



basketball

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cricket
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Kuwait weighs KD 5,000 fine each for flat owner and tenant, civil ID ban

Bill seeks to restrict bachelor housing with harsh fines



MoFA photo
Kuwait Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Salem Abdullah Jaber Al-Sabah and Russian Federation counterpart Sergei Lavrov during a joint conference in Moscow on Friday.

Gaza on agenda

Kuwait, Russia forge closer relations in high-level talks

MOSCOW, Nov 4, (KUNA): Kuwait Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Salem Abdullah Jaber Al-Sabah and Russian Federation counterpart Sergei Lavrov held official talks in Moscow on Friday.

At the outset of the meeting, Sheikh Salem conveyed greetings on behalf of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, government and people of Kuwait to Russian President Vladimir Putin and to the Russian government and people.

Sheikh Salem then expressed wishes for continued growth, prosperity, progress and prosperity for Russia and its people, praising the strength, durability and close cooperation of such historical relations that lasted for 60 years.

For his part, Lavrov expressed his best regards to the political leadership in the State of Kuwait, appreciating the deep ties that bring together the two countries and peoples, and expressing his country's pride in the distinguished path of relations and existing cooperation with the State of Kuwait in all fields.

Later, discussions delved into frameworks for strengthening bilateral relations and pushing those to advanced positions, including ways to achieve the visions of the leadership of the two countries towards more progress and a broader future that reflects those aspirations and achieves the common interests of the two countries.

They two sides also discussed the latest developments in the regional and international arenas, most notably the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories and the dangerous escalation in Gaza Strip.

They two ministers also discussed ways to enhance cooperation between the two sides, including support joint international efforts and stop the ongoing war in Gaza, in addition to guaranteeing that the spread of violence does not increase, and to intensify diplomatic and political action to ensure the provision of safe crossings for the arrival of humanitarian aid and relief aid to the Palestinian people.

The two ministers underlined the need for joint work towards finding a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestinian issue, and to bring peace and stability to the region.

Talks also focused on developments on the Iraqi scene, especially the repercussions related to the incorrect historical findings issued by the Iraqi Federal Supreme Court regarding Khor Abdullah port agreement, and the issue of completing Delineating the Kuwaiti-Iraqi maritime borders beyond Mark No. 162, as well as the necessity of ending the demarcation of the maritime borders between the State of Kuwait and Iran.

Afterwards, talks between the two sides highlighted the Syrian crisis, international efforts, including efforts aimed at finding a political solution that would end the suffering of the Syrian people.

The two also discussed the crisis in Ukraine and its repercussions at the regional and international arenas, including discussions on other regional and international topics of common interest.

The two ministers reaffirmed the joint commitment to enhancing stability and security in the region.

Later, a joint press conference was held, during which Sheikh Salem thanked his Russian counterpart for the invitation to visit Moscow, noting that bilateral discussions were "fruitful and constructive" and addressed ways to develop "strong and historical" relations between the two countries.

Sheikh Salem added that Kuwait was the first Gulf country to establish relations with the (Soviet Union) in 1963, as the two countries celebrate this year the 60th anniversary of established diplomatic ties.

Sheikh Salem said that he briefed the Russian Foreign Minister on his talks with Iraq regarding the importance of ending the demarcation of our maritime borders beyond the 162 Mark, noting that there was similar views regarding the importance of ending the demarcation of these borders and ways to achieve such goal.

The Kuwaiti minister stated that the discussions dealt with the regional situation, mainly the war in Gaza Strip, noting also on similar views on the importance of stopping it immediately and allowing humanitarian aid to enter the Strip.

By Saeed Mahmoud Saleh
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: A number of MPs have criticized the recent appointment of public prosecutors, particularly the rejection of highly qualified applicants just because of the category of Kuwaiti citizenship they hold.

MP Abdulhadi Al-Ajmi described the appointment decision of the Ministry of Justice as unjust, racist and a violation of the Constitution; which guarantees equality of all citizens.

He called on Minister of Justice and State Minister for Housing Affairs Faleh Al-Raqaba to allow the rejected applicants to submit their complaints in line with the equal opportunities principle.

MP Muhammad Al-Hewaila asserted that the discrimination of citizens based on the category of citizenship they hold is completely unacceptable. He stressed such an attitude causes social cracks, destroys the national fabric and violates the Constitution.

He also underscored the need to review the issue; as the recruitment process in the public sector must be based on efficiency and capability.

MP Meteb Ayed Al-Raathan urged HH the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah to address the violations committed in the previous period. He stated that the appointment decision contravened the Constitution.

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UN shelter, hospital hit

Blinken meets Arab FM's, seeks more Gaza aid

Other Voices

I renew my earlier appeals for a humanitarian ceasefire

Statement by the Secretary-General - on the situation in the Middle East

By Antonio Guterres

Secretary-General of the United Nations

I AM horrified by the reported attack in Gaza on an ambulance convoy outside Al Shifa hospital. The images of bodies strewn on the street outside the hospital are harrowing.

I do not forget the terror attacks committed in Israel by Hamas and the killing, maiming and abductions, including of women and children. All hostages held in Gaza must be released immediately and unconditionally.

Now, for nearly one month, civilians in Gaza, including children and women, have been besieged, denied aid, killed, and bombed out of their homes.

This must stop. The humanitarian situation in Gaza is horrific. Not nearly

enough food, water and medicine are coming in to meet people's needs. Fuel to power hospitals and water plants is running out. UNRWA shelters are at nearly four times their full capacity and are being hit in bombardments. Morgues are overflowing. Shops are empty. The sanitation situation is abysmal. We are seeing an increase in diseases and respiratory illnesses, especially among children. An entire population is traumatized. Nowhere is safe.

I renew my earlier appeals for a humanitarian ceasefire.

International humanitarian law must be respected. Civilians and civilian infrastructure, including humanitarian and medical workers and assets must be protected. Civilians must also not be used as human shields.

Essential supplies and services and unimpeded humanitarian access must be safely allowed into and across Gaza at a scale commensurate with this dramatic situation.

All those with influence must exert it to ensure respect for the rules of war, end the suffering and avoid a spillover of the conflict that could engulf the whole region.

RAFAH, Gaza Strip, Nov 4, (AP): Israeli military strikes killed multiple civilians Saturday at a U.N. shelter and hospital in the main combat zone in the Gaza Strip as the assault intensified on the besieged enclave's Hamas rulers, amid growing international uproar over the soaring death toll and deepening humanitarian crisis.

Israel's military said it had encircled Gaza City, the target of its offensive to crush Hamas, but on Saturday offered a three-hour window for residents trapped by the fighting to flee south.

The new attacks came as U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken was in the region seeking ways to ease the plight of civilians caught in the fighting. He met with Arab foreign ministers on Saturday in Jordan, the day after talks in Israel with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who insisted there could be no temporary cease-fire until all hostages held by Hamas are released.

Egyptian officials said they and Qatar were proposing humanitarian pauses for six to 12 hours daily to allow aid and casualties to be evacuated. They were also asking for Israel to release a number of women and elderly prisoners in exchange for hostages held by Hamas - suggestions Israel seems unlikely to accept. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to brief the press on the discussions.

The Israeli military has repeatedly demanded that northern Gaza's 1.1 million residents flee south as it escalates bombardment of the north and tightens the noose around Gaza City. However, some of those traveling south were killed during their journey in recent days, and Israel has continued bombing in the south, saying it is striking Hamas targets.

With wide swaths of residential neighborhoods leveled in airstrikes, most of northern Gaza's remaining residents, estimated at around 300,000, have sought shelter in U.N.-run schools and in hospitals where they hope they'll be safe. But deadly Israeli strikes have also repeatedly hit and damaged those shelters.

On Saturday, two strikes hit a U.N. school-turned-shelter just north of Gaza City, killing several people in tents in the schoolyard and women who were baking bread inside the building, according to the U.N. agency for Palestinian refugees.

Initial reports indicated that 20 people were killed but the agency has not yet been able to verify the figure, said spokeswoman Juliette Touma. The Health Ministry in Hamas-run Gaza reported that 15 people were killed at the school where thousands have sought shelter and another 70 people wounded.

Also Saturday, two people were killed in a strike by the gate of Nasser Hospital in Gaza City, according to Medhat Abbas, spokesman for the Health Ministry.

About 1.5 million people in Gaza, or 70% of the population, have fled their homes, according to the U.N.

The family home of Hamas' exiled leader Ismail Haniyeh, in the Shati refugee camp on the northern edge of Gaza City, was hit Saturday morning by an airstrike, according to the Hamas-run media office in Gaza. It had no immediate details on damage or casualties and there was no immediate comment.

Overnight strikes also hit the western outskirts of the city and near Al-Quds Hospital in Gaza

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NewsWatch

NEW DELHI: Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his British counterpart Rishi Sunak on Saturday reiterated the need for Middle East peace, security, stability and continued humanitarian support.

Modi and Sunak exchanged views on the developments in the Middle East region, expressing concern at the worsening security situation and the loss of civilian lives, the Indian Prime Minister's Office said in a statement.

They also reaffirmed their commitment to continuing to strengthen their bilateral comprehensive strategic partnership, including in the areas of trade, investment, emerging technology, defence, security, health and others," the statement said. (KUNA)

LOS ANGELES: Ken Mattingly, an astronaut who is best remembered for his efforts on the ground that helped bring the damaged Apollo 13 spacecraft safely back to Earth, has died, NASA announced. He was 87.

"We lost one of our country's heroes on Oct. 31," NASA Administrator Bill Nelson said in a Thursday statement.

Thomas Kenneth Mattingly II "was key to the success of our Apollo Program, and his shining personality will ensure he is remembered throughout history," Nelson said. (AP)

TEHRAN: A fire at a private drug rehabilitation center in northern Iran killed 32 people on Friday, according to Iranian state media, five more than reported earlier.

State TV said 16 other people were injured and taken to hospitals in Langroud, a city about 200 kilometers (125 miles) northwest of the capital, Tehran.

The TV report said the center had capacity for 40 patients. It was not clear how many staff members were working when the early morning fire broke out. The earlier broadcast said 27 people died and 17 were injured. (AP)

TEHRAN: An Iranian court has sentenced a woman to death for adultery, state media said.

A report by the IRAN newspaper on Wednesday said the woman worked as a trainer in a gym for females. It said her husband contacted police in 2022 when he found her with another man at their home.

The husband discovered from surveillance cameras that she was having relations with other men, the report added. Under Iranian law, she can appeal the sentence. (AP)



The Japanese Society in Kuwait, in partnership with the Environment Public Authority, successfully carried out the 'Operation Turtle' beach cleaning campaign at Shuwaik Beach on Saturday, November 4. The event saw participation from various public benefit associations, the Japanese Embassy, state institutions, and a dedicated group of approximately 500 volunteers. - See Page 5

Authorities scramble to rescue survivors

Nepal temblor kills 157, injures dozens

KATHMANDU, Nepal, Nov 4, (AP): Nepalese authorities said their focus was on finding survivors after a strong earthquake shook districts in northwestern Nepal just before midnight Friday, killing at least 157 people and injuring dozens more.

The death toll was expected to rise as communications were still cut off in many places, officials said Saturday.

"The priority is to find the survivors and take them to hospital," said regional police chief, Bhim Dhakal, "while we recover bodies of the deceased."

Troops were clearing roads and mountain trails blocked by landslides triggered by the earthquake. Helicopters flew in medical workers and medicines

to the hospitals there.

Security forces on the ground were digging out the injured and dead from the rubble, Nepal police spokesperson Kuber Kadayat said.

At the regional hospital in the city of Nepalgunj, more than 100 beds were made available and teams of doctors stood by to help the injured.

"I was fast asleep when all of a sudden it started shaking violently. I tried to run but the whole house collapsed. I tried escaping but half my body got buried in the debris," said Bimal Kumar Karki, one of the first people to be brought to the regional hospital.

"I screamed, but every one of my neighbors was in the same situation and screaming for help. It took nearly a half-hour to an hour before rescuers found me," he said.

Besides rescue helicopters, small government and army planes able to land in the short mountain strips were also used to ferry the wounded to Nepalgunj.

The United States Geological Survey said the earthquake had a preliminary magnitude of 5.6 and occurred at a depth of 11 miles. Nepal's National Earthquake Monitoring & Research Center said its epicenter was at Jajarkot, which is about 400 kilometers (250 miles) northeast of the Nepalese capital, Kathmandu.

Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal flew in on a helicopter with a team of

doctors. Dahal led an armed communist revolt in 1996-2006 that began in the districts that were hit by the quake.

He brought seven injured people on his helicopter back to a hospital, according to his office.

In Jajarkot district, where the quake was, 92 people were confirmed dead and 55 others injured, Kadayat, the police spokesperson said. The quake killed at least 36 people in neighboring Rukum district, where numerous houses collapsed, and at least 85 injured people were taken to the local hospital, he said.

Security officials worked with villagers all through the night in the darkness to pull the dead and injured from fallen houses.

The quake, which hit when many people were already asleep in their homes, was felt in India's capital, New Delhi, more than 800 kilometers (500 miles) away.

Earthquakes are common in mountainous Nepal. A 7.8 magnitude earthquake in 2015 killed some 9,000 people and damaged about 1 million structures.

Neighboring India offered to help in the rescue efforts.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi shared on social media that he was deeply saddened by the loss of lives and damage due to the earthquake in Nepal.

"India stands in solidarity with the people of Nepal and is ready to extend all possible assistance," he said.



An earthquake victim receives treatment at Bheri hospital in Nepalgunj, Nepal, Saturday, Nov. 4, 2023. A strong earthquake has shaken northwestern Nepal, and officials say more than 100 people are dead and dozens more injured as rescuers search mountain villages. (AP)

UNHRC publishes findings on Kuwait

— Details Page 2 —

Prayer Timings

Fajr	04:42	Asr	14:38
Sunrise	06:03	Sunset	17:00
Zuhr	11:32	Isha	18:18

Local

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

Weather

Expected weather for the next 24 hours:

By Day: Rather hot with light variable wind to light to moderate northwesterly wind, with speed of 06-28 km/h and some scattered clouds will appear.

By Night: Mild and relatively humid specially over coastal areas with light variable wind to light to moderate northwesterly wind, with speed of 06-28 km/h

Station Max Exp Min Rec
Kuwait City 29 23

Kuwait Airport	31	19
Abdaly	32	18
Jahra	32	21
Salamiyah	27	25
Nuwaisib	32	21
Wafra	31	19

'Provide protection to 'bidoon' against discrimination'

UN panel issues findings on Iran, Kuwait, Korea, Trinidad & Tobago, US, Venezuela

GENEVA, Nov 4: The UN Human Rights Committee today issued its findings on the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kuwait, the Republic of Korea, Trinidad and Tobago, the United States of America and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, after examining the six States parties in its latest session.

The findings contain the Committee's main concerns and recommendations on the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, as well as positive aspects. Highlights include:

Islamic Republic of Iran

The Committee was disturbed by legal provisions that continue to discriminate against women and girls, particularly the "Support the Family by Promoting the Culture of Chastity and Hijab Bill," which imposes severe punishments on women and girls for violations of the mandatory dress code, including up to ten years in prison and flogging. It was also concerned about the redeployment of morality police to monitor the dress code in public. It urged the State Party to reform or repeal laws and policies that criminalise non-compliance with compulsory veiling, specifically the "Bill to Support the Family by Promoting the Culture of Chastity and Hijab". It also asked the State party to disband the morality police.

The Committee raised the alarm about the very high number of executions in the State party, including for offenses eligible for death sentences but do not qualify as "most serious", such as drug-related offenses and offenses against the State and religion. It also questioned the disproportionate use of the death penalty against members of minorities and the execution of minors. The Committee called upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to ensure that the death penalty is imposed only for the most serious crimes, involving intentional killing, and give due consideration to establishing a moratorium on the death penalty. It underscored that no one under the age of 18 at the time of the commission of an offense should be subjected to the death penalty under any circumstance.

Kuwait

The Committee expressed concern about the discriminatory measures and practices against "Bidoon", the stateless people, who endure different types of discrimination. It also voiced concern over the very high death rate among migrant workers who carry out dangerous jobs, particularly in construction sites. The Committee called upon Kuwait to ensure that no one becomes or remains stateless and provide full protection against discrimination in all spheres to Bidoon and other stateless people in the country. It also asked the State party to intensify its efforts to prevent the death of migrant workers, in particular by effectively enforcing the adopted measures to protect the safety and health of workers.

While the Constitution of Kuwait prohibits discrimination based on gender, the Committee was concerned about exceptions in the Personal Status Act that provide for unequal rights in marriage, divorce, parental authority, inheritance rights, and the value of testimony in courts. The Committee called upon the State party to undertake a comprehensive review of existing laws to repeal or amend all provisions that discriminate on the basis of gender. Kuwait should also develop strategies to combat patriarchal attitudes and stereotypes about the roles and responsibilities of women and men in the family and society at large.

Republic of Korea

While acknowledging the various measures taken by the State party to prevent suicides, the Committee remained concerned that suicide rates remain high among the elderly, youth and within the military. The Committee was concerned by claims that large numbers of military personnel suffer from mental illness linked to the high levels of pressure in their service.

It called on the State party to address the social root causes of suicide, including the very high levels of pressure in educational, working and military environments, and with regard to individuals in particularly vulnerable situations. It stated that the Republic of Korea should also increase financial resources and allocate appropriate budgets to strengthen the suicide prevention centres network and provide psychological support at the local level.

The Committee was also concerned about restrictions on the right of peaceful assembly, noting that the banning of a significant number of gatherings to ensure smooth traffic flow, particularly near the President's office, did not comply with the principles of necessity and proportionality. It also flagged its concern at reports of heavy-handed policing of protests staged by disability rights activists in the Seoul subway, including using excessive force to block and remove protesters and applying criminal law to arrest and prosecute protest organisers and participants.

The Committee called on the Republic of Korea to guarantee the right of peaceful assembly and ensure that limitations on that right comply with the Covenant and the principles of necessity and proportionality.

Trinidad and Tobago

While noting the State party's long-standing de facto moratorium on the death penalty, the Committee was

gravely concerned that courts continue to hand down sentences of death, and that the death penalty remains mandatory for murder, leading to a long list on death row. It asked the State party to take legislative and other measures to ensure that the death penalty is only applied to the most serious crimes involving intentional killing and is never mandatory. It also asked the State party to irrevocably eradicate the death penalty and commute all pending death sentences to imprisonment.

The Committee was alarmed by reports of the increase in deportation of individuals seeking international protection, particularly those from Venezuela. It was deeply concerned by the ongoing arrest and detention of asylum-seekers and refugees and that these detainees, including children, are held for extended periods of time, and sometimes in prisons alongside convicts.

The Committee called upon the State party to strictly adhere to the principle of non-refoulement for all asylum-seekers and refugees, refrain from penalizing anyone in need of international protection for irregular entry, and ensure that the detention of migrants and asylum-seekers is reasonable, necessary and proportionate.

The United States of America

The Committee was disturbed by the increase of state-level legislation and barriers that impede women's access to safe and legal abortion, notably the criminalisation of health care providers, family members and pregnant women themselves. It was also deeply concerned with restrictions to inter-state travel, bans on medication abortion, and digital surveillance of abortion seekers for prosecution purposes.

The Committee highlighted the disproportionate impact of these measures on women and girls with low incomes, from vulnerable groups and ethnic and racial minorities. It called on the State party to provide legal, safe and confidential access to abortion throughout its territory. It further asked the United States to end the criminalisation of abortion, to remove and refrain from introducing new barriers impeding access to abortion care, and to protect women seeking abortion care from digital surveillance.

The Committee raised concern about the increase of legislative initiatives and practices that limit the exercise of the right to vote; these include partisan gerrymandering, restrictions on voting by mail and ballot collection, and burdensome voter identification requirements.

The Committee highlighted the disproportionate impact of these measures on low-income voters, people with disabilities, and racial and ethnic minorities and expressed concern at harassment and attacks against election officials.

It recommended that the State party ensure that all voters can exercise their right and that polling stations are accessible, particularly in states with weak election infrastructure and for people with restricted accessibility. It further asked the State party to ensure that electoral districts are designed by non-partisan commissions subject to checks and balances and do not have the purpose or effect of denying or abridging the right to vote on racially discriminatory grounds, and to conduct effective investigations on harassment and attacks against election officials and to punish those responsible.

Venezuela

The Committee expressed grave concern at allegations that judicial, administrative, and constitutional institutions, such as the National Electoral Council, the Office of the Ombudsman and the Supreme Court of Justice, have been restricting democratic space through political disqualification to prevent opposition party members from running public office. It regretted that some political opponents have already been disqualified from participating in the presidential elections scheduled for 2024.

It urged Venezuela to ensure that all individuals, including the youth, have full and effective enjoyment of the right to political participation by securing their registration in the national electoral register. It further called on the State party to ensure fair, transparent, inclusive and pluralistic elections at all levels, guaranteeing due process and transparency in the administrative procedures.

The Committee was disturbed by the closure of civic space and persecution of dissidents, and it particularly highlighted its concern about spurious charges such as "criminal association" and "disclosure of confidential information" brought against human rights defenders and public officials who had denounced corruption cases involving State authorities. It asked Venezuela to review the legal framework to safeguard whistleblowers, witnesses and corruption victims from criminalisation.

The Committee also voiced concerns about the closure of media companies, as well as the intimidation, persecution, arbitrary arrests and imprisonment of journalists, human rights defenders and political activists. It urged Venezuela to end harassment, intimidation and violence against journalists, human rights defenders, trade unionists, indigenous activists and politicians so that they can carry out their work without fear of violence or reprisals.

The above findings, officially known as Concluding Observations, are now available on the session page.



Photo by Rizk Taufiq

Men, women, young and old, raise their keys expressing solidarity with the Palestinian population in Gaza and other areas of Palestine.

'Prepare Your Keys' ... Huge crowd expresses solidarity with Palestinians

A large number of people, mostly Arabs from different nationalities gathered at the Erada Square to participate in the call "Prepare Your Keys". The gathering aimed at expressing soli-

arity with the Palestinian people and send a resounding message affirming their right to return to their homeland. Participants proudly displayed banners advocating for Palestinian

rights and passionately voiced slogans in support of the resistance. They unitedly called for an end to ongoing attacks on the defenseless Palestinian population.

Delay in arrival of Palestinian teachers due to Gaza scenario leads to shortage

'Male, female teachers not available for science subjects'

By Abdul Rahman Al-Shammari
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4 : According to informed educational sources, despite the measures the Ministry of Education has taken to redistribute teachers and fill the gap in schools in accordance with the latest criteria for appointment and in accordance with approved projects of technical directives for academic fields, it became clear that there was a shortage of teachers for some academic subjects, including female teachers for mathematics, physics, and chemistry, and male teachers for mathematics, English, physics, chemistry, and geology.

The sources explained that the ministry was relying on filling this shortage through external contracts with teachers from Palestine. Most of the contracts were signed with those from the Gaza Strip. However, the current situation in Gaza prevented the arrival of 531 male and female teachers from the West Bank and Gaza Strip in Palestine, including 211 female teachers and 320 male teachers of various scientific specializations such as mathematics, physics, and English.

The ministry did not take any action in the local contracting file to secure its needs for teachers in the specializations that suffer from shortages. Educational zones implemented the minister's instructions to inform him of what was done regarding the redistribution of teachers, accompanied by documents related to the actual budget (study schedule) and the transfer decisions that will be issued in this regard.

The sources called on the ministry to fill this need according to specific mechanisms aimed at the public interest and the interest of students by appointing graduates of the College of Education, the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training, and Kuwait University.

On the other hand, the Acting Undersecretary of the Ministry of Education Anwar Al-Hamdan affirmed the keenness and interest of the Minister of Education, Higher Education and Scientific Research Dr. Adel Al-Manae to complete several files, most notably, striving to improve the mechanism for distributing teachers and providing cadres in all schools without favoritism in a way that guarantees them fair shares and achieves better performance in the teaching process.

The ministry called on the directors of educational zones to review the distribution of teachers to schools and to submit detailed reports on their procedures in this regard as a matter of urgency.

Al-Hamdan said that the ministry in the coming period will work to develop an electronic mechanism for distributing teachers and link it to the teacher registry program so that the data and shares are clear to all relevant officials to follow up and correct any defect.

Regarding improving the school environment, Al-Hamdan explained that Minister Al-Manae directed the concerned authorities in the Information Systems Department to develop an electronic mechanism for ensuring rapid communication between school administrations and the ministry. A communication channel was opened via the electronic correspondence mail system, which will enable schools to direct their requests and comments directly to the minister's office.

He also explained that the files that Minister Al-Manae is working to address include the file of supervisory positions.

