenemy at times" when he was challenging for wins against Newey's previous employers.

Newey joined Red Bull in 2006 and helped the team win seven drivers' titles - including the last three seasons with Verstappen - and six constructors' titles.

Red Bull said in May that its chief technical officer would be stepping back from F1 design and focus on a production car, the RB17, before leaving in the first quarter of 2025.

The announcement comes ahead of this week's Azerbaijan Grand Prix, and at a time when Red Bull's dominance of F1 seems to be slipping.

Max Verstappen - who recently called his Red Bull car a "monster" - and his teammate Sergio Perez have not won any of the last six races, the team's longest drought since 2020, while McLaren and Mercedes now seem to have faster cars.

Newey's departure is also part of a broader exodus of senior Red Bull staff in a season which began amid legal turmoil when team principal Christian Horner was accused of misconduct by an employee. Red Bull's parent company dismissed a complaint against Horner and an appeal was dismissed last month.

PRESS CLIPPING FOR LOSS OF CERTIFICATE  
I, REHMAN SHAHZAD son of MUHAMMAD SHAHZAD residing in KUWAIT announce through daily Arab Times that my HSSC certificate bearing Roll No. 544060 of the year 2009 issued by Federal Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education Islamabad has been lost.  
Whoever finds it, shall send it to the address Apartment 14, Floor 3, Building 35, Yousef Al Badr Street, Block 10, Salmiya, Kuwait or call on the No. 97801988

# Australia launches major athletic talent search ahead of Games

CANBERRA, Sept 10, (Xinhua): The Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) has launched its largest-ever search for athletic talent for the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Brisbane.

The AIS, Australia's government-funded high-performance sports training center, on Tuesday announced it has partnered with all states and territories, Paralympics Australia and over 40 major sports for the Future Green and Gold campaign.

Under the campaign, the AIS will lead Australia's greatest talent search to identify the next generation

of the country's sport champions and fast-track their development in the lead-up to Brisbane 2032.

"We have an ambitious goal to have the best Olympic and Paralympic team ever in Brisbane, and to achieve this, we need to significantly boost our current talent pool, in particular our para-athletes," Matti Clements, Executive General Manager of AIS Performance, said in a statement.

"Off the back of Australia's success in Paris, this is the best time to leverage that passion and encourage eligible Australians to put their names forward."

The search will focus on Australians aged 13-23 for Olympic sports and 13-plus for Paralympic sports.

Eligible participants will be invited to their closest clinic to have their strengths and skills measured. Those who show potential will undertake a trial with a recommended sport before potentially being offered a position in a Talent Development Program.

Current athletes will also be offered the opportunity to transition to a different sport.

Brisbane, the capital of the northeastern state of Queensland, was awarded hosting rights for the

2032 Summer Olympics and Paralympics in 2021. It will mark the third time the Olympics have been held in Australia after Melbourne in 1956 and Sydney in 2000.

In May, the federal government committed 249.7 million Australian dollars (166.1 million U.S. dollars) to upgrade AIS facilities in Canberra ahead of the 2032 games.

In August, the AIS said it would double the number of Australia's Paralympic coaches in the lead-up to 2032.



## Toyota likely to keep its Paralympic Games sponsorship

## Top Olympic sponsor Panasonic ending contract with IOC

TOKYO, Sept 10, (AP): Olympic sponsor Panasonic is terminating its contract with the IOC at the end of the year, the company said in a statement Tuesday.

Panasonic is one of 15 companies that are so-called TOP sponsors for the International Olympic Committee. It's not known the value of the Panasonic sponsorship, but sponsors contribute more than \$2 billion in a four-year cycle to the IOC.

In a statement, Panasonic said it became an IOC sponsor in 1987 and expanded to the Paralympics in 2014. It did not make clear why it was changing course and said only that it was related to continual "reviews how sponsorship should evolve."

Two other Japanese companies are also among the IOC's 15 leading sponsors. Toyota, which for several months has been reportedly ready to end its contract, was contacted Tuesday by The Associated Press but offered no new information.

