



Legal actions against employers failing to pay workers dues



IS THAT YOUR STORY ...?

Healthcare market in GCC to cross \$100 billion by 2023

Strong and continuous support to healthcare sector in the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) bloc will see the market double in size to over US\$100 billion by 2023. Over 700 healthcare projects, with a combined value of more than \$60 billion, are currently underway, being tendered, or in the planning stage, across the GCC. These include mega hospital projects, specialized health centers, primary care clinics and medical research establishments.

A study of the GCC Healthcare Industry, by leading global financial advisory firm, Alpen Capital, shows that healthcare sector in the region — estimated at over \$50 billion in 2017 and growing at an compound annual growth rate of 12.1 percent — is projected to cross the \$100 billion mark within five years. Despite this huge outlay, overall healthcare expenditure in the GCC, at 3.5 percent of GDP, still remains well below the 9.9 percent global average in 2014.

Delivery of healthcare in the region has for long been dominated by public health services. In 2015, more than 70 percent of the medical services, over 60 percent of the total 705 hospitals, and a significant portion of the primary health clinics in the region, were provided by the public healthcare system.

However, in recent years, relatively low oil prices have impacted government revenues and led to consecutive budget deficits and a slump in public spending. Though healthcare sector remains a priority for regional governments, and has remained relatively unscathed from recent spending cuts, nevertheless, continued significant disbursements to healthcare sector are straining the seams of state budgets.

Financial constraints to the public healthcare system are further exacerbated by the robust growth in population, higher life expectancy, lower infant mortality, and changes in lifestyle patterns, all of which demand more healthcare interventions. The GCC population, which was around 52 million in 2015, is growing at a CAGR of 4.4 percent and is expected to cross 65 million by 2020.

Continued on Page 15



Gold demand falls worldwide, rises in Kuwait

Although global demand for gold rallied in the closing months of 2017 it was a case of too little too late, as full year demand for the shiny metal fell by 7 percent to 4,071.7 tonnes (t), said the World Gold Council (WGC), the UK-headquartered market development organization for the gold industry.

Reporting on the Gulf region, the WGC said that the UAE, the leading gold market in the region, showed a

fourth consecutive annual decline in demand for gold jewelry, dipping to a 20-year low in 2016. Despite a 16 percent spike in demand during the fourth-quarter of 2017, ahead of 5 percent value-added-tax (VAT) that came into effect from January 2018, the total annual purchases fell by 2 percent to 42.8t. Per capita gold consumption in UAE dropped by nearly half from 8.7 grams in 2016 to 4.8 grams in 2017.

Continued on Page 2



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See on Page 9

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Legal actions against employers failing to pay workers dues

The Kuwait's Public Authority of Manpower has taken a series of actions to safeguard rights of workers in defaulting companies, an authority official has said.

The authority never hesitates to take all legal action against companies that fail to fulfill financial commitments toward their workers, Deputy Director General of the PAM for manpower protection Abdullah Al-Mutawtah said in a press statement Tuesday. He dismissed that the claims that the

authority had not dealt with complaints of 1,000 Filipino workers in a company "due to political calculations" as "untrue".

The number of Filipinos working for that company is less than 500 and only 120 of them had filed complaints, he noted. He went on to say that the authority has adopt a gradual approach to secure workers' rights without obstructing the government projects executed by the concerned company. Relevant state institutions had been asked to pay the

salaries and dues of the workers from the company's dues to them, he said. Al-Mutawtah added that the authority urged government bodies not to renew contracts or ink new ones with this company.

The authority also demanded government agencies to inform it if they abolished their contracts with the company and signed contracts with other companies in order to transfer the workers to the new companies, he said. He, furthermore, pointed out that a decision was issued to approve all workers'

requests to annual their contracts with the company and leave the country without the need for prior approval from the company.

It also stipulated that payment of all workers dues through the financial guarantee paid by the company to the tender commission, he said. He stressed that the authority is receiving workers complaints through its branches across the country, its emergency team, and its roaming disputes unit which visit work sites in remote areas.

American Tourister celebrates Kuwait National Day

American Tourister, the world's leading luggage Brand has recently launched its Limited Edition collection to celebrate Kuwait's National and Liberation Day. Known for its stylish and youthful bags, this Limited Edition range, a first of its kind has been inspired by the colors of the Kuwait National Flag.



This 'Kuwait Edition' luggage comes in a set of 2 pieces - 79cm and 50cm. These bags cater to the discerning Kuwaiti customer's travel needs, while bringing out his sense of celebration and pride on this joyous



occasion. With only 300 sets of this Limited edition range available, it becomes a must have accessory for those who want to carry a piece of Kuwait with them as they globe trot. Commenting on the launch of this Limited Edition luggage, Abdul Mohsen Behbehani, Director of Behbehani Group, said, "It is a great honour that the world's leading luggage brand has decided to celebrate Kuwait's National and Liberation Day with us by releasing this limited-edition luggage

set. We are certain that it will appeal to our loyal customers." This collection is available exclusively at American Tourister showrooms located at Marina Mall, 89 Mall, Souk Al Kabir, Al Salam Mall, Muthanna Complex, City Centre Salmiya and Xcite-Avenues Branch.