The minister has formed a committee for studying grievances regarding the results of tests and interviews. This committee is headed by a member of the Fatwa and Legislation Department, and has an elite group of specialists from the Fatwa and Legislation Department and the university as members. The committee will work to study and decide on grievances and complaints regarding everything related to supervisory positions, in preparation for filling these positions, in order to preserve the integrity and good order of the public facility, and to ensure the rights of the ministry and its employees to achieve job stability for them.

Regarding curriculum development, Al-Hamdan explained

Other Voices

Three blind men and their description of an elephant

By Ahmad alsarraf

It is clear that the first blind man grabbed the elephant's legs and imagined them as pillars. The second one stuck to his trunk and imagined it to be a snake. The third one held his tail and, for some reason, imagined it to be a broom.

The perceptions of each of them were the result of their previous knowledge and experiences in life, without giving the experiences of others the importance they deserve.

They were all wrong but none of them a liar, and their differences came because of our difficulty in realizing that truth has more than one face. When we disagree, this does not always mean that one of us is wrong. We may all be right, or we may all be wrong. Each party sees what the other does not see, just as two people opposite each other are asked to describe a piece of coin for their part!

Therefore, it is a mistake to completely believe that everyone who is not with us is therefore against us, just because, for a reason beyond his control, he did not understand the idea that our opinion is not necessarily correct just because it is our opinion, and the possibility that the other opinion is more correct, even if it is contrary to our opinion! We must not rely on our "unilateral" view of things, and benefit from the opinions

of others, as they may see important and dangerous matters, but we cannot see them from our perspective.

I say this from the standpoint of the ideological and political differences of individuals or components of any society, and the belief of every individual, party, and group that he is right, and that the opinions he believes in, whether religious or political, are correct or represent the truth, while the opinions of others are wrong, worthy of ridicule, and unacceptable, and this is natural.

It has been a characteristic of human beings since the dawn of history, and it will continue forever, as long as our cultural and educational backgrounds and our experiences in life are varied and diverse.

This diversity usually results in a lot of beauty, if it is dealt with correctly and considered as personal opinions that everyone has the right to believe in. But the matter is different in backward societies, such as ours, where the difference often becomes sharp, and often bloody.

Despite many insisting on repeating Al-Shafi'i's saying that "my opinion is correct and may be wrong, and someone else's opinion is wrong and may be correct," we often resort to our tongues, then to our hands, and many times to our weapons to confirm to others the correctness of our opinion.

This is a characteristic of societies that have not been taught or raised on the virtue of difference, and this is one of the defects of our educational curricula.

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that Minister Al-Manae formed a committee to prepare the national framework for educational curriculum standards. It is headed by a faculty member of Kuwait University and has an elite group of specialists as members. It will work to review the documents of previous committees to implement the development plan projects and the education system development project, and prepare the national framework for educational curriculum standards in the educational stages in accordance with the program.

The teacher's license project also received a share of attention, as Al-Hamdan indicated that Minister Al-Manae formed a committee to prepare the teacher's license

standards, which is the most prominent project in the system's development projects, due to the importance of the teacher as the cornerstone of the educational system. The committee will work to set clear standards for applying the teacher's license tests and the mechanisms for implementing them. This will reflect positively on developing their performance and improving school outcomes.

In addition, Minister Al-Mana recently issued a ministerial decision to form a committee to combat fraud from field personnel and specialists, and to review procedures and control the examination process to ensure the elimination of all negative aspects during the examination period.

diwaniya ديوانية

A DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION

'Kuwait support for Palestinian cause devoid of any ambiguity'

"Protests and popular demonstrations have erupted in various global capitals and cities, even within nations that traditionally support the Zionist entity. Millions of people have taken to the streets to decry the bombings of innocent children in Gaza. These protests predominantly feature Palestinian flags and banners condemning the loss of innocent lives, particularly those of children," columnist **Mohammad Al-Ruwaihel** wrote for **Al-Jarida** daily.



Al-Ruwaihel

"Remarkably, the demonstrators have refrained from cursing other governments or urging foreign intervention, with only a few calling upon their own government to intervene in ending Israeli military operations in Gaza and withholding support for the Zionists.

"Nonetheless, the nature of our demonstrations, while rooted in support for the Palestinian cause and the condemnation of Zionist aggression against Gaza's women and children, has been somewhat altered. Some have redirected the focus from supporting Palestinian rights to challenging foreign governments, political entities, and seeking political or electoral gains, creating strife that deviates from the original purpose.

"Regrettably, certain politicians have seized the platform to promote their own agendas, diverting attention away from the core issue - supporting the Palestinian people against the brutal Zionist aggression.

"The Kuwaiti people, representing diverse demographics, have consistently demonstrated unwavering support for Arab and humanitarian causes. They have steadfastly championed the Palestinian cause from its inception to the present day, despite occasional discomfort caused by certain Palestinian and Arab politicians.

"The recent Zionist aggression has exceeded all expectations, claiming the lives of innocent civilians, especially children and women, and causing extensive destruction of homes, hospitals, schools, and religious sites. This has revealed the true nature of the Zionist entity and those who back it.

"For a period, we witnessed a political vacuum, with opportunistic politicians attempting to exploit various events, be they local, regional, or global, for personal gain. Consequently, it is not surprising that these individuals attempt to seize the limelight, even if it contradicts the broader national interest and fails to serve the primary cause that prompted the masses to demonstrate.

"Nonetheless, we take pride in our demonstrations and our steadfast support for the just Palestinian cause. Our emphasis remains on our belief in the cause's righteousness and our resolute rejection of Zionist aggression and the suffering inflicted upon the Palestinian people as they resist occupation. Let us not confuse political maneuvering with our unwavering commitment to the cause we have rallied for."

Also:

"The last speech of His Highness, may God protect and preserve him, which was read by His Highness the Crown Prince, may God protect him, to open the second session of the seventeenth legislative term included a clear and focused indication of the existence of a deep crisis involving the government, parliament, and popular choices, which must be understood by prudent people," columnist **Naji Al-Mullah** wrote for **Al-Jarida** daily.

"Society must move beyond its current state of stagnation, regression, and political opportunism to craft comprehensive solutions for the prevailing crisis. The Kuwaiti Constitution has provided a robust and effective tool for crisis resolution in Article 98, which states, "Each ministry, upon its formation, shall submit its program to the National Assembly, and the Assembly may express whatever observations it deems appropriate regarding this program."

"Despite the clarity of this article, it has been largely overlooked since the inception of parliamentary life and has become dormant within the constitutional framework. This article holds great significance, as it mandates that every ministry, or in essence, the government, must promptly present its work program upon its formation. It does not merely imply putting forward the program but underscores the necessity for immediate action following government formation. This implies that the work program should precede the government's formation and that the government should be selected based on this program.

"The question arises: Who should formulate the work program? The answer lies with civil society organizations, political blocs, and experts from various fields. They should conceive the action plan, and the political leadership should finalize it to determine the composition of the government. Since Article 98 has remained largely unimplemented throughout Kuwait's constitutional and parliamentary history, there is a need for a strong start in this endeavor.

"To initiate this important process, it is proposed that esteemed individuals such as Member of Parliament **Badr Al-Hamidi**, former Housing Minister **Dr. Adel Al-Sabeeh**, **Dr. Nasser Al-Masry**, distinguished economist **Mr. Jassim Al-Sa'adoun**, former Minister of Social Affairs **Jassim Al-Aoun**, National Assembly Speaker **Ahmad Al-Sa'adoun**, and others at their level, gather to develop a work program.

"This program should include specific quantitative and time-based criteria, focusing initially on issues related to privatization of government-controlled productive sectors like electricity, water, education, health, ports, transportation, fixed communications, postal services, airports, and some oil industries.

"Moreover, it should encompass the establishment of a tax system and healthcare insurance, payment of educational fees across all levels, assessment of investment projects that diversify income sources, distribution of 25 percent of net investment profits to sovereign funds, and the annual distribution of one and a half billion from industrial, service, and craft vouchers to citizens equally to enhance their quality of life.

"Additionally, it should address solutions for housing problems, aligned with the latest developments in construction and finance worldwide, as well as the development of policies, procedures, and systems to reduce fatal traffic accidents and various forms of crime.

"The proposed government work program should present its objectives quantitatively and temporally to the political leadership. This way, the government, including its president and members, can be selected based on its alignment with these objectives. By adopting this approach, our political choices can be guided by rational principles, allowing us to steer the stagnant societal ship toward progress and achievement, free from the whims, interests, and conflicts that may hinder its course."

□ □ □

"While the government-parliamentary coordination meeting concluded with the listing of legislative priorities for the current round, the list does not include focusing on the role of the judiciary including the courts and prosecution, as well as the implementation and discussion of their administrative and legal conditions," columnist **Hussein Al-Abdullah** wrote for **Al-Jarida** daily.

"This happened despite the administrative weakness that the courts are suffering from in terms of providing services like the limited number of employees and the absence of a business oversight system, in addition to the absence of procedures for filing lawsuits electronically and the postponement of criminal cases due to the non-receipt and non-consolidation of related files or due to the accumulation of appeals at the Court of Cassation. It seems the two authorities do not regard the aforementioned issues and others a priority that requires research and discussion.

"The reason behind the decline and backwardness of the justice system is the weak performance of officials, absence of a vision, and hesitation in making decisions that meet the requirements and cover the needs. The practical reality bears witness to the administration's need, for example, to issue decisions to fill leadership positions that the qualified have been reluctant to occupy although these positions have been vacant for almost two years. Three ministers of justice came and went without prioritizing the issue.

"The reality also witnesses weakness in the performance of many employees in providing services. A number of them do not comply with official work timings.

"At the same time, the courts need to appoint many qualified employees. This is in addition to the absence of a vision by the Ministry of Justice in creating specialized and professional job slots to hold the leadership reins after 10 or 15 years.

"The ministry and its officials know about the remarkable decline in litigation services, compared to those provided in other countries in the region. Our officials race to visit these countries to see the latest services there, while they cannot make decisions to change the reality that we are experiencing under the pretext of lack of legislation allowing these developments. They only need to implement the current laws, even though these laws were issued years ago!"

□ □ □

"The solution begins with preparing for an Arab and Islamic summit to work with the Palestinian brothers in laying down a clear and final roadmap for addressing the Palestinian issue. The Palestinians have been suffering for so long. All other issues in the world have been resolved while the Palestinian issue remains unresolved. In this manner, the roadmap can be presented to the world so we can gain their support, taking advantage of the unprecedented sympathy and compassion. Experience taught us that this will not last long. We have to act now so the blood, body parts and buildings demolished are not wasted," columnist **Sami Al-Nisf** wrote for **Annahar** daily.

"The first logical step towards a solution is to know the opinion of the Palestinian people in the West Bank, Gaza, as well as the immigrants, through the presidential and parliamentary elections supervised by the United Nations. This is necessary because there is no hope for fair elections amidst the current tyranny, oppression and imposition of a single opinion. It coincides with the necessity to clarify certain axioms, such as raising a religious slogan of one party. This means accepting the religious slogan of the other party, such as the 'Jewish statehood' claim.

"Likewise, raising the slogan of a Palestinian State from the river to the sea - meaning the complete elimination of the other party, also entails justifying the counter-project and demand to create a Jewish State from the river to the sea, and accepting the transfer operations to Egypt and Jordan that went from whispers to public outcry with the big difference in capabilities to achieve them.

"To understand the enormous damage that the ongoing division is doing to the Palestinian cause and to the changing reality, I personally heard President **Mahmoud Abbas** saying that in the West Bank, unlike Gaza, settlements are being created every day, along with the demographic and population changes accompanying them."

— Compiled by **Mai Elsoukary**



KUNA photo
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense, Sheikh Ahmad Fahad Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah with the Chinese official from the International Cooperation Economic and Development Reform committee and senior officials.

'Need to implement Kuwait-China agreements'

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4, (KUNA): Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Ahmad Fahad Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah discussed with a Chinese official from the International Cooperation Economic and Development Reform committee, aspects of joint cooperation between Kuwait and China.

In a statement, the General Secretariat of Kuwait Supreme Council for Planning and Development said that the meeting held by the two sides on Thursday evening, reviewed the distinguished relations with the People's Republic of China, which culminated in a historic recent visit by His High-

ness the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah to China and his meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping.

The statement added that this historic visit included the signing of several joint agreements covering several areas, including economic relations, infrastructure, housing, renewable energy, and ports.

The statement quoted Sheikh Ahmad as he emphasized during the importance of moving forward towards implementing the concluded agreements and working bilaterally to speed up its completion, especially in light of the unlimited support from the leader-

ship of the two countries in a way that enhances and supports the common interests of the two countries and places them in a long-term development partnership.

The statement stated that Sheikh Ahmad stressed that Kuwait is looking forward in the near future to begin executive procedures to activate the agreements, leading to launching and implementing development projects.

The meeting, which was held at Seif Palace, was attended by ministers, senior officials from both sides, including China's Charge d'Affaires in Kuwait.

Arab expat caught helping maids flee their sponsors

'Nazaha' refers top official, others for probe

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: An expatriate was caught red-handed helping a maid escape from her sponsor, from **Jaber Al-Ahmad**, by personnel from the Residency Investigation Department, reports **Al-Anba** daily.

After search, investigation and monitoring operations that lasted about a week, personnel from the General Administration of Residency Affairs Investigations - the Shelter Section - were able to arrest an expatriate with a criminal record specializing in helping female workers escape from the homes of their sponsors, to employ them on hourly basis in exchange for sums of money.

A security source said: "The Residency Affairs Investigations men received several reports from citizens about workers escaping from their homes, so a team of detectives was formed to identify and monitor the areas from where the reports were received.

At last the men were able to arrest a Syrian, while he was smuggling a maid from her sponsor's house in the **Jaber Al-Ahmad**. The man has been arrested and referred to the Criminal Investigations Bureau."

The source added, "During interrogation, the accused admitted that he had been carrying out his criminal activity for a long time, and he led the detectives to an apartment in **Jleeb Al-Shuyoukh** where four fugitives were sheltered."

Top official probed: The Anti-Corruption Authority (**Nazaha**) announced the referral of a former senior officer in the Ministry of Communication and others to the prosecution on charges of committing the suspected forgery in an official document and embezzling public money and facilitating others to commit similar crime, reports **Al-Seyassah** daily.

"**Nazaha**" explained in a press statement that this crime is punishable in the texts of Articles Nos. 257 and 259 of Law No. 16 of 1960 promulgating the Kuwaiti Penal Code, as well as the suspicion of two crimes seizing and facilitating the seizure of public funds



An Arab expat was caught red-handed while helping a housemaid flee her sponsor at an unidentified area .

is punishable in Article No. 10 of Law No. 1 of 1993 regarding the protection of public funds, and is included among corruption crimes in Clauses No. 1 and 4 of Article No. 22 of Law No. 2 of the year 2016.

Stating that this comes as a continuation of its efforts to combat corruption, ward off its risks and effects, and prosecute its perpetrators, and in activating its jurisdiction stipulated in Article No. 5, Clause 2 of the law establishing it, it affirmed its intention to continue the efforts and procedures regarding examining, collecting, and investigating all serious information with complete conditions that it receives.

Stealing from cars: The Shuwaikh Industrial Police have arrested an expatriate who was breaking into cars parked in open areas and in front of shops and stealing valuables, reports **Al-Anba** daily.

The security men caught the man red-handed while breaking into a car and seized from him a bag containing stolen goods.

During interrogation, he admitted that he admitted to stealing from cars and selling the stolen stuff through social media sites. Accordingly, he and the stolen items have been referred to the Criminal Investigation Department.

On the other hand, the **Jahra** Security Directorate patrol men have arrested a person in the **Saad Al-Abdullah** area, who had been in absentia for 4 years in prison.

Corpse of kid found: A security source reported to **Al-Rai** that the corpse of a child was found in the West

Mishref area near a water pumping station.

Acting on information, security, forensic, and investigation personnel rushed to the site and inspected the area.

Bloggers detained: The Public Prosecution has ordered the detention of the owner of the "Sir Churchill" account and referred him to the public prison pending the case.

The Public Prosecution has also decided to detain the owner of the **Al-Fankoush** account pending investigation after charges were brought against him.

The **Al-Rai** daily said the suspect was arrested after setting an ambush for him.

Verdict overturned: The Administrative Chamber of the Court of Cassation has overturned the verdict of the Court of Appeal and rejected the lawsuit filed by a special needs citizen, and ruled again to cancel the negative decision issued by the Public Authority for Disability Affairs, considering his disability simple, and obligated it to classify him as someone with a permanent, severe disability, reports **Al-Anba** daily.

The appellant's representative, lawyer **Abdul Rahman Al-Muqaddam**, presented to the court documents proving that his client suffers from a severe and permanent disability, and requested that he be presented to the Forensic Medicine Department to determine his disability.

The Department's report was issued in his favor, which the court took into consideration and issued its verdict.

Fire Dept shuts 84 shops in Oct

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: The Directorate-General of Fire Department said it closed 84 facilities during the month of October, for violating security and safety requirements, reports **Al-Rai** daily.

The Prevention Sector's statistics for last month indicate 582 violations were recorded and 408 projects were licensed, while 373 buildings were licensed, 105 ownership transfer transactions were issued, and 165 customs release transactions were issued. Shops received the bulk of transactions, as the Prevention Department issued 3,069 shop licenses.

The administration noted the need to expedite the renewal of licenses so that their owners are not exposed to a fine equivalent to 20 dinars, in addition to the importance of implementing security and safety requirements in buildings and facilities in order to preserve lives and property.



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Ministry cites controls and rules on naming cities, suburbs, roads

Ministerial decision includes 14 articles

By Inass Awadh

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: The Minister of State for Municipal Affairs and Minister of State for Communications Affairs Fahad Al-Shoula recently issued a ministerial decision regarding the controls and rules for naming cities, suburbs, areas, roads, streets and squares.



Fahad Al-Shoula

The ministerial decision includes 14 articles. The first article of the ministerial decision affirmed that the Municipal Council is the authority responsible for naming cities, suburbs, areas, roads, streets and squares in accordance with the controls and rules contained in the pre-ambles of the ministerial decision.

The Second Article states that the names are issued in accordance with the vision that aims to preserve the authentic Kuwaiti identity, heritage and nationalism in all its forms. The names must reflect the cultural affiliation of Kuwaitis to their Gulf, Arab, Islamic and international surroundings.

The Third Article of the decision highlighted that the designations are limited to five areas, which are countries and cities outside of Kuwait, historical events of importance, words with important significance in the Kuwaiti heritage, Gulf, Arab, Islamic and international organizations and institutions, and finally the designations that specify meanings with good descriptions.

Article Four of the decision stressed that it is not permissible to give names of people to cities, sub-

urbs, and regions except for those who assumed the position of emirate or crown prince in the country. It is also not permissible to give the names of sultans, kings, rulers, princes, and heads of state for roads, streets, or squares, except at the request of the Amiri Diwan, the Crown Prince's Office, or the Council of Ministers.

Article Five affirmed the observance of the provisions of Article Four with regard to restricting the naming of roads, streets, and squares with the names of people over the names of the rulers, and to stop naming streets and roads, and instead number them.

Article Six of the decision specified eight controls that must be taken into account when naming cities, suburbs, regions, streets, and squares. They are as follows:-

Priority

- Priority in choosing the names of places or historical events should be given to Kuwaiti names, and then Gulf, Arab, Islamic, and international designations.
- The choice of names must reflect important meanings for Kuwaiti society.
- The names must be consistent with public order and public morals within society.
- The name of one person should

not be repeated in more than one location in the country.

- Do not place titles on the name plate except for the names of sultans, kings, princes, rulers, and presidents.
- The abbreviation of the name should not violate the intended meaning and should not exceed three names.
- The names of old and modern roads must be linked with numbers. The names must be clearly written in Arabic and English.
- The naming should be based on scientific research and consultations with specialists by searching documents, natural geographical and environmental maps, and local plants.

Articles 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 of the decision specified the procedures for naming cities and suburbs through the formation of a committee based on a decision by the Minister of State for Municipal Council, headed by the Municipal Council Director.

This committee will be responsible for expressing opinions regarding the proposed naming of cities, suburbs, areas, roads, streets and squares in accordance with the controls contained in the decision.

Its members should include representatives from the Amiri Diwan, the Council of Ministers, the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters, the Kuwait Writers Association, and the Kuwait Research and Studies Center. Their rank should not be lower than assistant undersecretary or head of the entity.

The committee's work system and mechanism should be determined in accordance with the decision.

Requests and suggestions regarding nominations submitted by the Amiri Diwan, the Diwan of His Highness the Crown Prince, the Council of Ministers, members of the National Assembly, members of the Municipal Council, government

agencies in the country, legal personnel and individuals shall be submitted to the Minister of State for Municipal Affairs or the Municipal Council.

The requests and proposals shall be referred by designation for presentation to the committee stipulated in article 7. The committee will be responsible for issuing recommendations regarding the requests and suggestions submitted to it after studying them in accordance with the controls and rules contained in the decision.

Report

The executive body of the municipality will prepare a report to be presented to the Municipal Council regarding the proposed designations in accordance with Article 22 of Law No. 33/2016, provided that the report includes its opinion and the opinion of the committee stipulated in Article 7 of the decision, as well as the reasons for choosing the designations based on the biography of the people, their achievements and their value to society or the importance of the place or historical event proposed to be named, an overview of the meaning of the name based on the vocabulary of Kuwaiti heritage, areas of use, and other information.

After that, the Municipal Council will issue its final decision regarding the nominations submitted to it and included in the study of the municipal executive body in accordance with the provisions of the decision.

The decision emphasized that it is not permissible to change the designations without obtaining the approval of the committee stipulated in the decision and in accordance with the provisions and controls contained therein.

Article 14, the last article of the decision, stipulates that the competent authorities are obligated to act on it and implement it after its publication in the official gazette.

Greetings sent on National Day

HH Amir congratulates Tonga

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4, (KUNA): His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent Saturday a cable to King of Tonga, Tupou VI, congratulating him on his country's National Day.

His Highness the Amir wished King Tupou good health and the people of Tonga all progress and prosperity.

Meanwhile, His Highness the

Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent Saturday a cable to King of Tonga, Tupou VI, congratulating him on the country's National Day, and wishing him good health.

In the meantime, His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah sent Saturday a cable to King of Tonga, Tupou VI, congratulating him on the country's National Day.



Kuwaiti aid being transferred to the Palestinian Red Crescent warehouses. KUNA photo

Kuwait's 2nd aid batch arrives in Gaza

Kuwait's 12th relief plane departs carrying two ambulances onboard

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4, (KUNA): Kuwait's 12th relief planeload departed Saturday morning on its way to Al-Arish Airport in Egypt. The plane is carrying onboard two ambulances, taking total of ambulances previously delivered to 12, six of which are designated for intensive care.

This was organized by Kuwait Society for Relief in cooperation with 22 other societies' as part of a wider campaign directing humanitarian aid to Gaza.

Kuwait Society for Relief Vice President and Campaign Supervisor, Omar Al-Thuwaini stated to KUNA that the coordination and cooperation between state bodies and charity societies expedited the process and facilitated the swift delivery of aid to Palestinians in Gaza Strip.

Al-Thuwaini further explained that needed assessment is made by designated bodies within Palestine, and added that this is the society's fifth planeload carrying 15 tons of foodstuff and 55 tons of medical necessities.

The Relief Society works in coordination with Egyptian Red Crescent Society and its Palestinian counterpart, as well as certified Palestinian Societies, mentioned Al-Thuwaini.

Chief of the Relief and Projects Department at the Society, Mahmoud Al-Musbah, told KUNA that since the early hours of Israeli aggression on Gaza, the society rushed to coordinate efforts and deliver humanitarian aid to the Palestinians.

Kuwaiti humanitarian air bridge, consisting of relief planeloads carrying urgent supplies and medical necessities to Gaza Strip through Al-Arish area in the Sinai Peninsula in Egypt, was launched on October 23.

Overseeing the initiative are Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Defense, the Air Force, Health Ministry, and contributing to it are Kuwait Red Crescent Society, Kuwait Relief Society and other humanitarian establishments.

Israeli occupation has been committing atrocious crimes and launching violent attacks on Gaza Strip since October 7, killing thousands and injuring tens of thousands.

Meanwhile, the second batch of the Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS) has arrived in the Gaza Strip as part of Kuwait's recently launched air bridge carrying humanitarian and relief aid to Gazans.

The Gulf country's second batch contains medicine and medical supplies, Chief of KRCS Voluntary Teams Ahmad Abu Daya said in a statement to KUNA.