"Toyota has been supporting the Olympic and Paralympic movements since 2015 and continues to do so," Toyota said in a statement. "No announcement to suggest otherwise has been made by Toyota."

Japanese sponsors seem to have turned away from the Olympics, likely related to the one-year delay in holding the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. The COVID-19 delay reduced sponsors' visibility with no fans allowed to attend competition venues, ran up the costs, and unearthed myriad corruption scandals around the Games.

Tiremaker Bridgestone told AP "nothing has been decided."

Toyota had a contact valued at \$835 million - reported to be the IOC's largest when it was an-

nounced in 2015. It included four Olympics beginning with the Pyeongchang 2018 Winter Games in South Korea and ran through the just-completed Paris Olympics and Paralympics.

Reports in Japan suggest Toyota may keep its Paralympic Olympic sponsorship.

The IOC TOP sponsors are: ABInBev, Airbnb, Alibaba, Allianz, Atos, Bridgestone, Coca-Cola, Deloitte, Intel, Omega, Panasonic, P&G, Samsung, Toyota, and Visa.

In a report several months ago by the Japanese news agency Kyodo, unnamed sources said Toyota was unhappy with how the IOC uses sponsorship money. It said the money was "not used effectively to support athletes and promote sports."

## OLYMPICS

Japan was once a major font of revenue, but increasingly the IOC has sought out sponsors from China, with increasing interest from the Middle East and India.

"We would love to welcome a first new TOP sponsor from India and I am sure that this is going to happen very, very soon," the IOC's marketing director, Anne-Sophie Voumard, said last month at the Paris Olympics.

"It's a very, very dynamic program," Voumard said on Aug. 7 of the TOP slate, adding "partners come and go depending on their business strategy."

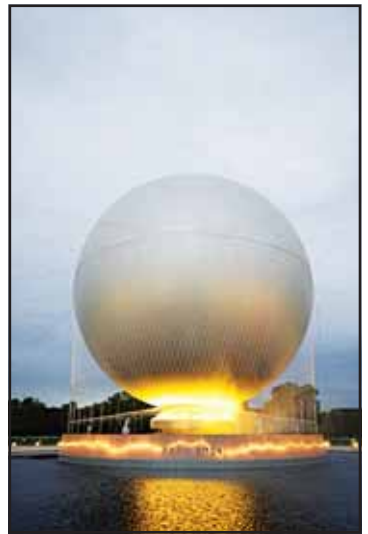
Japan officially spent \$13 billion on the Tokyo Olympics, at least half of which was public money. A government audit suggested the real cost was twice that. The IOC contribution was about \$1.8 billion.

The Tokyo Games were mired in corruption scandals linked to local sponsorships and the awarding of contracts. Dentsu Inc, the huge Japanese marketing and public relations company, was the marketing arm of the Tokyo Olympics and raised a record-\$3.3 billion in local sponsorship money. This is separate from TOP sponsors.

French prosecutors also looked into alleged vote-buying in the IOC's decision in 2013 to pick Tokyo as the host for the 2020 Summer Games.

The IOC had income of \$7.6 billion in the last four-year cycle ending with the Tokyo Games. Figures have not been released yet for the cycle ending with the Paris Olympics.

The IOC's TOP sponsors paid over \$2 billion in that period. The figure is expected to reach \$3 billion in the next cycle.



The cauldron is seen ahead of the closing ceremony for the 2024 Paralympics in Paris, France. (AP)

## Lawrence dropped for Pakistan tour

## England calls up Carse and Cox

LONDON, Sept 10, (AP): England dropped batter Dan Lawrence and called up uncapped seam bowler Brydon Carse, weeks after he completed a ban for breaching betting violations, for the three-match test tour of Pakistan in October.

England's 17-man squad was announced on Tuesday and included opener Zak Crawley and captain Ben Stokes, who both missed the recent series against Sri Lanka because of finger and hamstring injuries, respectively.

