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INVESTING IN WOMEN GUARANTEES SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: KUWAIT MINISTER

Consensus vital for peace, stability

Summit ‘revives hopes’ for joint action: UN Chief



PM Diwan photo
Representative of His Highness the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah and Minister of Social Affairs, Family and Childhood Affairs Dr Amthal Al-Huwaila at the conference.



KUNA photo
The Secretary General of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Jasem Al-Budaiwi listening to a speaker at the conference.



PM Diwan photo
Representative of His Highness the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah leaves Doha after attending the conference.

DOHA, Qatar, Nov 4, (KUNA): Representative of His Highness the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, participated Tuesday in the Second World Summit for Social Development held in Qatar.

Delivering Kuwait’s address at the summit, His Highness emphasized the importance of strengthening international cooperation and responsible partnerships to address contemporary global challenges and to consolidate peace and stability across societies.

He said the summit reaffirms global commitment to the essence of the 1995 Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development, which laid the foundation for

the UN Millennium Declaration, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the Pact for the Future.

The Prime Minister conveyed greetings from His Highness the Amir and expressed appreciation to Qatar’s leadership, government, and people for their warm hospitality and successful organization of the summit.

He also endorsed the statement of the Group of 77 and China, noting that the world is undergoing profound transformations; shaped by demographic shifts, technological advances, and economic disruptions that are redefining human development and work. His Highness stressed that no single nation can face these challenges alone, emphasizing the need for multilateral cooperation to safeguard the human dimension of development in a rapidly changing world.

He reaffirmed Kuwait’s commitment to shared priorities, including eradicating poverty, promoting decent and productive work for all, strengthening social inclusion, and reducing inequalities to build secure and stable societies where people

are the central focus of progress.

Highlighting the achievements of the first World Summit for Social Development, His Highness the Prime Minister noted its success in advancing education, healthcare, and social protection, as well as reducing unemployment.

However, he cautioned that progress remains uneven, with widening disparities between prosperous and struggling nations, and with digital divides deepening global inequalities in access to knowledge and opportunity.

Political instability and climate crises, he added, continue to erode hard-won development gains, reminding the world that equitable development can only be sustained through a collective will that transcends politics and focuses on humanity.

The Premier outlined Kuwait’s national experience as a model of human-centered development grounded in justice, equality, and equal opportunity.

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Plan to go green, beautify roads and highways

Kuwait, UAE to revamp land transport, railways

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4, (KUNA): The Cabinet held its regular session on Tuesday at Bayan Palace under presidency of the Acting Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Fahad Yousef Saud Al-Sabah, blessing a draft decree envisaging expanded transport cooperation with the United Arab Emirates and backing public greening initiatives.

Following the session, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Shereedah Al-Mousherji said the ministers, at start of the meeting, examined messages, received by the Amiri Diwan and addressed to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah from presidents of sisterly and friendly states on means of cementing the bilateral relations and activating cooperation mechanisms with these countries in various domains.

The ministers approved a draft decree regarding a memorandum of understanding between the State of Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates on land transports and road rules for setting the cooperation framework to revamp the land transports, the railways, swapping expertise and know-how, matching international developments, as well as for encouraging

joint investments in the land transports in addition to backing up partnership between the public and private sectors for employing smart transport systems and modern technologies in the field.

Moreover in this respect, the proposed decree envisages exchange of practical methods for managing road assets by installing smart monitors, exchanging expertise in lowering operating costs of the road assets and the affiliates as well as applying criteria of environmental sustainability in the road projects. The ministers decided to submit the relevant draft decree to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.

Furthermore, the ministers examined minutes of the ministerial public services commission that included a report prepared by the “rural green development initiatives committee” regarding the initiatives and donations from individuals, companies, cooperative societies on beautification planting along the roads, highways, roundabouts and at public parks in the residential districts and installing memorial statues at key road intersections.

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Rain prayer in 125 mosques Sat.

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4, (KUNA): The Ministry of Awqaf (Endowments) and Islamic Affairs said on Tuesday that Salat Al-Istisqa (prayer for rain) will be held in 125 mosques throughout Kuwait at 10:30 a.m. local time next Saturday.

Acting Undersecretary of the Ministry Suleiman Al-Sulwailam affirmed that the Ministry has completed all necessary preparations for this blessed ritual, calling on citizens and residents to attend the prayers.

Salat Al-Istisqa is performed during drought and lack of rain and considered as a Sunnah (tradition) practiced by Prophet Mohammad (Peace and Blessings of Allah Be Upon Him).

App for job-hunting launched

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4, (KUNA): The Civil Service Commission (CSC) on Tuesday launched a new employment service through the government’s electronic services application (Sahel).

In a press statement posted on X, the CSC said that the new service includes all employment-related services provided to Kuwaiti job seekers.

The statement explained that these services include registra-

tion in the central employment system during the officially announced registration periods, as well as year-round registration for medical staff for immediate nomination to the Ministry of Health.

It added that the services also allow users to track their registration and nomination status for government jobs, and to upload appointment documents electronically without the need for in-person visits.

Students criticize rise in growing ‘cross-dressing’

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: On campus, within the heart of the College of Education, student voices have emerged in strong criticism of what they describe as the practice of “cross-dressing,” expressing concern that it is affecting the environment for teacher training, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

Social media has been active with questions from students, sparking debates between students and academics about behaviors some consider unusual and inconsistent with the college’s educational mission.

These students have called on the college authorities to implement awareness and educational measures regarding these behaviors, noting that certain student gatherings in the college see a concentration of a specific group in certain areas, which other students reportedly avoid due to their conduct.

They emphasized that the College of Education is the core of teacher training and that its environment should reflect educational values and ethical standards.

Meanwhile, academic sources affirmed the importance of guiding students to follow official channels if they witness any inappropriate behavior or harassment. They explained that the Student Guidance and Counseling Office is the designated authority for receiving and handling complaints confidentially and in accordance with university procedures.

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PM Diwan photo
The Cabinet session in progress.

Kuwait backs global efforts to combat graft, eyes rule of law

VIENNA, Nov 4, (KUNA): The 14th session of the Assembly of Parties to the International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA) began late Monday at the United Nations headquarters in Vienna, with broad international participation including the State of Kuwait.

Kuwait’s Permanent Representative to the United Nations and International Organizations in Vienna, Ambassador Talal Al-Fassam, told Kuwait News Agency (KUNA)



Al-Fassam

that Kuwait’s participation reflects its commitment to supporting global efforts to combat corruption and strengthen integrity, transparency, and the rule of law.

He stressed that Kuwait gives great importance to developing institutional and human capabilities in anti-corruption fields, noting that cooperation with IACA is a key pillar for capacity-building, expertise exchange, and advancing professional practices.

Al-Fassam underlined that combating corruption requires sustained international cooperation due to its cross-border nature and impact on sustainable development, affirming Kuwait’s continued support for initiatives promoting transparency and good governance at all levels.

Newswatch

Gang running online gambling site caught

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4, (KUNA): The Ministry of Interior announced Tuesday arresting an organized gang involved in managing and operating an online gambling website.

In a statement, the ministry said the operation is part of ongoing security efforts to combat organized crime and protect the financial system from illegal activities.

Investigations revealed that gang members laundered proceeds from gambling by depositing them into bank accounts linked to a medical clinic and commercial companies, presenting the funds as legitimate revenue before transferring them abroad to conceal their illegal source.

The ministry emphasized that using or participating in illegal online sites is a punishable offense and reiterated its commitment to pursuing and prosecuting anyone attempting to exploit the financial system or cyberspace for illegal activities.



BAGHDAD: Director General of the Arab Planning Institute in Kuwait (API) Dr. Adel Al-Wugayan said on Tuesday that the institute in cooperation with the Iraq’s Ministry of Planning organized training workshop about creative leadership and institutional excellence.

Dr. Al-Wugayan told KUNA that the five-day workshop is part of a series of programs implemented by the API to serve its member Arab states, noting that Iraq is among its founding members. (KUNA)



Photo by Samer Shaqair
Head of the Human Resources and Information Technology Sector at the Ministry of Interior, Brigadier General Anwar Al-Yatami inaugurates the event.

‘Cybersecurity basic pillar of national development’

By Mohammad Ghanem

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: The Sixth Gulf Conference on Cybersecurity Challenges was launched Tuesday in Kuwait, under the patronage of First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Fahad Al-Yousef.

The conference, with the theme, “A Secure Digital Environment,” brought together experts and specialists from the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries.

In his opening remarks, Head of the Human Resources and Information Technology Sector at the Ministry of Interior and representative

of the minister Brigadier General Anwar Al-Yatami stated that the conference is being held at a time of rising cybersecurity challenges, hence, the need for enhanced Gulf cooperation and knowledge sharing to protect digital infrastructure and bolster national capabilities in confronting rapidly evolving threats.

Al-Yatami pointed out that cybersecurity is now an important pillar of national security and sustainable development. He said the conference tackles the latest developments and prospects for joint cooperation to protect the Gulf cyberspace.

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Day by Day

THE late Russian writer Fyodor Dostoevsky is credited with saying, “People have things to say about you, but you have to die first”.

Thank you for that, Dostoevsky. In our time, and perhaps in yours, praise, awards, and honors are reserved for the dead. Eulogies are elaborate, and memories are fondly recounted, even when they are not entirely true. Ah, the times we live in.

Yet tomorrow is another day.

Zahed Matar

8 ABK Group holds 9 months 2025 analyst conference call



9 Burgan Bank announces its financial results for the first 9 months of 2025



10 KFH signs collaboration and partnership agreement with Taly

Prayer Timings			
Fajr	04:42	Asr	14:38
Sunrise ..	06:03	Maghrib ..	17:00
Zohr	11:32	Isha	18:18

Local

Expected weather for next 24 hrs:
By Day: Rather hot with light to moderate northwesterly wind to light variable wind, with speeds of 08-26 km/h and some high clouds will appear.
By Night: Mild to rather cold

Weather			
with light variable wind to light to moderate northwesterly wind, with speeds of 06-26 km/h.			
Station	Max Exp	Min Rec	
Kuwait City	32	20	
Kuwait Airport	32	11	
Abdaly	34	13	

Bayan	29	08
Jahra	34	15
Fallaka Island	30	12
Salmiyah	31	22
Ahmadi	32	15
Nuwaisib	34	17
Wafra	33	14

Royal banquet highlights heritage and knowledge

Kuwait hosts Oxford Centre leaders

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4, (KUNA): Kuwaiti Minister of Amiri Diwan Affairs Sheikh Hamad Jaber Al-Ali Al-Sabah on Monday hosted a luncheon banquet at Al-Salam Palace in honor of Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, Turki Al-Faisal bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, Vice Chairman of the Board Sultan Nazrin Shah Ibni Sultan Azlan Muhibbuddin Shah. Thd banquet was also attended by board members, including Sheikh Dr. Mohammad Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah, Dr. Abdullah Gul, Director General

of the Kuwait Direct Investment Promotion Authority (KDIPA) Sheikh Dr. Meshaal Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, Dr. Raja Easa Al-Gurg, Director of the Centre Dr. Farhan Nizami, and Dr. Basel Mustafa.

Director General of the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS) Dr. Amina Rajab Farhan and several senior KFAS officials also attended the banquet. The guests made a tour of Al-Salam Palace Museum, including contents, documents and photos that reflect significant aspects of Kuwait's history, state evolution, figures, institutions and national heritage.



His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Sabah Al-Salem hosts a dinner in honor of the Chairman and members of the Board of Trustees of the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies.



Minister of Amiri Diwan Affairs welcomes the Chairman and members of the Board of Trustees of the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies.

Sheikh Hamad Jaber Al-Ali Al-Sabah underlined that Kuwait attaches a paramount significance to international academic institutions and research centers, primarily Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, only out of its firm belief that investment in knowledge and enlightenment as a key aspect of the State's responsibility towards its present and future.

He noted that Al-Salam Palace Museum has now become one of the national cultural landmarks meant to chronicle the modern state's history, evolution and humanitarian and diplomatic role.

The minister added that the museum does not only contain historic antiquities, but it also plays a deeper role in keeping the general state memory and conveying it to present and coming generations in an orderly fashion, as well as giving documented material to scholars and those interested in Kuwaiti affairs, raising the society's awareness of the country's history and responsibilities.

In the presence of His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, His Highness Sheikh Dr. Mohammad Sabah Al-Salem held a banquet Monday in honor of Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, Turki Al-Faisal bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud and other board members.

The banquet, held at Al-Messila Palace, was also attended by several members of the royal family, some ministers and ambassadors, as well academics, at Al-Messila Palace.

Crown Prince, PM extend wishes

Kuwait Amir congratulates King of Tonga on Nat'l Day

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

In the cable, His Highness the Amir wished Tupou good health and well-being, and more progress and prosperity for Tonga and its people.

His Highness the Crown Prince, Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, sent a cable of congratulations on Tuesday to the King of Tonga, Tupou VI, on his country's National Day. In the cable, His Highness the Crown Prince wished Tupou good health and well-being, and more progress and prosperity for Tonga and its people.

His Highness the Prime Minister, Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, sent a cable of congratulations on Tuesday to the King of Tonga, Tupou VI, on his country's National Day.



The Deputy Foreign Minister chairs the coordination meeting of the committees emanating from the Kuwaiti-Saudi Coordination Council.

Deputy FM chairs Kuwaiti-Saudi meet

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4, (KUNA): Kuwaiti Deputy Foreign Minister Ambassador Sheikh Jarrah Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah chaired the coordination meeting of the Kuwaiti-Saudi Coordination Council's committees on Monday.

The meeting tackled topics listed on the agenda and ways of coordination and preparation regarding them ahead of the council's meeting due in Riyadh on November 11.

Algeria marks 71 years of Independence in Kuwait

Anniversary highlights strong Algerian-Kuwaiti ties and upcoming joint cooperation

By Fares Ghaleb

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: Algerian Ambassador to Kuwait Omar Belhadj held a celebration marking the 71st anniversary of the Algerian War of Independence.

Minister of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy Dr. Subaih Al-Mukhaizeem, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Defense Sheikh Abdullah Mishal Al-Sabah, and a number of ambassadors and members of the diplomatic corps attended the event.

In a press statement, the Embassy of Algeria confirmed the strength of Algerian-Kuwaiti relations, distinguished by their historical depth, and reinforced by deep-rooted ties dating back to the War of Independence, which enjoyed official and public support from the State of Kuwait. It added that relations between the two countries are always characterized by mutual respect, shared understanding, and fruitful cooperation in numerous fields.

The embassy revealed "the 71st anniversary of the November Revolution coincides this year with the 63rd anniversary of the



Top & above: Photos during the celebration marking the 71st anniversary of the Algerian War of Independence.

establishment of diplomatic relations between Algeria and Kuwait.

This calls for high praise for the distinguished level that Algerian-

Kuwaiti fraternal relations have reached, thanks to the wise guid-

ance of the two countries' leaders, President Abdelmadjid Tebboune

and his brother, His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, and their commitment to push these relations toward broader and new horizons."

It cited the official visit of the Minister Delegate to the Minister of National Defense and Chief of Staff of the People's National Army to Kuwait in November 2024 to discuss military cooperation between the two countries, and the visit of the Minister of Energy, Mines and Renewable Energies in December 2024, as well as the Ministers of Interior and Finance in February and April 2025, respectively.

It added "our great relations are exemplified by continuous consultation and close coordination. We are constantly working to develop and strengthen these relations to reach the level of the aspirations of the leadership of both countries and the ambitions of our brotherly peoples. We look forward to holding the Joint Committee meeting between the two countries at the beginning of 2026, in order to strengthen bilateral cooperation and elevate it to the highest level."

It then greeted the Algerian community in Kuwait, wishing them a pleasant stay in this brotherly country. It asserted "we will spare no effort to facilitate their stay. The services of the Embassy are always at their disposal and at their service."

KFAS and Oxford Centre partner to digitize National Library of Kuwait

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4, (KUNA): Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS) and the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies (OCIS) signed a cooperation agreement to digitally transform the National Library of Kuwait, enabling the digitization of heritage content and public and research access via advanced digital platforms.

In a press statement Tuesday, KFAS said the agreement coincided with a visit by an OCIS delegation as part of a partnership dating back to 1997. The visit featured a presentation and exhibition at KFAS headquarters outlining the Centre's mission and longstanding collaboration with the Foundation.

The agreement aims to establish a unified national catalogue interlinking collections related to Islamic and Kuwaiti studies according to international cataloguing standards, while developing a modern digital infrastructure to enable open access to knowledge and expand educational and research use.

Both sides agreed on an implementation roadmap covering technical governance, cataloguing and digitization priorities, and



Signing of the agreement between the Scientific Progress Foundation and the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies.

capacity building through training programs and knowledge exchange.

The event reviewed cooperation tracks with OCIS in education, research and publishing, and the role of the National Library of Kuwait in preserving and providing access to the nation's knowledge heritage.

KUNA, Pakistan's APP sign media cooperation MoU

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4, (KUNA): KUNA and Pakistan's Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) on Tuesday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to expand news exchange and media training in line with advances in communications and information technology (IT).

The pact was signed during a virtual ceremony hosted at KUNA headquarters by KUNA Acting Director General Mohammad Al-Manaei and APP Managing Director Mohammad Asim Khichi, in the presence of Pakistan's Ambassador to Kuwait Dr. Zafar Iqbal.

The deal strengthens media ties, supports credible, professional news, and opens broader training and expertise sharing, Al-Manaei stated.

Meanwhile, Khichi said it launches a new phase in joint work - covering staff development, exchange of news, reports, information, and photos - and helps explore new cooperation opportunities. Under the deal, each side will receive the other's content through available technical means, keep the essence of received items, and credit sources ("APP" for APP stories used by KUNA and "KUNA" for KUNA stories used by APP).

Both may request additional information, will facilitate their correspondents' work, co-



KUNA and Pakistan's Associated Press of Pakistan in a group photo after the signing of the memorandum of understanding.

operate on coverage of events and official visits, and coordinate positions at joint meetings. They will also study exchanging bulletins, books, archives, and expertise.

For staff exchanges and training, the host covers accommodation and local costs; the sending party covers travel.

Attendees included Deputy Director General for the Editorial Sector at KUNA Esam Al-Ghanim, KUNA Acting Editor-in-Chief Mohammad Al-Bahar, Director of the Director General's Office Lamia Al-Farsi, and Director of the Coordination and Follow-up Office at KUNA Shorouq Sadeqi.

diwaniya

ديوانية

A DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION

‘You smell just like my mom today’... Teachers can shape future of a child

“IN short, a fifth-grade teacher once told her students, “I love you all,” but in her heart, she excluded a student named Teddy. His clothes were always dirty, his academic performance was poor, and he was withdrawn. This judgment was based on her observations throughout the year. He didn’t play with the other children, his clothes were unkempt, he was often gloomy, and she took satisfaction in marking his papers as “Fail” with a red pen,” columnist **Ahmad Al-Dawas** wrote for **Al-Seyassah** daily.

“One day, she was asked to review each student’s previous academic records. While examining Teddy’s file, she was surprised by what she found. His first-grade teacher had written, “Teddy is an intelligent, gifted child who does his work carefully and in an organized manner.”

“His second-grade teacher had written, “Teddy is an excellent student and well-liked by his classmates, but he is troubled because his mother has cancer.”

“His third-grade teacher had written: “His mother’s death had a profound impact on him, and life at home will soon affect him if certain measures are not taken.”

“The fourth-grade teacher wrote, “Teddy is withdrawn, shows no interest in his studies, has no friends, and sleeps during class.”

“It was then that Ms. Thompson realized the problem and felt ashamed for having been unfair to him. The situation became more painful when all the students brought beautifully wrapped Christmas presents, except Teddy, whose gift was in a simple grocery bag.

“As she opened Teddy’s present, the other students laughed: it was a necklace with missing stones and a perfume bottle only a quarter full. But their laughter stopped when Ms. Thompson expressed genuine admiration for the necklace and the perfume, thanking him warmly. She even wore the necklace and dabbed some of the perfume on her clothes. That day, Teddy didn’t go straight home after school; he waited to see her and said, “You smell just like my mom today.”

“At that moment, Ms. Thompson burst into tears, realizing that Teddy had brought her the perfume his mother used to wear, and in her, he had found the



Ahmad Al-Dawas

familiar scent of his late mother. From that day on, she gave him special attention, and his mind began to heal.

“By the end of the year, Teddy had become the most outstanding student in his class. One day, the teacher found a note at her door from Teddy, in which he wrote that she was the best teacher he had ever had. She replied, “No, you are the one who taught me how to be a good teacher.”

“Years later, the teacher was surprised to receive an invitation from the medical school to attend that year’s graduation ceremony, signed, “Your son, Teddy.” She attended, wearing the same necklace and perfume. Do you know who Teddy is now? Teddy Stoddard became one of the most renowned doctors in the world and the founder of the Stoddard Cancer Center.

“How many children have our schools harmed through mistreatment? How many students’ spirits have we crushed?

“In 1962, I was a child, and as you know, the letter “F” in English resembles an old person’s cane. Whether written in uppercase or lowercase, it still looks like a cane. My teacher, Abdeen Bseiso, entered the classroom carrying a cane and asked me to write the letter. I wrote it correctly, my hand trembling.

“He shouted, “No!” and struck me a blow so hard it felt as if it had severed my fingers. The question now is - if I had come to hate this language, or any language, because of this teacher’s harshness, would I have succeeded in my work at my country’s embassies abroad? I served my country well, writing reports in English, speaking with a Frenchman in French in Germany, learning Portuguese in Brazil, and speaking with the President of Argentina in Spanish.”

Also:

“Silence is a frightening condition and a troubling political phenomenon in democratic societies and systems,” columnist **Khaled Ahmad Al-Tarrah** wrote for **Al-Seyassah** daily.

“Legitimate political action draws its strength and capacity for development from the provision of freedoms, dialogue, exchange of opinions, respect for differing viewpoints, adherence to the legal framework of permissible criticism, identifying shortcomings, and formulating solutions.

“There is no rational person in Kuwait who does not discuss or reflect on political and democratic development and the preservation of constitutional gains,

without harming those who support or oppose democracy, or those who have reservations about the flawed parliamentary and ministerial past.

“Exaggerating events that have not actually occurred contradicts reality, undermines the challenges we face, and weakens the genuine aspirations for a promising democratic future.

“It is extremely important to understand the concept of the public, which includes all segments of society and its components, from political and intellectual elites to the enthusiastic and creative youth. The average citizen, and indeed the intellectual as well, is not content to be a mere member of the herd. They continue to question the future, recognizing that society is a fundamental partner in development and in political, social, and cultural progress.

“Many are aware of legal prohibitions and respect legal boundaries, while others, whether out of conviction or spontaneously, are willing to discuss the current situation following the dissolution of the National Assembly and the suspension of certain articles of the Constitution.

“Triviality can lead to imprudent statements and superficial views on complex political matters, or to the buildup of resentment caused by the ambiguity of certain government policies. When some segments of society monopolize a significant portion of freedom of expression to incite against democracy or stir up racism, it constitutes a direct political and social provocation to other segments of society.

“No social group or segment has the right to infringe upon the freedoms and beliefs of others.

“The public neither waits nor remains patient when segments of society feel marginalized or live under political and cultural uncertainty. Therefore, the government bears a greater responsibility to engage with the public, ensuring that everyone is a partner in dialogue, development, and in confronting racism and attempts to undermine democratic principles.

“Surprise, anxiety, and silence should not be mistaken for acceptance of an unclear situation. Transparency helps prevent the public from being misled, and strengthening popular participation in decision-making and policy formulation will undoubtedly reduce anxiety and silence.”

— Compiled by Simi K.Kutty

Ex-female poll-runner jailed in libel lawsuit

Ex-MP Al-Mulla released

By Jaber Al-Hamoud
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: The Court of Appeals upheld the verdict of the Criminal Court, which sentenced a former female parliamentary candidate to five years in prison with hard labor and a fine of KD 5,000 after convicting her of insulting a former MP through posts on Instagram and WhatsApp.

The court also ordered the deletion and suspension of the defendant’s Instagram account for one year, the destruction of photos, statements, and videos related to the case, the confiscation of the phone used in the offense, and the closure and removal of the platforms and websites she used to circulate the insults.

In addition, the court ordered the defendant to pay KD 5,001 in provisional compensation to the plaintiff, after determining that she had intentionally published offensive statements and images that harmed his reputation.

□ □ □

Ex-MP released: The Court of Appeals, presided over by Judge Hani Al-Hamoud, released former MP Saleh Al-Mulla on bail of KD 500, and suspended his two-year prison sentence with hard labor in a State Security case pending a ruling on his appeal, scheduled for November 17.

The Criminal Court had previously sentenced Al-Mulla to two years in prison with hard labor after convicting him in a State Security case over a statement he posted on his “X” account in May.

The Public Prosecution considered the post as an attack on the powers and authorities of His Highness the Amir and a misuse of his smartphone. It confirmed that Al-Mulla had been released on bail of KD 1,000 during the investigation.

Al-Mulla denied all charges against him, stressing that his post falls within the constitutionally guaranteed freedom of opinion and expression.

□ □ □

Lawyer stays in jail: The Court of Cassation on Monday rejected the request to suspend the prison sentence imposed on a lawyer convicted of defrauding an expatriate.

The lawyer was sentenced to five years in prison with hard labor and fined KD50,000. Case files indicate that he convinced the expatriate that he could overturn a deportation order issued against one of his relatives in exchange for KD50,000.

The Criminal Court had earlier sentenced the lawyer to prison and fined him after his involvement in the crime was proven. He received KD5,000 from the plaintiff as initial payment before the incident came to light following a complaint filed by the expatriate at the Criminal Investigation Department.



KUNA photo

Minister of Defense Sheikh Abdullah Ali Abdullah Al-Salem Al-Sabah receives the Australian Ambassador to Kuwait Melissa Kelly.

Kuwait, Australia discuss military ties boost

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4, (KUNA): Kuwaiti Minister of Defense Sheikh Abdullah Ali Abdullah Al-Salem Al-Sabah met Monday with Australian Ambassador to Kuwait Melissa Kelly on several issues of mutual interest, particularly military matters.