Relief aid supplies will be distributed to hospitals and health centers in several areas in the Palestinian enclave, he



The Al-Ahimar star

Sunset of Al-Ahimar star to last 40 days

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: The Al-Ujairi Scientific Center announced today, that Kuwait is set to experience an astronomical event known as "the sunset of the Al-Ahimar star" on the tenth of this month, lasting for a duration of 40 days.

In a statement to the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA), the center explained that the absence of the "Ahimar" star marks the entry of cold northern winds, which ushers in a season known as the "Ahimar strike season." This season is closely linked to sea conditions, atmospheric turbulence, and instability.

During the absence of this star, recognized for its prominent red hue, significant size, and clarity in the year-round sky, winter's chill commences. Wind patterns shift, encompassing cold westerly and northerly winds, creating a noticeable impact, particularly in open areas.

The Al-Ujairi Scientific Center noted that the Al-Ahimar star will reappear on December 25, coinciding with a sea state characterized by eruptions and heightened wave activity, often accompanied by rain. This period serves as a transitional phase in which the weather shifts from moderate at the beginning to colder conditions toward the end, resulting in a drop in temperatures.

The cold experienced during this period is commonly referred to as "autumn cold." It is worth noting that the primary distinction between this season and the Sarayat season is that the former is shorter and less severe, devoid of unexpected weather changes.

added.

The first humanitarian aid of the Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS) arrived in Gaza earlier on Thursday through Egypt's Rafah Crossing Point.

Experts from IAEA to participate

Workshop to be held on 'PET/MRI' device

By Marwa Al-Bahravi

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: Head of the Nuclear Medicine Department at Jahra Hospital Dr. Muhammad Abdullah Al-Shaheen says approximately 1,500 patients annually visit the hospital's Nuclear Medicine Department to undergo various tests and X-rays to detect diseases related to the heart, bones and glands, and cancerous diseases among others.

In an exclusive press statement, Dr. Al-Shaheen announced that the Nuclear Medicine Department and the Medical Physics Unit are organizing a workshop on positron imaging with magnetic resonance imaging using the "PET/MRI" device. This is in coordination with the International Atomic Energy Agency over a period of three days from November 6 to 8

in the presence of the Director of Jahra Health Zone Dr. Jamal Al-Duaij, Jahra Hospital Director Dr. Ahmed Khaja, Director of the Medical Authority Dr. Abdul Rahman Al-Shammari, and Kuwait's national liaison officer with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Dr. Nader Al-Awadhi.

He highlighted the participation of experts of the International Atomic Energy Agency from Austria and Germany to deliver introductory lectures on the "PET/MRI" device and ways to benefit from it, as it is considered one of the latest imaging and diagnostic techniques and the first of its kind in the State of Kuwait.

Dr. Al-Shaheen added that the device is currently being used in Jahra Hospital, with which about 40 cases have been diagnosed, including cancer, nervous system diseases, and arthritis.



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Photos by Mohammad Morsi

Top: Japanese Ambassador Morino Yasunari and others in a group photo, and (below): some more photos from the beach cleaning campaign.



'Operation Turtle' beach cleaning campaign held

Kuwait-Japan ties strong: ambassador

By Abdul-Nasser Al-Aslami
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: The Japanese Ambassador to Kuwait Morino Yasunari says the relationship between Japan and Kuwait is strong, especially in the environmental field.

In statements issued to journalists on the sidelines of the "Operation Turtle" campaign organized by the Japanese Society in Kuwait yesterday with the cooperation of the Environment Public Authority and with the participation of a large number of public benefit associations, the Japanese Embassy, state institutions and about 500 volunteers, the ambassador affirmed the depth of the Kuwait-Japan relations and the importance of close bilateral cooperation in various fields, adding that this is evident from the keenness to participate annually in the Shuwaikh Beach cleaning campaign.

Ambassador Yasunari indicated that the campaign organized by the society since the year 2000 symbolizes the friendly relations extending to all levels.

Happiness

He praised the doubling of the number of entities and participants this year compared to previous years.

The ambassador revealed that the campaign aims to clean the beaches and prepare them for the return of sea turtles in a way that serves the marine environment.

He expressed his happiness to par-

ticipate in the event that contributes to making the environment and the earth a better place.

Meanwhile, the Deputy Director General for Technical Affairs at EPA Dr. Abdullah Al-Zaidan said EPA's participation in the campaign has been continuing for more than 20 years, indicating that the purpose of the campaign is to return turtles to the shores of the State of Kuwait.

He praised the participation of the Japanese Embassy, the Japanese Society, and all participating parties.

Dr. Al-Zaidan said the campaign is now witnessing a large participation of young people, students, and children, which indicates the high level of environmental awareness in society.

He affirmed that EPA is carrying out many projects in this regard, adding, "The high rates of waste globally place us before the responsibility of preserving the environment."

Furthermore, Secretary General of the Kuwait Society for Environmental Protection Janan Behzad says the society has been one of the founders of this campaign since its inception, revealing that the number of Kuwaiti volunteers is increasing year after year, such that the number of participants in the campaign has reached more than 500.

Behzad explained that organizing the campaign, although symbolic, is aimed to ensure the message that reaches everyone is "the necessity of preserving environmental resources and its cleanliness".

She praised the participation of EPA,

Kuwait Society for Environmental Protection, Medical Emergency Police, Kuwait Municipality, and Kuwait Scouts Association.

Behzad indicated that the Kuwait Society for Environmental Protection will document some of the activities of the participants in "Operation Turtle," which is compatible with the society's beach safari program.

Support

In this regard, Director of Public Relations at the Kuwait Society for Environmental Protection Ma'ali Al-Oqab said that the society's participation has prepared the world to translate the march of Kuwaiti support for the brothers in occupied Palestine, especially the Gaza Strip, which is afflicted with the ugliest manifestations of abuse and genocide.

She revealed that the Friends of the Environment team decided to wear "T-shirts" bearing the turtle, "the icon of the event," decorated with the map of Palestine, in addition to the Palestinian scarf, a symbol of steadfastness and pride, to express a humanitarian community message that "We in Kuwait stand in the trenches of support, aid, and relief for our brothers in the occupied Palestinian territories."

Al-Oqab added that the team members remember the children of Gaza all the time, and demand their right to a stable life, in which they exercise their right to a decent life, education, and volunteering like other children around the world.

ian Red Crescent said.

Despite Israel's call for civilians to flee south, strikes have continued there as well.

Raed Mattar, who was sheltering in a school in the southern town of Khan Younis after fleeing the north early in the war, said Saturday that he regularly heard explosions, apparently from airstrikes.

"People never sleep," he said. "The sound of explosions never stops."

In the center of Khan Younis, an airstrike early Saturday destroyed the home of a family, with first responders pulling three bodies and six injured people from the rubble.

Among those killed was a child, according to an Associated Press cameraman at the scene.

The Israeli military said ground forces were also now operating in the south, with an armored and engineering corps working to remove booby traps from buildings.

During the operation the military said fighters were seen exiting a tunnel and they were killed by Israeli troops.

The military said there were also numerous attacks staged from tunnels on Israeli forces in the northern Gaza strip.

Elsewhere, skirmishes along Israel's northern border continued Saturday morning as the Israeli military said it had struck militant cells in Lebanon trying to fire at Israel, as well as a Hezbollah observation post.

Municipality mulls 12-hour shift for some supervisors

Al-Dabbous issues decision containing 7 articles

By Inass Awadh
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: The Acting Director General of Kuwait Municipality Saud Al-Dabbous assigned the holders of some supervisory positions in the municipality to work on a 12-hour shift system, followed by 12 hours of rest.

This decision was issued by Al-Dabbous yesterday, and it includes Seven Articles.

According to its first article, holders of supervisory positions in the municipality were assigned to the shift system in accordance with the terms of reference

approved by the organizational structure and Article 5 (bis) of Civil Service Council's Resolution No. 12/2012, amended by the Civil Service Council's Decision. No. 26/2023 based on the need and nature of the work.

The second article included schedules for assigning a 12-hour shift followed by 12 hours of rest for all departments and branches of the municipality in two shifts - the first from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm, and the second from 1:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Article Three allows the working hours mentioned therein to be amended according to the work needed and at the request of the entity, provided that the working period is not less than 12 continuous hours per day.

Article Four stipulates that those charged with this system will not

enjoy weekends, Friday prayers, and official holidays, and that their official working hours will not be reduced during the month of Ramadan.

Article Five of the decision stipulates that the Finance and Administrative Sector is assigned to list the names of the occupants of supervisory positions in order to grant them shift allowance in Category "B" contained in Civil Service Council Resolution No. 12/2012 and its amendments.

According to Article Six of the decision, the Development and Information Sector is responsible for amending the attendance and departure "fingerprint system" for the supervisory titles mentioned in the decision in coordination with the Finance and Administrative Sector, starting from the date of issuance of the decision.

Bill seeks

Continued from Page 1

MP Muhammad Al-Regaib said that since Kuwait is a State of institutions and as long as it is not a private property; decision-makers have to deal with all citizens equally, and according to the Constitution and relevant laws. He added it is unacceptable to enforce recruitment regulations in a selective manner and in favor of a certain social category at the expense of others.

MP Soud Al-Asfour pointed out that the government denied discrimination in the appointment of senior officials and public sector employees, but the recent recent appointment of prosecutors proved otherwise. He called for immediate suspension of the decision and to address its consequences.

MP Khalid Al-Otaibi claimed the decision is part of an evil conspiracy to divide the nation and promote racism. He emphasized the need to implement reforms and correct the path. He concluded that citizenship has never been a factor in determining the level of one's patriotism and loyalty.

Meanwhile, reliable sources revealed that the government is preparing a bill on criminalizing the act of renting out flats in private residential areas to bachelors. They said the bill stipulates penalties for the flat owner and tenant; such as a fine of KD5,000 each and banning the issuance of civil

identification cards to bachelor tenants in private residential areas.

Moreover, MP Muhammad Hayef has confirmed receiving the response of Minister of Education, Higher Education and Scientific Research Adel Al-Manea to his queries about the studies and reports; upon which the decision to suspend scholarships for medical courses in Egypt and Jordan were based. He disclosed the reports adopted to take the decision must be revised, as they have nothing to do with the quality of education in the concerned universities in the aforementioned countries.

Also, Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Salem Al-Sabah has disclosed that 24 countries are having difficulties in paying the loans they obtained from Kuwait.

This is in response to the queries of MP Abdullah Al-Mudhaf.

The minister added that the total amount of unpaid loans reached KD119 million - 90 percent of which were obtained by Syria, Yemen, Sudan, North Korea and Cuba.

UN shelter,

Continued from Page 1

City. Another strike hit a building close to the entrance of the hospital's emergency ward on Saturday afternoon, injuring at least 21, the Palestin-

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World News Roundup

Europe

Meloni pushes 'change': Italian Premier **Giorgia Meloni's** Cabinet on Friday approved her proposal to make the office of the prime minister directly elected by voters in a bid to end the country's chronic ailment of short-lived, unstable governments.

Changing Italy's Constitution would allow voters to elect a premier who would serve five years - to coincide with Parliament's full term.

The far-right leader insisted at a news conference that what she called the "mother of all reforms" will guarantee more stability in a nation where government coalitions sometimes last only months, even weeks.

But there's no guarantee the reform will become reality.

It's likely voters would have the final say. A referendum would take place if two-thirds of lawmakers fail to approve the reform.

Meanwhile, Meloni's office has expressed "regret" that she fell prey to a prank call that induced her to acknowledge "fatigue" over the war in Ukraine.

Meloni, believing she was speaking with officials of the African Union, told a pair of Russian pranksters that "there is a lot of fatigue, I have to say the truth, from all sides. We are near the moment in which everybody understands that we need a way out."

"The problem is to find a way out which can be acceptable for both, without destroying the international law," she said. (AP)

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Storm Ciarán kills 6 in Italy: Record-breaking rain produced floods in a vast swath of Italy's Tuscany region as Storm Ciarán pushed into the country overnight, trapping residents in their homes, inundating hospitals and overturning cars. At least six people in Italy and one person in Albania were killed on Friday, bringing the storm's death toll to 14 across Europe this week.

Throughout the day, the storm brought more death and destruction as it moved eastward across the continent. In Albania, police said a motorist died when he lost control while driving a car, which slid and hit barriers. Many roads in the country were flooded, including in the capital, Tirana.

Huge waves pummeled the Adriatic shores of the Balkans, and strong winds uprooted trees and ripped off roofs. Ferries connecting Croatia's islands with the coastline were halted.

Italian Civil Protection authorities said that 200 millimeters (nearly eight inches) of rain fell in a three-hour period, from the coastal city of Livorno to the inland valley of Mugello, and caused riverbanks to overflow. Video showed at least a dozen cars getting swept away down a flooded road.

Tuscany Gov. Eugenio Giani said that six people died in the storm, which dumped an amount of rainfall not recorded in the last 100 years.

"There was a wave of water bombs without precedence," Giani told Italian news channel Sky TG24. (AP)

□ □ □

Russia steps up aerial barrage of Ukraine: Russia unleashed a wave of nighttime drone and missile attacks across 10 of Ukraine's 24 regions, Ukrainian authorities said Friday as they prepare for another winter of infrastructure bombardment by the Kremlin's forces.

Ukraine's air force said it intercepted 24 of 38 Shahed drones and one Kh-59 cruise missile launched by Russia.

The attacks caused fires in homes and public buildings, especially in the southern Kherson region which Moscow has increasingly targeted in recent weeks, emergency services said. Authorities reported that two people were injured.

"We understand that as winter approaches, Russian terrorists will attempt to cause more harm," Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said on Telegram after the attacks, employing his usual choice of words for the enemy's forces.

Last winter, Russia took aim at Ukraine's power grid in an effort to deny civilians light and heating and chip away at the country's appetite for war. Ukrainian officials accused the Kremlin of weaponizing winter.

Meanwhile, The Russian Orthodox Church on Friday called for an apology from Alla Pugacheva, the country's most renowned pop singer who returned home this week, over her criticism of Russia's war in Ukraine. (AP)

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Serbia's intelligence chief quits: Serbia's intelligence chief, who has fostered closer ties with Russia and is under sanctions by the United States, resigned Friday after less than a year in the post, saying he wanted to avoid possible further embargos against the Balkan nation.

In July, the US imposed sanctions on Aleksandar Vulin, accusing him of involvement in illegal arms shipments, drug trafficking and misuse of public office.

The US Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control said that Vulin used his public authority to help a U.S.-sanctioned Serbian arms dealer move illegal arms shipments across Serbia's borders. Vulin is also accused of involvement in a drug trafficking ring, according to U.S. authorities.

Vulin became the director of Serbia's intelligence agency BIA in December 2022. The close associate of populist Serbian President Aleksandar Vučić had previously served as both the army and police chief.

Vulin is known for advocating close ties with Russia instead of the West, and promoting the concept of a "Serbian World" - a carbon copy of the "Russian World" advocated by President Vladimir Putin - that would be made up of all ethnic Serbs living in neighboring states.

Vučić has said the real reason why Vulin has faced US sanctions is his position toward Russia and not corruption allegations. (AP)

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Albanian oppn tries to disrupt session: Albanian opposition lawmakers on Thursday caused commotion in Parliament, trying to disrupt a session in protest against what they say is increasingly authoritarian rule by the governing Socialists.

Democratic lawmakers blocked left-wing Socialists of Prime Minister Edi Rama from taking their seats and stacked chairs on top of each other in the central hall. The Democrats threw smoke firecrackers and even pushed and shoved some of the Socialists.

However, the session in the 140-member chamber later went ahead and 73 Socialist lawmakers voted in favor of 21 draft laws.

Sali Berisha, leader of one group in the heavily divided center-right Democratic Party, described the melee in parliament as a "temporary strike" and said the Democrats would continue with such actions as long as "the shameful parliament" keeps ploughing ahead.

"They did not respect our strike," he said of the Socialists. (AP)

□ □ □

Newspaper editor gets 4 yrs: Belarusian authorities on Friday convicted the chief editor of a prominent independent regional newspaper of "discrediting the Republic of Belarus" and sentenced him to four years in prison, as the country continues its crackdown on dissent.

A court in Molodechno, a city in central Belarus, also ordered Aliaksandr Mantsevich, chief editor of the popular Regionalnaya Gazeta newspaper, to pay a fine of 94,000 Belarusian rubles (about \$30,000), the Belarusian Association of Journalists reported.

The authorities accused Mantsevich and his newspaper of using content that had been declared extremist - a label loosely applied in recent years to any materials critical of the Belarusian government.

Belarus was rocked by mass protests after a disputed presidential election in which authoritarian President Alexander Lukashenko was declared the winner, giving him a sixth term in office. The protests lasted for months, the largest and most prolonged show of dissent since Lukashenko came to power in 1994 and began repressing independent news media and opposition. (AP)



US President Joe Biden and First Lady Jill Biden arrive at Schemengees Bar and Grille, one of the sites of last week's mass shooting on Nov 3 in Lewiston, Maine. (AP)

Biden tells residents of Maine city reeling from mass shooting: 'You're not alone'

US President Joe Biden and first lady Jill Biden stood for a moment of silence and placed a bouquet of white flowers at a makeshift memorial outside Schemengees Bar and Grille, one of the scenes of the state's deadliest mass shooting.

Biden then bent to hug Kathy Lebel, owner of the bar where eight people died in the Oct. 25 massacre. Seven more died at the nearby Just-In-Time Recreation bowling alley, three others at hospitals.

Biden came to Lewiston on Friday for what presidents do in these moments of horror and grief: lend

comfort to the families of the victims and show support for a reeling community. It's a trip that has become all too familiar, despite a bipartisan gun safety law passed last year after another mass shooting, and despite a series of executive orders by the president meant to curb gun violence.

"Jill and I have done too many of these," Biden said outside the bowling alley, standing in front of police officers, EMTs and others who responded to the shootings. "Jill and I are here, though on behalf of the American people to make sure you know that you're not alone."

Besides those killed, 13 people were injured in the shootings. Gunman Robert Card, a 40-year-old firearms instructor, was found dead of an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound after the killings, following a dayslong search.

Authorities said this week that Card's family had brought their concerns about his deteriorating mental health to the local sheriff five months before the deadly rampage. He had also undergone a mental health evaluation after he began behaving erratically at a training facility last summer. (AP)

Politics

Christie banks on New Hampshire

Haley wants to be GOP's Trump alternative

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa, Nov 4, (AP): At a recent closed-door meeting of roughly 60 millionaires and billionaires, one of the Republican Party's most influential donors stood in the well of Dallas' historic Old Parkland debate chamber and praised Nikki Haley's presidential candidacy.

But Paul Singer deliberately stopped short of endorsing the former UN ambassador and South Carolina governor. The New York hedge fund executive instead spoke highly of Haley's Republican rivals as well, naming Florida Gov Ron DeSantis and South Carolina Sen Tim Scott. He even praised aspects of Donald Trump's presidency, despite Singer's strong preference - like that of others in the room - to move past the former president.

The moment, described by two people who were inside the meeting last month and spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss private deliberations, captures the conundrum facing the many Republican leaders eager to coalesce behind a clear Trump alternative.

While DeSantis has struggled in recent months, Haley has been rising with donors and voters thanks in part to strong debate performances and the campaign's increased focus on foreign policy after Hamas' Oct. 7 attack on Israel. In many ways, Haley presents exactly what key Republican donors say they are seeking: an experienced conservative leader and foreign policy hawk whose profile as a woman of color - she is the daughter of Indian immigrants - could help the GOP broaden its appeal in the general election against Democratic President Joe Biden.

But just over 10 weeks before Io-

wa's caucuses launch the GOP nomination calendar, none of the would-be Trump alternatives has broken out. And his grip on the 2024 nomination is as strong as ever.

"There was a lot of donor support for Ron DeSantis at the start, but I think many donors today have stayed on the sidelines because either they fear retribution from Trump or they believe that Trump is inevitable," said Marc Short, a longtime senior adviser to former Vice President Mike Pence, who ended his presidential campaign on Saturday.

Support

A Des Moines Register poll published Monday shows Haley tied with DeSantis for second in Iowa, which hold the first-in-the-nation GOP caucuses on Jan 15. Both candidates are at 16%. That's 27 percentage points behind Trump, whose support was virtually unchanged since August in spite of several criminal indictments and fears that he might lose again to Biden.

Haley and DeSantis are in an increasingly expensive battle against each other as they head into the third Republican primary debate next week. Trump will skip the prime-time event, as he has the first two debates. Some super political action committees allied with Haley and DeSantis have spent more than \$2.5 million combined over the past week running attack ads against each other that are largely focused on China, according to tracking firm AdImpact.

Neither Haley nor DeSantis is currently devoting any advertising dollars to criticizing Trump.

Still, Haley, 51, is showing signs of momentum.

She has won over new donors in recent weeks, including former Illinois Gov. Bruce Rauner, a businessman and philanthropist who had contributed to DeSantis' campaign for governor but now says Haley has the "best chance to win the general election."

Haley has clear strengths as a candidate.

In both debates so far, she memorably cut down entrepreneur Vivek Ramaswamy on foreign policy issues and quickly rebutted attacks. She has never lost an election, having entered the 2010 primary for South Carolina governor as an underdog before defeating three better-known candidates. As the sole woman among the GOP's presidential candidates, Haley often references her own struggles with pregnancy to discuss her opposition to abortion, an issue that some Republicans fret puts them opposite a majority of voters nationally.

Also:

MANCHESTER, NH: Former New Jersey Gov. **Chris Christie** has a message for disgruntled Democrats and independents in New Hampshire fed up with the 2024 presidential front-runners.

"Vote in the Republican primary, baby. We're the only game in town, and we're the only way to stop **Donald Trump**," he told voters at a diner in Derry last week during a swing through the first-in-the-nation primary state.

As his GOP rivals including Florida Gov **Ron DeSantis** and South Carolina Sen **Tim Scott** go all in on Iowa in the weeks before voting begins, Christie often has New Hampshire all to himself.



In this photo provided by the Serbian Interior Ministry, Serbian gendarme officers looking for migrants in a forest near the border between Serbia and Hungary, Serbia, on Nov 2. Serbian police said on Nov 3, 2023 they made seven arrests on suspicion of smuggling people into Hungary as part of a days-long crackdown on irregular migration in the wake of a shooting last week in the border area that killed three migrants and wounded one. (AP)



Zwerner



Adams

America

'No knowledge of money: New York City Mayor **Eric Adams** denied any involvement in illegal political fundraising Friday, but his campaign pledged it would review its books, a day after federal agents raided the home of one of the Democrat's chief fundraisers.

"I am outraged and angry if anyone attempted to use the campaign to manipulate our democracy and defraud our campaign," Adams said in a statement on Friday. An attorney for his campaign, Vito Pitta, said they were reviewing "all documents and actions by campaign workers connected to the contributors in question."

The comments came one day after federal agents searched the Brooklyn home of Adams' top campaign fundraiser, Brianna Suggs, prompting the mayor to scuttle a planned trip to meet with White House officials in Washington and instead return to New York. (AP)

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Ex-official gets nearly 6 yrs: A Marine Corps veteran who served as a politically appointed State Department official in former President Donald Trump's administration was sentenced on Friday to nearly six years in prison for attacking police officers during the Jan. 6, 2021, riot at the US Capitol.

Federico Klein joined other Trump supporters in one of the most violent episodes of the Jan. 6 siege - a mob's fight with outnumbered police for control of a tunnel entrance on the Capitol's Lower West Terrace. Klein repeatedly assaulted officers, urged other rioters to join the fray and tried to stop police from shutting entrance doors, according to federal prosecutors.

Klein "waged a relentless siege on police officers" as he tried to enter the Capitol and stop Congress from certifying Joe Biden's electoral victory over Trump, prosecutors

said in a court filing. (AP)

□ □ □

Teacher can proceed with suit: A



Britain's Prince William, known as the Duke of Rothesay when in Scotland, visits Outfit Moray, an award-winning charity delivering life-changing outdoor learning and adventure activity programmes to young people in Moray, Scotland on Nov 2. (AP)

teacher who was shot by her 6-year-old student in Virginia can press forward with her \$40 million lawsuit against a school system over claims of negligence by school administrators, a judge ruled Friday.

The surprise decision by Newport News Circuit Court Judge Matthew Hoffman means that **Abby Zwerner** could get much more than just workers' compensation for the serious injuries caused by January's classroom shooting.

Lawyers for Newport News Public Schools had tried to block the lawsuit, arguing that Zwerner was eligible only for workers' compensation. It provides up to nearly 10 years pay and lifetime medical care for injuries. (AP)

□ □ □

Car crashes thru gate at N-plant: A driver tried to crash through the exit gates of a South Carolina nuclear plant Thursday night about an hour after security asked the same car to leave when it tried to enter, authorities said.