## CRICKET

Lawrence played as a makeshift opener against the Sri Lankans in Crawley's absence but failed to impress, with his highest score being 35. Jordan Cox, who is uncapped at test level and will play for England for the first time in the upcoming white-ball matches against Australia, replaced Lawrence.

Carse is the other uncapped player summoned after serving a three-month ban for historical breaches of betting rules. The South Africa-born pacer was banned for 16 months, but 13 of them were suspended and he was free to resume playing on Aug. 28.

England will take three spinners to the subcontinent in Shoaib Bashir, Rehan Ahmed and Jack Leach, the latter two having been overlooked



England's Ollie Stone in action on day four of the Third Test Men's Test at The Kia Oval, in London. (AP)

for this summer's test series against the West Indies and Sri Lanka.

Josh Hull, the 20-year-old left-arm who made his debut in the third test against Sri Lanka and is seen as the future of England's pace attack, was one of seven seamers in the squad. Among them is Chris Woakes, who was selected for an overseas test series for the first time since 2022.

The venues for the three-match series are yet to be confirmed. The England and Wales Cricket Board said an announcement is expected from the Pakistan Cricket Board this week.

England Squad: Ben Stokes (captain), Rehan Ahmed, Gus Atkinson, Shoaib Bashir, Harry Brook, Brydon Carse, Jordan Cox, Zak Crawley, Ben Duckett, Josh Hull, Jack Leach, Ollie Pope, Matthew Potts, Joe Root, Jamie Smith, Olly Stone, Chris Woakes.

Play in the one-off test between Afghanistan and New Zealand was abandoned without a ball bowled for a second consecutive day on Tuesday because of a wet outfield.

Day two developed in a similar fashion to Monday as the toss was first delayed while grounds staff worked to replace the top layer of the wet outfield with patches from practice areas. But it did not dry out sufficiently and an inspection was delayed again until 3 p.m. local time before play was called off again.

The toss is now scheduled for 9 a.m. Wednesday with play to begin 30 minutes later if the weather and conditions allow for it.

This is Afghanistan's third cricket test in 2024, following once-off matches against Ireland and Sri Lanka.

Afghanistan is staging the match near India's capital because it cannot host international cricket on home soil. The region has received incessant rainfall over the past week.

New Zealand is kicking off a three-month subcontinental tour that will involve a series against Afghanistan, two tests in Sri Lanka and then another three in India.

This first test between the two countries is not part of the 2025 World Test Championship.

## France continues winning streak over Belgium in Nations League



Wales' Neco Williams, right, duels for the ball with Montenegro's Andrija Vukcevic during the UEFA Nations League soccer match between Montenegro and Wales at the City Stadium, in Niksic, Montenegro. (AP)

## Haaland late goal secures Norway victory

## Match-fixing and bribery cases uncovered

## China's Football Association bans 43 for life after corruption investigation

DALIAN, China, Sept 10, (AP): China's Football Association has banned 43 people for life over allegations of match-fixing and other forms of corruption in the latest effort to weed out graft in the country's notoriously underperforming team sport.

The official Xinhua News Agency on Tuesday reported that Zhang Xiaopeng, a top police official, attended a news conference at Dalian to release details of a "two-year investigation that uncovered a series of online gambling, match-fixing and bribery cases."

Xinhua said 120 matches in domestic leagues, 128 criminal suspects, and 41 clubs were implicated in the investigation. Of those banned,

38 were players and five were officials working for various clubs.

Former Chinese internationals Jin Jingdao, Guo Tianyu, and Gu Chao were among those to receive life bans from the sport.

Other players and officials were given shortened bans, including foreign players lured to China by the promise of high salaries.

South Korean Son Jun-ho, who played for China's Shandong Taishan FC, and Ewolo Donovan of Cameroon, who formerly played for Heilongjiang Ice City, were given five-year bans.

Son's activities "seriously violated sports ethics and sportsmanship, causing a significant negative impact on society," according to the federa-

tion's statement.