During the meeting, which was also attended by Australian Defense Attaché Col. Dean Clark, they discussed bilateral cooperation between both

countries, the Ministry of Defense said in a press release.

The Minister of Defense Sheikh Abdullah Ali Al-Salem Al-Sabah also extended his congratulations to Brigadier General (Pilot) Mohammad Al-Ayadah, the former Kuwaiti military attaché to Jordan, on being awarded the Order of Military Merit (Jordan), Second Class, by King Abdullah II of Jordan. According to a press state-

ment by the ministry, Sheikh Abdullah received Al-Ayadah and expressed his deep pride in this high honor, and commended Al-Ayadah’s loyal service and his contributions to strengthening military cooperation between the two countries during his tenure. The meeting was attended by the Chief of General Staff of the Kuwaiti Army, Lieutenant-General Khaled Al-Shariaan.

Smuggling contraband from London

Lawyer’s drug case referred, likely to get another circuit

By Jaber Al-Hamoud
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: The Criminal Court decided to refer the case of a lawyer accused of smuggling and trafficking narcotics from London, in collaboration with a young man and woman, to the head of the Court of First Instance to determine a new circuit, as the court panel felt conflicted in handling the case.

Case files indicate that the Drug Control General Department (DCGD) in the Interior Ministry apprehended the defendants in a well-planned entrapment based on a tip-off that the lawyer was smuggling narcotics during his travels abroad and distributed them in the country with the assistance of two other defendants.

The Public Prosecution referred the defendants to the Criminal Court on charges of smuggling narcotics with the intent to traffic and use them.

The case is expected to be reassigned to another court circuit later to continue the proceedings and hear witness testimonies.

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Campaign launched: The Public Relations Department at Kuwait Municipality announced the launch of intensive inspection campaigns to uncover construction violations, ensure the implementation of safety and security measures, take regulatory action against violators, and verify compliance with safety regulations and standards, reports Al-Anba daily.

Director of the Safety Department at Jahra Governorate Municipality branch Eng. Al-Humaidi Al-Mutairi explained that the purpose of these intensive campaigns is to identify violators and take legal measures against them. He said his inspection team closely monitors violations within its areas of responsibility through regular field tours throughout the governorate.

Al-Mutairi confirmed that his inspection team recently carried out a field tour that resulted in issuance of 56 warnings related to construction debris found near houses under construction. He added that the necessary legal procedures will be completed once the warning period expires, and the responsible party in Mutlaa Residential City will face penalties.

Mol to open registration for Batch 2 NCO officers

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: The Education and Training Affairs Sector at the Ministry of Interior, in cooperation with the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (PAAET), announced the opening of registration for the second cohort of non-commissioned officer cadets (Batch 2) for the second semester of the 2025/2026 academic year, from November 5 to 16, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The course offers specializations in food inspection, print design and production, and cybersecurity and network security. It aims to qualify young Kuwaiti nationals to join the police force through training programs that combine academic study with practical application.

The Ministry of Interior explained that the course spans five semesters, after which students will receive a diploma accredited by PAAET. Graduates will be granted the rank of First Sergeant and assigned to the police force upon successfully completing the two-semester foundational course at the Saad Al-Abdullah Academy for Security Sciences.

During their studies, students will receive a monthly stipend of 200 Kuwaiti Dinars. The course will be held at PAAET each semester. If the number of eligible applicants exceeds the available slots, a lottery system will be used. Applicants may not apply for more than one Ministry of Interior course.

The Ministry of Interior affirmed that any violation of the general or specific terms will result in the student’s dismissal from the military course. In such cases, the diploma awarded will remain accredited only by PAAET, allowing the student to continue their civilian education.

Asian expat perishes in Jahra Highway speed accident

By Munif Naif
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff and Agencies

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 3: Another tragedy unfolded on Jahra Expressway, a vital artery, one evening that began like any other.

Amidst the usual traffic and the flashing lights, a speeding car hit an Asian, in 40s, while he was crossing the road, ending his life instantly.

Security patrols and ambulances arrived at the scene immediately after the Operations Unit at the Interior Ministry received a report about the hit-and-run accident in Jahra. However, rescue attempts proved futile, as the victim already succumbed to his severe injuries.

According to a police source, the body was transferred to the Forensic Medicine Department, while the driver—a Kuwaiti citizen in his 20s—was detained by security personnel for further investigation to determine the circumstances leading to the accident.

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KFF targets violations: Kuwait Fire Force (KFF) conducted an inspection campaign on Monday evening in Shuwaikh Industrial to identify shops and buildings that are in violation of fire safety and prevention regulations, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

In a press statement, KFF revealed that the campaign resulted in the issuance of 100 warnings and notices to various establishments and shops for failing to comply with KFF requirements.

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Kuwaitis in traffic spat: A traffic disagreement turned violent when two citizens engaged in a fist-fight, exchanging blows before one deliberately rammed his car into the other’s vehicle, reports Al-Anba daily.

A security source told the daily that a citizen filed a complaint accusing another – a Physical Education teacher – of assaulting him, verbally abusing him, and intentionally hitting his car. The source disclosed

that the complainant stated the altercation arose from a traffic disagreement, after which the accused approached him, punched him and verbally insulted him, saying, “You are not a real man, you are not well-mannered.” This confrontation escalated into a physical fight.

The source added that during questioning, the accused claimed the complainant suddenly stopped his car in the middle of the road, provoking a verbal dispute. He maintained that his subsequent actions were in self-defense.

The source indicated that the police investigation, registered as “exchange of assault and collision”, included questioning both parties, visiting the scene and hearing witness testimony. He said “the investigation confirmed that the complainant initiated the assault after the traffic dispute, during which the accused verbally insulted him. The two exchanged blows before the accused intentionally rammed into the complainant’s vehicle.”

The case was referred to the competent authorities.



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Kuwait joins COMCEC Follow-up Bureau, strengthening OIC role

Minister Al-Ajil hails Arab Group representation

ISTANBUL, Nov 4, (KUNA): Kuwait's Minister of Commerce and Industry Khalifa Al-Ajil hailed Monday the election of Kuwait for a three-year term to represent the Arab Group in the Bureau of the Follow-up Committee of the OIC's Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation (COMCEC).

He also thanked the State of Qatar for its leadership during the previous term and for its commendable efforts.

During his address at the 41st ministerial meeting of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Coopera-



KUNA photo Minister of Commerce Khalifa Al-Ajil during the meeting of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.

tion (COMCEC) of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), the Minister expressed his appreciation for COMCEC's adoption of the theme "Improving Export Strategies in OIC Member States," given the current global circumstances and the regional and international political and economic turmoil.

"Experience has proven that a country's success in boosting its exports is linked to its ability to diversify its production base and expand the range of exportable goods and services," argued.

"Exporting is no longer a secondary option or a limited commercial activity; rather, it has become the cornerstone of growth and a vital engine for diversifying income sources, as well as for establishing a presence in global markets."

He pointed out that the member states of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) possess the potential and capabilities to become a formidable economic force if they effectively utilize them.

"From this perspective, the State of

Kuwait is confidently progressing within its ambitious 'Vision 2035', which focuses on diversifying the economy and reducing dependence on oil by developing sectors such as industry, technology, and financial services to increase non-oil exports and diversify national income sources," he indicated.

"The vision also seeks to transform the State of Kuwait into a regional and international financial and commercial hub that attracts investment, strengthens the role of the private sector, develops human capital, and enhances infrastructure."

He affirmed that Kuwait places economic diversification and export promotion at the heart of its strategic plans.

The State of Kuwait has adopted a number of policies aimed at enhancing its competitiveness in global markets by boosting non-oil exports such as petrochemicals, food products, and manufactured goods, reducing export costs, and opening new markets through international agreements.

Residential sector tops transactions

Kuwait real estate deals climb sharply in October

By Marwa Al-Bahrawi
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: The local real estate market witnessed heightened activity in October compared to September, with the total number of transactions rising to 584, valued at around KD418.46 million, compared to 471 transactions worth KD350.4 million in September.

This indicates a growth of around 10 percent in the number of transactions and 19.4 percent in the total value of real estate trades, confirming the unbroken momentum of the real estate market despite economic fluctuations, driven by the growing demand for residential, investment and commercial properties.

As usual, the private residential sector retained its leading position in terms of the number of transactions.

The newspaper obtained the monthly statistics from the Real Estate Registration and Documentation Departments at the Ministry of Justice, which revealed that the private residential sector recorded 400 transactions worth KD169.4 million in October, compared to 307 transactions worth KD119.9 million in the previous month. This clearly shows an increase in activity in the sector, with a 30 percent rise in the number of transactions and 42 percent increase in value. These figures indicate the continuous local demand for private housing, especially in established and new areas that have undergone infrastructure improvements.

The investment sector recorded a notable growth, registering 157 transactions worth

KD154 million, compared to 141 transactions worth KD118.46 million in September. This proves the return of confidence in investment properties, considering the improved occupancy rates and rental yields amid relatively stable interest rates.

The commercial real estate sector witnessed 17.8 percent decrease in liquidity in October, reaching KD78.47 million for 18 transactions, compared to KD95.55 million for 14 transactions in September. Despite the decrease in value compared to the previous month, the increase in the number of transactions reflects continuous trading activity and diversification of project sizes.

The industrial sector recorded one transaction in October valued at KD1.19 million, compared to one transaction in September valued at KD1.55 million, indicating limited interest in this type of property.

The warehouse sector witnessed a remarkable decrease, recording only one transaction in October valued at KD2.7 million, compared to six transactions in September valued at KD13.35 million.

The coastal strip recorded five transactions in October valued at KD11.97 million, compared to only one transaction in September. This shows a gradual return to trading in this type of property with its distinctive character and strategic locations.

Shops recorded two transactions valued at KD660,000 after months of relative calm, while the showrooms category had no transaction in October.

MoH expands dental care at Adan Hospital

By Marwa Al-Bahrawi
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: Minister of Health Dr. Ahmed Al-Awadhi inaugurated the Integrated Dental Department at Adan Hospital on Monday, in the presence of Assistant Undersecretary for Dental Affairs Dr. Ahmed Asad, Director of the Dental Department Dr. Jaber Taqi, Director of Adan Hospital Dr. Hussein Al-Shammari, and a number of health sector officials and medical and technical staff.

The opening of this department is in line with the strategy of the ministry to develop the health services system and the medical infrastructure in government hospitals in order to meet the needs of the community and consolidate quality and efficiency in the provision of healthcare.

The department consists of three specialized dental clinics, a dental radiology unit, and a modern sterilization room with the latest equipment, thereby, ensuring the provision of integrated care according to the highest medical



KUNA photo Minister of Health Dr. Ahmed Al-Awadhi inaugurates the Integrated Dental Department at Adan Hospital.

standards, while supporting the services of the hospital and improving the quality of care provided to patients.

The Ministry of Health explained in a press statement that the inauguration of this new department is part of a series of developmental steps taken by the Dental Department to expand its services and provide comprehensive care to all segments of society, especially the bedridden patients and those staying in hospitals for extended periods. This aims to ease their access to dental treatment in their healthcare facilities and enhance the integration of services provided.

The ministry added that this step complements the recent opening of integrated dental departments at Jahra and Farwaniyah Hospitals, in line with its comprehensive vision to provide specialized dental treatment services in public hospitals and establish dentistry as a fundamental component of the national healthcare system.

It affirmed its commitment to continue the implementation of expansion projects, modernize its healthcare facilities, and provide them with qualified national staff and state-of-the-art equipment. All these are aimed at providing the best medical services, developing the quality of health services for citizens and expatriates, and achieving the goals of modernization and development in the healthcare sector in the State of Kuwait.

EPA plants 300 mangroves to boost biodiversity, shorelines

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4, (KUNA): The Kuwaiti Environment Public Authority (EPA) on Sunday planted 300 mangrove seedlings on Al-Maseelah Beach (the seaside of the Jumeirah Hotel) as part of the country's coastal rehabilitation project.

EPA Director of Public Relations and Media, Sheikhha Al-Ibrahim, told Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) that the initiative — which saw active participation from the Head of the UN-Habitat Mission, Dr. Amira Al-Hassan, as well as the ambassadors of

Turkey, Indonesia, and Kyrgyzstan, and representatives from the Gulf Oil Company — contributes to enhancing biodiversity, protecting coastlines from erosion, and raising awareness about the importance of coastal plants in maintaining ecological balance.

She added that planting such vegetation also aims to promote environmental rehabilitation and greening, while strengthening environmental awareness among state institutions and members of society, in line with the goals of the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Procurement ramps up in November

Oil Ministry, KPC issue new tenders

By Najeh Bilal
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: The Ministry of Oil announced through the official gazette, 'Kuwait Al-Youm', a tender for the purchase of a procedures and operations management platform for one year.

The tender documents can be obtained from the Financial Affairs Department at the ministry starting Nov 2, while the deadline for submitting bids is on Nov 13.

The ministry also announced another tender for the maintenance and development of its existing systems for one year. The tender documents are available on Nov 2 and the deadline for submitting bids is on Nov 13 as well.

Moreover, Kuwait Integrated Petroleum Industries Company (KIPIC) announced a tender for the supply of a four-roll plate rolling machine for Zour Refinery. The tender opening date is Nov 2, 2025 and the closing date is March 2, 2026.

Similarly, Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC), at the request of KIPIC, announced a tender for 37 companies to participate in the 'Backup Service for the Zour Refinery Project'. The tender will be

issued to these invited companies 30 days after the publication of this announcement in the official gazette.

Meanwhile, KIPIC canceled two tenders -- one for the provision of IT specialists and the other for technical support services for information technology based on the decision of the Higher Procurement Committee at KPC.

KPC also confirmed the awarding of a contract for the supply of stationery, valued at KD49,586, to a specialized private company.

The Central Agency for Public Tenders (CAPT) disclosed that the preliminary meeting for the tender of Kuwait National Petroleum Company (KNPC) tender for the mechanical maintenance of production unit facilities at Mina Al-Ahmadi Refinery was postponed until Nov 11.

On the same day, the preliminary meeting for the KNPC tender for the mechanical maintenance of the clean fuels units and liquefied gas plant facilities at Mina Al-Ahmadi Refinery will be held as well.

Kuwait Oil Company (KOC) issued a tender for the connected feeder services in Ahmadi, South and East Kuwait areas with the tender opening date set for Nov 2.

Hawally hosts life-saving blood drive

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: Hawally Governorate recently organized a blood donation campaign at 360 Mall under the patronage and in the presence of Governor of Hawally Sheikh Sabah Badr, reports Al-Jarida daily.

Speaking at the event, the Governor emphasized that such initiatives embody the highest values of humanity and cooperation among members of the nation. He said these initiatives help strengthen the sense of giving and social solidarity, while promoting a culture of blood donation for its noble humanitarian purpose — saving lives and supporting the blood bank with essential reserves for emergencies.

He expressed his gratitude and appreciation to all the entities that contributed to organizing the campaign,



Hawally Governorate photo during the blood donation campaign.

praising the efforts of the Ministry of Health, Tamdeen Group and 360 Mall for their role in ensuring its success. He added that the campaign reflected the spirit of cooperation and solidarity among institutions in advancing humanitarian work.

PAHW picks 5 firms for South Saad design

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

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: The Public Authority for Housing Welfare (PAHW) revealed that five engineering firms have passed the required success rate in the competition for consultancy services for the design of public buildings and 13 neighborhood centers in the South Saad Al-Abdullah Residential City project.

In a memorandum obtained by the newspaper, PAHW explained that the competition, for which bids have been opened, pertains to consultancy services for planning, detailed design, and the preparation of tender documents for contractors to construct, complete and maintain public buildings and 13 neighborhood centers in South Saad Al-Abdullah Residential City.

It confirmed that the number of engineering firms, which passed the required success rate of 70 percent or higher in the technical evaluation, reached five out of

all the firms that submitted bids for the competition.

Sources told the newspaper that PAHW is currently reviewing bids submitted by qualified firms, indicating the Authority will study the bids from technical, financial and legal perspectives in preparation for selecting the winning engineering firm in the coming period.

Sources pointed out that opening the bids is part of completing the procedures according to applicable regulations and systems, paving the way for the evaluation phase to select the most suitable consulting firm in terms of technical competence.

Sources added that infrastructure contracts are showing significant progress in completion rates, reiterating this competition is part of efforts to keep pace with the approved timelines for completing the remaining project components, ensuring its implementation according to the established plans and the timely delivery of its phases.

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Experts explore innovation in teaching

PAAET and IICO spotlight AI, digital learning and sustainable education

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4, (KUNA): The International Conference on Educational Development, organized by the College of Basic Education at the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (PAAET), commenced today under the patronage of Minister of Education, Engineer Sayed Jalal Al-Tabtabai, under the theme “Towards Renewed Education: Envisioning Horizons of Academic Development.”

In his opening address, the Dean of the College, Chairman of the Conference, and Head of the Higher Organizing Committee, Dr. Mubarak Al-Dharwa, affirmed that the conference reflects Kuwait’s vision and belief that educational renewal is the path to sustainable development and that investing in minds is the most worthwhile and enduring investment.

Dr. Al-Dharwa stated that the conference is being held in partnership with the International Islamic Charitable Organization (IICO) and its sponsors, coinciding with a critical phase in the development of education in Kuwait.

He emphasized the Higher Committee’s commitment to ensuring that the conference serves as a global scientific platform, combining sound educational thought, profound academic expertise, and modern educational technologies to keep pace with rapid transformations in the digital world.

He noted that the conference features distinguished scientific participation, including 14 research papers from the Gulf Cooperation Council countries and the Arab Bureau of Education for the Gulf States, in addition to contributions from Jordan and the United Kingdom.

He explained that the research papers address topics such as educational legislation, artificial intelligence, and renewable education, reflecting the richness of the scientific content and the diversity of experiences and perspectives that enrich the conference’s themes and open new horizons for academic development.

Dr. Al-Dharwa praised the IICO for its generous platinum sponsorship, along with all other sponsors and contributors, “whose contributions had a significant impact on the success of this conference.”

For his part, Dr. Abdullah Al-Matouq, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the IICO, highlighted PAAET’s significant accomplishments in education, noting its pioneering role in providing advanced education and developing qualified national personnel across various fields.

Dr. Al-Matouq added that the conference underscores the importance of education in building society and the necessity of anticipating future developments



Photo by Rezk Tawfiq
Dean of the College of Basic Education, Refzek Zahra, Chairman and Head of the Higher Organizing Committee, Dr. Mubarak Al-Tharwa, delivers the opening speech.

to keep pace with knowledge transformations, emphasizing the educational mission’s role in societal development and raising individual awareness.

He stated that the IICO focuses on educational programs as part of its humanitarian work, providing scholarships and support for students in human development. He highlighted some of the organization’s achievements for 2024, including the implementation of 109 educational projects in 21 countries, in partnership with 51 institutions, benefiting approximately 43,000 students, teachers, and administrators.

Dr. Al-Matouq emphasized the importance of supporting digital education, developing curricula, and enhancing educational skills globally, noting the organization’s programs to train refugees in 18 countries to help them meet the demands of their communities.

The two-day conference focuses on practical training through 12 workshops, with active participation from Microsoft, the DECOM Institute for Educational Consulting, and the Kuwait Teachers Association, aiming to enhance the professional development of faculty, trainers, students, and educational professionals.

An accompanying exhibition of electronic research output is also being held, featuring 18 scientific posters displayed on modern digital screens, reflecting the growing trend toward digital transformation in the presentation of knowledge and academic production.

Capital Governor launches ‘Water for Tomorrow’ drive

Building Kuwait’s sustainable future

By Inaas Awadh
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: “Water is the lifeline and the essence of our continuity and growth,” says Capital Governor Sheikh Abdullah Salem Al-Ali.

In his speech at the opening ceremony for the national initiative, ‘Water for Tomorrow’, Sheikh Abdullah Salem Al-Ali asserted that the insightful vision led by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah aims to empower the youths and provide them with opportunities to be active partners in the progress and development of the nation.

He added that supporting initiatives, which promote creativity and responsibility and encourage the presentation of innovative ideas and sustainable projects, is the path towards achieving the 2035 development vision of Kuwait, keeping pace with the aspirations of the nation and serving its successive generations.

He explained that the ‘Water for Tomorrow’ initiative, a competition for high school students in the Capital Governorate, is a national platform for supporting and motivating young people to contribute to the efforts of the State to achieve sustainable development.

He thanked the governorate’s partners in the initiative, including the ministries of Interior, Education, Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy, as well as the Environment Public Authority, Kuwait International Bank and Commercial Bank of Kuwait.

He expressed his pride in the students who are considered the hope of the nation and the builders of its future. He urged them to work with passion and determination, and to transform their innovative



Photo by Rezk Tawfiq
Capital Governor Sheikh Abdullah Salem Al-Ali during the launching of ‘Water for Tomorrow’ initiative.

ideas into real projects that serve Kuwait and embody their love for it.

On the other hand, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Education Mohammad Al-Khalidi affirmed that “water is a great blessing, and our responsibility towards it does not stop at its use, but extends to instilling values of awareness and responsibility in the younger generation so that they may be role models in their environmental behavior.”

He pointed out that the initiative is a manifestation of the highest form of co-operation between State institutions to achieve sustainable development goals. He said it encourages students to be creative in scientific projects and awareness campaigns that highlight the importance of water and its conservation, while confirming the full support of the ministry for these pioneering national initiatives.

Assistant Undersecretary at the Ministry of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy Fatima Jawhar Hayat stressed that the ministry, through its various departments, has been keen on implementing awareness programs in schools, universities and youth cen-

ters, based on its belief that instilling environmental values begins in childhood and transforms into sustainable behavior.

She added that water conservation is a shared national and humanitarian responsibility requiring concerted efforts, emphasizing that the ministry prioritizes the culture of water conservation and it is proud to join the list of entities supporting the initiative, given its awareness message that aligns with the Sustainable Development Goals and Kuwait Vision 2035.

Osman Tawfiqi, General Manager of Retail Banking at Kuwait International Bank, expressed the bank’s pride in sponsoring the initiative, affirming that its participation is in line with the commitment of the banking sector to shoulder its national and social responsibilities. He said “we believe that sustainability is a commitment we live by daily. The ‘Water for Tomorrow’ initiative resonates with Kuwait International Bank’s motto – ‘A Bank for Life’ – as it conveys a message of building a more conscious and sustainable future.”

Continued from Page 1

Consensus vital

Through comprehensive educational, healthcare, housing, and employment policies, Kuwait has ensured a dignified and secure life for its citizens, empowering them as partners in the nation’s progress.

He said this approach reflects Kuwait’s deep commitment to the objectives of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and its goal of building a resilient, adaptive, and inclusive society.

Reaffirming Kuwait’s global leadership in humanitarian and development fields, His Highness noted that the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, established in 1961, has financed development projects in 107 countries worldwide, with total contributions exceeding KD 9.9 billion.

This, he said, reflects Kuwait’s enduring humanitarian message and its dedication to supporting peace and development through tangible partnerships.

He added that Kuwait’s development experience embodies a social contract founded on justice and human dignity, making it a consistent partner in shaping a future based on solidarity and shared responsibility.

Concluding his address, His Highness the Prime Minister expressed confidence that the Doha summit would produce concrete outcomes renewing international commitment to the UN’s three foundational pillars: peace and security, human rights, and sustainable development.

He called for deeper cooperation, stronger understanding, and broader solidarity to achieve inclusive and equitable social development that restores human rights and global balance.

Representative of His Highness the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah departed Qatar on Tuesday.

His Highness the Prime Minister was heading Kuwait’s delegation to the Second World Summit for Social Development.

He congratulated Qatar on the success of the summit, and expressed his gratitude for the warm welcome and generosity.

Representative of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, arrived in Qatar on Monday heading Kuwait’s delegation to the Second World Summit for Social Development.

Dr. Amthal Al-Huwailah
Kuwait’s Minister of Social Affairs, Family, and Childhood Affairs Dr. Amthal Al-Huwailah affirmed Tuesday that investing in women is not only a commitment to equality but a genuine investment in creating sustainable solutions for entire societies.

Dr. Al-Huwailah was speaking at the opening of the high-level side event SheBuilds: Women Innovating Social Solutions for an Inclusive Future, organized by Kuwait’s Ministry of Social Affairs on the sidelines of the Second

World Summit for Social Development in Doha.

She emphasized that women-led social innovation is inherently inclusive, grounded in a deep understanding of marginalized groups’ needs and dedicated to removing barriers to participation in development.

Women, she said, are redefining the meaning of development and justice from a human-centered perspective.

Dr. Al-Huwailah added that the workshop will highlight real-life stories of Kuwaiti women who have addressed social challenges with creativity and constructive vision.

She expressed hope that its outcomes will strengthen regional and international cooperation to build an inclusive future through women’s participation in policymaking, economic and knowledge empowerment, and the creation of leadership networks.

GCC Secretary-General Jassem Al-Budaiwi said Gulf states have achieved significant progress in women’s empowerment, with increasing female participation in labor markets boosting productivity and economic diversification.

UNESCO Regional Director Salah Khaled noted that women in Kuwait currently represent 60 percent of the public workforce and hold 28 percent of leadership positions nationwide.

UN Chief
UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres affirmed on Tuesday the Second World Summit for Social Development, from November 4 to 6, “revived hopes” for joint global action.

This came in Guterres’ speech to the summit, which was inaugurated in Doha by the Amir of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani. The representative of His Highness the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Prime Minister, Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, is taking part in the event.

Guterres affirmed that poverty, displacement, and unemployment remain obstacles for people around the world, saying that it was important to support developing and underdeveloped countries to avoid major catastrophes.

He asserted that the pace to achieve the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) was still underwhelming, hoping that the Doha Political Declaration would provide a strong push for development.

To translate plans into action, it was necessary to boost efforts to eradicate poverty, promote equality, and provide chances for employment, said Guterres, affirming that such plans must bear in mind the collective interest of all people.

He noted that plans for people must address the fact that around 700 million individuals are suffering from poverty, adding that it was unacceptable for millions to suffer from hunger and die from disease that could be treated.