It can also be ordered online at www.americantourister.com.kw or at the roadshows, located at the Avenues, Marina Mall and 89 Mall.

LFK achieves outstanding results on French national diploma GCSE

The French School of Kuwait (LFK) announced an achievement of 95% success in the French General Certificate Secondary Education, well known for its demand on academic performance. The 85 percent of candidates received an honorable mention or very honorable results.

The Graduation ceremony, held at the Kuwait French School on 11 February, was attended by the students, their families and teachers. The Ambassador of France to Kuwait H.E. Marie Masdupuy and the advisor to the ambassador for cooperation and cultural affairs Cedric Devais were honored in the school with their presence at the ceremony.

The Principal Gérard Lahourcade and Deputy Head Pascale Chelala congratulated the students and their teachers for their performance. Mona AL Khaled and Dr. Fahed AL Rashed, owners of the French school of Kuwait, extended their congratulations to the school team for this achievement towards a high standard of education.



Gold demand falls worldwide, rises in Kuwait

Continued from Page 1

Saudi Arabia, the region's biggest buyer, bought 45.7 tons of gold jewelry last year, down 8 percent, according to the report. Egypt's purchases also slumped 14 percent to 22t. Kuwait and Iran were the two bright spots in the Middle-East, with both countries showing a higher demand for gold jewelry. Kuwait's gold jewelry demand climbed 4 percent to 13 tons, while Iran came close to beating Saudi Arabia with record demand for gold jewelry touching 45.4t. This renewed lust for gold was a 12 percent hike from a year earlier and also the highest demand since 2013.

In its annual assessment of gold demand trends in 2017, the WGC reported that Central

Banks added 371.4 t to their official gold reserves, which was 5 percent down from the figures in 2016, while demand for gold bars and coins also fell by 2 percent, mainly from a sharp drop in US retail investment. While inflows from Exchange Traded Funds (ETF) added 203t to global demand, it too was a steep fall from the 547t demand in 2016. India and China showing a 4 percent recovery in gold jewelry were the main glitter spots in an otherwise lack-luster market, but even here the figures were well below historical averages.

Meanwhile, gold production was at a record high of 3,268.7t, but total supply was impacted by a 10 percent fall in gold recycling. Also, newly introduced stringent environmental controls in china led to 9 percent fall in national production.

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Kuwait Expo 2018 ends on successful note

Kuwait Expo 2018, a business-oriented, knowledge-sharing and investor-interaction event, was held from 6 to 10 February at the Kuwait International Fair Ground.

Held under the patronage of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, and organized by the National Knowledge Economy Center (NKEC) in partnership with the General Secretariat Supreme Council for Planning and Development (GSSCPD), the Kuwait Expo 2018 attracted participation of 77 international companies from 30 countries and 60 local firms. In addition, the expo witnessed the attendance of entrepreneurs and representatives of small and medium businesses from various industries in Kuwait.

At the inauguration ceremony on 6 February, Minister of Public Works and Minister of State for Municipal Affairs Hussam Abdullah Al-Roumi said Kuwait Expo 2018 was part of efforts to support His Highness the Amir's vision to transform Kuwait into a regional and international financial and commercial hub. The expo, said Al-Roumi, would contribute to better



economic, trade and investment cooperation, as well as help exchange expertise and build relations and networks among expo participants.

A business to business platform, the five-day expo allowed for the sharing of know-how among industry experts and businesses, as well as facilitated financial opportunities and partnerships among local and international businesses and entrepreneurs. The show allowed companies to demonstrate their business solutions, seek out franchising opportunities, and network with Kuwaiti SME entrepreneurs

and business owners. The expo also included side-line exhibitions, like the SMEs, Maker Fair and knowledge-based economy.

Speaking at the conclusion of the expo, Minister of Commerce and Industry and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Khaled Al Roudhan expressed his thanks to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah for patronizing the Kuwait Expo, which would help transform Kuwait into a financial and economic hub in line with His Highness the Amir's 2035 New Kuwait vision. He added that the government is also

pursuing "a bundle of economic laws and resolutions that will promote the vision to make Kuwait a financial and economic hub."

The fact the Kuwait Expo featured participation 77 international companies from 30 countries and 60 local firms reflected confidence in Kuwait's economic environment. The country has advanced infrastructure, active private sector, cash flow and attractive legislation for local and international investors, said Minister Al-Roudhan.



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Thought for The Week

“The struggle to maintain peace is immeasurably more difficult than any military operation.”

Anne O'Hare McCormick
British journalist

IS THAT YOUR STORY ...?



Sangeeta Jamwal
Special to The Times

Leave Kuwait, and miss the homous and mutabel and all the 'vaasta' you built up; are you kidding?

Most people I know here came to Kuwait, the Promised Land, for maximum two years, or "to make enough money" and go back home. Countless felafel and shawerma sandwich years later, they are all still here, greyed quite a bit, but very much here.