Chinese President Xi Jinping has pledged to make China a football superpower, but the men's teams haven't found much traction. Pledges to build new pitches and hire staff have fallen short as the economy struggles to regain its feet following the COVID-19 pandemic.

Japan trounced China 7-0 last week to open the third round of Asian qualifying for the 2026 World Cup. It was China's most lopsided loss against Japan, a geopolitical rival in Asia.

China was No. 87 in the latest FIFA world rankings for men's national teams, just below Curaçao (population 150,000), and just above Equatorial Guinea (1.7 million).

in a low shot. The VAR check for a possible offside went on and on before the goal was confirmed.

Norway and Slovenia each have four points at the top of their second-tier group ahead of meeting in Oslo on Oct. 10.

Norway captain Martin Odegaard limped off with an ankle injury in the second half, causing concern for his club Arsenal, which faces three tough away games in eight days at Tottenham, Atalanta in the Champions League, and then English Premier League titleholder Manchester City.

Turkey leads its second-tier group from Wales on goal difference with both on four points after wins.

Kerem Aktürkoğlu scored a hat trick for Turkey, starting in the second minute, in a 3-1 result over Iceland just days after his move from Galatasaray to Benfica restored his chance to play in the Champions League this season.

Wales scored twice in the first three minutes in Montenegro and hung on for a rain-soaked 2-1 win. The second goal was a dipping shot from 25 meters by Harry Wilson.



France's Kylian Mbappe, left, and Belgium's Wout Faes fight for the ball during the UEFA Nations League soccer match between France and Belgium at the Groupama stadium in Decines, outside Lyon, France. (AP)

GENEVA, Sept 10, (AP): Even after leaving star forward Kylian Mbappé on the bench, France handed Belgium yet another loss in the Nations League.

Two of Mbappé's former teammates at Paris Saint-Germain, Randal Kolo Muani and Ousmane Dembélé, struck with powerful shots on either side of halftime in a 2-0 win in Lyon.

The latest win helped France make up ground in the top-tier Nations League group after losing to Italy 3-1 in Paris on Friday. Italy beat Israel 2-1 with goals from Davide Frattesi and Moise Kean and leads the four-team group.

## SOCCER

Also, Erling Haaland scored a decisive 80th-minute goal in Norway's 2-1 win over Austria, and Slovenia star Benjamin Šeško scored a hat trick in a 3-0 win over Kazakhstan. Haaland and Šeško once were clubmates in Austria at Salzburg.

Mbappé was rested from the start despite France seeking to avoid a third straight loss, two months after a European Championship semifinals exit against eventual title winner Spain.

Real Madrid's new star had little pre-season preparation after Euro 2024 and played a full game against Italy. He was eased in against Belgium by coach Didier Deschamps, who sent on his captain in the 67th minute to replace Kolo Muani.

France extended its winning run over Belgium to four games in the Mbappé era. Starting in the 2018 World Cup semifinals, Les Bleus also eliminated Belgium in the 2021 Nations League semifinals and in the Euro 2024 round of 16.

Monday's game was 43 years to the day since France lost a competition game against Belgium, in 1981 in Brussels in a World Cup qualifier.

Belgium started with fierce intent and France survived a wave of early attacks in an increasingly tense atmosphere. Belgium forward Loïs Openda was at the heart of most of the action and confrontations.

"Belgium created plenty of problems for us, especially in the first 25 minutes," Deschamps acknowledged.

France led in the 30th when Kolo Muani lashed in a shot from close range after goalkeeper Koen Casteels pushed out a weak bouncing effort from Dembélé.

Dembélé was more purposeful in the 57th, cutting in from the right side of the penalty area to score with a rising left-foot shot. A smiling Mbappé was among the substitutes who went on to celebrate with Dembélé and lifted him to his feet.

Haaland had to wait and wait - after a 2 1/2-minute video review check - for his 32nd career goal for Norway in just his 35th international.