A pop-up security barrier stopped the car with an Arkansas license plate at the Oconee Nuclear Station near Seneca around 8 pm, Oconee County Sheriff's spokesman Jimmy Watt said in a statement.

The driver backed up and tried to drive down a dirt road as Duke Energy security tried to block him in. The driver tried to hit the guards, then drove through a fence and off the nuclear plant property, Watt said. (AP)

Lat/Am

Seed suspended

Japan princess on official visit in Peru

LIMA, Peru, Nov 4, (AP): Japanese Princess Kako on Friday arrived in Peru on an official visit to commemorate 150 years of diplomatic relations between both countries.

Kako, 28, will spend six days in the South American country, where she will lead a ceremony to celebrate the start of bilateral relations in 1873, when both countries signed a treaty of friendship, commerce and navigation.

She is expected to visit several landmark sites, including Cuzco, the Andean city that was the capital of the Inca Empire between the 15th and 16th centuries. From there the Princess will head to Qoricancha, or "The Golden Temple" in Quechua language, considered the most important - and most sacred - temple by the Incas.



Kako

While in Lima, Princess Kako will visit a school for students suffering from hearing loss. According to the Japanese embassy in Peru, Kako has attended speech competitions among deaf students in Japan, where she has given speeches in sign language.

Japan is Peru's fourth trade partner, after China, the United States and the European Union. There are seven Japanese mining companies operating in Peru, the world's second largest producer of copper.

'Bukele can run for re-election': El Salvador's Supreme Electoral Tribunal on Friday ruled President Nayib Bukele can run for reelection next year, even though the country's Constitution technically prohibits it.

The decision comes one week after the popular Salvadoran president registered to run with the New Ideas party. In a vote Friday, electoral authorities approved Bukele's reelection bid by four votes to none, with one abstention.

The Supreme Electoral Tribunal took to X, formerly Twitter, to confirm Bukele and his vice presidential candidate, Félix Ulloa, meet "the legal requirements" to run in February 2024.

Bukele also celebrated the decision on X writing "Legally registered! And without any votes against."

Officials also voted unanimously in favor of the candidacy of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front - an old-guard leftist party formed of ex-guerrillas from El Salvador's civil war. The FMLN expelled Bukele from its ranks in 2017, a decision he repaid as president by sweeping party officials and their family members from government jobs.

Arévalo's party suspended: The electoral body in charge of regulating Guatemala's political groups, known as the Citizen Registry, announced the suspension Thursday of President-elect Bernardo Arévalo's Seed Movement party.

A judge had granted the party's suspension at the request of the Attorney General's Office back in July, shortly before Arévalo was declared the second-place finisher in the initial round of voting. But a higher court ruled that the party could not be suspended during the election cycle, which only ended Oct. 31.

Arévalo went on to win a runoff in August and is scheduled to take office in January.

However, since the original judge's order for the party's suspension remained pending, the Citizen Registry said Thursday it executed the order.

The Attorney General's Office has alleged wrongdoing in the way the party collected the necessary signatures to register years earlier. Observers say Attorney General Consuelo Porras is trying to meddle in the election to thwart Arévalo and subvert the will of the people.

Ex-boxer sentenced to life: Former Puerto Rican boxer Félix Verdejo received two life sentences on Friday after he was found guilty in the grisly killing of his 27-year-old pregnant lover.

A federal judge sentenced Verdejo following emotional speeches by the family of Keishla Rodríguez, who was killed in April 2021.

Verdejo had been found guilty in July of kidnapping that leads to a death and of causing the death of an unborn child. His attorney said Friday that he plans to appeal the sentencing.

Many across Puerto Rico celebrated the outcome of the case. "This sentence should serve as a lesson for others," Puerto Rico Police Commissioner Antonio López said. "It doesn't matter how much fame, money or power you think you have. If you break the law, you will have to respond."

During the trial earlier this year, Luis Antonio Cádiz, a friend of Verdejo's also charged in the case, said the former boxer had pressured Rodríguez to get an abortion.

Security forces shot more than 100: A government agency in Jamaica found that security forces were not wearing body cameras when they fatally shot or injured more than 100 people in the Caribbean island in the first half of the year.

Only one body camera was worn during the 106 incidents - including 64 killings - reported from January to June involving Jamaica's police and military, according to a report released Thursday by the Independent Commission of Investigations. Security forces have killed a total of 119 people as of Oct. 31, although it wasn't clear if any body cameras were worn in the cases reported from July to October.

The report on shootings comes after Jamaica's government announced in April that it had distributed 400 body cameras to the Constabulary Force.

"The body-worn cameras will give the account of what transpired without embellishment, without partiality or without bias," Hugh Faulkner, who leads the commission, told reporters.

ELN guerrillas kidnapped Díaz's dad: Colombia's government said Thursday that the guerrilla group National Liberation Army, known as ELN, was responsible for the weekend kidnapping of the father of Liverpool and Colombian national soccer team striker Luis Díaz.

The peace delegation of the government, which is currently in negotiations with ELN, said in a statement it was "officially aware" that the kidnapping had been "perpetrated by a unit that belongs to ELN."

"We demand that the ELN releases immediately Mr. Luis Manuel Díaz and we say as of now that they are entirely responsible to secure his life and integrity," said Otty Patiño, who leads the peace delegation.



Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. (second from right), and Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida (second from left), applaud after the exchange of documents at the Malacanang presidential palace in Manila, Philippines on Nov 3. Also in photo holding documents are Japan Ambassador Kazuhiko Koshikawa, (left), and Philippines Foreign Affairs Secretary Enrique Manalo, (right). (AP)

Asia

Myanmar army chief vows to hit back at armed groups

Tokyo, Manila agree to negotiate defense pact

MANILA, Philippines, Nov 4, (AP): The leaders of Japan and the Philippines agreed Friday to start negotiations for a key defense pact that would allow their troops to enter each other's territory for joint military exercises. The move is part of efforts to strengthen their alliance in the face of China's alarming assertiveness in the region.

Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, who is on a two-day visit to Manila, also announced after holding talks with President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. that a coastal surveillance radar would be given to the Philippines through a grant. The country is the first beneficiary of a newly launched Japanese security assistance program for allied militaries in the region.

Additional Japanese patrol vessels, defense equipment and radars would be provided to strengthen the Philippines' law enforcement capability at sea, Kishida said. Japan has supplied a dozen patrol ships in recent years to the Philippines, which are now largely using them to defend its territorial interest in the disputed South China Sea.

Japan has had a longstanding territorial dispute with China over islands in the East China Sea. There has been a series of tense confrontations, meanwhile, between Chinese and Philippine coast guard and navy ships in the disputed South China Sea.

Two weeks ago, China's ships separately blocked then hit a Philippine coast guard vessel and a supply boat near the disputed Second Thomas Shoal in the South China Sea. Japan immediately expressed its strong support to the Philippines and the United States renewed its warning that it's obligated to defend its treaty ally if Filipino forces come under an armed attack in the contested waters.

Also:

BANGKOK: The leader of Myanmar's army-installed government said the military will carry out counterattacks against a powerful alliance of ethnic armed groups that has seized towns near the Chinese border in the country's northeastern and northern regions, state-run media reported Friday.

The Global New Light of Myanmar newspaper quoted Senior Gen. Min Aung Hlaing as saying he told his Cabinet members that combined forces of the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army and the Ta'ang National Liberation Army attacked military

China supported sanctions on North Korea's nuclear program

WASHINGTON, Nov 4, (AP): Chinese middlemen launder the proceeds of North Korean hackers' cyber heists while Chinese ships deliver sanctioned North Korean goods to Chinese ports.

Chinese companies help North Koreans workers - from cheap laborers to well-paid IT specialists - find work abroad. A Beijing art gallery even boasts of North Korean artists working 12-hour days in its heavily surveilled compound, churning out paintings of idyllic visions of life under communism that each sell for thousands of dollars.

That's all part of what international authorities say is a growing mountain of evidence that shows Beijing is helping cash-strapped North Korea evade a broad range of international sanctions designed to hamper Pyongyang's nuclear weapons program, according to an Associated Press review of United Nations reports, court records and interviews with experts.

"It's overwhelming," Aaron Arnold, a former member of a UN panel on North Korea and a sanctions expert at the Royal United Services Institute, said of the links between China and sanctions evasion. "At this point, it's very hard to say it's not intentional."

China has had a complicated

relationship with Pyongyang since the 1950-53 Korean War. Though uneasy with a nuclear menace at its doorstep, China doesn't want its neighbor's government to collapse, experts say. China views North Korea as a buffer against the US, which maintains a significant troop presence in South Korea.

Beijing has long maintained it enforces the sanctions it has supported since North Korea started testing nuclear weapons and forcefully pushed back on any suggestions to the contrary. "China has been fully and strictly implementing the (UN Security Council) resolutions," a Chinese ambassador said in a recent letter to the U.N., adding that his country had "sustained great losses" in doing so.

But in recent years, Beijing has sought to weaken those very sanctions and last year vetoed new restrictions on Pyongyang after it conducted a nuclear test.

This summer a top ruling Chinese party official provided a vivid example of China's ambiguity on sanctions as he stood clapping next to North Korean Leader Kim Jong Un during a Pyongyang military parade. Rolling past the two men were trucks carrying nuclear-capable missiles and other weapons the regime isn't supposed to have.

outposts and government offices in the northern part of Shan state. Maj. Gen. Zaw Min Tun, a spokesperson for the ruling military council, acknowledged to state MRTV television on Thursday that the army had ceded control of the towns of Chinshwehaw, Pang Hseng and Hpawng Hseng on the border with China. Chinshwehaw is a major point for cross-border trade.

CANBERRA, Australia: Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said Saturday he would protest a lack of transparency in China's treatment of a detained Australian democracy blogger when meeting with President Xi Jinping in Beijing during a trade-focused state visit.

The detention of Yang Hengjun

without conviction for almost five years will be one of the topics raised with Xi when they meet in the Great Hall of the People on Monday.

Yang is being held in a Beijing detention center awaiting the verdict of a 2021 closed-door trial on espionage charges. The 58-year-old's family fears he is dying.

"I'll be saying that Dr. Yang's case needs to be resolved and I'll be speaking about his human rights, the nature of the detention and the failure to have transparent processes," Albanese told reporters in the northern Australian city of Darwin hours before he was to fly to Shanghai.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry this week defended Yang's prosecution, saying his case had been handled in strict accordance with the law.



Britain's King Charles III, (right), speaks to Katana Ngala, (left), a coral restoration officer, as they observe from the beach as the coral he planted on concrete bricks is taken out to sea during a visit to Kuruwitu Conservation Area in Kilifi, Kenya on Nov 2. (AP)



Camara



Dujarric

Africa

Charles meets with leaders: King Charles III met with religious leaders Friday to promote peace and security in Kenya during the last day of his four-day trip.

The king spent a rainy Friday morning touring Mandhry Mosque, East Africa's oldest mosque, before meeting with Christian, Hindu, Muslim and African traditional faith leaders in an Anglican cathedral in Kenya's coastal city of Mombasa. The region has seen an increase in radicalization and militants kidnapping or killing Kenyans.

Kenya celebrates the 60th anniversary of its independence in December after decades of British rule. The two countries have had a close - though sometimes challenging - relationship since the Mau Mau revolution, the prolonged struggle against colonial rule in which thousands of Kenyans died.

Although he didn't explicitly apologize for Britain's actions in its former colony, Charles expressed earlier in the visit his "greatest sorrow and the deepest regret" for the violence of the colonial era, citing the "abhorrent and unjustifiable acts of violence" committed against Kenyans as they sought independence.

Protesters demanding the king's apology for colonial abuses and reparations to victims were stopped by police during the first day of the trip. A planned press conference by victims of human rights abuses by British forces training in Nanyuki town was forcefully canceled by police. (AP)

Camara, 2 others escape from jail: Gunmen stormed the main prison in Guinea's capital early Saturday and freed former dictator Moussa "Dadis" Camara, the country's justice minister said, announcing the closure of the West African nation's borders.

The announcement by Justice Minister Charles Alphonse Wright came several hours after heavy gunfire erupted in the Kouloum district of the capital, Conakry.

Among the others who escaped were Claude Pivi and Blaise Goumou, Wright said.

"We will find them. And those responsible will be held accountable," Wright told local Radio Fim FM.

Camara, who came to power in a 2008 coup d'etat, had been detained in connection with a stadium massacre during his brief time in power. He had lived for years in exile after surviving an assassination attempt by one of his bodyguards before returning home in late 2021. (AP)

15 UN peacekeepers hurt: Fifteen UN peacekeepers in a convoy withdrawing from



Japan's Princess Kako attends a ceremony at the Japanese Cultural Center in Lima, Peru on Nov 3. The Japanese princess is visiting to celebrate the 150th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Japan and Peru. (AP)

a rebel stronghold in northern Mali were injured when vehicles hit improvised explosive devices on two occasions this week, the United Nations said Friday.

UN spokesman Stephane Dujarric said eight peacekeepers injured Wednesday were evacuated by air and "are now reported to be in stable condition." He said seven peacekeepers injured by an IED early Friday also

were evacuated by air. He did not give their conditions. Dujarric said the peacekeepers, who were withdrawing weeks earlier than planned because of growing insecurity, suffered two other IED attacks after leaving their base in Kidal on Oct 31.

JNIM, an extremist group with links to al-Qaida, claimed responsibility for the earlier attacks, in which at least two peace-

keepers were injured. Dujarric said the UN doesn't know if the IEDs that hit the convoy had been there for a long time or whether the peacekeepers were deliberately targeted. The convoy is heading to Gao on the east bank of the Niger River, and "it's clear what road they will use," he said. (AP)

Kenya flooding kills 2: Heavy rains and flooding ravaged parts of Kenya on Friday, sweeping away homes and livestock and destroying roads and electric transmission lines, authorities said. At least two people were killed and at least one was missing.

One of the victims died after a house collapsed under heavy rains in the coastal city of Mombasa, police said, while the second was swept away by floods in Meru County in central Kenya. Emergency workers were searching for a third person believed to have drowned in Isiolo, in the country's north.

Kenya's Meteorological Department had earlier warned of above average rainfall until Monday. "Flood waters may appear in places where it has not rained heavily especially downstream. Residents are advised to avoid driving through, or walking in moving water or open fields and not to shelter under trees and near gridded windows when raining to minimize exposure to lightning strikes," read the alert.

In Mombasa, heavy rains caused flash floods, which swept away homes and businesses. Videos showed cars submerged in flooded roads, while in the northeast, a major road linking Wajir and Mandera counties was completely cut off leaving motorists stranded. (AP)

oil price up

The price of Kuwaiti oil barrel rose by USD 1.97 to reach USD 91.28 per barrel (pb) on Friday, compared to USD 89.31 pb the day before, said Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) on Saturday.

In international markets, Brent crude oil went down USD 1.92 to reach USD 84.89 pb, while West Texas crude dropped USD 1.95 to stand at USD 80.51. (KUNA)

FTX founder Bankman-Fried convicted of crypto customer fraud

FTX founder Sam Bankman-Fried's spectacular rise and fall in the cryptocurrency industry - a journey that included his testimony before Congress, a Super Bowl advertisement and dreams of a future run for president - hit rock bottom Thursday when a New York jury convicted him of fraud for stealing at least \$10 billion from customers and investors.

After the monthlong trial, jurors rejected Bankman-Fried's claim during testimony in Manhattan federal court that he never committed fraud or meant to cheat customers before FTX, once the world's second-largest crypto exchange, collapsed into bankruptcy a year ago.

"Mr. Bankman-Fried. Please rise and face the jury," Judge Lewis A. Kaplan commanded just before a jury forewoman responded "guilty" seven times to two counts of wire fraud, two counts of wire fraud conspiracy and three other conspiracy charges, which carry potential penalties adding up to 110 years in prison. Bankman-Fried is likely to face far less than the maximum at a sentencing set for March 28.

As the verdict was read, Bankman-Fried seemed stunned, appearing stone-faced, his hands clasped before him, as his lawyers remained sitting beside him. When he sat down, he looked down for several minutes.

His lawyer, Mark Cohen, later read a statement outside court to say they "respect the jury's decision. But we are very disappointed with the result."

"Mr. Bankman-Fried maintains his innocence and will continue to vigorously fight the charges against him," Cohen said. U.S. Attorney Damian Williams, who sat

in the front row of the spectator section during the verdict, stood before cameras outside the courthouse and said Bankman-Fried "perpetrated one of the biggest financial frauds in American history, a multibillion dollar scheme designed to make him the king of crypto."

"But here's the thing: The cryptocurrency industry might be new. The players like Sam Bankman-Fried might be new. This kind of fraud, this kind of corruption is as old as time and we have no patience for it," he said. (AP)

Market Movements

03-11-2023

	Change	Closing pts		Change	Closing pts
UAE DFM	+16.39	3929.81	UK FTSE 100	-28.80	7417.73
Philippines PSEI	+15.49	5989.27			
Pakistan KSE 100	+474.28	53175.71			
Europe Euro Stoxx 50	+5.05	4174.67			

Business

S&P GCC composite index down by 4.8% in Oct

GCC and global markets ended negative as geopolitical pressures rise

'Consumer spends 33 pct of his income on housing'

Finance Committee calls for radical solution

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: The seventh report of the Parliamentary Finance Committee, which studies the issue of "rising prices and the continuing wave of inflation," includes 11 recommendations to control prices and confront inflation, and stressed that the measures taken by the relevant government agencies are still insufficient in this direction, and that there are important issues related to the phenomenon of high prices that must be addressed, reports Al-Rai daily.

The report, which was completed before the opening session of the second session, of which Al-Rai obtained a copy, concluded with 11 recommendations to confront inflation, the first of which was developing radical solutions to address the housing issue.

The report stressed the need to confront the noticeable inflation in real estate prices, indicating that the data received from the concerned authorities revealed that the consumer in Kuwait spends the largest percentage of his total spending on housing services, at about 33.2 percent.

The report emphasized the importance of making efforts to address the large gap between demand and supply for housing, to reduce exaggerated real estate prices, by working to free up more residential land, increasing the role of the private sector in completing housing projects, and reconsidering the value of fees imposed by Law 8/2008, regarding the exploitation of plots of land and houses allocated for private housing purposes, in addition to legalizing the rental of private housing, in a way that prevents speculation in the residential real estate market, and finding sustainable alternatives to the current housing system in order to ensure everyone's access to housing.

Law

The committee recommended the importance of legislative amendment to the provisions of Law 10/1979 regarding the supervision of trade in goods, services, and craft works, and determining the prices of some of them and other related laws, to enhance the role of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry in confronting the phenomenon of high prices and inflation rates and taking sufficient and deterrent measures for all who seek to exploit consumers, indicating that the committee is currently studying proposals for laws related to this issue, to reach appropriate legislative amendments to the current relevant laws in a way that contributes to controlling the prices of goods and services and achieving relative stability in inflation rates, noting that the government made clear in its meeting with the committee that it in the process of submitting a draft law amending the provisions of the aforementioned law.

Among the recommendations presented by the committee as well as financial control (fiscal policy) by adopting financial and economic reforms, to diversify sources of income, address deficiencies in the state's general budget, while reducing the general budget deficit to calm aggregate demand and inflation, and investing in infrastructure, medical care, and education.

The committee stressed the need to tighten supervision over markets, by considering other complementary measures to increase the effectiveness of market supervision, coordination between all parties concerned with the price file, and concerted efforts towards confronting inflation and rising prices, and achieving relative stability in commodity prices.

The report stressed the importance of enhancing competitiveness, by further activating the role of the Competition Protection Agency, benefiting from the experiences of similar agencies in other countries, and approving effective legislation and policies for competition, consumer protection, improving the business environment, and attracting investments.

The report touched on other recommendations, including enhancing food supplies, diversifying import sources, facilitating border control procedures,

150k jobs added amid high interest rates

US employers pulls back on recruiting in October

WASHINGTON, 4 Nov (AP): The nation's employers slowed their hiring in October, adding a modest but still decent 150,000 jobs, a sign that the labor market may be cooling but remains resilient despite high interest rates that have made borrowing much costlier for companies and consumers.

Last month's job growth, though down sharply from a robust 297,000 gain in September, was solid enough to suggest that many companies still want to hire and that the economy remains sturdy. And job growth would have been higher in October if not for the now-settled United Auto Workers' strikes. The strikes ended this week with tentative settlements in which against Detroit's automakers granted significantly better pay and benefits to the union's workers.

Friday's jobs report from the government comes as the Federal Reserve is assessing incoming economic data to determine whether to leave its key interest rate unchanged, as it did this week, or to raise it again in its drive to curb inflation. The lower job growth in October, along with a slowdown in pay gains last month, could help convince the Fed that inflation pressures will continue to cool and that further rate hikes may not be needed.

On Wall Street, traders appeared to signal their growing belief in that scenario. Bond yields fell and stock prices rose sharply after the jobs report was released, indicating optimism that the Fed will decide it won't need to impose additional rate hikes.

The unemployment rate rose last month from 3.8% to 3.9%. And in another sign of a possible softening in the labor market, the Labor Department revised down its estimate of job growth in August and September by a combined

101,000. The UAW strikes contributed to an overall loss of 35,000 factory positions in October. Several other sectors posted solid job gains last month, notably healthcare, which added 58,000, government agencies 51,000 and construction companies 23,000.

By contrast, the vast leisure and hospitality sector, which includes bars, restaurants and hotels, reported only modest job growth. So did professional and business services, a category that includes such high-paying occupations as accounting, engineering and architecture.

Wage pressures, which have been gradually slowing, eased further in October. Average hourly pay rose 0.2% from September and 4.1% from 12 months earlier. The year-over-year wage increase was the lowest since June 2021; the month-over-month rise was the smallest since February 2022. The Fed has raised its benchmark interest rate 11 times since March 2022 to try to slow the economy and tame inflation, which hit a four-decade high last year but has slowed sharply since then. In September, consumer prices rose 3.7% from a year earlier, down drastically from a year-over-year peak of 9.1% in June 2022 but still well above the Fed's 2% target level.

The U.S. job market has remained on firm footing despite those rate hikes and has helped fuel consumer spending, the primary driver of the economy. Employers have now added a healthy 204,000 jobs a month over the past three months.

The combination of a solid economy and decelerating inflation has raised hopes that the Fed can nail a so-called soft landing - raising rates just enough to tame inflation without triggering a recession.



Workers pour concrete to create part of a bus stop in the Manhattan borough of New York City on Thursday, October 12, 2023. On Friday, the U.S. government issued the October jobs report. (AP)

which would enhance long-term food security, supporting and encouraging entrepreneurial entrepreneurs to provide goods at competitive prices by providing incentives such as exemptions from government fees and others, and supporting the efforts of the Central Administration of Statistics to develop statistical work and work to accelerate the pace of issuing lagging economic indicators and statistics.

The committee also stressed the importance of optimally exploiting the rise in oil prices for any period, by establishing investment projects that will bring huge non-oil revenues to the state, which would develop local human capital, encourage innovation and invention, and activate the policies of the development plan and implement them through a package of development initiatives that include all groups.

The main goods in the economic sectors in the country, as well as activating laws that would affect the rise in prices, such as Law 5/2008, regarding the establishment of companies to

develop and implement public warehouses and border crossings.

The following are the recommendations:

- Radical solutions to address the housing issue
- Amending the law on supervision of trade in goods and services
- Controlling financial policy in the country
- Supervising markets
- Enhancing competitiveness and activating the countries of the competition protection agency
- Strengthening food supplies and diversifying import sources
- Supporting Business owners who take the initiative to provide goods at competitive prices
- Accelerate the pace of issuing lagging economic indicators and statistics
- Optimal exploitation of rising oil prices
- Activating and implementing development plan policies
- Activating laws that would affect the rise in prices

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: Kuwait Financial Centre "Markaz" released its Monthly Market Review report for the month of October 2023. During the month, Global and GCC equity indices witnessed a sharp fall due to the rise in geopolitical tensions in the Middle East and fears of further monetary tightening by the U.S. Fed.

Kuwait markets were down for the month in line with global markets, due to the negative sentiment as investors feared rise in geopolitical tensions could disrupt the global economy. Kuwait's All Share Index posted a monthly fall of 5.2%, driven by a broad-based fall of all sectoral indices except Technology and Insurance. This is the steepest monthly decline witnessed so far in 2023. Banking stocks were weak, with KFH (Kuwait Finance House) and NBK (National Bank of Kuwait) registering a monthly decline of 6.7% and 3.2%, respectively. KFH reported a net profit of KD 461.5 million (USD 1.5 billion) in 9m 2023, an increase of 124.3% y/y. Shares of KFH fell sharply despite recording strong profits as negative economic sentiment led to profit booking. Alimtia Investment Group and National Investments Co. witnessed a steep fall among Premier Market stocks, declining by 19.2% and 18.4% respectively during the month.