The UN Chief was also appalled that four million people did not have any type of social security, indicating that investing in solutions and

strategies to face such woes was paramount and important.

He affirmed that healthcare should be provided to all people without discrimination and said that affordable housing was also a right for all.

Qatar Amir
The Amir of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, expressed his country’s pride in hosting the Second World Summit for Social Development, held thirty years after the inaugural summit in Copenhagen, Denmark, in 1995.

In his opening speech at the summit, Sheikh Tamim Al-Thani said the summit reflects Qatar’s firm belief in collective action to confront global challenges and promote social development, poverty eradication, and human dignity.

He stressed that social development is a necessity, not an option, and noted that as the event coincides with the 80th anniversary of the United Nations, it provides an opportunity to renew commitment to its Charter and to multilateral cooperation.

He highlighted Qatar’s progress in social development, saying the launch of the Ministry of Social Development and Family’s 2025-2030 strategy, aimed at building a cohesive, just society in line with the Qatar National Vision 2030.

He reaffirmed Qatar’s partnership with the United Nations and its continued support for social development through the Qatar Fund for Development and other initiatives.

Qatar’s Amir called for translating international pledges, including those made in the 1995 Copenhagen Declaration, into concrete action, and commended the adoption of the Doha Political Declaration as a roadmap for combating poverty, unemployment, and social exclusion.

He also underlined that lasting peace is essential for development, voicing solidarity with the Palestinian people and calling for increased international support for reconstruction efforts, while further condemning the atrocities in Sudan’s Darfur region and urged a political solution to end the conflict.

Sheikh Tamim expressed confidence that this summit could be a turning point where discussions result in practical and effective steps, transforming the slogans of peace, social development and well-being into reality for everyone without discrimination.

GCC Chief
The Secretary General of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Jassem Al-Budaiwi stated that Qatar’s hosting of the Second World Summit for Social Development, underscores its leading role as a key regional and international partner in supporting human development paths and enhancing joint humanitarian action.

This came in a statement by the General Secretariat during Al-Budaiwi’s participation in the inauguration of the 2nd World Summit for Social Development at the Qatar National Convention Centre (QNCC), in the presence of Amir of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani and several Heads of State, their representatives, senior officials, and

experts in social development and policy.

Al-Budaiwi praised the distinguished efforts made by the State of Qatar in hosting this leading global event and in its preparation as well as organization in coordination with the United Nations (UN).

“This reflects the high international standing that the State of Qatar enjoys and its active role in supporting international initiatives and dialogues related to human development and investment in people,” said Al-Budaiwi.

Furthermore, he underlined that the objectives of this conference represent a fundamental pillar in the GCC’s vision for social development, which is based on promoting social justice, empowering various community groups, and developing social protection systems.

Kuwait, UAE

The report also envisions habilitating and farming coral reefs around Kuwaiti islands.

The ministers approved these initiatives and donations, lauding tangible efforts by Al-Ahmadi Governor Sheikh Humoud Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah for enhancing communal initiatives and responsibility and stimulating associations and individuals to play a part in beautifying the State of Kuwait and promoting its civic features.

The ministers were notified about lineup of the official delegation accompanying the Representative of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, during his official visit to Qatar to head State of Kuwait delegation participating in the Second World Summit for Social Development that convened in Doha earlier today.

The Kuwaiti delegation to the summit grouped Minister of Social Affairs, Family Affairs and Childhood Dr. Amthal Al-Huwaila, Undersecretary of the Prime Minister’s Diwan Sheikh Khaled Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Sabah, the State of Kuwait Representative at the United Nations Ambassador Tareq Al-Bannai, the Assistant Foreign Minister for Human Rights Ambassador Sheikh Jawaher Al-Sabah, Director of the Prime Minister’s Office Hamad Mubarak Bin Sabt.

Meanwhile, the Representative of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Minister of Electricity, Water, Renewable Energy, Minister of Finance and the Acting Minister of State for Investment and Economic Affairs, Dr. Sabeeh Al-Mukhaizeem, briefed the ministers about outcome of his participation in the Ninth Edition of the Future Investment Initiative (FII) conference that had been held under the logo, “the key to prosperity” in Saudi Arabia, last week.

The Saudi-hosted conference comprised heads of state, ministers, officials in charge of sovereign funds, heads of state, senior executives and pioneers in various fields. The event included discussions panels and bilateral talks focusing on strategies for attaining balance between economic growth and environmental sustainability.

For her part, Dr. Nora Al-Mashaan,

Minister of Public Works and head of the honorary mission that accompanied the Chinese Vice President Han Zheng during his official visit to the country last Saturday and Sunday, informed the cabinet about results and topics that were broached during his audience with His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, attended by His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Ahmad al-Sabah.

Minister Al-Mashaan also addressed her peers about official discussions between the State of Kuwait People’s Republic of China, where His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled led the Kuwaiti side while Han headed the Chinese officials, in addition to the meeting that had grouped the Chinese guest and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, focusing on the growing bilateral relations, means of enhancing cooperation in diverse spheres, issues of joint concern, various regional and international affairs.

The ministers examined minutes of the “ministerial committee for food, medicinal and water security,” encompassing a report by the Ministry of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy with respect of the measures that had been taken according to the strategy for boosting food-water system in the State of Kuwait.

This particular strategy is designed to expand productivity of the water desalination installations and storage of water networks by means of investing in innovating technology to enhance water output, while maintaining the natural and environmental resources, backing up scientific researches and studies, with concern to be dedicated to securing specialized personnel for managing water resources.

In this respect, the Cabinet decided to task the Ministry of Electricity to pursue its efforts in this regard.

The Cabinet examined and approved a number of the topics in the agenda, submitted some of them to ministerial committees for study and preparing reports, pending completion of the required procedures.

The ministers adopted minutes of the Supreme Committee for Kuwaiti Citizenship Investigation, cases of stripping a number of individuals of the citizenship, according to the decree-into-law 15/1959.

Students criticize

An internal memo has been issued, urging anyone who observes unusual behavior to report it directly to the Guidance and Counseling Office so the matter can be addressed in an educational manner.

Students entering the teaching profession must understand the importance of setting a positive example. It is the college’s responsibility to provide awareness programs that promote positive values and behavior.

In a press statement, Dean of the College of Education Dr. Issa Al-Balhan revealed that some students, especially those nearing the end of adolescence, need proper guidance, awareness, and support.

He said the college has included a comprehensive schedule of awareness activities in this year’s plan, in cooperation with relevant official bodies.

Dr. Al-Balhan highlighted that two lectures have been organized so far in

collaboration with the Ministry of Islamic Affairs and the Ministry of Social Affairs, and that the program of lectures will be expanded during the current semester.

He emphasized that the college’s role is primarily educational, stressing that any unacceptable behavioral issues should be addressed through awareness rather than punishment.

Dr. Al-Balhan affirmed that the College of Education rejects deviations from normal behavior and works to guide students through appropriate educational channels, emphasizing that “A teacher is a role model for students and society.”

6 reasons behind negative behaviors:

- Weak religious awareness
- Inadequate family upbringing
- Influence of bad friends
- Unhealthy thinking patterns
- The nature of adolescence
- Hormonal or physiological factors that can be addressed through education

‘Cybersecurity

Meanwhile, Head of the National Cybersecurity Center Eng. Abeer Al-Awadhi stated in her speech that the conference is a continuation of the approach of the GCC to confront cyber threats, and reflects the commitment of Kuwait to maintain its digital security and the stability of its cyberspace, especially amidst the rapidly evolving technological challenges that the whole world is facing.

Al-Awadhi asserted that the participation of a select group of experts and specialists in the conference is considered a vital opportunity to exchange best practices and review the latest innovative solutions and technologies in the field of cybersecurity.

Secretary General of Kuwait Banking Association Dr. Yaqoub Al-Rifai said the conference is a clear affirmation of the wise leadership’s interest in information security and the protection of digital infrastructure in light of the successive challenges that the region and the world are facing. He explained that his participation stems from the responsibility of the Association to support and strengthen cybersecurity in the banking sector, which is among the most vulnerable to cyberattacks due to the sensitive nature of the information and operations conducted.

He pointed out that the Kuwaiti banking sector has proven its leadership in this field through diligent and intensive efforts that have contributed to building a security system based on a secure digital infrastructure, advanced protection systems, and rigorous policies for managing cyber risks.

Moreover, the conference organizing committee announced the selection and honoring of Minister of Commerce and Industry of the State of Qatar Sheikh Faisal bin Thani bin Faisal Al Thani, with the title of ‘Influential Gulf Leader’. This recognition was given in appreciation of the ministry’s role and its winning first place in the 2025 cybersecurity exercise. Assistant Undersecretary for Business and Industry Development at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry Saleh Al-Khalifi received the award on behalf of the minister.

‘A great and good man’

Dick Cheney, one of most powerful and polarizing vice presidents of US history, dies at 84

WASHINGTON, Nov 4, (AP): Dick Cheney, the hard-charging conservative who became one of the most powerful and polarizing vice presidents in U.S. history and a leading advocate for the invasion of Iraq, has died at age 84.

Cheney died Monday night due to complications of pneumonia and cardiac and vascular disease, his family said in a statement.

“For decades, Dick Cheney served our nation, including as White House Chief of Staff, Wyoming’s Congressman, Secretary of Defense, and Vice President of the United States,” the statement said. “Dick Cheney was a great and good man who taught his children and grandchildren to love our country, and to live lives of courage, honor, love, kindness, and fly fishing. We are grateful beyond measure for all Dick Cheney did for our country. And we are blessed beyond measure to have loved and been loved by this noble giant of a man.”

The quietly forceful Cheney served father and son presidents, leading the armed forces as defense chief during the Persian Gulf War under President George H.W. Bush before returning to public life as vice president under

Bush’s son George W. Bush.

Cheney was, in effect, the chief operating officer of the younger Bush’s presidency. He had a hand, often a commanding one, in implementing decisions most important to the president and some of surpassing interest to himself - all while living with decades of heart disease and, post-administration, a heart transplant. Cheney consistently defended the extraordinary tools of surveillance, detention and inquisition employed in response to the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

Years after leaving office, he became a target of President Donald Trump, especially after his daughter Liz Cheney became the leading Republican critic and examiner of Trump’s desperate attempts to stay in power after his election defeat and his actions in the Jan. 6, 2021, riot at the Capitol.

“In our nation’s 246-year history, there has never been an individual who was a greater threat to our republic than Donald Trump,” Cheney said in a television ad for his daughter. “He tried to steal the last election using lies and violence to keep himself in power after the voters had rejected him. He is a coward.”



US Vice President Dick Cheney addresses a campaign rally for Gus Bilirakis, a Republican who is running for the Tampa Bay area congressional seat his father is vacating in Tampa, Fla on July 21, 2006. (AP)

In a twist the Democrats of his era could never have imagined, Dick Cheney said last year he was voting for their candidate, Kamala Harris, for president against Trump.

A survivor of five heart attacks, Cheney long thought he was living on

borrowed time and declared in 2013 he now awoke each morning “with a smile on my face, thankful for the gift of another day,” an odd image for a figure who always seemed to be manning the ramparts.

His vice presidency defined by the

age of terrorism, Cheney disclosed that he had had the wireless function of his defibrillator turned off years earlier out of fear terrorists would remotely send his heart a fatal shock.

In his time in office, no longer was the vice presidency merely a ceremonial afterthought. Instead, Cheney made it a network of back channels from which to influence policy on Iraq, terrorism, presidential powers, energy and other cornerstones of a conservative agenda.

Fixed with a seemingly permanent half-smile -- detractors called it a smirk -- Cheney joked about his outsize reputation as a stealthy manipulator.

“Am I the evil genius in the corner that nobody ever sees come out of his hole?” he asked. “It’s a nice way to operate, actually.”

A hard-liner on Iraq who was increasingly isolated as other hawks left government, Cheney was proved wrong on point after point in the Iraq War, without ever losing the conviction that he was essentially right.

He alleged links between the 2001 attacks against the United States and prewar Iraq that didn’t exist. He said US troops would be welcomed as liberators; they weren’t.

He declared the Iraqi insurgency in its last throes in May 2005, back when 1,661 US service members had been killed, not even half the toll by war’s end.

For admirers, he kept the faith in a shaky time, resolute even as the nation turned against the war and the leaders waging it.

But well into Bush’s second term, Cheney’s clout waned, checked by courts or shifting political realities.

Courts ruled against efforts he championed to broaden presidential authority and accord special harsh treatment to suspected terrorists. His hawkish positions on Iran and North Korea were not fully embraced by Bush.

Cheney operated much of the time from undisclosed locations in the months after the 2001 attacks, kept apart from Bush to ensure one or the other would survive any follow-up assault on the country’s leadership.

With Bush out of town on that fateful day, Cheney was a steady presence in the White House, at least until Secret Service agents lifted him off his feet and carried him away, in a scene the vice president later described to comical effect.

Mamdani and former governor Cuomo face off as NYC chooses new mayor

NEW YORK, Nov 4, (AP): New York City’s voters are deciding the outcome of a generational and ideological divide that will resonate across the country Tuesday as they choose the next mayor to run the nation’s largest city.

Zohran Mamdani, who won the Democratic primary earlier this year, faces former gov Andrew Cuomo, who is running as an independent, and perennial Republican candidate Curtis Sliwa, who is trying to land a massive upset.

A victory for Mamdani would give the city its first Muslim mayor and its youngest leader in generations, while elevating the democratic socialist to political stardom and giving his brand of economic populism one of the most visible political perches in America.

If Cuomo comes out on top, he will have staged a remarkable political comeback four years after resigning as governor over a barrage of sexual harassment allegations.

For Sliwa - the creator of the Guardian Angels crime patrol group and a longtime New York tabloid fixture - a win would put a Republican in charge of the nation’s largest city at a time when many New Yorkers are seeking a leader who can keep President Donald



New York mayoral candidate Zohran Mamdani speaks at Dutch Kills Playground on Nov 3, in the Queens borough of New York. (AP)

Trump at bay.

The race has made Mamdani a national figure as he has drawn the ire of Trump and other Republicans, who have tried to cast him as the face of a new, more radical Democratic Party. Trump has also threatened to take over the city if Mamdani wins, as well as

arrest and deport the state assembly member, who was born in Uganda but is a US citizen.

Trump reluctantly endorsed Cuomo on the eve of the election, saying Mamdani would bring “disaster” to the city and encouraging Sliwa backers to vote for the former governor instead.

America

Harvard Med School building reopens: A Harvard Medical School building has reopened while a “very active” investigation continues into a weekend explosion that authorities said was intentionally set off.

An officer who responded to a fire alarm early Saturday morning encountered two people running from the Goldenson Building, according to university police. The explosion occurred on the fourth floor of the building, which houses labs and offices associated with the medical school’s Department of Neurobiology.

The Boston Fire Department determined that the explosion was intentional and officers did not find additional devices in a sweep of the building, police said. No one was injured.

“The small section of the fourth-floor hallway where the explosion took place has been cleared and is fully operational. There was no structural damage to the building, and all labs and equipment remain intact,” medical school officials said in a statement.

An FBI spokesperson declined to comment Monday other than describing the investigation as “very active.” Police released grainy photos of two people wearing face coverings and what looked like sweatshirts.

In recent months, US President Donald Trump has targeted Harvard with a series of investigations and billions of dollars in funding cuts as it presses for changes to its policies and governance. (AP)



Trump

Two men charged in terrorism plot: Two men were charged with terrorism-related crimes in the Detroit area after federal authorities made arrests and seized a cache of weapons last week in a storage unit and elsewhere, officials said Monday.

The men had scouted a Detroit suburb, according to a 72-page criminal complaint unsealed in federal court.

“Our American heroes prevented a terror attack,” US Attorney General Pam Bondi said on X.

FBI Director Kash Patel had announced arrests Friday, but no other details were released at the time while agents searched a home in Dearborn and a storage unit in nearby Inkster.

The court filing says the two men who were charged, Momed Ali and Majed Mahmoud, and other co-conspirators. Investigators say a minor was also involved in the discussions.

The FBI said the men repeatedly referred to “pumpkins” in their conversations, a reference to a Halloween attack. (AP)

Mass murderer dies in prison: George Banks, one of the most notorious mass murderers in the US, has died.

Banks, 83, died Sunday afternoon at Phoenix state prison in Pennsylvania, the state Department of Corrections said. Banks died of complications from renal neoplasm, or kidney cancer, said Montgomery County Coroner Dr. Janine Darby.

Banks had been in prison since 1982 after shooting 14 people, and killing 13, including his own children, during a rampage in Wilkes-Barre. At time, it was considered one of the worst mass murders in American history. He was convicted of 12 counts of first-degree murder and one count of third-degree murder.

Banks had been drinking at a party late at night before using an AR-15 rifle to start the rampage at his home. (AP)

Romania signs agreement with Germany’s Rheinmetall to build a gunpowder plant

BUCHAREST, Romania, Nov 4, (Agencies): NATO member Romania signed an agreement Monday with German defense company Rheinmetall to build a gunpowder factory in central Romania, as Europe races to rearm itself in the face of an increasingly provocative Russia.

After signing the deal, Prime Minister Ilie Bolojan hailed the joint venture between the Romanian state and Europe’s largest arms producer as a sign that Romania is “emerging as a player with potential in the defense industry of Southeast Europe.”

Construction of the 535 million-euro (\$616 million) plant in the town of Victoria in Brasov County is expected to start in 2026, take three years to complete and create about 700 local jobs, he said. Romania will seek to finance part of its contributions through the European SAFE mechanism to encourage defense readiness.

“After many years in which our defense industry was in little demand, Romania is entering a new stage because of the security situation in Eastern Europe,” Bolojan said. “I’m glad Rheinmetall sees us as an important and serious partner and is strengthening its presence in Romania.”

Rheinmetall CEO Armin Papperger said the ammunition powder to be produced at the factory is “needed world-



Romanian Prime Minister Ilie Bolojan, (right), shakes hands with Germany’s Rheinmetall AG CEO Armin Papperger after a joint press statement in Bucharest, Romania, on Nov 3, following the signing of a partnership to build an ammunition powder factory. (AP)

wide and especially in Europe,” and will make Romania a key player in the continent’s defense ecosystem.

“The strategy is to make Romania an integral part of the European ecosystem,” Papperger said. “Romania

will also be an integral part of the NATO ecosystem.”

Since Russia launched its full invasion of Ukraine in 2022, Romania has played an increasingly prominent role in NATO. It has donated a Patriot missile system to Ukraine and opened an international training hub for F-16 jet pilots from allied countries, including Ukraine.

Meanwhile, Türkiye and Germany should focus on joint defense projects and move past previous procurement challenges in light of Europe’s changing security environment, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said.

“In light of the changing security conditions in Europe, we must leave behind the difficulties in the supply of defense industry products and focus on joint projects,” Erdogan said at a joint press conference with visiting German Chancellor Friedrich Merz in the capital Ankara.

Erdogan noted that Türkiye welcomes Germany’s recent constructive steps in the process of Türkiye’s procurement of Eurofighter jets. “Considering Türkiye’s progress in defense, it is clear that we have broad areas of cooperation with Germany. We can further strengthen this partnership,” he added.

In July, Germany lifted its veto on the sale of Eurofighter jets to Türkiye after years of opposition.



The building of the regional administration is seen destroyed by Russia’s constant shelling, on the main square in the frontline city of Kherson, Southern Ukraine on Nov 3. (AP)

Ukrainian drones reach deep inside Russia as battle for key city rages on

KYIV, Nov 4, (AP): Ukrainian long-range drones attacked an industrial plant around 1,300 kilometers (800 miles) inside Russia, local officials said Tuesday, while Ukraine’s army remained locked in an intense battle to hold back a Russian push on the key city of Pokrovsk in the eastern Donetsk region.

Two drones targeted an industrial facility in Sterlitamak, a city in Russia’s Bashkortostan region, regional Gov. Rady Habirow said in an online statement. He didn’t specify what facility was targeted but he said that both drones were shot down. There were no casualties, and the facility was operating normally, he said.

Meanwhile, the city administration reported an explosion at the Sterlitamak Petrochemical Plant caused the plant’s water treatment facility to partially collapse, adding that the cause of the explosion was not known. The

plant, which makes rubber and aviation fuel, is not known to have been attacked before.

Ukraine’s daring strikes deep inside Russia using domestically produced drones have embarrassed Moscow, with officials being unforthcoming about any damage, and unnerved Russians. Ukraine has taken aim at manufacturing plants, oil refineries and military logistics hubs in a bid to disrupt Russia’s war effort almost four years after Moscow launched an all-out invasion.

Explosions were also heard at an industrial area of the Nizhny Novgorod region, some 800 kilometers (500 miles) from Ukraine, where an oil refinery and a petrochemical plant are located, Russian media reported. Officials did not confirm the reports.

Both Bashkortostan and Nizhny Novgorod are among the regions where the Russian Defense Ministry

said Tuesday that Ukrainian drones were shot down, claiming that 85 were intercepted overnight.

Ukrainian officials said Russia bombarded the southeastern Dnipropetrovsk region of Ukraine with drones, missiles and artillery overnight, killing one person and injuring 11 others, including two children.

Russia fired seven missiles of various types and 130 strike and decoy drones at Ukraine during the night, Ukraine’s air force said.

Also, Romania’s Defense said Tuesday that Russia carried out two overnight attacks on Ukraine’s Danube port infrastructure, close to the border with the NATO member country.

Two pairs of fighter jets were separately deployed from two different airbases for air policing missions after “numerous explosions were observed on the Ukrainian shore,” the ministry said.

D66 party takes home win in Dutch election

THE HAGUE, Netherlands, Nov 4, (AP): A nail-biter national election in the Netherlands came down to postal votes from Dutch citizens living abroad, with the centrist D66 party eking out a win over far-right lawmaker Geert Wilders’ far-right Party for Freedom according to a final tally by national news agency ANP.

The pair will each have 26 seats in parliament, as the roughly 28,000 vote advantage for D66 was not enough for the party to pick up an additional legislator.

Using a nearly complete ballot count and an estimation based on previous patterns, ANP had predicted D66 would receive the most votes but the question of the additional seat was unclear until late Monday evening.

Speaking to reporters last week, Rob Jetten, the 38-year-old leader of D66, called the outcome a “historic result” and said he was proud but felt a “great responsibility” to the country.

Jetten would be the country’s youngest and first openly gay leader.

Despite a second place finish, the result is an 11 seat loss for Wilders’ party, known by its Dutch acronym PVV.



Rob Jetten, leader of the Democrats 66, D66, celebrates, one day after the general election, at the House of Representatives in The Hague on Oct 30. (AP)

Two years ago, the PVV surged to victory in a stunning lurch to the far right for a nation once famed as a beacon of tolerance. But the 62-year-old has lost support since forming and

then bringing down a four-party coalition that was notorious for infighting and which did not manage to agree on a tough package of measures to rein in migration to the Netherlands.

Europe

Worker rescued from tower collapse dies: Firefighters late Monday finally managed to extract a worker from beneath rubble inside a medieval tower that partially collapsed during renovation work in the heart of Italy’s capital, but the joy of that rescue proved short-lived.

The man didn’t withstand the trauma he suffered and died soon after.

“I express deep sorrow and condolences, on behalf of myself and the government,” Italy’s Premier Giorgia Meloni said in a statement after midnight, confirming his death. “We are close to his family and colleagues at this

time of unspeakable suffering.” (AP)

Poland advances ‘East Shield’ program: Intensive work is progressing on Poland’s “East Shield” defense program, the General Staff of the Polish Armed Forces said Monday.

It said two depots have been completed, and 12 more are under construction, with all expected to be finished by year’s end. In total, more than 100 depots will be built along Poland’s eastern and northern borders to store fortifications, trench materials, barbed wire, and other engineering supplies. Each depot will contain enough materials to fortify a five-km border section. So far, 108 procurement contracts worth 300 million zlotys (about 81 million U.S. dollars) have been signed. (Xinhua)

INTERNATIONAL

Typhoon leaves 26 dead, traps people on roofs and submerges cars in Philippines

MANILA, Philippines, Nov 4, (AP): A fast-moving typhoon barreled across the central Philippines Monday after slamming ashore overnight from the Pacific, leaving at least 26 people dead, setting off flash floods that trapped residents on roofs and submerged cars in two villages, and displacing tens of thousands of people, officials said.

Typhoon Kalmaegi was blowing over the city of Bacolod in central Negros Occidental province before noon with sustained winds of up to 140 kilometers (87 miles) per hour and gusts of up to 195 kph (121 mph) after making landfall around midnight in the town of Silago in the eastern province of Southern Leyte.

An elderly villager drowned in floodwaters in Southern Leyte, where a provincewide power outage was also reported, and another villager died after being hit by a fallen tree in central Bohol province, officials said in initial reports without providing other details.

Gwendolyn Pang, secretary-general of the Philippine Red Cross, said an unspecified number of residents were trapped on their roofs by floodwaters in the coastal town of Liloan in central Cebu province. In the city of Mandaue, also in Cebu, floodwaters were “up to the level of heads of people,” she said, adding that several cars either were submerged in floods or floated in another Cebu community.

“We have received so many calls from people asking us to rescue them from roofs and from their houses, but it’s impossible,” Pang told The Associated Press. “There are so many debris, you see cars floating so we have to wait for the flood to subside.”

In Eastern Samar, one of the east-central provinces first lashed by Kalmaegi early Tuesday, fierce wind either ripped off roofs or damaged about 300 mostly rural shanties on the island community of Homonhon, which is part of the town of Guiuan, but there were no reported deaths or

injuries, Mayor Annaliza Gonzales Kwan said.

“There was no flooding at all, but just strong wind,” Kwan told the AP by telephone. “We’re Ok. We’ll make this through. We’ve been through a lot, and bigger than this.”

Meanwhile, a Philippine air force helicopter with five personnel on board crashed Monday in the country’s south while flying to help respond to the devastation wrought by Typhoon Kalmaegi, which has already left at least five people dead and set off widespread floodings that trapped residents on roofs in some central villages.