Kuwait is like that. One starts off earnestly in a job, wants to work hard (and hopefully continues to do so). You share an apartment with some kind folks (who pass on sambhar and chutney to you

on bad days, on the good they pass on some fried Zubaidi). You begin to get comfortable with the non-iron bedsheets and jamaiyas laden with easy to serve yoghurt and long-life milk. By then your status has risen back home because you work in this oil-rich, highest per capita income Wonderland.

Ma beckons from home that they have found a "nice, homely" girl for you. So you rent your own one bedroom apartment, put out few cheap 'Banta' chairs, and blend in some IKEA 'As Is' furniture just for it to not look so cheap. Few Friday-market visits later, your house and heart are ready to receive the new bride. If winter is here can spring be far behind? Stacks of Pampers (whatever would young mothers do without them?) appear in the by now crowded home. The patter of tiny feet, Cartoon Network, pushchairs and colic occupy your waking and sleeping hours. The MBA you well intended is long forgotten with the stress of how to ask the boss for a raise, now that your child will start play school, and you cannot cope with the installments for your new place back home. The raise never comes, or if it does it is too meager to write home about. The luckier ones find fresh opportunities and move up the economic ladder, but never out of Kuwait. You upgrade your car and home, and generally grow to be a part of Kuwait, or rather Kuwait, like a sandy desert spirit becomes ingrained into you, and Fourth and Fifth Ring Roads become your best weekend hangouts.

Just because it seems the in-thing to do, you apply for migration to a Western country, knowing full well in your heart that you may never be able to start a new life in another strange land. The taxation everywhere else hurts. So do the residence fees here, but can you leave Kuwait? The general view was that once the health insurance was levied, there would be an influx of expatriates fleeing Kuwait. No one I know has left for those reasons. Leave Kuwait, and miss the homous and mutabel and all the 'Vaasta' you built up, are you kidding? Life goes on, with bodies and souls flitting in and out of The Sultan Centre, Souk Sharq, Caesar's Restaurants, all the new malls that have sprung up like mushrooms, and hey, don't forget Edeed Stores.

Soon one Thursday blends into another (another weekend, so quickly?) and next thing you know you are boarding a flight to drop off your son or daughter to university.

Time has flown, and you and your friends of yesteryears still meet occasionally, and discuss who has greyed more, and whose cholesterol is threatening. The whole point of who 'made enough money' but never returned home is never brought up. Endless weekend dinners, get together, beach picnics, pot lucks and problems, growing up pains, career ups and downs, friends who are like family, birthdays and anniversaries, visit visas and residences later, Kuwait is home.

Footnote: This article was first published in The Times issue several years ago.



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Ongoing



Snow Festival: Kuwait's biggest snow festival is being held at Al-Shaheed Park till 10 March, from 10am to 10pm. The festival includes shows and attractions such as ice skating, ice sculpture, mirror family, colorful musicians and more. The ticket is priced at KD2 and is available at the location. For more information: Visit: www.alshaheedpark.com.



The Golden Age circus: The Touristic Enterprises Company (TEC) and Cirque Madona Bouglione are organizing The Golden Age circus at the Entertainment City, Doha, till 31 March. The circus intends to take its visitors through a magical journey which will help them see the beauty and wonder of the world through the circus' eyes. This spellbinding spectacle will feature more than a dozen of the world's finest circus performance acts, that will captivate viewer's senses with a breathtaking medley of circus art, music, technology and sheer fantasy. For more information: Visit, www.eventat.com.



Camel Race: Kuwait Camel Racing Club is currently hosting a camel race on Saturday afternoons at its location in Kabd, from 1pm. The event is free and open to all.



Salsa and Bachata Dance class: Salsa and bachata classes for children aged 6 to 12 years are being held at Skinny Fork, Kuwait City from 4:30pm. For more information on classes, registration and fees: Call, 66991983 or email, info@smrynablue.com.

22 February



Comic Con Kuwait: One of the biggest pop-culture events in the world, Comic Con, will be held in Kuwait from 22 to 24 February, at the Kuwait International Fairground. The Comic Con was started in the 1970s in the US by a group of guys and 300 visitors. With the increase in popularity of comic books and movies over the years, and inviting celebrity guests in those fields, Comic Con became the biggest pop-culture event in the world with over 120,000 visitors each year. For more information and to book your tickets: Visit, www.comicconkuwait.com.



Hala kite flying and family funfair festival: Hala Pakistan will be organizing their 5th annual family fun fair festival on 22 and 23 February, at Mina Zor, from 4pm. The event will include overnight camping, kite flying, fun rides for kids, desi street food, DJ and stage activities. The tickets are priced at KD 2. For more information and to book your tickets: Call, 55953824, 66217434.

Astrophotography workshop: A workshop for photographers on astrophotography will be held at

the Habitat Museum, from 7pm to 9pm. Organized by Mohammed Al Obaidi, the workshop will cover the basics of astrophotography and telescopes. The workshop is free and open to all. For more information: Call, 55531171.