GCC Markets were also negative due to rising geopolitical risks and a decline in oil prices. The S&P GCC composite index fell by 4.8% for the month. Qatar and Dubai equity indices fell the most at 7.1% and 6.9% respectively during the month. Dubai's real estate stocks witnessed a sharp reversal in performance, with Emaar Properties and Aldar Properties falling by 16.8% and 9.7% respectively. Despite the fall, Dubai remains the best performing GCC market in 2023 so far with a YTD return of 16.2%. Abu Dhabi and Saudi equity indices fell 4.5% and 3.3% respectively. The fall of Saudi equity index was fueled by the World Bank's downward revision of economic growth in 2023 on the back of oil production cuts and lower prices. GCC blue-chip stocks were weighed down by the negative market sentiment despite positive stock-specific news. Saudi Aramco fell 4.9% during the month, despite announcing the acquisition of a strategic minority stake in Midecocean Energy for USD 500 million. Although Qatar National Bank posted strong earnings for Q3 2023, the stock fell 3.3% for the month. The bank reported an 8% y/y increase in net profits and above the consensus estimates by Refinitiv.

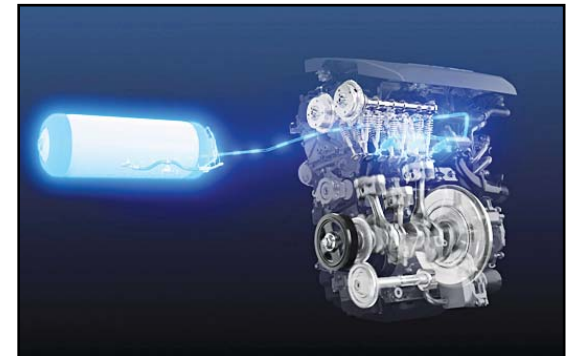
Markets

Global and U.S. markets were also negative due to fears of persistent inflation and uncertainty over energy prices. The MSCI World index and S&P 500 indices fell 3.0% and 2.2% respectively in October. Investor sentiment was weighed down by strong U.S. GDP growth in Q3 2023 exceeding market expectation, which could possibly lead to higher inflation and a higher possibility of another rate hike in the next Fed meeting. The MSCI EM index fell by 3.9% for the month led by Chinese stock index (-2.9%).

During the month, Kuwait has announced intentions to invest USD 410 billion in its hydrocarbon sector and is expected to increase crude output to 3.65 million barrels per day by 2035. Domestic credit in Kuwait increased by 0.4% m/m in September and 0.8% on YTD basis driven by rise in



Toyota Mirai



Toyota Hydrogen Engine

Toyota evolves their role in carbon neutrality in Mideast

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: In the midst of an era defined by transformative change, the looming threat of climate change to our planet's future remains a constant concern. As the global movement toward carbon neutrality gains momentum, the Middle East's role and responsibilities as a major world energy producer have naturally become a central focus of this discussion. A growing number of Gulf nations have committed to achieving net-zero emissions by around mid-century, with the last few years seeing the advent of multiple carbon-cutting legislation.

These efforts to reduce the impact of carbon emissions across the Middle East are driving many companies to reshape their century-old operational paradigms. Amid the automotive industry's collective efforts toward a carbon-neutral future, Toyota has positioned itself as a driving force for sustainable mobility both globally and within the region.

With the Middle Eastern market's ever-growing demand for electrified vehicles and sustainable solutions, Toyota aims to make significant strides toward its CO2 reduction goals and bolster worldwide electrified vehicle sales. This strategic pursuit aligns with the company's overarching goal of achieving carbon neutrality by 2050.

At the heart of Toyota's regional efforts is the company's multi-pathway approach, which considers each region's unique situations and realities. This strategy considers various factors, such as usage needs, economic circumstances, energy sources, and infrastructure readiness. Through these considerations, Toyota can efficiently and holistically contribute to the carbon neutrality objectives of every country in which it operates through a range of practical solutions.

Toyota offers customized solutions for different regions using vari-

ous vehicle power-trains, including Hybrid Electric Vehicles (HEVs), Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEVs), Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles (FCEVs), and Battery Electric Vehicles (BEVs). This approach also includes enhancing the efficiency of internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles, as evident in the 2021 Land Cruiser 300 series.

This multi-pathway approach has been instrumental in achieving widespread regional adoption of Toyota's electrified vehicles. The company's journey in the Middle East began in 2010 with the introduction of its first electrified vehicle, the Lexus LS HEV. Building upon this milestone, Toyota continued to make strides in the hybrid electric domain, most notably with the launch of the Toyota Prius in 2016.

One remarkable example of this adoption is observable in Dubai, where most taxis now consist of Toyota HEVs. Efforts to boost HEV sales and improve ICE efficiency have also been underway in Saudi Arabia, where Toyota successfully met the country's Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards, while achieving a 27% increase in average fuel economy from 2016 to 2022.

Toyota currently offers a range of over 10 Toyota and Lexus electrified vehicle models, making it the largest lineup of its kind in the region. This HEV selection ranges from compact, reliable, and economical models like the Corolla to mid-sized vehicles like the Camry and SUVs like the Highlander. In addition, customers can choose from other Toyota models, such as the C-HR, Corolla Cross, RAV4, Innova, and Crown. At the same time, Lexus sets new sustainability standards in the luxury segment with HEV variants of the Lexus ES, LS, NX, and RX models.

Toyota's commitment to introducing diverse green mobility technolo-

gies in the Middle East is also evident. The Mirai, hydrogen-powered FCEV, represents Toyota's ambitions for a hydrogen-based society. The region's potential as a global clean hydrogen producer has attracted attention, with Saudi Arabia targeting the production of 2.9 million tons of hydrogen per year by 2030, the UAE aiming for 1.4 million tons by 2031, and Oman targeting one million tons by 2030.

In 2017, Al-Futtaim Motors, Toyota's distributor in UAE, built the region's first hydrogen refueling station (HRS), and in 2019, Saudi Aramco and Air Products inaugurated Saudi Arabia's first station. Introduction of the Mirai not only represent another facet of Toyota's Middle Eastern carbon neutrality support efforts but also demonstrate its interest in aiding the long-term development of a hydrogen energy industry.

Beyond the aforementioned hydrogen production targets, recent progress on this front adds weight to the industry's promise. In early 2022, Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Energy signed eight agreements to initiate hydrogen mobility pilot projects involving vehicles, buses, trains, and other applications, showcasing Saudi Arabia's commitment to hydrogen adoption. In UAE, Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) plans a high-speed HRS in Masdar City this year, timed with COP28.

Oman is also getting its first station through a partnership between Shell Oman and Oman Airports. 15 Mirai vehicles, acquired from Saud Bahwan Automotive, Toyota's distributor in Oman, will also be provided to Oman Airports for corporate use as per a previous agreement.

Set to launch in 2024, the project will contribute to Oman's Vision 2040 decarbonization and energy transition efforts.

Amazon and Meta settle UK investigations

Amazon and Meta settled separate U.K. antitrust investigations by agreeing to stop practices that give them an unfair advantage over merchants and customers using their platforms, the watchdog said Friday.

The Competition and Markets Authority said it accepted the commitments from the U.S. tech companies to close the investigations into their online marketplaces.

The watchdog had been in-

vestigating whether Amazon was harming competition and hurting consumers by giving preference to merchants paying for extras like storage, packaging and delivery.

It also looked into how Amazon chooses suppliers for the so-called buy box, which shows customers one-click "buy now" or "add to basket" options and the collection and use of data.

The CMA said Amazon will no longer be able to use data from

third-party sellers to give itself an edge. Sellers can negotiate their own delivery rates with independent delivery services and they'll get a fair shot at the buy box, it said.

Amazon welcomed the deal, saying it "engaged constructively with the CMA." The company settled a European Union antitrust case involving the buy box in December by agreeing to make major changes to its business practices. (AP)

US sanctions more foreign firms

The United States on Thursday imposed a new round of sanctions on 130 firms and people from Turkey, China and the United Arab Emirates in an effort to choke off Russia's access to tools and equipment that support its invasion of Ukraine. The sanctions imposed by Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control target third-party firms and people alleged to assist Moscow in procuring equipment needed on

the battlefield, including suppliers and shippers. In addition, the State Department imposed diplomatic sanctions targeting Russian energy production and its metals and mining sector.

Thursday's sanctions targets include Turkish national Berk Turken and his firms, which are alleged to have ties to Russian intelligence. The Treasury Department said Turken's network arranged payments and shipping details de-

signed to bypass sanctions and move goods from Turkey to Russia.

A series of United Arab Emirates firms alleged to have shipped aviation equipment, machines for data reception and more also were sanctioned. And UAE-based ARX Financial Engineering Ltd. was sanctioned for allegedly being involved in finding ways for Russian rubles to be sent from sanctioned Russian bank VTB Bank and converted to U.S. dollars. (AP)

Yellen says Washington does not seek to decouple from Beijing

'US economic ties with China must consider rights, national security'

WASHINGTON, Nov 4, (AP): Washington wants to build an economic relationship with Beijing that takes into account national security and human rights and is fair to both sides, Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said on Thursday.

In laying out the Biden administration's economic approach toward the Indo-Pacific region, the country's top financial official said Washington does not seek to decouple from China, the region's largest economy and the world's second largest next to the United States. But it wants to diversify by investing at home and boosting links with trusted countries in the region.

"We've put forward a vision of the world grounded in values we share with these allies and partners and in which there is also a healthy and stable economic relationship between the United States and China," Yellen said in a speech hosted by the Asia Society less than two weeks before leaders of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation countries will gather in San Francisco for an annual meeting.

President Joe Biden and Chinese leader Xi Jinping plan to hold talks on the sidelines of the meeting to stabilize U.S.-China relations, which

have unraveled over a range of issues, including trade, technology, security and human rights issues. In the South China Sea, tensions have escalated between Beijing and Manila over a contested shoal. In the Taiwan Strait, China regularly flies warplanes near the self-governed island of Taiwan, which Beijing claims to be Chinese territory.

As Washington shifts its China policy through a string of economic measures that include tariffs and restrictions on technology exports and outbound investments, the Chinese government responds by accusing the United States of stifling its growth and curbing its rise. In her speech, Yellen said Washington will not cut its economic ties with Beijing but pursue a "serious and clear-eyed" approach.

"When we take national security actions using economic tools, we do so in narrowly targeted ways, such as with President Biden's executive order on outbound investments, aimed at accomplishing our national security goals, not choking off growth in China," she said.

"As I've said, the United States does not seek to decouple from China. A full separation of our economies, or an approach in which coun-

tries including those in the Indo-Pacific are forced to take sides, would have significant negative global repercussions," Yellen said. "We have no interest in such a divided world and its disastrous effects."

To achieve Washington's goals, the U.S. will continue to engage China to "prevent misunderstanding and clarify our areas of agreement and disagreement," said Yellen, who in July traveled to Beijing to meet her Chinese counterparts.

The U.S. also is rebuilding and strengthening partnerships in the region with allies such as Japan, South Korea, Vietnam and India, Yellen said.

Yellen made it clear that the U.S. will deepen its engagement in the region, at a time China seeks to unseat the U.S. as the regional leader.

"The United States has long been a Pacific nation, and it is abundantly clear we remain one today," she said.

"Claims that America is turning away from the Indo-Pacific are wholly unfounded," Yellen said. "We are deepening our economic ties across the region, with tremendous potential benefits for the U.S. economy and for the Indo-Pacific."

Economy on brink of exiting deflation

Japan's prime minister announces \$113 billion in 'stimulus spending'

TOKYO, Nov 4, (AP): Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida announced Thursday a stimulus package of more than 17 trillion yen (\$113 billion) that includes tax breaks and benefits for low-income households, a plan criticized by some observers as populist spending that would worsen Japan's national debt.

Kishida said his priorities are to overcome deflation and to put the economy on a growth track. Tax revenues will increase only when the economy grows and lead to fiscal health, he told a news conference, explaining the package endorsed by his Cabinet earlier in the day.

The government will fund the spending by compiling a supplementary budget of 13.1 trillion yen (\$87 billion) for the current fiscal year.

"Japan's economy is now on the brink of exiting from deflation. It would be more difficult to do so if we miss out this chance," he said. "I'm determined to boost the disposable income, to lead to expanded growth and to create a virtuous cycle."

Pay hikes have yet to outpace inflation, Kishida said, noting that as a key challenge.

The package includes a temporary tax cut of 40,000 yen (\$266) per person from next June and 70,000 yen (\$465) payouts to low-income households as well as subsidies for gasoline and utility bills.

All combined, the plan is estimated to boost Japan's gross do-

mestic product by about 1.2% on average, according to a government estimate.

Last year, his government already earmarked a nearly 30-trillion yen (\$200 billion) supplementary budget to fund an earlier economic package aimed at fighting inflation.

Takahide Kiuchi, executive economist at the Nomura Research Institute, said the package's effect on the economy will be limited because temporary tax cuts and payouts tend to go to savings. Such measures won't change consumer behavior and will have limited impact on the mid- to long-term economy, he said.

Kiuchi said the latest measures look like "an attempt to please everyone." The government earlier called for "normalizing" the increased spending during the pandemic that worsened Japan's government debt, but the economic package seems to be a quick reversal of the policy, he said.

Opposition lawmakers have questioned the use of tax cuts as inflation-relief measures, partly because it takes time to legislate them.

Akira Nagatsuma, policy research chairperson of the main opposition Constitutional Democratic Party of Japan, accused Kishida of suddenly switching to tax cuts to cover up his perceived support for a tax increase to fund surging defense spending over the next five years, under a new security strategy adopted in December.

Biden pledges an alternative to the China-led infrastructure & dev loans

US president welcomes leaders to the Americas summit

WASHINGTON, Nov 4, (AP): President Joe Biden on Friday welcomed government leaders from countries across the Americas to an economic summit by pledging to increase U.S. investment in the region in part to counter China's influence.

The U.S. president did not specifically mention China in his opening remarks at the first Americas Partnership for Economic Prosperity Leaders' Summit. But Biden openly alluded to the country that has emerged as a chief geopolitical competitor to the United States that has offered development loans to countries in the Western Hemisphere.

"We want to make sure that our closest neighbors know they have a real choice between debt trap diplomacy and high quality, transparent approaches to infrastructure and to development," Biden said.

"By combining the commitment of the United States government to mitigate investment risk with the agility of private sector financing, we believe we can deliver gains for workers and families throughout the region."

Among the other topics being discussed at the summit are migration, supply chains and efforts geared toward environmental sustainability.

Along with Biden, officials from Barbados, Canada, Mexico, Chile, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Peru, Uruguay and Panama attended summit events.

Friday's event was announced last year at the Summit of the Americas in Los Angeles. The focus on trade comes



President Joe Biden meets with Chile's President Gabriel Boric in the Oval Office of the White House, Thursday, Nov. 2, 2023, in Washington. (AP)

as competition has intensified between the United States and China, the world's two largest economies.

Biden, a Democrat, has provided government incentives to build U.S. infrastructure and for companies to construct new factories.

But after the coronavirus pandemic disrupted manufacturing and global shipping, there has also been an effort to diversify trade and reduce dependence on Chinese manufacturing.

In 2022, the U.S. exported \$1.2 trillion worth of goods and services to other countries in the Western Hemisphere, according to the U.S. Trade Representative. It also imported \$1.2 trillion in goods and services from those

countries. But the majority of that trade was with Canada and Mexico.

By contrast, the U.S. imported \$562.9 billion worth of goods and services from China last year.

Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen outlined the Biden administration's goals in a Thursday speech at the Inter-American Development Bank.

The U.S. wants to diversify supply chains with "trusted partners and allies," a strategy that she said had "tremendous potential benefits for fueling growth in Latin America and the Caribbean."

Yellen, who regularly talks about her friendship strategy for increasing supply chain resilience by working primarily

with friendly nations as opposed to geopolitical rivals like China, laid out her vision of new U.S. investment in South America at the development bank.

The Inter-American Development Bank, which is the biggest multilateral lender to Latin America, would support new projects through grants, lending and new programs. The U.S. is the bank's largest shareholder, with 30% of voting rights.

Increasingly, policymakers in the U.S. have expressed concern about China's influence at the bank.

While the Asian superpower holds less than 0.1% voting rights, it holds large economic stakes in some of the 48 member countries of the bank.

Prices of some basic European foodstuffs keep 'skyrocketing'

BRUSSELS, Nov 4, (AP): These days, think twice before you lavishly ladle olive oil onto your pasta, salad or crusty bread.

Olive oil, a daily staple of Mediterranean cuisine and the life of many a salad throughout Europe, is experiencing a staggering rise in price. It's a prime example of how food still outruns overall inflation in the European Union.

Olive oil has increased by about 75% since January 2021, dwarfing overall annual inflation that has already been considered unusually high over the past few years and even stood at 11.5% in October last year. And much of the food inflation has come over the past two years alone.

In Spain, the world's biggest olive oil producer, prices jumped 53% in August compared to the previous year and a massive 115% since August 2021.

Apart from olive oil, "potato prices were also on a staggering rise," according to EU statistical agency Eurostat. "Since January 2021, prices for potatoes increased by 53% in September 2023.

And if high- and middle-income families can shrug off such increases relatively easily, it becomes an ever increasing burden for poorer families, many of which have been unable to even match an increase of their wages to the overall inflation index.

"By contrast," said the Europe-

an Trade Union Confederation, or ETUC, "nominal wages have increased by 11% in the EU," making sure that gap keeps on increasing.

"Wages are still failing to keep up with the cost of the most basic food stuffs, including for workers in the agriculture sector itself, forcing more and more working people to rely on foodbanks," said Esther Lynch, the union's general-secretary.

Annual inflation fell sharply to 2.9% in October, its lowest in more than two years, but food inflation still stood at 7.5%.

Grocery prices have risen more sharply in Europe than in other advanced economies - from the U.S. to Japan - driven by higher energy and labor costs and the impact of Russia's war in Ukraine. That is even though costs for food commodities have fallen for months.

Even if ETUC blames profiteering of big agroindustry in times of crisis, the olive oil sector has faced its own challenges.

In Spain, for example, farmers and experts primarily blame the nearly two-year drought, higher temperatures affecting flowering and inflation affecting fertilizer prices. Spain's Agriculture Ministry said that it expects olive oil production for the 2023-24 campaign to be nearly 35% down on average production for the past four years.

No police probe for husband of Norway's ex-PM over stock trades

OSLO, Nov 4, (AP): The husband of former Norwegian Prime Minister Erna Solberg will not face investigation over his stock trading during her two terms in office, Norway's economic crimes agency announced Friday, saying it had found no indications that he had benefited from inside information.

Solberg, who was prime minister from 2013 to 2021, has faced intense political and media pressure because of the trading of her husband, Sindre Finnes, who made more than 3,600 share deals.

Pal K. Lonseth, head of the Norwegian National Authority for Investigation and Prosecution of Economic and Environmental Crime, said his agency's task had been to assess whether Finnes received inside information from "either from

Solberg or other sources, and whether there is evidence that he has used such information in his investments."

"We have found no indications of that," said Lonseth, whose agency is known as Oekokrim in Norwegian.

Solberg, 62, who has led Norway's center-right party Høyre since 2004, has repeatedly said she wants to be the conservative prime ministerial candidate in the 2025 general election but it's up to the party to decide.

She said during a news conference Friday that she was "glad" about the national authority's decision, calling it "a clear and unambiguous conclusion that no indication of insider trading has been found." Solberg said she thinks there is still support for her within Høyre.

In September, it was revealed

that the husbands of Solberg and former Foreign Minister Anniken Huitfeldt had traded stocks for years behind their wives' backs. Both had to explain why they were making decisions in office that could potentially enrich their spouses.

In a statement issued through his lawyer, Finnes admitted he lied to Solberg about his trades but he said he never acted on inside information, which would have been a criminal offense.

On Friday, his lawyer, Thomas Skjelbred, said Oekokrim's ruling made it clear that his client "has conducted completely legal trading in shares."

As part of a government reshuffle last month, Huitfeldt was replaced. Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Støre said she was sacked because of "the mat-

ter of the purchase and sale of shares."

After being scolded by the government's legal department for failing to get to grips with her partner's "financial activities," Huitfeldt acknowledged in a statement that she "should have asked my husband what shares he owned."

In local elections in September, Solberg's Høyre party came top, with nearly 26% of votes, up nearly 6 percentage points from the last elections in 2019.

Gahr Støre's social democratic Labor party, which for decades was Norway's largest party in local elections, came in second with nearly 22% of the ballots, down 3.1 percentage points from 2019.

Solberg was defeated by the Labor party at the 2021 general election.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Business Plus



Deal seeks to vet tech firms' AI models before release

AI summit agreements tip balance in favor of humanity



First row from left: France's Minister for Economy, Finance, Industry and Digital Security Bruno Le Maire, German Economy and Climate Minister Robert Habeck, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris, British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, Italy's Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres and Australia's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence Richard Marles. Middle + back row, from left: Google's James Manyika, Tino Cuellar, President of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Amba Kak, AI Now Institute, Arthur Mensch, Mistral AI, Adam Selipsky,

Amazon Web Services, Nick Clegg, Meta, Yoshua Bengio, Yoshua Bengio, founder and scientific director of Mila at the Quebec AI Institute, Dario Amodei, Anthropic, Sam Altman, OpenAI, Microsoft's Brad Smith, Mustafa Suleyman, Inflection AI, Alondra Nelson, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy acting director, Demis Hassabis, Google DeepMind, Eric Schmidt, Schmidt Futures, Ian Hogarth, chair of the UK frontier AI taskforce and Reid Hoffman, Inflection AI, pose for a group photo on the second day of the UK Artificial Intelligence (AI) Safety Summit, at Bletchley Park, in Bletchley, England, Thursday, Nov. 2, 2023. (AP)

computer scientist Yoshua Bengio, dubbed one of the "godfathers" of AI, had agreed to chair production of its first report on the state of AI science.

Sunak said likeminded governments and AI companies also had reached a "landmark agreement" to work together on testing the safety of AI models before they're released to the public. Leading AI companies at the meeting including OpenAI, Google's DeepMind, Anthropic and Inflection AI have agreed to "deeper access" to their frontier AI models, he said.

Binding regulation for AI was not among the summit's goals. Sunak said the U.K.'s approach should not be to rush into regulation but to fully understand AI first.

Harris emphasized the U.S. administration's more hands-on approach in a speech at the U.S. embassy on Wednesday, saying the world needs to act right away to address "the full spectrum" of AI risks, not just existential threats such as massive cyberattacks or AI-formulated bioweapons.

She announced a new U.S. AI safety institute to draw up standards for testing AI models for public use. She said it would collaborate with a similar U.K. institute announced by Sunak days earlier.

One of the Biden administration's main concerns is that advances in AI are widening inequality within societies and between countries. As a step towards addressing that, Britain's Foreign Secretary James Cleverly announced a \$100 million fund, supported by the U.K., the U.S. and others, to help ensure African countries get a share of AI's benefits - and that 46 African languages are fed into its models.

Cleverly told reporters that it's crucial there is a "diversity of voice" informing AI.

"If it was just Euro-Atlantic and China, we would miss stuff, potentially huge amounts of stuff," he said.

Sunak is scheduled to discuss AI with Tesla CEO Elon Musk on Thursday evening in a conversation that will be played on the social network X, which Musk owns.

Musk, who attended the summit, is among tech executives who have warned that AI could pose a risk to humanity's future.

"Here we are for the first time, really in human history, with something that is going to be far more intelligent than us," Musk said at the summit. "It's not clear to me if we can control such a thing."

Sunak said it was important not to be "alarmist" about the technology, which could bring huge benefits.

"But there is a case to believe that it may pose a risk on a scale like pandemics and nuclear war, and that's why, as leaders, we have a responsibility to act to take the steps to protect people, and that's exactly what we're doing," he said.

The paradox is that in the future, it will never move as slowly as today. The gap between AI and its governance is wide and growing

BLETCHLEY PARK, England, Nov 4, (AP) British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak said Thursday that achievements at the first international AI Safety Summit would "tip the balance in favor of humanity" in the race to contain the risks from rapid advances in cutting-edge artificial intelligence.

Speaking after two days of talks at Bletchley Park, a former codebreaking spy base near London, Sunak said agreements struck at the meeting of politicians, researchers and business leaders "show that we have both the political will and the capability to control this technology, and secure its benefits for the long term."

Sunak organized the summit as a forum for officials, experts and the tech industry to better understand cutting-edge, "frontier" AI that some scientists warn could pose a risk to

humanity's very existence.