The Super Huey chopper crashed near Loreto town in southern Agusan del Sur province and efforts were underway to locate the air force personnel aboard who were deployed to help provide humanitarian assistance to provinces affected by the typhoon, the military’s Eastern Mindanao Command said in a statement.



Residential areas are flooded by Typhoon Kalmaegi as it affects Cebu City, central Philippines on Nov 4. (AP)

US praises South Korea’s plans to raise military spending

S.Korea’s Lee calls for aggressive AI spending in budget speech

SEOUL, South Korea, Nov 4, (AP): South Korean President Lee Jae Myung on Tuesday called for tripling the government spending on projects for expanding artificial intelligence infrastructure and technology in a budget speech.

Lee also called for lawmakers to approve a planned 8.2% increase in defense spending next year, which he said would help modernize the military’s weapons systems and reduce its reliance on the United States, as the allies’ military chiefs met in Seoul for annual security talks.

Most conservative opposition lawmakers boycotted Lee’s speech amid an ongoing rift over a criminal investigation into former President Yoon Suk Yeol’s brief imposition of martial law in December.

Lee’s speech came after South Korea last week hosted the leaders of major Pacific Rim nations for this year’s Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation meetings, which his government used to showcase its ambitions for AI and advance an effort at a trade deal with the US.

In his speech at the National Assembly, Lee highlighted his APEC diplomacy and a bilateral meeting with US President Donald Trump, which he said eased uncertainties facing South Korea’s trade-dependent economy by securing lower tariffs on automobiles and computer chips, two of the coun-



South Korean President Lee Jae Myung speaks at the National Assembly in Seoul, South Korea on Nov 4. (AP)

try’s key exports.

He said the country was still facing a critical moment for “national survival” amid rapid changes in the global trade order and a “huge, transformative wave of AI.”

Lee said the proposed budget of 728 trillion won (\$506 billion), which would represent an all-time high for government spending, would be the country’s “first budget to open the AI era.”

He called on the liberal-led legisla-

ture to approve 10.1 trillion won (\$6.9 billion) in AI-related spending - more than triple this year’s level - to advance the country’s AI computing and manufacturing capabilities, with a particular focus on industries such as semiconductors, automobiles, shipbuilding and robotics.

“Just as President Park Chung-hee paved the highway for industrialization and President Kim Dae-jung built the highway for the information age, we must now construct the high-

way for the AI era to open a future of progress and growth,” Lee said, referring to major development drives under Park’s dictatorship in the 1960s and ’70s and Kim’s presidency from 1998 to 2003, which focused on expanding South Korea’s internet infrastructure.

Also:

SEOUL: US Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth praised South Korea’s plans to raise its military spending, saying Tuesday that the Asian ally will take a larger role in defending itself from North Korean aggressions as the allies must brace for regional contingencies.

Modernizing the decades-long alliance between the US and South Korea is a key issue between the US and South Korea, as the US apparently wants South Korea to increase its conventional defense capabilities so that Washington can focus more on China.

After annual security talks with South Korean Defense Minister Ahn Gyu-back in Seoul, Hegseth told reporters that he was “greatly encouraged” by Seoul’s commitment to increase defense spending and make greater investments in South Korean capabilities. He said the two agreed the investments would bolster South Korea’s ability to lead its conventional deterrence and defense against North Korea.

US seeks humanitarian truce

Sudan war ‘spiraling out of control’: UN

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates, Nov 4, (AP): The United Nations secretary-general warned Tuesday that the war in Sudan is “spiraling out of control” after a paramilitary force seized the besieged and famine-stricken Darfur city of el-Fasher.

Speaking in Qatar, Antonio Guterres called for an immediate ceasefire in the two-year conflict that’s become one of the world’s worst humanitarian crises.

“Hundreds of thousands of civilians are trapped by this siege,” Guterres said. “People are dying of malnutrition, disease and violence.” He noted “credible reports of widespread executions since the Rapid Support Forces entered the city.”

The paramilitary RSF reportedly killed more than 450 people in a hospital and carried out ethnically targeted killings of civilians and sexual assaults while seizing the city last week. It had besieged el-Fasher for 18 months, cutting off most food and other supplies needed by tens of thousands of people.

The RSF has denied committing atrocities, but testimonies from those fleeing, online videos and satellite images offer an apocalyptic vision of their attack. The scope of the violence remains unclear because communications are poor in the region.

The war between the RSF and the



This photo released by The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), shows a woman talking with an aid worker at a displacement camp where residents from el-Fasher sought refuge from fighting between government forces and the RSF, in Tawila, Darfur region, Sudan on Nov 3. (AP)

Sudanese military began in April 2023. More than 40,000 people have been killed, according to UN figures, but aid groups say the true death toll could be many times higher.

The United States is working with both sides in Sudan’s war for a possible humanitarian truce, a US envoy told The Associated Press on Monday, while International Criminal Court prosecutors said they are trying to

preserve evidence from last week’s rampage through a besieged city in the Darfur region.

The latest alleged atrocities in famine-hit el-Fasher “are part of a broader pattern of violence that has afflicted the entire Darfur region” and “may constitute war crimes and crimes against humanity,” the ICC statement said, noting that evidence could be used in future prosecutions.



People protest in the streets of Arusha, Tanzania on Oct 30. (AP)

Africa’s latest elections end with crackdowns on opposition candidates, disputed results

ABUJA, Nigeria, Nov 4, (AP): The latest elections in different African countries have ended with the same outcome: sidelined opposition candidates, disputed results and protests from mostly young voters after incumbents were reelected.

The elections featured a bureaucrat in Cameroon who has become the world’s oldest leader with half his life spent as president. An economist in Ivory Coast who is starting his fourth term at age 83. And a woman in Tanzania whose emergence as the country’s first female president had originally created hope that change was coming - but has been denounced for an authoritarian style.

The continent of 1.4 billion people - where most countries have been independent for about 60 years - disputed election outcomes could further weaken shaky democracies and embolden soldiers increasingly taking over power, analysts says.

Africa is home to some of the world’s youngest populations and oldest leaders, a paradox that has contributed to an upsurge in coups from the Sahel region in the west to Madagascar. In many places there are deep frustrations over failed promises to provide populations with basic amenities despite rich natural resources.

The trend points to deeper structural problems with Africa’s underlying political environment, said Jeffrey Smith, executive director of democracy-foc-



President Alassane Ouattara, who is running for a fourth term, casts his vote at a polling station during the presidential election, in Abidjan, Ivory Coast on Oct 25. (AP)

cused Vanguard Africa nonprofit.

He said all three countries feature incumbents leveraging state resources to stay in power, partisan security forces as well as flawed legal processes.

At 92, Paul Biya has spent nearly half his years on Earth as President of Cameroon and is Africa’s second-longest serving leader, behind only Equatorial Guinea’s Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo.

After 43 years in power, he won his eight term in the country’s election on

Oct. 12, which his spokesman-turned-challenger Issa Tchiroma Bakary also claims to have won.

Ivory Coast’s President Alassane Ouattara, 83, was reelected to a fourth term in the Oct. 25 election marked by low turnout and empty streets after his main challenger was barred from running.

Tanzania’s President Samia Suluhu Hassan was sworn in on Monday following a disputed election that excluded her two main rivals.

The Oct. 29 election was marred by violence as protesters took to major streets to protest. The military was deployed to help police quell riots, and authorities have imposed internet outages amid the tensions.

Tanzanian authorities faced mounting concern over killings during and after last week’s election, with the largest opposition party charging on Tuesday that the security forces were secretly dumping the bodies of hundreds killed in the violence that shocked the region.

Protests spread across the East African country in the aftermath of voting on Wednesday, continuing for several days as young people came into the streets of Dar es Salaam, the commercial capital, and elsewhere to protest what they felt was not a free or fair election. Security agencies cracked down on protesters by firing live bullets and tear gas canisters, and a nationwide curfew was declared.

Mexico’s president rules out changes in security strategy

MEXICO CITY, Nov 4, (AP): Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum on Monday ruled out changes to security policies after the assassination of a mayor in the violent state of Michoacan again raised questions about her administration’s actions to confront criminal groups that control vast parts of the country.



Sheinbaum

In response to the shock generated by the lethal attack against Uruapan Mayor Carlos Alberto Manzo Rodriguez, Sheinbaum defended her policies, saying she has reduced homicides and accused her adversaries of acting like vultures and scavengers following the mayor’s assassination.

“Some are calling for militarization and war, as happened with the war on drugs. That didn’t work,” Sheinbaum said, affirming her focus on reinforcing the presence of security forces in Michoacan and other states, strengthening intelligence and investigative work and addressing the root causes of violence.

Michoacan is one of Mexico’s most violent states and is a battleground for various cartels and criminal groups fighting for control of territory, drug distribution routes and other illicit activities.

Manzo, 40, died Saturday night in a hospital in Uruapan after being gunned down in the town’s historic center during Day of the Dead celebrations. The gunman was also killed at the scene. Manzo had been under protection since December 2024, three months after taking office. His security was reinforced last May with municipal police and 14 National Guard troops.



Rescuers work at the site of a passenger train that crashed into a goods train, near Bilaspur, about 116 kilometers (72 miles) from Chhattisgarh state capital, Raipur, India on Nov 4. (AP)

Train crash kills 7 in India

A passenger train crashed into a cargo train in central India Tuesday, killing at least seven people and injuring several others, a senior government official said.

The incident happened near Bilaspur, about 116 kilometers (72 miles) from Chhattisgarh’s state capital, Raipur. Local television channels showed images of one train colliding with another near the accident site. Rescuers are searching through the debris for survivors.

The local passenger train hit the goods train from behind, senior government official Sanjay Agarwal told The Associated Press, adding that a coach ended up on top of a wagon of the goods train.

A “rescue team is trying to cut through the train to take out at least two passengers trapped inside,” he said. “We hope they will be alive but can’t confirm until we get them out.” (AP)

Kuwait oil price down to \$67.39 pb

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4, (KUNA): The price of Kuwaiti oil went down by 69 cents to USD 67.39 per barrel on Monday, compared with USD 68.08 per barrel last Friday, said the Kuwait Petro-

leum Corporation (KPC) Tuesday. The prices of the Brent crude and West Texas Intermediate went up by 12 and 7 cents respectively, reaching USD 64.89 per barrel and USD 61.05 per barrel.

Business

ABK Group holds 9 months 2025 analyst conference call

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) recently hosted its 9 months 2025 analyst conference attended by Giel-Jan M. Van Der Tol, Group CEO; Shiamak Soonawalla, Group CFO; Dr. Abdulaziz Jawad, Chief Strategy Officer; and Yousef Mukhtar, Executive Manager, Strategy and Follow Up.

On this occasion, Van Der Tol said, “ABK achieved robust performance, with net profit attributable to shareholders increasing 20% year on year to KD 46.6 million, compared to KD38.8 million in the same period last year. Earnings per share also improved to 16 fils, up from 15 fils in the same period last year.”

He added, “ABK’s loan portfolio grew 5% year-on-year, reflecting measured growth underpinned by firm credit control and sound portfolio governance. Asset quality remains resilient, with our NPL ratio maintained at 1.29%, demonstrating a well-balanced approach to growth and prudent risk management.”

Furthermore, ABK’s CET1 ratio stands at 11.96%, and total capital adequacy ratio at 16.94%, well above the regulatory thresholds, reflecting the bank’s solid capitalization and financial strength.

The Group CEO touched on milestones during the third quarter including the successful launch of its first USD 500 million certificate of deposit program, approved by the Central Bank of Kuwait. This issue was fully subscribed within a short period, attracting strong participation from international investors across Asia and United States, reaffirming market confidence in ABK’s credit strength and financial resilience.

Moving on to ratings, he clarified that Fitch reaffirmed ABK’s “A” rating with stable outlook in September 2025, while Moody’s upheld “A2” in May 2025, a continued endorsement of the bank’s sound credit profile and governance standards.

Highlighting ABK’s digital efforts, Van Der Tol said, “We continue to advance our digital transformation agenda this quarter with new features and upgrades across our mobile and online platforms, enhancing speed, personalization and accessibility. In parallel, we continue to modernize our branch network ensuring delivery of a seamless, customer experience across all channels.”

Van Der Tol continued, “Our people remain the driving force behind ABK’s continued progress. Kuwaitis represent 73% of our leadership team, while fe-



Giel-Jan Van M. Der Tol, GCEO



Shiamak Soonawalla Group Chief Finance Officer



Dr. Abdulaziz Jawad, Chief Strategy Officer



in Egypt 2025” reflecting its growing strength and client trust.”

In the UAE, ABK DIFC closed ABK’s second Asian syndicated facility successfully refinancing the 2022 USD 500 million term loan. This transaction was up-sized by 30% to close at USD 650 million with participation from 17 Asian investors, reinforcing ABK’s funding diversification strategy and DIFC’s growing role as a regional hub.

Dr. Jawad further stated, “We enhanced our UAE mortgage proposition and introduced university banking solutions for Kuwaiti students studying in the UAE, enabling them to open their accounts even before travelling and manage finances seamlessly.”

On the corporate side, the DIFC team delivered solid growth and participated in the USD 1 billion ADNOC syndication with a USD 100 million contribution, highlighting ABK’s growing presence in the regional corporate banking space.

Furthermore, regarding ABK Capital, ABK’s investment arm, Dr. Jawad stated that, “ABK Capital DIFC announced a new partnership with LGT Bank (Switzerland) Ltd, one of the world’s leading private banks and asset managers. Alongside with Blackstone and Blackrock, this partnership further enhances ABK Capital’s position as a regional investment platform, offering clients access to world class investment and advisory solutions.”

On the ESG front ABK released its 2024 5th Sustainability Report titled ‘Championing ESG’, prepared in accordance with global reporting standards.

He concluded, “As we move forward towards year end, our focus is on accelerating delivery and deepening impact across all markets. We have built strong momentum supported by solid fundamentals, advancing our transformation agenda and expanding our digital reach.”

New advanced programs (Levels A and B) to boost national competencies

KIBS, Ministry of Commerce & Industry expand collaboration on real estate appraisal training

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: As part of the ongoing collaboration between Kuwait Institute of Banking Studies (KIBS) and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and following the success of the program at Level (C) – which saw the participation of more than 120 applicants across six groups – both parties have agreed to expand the scope of their cooperation.

This expansion aims to design and implement two advanced programs, Levels (A) and (B), to enhance the competencies of national professionals in line

with the highest international standards.

In further recognition of its leading role, KIBS has joined the International Valuation Standards Council (IVSC), a prestigious global organization responsible for setting international valuation standards.

Ms. Rana A. Al-Nibari, Director General of KIBS, reaffirmed KIBS commitment to supporting specialized professional training and development programs, as well as strengthening partnerships with government institutions to develop and enhance na-

tional capabilities.

For her part, Ms. Marwa Al-Juaidan, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, expressed her pride in the continued collaboration, praising the Institute’s leading role in preparing and qualifying national talent. She emphasized that this cooperation aligns with the Ministry’s strategic objectives to regulate the real estate appraisal sector according to the highest recognized professional standards.



Photo during the program.

Workshop supports Kuwait’s tourism and economic diversification goals

KIB hosts workshop on ‘Scientific and Technical Foundations of Hotel Valuation’ as part of its Third Real Estate Forum activities

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: Kuwait International Bank (KIB) held a specialized workshop titled “The Scientific and Technical Foundations of Hotel Valuation”, as part of its Third Real Estate Forum, which was recently held at the Four Seasons Hotel under the theme “Real Estate Valuation and International Standards.”

The event brought together a distinguished group of experts and professionals in the fields of valuation and real estate investment.

The workshop was presented by Eng. Ahmad Yousef Al-Yaqoub, Senior Manager – Real Estate Appraisal Department at KIB, and Eng. Hussam Al-Kolak, Real Estate Expert and Digital Lead for Real Estate Management at KIB.

It aimed to enhance professional knowledge of hospitality asset valuation methods and to provide a comprehensive understanding of the scientific and technical principles for valuing hotels and resorts.

The workshop also highlighted the relationship between international standards and local practices in the real estate market. In addition, it focused on improving the competencies of real estate appraisers and financial institutions in handling hotel projects, thereby contributing to mitigating financing and investment risks in the hospitality sector.

The organization of this specialized workshop on hospitality sector valuation comes in light of the significant government support that Kuwait is currently witnessing to boost the tourism sector, considered one of the promising pillars for diversifying national income sources and stimulating economic activity.

In line with this direction, the workshop also aimed to empower real estate and financial professionals to keep pace with the rapid growth of the tourism industry and to enhance their capabilities in valuing hotel and tourism assets in accordance with international standards and global best practices.

On this occasion, Jassim Al-Abdulhadi, General Manager of the Real Estate Department at KIB, emphasized that Kuwait’s real estate market is undergoing a qualita-



Group Photo



KIB's Eng. Ahmad Al-Yaqoub



KIB's Eng. Hussam Al-Kolak

tive transformation that calls for the adoption of precise and professional valuation tools.

He explained that the Bank is keeping pace with this transition through technical and scientific initiatives

designed to elevate local practices to international standards.

Al-Abdulhadi also stressed that enhancing the real estate valuation framework strengthens the appeal of the national economy to both local and foreign investors.

The workshop covered a number of specialized topics, most notably the classification of hotels and resorts and its implications for market value, as well as practical models for hotel valuation in line with international standards.

It also included an analysis of key factors affecting value, such as location, brand, occupancy rates, and revenue.

In addition, the workshop provided an explanation of the main valuation approaches, including comparison, cost, and income methods, along with practical applications of income capitalization and discounted cash flow (DCF) techniques.

The workshop also reviewed the building and hotel licensing requirements under the Kuwait Municipality regulations, in addition to presenting real-world case studies that enabled participants to practically apply the acquired concepts and develop precise and professional valuation skills.

Designed for professionals with advanced expertise in the field, the workshop witnessed wide participation from real estate appraisers accredited by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, as well as bank employees specializing in real estate financing and risk management, and managers of real estate portfolios and investments from financial institutions and real estate development companies, as it was designed for professionals with advanced expertise in the field.

It is worth noting that the organization of this workshop comes as part of KIB’s ongoing efforts to develop the real estate sector in Kuwait and to promote the implementation of international valuation standards, thereby contributing to enhancing market efficiency and achieving sustainability in the hospitality and real estate investment sectors.

BUSINESS

Revenue rises to KD 192 million, up 16% Y-o-Y; Operating Profit reaches KD 76 million, up 9% Y-oY

Burgan Bank announces its financial results for the first 9 months of 2025

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: Burgan Bank K.P.S.C (“Burgan Bank” or “the Bank”) announced its financial results for the nine months ended September 30, 2025 (9M’25). The results indicate continued operational progress and consistent performance across key business areas.

During the first nine months of 2025, the Bank recorded revenues of KD 192 million, representing a 16% increase year-on-year (y-o-y) compared to the same period in 2024. This growth was driven by strong performances in both Net Interest Income and Non-Interest Income. Net Interest Income rose 15% year-on-year to KD 128 million, supported by improved Net Interest Margins, which increased to 2.3% in 9M’25 from 2.2% in the same period last year, along with continued asset growth momentum. Non-Interest Income also registered solid growth, rising 19% year-on-year to KD 64 million, supported by contributions from the recently acquired United Gulf Bank (UGB).

Driven by strong revenue performance, Burgan Bank achieved an Operating Profit of KD 76 million, up 9% year-on-year, while maintaining a steady Net Income of KD 32 million, reflecting the Bank’s resilient operations compared to 9M’24.

The Bank’s balance sheet continued to reflect robust growth. Total assets increased 15% year-on-year, reaching KD 8.9 billion as of September 30, 2025, driven mainly by expansion in Kuwait, where assets grew 10% to KD 6.8 billion. The loan portfolio rose to KD 4.7 billion, up 8% year-on-year, driven largely by the Kuwait business and supported by strong growth across its key subsidiaries. The Bank’s deposit base expanded by 3% to KD 5.2 billion, underscoring its stable funding position. Additionally, the Bank raised KD 90 million through its Certificate of Deposit program since its launch in Feb’25, further diversifying funding sources and strengthening its liquidity and overall financial foundation.

Burgan Bank maintained a strong capital and liquidity position. The Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1) ratio stood at 11.4%, while the Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR) reached 17.1%, both comfortably above the regulatory minimums of 10.5% and 14.0%, respectively. The Bank’s liquidity remained solid, with a Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR) of 229% and a Net Stable Funding Ratio (NSFR) of 112%, well above the 100% regulatory requirement—underscoring the Bank’s financial resilience and capacity to support continued growth.

Commenting on the nine-month financial results of 2025, Burgan Bank’s Chairman, **Sheikh Abdullah Nasser Al-Sabah**, said: “Burgan Bank upheld its stable performance despite emerging complexities across multiple aspects of the operating environment. Such resilience is owed to our forward-looking strategy, disciplined execution, and prudent risk management in the pursuit of creating sustainable long-term value for our shareholders, investing in our human capital, and providing a convenient and dynamic banking experience for our customers.”

He added: “As we move into the final quarter of the year, we continue to focus on strengthening our core operations in Kuwait and sustaining growth across the Group. In parallel, we continue to embed sustainable practices to create long-term value, while advancing the Bank’s role as a trusted partner to customers and communities.”

Mr. Tony Daher, Group Chief Executive Officer at Burgan Bank, said: “The third-quarter results demonstrate the Bank’s strength in delivering consistent earnings and sustaining a healthy balance sheet, even amid market challenges and shifting dynamics. The underlying business remains robust, underpinned by our disciplined management of costs and risk, and our continued commitment to strong capital and liquidity positions.”

He added: “As we approach the end of this fiscal year, we continue to balance near-term priorities with long-term transformation, which encompasses advancing our digital agenda, enhancing our core banking systems, investing in our people, and continuing to integrate sustainability and ESG considerations as part of our strategic priorities. This steady and strategic progress positions us to adapt effectively to changing market dynamics and to deliver consistent value to our stakeholders.”

USD 500 million International Bond offering successfully completed
Burgan Bank successfully issued a USD 500 million five-year senior unsecured international bond under its USD 1.5 billion Euro Medium Term Note (EMTN) program via Burgan Senior SPC Limited. The bond, carrying

Earnings dip slightly

Saudi Aramco reports \$26.9 billion Q3 profit

DUBAI, Nov 4, (AP): Saudi oil giant Aramco reported Tuesday a \$26.9 billion profit in the third quarter, down slightly from last year as global energy prices remain depressed over concerns of too much oil being on the market.

Aramco’s results serve as a bellwether for the wider oil industry, which is still digesting the OPEC+ decision this weekend to halt planned production increases in the first quarter of next year over supply worries. Benchmark Brent crude, at just under \$65 a barrel, has been fluttering near a four-year low.

In filing on Riyadh’s Tadawul stock exchange, Aramco, formally known as the Saudi Arabian Oil Co., reported overall revenue of \$111 billion in the third quarter, compared with \$123 billion in the same period last year. Its profit in the third quarter last year was \$27.5 billion.

The figures slightly beat analysts’ projections.

“Aramco’s ability to adapt to new market realities has once again been demonstrated by our strong third quarter performance,” Aramco President and CEO Amin H. Nasser said in a statement. “We increased production with minimal incremental cost, and reliably supplied the oil, gas and associated products our customers depend

on.”

Under IFRS accounting standards, Aramco reported a net profit of \$27.9 billion based on an adjusted bookkeeping.

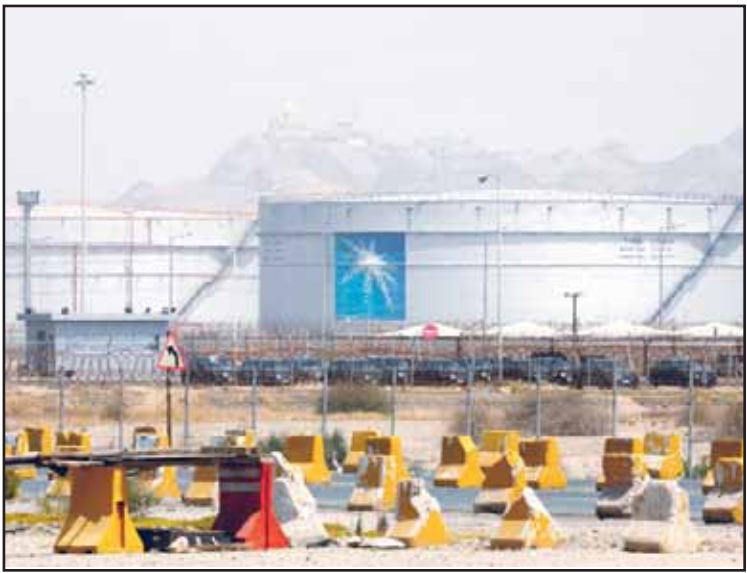
On Sunday, OPEC+ met and decided to increase its production by an additional 137,000 barrels of oil beginning in December. However, it said other adjustments planned in January, February and March of next year would be paused “due to seasonality.”

OPEC+ includes the core members of the cartel, as well as nations outside of the group led by Russia.

Aramco provides money crucial for Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman’s expansive development plans for the kingdom, including hosting the upcoming FIFA 2034 FIFA World Cup.

Saudi Arabia’s vast oil resources, located close to the surface of its desert expanse, make it one of the world’s least expensive places to produce crude. For every \$10 rise in the price of a barrel of oil, Saudi Arabia stands to make an additional \$40 billion a year, according to the Institute of International Finance.

The Saudi government owns the vast majority of the firm’s shares. Saudi Aramco publicly listed a sliver of its worth back in late 2019 and has weighed offering more shares publicly.



Storage tanks are seen at the North Jeddah bulk plant, an Aramco oil facility, in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, on March 21, 2021. (AP)



Sheikh Abdullah Nasser Al-Sabah, Burgan Bank’s Chairman, and Tony Daher, Group Chief Executive Officer of Burgan Bank.

a fixed coupon of 4.875% (spread of 115 basis points over US Treasuries), reinforces the Bank’s funding flexibility and supports its strategic growth initiatives.