9 March:



The Revenge of Peter Rabbit: American Cultural Centre will be organizing a brand new musical, The Revenge of Peter Rabbit on 9 and 10 March, at its location on Gulf Road, Kuwait City, from 7pm. The musical will include 15 wonderful songs composed by Musical Director Harriet Bushman, directed by Alison Shan Price, choreographed by Richard Bushman and designed by Diana Sfeir. This delightful musical will bring to stage the beloved characters of Beatrix Potter, in a battle of the animals against Farmer and Mrs. McGregor. With a multi-cultural cast of 50 adult and youth actors, musicians and dancers it is a musical for all the family members. No tickets are required. For more information: Visit, www.darmuseum.org.kw.

16 March:



Movie Magic: A one day workshop led by eminent personalities from Indian film industry, will be held in Al Ardiya, from 8:30am to 5pm. The workshop offers practical introduction to film making and visual media creation. The entry fee is set at KD10. For more information and to register: www.moviemagic2018.wufoo.com.

27 March:

Kuwait Yacht Show: The biggest sea event of the year, Kuwait Yacht Show 2018 will be held from 27 to 30 March, at Marina Crescent, from 4:30pm to 9pm. For further updates: Visit, www.kuwaityachtshow.com.

From our archives ...



Expats found selling, advertising foam in festivals to be deported

Kuwait Municipality has warned Kuwaiti and expatriate shop owners and hawkers who make brisk business by selling or advertising foam during the National Days festivities to abandon the idea.

The Municipality will enforce the stiffest penalty against perpetrators of the act. Expatriates found culpable will be deported, noting files could be referred to the Public Authority for Manpower to close down concerned shops in case the expatriates are not deported.

He stressed Kuwaitis and Bedouns will be treated according to the rule of law by making them sign an undertaking never to repeat the act. He indicated the Municipality has categorized those who are involved in the sale of foam into three.

The first category is a worker who sells the contraband at investment or commercial complexes. The seller in this case will be held responsible for the violation rather than owner of the property. He noted hawkers fall into the



second category, and if caught in the act, their sponsors will be invited to arrange for their deportation. The last entails children who are still regarded as minor; therefore, their sponsors will be invited for investigation.

He reiterated all the aforementioned cases will be dealt with according to the rule of law, in collaboration with concerned authorities in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Ministry of Interior, and the Public Authority for Manpower.

Bhavans celebrates 11th Annual Day



Bhavans Kuwait celebrated its 11th annual day on 9 February in a memorable ceremony themed 'TARANG', which was honored by the gracious presence of the Chief Guest Ambassador of India to Kuwait H.E. K. Jeeva Sagar, the Guests of Honour, Ambassador of Guyana to Kuwait, H.E. Dr. Shamir Al Ally, Dr. Maryann Beebe Ally, N.K.Ramachandran Menon, Chairman Bhavans Middle East, his better half, Sudha Ramachandran, Sooraj Ramachandran, Director Bhavans Middle East, principals, teachers and other distinguished dignitaries.

After the report, the visual extravaganza unfurled with the arena transformed into a fairyland where fairies and elves sang and danced to magic tunes. Then the arena was hit

by 'the Sandstorm,' the newly christened band of Bhavan. Then, Bhavan's skilled artists performed a motivational story through a skit, on the stage which depicted a young girl's miraculous fight to survive and live.

The prize distribution ceremony commenced with child prodigies receiving the prizes of excellence and accomplishment. Parents of Anshika an outstanding outgoing student of IES received the Bhavans Gold Medal for her astounding performance in the class 12 CBSE examination with a staggering score of 97.4% in the science stream, topping the Bhavans group of schools in the Middle East, and also being the topper in Kuwait. She is also the recipient of the G. V Memorial cash award.

IGCC conducts longest health camp in Kuwait

Indians in GCC (IGCC), a recently formed association to bring together Indians across the GCC, recently conducted the longest ever health camp for four consecutive Fridays for the expatriate community in Kuwait to celebrate the Republic Day of India. The health camp was part of the IGCC health Initiative 'Healthy Indians in Healthy Kuwait.' The event, held from 19 January to 9 February, was hosted by Badr-Al-Sama Medical Centre Farwaniya, and was attended by more than 900 people from various corporate houses including Centrepoin, Red Tag, 24 Fashion and Jashanmal etc.

The event was inaugurated by Krishan Kumar Pahel, First Secretary Embassy of India (Kuwait), in presence of Ashraf Ayyoor, GM Badr-Al-Sama, Abdullah Hasan Thakur, CEO



Dhow Capital and Dr. Saroj Bala Grover, Ex-Vice President IDF.

The closing ceremony was blessed by the Chief Guest Dr. S. Neelamani, a Senior Research Scientist in Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR), and the Guest of Honors Dr. Waseem Siddiqui, HSE specialist at Kuwait Oil Company, Mohd. Saleh Burud, Managing Director

& Partner ALAmara Group Gen. Trd. Co. and Iftekhar Ahmad, President FIMA.

During this camp, the services offered included free services from blood sugar tests to liver and kidney screenings and free consultations and diagnosis after the tests to all cases with invitations for further follow ups handed to the special cases.



Herschelle Gibbs to help train Kuwait Men Squad

Herschelle Herman Gibbs, a former South African cricketer, arrived in Kuwait on 16 February, and was received by Kuwait Cricket Officials and Council Members. Mr. Gibbs will spend two months in Kuwait helping to prepare the Kuwait Men Squad for the upcoming ICC T20 World Cup.