He hailed the gathering's achievements, including a "Bletchley Declaration" committing nations to tackle the biggest threats from artificial intelligence, a deal to vet tech firms' AI models before their release, and an agreement to call together a global expert panel on AI, inspired by the United Nations' climate change panel.

Some argue that governments must go further and faster on oversight. Britain has no plans for specific legislation to regulate AI, unlike the U.S. and the European Union.

Vice President Kamala Harris attended the summit, stressing steps the Biden administration has taken to hold tech firms to account. She said Thursday that the United States' "bold action" should be "inspiring and instructive to other nations."

United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres urged a coordinated global effort, comparing risks from AI to the Nazi threat that Britain's wartime codebreakers worked to combat.

"Bletchley Park played a vital part in the computing breakthroughs that helped to defeat Nazism," he said. "The threat posed by AI is more insidious - but could be just as dangerous."

The U.N. chief, like many others, warned about the need to act swiftly to keep pace with AI's breathtaking advances. General purpose AI chatbots like ChatGPT released over the past year stirred both amazement and fear with their ability to generate text, audio and images that closely resembled human work.

"The speed and reach of today's AI technology are unprecedented," Gu-

terres said. "The paradox is that in the future, it will never move as slowly as today. The gap between AI and its governance is wide and growing."

Sunak hailed the summit as a success, despite its arguably modest achievements. He managed to get 28 nations - including the U.S. and China - to sign up to working toward "shared agreement and responsibility" about AI risks, and to hold further meetings in South Korea and France over the next year.

China did not attend the second day, which focused on meetings among what the U.K. termed a small group of countries "with shared values." Sunak held a roundtable with politicians from the EU, the U.N., Italy, Germany, France and Australia.

Announcing the expert panel on Thursday, Sunak said pioneering com-

People at greater risk of AI systems revealing sensitive or confidential information

US tackles AI risks, but lack of privacy laws limits reach

Artificial Intelligence systems deployed irresponsibly have reproduced and intensified existing inequities, caused new types of harmful discrimination, and exacerbated online and physical harms

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

By Anjana Susarla
Michigan State University

The comprehensive, even sweeping, set of guidelines for artificial intelligence that the White House unveiled in an executive order on Oct. 30, 2023, show that the U.S. government is attempting to address the risks posed by AI.

As a researcher of information systems and responsible AI, I believe the executive order represents an important step in building responsible and trustworthy AI.

The order is only a step, however, and it leaves unresolved the issue of comprehensive data privacy legislation. Without such laws, people are at greater risk of AI systems revealing sensitive or confidential information.

Technology is typically evaluated for performance, cost and quality, but often not equity, fairness and transparency. In response, researchers and practitioners of responsible

AI have been advocating for:

- algorithm auditing
- standard reports on AI models
- credentials for otherwise opaque AI systems
- comprehensive risk mitigation practices
- AIs that are transparent to the public
- a recognition of the harms caused by AIs that make predictions about people

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) issued a comprehensive AI risk management framework in January 2023 that aims to address many of these issues. The framework serves as the foundation for much of the Biden administration's executive order. The executive order also empowers the Department of Commerce, NIST's home in the federal government, to play a key role in implementing the proposed directives.

Researchers of AI ethics have long cautioned that stronger auditing of AI systems is needed to avoid giving the appearance of scrutiny without genuine accountability. As it stands, a recent study looking at public disclosures from companies found that claims of AI ethics practices

outpace actual AI ethics initiatives. The executive order could help by specifying avenues for enforcing accountability.

Another important initiative outlined in the executive order is probing for vulnerabilities of very large-scale general-purpose AI models trained on massive amounts of data, such as the models that power OpenAI's ChatGPT or DALL-E. The order requires companies that build large AI systems with the potential to affect national security, public health or the economy to perform red teaming and report the results to the government. Red teaming is using manual or automated methods to attempt to force an AI model to produce harmful output - for example, make offensive or dangerous statements like advice on how to sell drugs.

Reporting to the government is important given that a recent study found most of the companies that make these large-scale AI systems lacking when it comes to transparency.

Similarly, the public is at risk of being fooled by AI-generated content. To address this, the executive order directs the Department

of Commerce to develop guidance for labeling AI-generated content. Federal agencies will be required to use AI watermarking - technology that marks content as AI-generated to reduce fraud and misinformation - though it's not required for the private sector.

The executive order also recognizes that AI systems can pose unacceptable risks of harm to civil and human rights and the well-being of individuals: "Artificial Intelligence systems deployed irresponsibly have reproduced and intensified existing inequities, caused new types of harmful discrimination, and exacerbated online and physical harms."

A key challenge for AI regulation is the absence of comprehensive federal data protection and privacy legislation. The executive order only calls on Congress to adopt privacy legislation, but it does not provide a legislative framework. It remains to be seen how the courts will interpret the executive order's directives in light of existing consumer privacy and data rights statutes.

Without strong data privacy laws in the U.S. as other countries have, the executive order could have mini-

mal effect on getting AI companies to boost data privacy. In general, it's difficult to measure the impact that decision-making AI systems have on data privacy and freedoms.

It's also worth noting that algorithmic transparency is not a panacea. For example, the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation legislation mandates "meaningful information about the logic involved" in automated decisions. This suggests a right to an explanation of the criteria that algorithms use in their decision-making. The mandate treats the process of algorithmic decision-making as something akin to a recipe book, meaning it assumes that if people understand how algorithmic decision-making works, they can understand how the system affects them. But knowing how an AI system works doesn't necessarily tell you why it made a particular decision.

With algorithmic decision-making becoming pervasive, the White House executive order and the international summit on AI safety highlight that lawmakers are beginning to understand the importance of AI regulation, even if comprehensive legislation is lacking. (AP)

editor's choice



Godzilla director stays true to 1954 original's Japanese spirit

TOKYO, Nov 4, (AP) — Godzilla, the nightmarish radiation-spewing monster born out of nuclear weapons, has stomped through many movies, including several Hollywood remakes.

Takashi Yamazaki, the director behind the latest Godzilla movie, set for US theatrical release later this year, was determined to bring out what he believes is the essentially Japanese spirituality that characterizes the 1954 original.

In that classic, directed by Ishiro Honda, a man sweated inside a rubber suit and trampled over cityscape miniatures to tell the story of a prehistoric creature mistakenly brought to life by radiation from nuclear testing in the Pacific. The monster in "Godzilla Minus One" is all computer graphics.

"I love the original Godzilla, and I felt I should stay true to that spirit, addressing the issues of war and nuclear weapons," said Yamazaki, who also wrote the screenplay and oversaw the computerized special effects.

"There is a concept in Japan called 'tatarigami.' There are good gods, and there are bad gods. Godzilla is half-monster, but it's also half-god."

The world has been recently thrust into a period of uncertainty, with the war in Ukraine and the coronavirus pandemic. It was a mood that fit his supernatural "very Japanese" Godzilla, Yamazaki said at the Tokyo International Film Festival, where "Godzilla Mi-

minus One" is the closing film. It opens in Japanese theaters Friday.

"You have to quiet it down," he told The Associated Press of Godzilla, as if only a prayer can calm or stop the monster - as opposed to trying to kill it.

Set right after Japan's surrender in World War II, Yamazaki's rendition predates the original and portrays a nation so devastated by war it's left with nothing, let alone any weapons to fight off Godzilla.

And so its arrival puts everything back into negative, or minus, territory.

Survives

Ryunosuke Kamiki portrays the hero, a soldier who survives the war and loses his family, only to end up confronting Godzilla.

The monster's finely detailed depiction is the work of the Tokyo-based Shirogumi digital special-effects team, which includes Yamazaki. A frightfully realistic-looking Godzilla crashes into fleeing screaming crowds, its giant tail sweeping buildings in a flash, its bumpy skin glowing like irradiated embers, its growl getting right up into your face.

Some Godzilla aficionados feel Hollywood has at times incorrectly portrayed "Gojira," as it is known in Japan, like an inevitably fatalistic natural disaster, when the nuclear angle is key.

Yamazaki, a friendly man with quick laughs, stressed he loves the special effects of Hollywood films, adding that he is a big fan of Gareth Edwards' 2014 Godzilla film.

That helped inspire the last Japanese Godzilla, the 2016 "Shin Godzilla," directed by Hideaki Anno and Shinji Higuchi. Toho studios hadn't made a Godzilla film since 2004.

Yamazaki, who has worked with famed auteur Juzo Itami, has won Japan's equivalent of an Oscar for "Always - Sunset on Third Street," a heartwarming family drama set in the 1950s, and "The Eternal Zero," about Japanese fighter pilots.

He is ready to make another Godzilla movie. But what he really wants to make is a "Star Wars" film.

What got him interested in filmmaking as a child was Steven Spielberg's "Close Encounters of the Third Kind." He was so enthralled with the film he couldn't stop talking about it, he recalled, following his mother around for hours, even as she was cooking dinner.

"Star Wars," the franchise created by George Lucas and another science-fiction favorite, evokes so many Asian themes that make him the perfect director for a sequel, Yamazaki said.

"I am confident I can create a very special and unique 'Star Wars,'" he said.

Film

Variety



This image released by A24 shows Kaylee Nicole Johnson, (right), and Sheila Atim in a scene from 'All Dirt Roads Taste of Salt.' (AP)

Film

Jackson makes a serene debut

A poetic storytelling in 'All Dirt Roads'

LOS ANGELES, Nov 4, (Agencies) — Nature provides much of the soundtrack to "All Dirt Roads Taste of Salt," a poised and occasionally transcendent debut from writer-director Raven Jackson.

The sounds of crickets and birds, flowing water and the wind in the long summer grass are only sporadically punctured by a song at a party, or a brief moment of a swelling score. These are the kind of details that make you feel immediately rooted in a place. It's not just the nature setting on a sleep app either, or, if it is, sound supervisor Miguel Calvo ensure that it doesn't feel like that. It's thoughtful and precise and also lets you more fully enjoy the moments where those human-made sounds take over.

This might be a lot of talk about sound design to start, but it's also a bit of a primer on what to expect from "All Dirt Roads Taste of Salt," which counts "Moonlight" filmmaker Barry Jenkins among its producers. Like sitting in a field for hours without a phone or a book or a companion to chat with, just the world around you, Jackson's film requires a level of conscious, almost meditative submission. The dialogue is sparse, the narrative is also. It is probably not an accident that some of the first words uttered, minutes in, are "not too quick ... slow, take your time." It applies to the fishing lesson between father and daughter that we're witnessing, yes, but it works on another level too.

"All Dirt Roads Taste of Salt" is a collection of moments in the life of Mack (Charleen McClure as an adult, Kaylee Nicole Johnson as a child), sometimes skipping back and forth in time. There are long stretches where the camera lingers on a hug, or the red painted toes of a mother at a party, the back of our heroine's head, a fish on a table, a crying infant getting their first bath in a kitchen sink, or two sisters sitting on a porch, in silence, until one breaks into laughter. And there are many,

many hands. It's possible the camera spends more or at least equal time on hands - preparing a fish, digging in the dirt, holding - or not holding - another, swirling muddy water in a pond. Within this tapestry there are glimpses of great loss, of solitude, of new life and of transitions that feel familiar even if they're not your own.

For as stubbornly minimalist as it is, the imagery is always vibrant, aided by the rich, primary colors of the costumes, and thoughtfully composed shots, whether of a worm wriggling or a classic silhouette looking outside a darkened door. The emotion, too, is surprisingly palpable considering how little we really know about the people we're watching.

Still, at a certain point, you may find yourself yearning for more - more story, more arc, more information, something to hold onto, to sustain interest or engagement. Sometimes it feels like you're wandering through a gallery of moving moments that you understand on an intellectual level are connected but maybe don't add up to a completely satisfying whole - especially at a trim, but standard, feature length.

That it works as well as it does is quite a feat, though. And with "All Dirt Roads Taste of Salt," Jackson has firmly established herself as a filmmaker to watch.

"All Dirt Roads Taste of Salt," an A24 release in theaters Friday, is rated PG by the Motion Picture Association for "thematic content and brief sensuality." Running time: 97 minutes. Three stars out of four.

Also:

LOS ANGELES: Hollywood actors and studios are edging closer to a possible end to a strike that has halted much of the industry's production for more than three months.

Talks between the Screen Actors Guild-Ameri-

can Federation of Television and Radio Artists and the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers have moved slowly and methodically since they restarted on Oct. 24. But leaders of the actors union say there has been steady progress, and they are cautiously optimistic about reaching a deal.

The two sides on Thursday were meeting to discuss the actors' latest counter-proposal on language surrounding the use of artificial intelligence in production, a major sticking point in reaching the three-year contract agreement that would end the strike.

Hollywood's writers ended their strike and returned to work on Sept. 27. With them came the return to air of late-night talk shows and "Saturday Night Live."

They also went back to work on scripted movies and TV shows, though many of those either have or will stop again when it comes time to turn scripts into shooting. And no matter how quickly the actors get their own deal, the delays brought on by the two strikes will reverberate for years. The latest announcements include a delay in **Kevin Costner's** final episodes of "Yellowstone" and in Disney's live-action remake of "Snow White."

LOS ANGELES: It took **Diana Nyad** more than 30 years and five tries to swim from **Cuba** to the **Florida Keys**. "Free Solo" filmmaker **Elizabeth Chai Vasarhelyi** and **Jimmy Chin's** "Nyad," streaming Friday on Netflix, dramatizes her feat of endurance, along with the perseverance of her closest friends and collaborators. Bening plays Nyad, who was 60 when she began training herself again for the open-ocean swim. In a stand-out supporting performance, **Jodie Foster** plays her friend and trainer **Bonnie Stoll**. In my review, I wrote that there is enough here to help the film "if not swim against the tide of sport-biopic convention then at least ride a swift current to the finish line."

NEW YORK: A woman who served as actor **Robert De Niro's** chief personal assistant for over a decade began testifying at a trial against him on Thursday, citing his angry outburst at her during his testimony two days earlier as an example of his discriminatory mistreatment of her.

Graham Chase Robinson began her turn on the witness stand late in the day in **Manhattan** federal court as a jury hears evidence related to civil claims De Niro and Robinson have made against each other. De Niro, referenced mostly as "Bob" in court, has not returned to court since his testimony concluded Tuesday.

Robinson sued the two-time Oscar winner for gender discrimination and retaliation, seeking \$12 million in damages. De Niro sued her for breach of loyalty and fiduciary duty, seeking \$6 million and saying she stole 5 million air mile points from an account his children sometimes use when he had only expected her to take 1 million or 2 million.

On Tuesday the actor, angry at claims casting him as abusive and sexist, flashed his temper as he scolded Robinson, shouting, "Shame on you, Chase Robinson!" He quickly apologized.

Asked Thursday by her lawyer how common it was for De Niro to lash out angrily, Robinson reminded the jury of that outburst. "He yelled at me two days ago," Robinson said.

She testified for about a half hour and was expected to spend all day Friday on the witness stand.

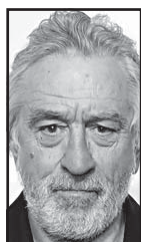
She followed testimony from **Tiffany Chen**, De Niro's girlfriend, who had repeated clashes with Robinson in 2019 as Robinson worked on a newly purchased townhouse where the couple planned to reside, precipitating Robinson's resignation from one of De Niro's companies, Canal Productions.

Robinson, 41, had worked there since 2008 as her title changed from executive assistant to vice president of production and finance and her salary rose from roughly \$75,000 to \$300,000. De Niro testified that he granted the title change at Robinson's request but her job duties didn't change.

Chen told De Niro in a series of emails shown to the jury that she thought Robinson was having "imaginary intimacy" with him and was a "mean, insecure, territo-

rial girl" who "thinks she's your wife" and "wants to be the lady of the house." (AP)

LOS ANGELES: While **Usher** gears up for his 2024 Super Bowl halftime performance, the singer will lean on his previous experience of hitting the NFL's biggest



De Niro



Usher

stage to help prepare for the 13-minute set.

The Grammy winner said he's using his appearance with Black Eyed Peas frontman **will.i.am** in 2011 as a "cheat sheet." He was recently chosen to headline the halftime festivities from Allegiant Stadium in Las Vegas on Feb. 11 - the same day he's expected

to release his ninth studio album "Coming Home."

"I got a chance to see a bit of what it felt like," Usher told The Associated Press in a recent interview. In his first Super Bowl performance, he descended from the stadium ceiling to perform "OMG" in **Arlington, Texas**. Usher's appearance lasted less

than two minutes, but the moment gave him plenty of insight into conducting a show with such limited time. His album "Confessions" ranks among one of the best-selling music projects of all time and launched No. 1 hits such as "Yeah!" with **Ludacris** and **Lil Jon**, "Burn" and "Confessions Part II." (AP)

People & Places

Media

Revamped lineup

Amanpour 'launches' weekly show on CNN

NEW YORK, Nov 4, (AP): For what it's worth, CNN's best-known international journalist, **Christiane Amanpour**, also found it odd that she's had little visible presence on the company's North American network for the past several years.

That changes Saturday at 11 a.m. Eastern with the debut of "The Amanpour Hour," part of a revamped Saturday morning lineup that will also feature shows headlined by Chris Wallace, Michael Smerconish and Victor Blackwell.

The London-based Amanpour envisions her show as a weekly letter to Americans about what is going on in the world and why it's important to them.

Amanpour, 65 and celebrating her 40th year at CNN, was for a long time the face viewers were most likely to see reporting from the world's hotspots. That has primarily, although not always, been left to others since she began hosting the studio show "Amanpour" each weekday.

That program airs at 1 p.m. Eastern on CNN International, a network that, as its name suggests, is seen mostly outside of the United States. The same show, renamed "Amanpour & Co.," airs later in the day on PBS stations.



Amanpour

"I have always believed, ever since I started as a foreign correspondent at CNN, that the American audience wants to hear about the world," she told The Associated Press on Friday. "I've never believed that things are too complicated to put on American television. I've never talked down to an audience. I've never believed that they just want to know what's happening in their backyard."

On "The Amanpour Hour" - she's running out of show titles featuring her name - she hopes to discuss what is going on in the world with a sense of history and context.

In talking about the Israel-Hamas war on Saturday, for example, Amanpour will pull from the archives a story about the 1995 assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and what that meant for the troubled region.

Project

It's important to project a sense of calm when talking about terrible news that might cause others on TV to hyperventilate, she said.

"I stick to my belief of what journalism is, and that's to be truthful always, to be truthful and not neutral - to call it like it is, when it is and be a real, grown-up journalist," she said.

Amanpour, who disdains the titles "host" or "anchor" in favor of "reporter," will interview Egyptian foreign minister Sameh Shoukry on the debut show, along with Jane Hartley, US ambassador to Britain, and Sir Robert John Sawers, former head of the British intelligence service MI6.

"Because of my upbringing - I'm half-Iranian and half-British - I've had the great privilege of being able to see the world from two very distinct perspectives," she said. "I've always spoken out about the need to bridge gaps. I know we can live in a world that's not 100% tribalized."

Amanpour said she's optimistic about Mark Thompson, a fellow Brit who recently began as CNN's new chief. She was given her new show in a lineup change that was made by the quartet of executives who ran the network following Chris Licht's firing in June.

She said she got a "100% positive" response from others at CNN when she used a speech at the Columbia Journalism School to criticize the network for hosting a televised town hall with former President Donald Trump in May.

Even management was supportive, she said, although "maybe through gritted teeth."

"I believe I did the right thing," she said. "When you achieve a certain position in your life and your career, not only are you able, but you have a duty to speak up," she said. "I take that very seriously. That's my responsibility."

Also:

NEW YORK: Florida Gov. **Ron DeSantis** will take time out from debating fellow Republicans in two months to take on a Democrat, California Gov. **Gavin Newsom**.

Fox News has said recently that the two politicians will appear in a 90-minute debate on Nov. 30 in Georgia, at an exact location to be determined.

Besides being closer to DeSantis' home turf, conservative opinion host **Sean Hannity** will be the moderator, and it is airing on Fox News Channel in Hannity's 9 p.m. Eastern time slot.

The idea has been talked about since June, when Newsom appeared for an interview on Hannity's show.

DeSantis is scheduled to appear in the second debate of Republican candidates for the 2024 presidential nomination later this week, at the **Ronald Reagan Presidential Library** in California.

Nathan Click, a spokesman for Newsom, said the California governor agreed to the debate provided there was no cheering section of "hype videos."

"We want a real debate," Click said. "Not a circus."

NEW YORK: A media entrepreneur is trying to connect young people disturbed by the impact of social media on mental health with older power players to fight for change in how tech companies do business.

The newly-formed Sustainable Media Center is intent on stopping companies from using algorithms to push damaging information to vulnerable youths, dark things like suicide methods. Venture capitalist and trustee **Bradley Tusk** has seen it personally; he believes his daughter's eating disorder was made worse by what she saw online.

It's a long way from initial hopes that the internet would connect the world for more positive uses, said founder **Steven Rosenbaum**, former producer of "MTV News: Unfiltered," several documentaries and ex-leader of the NYC Media Lab.

"When you find that what you helped build is causing more harm than good, there's no way you can get up in the morning and not do anything about it," Rosenbaum said.

US Surgeon General **Vivek Murthy** in May called for immediate action to protect young people, noting that social media use is near universal but its impact on mental health is not fully understood.

The Sustainable Media Center is not alone in this effort. The organization Fairplay lobbies to stop tactics that manipulate children into spending too much time online. Waituntil8th.org urges parents to not give children smartphones until they reach the eighth grade, and to keep them off social media until they're at least 16.



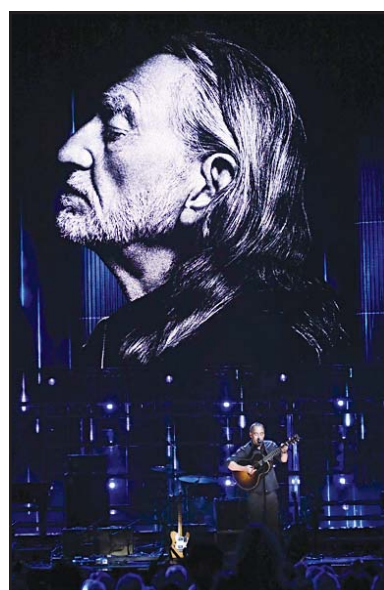
Elton John performs during the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on Friday, Nov. 3, at Barclays Center in New York. (AP)



Willie Nelson, (left), and Sheryl Crow perform during the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. (AP)



Chaka Khan, (left), and Sia perform during the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. (AP)



Dave Matthews performs during the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on Friday, Nov. 3, at Barclays Center in New York. (AP)

Music

Music legends shine at Rock & Roll Hall induction

Crow, Elliott make crowd go wild

NEW YORK, Nov 4, (AP): Sheryl Crow and Olivia Rodrigo kicked off the 2023 Rock & Roll Hall of Fame induction ceremony Friday night and Missy Elliott closed the show more than four hours later with a roof-shaking set, as the hall celebrated a strong representation of women and Black artists.

Chaka Khan, Kate Bush, "Soul Train" creator Don Cornelius, The Spinners and DJ Kool Herc were also inducted in a celebration of funk, art-rock, R&B and hip-hop, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary. Country music was represented by Willie Nelson, punk had Rage Against the Machine, the late George Michael repped pure pop and Link Wray defined guitar heroes.

The ceremony's strong representation of Black and women artists this year came not long after the hall removed Rolling Stone co-founder Jann Wenner from its board of directors. Wenner, who also co-founded the hall, had said that Black and female musicians "didn't articulate at the level" of the white musicians featured in his new book of interviews. He later apologized.

The new inductees' talent seemed to show how misguided Wenner's initial stance was. Elton John's songwriting partner, Bernie Taupin, drew cheers when he slyly said he was honored to join the 2023 class with such "profoundly articulate women" and "articulate Black artists."

Queen Latifah introduced Missy Elliott, who became the first female hip-hop artist in the rock hall, smashing the boundaries of fashion and style along the way. "Nothing sounded the same after Missy came onto the scene," Latifah said. "She is avant garde without even trying."

Elliott then appeared onstage at Brooklyn's Barclays Center as if beamed from a spaceship and with smoke machines pumping, a kinetic

light show and a massive digital screen working overtime, performed "Get Ur Freak On," "The Rain (Supa Dupa Fly)," "Work It," "Pass That Dutch" and "Lose Control."

"Missy will wear you out!" Queen Latifah joked after the set. "This woman goes hard for the art." Elliott, in a sparkly bucket hat, had her mother in attendance, the first time she saw her daughter perform live.

Elliott noted hip-hop's anniversary, 50 years after its birth in New York. "To be standing here, it means so much to me," she said. Of her fellow inductees, she said: "I'm honored just to be in a room with you all."