At 1-1 in the 80th minute against Austria, the ball returned to Haaland near the penalty spot and the striker held off two defenders before poking





Fans pose for photos as they wait for the start of a World Cup qualifier between the Palestinian soccer team and Jordan at Cheras Stadium in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. (AP)

# Sports

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Shafeeq leads charge for the Blues

## Kuwait powers through to T20 Cricket World Cup qualifiers

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 10: In a pivotal clash during the ICC T20 World Cup Sub Regional Qualifiers A, Kuwait faced Hong Kong China in a match that saw fluctuating fortunes before being interrupted by heavy rain. Captain Aslam of Kuwait opted to bowl first after winning the toss, and his bowlers delivered in spades. Shafeeq, opening with the new ball, led the charge for Kuwait with a devastating spell, picking up 3 wickets for 35 runs in his 4 overs. Shafeeq's consistent breakthroughs set the tone early, as he applied pressure on Hong Kong China's top order. Yasin Patel, who has been Kuwait's go-to bowler throughout the tournament, lived up to his "Golden Arm" reputation by claiming 2 wickets for 28 in his 4 overs. Captain Aslam contributed with a controlled spell, taking 1 for 25, while Shiraz was outstanding with an economical 2 for 19 in his 4 overs quota, keeping the opposition's scoring

in check. Together, Kuwait's bowling attack restricted Hong Kong China to a modest 138/9 in their 20 overs, a competitive but certainly chaseable total.

As Kuwait came out to chase, Hong

Kong China's bowlers wasted no time in putting them under pressure. With a fiery and disciplined start, Hong Kong China's bowlers struck early blows, reducing Kuwait to 11 for 2 within

the first four overs. Kuwait's top order struggled to cope with the aggression, as the Hong Kong China bowlers maintained tight lines and lengths. With the game hanging in the balance and Kuwait in recovery mode, the weather took a dramatic turn. The rain, which had threatened throughout, finally came down heavily, halting the match.

celebrated its achievement, having put in a solid tournament performance to earn their spot in the next stage. Mohammad Shafeeq was named Man of the Match for his outstanding bowling display in this crucial encounter.

"Kuwait was brave throughout the tournament, securing 4 very convincing victories. Before the start of the qualifiers, Kuwait had already stamped its authority as champion of the KCC T20I Tri-Nations Cup, where it defeated Hong Kong China in three consecutive matches. On this day, the rain god seemed to intervene as a testament that fortune favors the brave, and indeed, destiny rewards those who dare to write their own path. Now, Kuwait is proudly qualified for the next round of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup Regional Qualifiers."



Kuwait and Hong Kong captains pose with the umpire after the toss.

### CRICKET

spite waiting for the weather to clear, the downpour persisted, forcing the umpires to call off the game due to the conditions. Both teams were awarded a point each, and the outcome left Kuwait holding second place in the standings.

This result was enough for Kuwait to secure qualification for the next round of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup Regional Qualifiers 2026, joining Malaysia in advancing. The Kuwait team cel-



Indonesia's Jay Noah Idzes, right, battles for the ball against Australia's Harry Souttar during the FIFA World Cup 2026 qualifier third round Group C Asia soccer match between Indonesia and Australia at Gelora Bung Karno stadium in Jakarta, Indonesia. (AP)

# Last-gasp Saudi Arabia edges China

Australia held to 0-0 draw by Indonesia, Qatar earns point in Pyongyang

JAKARTA, Indonesia, Sept 10, (AP): Australia's stuttering start to the third round of World Cup qualifying hit another bump Tuesday with a 0-0 draw against Indonesia in Jakarta.

The result follows a 1-0 loss at home to Bahrain last week and leaves the Socceroos still without a goal in Group C as they aim for a sixth successive World Cup appearance.

Australia had 20 shots but was unable to convert and silence the 78,000 home fans at the Gelora Bung Karno Stadium.

"Vastly improved performance and the boys showed that," Australia coach Graham Arnold said. "But very disappointed. How many chances do we create? How many chances do we get? It has been a common theme for over a year."