ESF bags volleyball trophy

The English School Fahaheel (ESF) Girls Volleyball Team won the Volleyball Tourney at Australian College of Kuwait (ACK), which is a great achievement for the team. ESF played against Dasman Model School (DMS) and American Academy for Girls (AAG).

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Guide to perfect Drip Consistency



There is nothing more alluring than a beguiling drip: the sweet glaze running down the edges of a doughnut, the thick ganache falling down the sides of a perfectly frosted cake.

Achieving the perfect drip consistency is not something recipes are great at describing, so sometimes you hit it out of the park, and other times you are left with a gooey mess. But you do not have to leave it up to chance. There is a way to tell before you apply that drippy glaze if you have achieved perfection. Here is how:

Types of glazes: Non-heated vs. heated

A lot of glazes are made with a simple combination of powdered sugar and a liquid. This can be milk, cream, or fruit juice. The formula here is pretty simple: Keep adding more liquid until the glaze reaches the right consistency. If it gets too thin, add more powdered sugar to thicken. This kind of glaze is made at room temperature, and the consistency is simply adjusted with the ingredients.

Other glazes are heated and adjustments are a little different. Chocolate is a prime example. Glazes made with chocolate will thicken as they cool, which is important to remember when trying to achieve drips. If you let the glaze cool too much, it may not drip easily or naturally. If the glaze is too warm, you may not have control of the size or placement of the drips. What you can do with chocolate glazes is to prepare the glaze as the recipe directs, then let it sit at room temperature until it is just warmer than room temperature before using it to glaze a dessert. Depending on the ingredients and amount of glaze, this could take anywhere from 15 minutes to 1 hour.

It is also important to remember that with glazes made over heat, temperature is the primary way to control the consistency after you mix the glaze. It is difficult to add a little of this or a little of that to thicken or thin the prepared glaze, so it becomes more about following the recipe, than practicing to get the right texture by playing with the temperature: warmer to make a more fluid glaze, and cooler to make a firmer glaze.

Texture

There are three types of textures for glazing, and what to use depends on the look you are going for.

Thin glaze: This glaze is slightly thicker than the texture of heavy cream, liquid and flowing. When you dip a spoon in the glaze, then lift it out, the glaze will run off the spoon in a thin, even stream. This glaze is best when you are looking to achieve an even, almost all-over look. You can achieve drips, but they will be random and unpredictable, and likely fall all the way to the base of the dessert. You can use thin glaze on a doughnut, surface of a cupcake or over any rich dessert.

Medium glaze: This is close to the texture of softly whipped cream. When you dip a spoon in the glaze, then lift it out, the glaze will slowly fall off the spoon in a thick, ribbon stream. This glaze gives you the most natural looking drips, but is still a little tricky to control. You can use this glaze on drips down frosted layer cakes, or varied size drips cascading over the curves of a Bundt cake.

Thick glaze: This glaze is just a bit thinner than freshly made buttercream — when you dip a spoon into the glaze, then lift it out, the glaze will cling to the spoon, eventually falling off. Thick glaze is ideal when you want maximum



control. The glaze is slow moving so you really have the power to place the drips exactly where you want them to be. You can use this for small glazed items like cookies/sandwich cookies.

Preparing the Dessert: This sounds like a lot of work, but in most cases, it is not. When you are applying drips, it is important to think about the item they are being applied to before you add that final touch. The shape, consistency, and temperature of the finished product will impact your glaze.

For instance, think of a doughnut, which you likely want to serve fresh. If you are using a medium glaze, the heat of the pastry is likely to thin it out, making it run like a thin glaze. So take some time and plan ahead. You are more likely to achieve perfect drizzle with a little preparation.

Applying drips: You do not require fancy tools or techniques to apply drips. There are several ways to go about, some are listed below:

Dip to Drip: Dipping an item directly into the glaze is a great way to make natural looking drips on smaller pastries. This works best with thin glaze, but can also work with a medium glaze if it is a little bit on the thinner side. Remember, it has to be relatively fluid in order for it to be dip-able. Dip the pastry presentation-side down/directly into the glaze. Lift the item up and let some of the excess glaze fall back into the bowl, then invert the item onto a cooling rack and let the glaze naturally run off it. This works well with doughnuts, cookies, and cream puffs.



Spoon: Small spoons can be used to apply drips to individual pastries, while medium spoons work well with larger items like cakes. You can start by spooning a small amount of glaze just around the edge of the item, then use the bowl of the spoon to nudge it to the edge, allowing it to drip down the side. As you work your way around, you can encourage some drips to fall farther by using a little more glaze and heavier nudging to make the drips more random. Once the whole edge is covered, spoon more glaze over the remaining surface of the pastry. The two portions will flood together naturally — the weight of the additional glaze will drag all the drips down a little further. If you notice your glaze is setting up more quickly, you can try warming it up gently so it is more fluid while you work with it.