Performance

The show kicked off when Crow joined by Rodrigo - both in black-traded verses as they both played guitars. Stevie Nicks later joined Crow for a performance of "Strong Enough" and Peter Frampton came out to help sing "Everyday Is a Winding Road."

"This is a little bit like getting an Oscar for a screenplay you have not finished writing," Crow said. She thanked her parents for unconditional love "and piano lessons." She called music a "universal gift."

Laura Dern inducted Crow, calling her friend "a badass goddess." Dern said the music business initially had no idea what to do with a Southern female guitar-playing singer-songwriter. But it soon learned. "She mapped out the chapters of our lives," Dern said.

John came out of retirement to perform and toast Taupin. "He became my best friend and my lyricist," John said. "He is without doubt one of the finest lyric writers of all time."

John joked that the two never had an argument over their 56 years together. "He was disgusted by my behavior, but that's a given." John also revealed that the two have just finished a new album. The two men hugged at the podium

and Taupin said he found in John when they met in 1967 someone "to inspire with their imagination and ignite your dreams." John then sat at the piano to sing "Tiny Dancer."

H.E.R., Sia and Common accompanied Khan for a medley of her funky hits that included "I Feel For You," "Ain't Nobody," "Sweet Thing" and "I'm Every Woman," the latter which brought nearly everyone to their feet.

At the podium, Khan graciously called up guitarist Tony Maiden, a member of the band Rufus, which featured Khan in her early career. "Without him and the band, I would not be here today," Khan said.

Nelson's part of the ceremony took a fair chunk of the night, with Dave Matthews playing an acoustic "Funny How Time Slips Away," and the legend joining Chris Stapleton on "Whiskey River," dueting with Crow for "Crazy" and then all three musicians combining with Nelson for a rollicking "On the Road Again," which got a standing ovation.

Matthews said Nelson, 90, wrote his first song at 7 in 1940 and has put out over 70 albums. He ran through the legendary musician's career, including Farm Aid, IRS troubles and Nelson's preference for pot. "It's people like Willie Nelson who give me hope for the world," Matthews said.

When it was his turn, Nelson thanked his wife, Annie, for "keeping me out here, doing what I'm meant to do." He added: "Thanks for appreciating my music."

Andrew Ridgeley honored his partner in Wham!, the late George Michael. "His music was key to his compassion," Ridgeley said. "George is one of the greatest singers of our time."

Michael attracted an intriguing trio of performers in his honor: Miguel, Carrie Underwood and Adam Levine, who each performed one of his hits - "Careless Whisper," "Faith" and "One More Try."

Variety

NEW YORK: Rapper **Kendrick Lamar** will headline Move Afrika: A Global Citizen Experience, a new initiative to establish an international touring circuit on the continent of Africa launching with a concert in **Kigali, Rwanda** on Dec. 6.

Global Citizen CEO **Hugh Evans** said Lamar's show at the BK Arena will be financed with a mix of philanthropic donations and corporate funding in hopes the Pulitzer Prize-winning, "Humble" rapper will show the opportunities for artists who appeal to Africa's booming generation of young people.

"Move Afrika is about social enterprise - and over time, it provides certainty to our vendors and partners, enabling them to scale and expand," Evans told The Associated Press. "Our goal is that this tour will spur the growth and development of small businesses across the region to deliver both our events and many more year round, as other artists take advantage of the tour routes."

African artists - including **Burna Boy**, **Rema**, and **David** - have had recent hits around the world. MTV added the Best Afrobeats Video category to this year's Video Music Awards. The Grammys announced they will add an award for Best African Music Performance for next year. (AP)

OAKLAND, Calif.: A stretch of street in Oakland was renamed Friday for Tupac Shakur, 27 years after the killing of the hip-hop luminary.

A section of MacArthur Boulevard near where he lived in the 1990s became **Tupac Shakur Way**, following a ceremony that included his family members and Oakland native MC Hammer.

"Let his spirit live on the rest of these years in these streets and in your hearts," Shakur's sister **Sekyiwa "Set" Shakur** told the crowd, wiping away tears at the end of a nearly two-hour ceremony. The sign for

Tupac Shakur Way was unveiled moments later.

MC Hammer, the "U Can't Touch This" rapper who spent many of Shakur's final months with him before his 1996 shooting death at age 25, said in his remarks that Shakur was, "hands down, the greatest rapper ever, there's not even a question of that."

Shakur collaborator Money-B and Oakland hip-hop legend Too Short also



Lamar



Shakur

spoke at the ceremony.

Shakur was born in **New York** and was raised there and in **Baltimore**, but he moved with his mother to the **San Francisco Bay Area** in the late 1980s. He would live in Oakland in the early 1990s and embraced it as an adopted hometown.

"He claimed Oakland," said City Councilwoman **Carroll Fife**, who led the effort to rename the street. "He said Oakland gave him his game." (AP)

Breast cancer awareness month



A flyer of stc breast cancer awareness month.

'Because we care'

stc wraps up breast cancer 'awareness'

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: Kuwait Telecommunications Company – stc, a world-class digital leader providing innovative services and platforms to customers, enabling the digital transformation in Kuwait, is proud to announce the successful conclusion of its breast cancer awareness campaign under the "because we care" umbrella. Aligned with the internationally recognized awareness month, the campaign comprised various internal and external activities organized in collaboration with several entities to promote early detection methods and ways to possibly prevent breast cancer.

stc concluded its annual participation in the global movement for breast cancer awareness, emphasizing early detection and preventive measures. The Company collaborated with Alia International Hospital and REBEL Gym, providing valuable educational sessions and fitness activities tailored for its female employees. These efforts focused on educating women about early detection techniques and the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle. This initiative comes as part of stc's robust CSR strategy, wherein health is a central theme, demonstrating the Company's unwavering commitment to elevating health standards and fostering a culture of wellness both internally and across the wider community.

Informative

Leveraging its partnership with Alia International Hospital, stc utilized its social media platforms to spread awareness about breast cancer during October through featuring insightful video segments by Dr. Mohammad Hassan. stc also hosted an internal informative event for the staff teaching female employees about self-examination methods, and providing free coupons on early detection tests along with free giveaways. stc also organized an Instagram competition, as part of its collaboration with Alia International Hospital, where 10 winners received free breast cancer screenings.

Complementing this, stc organized a health-focused event at stc Head Office in coordination with REBEL Gym, the first smart kickboxing gym, underscoring the importance of regular physical activity in reducing breast cancer risk, and reinforcing the company's commitment to preventative health practices and holistic wellness. Additionally, stc hosted a special challenge with REBEL Gym at its Winter Wonderland booth (WWL) as part of its breast cancer awareness campaign where visitors at WWL had the opportunity to participate in this challenge and win valuable gift-along with free coupons for screening from Alia International Hospital, emphasizing the importance of early detection.

With the campaign now concluded, these comprehensive efforts reflect stc's dedication to creating a healthier, more informed community.

As part of stc's extensive CSR framework, the Company indicated in a statement that the breast cancer awareness campaign 'Early Detection, makes the difference' held throughout the month of October was a success, witnessing active engagement from employees, visitors at the Winter Wonderland booth, and followers on the Company's social media platform. stc emphasized that its CSR program aims to create a positive impact on society, and that this campaign, as well as the others organized in the past, are a testament to stc's commitment to community wellness.

KIB adds new financial tracking feature to its retail app

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: Kuwait International Bank (KIB) announced adding a brand new feature to its retail digital platform KIB Mobile: the Financial Tracker. The innovative feature comes as part of the Bank's comprehensive digital strategy, which aims to enhance its customers' experience and offer all products and advantages that cater to their modern lifestyles, needs and aspirations.

Commenting on the newly launched feature, Ahmad Hajeyah, Executive Manager, Digital Transformation and Innovation Department at KIB, said: "We are committed to our development plan and to keeping abreast of the latest digital innovations in the world of e-banking services. This advanced step offers more value and is considered a major addition to our comprehensive strategy that provides an exceptional banking experience. Our goal is to save our customers' time and ensure their satisfaction and comfort, as well as fulfill their needs in a manner that is smooth and safe."

Advantages

Hajeyah highlighted that the new KIB Mobile feature will allow customers to enjoy a wide variety of unique advantages. These advantages include 'Quick Financial Overview' that keeps them updated with instant snapshots of their spending and savings; 'Top Merchant Insights' that showcases the top merchants customers frequently shop at; 'Detailed Expense Tracking' that uncovers intricate details about where and how much a customer is spending for better financial control; 'Monthly Comparison' that provides month-on-month spending comparisons; and 'Bespoke Budgeting' that allows customers to set a specific budget and measure real-time performance against this goal.

Last but not least, through 'Advanced Analytics', customers can utilize the power of data with a personalized analysis of their spending behavior, helping them make informed decisions.

It serves to note that KIB Mobile has been recently completely revamped to ensure providing customers with an exceptional, advanced banking experience. The application gives customers comprehensive access to financing details, payment schedules, account management, banking cards, and investments in one place. The digital platform also allows customers to manage their financial portfolio and make smarter and faster decisions, in addition to quick services such as bank transfers, payments, and managing beneficiary lists. Among the many features is the KIBPay service, which enables customers to request payments, refill accounts and split bills with ease. Upon signing up for KIB Mobile, customers can start benefiting from the best digital rewards program in Kuwait, where they can earn points for banking and shopping operations and redeem them for a wide range of electronics, purchase vouchers, ticket reservations and much more.

KIB constantly strives to provide advanced digital banking solutions in keeping up with its customers' lifestyles. The Bank continues its journey of innovation and change through its new strategy that focuses on offering customers an advanced, luxurious banking experience, in line with its main slogan, 'Bank for Life'.



Hajeyah

Updating KIB Mobile app part of bank's digital strategy



Zain demonstrated its capabilities and leadership in Paris.

Telco leads MENA in 5GNC innovation, network readiness

Zain Kuwait shows its 5G New Calling capabilities at GSMA summit in Paris

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: In an impressive leap forward reflecting its technology innovation in the MENA region, Zain Kuwait, has showcased its network's capabilities for the rollout of 5G New Calling (5GNC), an emerging 5G network capability that paves the way for a new era of voice and video calling. The company recently participated in the GSMA's New Calling Summit 2023 in Paris to demonstrate these capabilities and successful trial of the service, becoming the only operator from the region to be hosted by the industry body to showcase 5GNC to the global telecom community.

During the event, Zain showcased the readiness of its infrastructure for the commercial rollout of 5G NC in the near future. The telco has also collaborated with major industry leaders to publish a whitepaper that provides an overview of 5GNC and its use cases; the standardization progress to support it; proof of concepts and pre-commercial trials; and more. Zain is the only operator to represent the MENA region in this whitepaper.

5GNC enhances basic calls with all-new capabilities and works for both voice and video calls directly over the network without using data services. The advancement introduces ul-

tra-HD, intelligent, and interactive calling features on the native call screen without the need for any additional or external apps.

Users can make voice or video calls using 5GNC and enjoy rich intelligence features not available in traditional calls, such as voice and video recognition, instant live translation in real-time during the call, inclusion of fun avatars and filters to video calls, and more.

Service

5GNC reinvents phone calls, particularly for companies offering customer service hotlines. The service can be used to present visual options on the native call screen without the need for any external apps, giving customers the ease of interacting with menus to solve their inquiries faster and more efficiently. 5GNC also opens up new opportunities for enterprises to interact with their customers by allowing them to complete business transactions through calls.

5GNC is a network capability that will leverage the IP Multimedia Subsystem (IMS), expanding mobile operator capabilities and stimulating groundbreaking innovations by opening up opportunities to developer communities to create and distribute new services and applica-

tions. Zain's early adoption of the technology is a testament to its innovative pedigree.

In 2019, Zain led the market as the first operator to launch 5G services commercially, setting a precedent in the local and regional telecom industries. Since then, more successes have followed in adapting 5G technologies to overhaul the digital journeys of customers.

Zain continues to invest in its 5G infrastructure heavily, achieving the highest speeds and best operational efficiency levels over its networks. The telco seeks to meet the increasing demand for data, while exploring new ecosystems and revenue streams made possible by technology innovation, with the goal of serving the needs of consumers, businesses, and government agencies.

Recently, Zain was presented with the 'Outstanding 5G Business Development' award during SAMENA Council's Leadership & Excellence (LEAD) Awards ceremony in Dubai, UAE. The event recognized Zain's excellence in empowering and accelerating business development using the most advanced 5G applications. Zain continues to lead the market with this revolutionary technology to enable sustainable growth for Kuwait's public and private sectors.

Liver disease affects about 20pct of world population

Dr Al-Hashash says 900,000 people suffer from fatty liver in Kuwait

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4, (Agencies): Consultant for Internal Medicine, Gastroenterology and Liver Diseases, Dr. Wafa'a Al-Hashash says about 900,000 people in Kuwait suffer from fatty liver disease. She pointed out that this disease affects about 20% of the world's population.

Dr Al-Hashash told Al-Jarida that fatty liver means the presence of fat inside the liver, and added the presence of a certain amount of fat on the liver is normal, but fat inside the liver constitutes 5 to 10% of the weight of the liver, which means the presence of fatty liver disease.

She stated there are different types of fatty liver – alcoholic and non-alcoholic and fatty liver during pregnancy. She advised patients of the need for early detection of fatty liver



Dr Hashash

disease by conducting periodic examinations once every 6 months.

Also:

LONG BEACH, Calif.: Two people in Southern California have come down with dengue fever without traveling outside the United States, where the mosquito-borne illness is rare, health officials said.

A Pasadena resident was confirmed to have dengue last month but is recovering, officials said.

"This is the first confirmed case of dengue in California not associated with travel and is instead an extremely rare case of local transmission in the continental United States," the Pasadena Public Health Department announced.

The case remains under investigation, but it appears that someone became infected with the dengue virus, returned home and was bitten by a mosquito that passed it on to the local resident, according to Pasadena health of-

ficials.

On Wednesday, Long Beach officials announced another domestically contracted dengue case and said that person has recovered.

Both cities' health departments said the risk of exposure to others was low.

Dengue is caused by several related viruses and is spread through the bite of infected Aedes mosquitoes. It is common in tropical areas and causes high fevers, headaches, nausea, vomiting, muscle pain and, in the most serious cases, internal bleeding leading to death.

About 4 billion people, or about half the world's population, live in areas where dengue is a risk, and each year there are up to 400 million infections and about 40,000 deaths, according to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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Dimitrov books spot in Paris Masters semifinals

Novak gets revenge, beats defending champ Rune to reach semis

PARIS, Nov 4, (AP) — Novak Djokovic took his revenge over defending champion Holger Rune to reach the semifinals of the Paris Masters on Friday after a nearly three-hour battle.

The Dane beat Djokovic in last year's final but could not prevail this time. Djokovic won the quarterfinal match 7-5, 6-7 (3), 6-4.

The top-ranked Djokovic, a six-time champion at the Paris Masters, advanced to the last four for the ninth time.

Rune saved a match point when trailing 5-4 in the second set and played an excellent tiebreaker to level at one-set apiece but Djokovic raised his level in the decider, dropping just three points on his serve.

Djokovic secured an early break in the third set and then played aggressively to keep Rune well behind the baseline. "It was quite a similar match to last year's final, it was anybody's game in every set," the top-

seeded Djokovic said.

"I played an awful tiebreak in the second set, probably the worst one this year. But again credit to him for staying mentally tough and playing solid. We have similar games. Move well, defend well and all-round players."

Djokovic had a heated exchange with umpire Renaud Lichtenstein to

TENNIS

ward the end of the second set over a challenge by Rune and was booed by some sections of the lively Paris crowd after the Dane won the tiebreaker.

The result extended Djokovic's winning streak to 16 matches. He will meet the fifth-seeded Andrey Rublev for a place in the final. Rublev rallied to win 4-6, 6-3, 6-1 against Alex



Serbia's Novak Djokovic returns the ball to Denmark's Holger Rune during their quarterfinal match of the Paris Masters tennis tournament, at the Accor Arena in Paris, on Nov. 3, 2023. (AP)

de Minaur, who had a walkover on Thursday after Jannik Sinner with-

drew from the tournament in a scheduling protest.

Earlier, Grigor Dimitrov booked his spot in the semifinals with a 6-1, 4-6, 6-4 win over Hubert Hurkacz that ended his rival's hopes of qualifying for the ATP Finals.

Despite hitting 19 aces, the 11th-seeded Hurkacz dropped his serve three times in their quarterfinal match. He can no longer finish among the top eight players of the season.

The 32-year-old Dimitrov reached the last four at the indoor tournament for the second time in his career.

It's the first time since 2017 - the year he won the ATP Finals - that Dimitrov has reached 40 tour-level wins in a season. The Bulgarian will have the chance to improve that record against seventh-seeded Stefanos Tsitsipas in the semifinals.

Dimitrov has been enjoying a good run of form, also reaching the semifinals at the Shanghai Masters last month.

"My body is feeling well for now,

that's the most important thing," said Dimitrov, who converted all three break points he had. "My head is good. If I'm able to play like that on a consistent basis throughout every game, I put myself in a position to do better. Today was no different."

Hurkacz started poorly but fought hard to level at one set each before he was broken in the seventh game of the decider.

"(Hurkacz was) on fire definitely with the serves," Dimitrov said. "I knew what to expect against him, but I wasn't sure if I was going to get a break. I had to stay very focused and every time I had the opportunity to get into a rally, I had to do something. A few points made a huge difference today."

Tsitsipas had no problem beating Karen Khachanov 6-3, 6-4 to post a 300th career win and achieve a third consecutive semifinal appearance. Tsitsipas has yet to drop a set in Paris this week.



Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry (30) prepares to shoot, scoring the winning basket in the final second, as Oklahoma City Thunder guard Josh Giddey (3), forward Chet Holmgren (7) and guard Luguentz Dort, (back right), defend during an NBA in-season tournament basketball game Friday, Nov. 3, 2023, in Oklahoma City. (AP)

Curry's last-second basket lifts Warriors over Thunder

Bucks outlast Knicks 110-105

OKLAHOMA CITY, Nov 4, (AP) — Stephen Curry made a layup with 0.2 seconds left to give the Golden State Warriors a 141-139 victory over the Oklahoma City Thunder 141-139 in one of the NBA's seven In-Season Tournament opener Friday night.

Initially, it was ruled no basket because of offensive goaltending. The call was overturned, and the Warriors claimed their second straight last-second victory. On Wednesday night, Klay Thompson scored with less than a second remaining to seal a victory over Sacramento.

Dario Saric scored 20 points and Chris Paul had 13 assists to help Golden State improve to 5-1. Lu Dort scored 29 points for Oklahoma City. Scoring leader Shai Gilgeous-Alexan-



New York Knicks' Julius Randle tries to shoot past Milwaukee Bucks' Giannis Antetokounmpo during the first half of an NBA basketball game Friday, Nov. 3, 2023, in Milwaukee. (AP)

der sat out because of a sprained left knee.

BASKETBALL

Nuggets 125, Mavericks 114
In Denver, Nikola Jokic finished an assist shy of a triple-double and Denver held off Dallas.

Jokic had 33 points, 14 rebounds and nine assists. He was 14 of 16 from the field.

Michael Porter Jr. scored 24 points, and Jamal Murray had 18 points and 13 assists for the NBA champion Nuggets, who led by 20 points in the third quarter before seeing Dallas trim it to eight late in the game. Jokic made a cutting layup with 1:11 remaining to seal it.

The Mavericks lost for the first time this season. Luka Doncic finished with 34 points, 10 rebounds and eight assists but also had nine turnovers. Kyrie Irving chipped in 22 points.

Bucks 110, Knicks 105

In Milwaukee, Damian Lillard scored 30 points, hitting the go-ahead 3-pointer with 1:03 left, and Milwaukee outlasted New York.

The Bucks withstood a huge performance from Jalen Brunson, who had 45 points and gave the Knicks their first lead since early in the second quarter by hitting a 3 with 1:10 remaining. Lillard made all 12 of his free throws. Giannis Antetokounmpo added 22 points, eight rebounds and six assists.

Nets 109, Bulls 107

In Chicago, Dorian Finney-Smith scored 21 points, Mikal Bridges added 20 and Brooklyn beat Chicago.

Cam Thomas added 17 points and the Nets made just enough plays down the stretch and came away with the victory when Zach LaVine's long jumper for the Bulls at the buzzer hit the rim.

Finney-Smith nailed five 3-pointers. Bridges and Thomas made three each from beyond the arc, and the Nets won

their third in a row after opening 0-2. DeMar DeRozan and Zach LaVine each scored 24 points for Chicago.

Heat 121, Wizards 114

In Miami, Tyler Herro scored 24 points and was an assist shy of a triple-double and Miami beat Washington to snap a four-game slide.

Herro added 10 rebounds and nine assists. Jimmy Butler added 20 points and Bam Adebayo and Duncan Robinson had 18 for the Heat, who shot 60%.

Kyle Kuzma had 22 points for Washington.

Pacers 121, Cavaliers 116

In Indianapolis, Myles Turner scored 27 points, Tyrese Haliburton had 18 points and 13 assists and Indiana held off Cleveland.

Donovan Mitchell had 38 points, nine assists and five rebounds for Cleveland. The Cavaliers overcame an 18-point deficit to lead by four in the fourth quarter.

Kiefer claims 3rd consecutive Pan American title

Wrestlers give US 100 golds at Pan Am Games

SANTIAGO, Chile, Nov 4, (AP) — Two championship performances in wrestling on Friday gave the United States 100 gold medals at the Pan American Games in Chile with two more days of competition ahead.

Ildar Hafizov beat Cuba's Kevin de Armas 7-5 in the 60-kilogram (132-pound) Greco-Roman wrestling gold medal bout, while Kamal Bey defeated Brazil's Joilson de Brito 12-5 in the 77-kilogram

PAN AM GAMES

(170-pound) Greco-Roman final bout.

The U.S. took home 117 gold medals at the Pan American Games held in Lima, Peru four years ago. The U.S. sent 631 athletes to Chile, mostly up-and-coming competitors with little chance of qualifying for next year's Paris Olympics.

"This feels great," Hafizov said. "I am never satisfied, I made too many

mistakes here, though. I want to go home and solve them so I can be ready for Olympic qualifying."

The U.S. has won more than 230 total medals at the games, the largest

multi-sport event in the Americas.

The few American stars that competed in Chile delivered. Kyle Snyder, the 27-year-old wrestler from Maryland and former Olympic



Lee Kiefer of the United States, (right), faces Canada's Eleanor Harvey in the women's foil individual fencing gold medal match at the Pan American Games in Santiago de Chile, Chile, Monday, Oct. 30, 2023. (AP)

champion, won gold in Santiago.

Veteran shooter Vincent Hancock took his third Pan American Games title in skeet shooting. The 34-year-old from Port Charlotte, Florida, is also a three-time Olympic champion.

Gymnast Jordan Chiles led the women's team to the all-round gold. The Tualatin, Oregon-born athlete was a silver medalist at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

Lee Kiefer, the reigning Olympic champion in women's individual foil fencing from Lexington, Kentucky, won her third consecutive Pan American title.

Snyder, Hancock, Chiles and Kiefer are all among the favorites to reach the podium in Paris.

Many Team USA coaches believe the tally of gold medals from Lima is likely to be surpassed in the two final days of competition. Team sports, track and field, and wrestling are expected to bring more medals for the Americans.

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Brazil, in second place in the medals table, has won 56 golds in Chile.



John Velazquez rides Fierceness to win the Breeders' Cup Juvenile horse race on Nov. 3, 2023 at Santa Anita Park in Arcadia, California. (AP)

Just F Y I extends unbeaten streak

Fierceness wins Breeders' Cup Juvenile

ARCADIA, Calif., Nov 4, (AP) — Mike Repole has been down this path before. A promising colt of his wins the Breeders' Cup Juvenile, goes to the Kentucky Derby as the early favorite and then nothing.

Now, he's pausing before getting consumed by Derby fever.

Fierceness won the \$2 million Juvenile by 6 1/4 lengths at Santa Anita on Friday, a race won by trainer Todd Pletcher and owner-breeder Repole last year with Forte.

"They will all tell you to start thinking about the Derby," Repole said. "I'm not going to think about the Derby with this race."

Forte came into the Kentucky Derby on a five-race winning streak and was the morning-line favorite only to be scratched hours beforehand because of a bruise in his right front foot. Repole's Uncle Mo, the early Derby favorite in 2011, had to be scratched the day before the race because of a gastrointestinal infection.

"I might be skipping it," Repole said of the 150th Derby next May.

Fierceness made quite the turnaround from a 20-length defeat in the Champagne Stakes nearly a month ago. He won his debut in the mud at Saratoga by 11 lengths before getting trounced.