Australia still moved one point ahead of China, which fell to a last-minute 2-1 loss to Saudi Arabia in Dalian despite taking an early lead and then playing most of the match against 10 men.

### SOCCER

China took the lead from a corner in the 14th minute when Saudi Arabia's Ali Lajimi put the ball into his own net, and the visitors then went a man down five minutes later when Mohamed Kanno was sent off for kicking out at Jiang Shenglong.

But a bad week for Chinese soccer - which saw China lose 7-0 to Japan last week and the country's Football Association ban 43 people for life over allegations of match-fixing and other forms of corruption - only got worse.

Defender Hasan Kadash helped Saudi Arabia turn the game around as he first equalized seven minutes before the break by heading home a corner for his first international goal and then added a second in the 90th to give Roberto Mancini's team a vital win to stay on course for a seventh World Cup appearance.

The 18 teams in the third round of



Kuwait powerboat team celebrates after finishing third.

KUNA photo

qualifying have been divided into three groups of six. The top two from each automatically qualify for the 2026

World Cup. The teams that place third and fourth will advance to a fourth qualifying round to compete for two more places.

In Group A, North Korea and Qatar drew 2-2 in a game played in Laos after being moved from Pyongyang.

## Kuwait powerboat team secures 3rd at UIM World Championship

LONDON, Sept 10, (KUNA): Kuwait's national powerboat team secured third place at the Powerboat World Championship, organized by the Union Internationale Motonautique (UIM) in Plymouth, United Kingdom, competing across two categories.

In the B 300-horsepower category, the Kuwaiti team, led by world champion Bader Al-Dousari and his co-pilot Mohammed Al-Essayie, claimed third place. Meanwhile, in the P 150-horsepower category, the duo of Khaled Karam and Adel Al-Sharida also achieved third place, with their teammates Nasser Al-Khadhra and Mishaal Al-Misbah finishing fifth in the final round.

The head of Kuwait's delegation, Ali Al-Shamali, expressed pride in the team's accomplishments in a statement to KUNA. He noted that the team competed in the B category with their boat, "Raheeb 17," powered by a 300-horsepower engine and piloted by 2023 world champion Bader Al-Dousari alongside Mohammed Al-Essayie. The

team earned two silver medals on the first two days of the event, culminating in a third-place overall finish.

Al-Shamali explained that an accident during the second round of the championship, held in Belgium in June, affected the team's chances of retaining their world champion title. However, their strong performance in the first round in Spain, where they earned two silver medals in April, allowed them to accumulate enough points for the overall bronze.

In the P 150-horsepower single-engine category, Kuwait's "Raheeb 171," piloted by Khaled Karam and Adel Al-Sharida, secured second and fourth place during the Spanish round in April. They went on to win first place in Belgium and finished third and fourth in the final round in Plymouth, ultimately securing third place overall and a bronze medal.

A third Kuwaiti boat, competing for the first time, finished fifth overall in the P 150-horsepower category, piloted by Al-Khadhra and Al-Misbah.

## Labrune gets another 4-yr term

PARIS, Sept 10, (AP): French league president Vincent Labrune was re-elected Tuesday to another four-year term with an overwhelming majority.

The league said Labrune, who was formerly club president of nine-time French champion Marseille, received strong support from the board and was then elected by the general assembly in the first round of ballots with 85.67 percent of the votes.

### SOCCER

Labrune faced criticism in recent months over the handling of the league's TV rights.

Following the Mediapro collapse four years ago, the league hoped it could get up to 1 billion euros (\$1.1 billion) per year from the sale of broadcasting rights for 2024-29 but had to lower its target. In the end, the league settled for 500 million euros per year after sealing a late deal with British streaming platform DAZN and BeIN Sports.



Jiang Shenglong (top) of China heads the ball causing an own goal by Ali Lajimi of Saudi Arabia during the 2026 FIFA World Cup Asian Qualifiers match between China and Saudi Arabia in Dalian, northeast China's Liaoning Province. (Xinhua)