Piping Bag: This is the fanciest way to make a drip, and also one of the fastest. Fill $\frac{3}{4}$ of a disposable piping bag with the glaze. Snip a small opening from the end. Apply by piping a small amount of glaze just around the edge of the item, allowing it to flow out of the bag until it begins to drip down the side. Once the whole edge is covered, pipe more glaze in the center. If it is at the ideal temperature, the glaze from the top will cleanly meet up with the drips from the side. If it is setting up too fast, grab a small offset spatula or spoon and create swirls on the top.

A tip for your drips

If you are unable to get the perfect drip, use a toothpick or skewer. The pointed tip is perfect for guiding a drip to where you most want it to be — and doubles out to help smooth out any imperfections or glaze bubbles that form on the surface. If a drip goes rogue, a clean toothpick or skewer can help lift the drip away.

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SME Development signs MoU with Shell Kuwait to launch Shell Intilaaqah

The National Fund for Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Development and Shell Kuwait recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to launch Shell Intilaaqah, a unique program to support young Kuwaiti entrepreneurs with starting their own business and turning their ideas into sustainable sources of income in addition to helping to create jobs and stimulate local economic growth in the country.

The program will also offer business skills, trainings and workshops as well as connect entrepreneurs with opportunities in sectors that contribute to the local economy. The program will also help facilitate incubation, business



acceleration and access to markets, technology and mentoring.

The National Fund for Small and Medium Enterprise Development and Shell Kuwait are excited about launching such an initiative in the country. Walid Al-Nader, Managing Director & Chairman of Shell Companies in Kuwait, said, "Shell is keen to continue contributing to achieving the Kuwaiti vision of 2035."

Abdullah Hamad Al-Jouan, Chairman and President of the National Fund for SME Development said, "We are glad for this collaboration, which will indeed contribute to achieving our goal in fostering a creative productive entrepreneurial environment. Enhancing the skills of Kuwaiti entrepreneurs through the Shell Intilaaqah program is a significant



mean to help them explore their true potential and reach beyond their expectations."

In Kuwait, the Shell Intilaaqah program is expected to commence

during February 2018 and is expected to train and develop up to 100 businesses and 100 startups for the year 2018 as part of the program's initial pilot phase activities.

Saradhi Carnival – India Fest 2018



On the occasion of the upcoming Kuwait's National and Liberation Days, Saradhi Kuwait, with the participation of other Indian associations in Kuwait, will be organizing a 'Unity in Diversity' carnival on 23 February at the Indian Central School, Abbasiya, titled 'India Fest 2018'.

The one-day fiesta will start at 8am with a free medical checkup open for all. A contest for

the tiny tots titled 'Baby Show' will be held in two categories. The cutest and smartest babies from the age of 1.5- to 3-year olds will come under the first category, and from age 3 to 5 will come under the second category.

There will be also a cookery competition (Payasam, Biryani and Salad), which will be judged by Malayalam TV anchor and talented chef Raj Kalesh, who will also be the special guest to grace India Fest 2018. In addition to attractive prizes, the first prize winner of the cookery contest will have the privilege of inviting Mr. Kalesh to visit their home.

The whole day will be filled with cultural shows by talented artists from different dance-schools, different Indian associations, musicians and other entertainers. For the young crowd there will be hip-hopping DJ's, various game shows for all age group, classic motor bike show and other entertainments. And when you feel hungry, you can raise your taste bud levels with the diverse food stalls featuring various Indian cuisines.

This fest is will be managed for Saradhi by the Central Vanithavedhi and Saradhi Hassawi Unit.



Chinese Association celebrates Year of the Dog

Chinese Association in Kuwait in collaboration with the Chinese Embassy celebrated Lunar New Year, the first day of the Year of the Dog, in style on 9 February at Kuwait National Museum and Planetarium.

Distinguished guests from the Chinese Embassy included Zhao Jiuzhi, Political Attaché, Yan Jun, Assistant Defense Attaché

and Zhu Xi, Cultural Attaché attended this ceremony.

A variety of stunning performances entertained the crowd of around 300 Chinese and their foreign friends. The program featured 19 attractive traditional and modern performances in different varieties of color, music, and rhythm.

Malayalam Kuwait bids farewell to Lisy Kuriakose

Malayalam Kuwait, a forum of writers and readers in Kuwait, bid farewell to well-known writer, Lisy Kuriakose, on her return to her homeland after a stay of more than three decades in Kuwait. Bergman Thomas, Malayalam Kuwait Coordinator chaired the function held at FALK Hall and prominent writer John Mathews honored Lisy with a memento on behalf of Malayalam Kuwait.

SunilKCherian and Uthaman



Valathukaadu presented the books reviews of 'Beneath the River', a compilation of English poems of Lisy Kuriakose and Vakkinte Vazikal (Ways of

Words) and Malayalam poems of Vibeesh Tikkodi respectively. The function was blessed by the dignified presence of many literary figures and supporters.

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Three exceptions to Duterte's 'total ban'

A top Philippine official had issued an order on 14 February, clarifying exemptions to the 'total ban' on the deployment of Filipino workers to Kuwait. The move came as a result of a series of incidents that led to the deaths and injuries of a number of overseas Filipino workers (OFWs), mostly domestic workers, in Kuwait. Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte ordered the ban.