The offering, aimed at international investors, attracted exceptional global demand, with an order book exceeding USD 1.9 billion—3.8 times the issuance size. Investor participation was geographically diverse, with 30% from the Middle East, 29% from UK / Europe, 38% from Asia, and 3% from the US, highlighting Burgan Bank’s strong reputation and broad appeal across key markets.

The successful issuance further enhances Burgan Bank’s liquidity profile, broadens its funding base, and positions the Bank to accelerate growth across Kuwait and regional markets, supporting its long-term strategic ambitions.

“This successful bond issuance reflects Burgan Bank’s strong position in international capital markets and underscores the confidence global investors have in our performance and growth strategy,” said Mr. Daher. “It reinforces our ability to execute our strategic objectives, strengthen our capital base, and continue delivering sustainable results for our stakeholders.”

This milestone highlights Burgan Bank’s financial resilience and the high level of investor confidence in its sustainable growth strategy. Rated A by Fitch and BBB+ by S&P, the bonds are scheduled for listing on the London Stock Exchange’s International Securities Market. Standard Chartered, HSBC, Citibank, Kamco Invest, and Mizuho acted as Global Coordinators, while ADCB, Bank ABC, DBS, ICBC, and Mashreq served as Joint Lead Managers.

Leading Digital Transformation with Excellence

As a steadfast supporter of Kuwait Vision 2035 and a proactive contributor to its goals of establishing a digital national economy, Burgan Bank continued to advance its robust digital transformation strategy, adopting new digital solutions and financial technologies that serve to elevate both banking and employment experiences.

On the customer experience front, Burgan Bank became the first in Kuwait to adopt and roll out Visa’s Click to Pay digital payment solution, offering customers a faster, safer, and more convenient way to complete in-store and online payments. By opting for this biometrics-powered payment service, customers are only required to enter their full card details once at registration, enabling them to complete all following payments with a single tap on their internet-enabled devices and approve transactions using fingerprint or face recognition technologies.

In addition, the Bank achieved a shared milestone for its IT and HR teams by signing a new partnership with global leader in enterprise applications and business AI, SAP. The new deal marks a major step toward deploying

the cutting-edge, full-suite human resources management (HRM) system, Success Factors. The deployment of this data-driven, AI-enabled integrated system is an extension of the Bank’s mission to become an employer of choice and offer employees a year-round, bespoke, and holistic learning and development experience that advances their personal and professional skills.

Testifying to the Bank’s leadership in digital transformation and the strength of its digital infrastructure, the International Organization for Standardization and the International Electrotechnical Commission approved the renewal of the Bank’s ISO/IEC 20000-1:2018 certification. The decision followed a rigorous external audit, which validated the efficiency, scalability, and continuous improvement of Burgan Bank’s IT operations.

Investing in Future-Ready National Talents

Another strategic pillar that Burgan Bank continued to fortify during Q3’25 is that of human capital investment, which aims to foster a culture of continuous learning and benefits both employees and members of the wider community. At the intersection of digital transformation and human capital development, Burgan Bank launched a first-of-its-kind program in Kuwait: Data Champion, developed in strategic partnership with CODED, the region’s first dedicated coding academy. The month-long internal bootcamp offered 12 employees an intensive, hands-on opportunity to acquire and practice essential data analytics skills, including Power BI, Excel dashboards, and data storytelling, in addition to modules on data management, data analytics, and data modeling, supported by real-world case studies tailored to banking scenarios.

At the culmination of the bootcamp, participants delivered a group capstone project, demonstrating their newfound skills in extracting insights, driving smarter decisions, and accelerating customer-centric innovation. The achievement was celebrated with a graduation ceremony attended by senior management and representatives from CODED.

Beyond its workforce, Burgan Bank shared its expansive digital transformation expertise with select representatives from Kuwait’s Ministry of Interior (MOI) in a three-month specialized training program, designed to equip national talents with essential digital skills needed to thrive in the digital era and lead Kuwait’s innovation and technology sectors.

Locally and Internationally Celebrated Achievements

Attesting to its outstanding performance and unwavering commitment to excellence, Burgan Bank was honored with the prestigious ‘Elite Quality Recognition Award’ for the year 2024 from J.P. Morgan Chase N.A., acknowledging the Bank’s committed adherence to the highest operational standards across the full range of clients’ USD fund transfers. This award placed Burgan Bank among a select group of institutions across the MENA region to receive the Elite category of the award for both its customer and bank-to-bank transfers.

On a national level, Burgan Bank was recognized by the Public Authority of Manpower as one of Kuwait’s most distinguished organizations for its outstanding achievements in Kuwaitization – which amounted to an exceptional 86% in 2024, marking one of the highest rates in Kuwait’s banking sector. This honorable recognition further affirmed the Bank’s commitment to investing in Kuwait’s national talents and qualifying a generation of aspiring calibers capable of leading the country’s vital sectors, including banking, finance, technology, and innovation.

Furthermore, Burgan Bank won the Brandon Hall Group Human Capital Management (HCM) Gold Award of Excellence for “Shaping Culture Through Learning”, under the “Best Learning Strategy” category. Earning its third consecutive Brandon Hall Excellence Award is a testament to the Bank’s unwavering commitment to developing national calibers as a key pillar of its sustainable growth.

In conclusion, Sheikh Abdullah Al-Sabah affirmed the Bank’s ongoing commitment to its comprehensive strategy for achieving long-term sustainable growth, with short-term plans that respond to investors’, customers’, and other stakeholders’ evolving needs, saying: “I am confident that the Bank’s exceptional professionals will uphold the same level of commitment to excellence over the course of the final quarter of 2025, laying the groundwork for a new year defined by grander goals and bigger achievements.”

Boursa Kuwait closes lower

General index drops 19.81 points to 8,958.73

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4, (KUNA): Boursa Kuwait closed Tuesday’s trading session in negative territory, with the general index declining 19.81 points, or 0.22 percent, to settle at 8,958.73 points. Trading activity included 788.7 million shares exchanged across 37,824 transactions,

with a total value of 139.1 million Kuwaiti dinars (approximately 452.6 million U.S. dollars).

The main market index recorded a drop of 48.84 points, or 0.57 percent, ending at 8,533.23 points, as 564 million shares were traded through 25,619 cash transactions totaling 60 million dinars (about 195.2 million dollars). The premier market index also edged lower by

13.54 points, or 0.14 percent, to close at 9,507.55 points. It saw 224.7 million shares traded in 12,205 transactions worth 79.1 million dinars (approximately 257.3 million dollars).

Meanwhile, the Main 50 Index declined 61.50 points, or 0.70 percent, finishing at 8,689.96 points, with 238.5 million shares changing hands through 13,458 transactions at a total value of 33.5 million dinars (about 109 million dollars).

Forum theme: ‘Together for Shared Prosperity’

Kuwait to host 9th EU-GCC Business Forum on Wed

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4, (KUNA): Kuwait will host the 9th European-Gulf Business Forum, themed “Together for Shared Prosperity,” on Wednesday under the patronage of His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, with participation from senior officials and business leaders.

The forum, chaired by Kuwait, will take place over two days at Abdullah Al-Salem Cultural Center, and is supported by the European Commission, the GCC Secretariat, Kuwait Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Kuwait Direct Investment Promotion Authority.

EU Commissioner for Trade, Economic Sec-

urity, and Institutional Cooperation, Maros Sefcovic, Vice President of the European Investment Bank, Ioannis Tsakiris, EU Special Representative for the Gulf region, Luigi Di Maio, and other key officials and business leaders from Europe and the GCC would participate in the forum.

The forum serves as a strategic platform to boost Gulf-European economic cooperation, promoting trade, investment, and knowledge exchange, while fostering partnerships that support diversification, sustainable growth, and cross-sector collaboration.

Forum sessions will address trade and invest-

ment opportunities, digital trade, regulatory reforms, creative industries, and SME market access, while also exploring cooperation in agri-tech, healthcare, tourism, education, food security, innovation, renewable energy, and artificial intelligence.

The event will also feature an exhibition and meetings between public and private sector representatives to explore cooperation and joint investment opportunities.

The 9th European-Gulf Business Forum builds on the 1988 cooperation agreement and the 2022-2027 joint action program, supporting GCC efforts to diversify their economies.

Why index funds & ETFs are good for retirees

Older adults likely began their investing careers before exchange-traded funds existed and have stuck with traditional mutual funds.

But as retirement approaches, many investors look at their portfolios with a fresh set of eyes and make adjustments.

And the more I work with in-retirement portfolios, the more I like ETFs and traditional index funds for several reasons:

For retirees who are using income distributions from their investments to help cover living expenses, the small fees levied by index funds and ETFs ensure that more of those payouts flow to them.

For total-return-oriented retirees who are rebalancing (trimming appreciated securities) to meet living expenses, index funds and ETFs also work well. These are typically pure plays on a given asset class, making it simple to identify which assets to scale back to deliver the retiree’s cash flow and restore the portfolio to its target asset allocation.

In addition to making it easy to extract cash flows, index funds and ETFs also do well in limiting a retiree’s oversight obligations.

Many retirees have better things to do than monitor news about their holdings. Retirees employing index funds do need to watch their total portfolios’ asset-allocation mixes, but most core-type index funds and ETFs change little on an ongoing basis. Moreover, because index-tracking ETFs and funds track a benchmark rather than trying to beat it, manager changes matter much less than with active funds.

Many retirees prize risk controls, and people sometimes say that active funds “earn their keep” in down markets.

While mild-mannered active equity funds, especially those focused on valuation and quality, might help lower a portfolio’s overall risk, the most dependable way to reduce a portfolio’s loss potential is by adjusting the stock/bond mix, not the underlying holdings.

Taxes are another area where index funds

and ETFs shine in retirement. Equity index funds and especially ETFs are incredibly tax-efficient relative to their actively managed counterparts.

Managing for tax efficiency is important at every life stage, but most important in retirement. Investors’ portfolios are often at their largest right before and during retirement; the share of the portfolio parked in taxable accounts is also apt to be highest then.

Holding more cash and bonds tends to lower a portfolio’s return potential; keeping expenses low helps ensure that investors keep more of their returns. Assume a retirement portfolio consists of a 10% cash position, 40% in bonds, and 50% in stocks and earns 5% on an annualized basis over the next decade.

If an investor pays 0.75% in expenses, her return shrivels to 4.25%; she has ceded 15% of her gains. But if she can limit expenses to 0.10% per year, her take-home return is 4.90%; she surrenders just 2% of her return. (AP)

Collaboration to accelerate launch of Sharia-compliant BNPL services

KFH signs collaboration and partnership agreement with Taly



Signing the partnership agreement.

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: Kuwait Finance House (KFH) has signed a collaboration and partnership agreement with Taly, a local Fintech company specializing in Buy Now, Pay Later (BNPL) solutions. The collaboration aims to accelerate Taly’s market launch and operational readiness, reaffirming KFH’s commitment to enhancing market capabilities, supporting business innovation, and promoting financial inclusion.

KFH Group Chief Corporate Banking Officer, Yousef Almutawa, said that the agreement reflects KFH’s leading role in supporting the corporate sector and driving the technological advancement of financial transactions. He added that the partnership represents a forward-looking step designed to improve performance within Kuwait’s payments market.

Almutawa noted that Taly operates within a Sharia-compliant regulatory framework and offers innovative service mechanisms that were key to KFH’s decision to collaborate. He emphasized that KFH actively supports innovative projects and modern ideas that enhance financial performance, stimulate economic activity, and promote sustainable growth.

He further affirmed that KFH is committed to enabling corporates to achieve digital transformation in financial transactions, creating a secure and attractive environment aligned with the latest global technologies and customer expectations.

Reeves warns of weaker economy

Britain’s Treasury Chief signals tax hikes ahead of Nov budget

LONDON, Nov 4, (AP): U.K. Treasury chief Rachel Reeves on Tuesday signaled she will raise taxes in her budget this month, arguing that the economy is sicker than the government knew when it took office last year.

Reeves gave a highly unusual speech, three weeks before the Nov. 26 budget, to brace voters and financial markets for the likelihood she will break an election pledge not to increase income taxes or sales tax.

“If we are to build the future of Britain together, we will all have to contribute to that effort,” she said, in a hint at broad tax increases. “Each of us must do our bit for the security of our country and the brightness of its future.”

Reeves cited interest payments on the U.K.’s 2.6 trillion pound (\$3.4 trillion) national debt and a lower-than-expected productivity assessment from the government’s economic forecaster as factors behind her decisions.

“The productivity performance that we inherited from the last government is weaker than we first thought,” Reeves said. “We’re putting in more, we’re getting out less.”

On top of that, “the world has thrown even more challenges our way,” including U.S. President Donald Trump’s tariffs, volatile supply chains and a rise in the cost of government borrowing, she said.

While many of the economic challenges are global, Reeves said Britain is especially exposed because of high debt left by “years of economic mismanagement” under the Conservative Party that was in power for 14 years until 2024.

The British economy, the sixth-largest in the world, has underperformed its long-run average since the global

financial crisis of 2008-2009, and the center-left Labour Party government elected in July 2024 has struggled to deliver the economic growth it promised.

Inflation remains stubbornly high and growth sluggish, frustrating efforts to repair battered public services and ease the cost of living.

Critics say Reeves has made things worse by being overly downbeat and increasing taxes on businesses in last year’s budget.

Conservative leader Kemi Badenoch dismissed Reeves’ speech as “a laundry list of excuses” that would leave business leaders and investors confused.

Reeves provided no details of what taxes she plans to raise. She said the budget would deliver “growth and fairness” and would focus on strengthening the overstretched public health service, reducing the national debt and getting inflation down to improve the cost of living.

Dan Coatsworth, head of markets at investment firm AJ Bell, said Reeves was under pressure to make “bolder decisions” on tax.

“Many people believe it is better to sort the situation out once and for all, rather than keep tinkering at the edges,” he said. “This feels like Reeves’s last chance to fix the house, otherwise her days could be numbered.”

As well as preparing for a budget with huge implications for the country and government, Reeves has faced criticism after a newspaper reported last week that she had broken the law by renting out her London house without a license from the local authority.

She apologized for what she called an inadvertent mistake, and Prime Minister Keir Starmer said he would not take action.

Temporarily blocked chip exports

China blames Netherlands for ‘chaos’ after Nexperia seizure

HONG KONG, Nov 4, (AP): China’s Commerce Ministry said Tuesday that the Netherlands’ seizure of Chinese-owned chipmaker Nexperia has caused “chaos” in the semiconductor supply chain that could threaten global auto production.

The Dutch government in late September took control of Nexperia, which is based in the Netherlands but owned by Chinese company Wingtech Technology, citing national security concerns. In response, China blocked shipments of chips from Nexperia’s plant in the southern Chinese city of Dongguan, though it has now allowed those exports to resume.

Nexperia’s Chinese unit said in late October that its Netherlands headquarters had suspended supplies of wafers used to make chips to its factory in China, raising concerns over its ability to deliver finished semiconductors used by many automakers.

“That has created turmoil and chaos in the global semiconductor supply chain,” the Commerce Ministry said in a statement Tuesday. “The Netherlands should bear full responsibility for this.”

The Netherlands also replaced Nexperia’s Chinese CEO Zhang Xuezheng with interim CEO Stefan Tilger.

In late 2024, the U.S. put Wingtech Technology, on its “entity list” that it deems to be acting against the U.S.’s national security interests, subjecting it to export controls. In late September, the U.S. expanded the list to include Wingtech’s subsidiaries, including

Nexperia, and the Netherlands then took control of the company.

Global automakers including Ford Motor have warned that China’s export restrictions on Nexperia’s semiconductors could disrupt car manufacturing.

Following U.S. President Donald Trump’s meeting with Chinese leader Xi Jinping in South Korea last week, the White House said China was moving to ease the export ban on Nexperia semiconductors as part of the latest trade truce between Washington and Beijing.

The EU’s trade commissioner Maroš Šefčovič said in a post Monday on X that talks regarding Nexperia and involving China and the Netherlands were progressing, saying that “work continues towards lasting stability”.

The Netherlands said last month it was willing to find a “constructive solution” with Chinese authorities to the Nexperia standoff, after its economic affairs minister, Vincent Karremans, spoke by telephone with China’s commerce minister, Wang Wentao.

Nexperia was acquired in 2018 by partially state-owned Wingtech for \$3.6 billion.

The Dutch ministry of economic affairs invoked its rarely used Goods Availability Act to effectively seize control of the company on Sept. 30. It said Nexperia’s governance “posed a threat to the continuity and safeguarding on Dutch and European soil of crucial technological knowledge and capabilities”.



Group photo.

of Taly, Bader AlBader said: “We’re pleased to enter this strategic partnership with KFH, which demonstrates the mutual trust in our shared vision for advancing Kuwait’s e-payment sector.”

He added: “This collaboration marks an important step toward strengthening innovation in Sharia-compliant digital payment solutions and reinforces Taly’s position as a leading Fintech player in the local ecosystem.”

AlBader explained that Taly provides its BNPL service fully digitally, allowing customers to shop in stores or online and split payments into four equal installments, free of interest or fees. In addition to full Sharia compliance, he noted that Taly distinguishes itself by offering a flexible and responsible payment experience that builds trust among consumers and partners alike.

Meanwhile, KFH Capital Senior Vice President - Private Equity Dept., Abdulmoshen Hamad Al Hamad, stated that the company has made a strategic investment in Taly through one of its subsidiaries. The move aligns with KFH Capital’s broader strategy to support Sharia-compliant Fintech innovation and strengthen its participation in this fast-growing sector. He added that the investment reflects the shared vision of KFH and KFH Capital to develop the financial innovation ecosystem in Kuwait and across the GCC through partnerships that create long-term value for merchants, consumers, and investors.

Almutawa:

- The partnership underscores KFH’s role in supporting businesses and technological transactions development

AlBader:

- The agreement enhances KFH’s vision to develop Kuwait’s e-payment sector

Al Hamad:

- KFH Capital’s investment in Taly promotes innovation and financial technology

Almutawa also highlighted KFH’s continuous role in helping corporate clients expand their operations by offering customized banking solutions. This support, he explained, is a core objective of the bank and reflects KFH’s social and economic mission to contribute to the national economy.

Commenting on the partnership, Chief Executive Officer and Co-founder

Congress has been dodging responsibility for tariffs for decades – now the Supreme Court will decide how far presidents can go alone

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



By Bedassa Tadesse

University of Minnesota Duluth

On Nov. 5, the U.S. Supreme Court will hear one of the most consequential trade cases in decades. The justices will decide whether a president can rely on a Cold War-era emergency law, the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, to impose sweeping import duties on a vast share of what the United States buys from abroad.

At stake is more than the scope of presidential power. The case highlights a deeper question of accountability: Who should decide what Americans pay for imported goods - the president acting alone, unelected judges reading emergency laws broadly, or the elected representatives who must face voters when prices rise?

When tariffs end up in court, it’s usually because Congress has failed to act. Over the past few decades, lawmakers have ceded much of their trade authority to presidents eager to move quickly - and the courts have been left to clean up the mess. Each new lawsuit makes it seem as though judges are running the economy when, in fact, they’re being pulled into policy questions they’re neither trained nor elected to answer.

As an economist, not a lawyer, I view this as more than a constitutional curiosity. It’s about how the world’s largest economy makes decisions that ripple through global markets, factory floors and family budgets. A duty on steel may help a mill in Ohio while raising bridge-construction and car-buying costs everywhere else. A tariff on electronics might nudge assembly onshore yet squeeze hospital and school budgets that depend on those devices.

These are choices about distribution - who gains, who pays, and for how long - that demand analysis, transparency and, above all, democratic ownership.

Congress didn’t exactly lose its tariff power; it gave it away.

The Constitution assigns “Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises” to Congress, not the White House. Historically, Congress set tariff lines in law - consider the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act of 1930. The pivot began with the Reciprocal Trade Agreement Act of 1934, which let presidents adjust rates within limits via executive agreements. In the 1960s and ’70s, Congress passed laws expanding the president’s authority over trade, granting new powers to restrict or adjust imports without a separate congressional vote if certain conditions are met.

In my view, two key incentives drove the drift: blame avoidance and gridlock. Tariffs are redistributive by design: They benefit some sectors and regions while imposing costs on others. Casting a vote that helps steelworkers in one state but raises prices for builders in another is politically risky. Delegating to the White House allowed lawmakers to sidestep the fallout when prices rise or when jobs shift.

And as polarization intensified, the bargaining that once produced

workable compromises became increasingly complex. Broad emergency statutes and open-ended delegations became the path of least resistance - fast, unilateral and insulated from negotiation. Over time, exceptions became the norm, and courts were tasked with resolving the gray areas.

That’s a poor way to run economic policy.

Judges interpret statutes and precedent; they don’t run general equilibrium models, forecast inflation paths or map supply chain rerouting. Evidence in court is confined to a single case file. Remedies are blunt: They are either to uphold, strike down or send back. Tariff design, by contrast, is about calibration: how high, how long, which sectors, which exclusions, what off-ramps, what triggers for renewal or repeal.

When lawsuits substitute for legislation, countries drift into policy by injunction. Companies see rules whipsaw; projects are delayed or shelved; households experience price swings that feel arbitrary; trading partners retaliate against policies they see as improvisational.

Accountability sits at the center of the problem. Most judges aren’t elected; lawmakers are. Lifetime tenure protects judicial independence - good for rights, bad for setting taxes. No one can vote out a court when tariffs push up the price of a school Chromebook or a contractor’s rebar.

Members of Congress, by contrast, must explain themselves. They can hold hearings, commission impact analyses, hear from unions and small businesses, and then defend the trade-offs. If tariffs save jobs in one town but raise prices nationwide, voters know exactly whom to reward or punish. That democratic link is why the Constitution places “Duties and Imposts” in the hands of Congress.

None of this means paralysis when it comes to trade policy. The United States has done this before - via trade-promotion and fast-track authorities that set clear goals and required renewal votes - while the EU and Japan have paired swift action with built-in legislative oversight.

Congress can be nimble without being reckless. Best practices for tariffs include setting clear targets using accessible language, having independent analysts conduct reviews before and after a tariff is put in place, and having diplomacy baked into a broader trade-security strategy that reports retaliation risks.

In my view, the Supreme Court’s role here is both modest and vital: to enforce the statute and the constitutional line.

If a general emergency law doesn’t clearly authorize sweeping, long-duration tariffs, it’s not activism to say so plainly. It’s boundary-keeping that returns the pen to Congress. What I think the court should avoid is appearing to write the tariff code from the bench. That swaps democratic ownership for judicial improvisation and guarantees more litigation as a strategy.

In theory, a more public, accountable system would also free everyone to focus on what they do best. That means economists measuring who gains and who pays, lawmakers weighing trade-offs and answering to voters, and courts enforcing the rules - not designing the policy. (AP)

Partnership lets OpenAI run AI systems on AWS data centers

OpenAI & Amazon sign \$38 bln deal for AI computing power

SEATTLE, Nov 4, (AP): OpenAI and Amazon have signed a \$38 billion deal that enables the ChatGPT maker to run its artificial intelligence systems on Amazon’s data centers in the U.S.

OpenAI will be able to power its AI tools using “hundreds of thousands” of Nvidia’s specialized AI chips through Amazon Web Services as part of the deal announced Monday.

Amazon shares increased 4% after the announcement.

The agreement comes less than a week after OpenAI altered its partnership with its longtime backer Microsoft, which until early this year

was the startup’s exclusive cloud computing provider.

California and Delaware regulators also last week allowed San Francisco-based OpenAI, which was founded as a nonprofit, to move forward on its plan to form a new business structure to more easily raise capital and make a profit.

“The rapid advancement of AI technology has created unprecedented demand for computing power,” Amazon said in a statement Monday. It said OpenAI “will immediately start utilizing AWS compute as part of this partnership, with all capacity targeted to be deployed before the end of 2026, and the ability to ex-

pand further into 2027 and beyond.”

AI requires huge amounts of energy and computing power and OpenAI has long signaled that it needs more capacity, both to develop new AI systems and keep existing products like ChatGPT answering the questions of its hundreds of millions of users. It’s recently made more than \$1 trillion worth of financial obligations in spending for AI infrastructure, including data center projects with Oracle and SoftBank and semiconductor supply deals with chipmakers Nvidia, AMD and Broadcom.

Some of the deals have raised investor concerns about their “circu-

lar” nature, since OpenAI doesn’t make a profit and can’t yet afford to pay for the infrastructure that its cloud backers are providing on the expectations of future returns on their investments. OpenAI CEO Sam Altman last week dismissed doubters he says have aired “breathless concern” about the deals.

“Revenue is growing steeply. We are taking a forward bet that it’s going to continue to grow,” Altman said on a podcast where he appeared with Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella.

Amazon is already the primary cloud provider to AI startup Anthropic, an OpenAI rival that makes the Claude chatbot.

Fund holds 1.16% stake, calls for constructive dialogue with Tesla

Big Tesla investor will vote against Musk’s massive pay package

OSLO, Nov 4, (AP): Norway’s sovereign wealth fund, one of Tesla’s biggest investors, said Tuesday that it will vote against a proposed compensation package that could pay CEO Elon Musk as much as \$1 trillion over a decade.

There will be more than a dozen company proposals up for a vote Thursday during Tesla’s annual meeting, but none have generated more division than Musk’s potentially massive pay package.

“While we appreciate the significant value created under Mr. Musk’s visionary role, we are concerned about the total size of the award, dilution, and lack of mitigation of key person risk consistent with our views on executive compensation,”

said Norges Bank Investment Management, which manages the country’s Government Pension Fund Global. “We will continue to seek constructive dialogue with Tesla on this and other topics.”

The fund has a 1.16% stake, the sixth largest holding among institutional investors. Baron Capital Management, which holds about 0.4% of Tesla’s outstanding shares said Monday that it will vote in favor of the compensation package.

“Elon is the ultimate “key man” of key man risk. Without his relentless drive and uncompromising standards, there would be no Tesla,” wrote founder Ron Baron.