"The Champagne was a head scratcher," Pletcher said. "We had to go based on what we had been seeing from him all summer, before he was training for the Champagne and after the Champagne. Mike's not afraid to take a shot. He said if you like the way he's training, let's take another shot."

Pletcher earned his 15th Cup victory, while John Velazquez notched his 20th, second among jockeys on the career list. Fierceness ran 1 1/16 miles in 1:41.90 and paid \$35 to win at 16-1 odds.

"This one's really special because 14 years ago the horse that won this race called Uncle Mo put the Repole Stable on the map. And Johnny



Jockey John Velazquez, in orange and blue, poses alongside owner Mike Repole of Repole Stables after riding Fierceness to win the Breeders' Cup Juvenile horse race on Nov 3, 2023 at Santa Anita Park in Arcadia, California. (AP)

Velazquez rode him," Repole said. "We were in our 30s, now we're in our 50s. These wins feel a lot better now."

Muth, trained by Bob Baffert, was second. Locked, the 2-1 favorite also trained by Pletcher, was third in front of 43,377 fans on a sunny and warm day.

HORSE RACING

Baffert's other entries, Prince of Monaco and Wine Me Up, were fifth and eighth, respectively. Pletcher's third horse, Noted, finished last in the nine-horse field. The Wine Steward and Ecoro Neo were scratched.

Five of the seven horses that were scratched from Cup races Friday were for veterinary reasons, while the other two were by order of the stewards.

Racing resumes Saturday with nine Cup races, including the \$6 million Classic.

Two potential contenders died in the days leading up to the two-day world championships. Geaux Rocket Ride was injured in a workout and didn't recover after having surgery. Practical Move collapsed after a gallop in what Cup officials said was a "suspected cardiac event."

Unquestionable won the \$1 million Juvenile Turf to salvage the day for Irish trainer Aiden O'Brien.

River Tiber, his best prospect, was scratched earlier Friday by the veterinarians. O'Brien said the colt was "a little bit stiff" in the morning.

"I think with all the hysteria and everything that's gone on, nobody wanted to take any chance," O'Brien said. "We respected that."

That left O'Brien with two horses in the field and they went 1-2 as Unquestionable beat Mountain Bear by 1 1/2 lengths.

Mountain Bear was vanned off in an equine ambulance. He sustained a non-displaced condylar fracture to his left front leg. O'Brien said the colt is expected to fully recover and race next year.

Unquestionable paid \$5 to win as the 3-2 favorite. He ran a mile in 1:33.65.

Big Evs kicked off the day's five races for 2-year-olds with a half-length victory over Valiant Force in the \$1 million Juvenile Turf Sprint.

Starlutz took third as European runners swept the first three places in the five-furlong dash. The winning time was 55:31 seconds.

Big Evs paid \$8.40 to win as the 3-1 second choice. The colt improved to 4 for 6 as the first North American starter for both trainer Michael Appleby and jockey Tom Marquand. Just F Y I extended her unbeaten streak to three with a 7-1 win in the \$2 million Juvenile Fillies, giving Hall of Fame trainer Bill Mott his 13th Cup win.

Tamara, the 4-5 favorite, grabbed the early lead but faded at the top of the stretch, finishing seventh. Just F Y I and jockey Junior Alvarado were all out to hold off Jody's Pride by a neck at the wire.

Just F Y I paid \$16 to win. The time was 1:44.58 for the 1 1/16 miles.

Trainer Chad Brown continued his dominance of the \$1 million Juvenile Fillies Turf with his sixth win in the race as 9-1 shot Hard to Justify dug in for a half-length victory over Ireland-bred Porta Fortuna.

It was Brown's 17th Cup win. Hard to Justify ran a mile in 1:34.42. The daughter of 2018 Triple Crown winner Justify paid \$20.20 to win.



Al-Arabi pose with officials prior to their departure to Bahrain to face Al-Riffa.

Al-Arabi 'arrive' in Bahrain for showdown with Al-Riffa

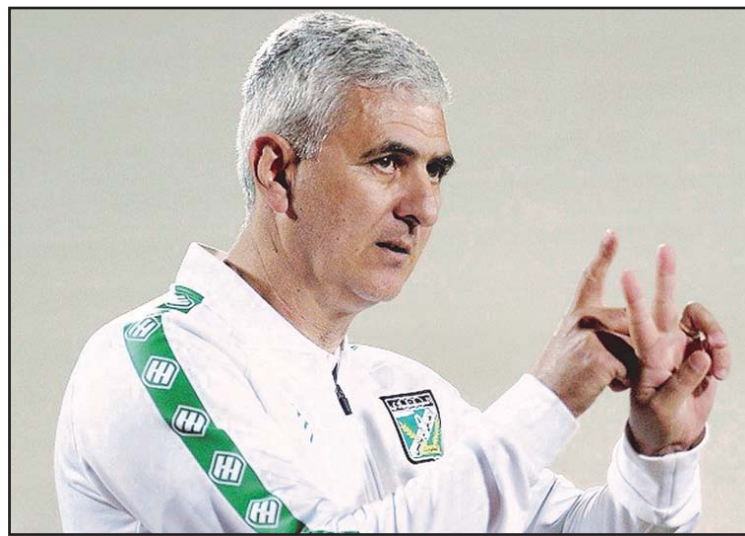
Al-Salman to lead team; Darko named new coach

By Hassan Musa

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

MANAMA, Nov 4: The Al-Arabi delegation arrived in Bahrain in preparation for their upcoming match against Al-Riffa in the Asian Championship. Assistant coach Mohammed Al-Salman will lead the team in this game, and he has selected a squad of 22 players. The list includes several players who were absent in previous matches, such as Sultan Al-Anzi, Salman Al-Awadi, goalkeeper Suleiman Abdel-Ghafour (who were suspended), along with Issa Walid and Walid Al-Sabbar.

Meanwhile, Al-Arabi appointed Darko Nestorovic, a Bosnian coach, to take charge of the team's leadership on Tuesday. This decision



Al-Arabi new coach Darko Nestorovic.

comes as a response to the team's declining performance in both the local league and the AFC Cup, which led to the dismissal of the previous coach, Thomas Berdarcic.

Brdaric's termination was immediate following Al-Arabi's 1-3 loss to Al-Nasr in the seventh round of the Zain

Premier League last Thursday. Darko Nestorovic, aged 58, has a history with Al-Arabi, having worked with their junior and youth teams in the past. He also led the first team and achieved remarkable results. After his tenure with Al-Arabi, he went on to coach Kazma and later Al-Wehdat in Jordan. He re-

signed from coaching the Jordanian team in August after leading them to victory in the Cup title and the Super Cup.

Darko has also coached various teams in Bosnia and Herzegovina, including Rudar Prijedor, Sloboda Markonjic, Rdanik Bijelina, and Crvejna Zverda. His first match in charge of Al-Arabi is scheduled after the team's game against Bahrain's Riffa tomorrow in the AFC Cup. The club's management aims to provide him with an opportunity to reorganize the team, especially since local competitions are on hold until the 25th of this month due to international commitments.

SOCCER

In another development, Al-Arabi's fitness coach, Riccardo Briotti, responded to the club's announcement of his dismissal. He stated that he decided to leave his position due to family reasons and emphasized his qualifications and professional experience. He expressed his appreciation for the Al-Arabi players, referring to them as the team's true assets, while expressing his dissatisfaction with the management's behavior.



Players battle for the ball during the Zain Premier League soccer match between Al-Jahra and Al-Shabab.

Welcome break for Al-Jahra

Al-Shabab deepen Al-Jahra woes

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: Al-Shabab deepened the woes of Al-Jahra with a 2-0 win in the Zain Premier League.

Senegalese Ibrahima Gueye scored the two goals in the 2nd and 51st minutes, raising Al-Shabab's score to 8 points, compared to one point for Al-Jahra, the last team.

The Al-Ahmadi boys scored the first goal in the second minute through Gueye, who shot from inside the penalty area.

SOCCER

There was no reaction from Al-Jahra, amid the lack of offensive effectiveness, after which Gueye added another goal, but referee Dhifallah Al-Fadhli canceled it after returning to video technology.

Gueye scored the second goal after a skillful interval inside the penalty area, shooting past the Jahra goalkeeper. After the second goal, Al-Jahra increased the tempo in the remaining minutes of the match, but the situation remained the same.

Meanwhile, Al-Jahra team manager, Abdulaziz Madloul, disclosed that the team encountered a setback due to the absence of six players in the match against Al-Shabab. He pointed out that Al-Jahra had to field young and inex-

perienced players, which led to a lack of cohesion on the field.

Madloul viewed the break period as an excellent opportunity to prepare the team thoroughly. He emphasized that the Brazilian coach shouldn't bear direct responsibility for the team's recent underwhelming performance in previous rounds.

He stated, "The decision regarding the coach's future rests with the board of directors. We've faced bad luck in several matches."



Al-Jahra team manager, Abdulaziz Madloul.

Remarkable display of equestrian skills

Al-Jariwi, Al-Khamis & Al-Roumi star in championship

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: In a remarkable display of equestrian skill, Ghazi Al-Jariwi of the Kuwait Equestrian Club emerged as the champions in the third edition of the Kuwait Equestrian Center Show Jumping Championship. The competition took place at the Center's Subhan area track.

Al-Jariwi's stellar performance included claiming first place in the fifth main heat at a height of 130 cm, completing the course in just 65.50 seconds without any penalty points. He also secured the third position with a time of 67.21 seconds.

EQUESTRAIN

The second place went to the rider Ahmed Al-Ansari, with Fawaz Al-Subaie coming in fourth. Shaker Al-Kazemi and Fawaz Al-Rashed followed closely. In the fourth round, rider Madi Al-Khamis topped the competition at a height of 120 cm. Meanwhile, in the third round at a height of 110 cm, jockey Shamlan Al-Roumi showcased outstanding equestrianism.

The tournament's refereeing committee, led by Nadhar Al-Mustafa, included members Lama Abdel-Aal, Raghad Al-Dabbous, and Anna Choprinova. The course design was the work of the knight Abdulaziz Al-Ajeel and Ghaeder Nemati, with Badr Al-Haifi serving as the court judge.

Kuwait continue preparations

Asian Handball Federation renews trust in Al-Dhiyab

MANAMA, Nov 4: During the recent General Assembly of the Asian Handball Federation, it was decided to extend the term of Badr Al-Dhiyab, the Vice President of the International Handball Federation for the Asian continent, until 2025, aligning with the date of the AFC elections.

In another context, the Kuwaiti handball team continued their rigorous daily training at their current camp in the Bahraini capital, Manama. This preparation is in anticipation of their participation in the World Handball Club Championship, the "Saudi Super Globe 2023," scheduled to take place in Dammam from November 5 to 12. The tournament draw has already been conducted, and the Kuwaiti team, known as the "Whites," find themselves placed in the second group. They are set to face Fernando of Ar-



Badr Al-Dhiyab

gentina on the 7th of this month, followed by a match against Berlin of Germany on the 9th. The competition consists of four groups, with the top team from each group earning a spot in the semi-finals.

Meanwhile, Al-Qadsia Club's handball team are actively train-

ing at their current camp in the Qatari capital, Doha. Their focus is on hosting and participating in the 26th Asian Club Championship, set to be held at the Sheikh Saad Al-Abdullah Complex from the 17th to the 27th of this month.

HANDBALL

The tournament's draw has placed the "Yellow" club within the second group, alongside teams such as the Indian Sai, the Qatari Al-Arabi, the Iraqi Army, the Lebanese Sidon Youth, and the Emirati Sharjah. The first group comprises the second Kuwaiti representative, the "Kuwait" team, along with the Bahraini star, the Qatari Al-Gharafa, the Saudi Gulf, the Palestinian Al-Salah, and the Indian Golden Eagle."

Mainz 'terminate' El Ghazi contract

MAINZ, Germany, Nov 4, (AP): German soccer club Mainz terminated the contract of Dutch forward Anwar El Ghazi on Friday following his social media posts about the Israel-Hamas war.

The announcement by Mainz came two days after El Ghazi disputed the club's version of events when it lifted an earlier suspension. German news agency dpa reported that prosecutors in the city of Koblenz were also investigating.

Mainz originally suspended El Ghazi on Oct. 17, saying he had posted and then deleted a message about the war that the club deemed "unacceptable."

On Monday, the club said his suspension was lifted and that he would receive a reprimand. Mainz said that followed talks with the management and that El Ghazi "regrets publishing the post and also was remorseful about its negative impact." The club added that the player "also stated that he does not question Israel's right to exist."

South Africa 'look' to end India's winning run at Cricket World Cup

KOLKATA, India, Nov 4, (AP): Every time India have played in the Cricket World Cup, the fans have come out in large numbers to support the home team. It is a natural phenomenon in any sport and across any tournament.

Even so, a World Cup in India hit differently - especially when the Men in Blue walk out on the field.

This tournament has been hampered by administrative red tape and at an organizational level, the host body BCCI has been criticized for not doing enough to fill the stadiums. It is seen most in the complicated ticketing process, which has reportedly hindered Indian and overseas fans attending venues for non-India games.

Despite these shortcomings, India's games have been a pure delight from a spectator's point of view. A sea of blue has thronged the grounds - from Chennai, to Ahmedabad, to Delhi, to Mumbai, and everywhere else in between.

The caravan now rolls into Kolkata, where the majestic Eden Gardens waits in anticipation. On Sunday, it will be packed to the brim as 70,000 fans sing and cheer in unison as India take on South Africa.

India, of course, will look to continue their winning run. They are the only unbeaten side in the tournament and are atop the points' table with 14 points from seven successive wins - a dominant showing to confirm their semifinal spot.

To say India have steamrolled the opposition with both bat and ball wouldn't be excessive. They notched up consecutive successful chases in the first five games.

Afghanistan and Pakistan were brushed aside by eight and seven wickets in Delhi and Ahmedabad, respectively. Prior to that, Australia weren't allowed to pass 200 runs in Chennai as the two-time champions won by six wickets.

Bangladesh posed little threat in

Pune, while New Zealand's momentum was halted in Dharamsala. Defending champions England were humbled by 100 runs in Lucknow, and Sri Lanka was simply blown away in Mumbai - all out for 55 in a 358-run chase.

India's winning run has been inspired by some fine performances. Star batsman Virat Kohli is second in the run-charts with 442 from seven games. Skipper Rohit Sharma is also among the top five run-getters with 402 runs.

Jasprit Bumrah is fifth in the wicketers' charts with 15 from seven games. But it is Mohammed Shami, who has set the tournament alight with 14 wickets in only three games. His haul includes five-wicket hauls against New Zealand and Sri Lanka, as he became India's most successful bowler in World Cups.

CRICKET

Shami came into the eleven after Hardik Pandya suffered an ankle injury against Bangladesh. The star all-rounder was ruled out of the remaining World Cup on Saturday morning - ahead of India's final two league stage games. This was after the hosts waited two weeks on the all-rounder's recuperation to see if he could be fit in time for the knockouts.

Pacer Prasidh Krishna - who has 29 wickets from 17 ODIs - has been called up as replacement. It marks a shift in India's strategy for this World Cup. While in Pandya's absence, India were forced to play six batters and field only five bowlers, going ahead, it doesn't have any other feasible option.

While Shardul Thakur and Ravichandran Ashwin are available, skipper Rohit Sharma has previously outlined how they could only be utilized as a sixth bowling option if Pandya was available. Adjusting a sixth bowling option would mean dropping a batter, which isn't prudent in a batter-dominant tournament.

Further, India's three frontline pacers have done a brilliant job thus far and this combination - albeit far from ideal - merits more game time.



Some of the winners display their medals.



Pakistan's Fakhar Zaman hits a boundary during the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup match between New Zealand and Pakistan in Bengaluru, India. (AP)

Sports

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Zaman smashes 63-ball century

Pakistan hand NZ fourth successive loss to keep semifinals hopes alive

Kuwait 3x3 basketball teams secure silver, bronze at Gulf Championship

BENGALURU, India, Nov 4, (AP): Fakhar Zaman bludgeoned a 63-ball century as Pakistan handed New Zealand their fourth successive loss after a rain-hit Cricket World Cup game on Saturday decided by the DLS method.

Zaman's unbeaten 126 off 71 balls motored Pakistan to 200-1 in 25.3 overs, 21 runs ahead on DLS, after

there had been two rain interruptions in a high-scoring match.

New Zealand's star of the tournament, Rachin Ravindra (108), had earlier smashed his third century in the competition, while Kane Williamson (95) missed out on a hundred on his return as his side amassed 401-6 after being put in to bat.

The win lifted Pakistan level on eight points with New Zealand, which occupy fourth place in the standings by virtue of a better net run-rate than Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Pakistan, which also lost four games in a row at one stage, could sneak into the semifinals with their last league game scheduled against England on Nov. 11.

New Zealand began the tournament with four consecutive wins against England, Afghanistan, Bangladesh and the Netherlands, but have now lost to India, Australia, South Africa and Pakistan.

The Black Caps need to beat Sri Lanka in their last league game and hope Pakistan lose to England, or cannot come close to their net run-rate.

Zaman's power-hitting kept his side in the hunt in a steep run chase before rain took the players off the field with Pakistan cruising on 160-1 in 21.3 overs, ahead by 10 runs on DLS.

Captain Babar Azam (66 not out) played second fiddle to Zaman, who smashed 11 sixes against pace and spin as the pair stretched their match-winning stand to 194 before the rain returned.

CRICKET

Zaman was ruthless against leg-spinner Ish Sodhi, playing his first game of the tournament. He and Babar plundered three sixes in Sodhi's penultimate over.

Afghanistan kept their hopes of a semifinal spot alive as it thumped the Netherlands by seven wickets on Friday to register their fourth win.

After a fifth loss in seven games, the Dutch are set to finish in the lower half of the table with only four points despite a stunning 38-run win over South Africa.

Four of the top five Dutch batters got run out in a sub-par total of 179 as experienced Afghanistan off-spinner Mohammad Nabi and young left-arm wrist spinner Noor Ahmad shared five wickets after Netherlands skipper Scott Edwards won the toss and opted to bat.

Rahmat Shah followed his half-centuries against Sri Lanka and Pakistan with another impressive 52 off 54 balls and skipper Hashmatullah Shahidi remained unbeaten on 56 off 64 deliveries as Afghanistan cruised to 181-3 in 31.3 overs.

"We bowled well, but the run-chase was good," Shahidi said. "We are all very united at this World Cup. We are enjoying our wins, and all of them are thinking about winning. We are trying our best to make it to the semifinals and if it happens, it will be a big achievement for the country."

The spin quartet of Nabi, Ahmed, Rashid Khan and Mujeeb Ur Rahman, which had inspired Afghanistan to an eight-wicket win over Pakistan, troubled an inexperienced Dutch batting lineup on a slow pitch.



Kuwait teams celebrate on the podium with officials.

Kuwait protest

DOHA, Nov 4: Kuwait 3x3 basketball team A clinched the silver medal at the Gulf Championship after a narrow defeat to Qatar B in the final, with a score of 16-18. This championship match took place in the Qatari capital, Doha. The national team B secured the third-place spot in the tournament by defeating Qatar A with a score of 21-17 in the preceding game. Kuwait maintained the lead for most of the final match, but Qatar last-minute surge proved decisive.

The match witnessed significant protests from Kuwait management against the refereeing decisions, which appeared to heavily favor the Qatari team. Both Kuwait teams, A and B, earned their spots

Man U edge Fulham to ease pressure on Ten Hag

LONDON, Nov 4, (AP): Bruno Fernandes scored a stoppage-time goal to earn Manchester United a 1-0 win over Fulham in the Premier League on Saturday and lift the pressure on under-fire manager Erik ten Hag.

Fernandes capitalized on a poor clearance by compatriot Joao Palhinha to stroke a low finish into the bottom corner from the edge of the area just seconds into added-on time at Craven Cottage.

in the tournament's semifinals by overcoming teams from the Sultanate of Oman.

Kuwait team A were represented by players Ahmed Al Balushi, Abdul Mohsen Mortada, and Ali Al Hadhoud, along with Abdulaziz Al-Hamidi. Meanwhile, team B featured Muhammad Adnan, Turki Hammoud, Omran Jawhar and Alexander Al-Ghais.

United rebounded from back-to-back 3-0 losses to Manchester City and Newcastle over the past week that left Ten Hag facing his biggest crisis since taking over in the summer of 2022.

The big games keep coming for Ten Hag, though, with United having a pivotal Champions League match at FC Copenhagen on Wednesday.

SOCCER

Scott McTominay thought he had ended United's scoreless streak when he tapped in Alejandro Garnacho's cut-back from a free kick in the eighth minute. After a long delay to check the goal, Harry Maguire was adjudged to have been offside when the free kick was whipped in by Christian Eriksen.

Maguire didn't touch the ball but was deemed to be affecting play because he almost connected with the free kick before it got to Garnacho.

After a listless first half, Fulham improved after the break and went close

through Harry Wilson and Palhinha - who drew good saves from Andre Onana - and then Rodrigo Muniz.

The game looked to be heading for a draw until Fernandes' intervention.

Manchester United missed forward Marcus Rashford was missing for the match, a day after ten Hag criticized the player's decision to go to a nightclub party after a derby loss to Manchester City.

United said Rashford's absence was down to a heavy knock to his leg in training and that he failed a fitness test before the game.

Ten Hag had been unhappy with Rashford going to a nightclub for a pre-arranged birthday party hours after the 3-0 defeat to City on Sunday. Rashford turned 26 on Tuesday.

"I spoke with him about it," Ten Hag said Friday. "It's unacceptable, I told him, he apologized and that's it. For the rest it's an internal matter."

Ten Hag repeated that it was an "internal matter" when asked if Rashford had been fined for the incident.

Rashford was among the substitutes in the 3-0 loss to Newcastle in the League Cup on Wednesday, with Ten Hag saying that was due to rotation rather than punishment.

Rashford was dropped to the bench for a game against Wolverhampton last season for timekeeping, but Ten Hag rejected the notion that the England forward is not attuned to his demands.

"Your suggestion is not right," he said. "He's fitting in, he's very motivated to put things right."

"I know which effort he is putting in. He's totally with us. So, he makes a mistake, but that doesn't say he's not fitting in. I see him every day in training, what he's doing, I know. So, he makes one mistake but also, off the pitch, what he is doing, how he lives, and I'm sure he is doing everything right to help the team to perform and to let us win."

Rashford has scored just one goal for United this season. He scored 30 goals for the team last season.

Midfielder Casemiro has been ruled out for a "several weeks" with a hamstring strain.

The 31-year-old Brazilian captained United against Newcastle in the English League Cup on Wednesday after missing the previous three games. But he was taken off at halftime of the 3-0 loss and United said in a statement that Casemiro "will be out for several weeks due to a hamstring injury suffered during" the game. It added that "subsequent assessment has revealed a strain."



Manchester United's Bruno Fernandes celebrates after scoring his side's opening goal during the English Premier League soccer match between Fulham and Manchester United, at Craven Cottage, London. (AP)

PSG move top of French league

PARIS, Nov 4, (AP): Paris Saint-Germain moved to the top of the French league thanks to a comprehensive 3-0 win at home to Montpellier.

Lee Kang-in got the opener for the hosts after 10 minutes when he took advantage of a nice dummy from Kylian Mbappe and placed the ball into the top corner of the net.

Seventeen-year-old midfielder Warren Zaire-Emery doubled PSG's lead 13 minutes into the second half with a fierce shot. Substitute Vitinha made it three in the 66th, just four minutes after replacing Lee.

SOCCER

Goncalo Ramos thought he had added a fourth with a header in stoppage time but the goal was ruled out for offside.

It was PSG's fifth consecutive win in all competitions and move them two points ahead of Nice, which are at home to Rennes on Sunday.

Montpellier are in 11th place.

Meanwhile, Atlético Madrid wasted their chance to go joint top of the Spanish league after a surprise 2-1 defeat at Las Palmas.

The capital side started the day in third place - three points behind Real Madrid and Girona but with a game in hand.

Having won their previous six league games, Atlético were a hot favorite to make it seven straight but second-half goals from Kirian Rodriguez and Benito Ramirez gave the home side a healthy lead. Alvaro Morata pulled a goal back for the visitors with seven minutes remaining but it was not enough to salvage a point.

For Las Palmas the victory was their first win against Atlético this century. They had previously lost all of their last eight encounters between the sides.

The defeat was just the second all season for Diego Simeone's side and it remains in third place. "Our run is over, which is a shame," Atlético keeper Jan Oblak said. "But now we need to lift our heads."



Fulham's Timothy Castagne, (left), challenges for the ball with Manchester United's Alejandro Garnacho during the English Premier League soccer match between Fulham and Manchester United, at Craven Cottage, London. (AP)