Administrative Order No. 54-A, signed by Secretary Silvestre Bello III, is addressed to 'all concerned' to observe the new guidelines and exemptions on the imposed total deployment ban of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW) to Kuwait. On 12 February, immigration authorities in the Philippines started enforcing a travel ban of Kuwait-bound OFWs.



Bello was earlier quoted as saying that not all OFWs in Kuwait will be

mandated to pack up and leave. He added that Philippine authorities will also review whether or not the ban should include Filipino expats who are currently on vacation, or those under the Balik Manggagawa (exit clearance) program.

The move, however, had caused confusion among workers, diplomats and even airport authorities in Manila. On 12 February, hundreds of workers were initially denied clearances from the immigration and Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA).

Bello has clarified in the February 14 order, an addendum to the earlier Executive Order No. 54 (2018), the following exceptions to the ban: The administrative order signed by Philippine Labour Secretary Silvestre Bello III.

a) Workers who are vacationing in the Philippines and will be returning to the same employer to finish their contracts and at the end of his/her vacation.

b) Balik Manggagawa workers who are returning to Kuwait on a new contract with the same employer; and

c) Seafarers who will be transiting through or boarding in Kuwait to join their principals.

Moreover, the order stipulated a 'counter-checking process' prior to the issuance of an exit pass for overseas Filipino workers.

The issuance of Overseas Employment Certificate (OEC) to be issued by POEA/ Philippine Overseas Labour Office to Balik-Manggagawa workers exempted from the ban as specified above, shall require prior clearance from the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA).

The Philippines had previously instituted deployment bans to Lebanon, Libya and Iraq during war-time periods in these countries.

Gulf Bank launches Cashback Dining Campaign

Gulf Bank has announced the launch of a new campaign during national celebration month of February, which rewards its Credit Card Customers with 10 percent Cashback on all dining spends made in Kuwait. This dining cashback campaign is valid for the entire month of February and the Dining Cashback offer is valid across all restaurants, fast food and coffee shops in Kuwait including online food delivery portals such as talabat, carriage etc.

All Gulf Bank Credit Card Customers are automatically enrolled in this Dining Cashback campaign and to earn 10 percent Dining Cashback, customers must pay at restaurants or online food delivery portal using their Gulf Bank Credit Card and make a minimum Dining spends of KD 100 in Kuwait during the campaign



period. Customers will receive Dining Cashback directly in their Credit Card by 31 March, 2018. Gulf Bank Credit Card Customers can enjoy instant discounts of up to 20 percent at over 300 reputed and renowned restaurants and coffee shops in Kuwait. Over and above the instant discount, Gulf bank Credit Card customers will get an additional 10% Cashback as well.

NGIS marks Annual Day



New Gulf Indian School (NGIS) organized its first annual day function on 24 and 25 January. The Vice Principal of Future Bilingual School Michelle Philip and the Manager of NGIS Mr. Sree Kumar were the chief guests for the annual day functions respectively.

The principal of NGIS Pradap Felix addressed the dignitaries and the audience. The Grade 1 students enthralled the audience with their performance where they

unfolded the 'Vibrant colors of India' on 24 January. On 25 January, Grades 2 - 5 took the audience through a spectacular view of the 'Olympic Games' showing off their talents in music, drama and dance. Also in honor of the Republic day of India, the kids were involved in patriotic performances.

At the end, the honorable guest applauded the school for its all-round success and wished a better future for the students.

Z Crew marks first year anniversary



Z Crew Zumba Group celebrated its first year anniversary via Zumba class on Friday morning. Founder and Mentor Blanche Bravo, a fitness trainer at Holiday Inn Hotel Salmiyah with other fitness trainers who volunteer to teach every Friday treated attendees to an hour of fun routines. Z Crew, a team of trainers who branched out from The Gym Team after its dissolution, continued its group class featuring different trainers every Friday.

"I thank everyone who continuously and tirelessly support Z Crew from its trainers who unselfishly devote their time and effort to come every Friday and lead classes and to The Gym Team for giving us this opportunity continues the classes," stated Bravo.

Bravo, who is called by the community 'Philippine Ambassador of Zumba in Kuwait', urges everyone to make their Friday a healthy and wellness weekend.

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Tunisia crowned champions in volleyball tourney



The Tunisian team clinched the 5th Men's International Volleyball Tournament Independence Cup, which was held at the British School of Kuwait (BSK) campus on 16 February and organized by the British Academy of Sport in collaboration with the Embassy of Greece.

The nail-biting finals played between Jordan and Tunisia was watched by a large crowd, who cheered on every point as the Tunisians ended up as the victorious team with superior smashing skills. A total of 11 teams participated in the tournament that provided exceptional entertainment, sportsmanship and excitement to the competition.

The participating teams were Egypt, Great Britain, India, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Palestine, Philippines, Romania, Tunisia, USA and Zimbabwe. The tournament began with the BSK Samba Band directed by Kevin Owen setting the tone for a splendid tournament that was well-attended and



organized. Founder and Director of BSK Madame Vera Al Mutawa MBE, Greek Ambassador to Kuwait H.E. Andreas Papadakis and the Director

of British Academy of Sport Lucian Anisia were in attendance besides a gathering of Ambassadors, team supporters, families and well-wishers.