President Donald Trump arrives at Joint Base Andrews, Md., on Air Force One, from a week-end trip to his Mar-a-Lago estate in Palm Beach, Fla., Sunday, Nov. 2. (AP)

‘60 Minutes’ anatomy

CBS lets viewers ‘see’ Trump interview edits

NEW YORK, Nov 4, (AP): During his “60 Minutes” interview, President Donald Trump called Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer a “kamikaze,” complained about investigators searching through his wife’s closet, spoke in detail about ending wars and turned the tables on interviewer Norah O’Donnell to ask about safety in Washington, D.C.

None of that was seen by people who watched the CBS telecast Sunday night.

Less than half of O’Donnell’s interview, conducted Friday, actually made it onto the air. But CBS posted a transcript and video of the full 73-minute discussion online, so viewers could see for themselves what the president said that the network deemed worthy for inclusion in the 28-minute on-air segment.

That offered viewers a rare look inside the editing process at one of journalism’s best-known institutions, showing the dozens of decisions on clarity and newsworthiness that go into telling the story you see on television.

Beyond “60 Minutes,” the process is essentially the same throughout the world of journalism, from local newspapers to The New York Times, from specialty websites to The Associated Press. In short: Much like the old notion that everyone’s a critic, with this move everyone can be an editor.

Release of the Trump “outtakes” contrasted with CBS’ treatment of the “60 Minutes” interview with Kamala Harris last fall. Trump sued CBS, claiming the interview with his Democratic opponent was deceptively edited, based on two different clips that were aired on the newsmagazine and “Face the Nation.”

Release

CBS did not release a transcript of its Harris interview for four months, and not until the Trump-controlled Federal Communications Commission had applied public pressure. On a routine basis, “60 Minutes” - and most journalists - don’t release raw material in this way.

If CBS News is going to change its practices routinely in the future, one former “60 Minutes” producer said it should be up front with its viewers about it. Tom Bettag, who worked at the broadcast in the 1980s and is now a journalism professor at the University of Maryland, said it’s a product of the times in which we live, but there’s a downside to the practice of letting people in on the editing.

“I think there’s a very good reason not to allow people to do that, in order to avoid the arguments of ‘you should have done this’ or ‘you should have done that,’” Bettag said. “The assumption has been that your audience trusts you to use good judgment and to be fair.”

From the very start, the edited Trump interview showed a clear difference from the raw material. On the broadcast, O’Donnell’s interview began with discussion of the government shutdown. But when the two actually sat down, she started by asking the president about his just-concluded meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping.

That’s essentially a call journalists make every day in crafting reports: Pick material to emphasize that seems the most newsworthy, or of interest to the most people.

“The newsiest portions made the broadcast, which is why programs edit in the first place,” Brian Stelter wrote about the “60 Minutes” interview for CNN’s “Reliable Sources” newsletter.

Broadcast

The first words out of Trump’s mouth - “Democrats’ fault” - came before O’Donnell even completed her question. That clearly showed where Trump was going, and the broadcast interview reflected that. But it was edited several times for length, to avoid tangents and the repetitiveness of partisan attacks.

Of Schumer, Trump said, “He would rather see the country fail than have Trump and the Republicans do well” - a comment left out of the broadcast.

Trump also told O’Donnell that she “should be ashamed” to be asking him about political retribution. That was left off the broadcast. Trump’s complaints about New York Attorney General Letitia James and former FBI director James Comey were abbreviated - although his comment that James was a “terrible, dishonest person” was left in.

“I was struck by how much of what didn’t air from the interview were the parts that seemed more rant-filled and often confusing,” wrote journalist Rick Ellis, who painstakingly compared transcripts of the full interview and what CBS broadcast for the website All Your Screens.

Trump brought up his predecessor, President Joe Biden, more than 40 times in the interview but only six instances made the broadcast, Ellis said. The headline for Ellis’ story read, “‘60 Minutes’ Edits (Most of) the Crazy Out of Its Interview with Donald Trump.”

CBS edited a handful of fact-checks into the “60 Minutes” story, most notably adding a military official’s refutation of Trump’s claim that China and Russia were testing nuclear weapons. There were a handful of missed opportunities, such as Trump’s claim that he was able to beat all of the legal “non-sense that was thrown at me.”

CBS removed an exchange during a discussion of crime in cities in which Trump asked O’Donnell whether she felt safer in Washington, D.C., after the president ordered the National Guard to patrol there. Generally, journalists like to keep the focus off themselves.

“You see a difference?” Trump asked her.

Responded O’Donnell: “I think I’ve been working too hard. I haven’t been out and about that much.”

‘An honor of a lifetime’

Bailey named People magazine’s 2025 Sexiest Man Alive

LOS ANGELES, Nov 4, (AP): Something has changed for “Wicked” star Jonathan Bailey, something is not the same - he is People magazine’s Sexiest Man Alive for 2025.

The magazine’s pick was announced Monday night on “The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon.” Bailey takes the mantle from “The Office” and “Jack Ryan” star John Krasinski, who was the 2024 selection.

“It’s a huge honor,” Bailey, 37, told the magazine. “Obviously, I’m incredibly flattered. And it’s completely absurd.”

Bailey had audiences swooning as Prince Fiyero in his 2024 big-screen debut in “Wicked,” the popular movie musical in which he proudly urges fellow students to join him in his shallowness. The second half arrives in theaters Nov. 21.

He dripped with charm as Lord Anthony Bridgerton on Netflix’s “Bridgerton,” and earned a 2024 Emmy nomination for his role in the Showtime series “Fellow Travelers.” Most recently, he starred in “Jurassic World Rebirth,” which came out in July.

Bailey told Fallon that the title was an “honor of a lifetime.”

“I’m sort of thrilled that People magazine have invited someone in - bestowed this honor on someone who can



Jonathan Bailey poses for photographers upon arrival at the premiere of the film ‘Jurassic World Rebirth’ June 17, 2025, in London. (AP)

really cherish the value of a sexy man,” he said.

Bailey told People that he’s known he wanted to be an actor since he was 5 years old and his grandmother took

him to see a production of the musical “Oliver!” Within two years he had achieved that dream, preforming with the Royal Shakespeare Company.

He’s had plenty of stage credits since then, including starring in Shakespeare’s Richard II in London earlier this year.

Bailey, who has spoken openly about being a gay actor, founded The Shameless Fund, which helps to support LGBTQ+ organizations.

“I know the LGBT sector is under immense threat at the moment,” he said. “So it’s been amazing to meet people who have the expertise and see potential that I could have only dreamed of.”

The first Sexiest Man Alive was Mel Gibson in 1985. Other past recipients include Brad Pitt, George Clooney, John F. Kennedy Jr., David Beckham, Michael B. Jordan, John Legend, Dwayne Johnson, Paul Rudd, Pierce Brosnan and Patrick Dempsey.

Bailey, who will be the cover story in People’s edition coming out Friday, had to stay tight-lipped about the news.

But he admitted to the magazine that he couldn’t keep it a complete secret - he shared to news with his dog Benson, who will also be featured in the magazine.

Film



This image released by Neon shows Stellan Skarsgård, (left), and Elle Fanning in a scene from ‘Sentimental Value.’ (AP)

Skarsgård shines in emotional tale of art and loss

‘Sentimental Value’ delivers relatable drama

LOS ANGELES, Nov 4, (AP): The focus of Joachim Trier’s “Sentimental Value” may be small and limited - one Norwegian family struggling to connect and communicate - and yet its emotional scope is downright cosmic. This is a film about life in the arts, about fulfillment and forgiveness, about performance, about stories true and falsely remembered, about home, about trauma, about allowing oneself to be seen and about some really excellent sweaters.

And at its heart is Stellan Skarsgård, doing some of his finest work in years as an acclaimed film director, Gustav Borg, who always chose his work over his family. Gustav is a familiar type, the kind of charismatic narcissist that professions like film director seem to attract and, often, exaggerate. He’s the kind who’s able to forge deep and meaningful connections with actors he’s just met and will only know for a few months that will produce great and lasting art. Yet his own daughters, Nora (Renate Reinsve) and Agnes (Inga Ibsdotter Lilleaas), may as well be strangers. Now with his career in danger of fading into retrospective territory, he’s trying to right those wrongs (and, you know, make a comeback) the only way he knows how: Making another movie. Some people never learn.

What better time to approach Nora about starring in it than right after her mother and his ex-wife’s death? It’s not so random: Nora is a rather celebrated actor in Oslo, though her preferred medium is the stage. She’s so good, in fact, that she continues to get lead roles despite being what one might de-

scribe as a difficult and unreliable member of the company. In an early scene, we watch her attempt numerous times to flee right as the curtain is about to go up. But Gustav doesn’t go see her plays. And she doesn’t care about his films, or him. He’s a drunk who was never there, she says. And so, without even reading the script that he excitedly says he wrote for her, she turns down the offer.

The wounds run deep in this family, tethered to a home that has spanned generations and all of the highs and lows of life through the decades, including Gustav’s mother’s imprisonment torture during World War II. It can sound tiresome and cliché to describe places and things as characters, but the extended metaphor here is lovely and real, a physical space that is metaphorically the only thing tying them together. Gustav even wants to use it as a set for his film, which gets a second life when he connects with an American movie star named Rachel Kemp (Elle Fanning) who is desperate to do something meaningful. Soon comes the Netflix money, and some fun “inside show business” moments as Rachel prepares to play a difficult-to-crack character inspired by Gustav’s mother, who many years ago died by suicide in their home. There are shades of “Persona” as Rachel dyes her hair to match Nora’s and tries to understand not just the character but Nora as well.

When Rachel decides to drop out of the project, Gustav slips into an unexpectedly tender and fatherly mode, perfect-

ly understanding, and comforting. When he cradles her head in with a gentle hug, it’s a lovely moment that’s laced with a melancholic truth: This is not something that Gustav has ever, or will ever, be able to do with his own kids.

In this group of wonderful performances, Lilleaas may be the real breakout for American audiences. As Agnes, she’s the one who her father chose to star in one of his films as a child and then walked away from acting entirely. Out of the bunch she seems to be the most well-adjusted, with a husband and son and ordinary concerns about money and protecting her older, more fragile sister. But beneath the surface, she has lingering pain too: For a brief moment, she was the center of her father’s world, and then it was gone. When he asks her if he can use her young son in his new film, the reaction is visceral and charged.

As in life, things kind of work themselves out and also kind of don’t. Trier and his longtime cowriter Eskil Vogt have deftly crafted a deeply humane and relatable story that feels whole and satisfying and cinematic without resorting to trite and tidy resolutions and redemptions.

It’s a tall task to follow up a smash like “The Worst Person in the World,” but “Sentimental Value” rises to the occasion: Mature, sharp, bittersweet and maybe even a little hopeful.

“Sentimental Value,” a Neon release in theaters Friday, is rated R by the Motion Picture Association for “a sexual reference, some language, brief nudity.” Running time: 133 minutes. Four stars out of four.

A gifted comic and dramatic performer

Actress Diane Ladd, 3-time Oscar nominee, dies at 89

OJAI, Calif., Nov 4, (AP): **Diane Ladd**, a three-time Academy Award nominee and actor of rare timing and intensity whose roles ranged from the brash waitress in “Alice Doesn’t Live Here Anymore” to the scheming parent in “Wild at Heart,” has died at 89.

Ladd’s death was announced Monday by daughter Laura Dern, who issued a statement saying her mother and occasional co-star had died at her home in Ojai, California, with Dern at her side. Dern, who called Ladd her “amazing hero” and “profound gift of a mother,” did not immediately cite a cause of death.

“She was the greatest daughter, mother, grandmother, actress, artist and empathetic spirit that only dreams could have seemingly created,” Dern wrote. “We were blessed to have her. She is flying with her angels now.”

A gifted comic and dramatic performer, Ladd had a long career in television and on stage before breaking through as a film performer in Martin Scorsese’s 1974 release “Alice Doesn’t Live Here Anymore.” She earned an Oscar nomination for supporting actor for her turn as the acerbic, straight-talking Flo, and went on to appears in dozens of movies over the following decades. Her many credits included “Chinatown,” “Primary Colors” and two other movies for which she received best sup-



Diane Ladd

porting nods, “Wild at Heart” and “Rambling Rose,” both of which co-starred her daughter. She also continued to work in television, with appearances in “ER,” “Touched by Angel” and “Alice,” the spinoff from “Alice Doesn’t Live Here Anymore,” among others.

Through marriage and blood relations, Ladd was tied to the arts. Tennessee Williams was a second cousin and first husband Bruce Dern, Laura’s father, was himself an Academy Award nominee. Ladd and Laura Dern achieved the rare feat of mother-and-daughter nominees for their work in “Rambling Rose” and they also were memorably paired in “Wild at Heart,” a personal favorite of Ladd’s and winner of the Palme d’Or at the 1990 Cannes Film Festival. In the dark, farcical David Lynch noir, her character, Marietta, is willing to try anything - including murder - to keep her daughter (Laura Dern) away from her ex-con lover, played by Nicolas Cage. Ladd would be called upon by the director for some Lynchian touches, and countered with some of her own.

“One day, the script said that Marietta gets in bed, curls up with her baby dog, and is sucking her thumb,” she told Vulture in 2024. “I looked at him and said, ‘David, I don’t want to do that.’ He said, ‘What do you want to do?’ I said, ‘I want to put on a long satin nightgown, I want to stand in the middle of the bed holding a martini and drinking it, and I want to sway to the old music within my head.’ He said OK, I did it, and he loved it.”

A native of Laurel, Mississippi, Ladd was born Rose Diane Ladner and was apparently destined to stand out.

In her 2006 memoir, “Spiraling Through the School of Life,” she remembered being told by her great-grandmother that she would one day in “front of a screen” and would “command” her own audiences. Before “Alice Doesn’t Live Here Anymore,” she had been working in television since the 1950s, when she was in her early 20s, with shows including “Perry Mason,” “Gunsmoke” and “The Big Valley.”

By the mid-1970s, she had lived out her fate well enough to tell The New York Times that no longer denied herself the right to call herself great.

“Now I don’t say that,” she said. “I can do Shakespeare, Ibsen, English accents, Irish accents, no accent, stand on my head, tap dance, sing, look 17 or look 70.”

Ladd was married three times, and divorced twice - from Bruce Dern and from William A. Shea, Jr. In 1976, around the time her second marriage ended, she told the Times that neither of her husbands knew “how to show love.”

“I come from the South and from a man, my father, who gave me rocking chair love. My people pass love around, and why I selected two men who needed someone to give love and didn’t know how to give it. ...” She paused. “I hope I won’t repeat that again.” Ladd’s third marriage, to author-former PepsiCo executive Robert Charles Hunter, lasted from 1999 until his death in August.

Singer fuses operatic pop with global sounds

Rosalía’s new album ‘Lux’ is unlike anything in mainstream music

NEW YORK, Nov 4, (AP): Before Rosalía became an international pop powerhouse, she was Rosalía Vila Tobella, a student of flamenco at the hypercompetitive Catalonia College of Music. There, she learned Spain’s folkloric traditions. And then she broke away from them, bringing heritage performance into modern style.

On her fourth studio album, her sonic rebellions have come full circle. “Lux” is an offbeat, full-hearted embrace of her classical training through huge orchestral movements. It is also a demanding collection meant for keen listeners. That is accomplished with the use of 13 different languages, a phonetic miracle all performed by Rosalía. If there is a single avant-garde saving grace in the pop music landscape, it’s here. It’s maximalist, it’s “Lux.”

The first taste of “Lux” was “Berghain,” named after the famed Berlin club, featuring Björk, a Catalan choir, the experimentalist Yves Tumor and the London Symphonic Orchestra. Allow that to be its own kind of provocation: Berghain is known for debauchery; Rosalía positions her “Berghain” as a kind of divinity, singing in a distinctly operatic style - one of the album’s central themes explored with a kind of Nick Cave-esque ethos.

“This is divine intervention,” Björk joins the orchestra. “The only way to save us is through divine intervention.” Yves Tumor jumps in with their own solace,



This image released by Columbia Records shows ‘Lux’ by Rosalía. (AP)

quoting Mike Tyson’s profane 2002 attack on Lennox Lewis. Surprises, Rosalía has a few.

It’s been three years since the celebrated “Motomami” further cemented her unique position as a genre-

agnostic talent, one who could combine flamenco with reggaeton, bachata, future-tech and Björk-indebted ballads. It was clear then that Rosalía offered something in fiercely short supply in the modern pop landscape - something truly new, asymmetrical - as well as offering something quite familiar: concerns around cultural appropriation. Rosalía, a white Catalan woman, was experimenting with Afro-Caribbean genres like dembow, and receiving worldwide acclaim for it. But those looking for “Motomami” will be hard-pressed to find it on the 18-track, hourlong “Lux.” The album is less concerned with Latin trap club bangers and instead delves into a profound contemporary classicism in sound and stylistic Catholicism in content.

Hits, here, are hidden and unusual - “Porcelana,” performed partially in Japanese, “De Madrugá,” with its Ukrainian and unexpected key change, the movements of “Dios Es Un Stalker” and the swaying “La Perla,” which will no doubt inspire fan theories about Puerto Rican singer Rauw Alejandro.

Joys, however, are not hard to parse. Like the ancestral rhythms of “La Rumba Del Perdón,” written with El Guincho (a frequent collaborator who doesn’t make many appearances on the album), or the ascendant and operatic “Mio Cristo,” performed entirely in Italian. Stay tuned for the break at the end, where the curtain is pulled back for a brief second on Rosalía’s process. “That’s gonna be the energy,” she smiles af-

ter a refined falsetto. “And then-” she’s cut off by its cinematic coda.

Singing in different languages, for Rosalía, functions like accessing different instruments each with their own phrasing. Where words like “experimental” and “avant-garde” can connote a kind of otherworldliness - looking elsewhere for inspiration - “Lux” is, in some ways, grounded in Earth; it is innovative because it endeavors to connect with the world through words and sonic movements. Humanity is an arduous tight-rope to walk across such an ambitious collection.

“If I could, I would have sung in all the languages of the world,” Rosalía said during a press conference in Mexico City last week. “If I could, I would have put the whole world on this record.”

That much is clear. “Lux” is a record that Rosalía could not have created before this moment. There’s also a sense that the title “Lux,” is more like “Luxe” and less like the Latin word for “light,” in reference to the album’s grandeur and orchestration. It could also suggest the luxury of time. In an industry that is subject to instant gratification brought on by algorithmic unrealities, where pop stars are expected to tour and release albums on yearlong cycles, Rosalía agonized over an album far more complex and iconoclastic than obvious, the result of big business pressures. Give it real attention, give it real active listening, and there are real pleasures to be unearthed.

Fashion



Leslie Bibb attends the CFDA Fashion Awards.



Reneé Rapp at the CFDA Fashion Awards. (AP)



Saweetie attends the CFDA Fashion Awards, hosted by The Council of Fashion Designers of America, at The American Museum of Natural History on Monday, Nov. 3, in New York. (AP)



Barbara Palvin attends the CFDA Fashion Awards. (AP)



Nina Dobrev attends the CFDA Fashion Awards. (AP)

Variety

LONDON: Artificial intelligence company Stability AI mostly prevailed against Getty Images Tuesday in a British court battle over intellectual property.

Seattle-based Getty Images, which owns an extensive online library of images and video, had filed suit against Stability AI in a widely watched case that went to trial at Britain’s High Court in June.

The case was among a wave of lawsuits filed by movie studios, authors and artists challenging tech companies’ use of their works to train AI chatbots.

According to a judge’s ruling released Tuesday, Getty narrowly won its argument that Stability had infringed its trademark, but lost its claim for secondary infringement of copyright.

Both sides claimed victory.

“This is a significant win for intellectual property owners,” Getty Images said in a statement.

Stability said it was pleased with the ruling.

“This final ruling ultimately resolves the copyright concerns that were the core issue,” Stability General Counsel Christian Dowell said. Getty argued that the development of Stability’s AI image maker, called Stable Diffusion, was a “brazen infringement” of its library of images “on a staggering scale.” (AP)

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NEW YORK: Donna Jean Godchaux-MacKay, a soulful mezzo-soprano who provided backing vocals on such 1960s classics as “Suspicious Minds” and “When a Man Loves a Woman” and was a featured singer with the Grateful Dead for much of the 1970s, has died at 78.

A spokesperson for Godchaux-MacKay confirmed that she died Sunday at Alive Hospice in Nashville after having cancer. Godchaux-McKay and other Grateful Dead members were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1994.

Born Donna Jean Thatcher in Florence, Alabama, she had yet to turn 20 when she became a session performer in nearby Muscle Shoals, where many soul and rhythm and blues hits were recorded, and also was on hand for numerous sessions at the Memphis-based American Sound Studio. Her credits included Elvis Presley’s “Suspicious Minds,” Percy Sledge’s “When a Man Loves a Woman” and songs with Neil Diamond. (AP)

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BEIRUT: Mona Ziade, who covered major events out of the Middle East during the 1980s and ‘90s for The Associated Press, including the taking of Western hostages during Lebanon’s civil war and Arab-Israeli peace talks, died Tuesday. She was 65.

Ziade died at her home in Beirut from complications of lung cancer after undergoing treatment for months, her daughter, Tamara Blanche, said.

Ziade, a dual citizen of Lebanon and Jordan, launched her journalism career with United Press International in Beirut in 1978 before joining the AP four years later. She spent much of her career covering Lebanon’s 15-year-civil war and Palestinian affairs. (AP)

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SUNDERN, Germany: Germany’s growers have started to cut their Christmas trees in anticipation of a tradition that’s around 500 years old.

Germans have been celebrating Christmas with decorated trees for centuries. In the 19th century the tradition spread elsewhere in Europe, and immigrants took the custom to the United States. “For us, it’s actually just before Christmas now,” Eberhard Hennecke told The Associated Press on Monday in the western Sauerland region. “The harvest is beginning here, and that naturally means things are getting a little hectic.”

Hennecke said the region produces around a third of Germany’s Christmas trees.

Most trees are sold in cities. But it has become increasingly popular for families to cut down trees on site. Some tree farms now offer mulled wine and snacks. (AP)

Exhibition to chart monarch’s life and her 70-year reign

Buckingham Palace to showcase Queen Elizabeth II’s fashion

LONDON, Nov 4, (AP): The largest-ever exhibition of the late Queen Elizabeth II’s fashion, including the opulent gowns she wore for her wedding and coronation, will go on display at Buckingham Palace next year to mark the centenary of her birth, officials said Tuesday.

The landmark royal exhibition will feature some 200 items - about half of them never publicly displayed before - that chart the monarch’s life and her historic 70-year reign.

Elizabeth, who died in September 2022 at 96, was the longest-reigning monarch Britain has ever known, and her clothing archive is considered one of the most important collections of 20th-century British fashion.

She would have celebrated her 100th birthday on April 21, 2026.

Highlights include a tulle bridesmaid dress worn by an 8-year-old Princess Elizabeth in 1934 and many beautifully tailored couture dresses by the monarch’s most influential designer, Norman Hartnell.

Hartnell was the man behind an apple-green gown the queen wore for a state banquet given for U.S. President Dwight D. Eisenhower in Washington, D.C. in 1957; a pastel blue gown with matching jacket that Elizabeth wore for her sister Princess Margaret’s 1960 wedding; as well as



Britain’s Queen Elizabeth II, (far left), and her husband, Prince Philip, (far right), stand with President Dwight Eisenhower, (second from left), and first lady Mamie at the White House in Washington, Oct. 17, 1957. (AP)

the queen’s own wedding and coronation dresses.

Visitors to the exhibition will also see items from Elizabeth’s private, off-duty wardrobe, from her riding clothes and Harris tweed jackets to raincoats and headscarves, as well as design sketches and fabric samples that give an insight into the

process of dressing her.

While the queen was known for her elegant and conservative style, the collection included a somewhat surprising and avant-garde item: A clear transparent raincoat by the couturier Hardy Amies, made in the 1960s.

The raincoat was designed to allow Elizabeth’s bright daywear to be visible to crowds no matter the weather.

The display will also include pieces by three contemporary British designers - Erdem Moralioglu, Richard Quinn and Christopher Kane - influenced by the monarch’s style to highlight her legacy.

“Queen Elizabeth II’s wardrobe is one of the most significant living archives in modern fashion history. From the decline of the court dressmaker to the rise of couturiers like Hartnell and Hardy Amies, her garments tell the story of Britain and its changing identity through fashion,” Kane said.

“For designers and students, it offers a master-class in silhouette, construction, repetition, symbolism and, perhaps most importantly, restraint,” the designer added.

“Queen Elizabeth II: Her Life In Style” will be staged at Buckingham Palace from April 10, 2026 to Oct. 18, 2026. Tickets go on sale Tuesday.

‘Early detection can raise breast cancer survival to 99%’

Breast surgery in Gulf sees unprecedented advances: Dr. Majid

By Marwa Al-Bahrawi
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: Dr. Kamila Majid, a general surgeon specializing in breast, oncological, and reconstructive surgery in Bahrain, says breast surgeries in the Gulf region are experiencing an unprecedented qualitative leap, positioning them among the world’s leading centers.

In an interview with the daily, Dr. Majid highlighted that advancements in this field are progressing along three main axes - precision medicine, smart conservative surgeries, and integrated reconstructive surgery.

She said modern medicine no longer follows the principle of “one treatment for all,” but instead relies on genetic and molecular analysis of each tumor.

Below are the details on the interview held with Dr. Kamila Majid:

Q. To begin, tell us about the most prominent recent developments in breast and oncological surgeries in the region.

A. Our Gulf region is witnessing qualitative leaps that place us among the world’s leading medical centers. The most prominent of these developments can be summarized in three main axes.

The first is the revolution in precision and personalized medicine. We have moved from the stage of “one treatment for all” to treatments tailored to each patient. Today, we analyze the ge-

netic and molecular profile of the tumor using techniques such as Oncotype DX and others to determine whether a patient requires chemotherapy or other targeted therapies. This advancement has spared thousands of women from unnecessary treatments and significantly improved cure rates.

The second focus is conservative surgeries and smart technologies. The goal is now “removing the disease while preserving beauty.” We aim to precisely remove the tumor while preserving as much normal breast tissue as possible. A main tool in this process is the use of indocyanine green (ICG) dye, which helps identify sentinel lymph nodes with fluorescence illumination. This reduces the need for extensive lymph node removal and lowers the risk of chronic arm swelling (lymphedema).

The third focus is reconstructive surgery as an integral part of treatment. Breast reconstruction is no longer considered a luxury but an essential component of the treatment plan. Today, we offer immediate reconstructive surgery, where the tumor is removed and the breast is reconstructed in the same session. This enhances the patient’s psychological well-being, accelerates recovery, and restores self-confidence.

During my residency in Moscow, I conducted research on breast tumors and developed a new technique for surgically removing benign fibroadenomas in collaboration with Professor Igor Vladimirovich Reshetov. This technique uses fluorescent ICG to precisely target the tumor before and during

surgery, enabling complete tumor removal while preserving healthy tissue, minimizing incision size, and improving cosmetic outcomes. Initial results are very encouraging, and I anticipate this technique will become a new global standard for benign tumor surgery.

Q. How do you view the importance of early detection in increasing breast cancer survival rates?

A. Early detection is the cornerstone in the fight against breast cancer and the most effective way to increase survival rates. When a tumor is identified in its early stages, survival rates exceed 95 percent, and in some cases, can reach 99 percent.

In the early stages, treatment is simpler, less physically and psychologically demanding, and often limited to surgery and sometimes radiation therapy. Delayed diagnosis, however, requires more intensive treatment and leads to greater suffering. Unfortunately, in the Gulf region, a significant number of cases are still diagnosed late, with statistics showing that around 58 percent of cases are discovered at advanced stages.

I advise every woman to begin screening without hesitation. Regular screening after the age of forty is essential for survival.

Q. What is Bahrain’s position regionally and globally in terms of early cancer detection and incidence rates?

A. Bahrain holds a leading position in the health sector both regionally and within the Arab world. The incidence

rate of breast cancer in Bahrain is similar to other Gulf countries, but it remains the most common cancer among women. Our high detection rate does not indicate a higher prevalence of the disease; rather, it reflects the strength of our monitoring and early diagnosis systems.

Significant progress has been achieved through national programs, specialized centers like the Bahrain Oncology Center, and government and private hospitals equipped with advanced technologies.

Our future goal is to expand periodic screening programs to reach a larger number of women and ensure cases are diagnosed at the earliest stages.

Q. What distinguishes reconstructive surgery today? How has it affected the psychological well-being of patients after tumor removal?

A. Reconstructive surgery today represents a true revolution. It is no longer performed as a separate procedure after tumor removal but is now an integral part of the treatment itself. One of its most significant advantages is immediate reconstruction, which spares patients the trauma of breast loss and greatly reduces the psychological impact.

Reconstructive options have advanced significantly, ranging from implants to autologous tissue or fat grafting, achieving natural-looking results. Microsurgical and robotic techniques allow for highly precise tissue transfer, ensuring the success of the procedure.

Leadership of action under threat

EU tries to forge new climate goals before the COP30 summit in Brazil

BRUSSELS, Nov 4, (AP): The European Union is attempting to forge new climate goals on Tuesday before the UN climate talks in Brazil starting next week.

Ministers from across the 27-nation bloc are meeting in Brussels to try and get at least 15 to align their nationally-determined emissions targets in order to have a stronger negotiating position during the COP30 summit in Belém.

“We need to show to the world that we are leaders in climate change. We need to deliver adequate signals for investors. Today’s the day,” Spanish climate minister Sara Aagesen said before the meeting.

The EU’s long-held leadership of action on climate is under threat by domestic and international pressure.

Wildfires, heat waves, and floods have disrupted life across Europe, spurring calls for more climate action. But crises like Russia’s war in Ukraine, and a newly volatile relationship with the United States, have increased political and economic pressure to curtail flagship environmental policies.

A recent weakening of a deforestation law by the European Commission, the EU’s executive arm, disturbed environmentalists. They worried that it signaled a deeper disenchantment with green priorities by European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen. In February, she had announced an economic policy that some said eroded her 2019 Green Deal. But von der Leyen said in September that “the world can count on Europe’s climate leadership” and pledged that the EU is “on our way to climate neutrality” and would slash carbon emissions by 90% by 2040.

She has linked climate investment to sovereignty and defense, arguing that a self-reliant Europe can better face threats like disruptive tariffs or export controls, armed conflict and environmental disasters.

Many EU governments have shifted to the right since the Paris Agreement in 2015. Some see climate regulations as shackling the economy, while others say Europe will either



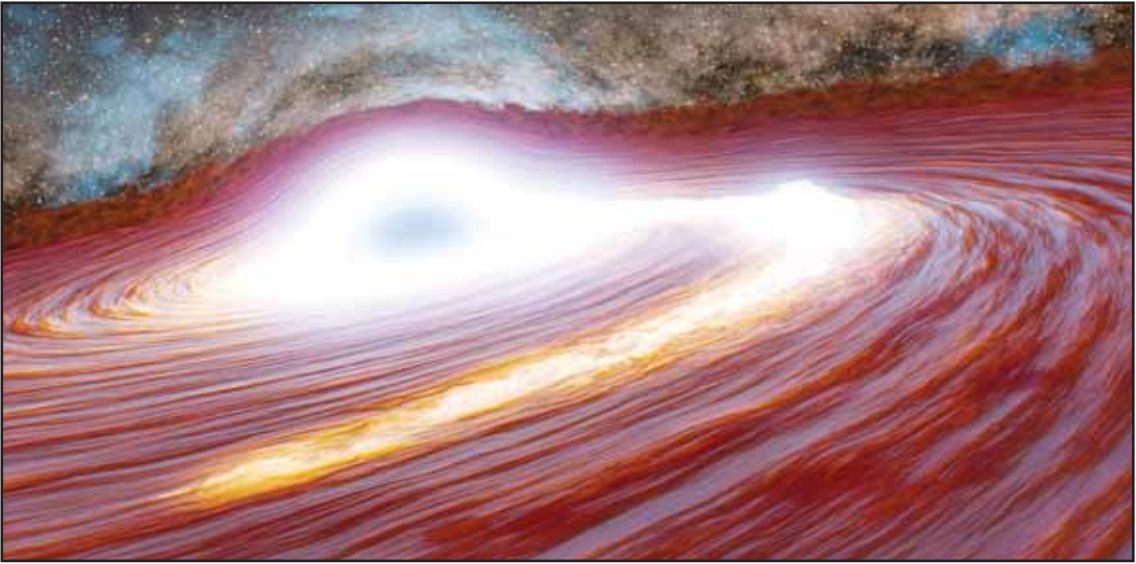
European Commissioner for Climate, Net-Zero and Clean Growth Wopke Hoekstra speaks with the media as he arrives for a meeting of EU Environment ministers at the European Council building in Brussels, Belgium, Tuesday, Nov. 4. (AP)

make and sell renewables or be forced to buy energy or green products from countries like China.

Wopke Hoekstra, the EU’s climate commissioner, said that the bloc needed to “bridge climate action with competitiveness and industrial savviness, if you will, and independence that is going to be the name of the game in the years that we have ahead of us.”

“We’ll do our utmost to be successful, but it takes 27 to tango,” he said of the negotiations on Tuesday.

The U.S. decision to withdraw from the Paris Agreement and set back its climate goals has rattled Europe, whose climate vision was in part forged in partnership with the Democratic administrations of U.S. Presidents Barack Obama and Joseph Biden.



This illustration provided by Caltech shows a supermassive black hole shredding a large star to pieces, leading to a bright flare. (AP)

Experts spot brightest-ever flare from supermassive black hole

Scientists have spotted the brightest flare yet from a supermassive black hole that shines with the light of 10 trillion suns. These bursts of light and energy can come from things like tangled-up magnetic fields or hiccups in the heated gas disks surrounding black holes. The flares help illuminate researchers’ understanding of the black holes within.

The latest cosmic display was spotted in 2018 by a camera at the Palomar Observatory in California. It took about three months to shine at peak brightness and has been decaying in the years since.

It likely happened because a large star wandered too

close to the black hole and got shredded to pieces.

“At first, we didn’t really believe the numbers about the energy,” said study author Matthew Graham with the California Institute of Technology, which operates Palomar.

The new findings were published Tuesday in the journal Nature Astronomy.

The flare came from a supermassive black hole that’s 10 billion light years away, making the flash the most distant one observed so far. It hails from a time when the universe was rather young. A light year is nearly 6 trillion miles (9.7 trillion kilometers). (AP)

WHO calls for ceasefire, humanitarian aid access

Sudan faces world’s largest food crisis with famine confirmed in some areas

GENEVA, Nov 4, (Agencies): Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus on Monday warned over the worsening humanitarian situation in Sudan, saying “Sudan remains the world’s largest food crisis with famine confirmed in (El Fasher) and (Kadugli) towns”.

Ghebreyesus added on his official account on (X) that an additional 20 areas across Greater Darfur and Greater Kordofan are at risk of famine and over 21 million people across the country are hungry.

He called for an immediate ceasefire and unhindered access for humanitarian aid to prevent further deterioration and save lives, urging the international community to intensify efforts to support the Sudanese people and to act swiftly to prevent further decline and protect lives.

Earlier in the day, the IPC Famine Review Committee (FRC) confirmed for the second time in less than a year that



This photo released by The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), shows displaced women and children from el-Fasher at a camp where they sought refuge from fighting between government forces and the RSF, in Tawila, Darfur region, Sudan, Monday, Nov. 3. (AP)

famine is occurring in parts of Sudan.

According to the committee, as of September 2025 El Fasher (North Darfur) and the besieged town of Kadugli (South Kordofan) have been classified as being in Famine (IPC Phase 5) with reasonable evidence, adding that

these conditions are expected to persist through January 2026.

The committee further noted that conditions in the besieged town of Dilling (South Kordofan) appear similar to those in Kadugli but the lack of sufficient data prevents formal IPC classification.

The IPC explained that famine is characterized by a total collapse of livelihoods, starvation, extremely high levels of malnutrition and death.

Two regions of war-torn Sudan are enduring a famine that is at risk of spreading to other areas of the sprawling northeastern African country, where paramilitary fighters have been battling the military for power for more than two years, a global hunger monitoring group said Monday.

Famine is happening in el-Fasher, a major city in the western Darfur region, and the town of Kadugli, in the southern South Kordofan province, the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification said in a new report.

Experts warn tests have limits

At-home gut microbiome tests are everywhere, should you get one?

NEW YORK, Nov 4, (AP): At-home gut microbiome tests are trending, selling insights to the curious, empowerment to the chronically ill and a claimed path to longevity to the wellness-conscious.

Private companies are offering tests, costing \$100 to \$500 or more, that promise a bacterial inventory of your intestines.

But can microbiome tests actually provide actionable health information? As more patients arrive at doctors appointments with results in hand, frustrated gastroenterologists want people to know the tests have limits.

Inside our intestines, entire ecosystems of bacteria help us digest our food, absorb key vitamins, combat inflammation and much more. Research shows a healthy gut microbiome may play a role in preventing things like liver disease and diabetes and could even influence mental health.

The gut microbiome is incredibly complex and our understanding of it “is in its infancy,” said Dr. Mark Benson, a gastroenterologist for the University of Wisconsin-Madison’s health system.

“But there’s growing evidence that there are changes in the gut microbiome that are associated with different diseases, including diabetes, liver disease, obesity and inflammatory bowel disease,” he said.

There’s a key catch, though: In many cases, it’s unclear if the gut microbiome change is the cause - or an effect - of the disease.

On top of that, each person’s gut microbiome is unique, like a fingerprint. It can even vary within one person’s gut.

“Most of the variability between people, we don’t understand,” said Dr. Eamonn Quigley, the chief of gastroenterology and hepatology at Houston Methodist Hospital, who has spent 30 years researching the gut microbiome and disorders of gut-brain interactions, like irritable bowel syndrome.

In most cases, a microbiome test in-



This photo provided by Tiny Health in October 2025 shows the company’s swab for their gut health test. (AP)

volves taking a stool sample, usually using a swab or a wipe for collection. The samples are mailed to a lab for analysis.

The companies then provide a report of how the person’s mix of gut microbes compares with a supposed ideal, or outlines where things are imbalanced.

These direct-to-consumer tests are not meant for clinical use and are not federally regulated, so it’s nearly impossible to say how reliable they are. Different companies can set different standards and methods for their tests.

That raises many questions for doctors: Is the sample collection consistent and reliable? What is the science behind the benchmarks they are comparing results to? Is the stool the best place from which to take a sample, or should it come from higher up in the gut?

Physicians sometimes order stool tests, but they typically are looking for specific problems: infections, inflammation from foodborne illnesses or antibiotic use, or cancer.

When patients come in with their own results from an over-the-counter test, there is little advice to give.

“If you talk to patients, these tests are appealing. They’re cool. They’re all this data,” said Dr. Sean Spencer,

a physician scientist at Stanford University. The frustration for doctors, he said, is with the lack the tools to change the microbiome.

Spencer, Quigley and Benson have all had patients bring them the results of microbiome tests. But antibiotics and diet are really the only proven tools doctors have to change the gut microbiome, Spencer said.

Occasionally, the tests show a measure of inflammation in the gut or pancreatic function that can be useful to doctors, Quigley said. But beyond that, “for most people, they’re actually wasting their money,” he said.

The list of gut bugs and purported imbalances don’t align with any medically backed treatments, the doctors said.

“The technology is jumping ahead of the clinical application,” said Quigley. “Just because you can measure something doesn’t mean to say it’s worthwhile.”

The companies offering tests say they are not treating any specific conditions. But many of them - some 45%, according to a March 2024 article in Science Policy Forum - also sell supplements that they recommend to customers alongside their results.

Moderate exercise may protect brain

5,000 steps a day slow Alzheimer’s effects

MELBOURNE, Nov 4, (Xinhua): Walking 5,000 to 7,500 steps a day may help slow brain changes linked to Alzheimer’s disease, according to Australian and international researchers.

The study, published in Nature Medicine, tracked 294 adults aged 50 to 90 with normal brain function for up to 14 years, monitoring their daily steps, brain function and build-up of Alzheimer’s-linked proteins in the brain, according to a statement released Tuesday by the scientific journal’s publisher Springer Nature on the Australian Science Media Center website.

Higher physical activity was linked to a slower decline in brain function, which was in turn linked to a slower accumulation of Alzheimer’s-related proteins in the brain, it said.

Those who show signs of early Alzheimer’s in their brains may be able to slow its development with moderate daily ex-

ercise, said researchers from Australia’s University of Melbourne, the Mass General Brigham affiliated with Harvard Medical School in the United States and the University of Toronto in Canada.

According to the study, participants who took more than 5,000 steps per day showed a slower decline in memory and thinking, which was tied to reduced buildup of tau, a protein associated with Alzheimer’s progression.

Tau accumulation and cognition plateaued at a moderate activity level of 5,001-7,500 steps per day, researchers said, adding even modest exercise, around 3,000 to 5,000 steps, was linked to notable slowing of tau accumulation and cognitive decline.

With the widespread use of digital wearables, such as smart watches, the study highlights “an accessible physical activity goal that could encourage greater engagement among older sedentary adults.”

Mice perfect for life sciences experiments

China’s ‘mice astronauts’ thriving in space

BEIJING, Nov 4, (Xinhua): Footage of four mice living aboard China’s space station alongside the Shenzhou-21 astronaut crew has recently been transmitted back to Earth, revealing these small animals in good spirits and in an apparent state of well-being.

The video shows astronauts retrieving the experiment facilities containing the mice from a specialized transport bag. They then installed the facilities in orbit and connected them to the power supply. Once activated, the device maintained a stable internal temperature of around 26 degrees Celsius.

In the footage, the mice can be seen taking turns resting in shelter nests inside the facilities and occasionally climbing actively along the cage walls -- appearing lively and well-adapted.

They quickly located the rodent food and began eating while making slight head movements, exhibiting normal feeding behavior after their arrival on the space station. The shelter nests also proved functional, offering the mice a sense of security.

When the facilities were initially unpacked, floating feces and food debris were visible inside. After powering on the facilities, directional air flow within them was activated to blow hair, feces and other garbage toward a sticky surface at the bottom -- ensuring a clean and hygienic environment for the mice.

As a key model animal in the field of life sciences, mice feature several advantages -- high genetic similarity to humans, small body size and short reproductive cycle, and a high amenability to genetic modification, said Huang Kun, an expert from the Technology and Engineering Center for Space Utilization of

the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS).

“These traits make them ideal for studying physiological and pathological processes, as well as the growth, development and reproduction of living organisms in space,” he said.

To qualify as “animal astronauts,” the mice underwent a series of rigorous tests designed to evaluate their physical and psychological adaptability.

The first stage assessed physical fitness, with the mice placed on a specially designed “exercise bike” -- essentially an accelerating rotating rod, where they had to maintain their position for a set duration. This tested their strength, endurance and grip.

The next challenge focused on motion sickness resistance. Using a two-dimensional rotating device, researchers exposed the mice to multi-directional, prolonged spinning -- helping them adapt to conditions that could cause space motion sickness.

Behavioral screening was also conducted. By suspending the mice upside down, researchers observed their struggle response, selecting those that actively resisted -- identified as the more resilient “optimists.” Maze tests further evaluated their spatial cognition and adaptive skills, ensuring they could navigate and find food even in a weightless environment.

According to experts, after completing all tests, the mice were transferred into compact cages that simulated the space cabin environment. This allowed them to acclimate to the confined living conditions they would experience in orbit. Ultimately, the four best-performing mice earned their “boarding passes” to space.

Melham makes history with Melbourne Cup win

‘This feeling is unmatched’

MELBOURNE, Australia, Nov 4, (AP): Jamie Melham rode Half Yours to victory in the 165th Melbourne Cup on Tuesday to become the first female jockey to win a historic Australian racing double.

A decade after Michelle Payne became the first female jockey to win the Melbourne Cup, Melham became the first to complete the Caulfield Cup and Melbourne Cup winning double.

Melham’s late grandfather was among the people she dedicated her victory to, saying the last race he watched was her win in last month’s Caulfield Cup on Half Yours.

“I have to mention my grandpa. He died last week,” Melham said in a post-race interview with the Nine Network. “He was such a big supporter of mine. So he’s up there opening those gaps for me, because I needed a few gaps open.”

Half Yours, a five-year-old gelding, finished strongly to win by 2 3/4 lengths from Irish mare Goodie Two Shoes in overcast conditions on a soft track at Flemington. Middle Earth placed third in the event referred to widely by Australians as the race that stops the nation.

“I’ve had an amazing year. Got married, had some really great days on the track, but nothing ever compares to this feeling right now, I’m feeling,” the 29-year-old Melham said.

Trained by the father-and-son duo Tony and Calvin McEvoy, Half Yours was the only Australian-bred starter in the 24-horse field.

Melham had to steer Half Yours through a series of gaps in the straight, including one past her husband Ben Melham, who placed 14th on Smokin’ Romans. They were the first married couple to compete against each other in Australia’s richest race.

“There was a tight gap and I said, ‘Move over, Ben, I’m coming through.’ The next gap was extremely tight and I had no say - my horse just took me through it,” Jamie Melham said. “Then he had to produce the finish.”

Payne, who rode long shot Prince Of Penzance to victory in the 2015 Melbourne Cup, embraced Melham after Tuesday’s race.

“I’ve got tears in my eyes,” Payne told the Nine network. “It’s just the most incredible feeling, and for Jamie, who deserves it, it just couldn’t be better.”



Jockey Jamie Melham reacts as she holds her trophy aloft after riding Half Yours to win the Melbourne Cup horse race in Melbourne, Australia. (AP)

Women’s team has done something truly special:Tendulkar

Women’s cricket headed for ‘stratosphere’ in India after long-awaited 1st World Cup victory

NEW DELHI, Nov 4, (AP): Captain Harmanpreet Kaur’s trophy-winning catch on Sunday ended a decades-long wait by India for Women’s Cricket World Cup glory.

It may also have changed the face of women’s cricket.

India has long been a global power in the men’s game, but had to wait until now for the women to finally become world champions.

And it wasn’t for a lack of trying. India made its World Cup debut as host in 1978 and placed fourth out of four teams. It hosted again in 1997 and reached its first semifinals, and lost the finals in 2005 to Australia and in 2017 to England.

Kaur was on the 2017 team, and her scintillating 171 not out (from 115 balls) against defending champion Australia - the fourth highest Women’s World Cup score - made the cricket world take more notice of India. The loss to England in the final by a mere nine runs fueled an increased desire in the country to take that final step.

“Every time we lost, we went home heartbroken and stayed quiet for a few days,” Kaur said on Sunday. “When we returned, we said we had to start again from ball one. It was heartbreaking because we played so many World Cups, reaching finals, semifinals, and sometimes not even that far. We were always thinking, when will we break this?”



India's Jemimah Rodrigues plays a shot during the ICC Women’s Cricket World Cup final match between India and South Africa in Navi Mumbai, India.(AP)

Now the new question is: Where to from here?

“The women’s game was already rising in India,” said Nasser Hussain, the former England men’s captain and commentator. “They needed this title to put a seal on it, and this should take the game to the stratosphere here.”

The triumph comes after a concerted effort in India to get over the hump.

At the last World Cup in 2022, India failed to even make it out of the

group stage, a debacle that rankled officials at home and led to increased urgency to boost the women’s game.

The Women’s Premier League, an idea that had long seemed a pipe dream, was launched the next year. Three seasons later, top names who emerged from the Twenty20 league were key to India’s victory. Medium-pace Kranti Goud (nine wickets in eight matches) and left-arm spinner Shree Charani (14 wickets in nine matches) made their interna-

tional debuts earlier in 2025.

It could be just the start.

India’s great Sachin Tendulkar compared the elation from Sunday’s win to that in 1983 when India won the men’s World Cup for the first time.

“1983 inspired an entire generation to dream big and chase those dreams,” Tendulkar wrote on X. “Today, our women’s cricket team has done something truly special. They have inspired countless young girls across the country to pick up a bat and ball, take the field, and believe that they too can lift that trophy one day.”

India’s latest champions paid tribute to women who paved the way for them.

After collecting their winners’ medals on Sunday night and posing for the official team photos long after midnight local time, the women passed the trophy to former India players in attendance. They included Jhulan Goswami, who took 43 wickets in five World Cups and was part of the team that lost the 2017 final.

Goswami was sure the wait for the next trophy would be a lot shorter.

“This self-belief and the mindset to develop individually as players will forge them stronger as a team,” Goswami said. “This will set a benchmark for future Indian teams to come back even in tough situations because they will know how to do it.”

Portland tops Willamette in opener

Hawaii Pacific stuns Boise State

BOISE, Idaho, Nov 4, (AP): Joshua West scored 23 points as Division II member Hawaii Pacific upset Boise State 79-78 in a season opener on Monday night.

West also contributed four steals for the Sharks, who led the Broncos 38-37 at halftime. Quentin Meza pitched in with 14 points, six rebounds and three steals. Quinton McCullough scored 12 on 5-for-9 shooting.

Dylan Andrews finished with 15 points and nine assists for the Broncos (0-1). Spencer Ahrens added 14 points and six rebounds. Drew Fielder totaled 13 points and seven boards. Andrews and Ahrens both missed shots with a chance for the lead in the final seconds.

Meza scored the last eight points for Hawaii Pacific to close out the victory.

Neither team scored after the Broncos’ Andrew Meadow hit a 3-pointer with 33 seconds left.

Portland 120, Willamette 83

In Portland, Cameron Williams’ 25 points helped Portland defeat Willamette .

Williams also contributed eight rebounds for the Pilots. Mikah Ballew hit three 3-pointers and scored 20. Joel Foxwell made 11 of 12 free throws and scored 18 with five assists and four steals.

Tanner Overby finished with 18 points, six rebounds and three steals to pace the Bearcats. Anujan Tennathur added 14 points and four assists and Tyler Stringfellow scored 12.

Cal State Fullerton 136, Caltech 82

In Fullerton, Jaden Henderson’s 25 points helped Cal State Fullerton defeat Caltech.

Henderson went 10 of 16 from the field (5 for 7 from 3-point range) for the Titans. KJ Garriss scored 22 points and added eight rebounds, five assists, and five steals. Bryce Cofield shot 5 of 5 from the field and 3 for 3 from the line to finish with 13 points, while adding six rebounds and seven assists.

Dorian Glogovac led the way for the Beavers with 20 points and two steals. Josh Balami added 13 points and Noah Hicks had 10 points and five assists.

UC Riverside 90, La Sierra 49

In Riverside, Andrew Henderson had 19 points to propel UC Riverside to a 90-49 win over La Sierra.

Henderson added seven rebounds for the Highlanders. Osiris Grady added 17 points and eight rebounds. Marqui Worthy pitched in with 16 points, six rebounds and three steals.

The Golden Eagles were led by Noel Camejo, who recorded 17 points, eight rebounds and three steals.

West Texas A&M 83, Trinity 56

In Texas, Mason Gibson scored 19 points and West Texas A&M opened its season with an 83-56 victory over Division III’s Trinity (Texas).

Gibson shot 7 for 16, including 5 for 12 from beyond the arc for the Islanders. Daniel Micheline-Jackson totaled 16 points, six rebounds and six assists. Franck Yetna had 12 points. The Tigers were led by Ben Estis with 14 points.

Sepulveda, Auzmendi fire Banfield past Lanus

Sounders beat Minnesota United to extend series

SEATTLE, Nov 4, (Agencies): Obed Vargas scored early in the first half and late in the second to help the Seattle Sounders beat Minnesota United 4-2 on Monday night, forcing a deciding match in the best-of-three first-round series for the MLS Cup.

Vargas got the scoring started with an unassisted goal in the 8th minute after the fifth-seeded Sounders played No. 4 seed Minnesota United to a scoreless draw in the opener before losing 3-2 on penalty kicks.

Jordan Morris gave Seattle a two-goal lead in the 21st minute, using assists from Jesús Ferreira and Roldán. It was the 10th goal in 26 career playoff matches for Morris.

Danny Musovski made it 3-0 in the 41st minute with his first postseason goal in his fifth appearance, again with assists from Ferreira and Roldán. Ferreira’s assists were his first in eight postseason appearances. Roldán had never had an assist in 33 previous postseason appearances.

Minnesota United pulled within 3-2 at halftime on goals four minutes apart in stoppage time by rookie Nectarios Triantis and Robin Lod, who assisted on the Triantis netter. Bongokuhle Hlongwane and Joaquín Pereyra had assists on the Lod goal.

Lod has two goals and two assists in 10 playoff matches. It was the first assist for Hlongwane and Pereyra in five playoff appearances apiece.

Vargas capped the scoring with his second postseason goal, scoring in the 86th minute with assists from second-half subs Paul Rothrock and Danny Leyva. It was the first assist for Rothrock in four postseason efforts and the second in four appearances for Leyva.

Stefan Frei finished with two saves in his 38th playoff start for the Sounders.

Dayne St. Clair stopped two shots for Minnesota United in his ninth postseason outing.

The rubber match of the series is Saturday in Minnesota.

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Bruno Sepulveda and Rodrigo Auzmendi scored in each half as Banfield edged to a 2-1 home win over Lanus in Argentina’s Primera Division.

The hosts went ahead in the 35th minute when Sepulveda tapped home at the far post after Mauro Mendez’s cross from the left.

Mendez was again the provider in the 68th minute, sending a perfectly weighted pass into the path of substitute Auzmendi, who took a touch before angling a shot into the far corner.

Eduardo Salvio reduced the deficit in the 93rd minute, blasting a first-time effort that rebounded in off the crossbar following Dylan Aquino’s cross.

Banfield is now sixth in Group A with 20 points, three behind leaders Boca Juniors, while Lanus is third in Group B with 26 points.

Elsewhere in Argentina’s top flight on Monday, Huracan won 3-1 at Defensa y Justicia, Sarmiento drew 1-1 at Platense, Central Cordoba was held to a goalless home draw by Racing and Tigre drew 0-0 at Belgrano.



Minnesota United forward Kelvin Yeboah, left, moves the ball against Seattle Sounders forward Jesús Ferreira, right, during the second half of Game 2 in the first round of MLS soccer’s Western Conference playoffs in Seattle. (AP)

Spain and England renew women’s soccer rivalry in 2027 World Cup qualifying group

NYON, Switzerland, Nov 4, (AP): Spain and England will renew their great rivalry in women’s soccer in a qualifying group for the 2027 World Cup.

Defending world champion Spain and European champion England were joined by Iceland and Ukraine when UEFA made the qualifying groups draw on Tuesday.

Spain beat England in the 2023 Women’s World Cup final in Sydney, and England beat Spain in the Euro 2025 final to retain its title in July.

They also met twice in the first half of this year, trading home wins in a UEFA Nations League group that Spain topped.

Only the group winner next June

will advance direct to the 32-team Women’s World Cup in Brazil.

Four automatic places are on offer to the winners of four groups in top-tier League A. Seven more qualifiers will advance through playoffs next year, and one more European team will have a chance in intercontinental playoffs scheduled in February 2027.

In other top-tier groups, top-seeded France will play Netherlands, Poland and Ireland.

Sweden and Italy - who both wasted late leads against England in Euro 2025 knockout games - landed in a group with Denmark and Serbia.

Germany, which lost a Euro 2025 semifinal to Spain, will play Norway,

Austria and Slovenia.

The round-robin group stage games in all three league tiers will be played in March, April and June.

Group standings will decide which 32 teams move on to the first of two rounds of European playoffs starting in October.

The second round of playoffs is completed in December and will send seven more teams to Brazil. An eighth playoff winner will go to intercontinental playoffs.

The draw on Tuesday involved 53 of UEFA’s 55 member federations. Russia is suspended from international competitions because of its war on Ukraine while San Marino does not enter women’s national team events.

Best of the Rest

World’s oldest living Oly champion dies:

Charles Coste, the world’s oldest living Olympian and a cycling champion, has died. He was 101.

The French presidency said in a statement on Tuesday that Coste died last Thursday.

Coste won the team pursuit gold medal at the 1948 Olympic Games in London at the famed Herne Hill velodrome. He returned to the spotlight last year as the second-to-last bearer of the Olympic flame for the 2024 Paris Games.

Emmanuel Macron’s office said Coste was “until his final breath, the tireless messenger of a certain idea of sport.” Coste moved the Paris crowd as he carried the Olympic torch, dressed all in white in a wheelchair in the rain. He lit the torches of French Olympic gold medalists Teddy Riner and Marie-José Pérec, who teamed to light the cauldron during the rain-soaked opening ceremony.

“That moment symbolized the passion and spirit of transmission that drove him,” Riner said. “Charles Coste embodied dedication, respect, and love for sport in all its forms.” Coste became the oldest living Olympic champion in

January following the death of Hungarian gymnast Ágnes Keleti. (AP)

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Coach dies from a heart attack:

Mladen Zizovic, the coach of Serbian top-division soccer club FK Radnicki 1923, has died after collapsing from a heart attack on the sideline during a match. He was 44.

“With the deepest sorrow we inform the public, fans and sports friends that our chief of the coaching staff, Mladen Zizovic, died during tonight’s game between Mladost and Radnicki 1923 in Lucani,” the club said on Instagram late Monday.

“FC Radnicki 1923 sends its most sincere condolences to his family, friends and everyone who shared the love of football with him.”

The incident occurred during the first half of a game at Mladost Lucani in the Serbian Super League.

Play was suspended while medical officials tended to Zizovic and then resumed after he was carried away. But when news arrived minutes later that he died, the game was halted and players dropped to the pitch in dismay.

Local media reported that Zizovic’s heart “exploded.” Zizovic played briefly for Bosnia and Herzegovina’s national team, and was hired by Radnicki less than two weeks ago. (AP)

Trained over 1400 players in 15 years

Markaz renews its partnership with the LOYAC AC Milan Football Academy

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: Kuwait Financial Centre “Markaz” has renewed its sponsorship of the LOYAC AC Milan Football Academy in Kuwait, continuing a strategic partnership that spans over 15 years and builds on a 32-year collaboration with LOYAC. This partnership has contributed to the training of more than 1400 young players, reflecting Markaz’s commitment to its corporate social responsibility pillar of “building human capacity.” It also embodies a model of sustainable collaboration between non-profit organizations and the private sector, combining legacy and innovation to develop youths’ skills. The academy integrates world-class and innovative coaching practices designed to enhance participants’ skills to refine their abilities and compete at the highest standard.

Commenting on the announcement, Mr. Ali H. Khalil, Chief Executive Officer at Markaz, said: “Our support for the LOYAC AC Milan Football Academy reflects our CSR strategy to build human capacity and empower youth to achieve their aspirations. For more than fifteen years, this collaboration has provided a platform for hundreds of young players to develop their skills and embrace values of commitment and teamwork, preparing them to succeed and add value to their communities. At Markaz, we believe that empowering youth is a national priority and one of the most important investments in Kuwait’s future.”

Ms. Fareah Al Saqqaf, Chairperson at LOYAC, commented: “Our collaboration with Markaz is a leading example of how the private sector and non-profit organi-



Markaz sponsors LOYAC AC Milan Soccer Academy.

zations can work together to create lasting impact. We take pride in a partnership that has spanned decades and played a pivotal role in supporting the AC Milan Football Academy, which has evolved into a professional training platform offering a nurturing environment for youth.

This partnership reflects our shared vision to empower Kuwait’s

youth and develop their potential and skills.”

The partnership with LOYAC spans a broad portfolio of programs that enhance human capacity across community, professional, life-skills, and physical development. Community empowerment initiatives include the Winter Aid Distribution Initiative, Green Volunteering, the Homes Program, Neqsat Ramadan,

Service Is My Joy, and the LOYAC X NAEMATi community service initiatives, which extend support to underprivileged groups and promote environmental awareness and inclusion.

Professional empowerment is advanced through the Al Jawhar Program and the Jawhar Podcast, alongside specialized communication and media-readiness training

delivered with industry experts such as Ms. Rania Barghout, enabling participants to develop strong public-speaking, presentation, and media interaction skills.

Life-skills development is strengthened through workshops like The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People and Teens, the Young Leaders Program in the United Kingdom, the Kon Social Entre-

preneurship Program, and the Photography Workshop, which build critical thinking, creativity, and leadership. With regards to health and sports, the LOYAC AC Milan Football Academy stands as a key pillar in training hundreds of young people and providing them with opportunities to benefit from international exposure and competitive opportunities.

Reef, Mououd, Thayer, Sour & Shafqan claimed top honors

Sahab and Zahi spark excitement at Kuwait Racing season opener

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: The horse Sahab, representing Shafi Al-Otaibi Stable under trainer Saleh Al-Otaibi and jockey Salem Al-Ajmi, captured the Alaa Hamad Al-Roumi Cup for Egyptian-bred novice horses over a 1,200-meter distance, clocking 1:40.49 minutes. The race was part of the seventh and final event of the opening horse racing meeting at the Hunting and Equestrian Club.

The trophy was presented to Shafi Al-Otaibi Stable by Sheikh Dhari Al-Fahad, Chairman of the Hunting and Equestrian Club, along with Sheikh Sabah Al-Nasser, Chairman of the Supreme Committee and Secretary-General, and Alaa Hamad Al-Roumi, owner of Al-Rayah Stud.

Meanwhile, Zahi, owned by Al-Hathleen Stable, claimed the Cup of the late Sheikh Nasser Fahad Sabah Al-Nasser Al-Sabah (may he rest in peace) for novice horses over 1,400 meters, finishing in 1:34.91 minutes.

In other races, Reef, Mououd, Thayer Al-Khaffaq, Sour Al-Janoub, and Shafqan took top honors in the first through fifth rounds respectively.

Welcoming all equestrian enthusiasts to the new racing season, Sheikh Dhari Al-



Sheikh Dhari Al-Fahad honors Al-Roumi, Al-Buraihi, and Boursali.

Fahad said: “The Hunting and Equestrian Club is the club of everyone. We welcome all visitors and fans to attend and follow the races.

Four events are scheduled weekly — at the main track, Sheikh Ahmad Al-Jaber track, Sheikh Sabah Al-Nasser track, and Sheikh Jaber Abdullah Al-Jaber track.”

Genoa stuns Sassuolo

Sunderland shares spoils with Everton

SUNDERLAND, England, Nov 4, (AP): Sunderland came back from a goal down to draw with Everton 1-1 and moved into fourth spot in the Premier League.

The Black Cats moved level with Liverpool and Bournemouth and continued to confound doubters on a stirring return to the top tier. Sunderland was looking to win three successive top-flight wins for the first time in a decade but went behind after 15 minutes thanks to a solo effort from Everton winger Iliman Ndiaye.

The Senegal international gathered the ball on the right touchline around 40 meters from goal and dribbled and muscled his way past four defenders before striking a lovely left-foot shot past a static keeper.

Jack Grealish hit the post midway through the first half as Everton started to dominate and Thierno Barry sliced over the top from close in a few minutes later.

But Sunderland got back into the match immediately after the restart.

Captain Granit Xhaka’s shot from outside the box took a deflection that gave Jordan Pickford in the Everton goal no chance.

The Black Cats were on top for most of the second period but could not get the goal that would have taken it above Manchester City and into second place.

“We lost the three points today in the first 25 minutes,” Xhaka told broadcaster Sky Sports. “We



Everton’s James Garner, left, and Sunderland’s Reinildo Mandava in action during the English Premier League soccer match between Sunderland and Everton in Sunderland, England. (AP)

were sloppy with the ball and made too many mistakes. On this level you get punished, but second half was very good. We created many chances and with a bit more luck we can win this game.”

Its next game is a mouth-watering home tie against leader Arsenal on Saturday.

Everton, which was in 14th place and without a win in three games, takes on Fulham, the team below it, the same day.

Coach David Moyes agreed his team was on top in the opening stages and he rued the missed chances.

“After 25 minutes I would have been really disappointed if I had left with only a point but as the

game wore on, especially the second half, I am thrilled to get a point,” Moyes said. “We were abysmal in the second half. In the opening 25 minutes we should have been a couple of goals up but we couldn’t get that second goal.”

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Genoa won its first game of the season by beating Sassuolo 2-1 with a last-gasp goal that lifted it off the bottom of Serie A on Monday.

It was particularly rewarding for interim coach Roberto Murgita, who replaced Patrick Vieira after the former Arsenal and France midfielder was fired

last week.

Genoa rose to 18th in the 20-team table, one point ahead of Verona and two clear of last-placed Fiorentina.

Although it hasn’t won since May, visiting Genoa got off to a promising start from a corner kick. Goalkeeper Arijanet Murić’s clearance went as far as only Ruslan Malinovskyi, who fired a superb strike into the top corner from 25 meters out.

Domenico Berardi equalized for Sassuolo two minutes after halftime but Leo Østgård’s glancing header in stoppage time sparked jubilant scenes in the Genoa dugout.

Sassuolo was in 11th place.

Lazio beat Cagliari 2-0 to extend the Rome club’s unbeaten run to six matches.

Danish forward Gustav Isaksen broke the deadlock after 65 minutes when he drifted in from the right and produced some nice footwork before curling the ball into the far corner.

Mattia Zaccagni scored a second in stoppage time when he seized on a woeful backpass and fired into the top corner. Lazio looked the more dangerous side throughout. It comes as Maurizio Sarri’s men face a daunting November that continues next Sunday with an away game at Inter Milan and ends with another away fixture against AC Milan.

Cagliari was 15th and without a league win since Sept.19.

Al-Qurain & Salwa Al-Sabah look for first wins in Tunisia

By Khaled Al-Enezi
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

HAMMAMET, Tunisia, Nov 4: Four matches will take place in Round 4 of the preliminary stage of the 7th Arab Women’s Handball Clubs Championship, currently being held in Hammamet, Tunisia, and set to conclude on November 9.

The Kuwaiti team will go up against Syria, with Al-Qurain facing Qasioun at 1:00 PM in Group A.

The group also features a Tunisian derby between Al-Afriqi and Al-Sahel at 5:00 PM. In Group B, Salwa Al-Sabah meets Al-Nabk at 3:00 PM, followed by Hammamet taking on Al-Moknine at 7:00 PM.

Today’s matches give Kuwaiti teams a chance to secure their first victories. Al-Qurain previously lost to Hammamet 26-32 and Al-Moknine 18-28, while Salwa Al-Sabah fell to Al-Sahel 14-34 and Al-Afriqi 10-42. Syrian teams have also struggled in earlier rounds, making today crucial for first wins and points, including potential draws.

According to the tournament format, the quarter-finals will see the winner of Group A face the fourth of Group B, the winner of Group B meet the fourth of Group A, the second of Group A play the third of Group B, and the second of Group B take on the third of Group A tomorrow. Victors will advance to the semi-finals on Friday, with the final scheduled for Sunday.



Salwa and Al-Afriqi in action during the Tunisian showdown.

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NEWS



Dortmund's Serhou Guirassy, center, exercises with his team during a training session ahead of the Champions League opening phase soccer match between Manchester City and Borussia Dortmund in Dortmund, Germany. (AP)

Sports

Golden day for Kuwait at Asian Shooting Championship

Shooting team sweeps podium

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: Kuwait claimed five medals – two golds, two silvers, and one bronze – in the Men’s and Women’s 50 Clay Trap events at the Asian Shooting Championship, being held in Kuwait until November 8 at the Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Olympic Shooting Complex.

The Kuwaiti men’s team dominated the event, sweeping the podium with Abdulrahman Al-Faihan winning gold, Talal Al-Rashidi taking silver, and Khaled Al-Mudhaf earning bronze.

In the women’s category, Sara Al-Huwail captured gold; Shahad Al-Huwail took silver, while Qatari shooter Mitha Hamad Al-Binali secured bronze.

The winners were officially crowned by Luciano Rossi, President of the International Shooting Federation, Sheikh Salman Sabah Al-Salem Al-Hamoud Al-Sabah, President of the Asian Shooting Federation, Engineer Daej Khalaf Al-Otaibi, President of the Kuwaiti and Arab Shooting Federations, along with Sheikh Sabah Salman Al-Hamoud Al-Sabah, Vice President of the Kuwaiti Shooting Federation, and Obaid Manahi Al-Osaimi, Secretary-General of the Kuwaiti and Arab Shooting Federations, in the presence of several heads of delegations.

The Men’s and Women’s 50 Skeet events will begin today, Wednesday.

Obaid Manahi Al-Osaimi, Secretary-General of the Kuwaiti and Arab Shooting Federations and Tournament Director, congratulated His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, and the people of Kuwait for the team’s continental success. He praised their unwavering support for shooting sports in Kuwait, which played a vital role in these achievements.

Al-Osaimi also highlighted the excellent organization of the championship, noting the participation of 17 teams and the appointment of Asian referees to ensure fairness and transparency for all competitors.



Sheikh Al-Hamoud, Rossi, Al-Otaibi, and Al-Osaimi present awards to champions.

Kuwait wins multiple medals at West Asia Archery Championship

DOHA, Nov 4, (KUNA): Kuwait’s national archery team secured several medals at the 2nd West Asia Archery Championship, held recently in Doha, Qatar.

The mixed compound team of Abdullah Malallah and Hanan Al-Mayas earned bronze, finishing third after a strong performance against tough regional competition.

The women’s recurve team, featuring Suad Al-Bahr, Reem Al-Naqeeb, and Noor Al-Sharhan, captured silver, while individually, Abdullah Malallah took silver in the men’s compound event, and Suad Al-Bahr claimed silver in the women’s recurve individual final.

Team administrator Omar Al-Shatti praised the players’ efforts, saying he was delighted with their medal haul amid



KUNA photo of Malallah and Al-Mayas celebrate on the podium.

strong participation from archers across the region, and commended the team’s high level of performance throughout the championship.

Kuwait drawn with Qatar, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia in Gulf U-23 Championship

DOHA, Nov 4: The draw for the Gulf U-23 Championship was held in Doha, Qatar, placing Kuwait in Group A alongside Qatar, Bahrain, and Saudi Arabia. Group B will feature Iraq, the UAE, Oman, and Yemen.

The tournament will take place in Doha from December 4 to 16, with all eight Gulf nations participating. It is considered one of the region’s key youth competitions, providing an important platform to identify and nurture young talent before players progress to senior national teams.

The Kuwaiti Olympic team is aiming to deliver impressive

performances and challenge for the title. This follows its AFC U-23 qualifiers campaign, where Kuwait narrowly missed out on qualification. The team finished second in Group B, which included Japan, Myanmar, and Afghanistan.

Japan secured a spot in the finals, scheduled in Saudi Arabia in January, topping the group with 9 points. Kuwait ended second with 4 points, but did not qualify among the best four second-placed teams. Afghanistan placed third with 3 points, while hosts Myanmar finished last with 1 point.



Players intensify training for the Gulf U-23 Championship.

Heat holds off Clippers following 3rd-quarter surge

Fierce competition marks Padel World Cup Pairs Championship

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 4: The first Padel World Cup for men’s and women’s doubles has reached its third day at the Arena courts and the Rafa Nadal Academy, with top-ranked players now entering the fray.

The inaugural event, organized under the International Padel Federation (FIP) and concluding on November 9, features the world’s elite players. Leading the men’s doubles are world No. 1 Arturo Coello (Spain) and Agustin Tapia (Argentina), along with the world No. 3 pair Federico Chingotto (Argentina) and Alejandro Galán (Spain).

Walid Al-Saqqabi, member of the Supreme Organizing Committee and head of the media committee, highlighted the extensive global media coverage:

“We are committed to providing full technical and media support for international outlets that arrived early from around the world to cover 2025’s biggest Padel event. Complete infrastructure and advanced



Walid Al-Saqqabi

services have been set up for all accredited media.”

He also commended the Ministry of Information, newspapers, and social media platforms for their ongoing support in covering the championship.

Best of the Rest

Rybakina stuns Swiatek to reach semis: Elena Rybakina qualified for the WTA Finals semifinals for the first time after overcoming Iga Swiatek 3-6, 6-1, 6-0.

That result and Amanda Anisimova’s win over Madison Keys in the first professional matchup of the Americans, meant Swiatek and Anisimova will play on Wednesday for a spot in the semifinals.

Swiatek beat Anisimova in the Wimbledon final 6-0, 6-0 but Anisimova ousted Swiatek in the U.S. Open quarterfinals 6-4, 6-3.

Australian Open champion Keys, with a 0-2 record, was out of contention.

No. 6-ranked Rybakina passed the round-robin for the first time at her third WTA Finals. She extended her fine form from Asia, having won eight successive matches and 10 of her last 11.

But having lost her previous four matches against No. 2 Swiatek, Rybakina began overawed and Swiatek took the first set with only one break.

Then Rybakina locked in, served better, and Swiatek unraveled. The Pole, her own serve declining, made six unforced errors in the first set but 36 across the last two. (AP)

HOUSTON, Nov 4, (AP): Amen Thompson scored a season-high 27 points, Alperen Sengun added 26 points and 11 rebounds and the Houston Rockets outlasted the Dallas Mavericks for a 110-102 victory.

Houston has won four straight after dropping its first two games of the season.

The Rockets led by one when Sengun drove into the lane and spun around a defender before sinking a shot to make it 105-102 with about 90 seconds left. P.J. Washington missed a 3-pointer before Josh Okogie scored his first points of the game with two free throws that pushed the lead to 107-102 with a minute to go.

D’Angelo Russell missed a 3-pointer and Thompson made 1 of 2 free throws to extend it to 108-102 with 27 seconds remaining. Thompson then blocked a 3-point attempt by No. 1 pick Cooper Flagg and Tari Eason sealed the win with a dunk.

Heat 120, Clippers 119

In Inglewood, Bam Adebayo had 25 points and 10 rebounds, Norman Powell added 21 points in his return to Southern California and the Miami Heat held off the Los Angeles Clippers.

Andrew Wiggins scored 17 points and Kel’el Ware added 16 to help the Heat end a two-game losing streak and win on the road for the second time in five games. Miami is 1-2 to open a four-game trip.

James Harden scored 29 points and Kawhi Leonard added 27 as the Los Angeles Clippers lost at home for the first time in four games this season.

Ivica Zubac had nine points and 18 rebounds for Los Angeles. Derrick Jones Jr., Bradley Beal and John Collins each scored 12 points.

Nuggets 130, Kings 124

In Denver, Nikola Jokic scored a season-high 34 points and had 14 assists, Aaron Gordon added 20 points and the Denver Nuggets never trailed in a 130-124 victory over the Sacramento Kings.

Jokic, who opened the season with four straight triple-doubles, grabbed a season-low four rebounds but has recorded at least a double-double in the first six games.

The Nuggets have won six straight against Sacramento dating to the 2023-24 season.

Russell Westbrook had 26 points and 12 rebounds, both season highs, against his former team. Seven Sacramento players scored in double figures, but Zach LaVine, who entered Monday averaging 29.5 points, finished with a season-low 15 on just 4-of-11 shooting.

Westbrook received a warm ovation from the crowd when he was recognized at the first timeout of the game. Westbrook averaged 13.3 points in 75 games in 2024-25, his only season with Denver, and 11.7 points during the playoffs.

Knicks 119, Wizards 102

In New York, Karl-Anthony Towns scored a season-high 33 points and grabbed 13 rebounds, leading the New York Knicks to a victory over the Washington Wizards.

Jalen Brunson and OG Anunoby each added 16 points, and Jordan Clarkson scored 15 off the bench. Josh Hart had 12 points and 10 rebounds.

Alex Sarri led the Wizards with 19 points. Bilal Coulibaly, Corey Kispert and Kyshawn George each had 15.

Bucks 117, Pacers 115

In Indianapolis, Giannis Antetokounmpo made a 17-foot buzzer-beating jumper to give the Milwaukee Bucks a victory over the short-handed Indiana Pacers.

Antetokounmpo had 33 points, 13 rebounds and five assists on a night he went 14 of 21 from the field. Kyle Kuzma added 15 points to help the Bucks win for the third time in four games, taking the first of four scheduled regular season matchups against a Central Division rival it has faced 22 times since the start of the 2023-24 season.

This time, though, longtime Pacers center Myles Turner was dressed in a Bucks jersey after signing a free-agent

deal in July. Fans serenaded him with boos all night, starting with a pregame video tribute that played even before player introductions.

Timberwolves 125, Nets 109

In New York, Julius Randle had 19 points, 11 rebounds and 10 assists in his 15th career triple-double, and the Minnesota Timberwolves beat the winless Brooklyn Nets.

Donte DiVincenzo scored 25 points, Jaden McDaniels finished with 22 and Rudy Gobert added 15 points and 12 rebounds for the Timberwolves, who won their two straight.

Randle had his first triple-double with the Wolves.

Cam Thomas had 25 points and Nic Claxton chipped in 19 for the Nets, who fell to 0-7. The Nets opened the 2009-10 campaign with 18 straight losses while playing in New Jersey, two seasons before their move to Brooklyn.

Jazz 105, Celtics 103

In Boston, Jusuf Nurkic dropped in a putback with 0.6 seconds remaining and the Utah Jazz overcame a double-digit, second-half deficit to beat the Boston Celtics.

Keyonte George scored a season-high 31 points, and Lauri Markkanen added 20 points and nine rebounds to help the Jazz end a three-game losing streak.

The Celtics had a chance to tie, but Jaylen Brown was called for a foul on the inbound play. Boston’s challenged but was unsuccessful allowing the Jazz to inbound the ball and run out the clock.

Pistons 114, Grizzlies 106

In Memphis, Cade Cunningham scored 19 of his 33 points in the fourth quarter and the Detroit Pistons held off the Memphis Grizzlies.

As the Grizzlies cut into Detroit’s lead in the fourth quarter, Cunningham scored nine straight points for the Pistons to thwart the rally. Isaiah Stewart added 26 points and 14 rebounds, and Jalen Duren and Ron Holland II had 14 points each.



Los Angeles Lakers guard Marcus Smart, left, and Portland Trail Blazers forward Toumani Camara go for a loose ball during the second half of an NBA basketball game in Portland, Ore. (AP)