The teams played against each other in many exciting matches, with the semifinals pitting Egypt against Jordan and Philippines squaring-off against Tunisia. After an intense match, the Tunisia team emerged winners of the Independence Cup after winning 4 matches.

Madame Al Mutawa, Greek Ambassador Papadakis and BAS Director Anisia presented the Independence Cup trophy to the Tunisian Team and handed over the medals and gifts bags to the other participants. The event was sponsored by Decathlon, Masafi, Crowne Plaza Hotel, ABK, Royale Hayat and Times Kuwait.

The next important events at BAS will be Sports Trip to Singapore during the term break and the 3rd Women's International Volleyball Tournament 'Olympia Cup 2018', which will take place on Friday, 30 March, and all the Embassies from Kuwait are invited to register their team as well.



KICRI pledges fall short of expectations

Iraqi Foreign Minister Ibrahim al-Jaafari responding to the US\$30 billion pledged at the recent Kuwait International Conference on Reconstruction of Iraq (KICRI) said, "We were hoping for more... We are not disappointed, but the amount was less than expected."

The Iraqi delegation accompanying the foreign minister also pointed out that over the next decade Iraq would require over \$88 billion for reconstruction, with \$22 billion needed immediately.

For his part, Iraqi Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi expressed satisfaction at the outcome of the KICRI conference. He also sought to allay fears that the funds pledged would be lost to corruption. "We will not stop fighting corruption, which is not less than terrorism. In fact, it was one of the reasons for the rise of terrorism," the prime minister said.

Announcing the total amount pledged at the closing session of the three-day conference, Kuwait Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah said the \$30 billion in contributions came about as a result of the broad

global commitment to reconstruction of Iraq. He added that the conference saw the participation of 76 countries, 'along with 51 international development funds, 107 local and international non-governmental organizations (NGO), and 1,850 representatives from the private sector'. Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states together with Turkey pledged \$10 billion, a third of the total contributions, while Kuwait on its own contributed KD2 billion. Great Britain promised to grant Iraq export credit of up to \$1 billion per year for a decade, while United States said the country's Export-Import Bank would ink a \$3 billion memorandum of understanding for cooperation across key sectors of Iraq. Together, the eight countries accounted for over \$23 billion in pledges made at the conference. Meanwhile, the World Bank revealed its financial commitments to Iraq now topped \$ 4.7 billion, including two new projects worth \$510 million that were announced at the conference.

The three-day conference, which was held under the patronage of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah

Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, was jointly chaired by the United Nations, the World Bank, the European Union, Iraq and Kuwait. The conference focused on contributing to rebuilding Iraq after years of war and conflict that ravaged the country and destroyed its infrastructure. The first day of the conference deliberated and assessed the overall damage caused by the war and issues that needed to be addressed, as well as the projects to support stability, community reconciliation and peaceful coexistence in Iraq.

On the second day procedures for creating a suitable environment for investment were tackled, with over 200 projects in various sectors of the Iraqi economy being highlighted, including projects in the Iraq's Kurdistan region.

The final day of the conference witnessed the declaration of overall contributions made at KICRI. The closing session was attended by His Highness the Amir of Kuwait, in addition to the Prime Minister of Iraq Haider al-Abadi, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres, World Bank President Jim Yong Kim, and

the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Federica Mogherini. Meanwhile, Abdullah Al-Maatouq, chairman of Kuwait's Islamic International Charity Organization (IICO) said the number of pledges at the NGO conference held to support the humanitarian situation in Iraq had crossed \$330million. Al-Maatouq added that these pledges will be in accordance with humanitarian and development programs in Iraq, especially in areas affected by armed conflicts there, and would be distributed in the areas of health, housing, education, rehabilitation and other humanitarian fields.

For his part, the Director of Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED) Abdulwahab Al-Bader said that a high-level meeting of experts from the private sector, including 420 individuals from various financial institutions and investment companies around the world, underlined the importance of supporting reform programs in Iraq, for the purpose of reconstruction, in addition to enhancing the social aspect in different regions of Iraq

EXCLUSIVE to THE TIMES KUWAIT

Free Speech in the Filter Age



Alexandra Borchardt

Director of Strategic Development at the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism

Germany's Network Enforcement Act — according to which social-media platforms like Facebook and YouTube could be fined €50 million (\$63 million) for every 'obviously illegal' post within 24 hours of receiving a notification — has been controversial from the start. After it entered fully into effect in January, there was a tremendous outcry, with critics from all over the political map arguing that it was an enticement to censorship. Government was relinquishing its powers to private interests, they protested.

So, is this the beginning of the end of free speech in Germany?

Of course not. To be sure, Germany's Netzwerkdurchsetzungsgesetz (or NetzDG) is the strictest regulation of its kind in a Europe that is growing increasingly annoyed with America's powerful social-media companies. And critics do have some valid points about the law's weaknesses. But the possibilities for free expression will remain abundant, even if some posts are deleted mistakenly.

The truth is that the law sends an important message: democracies will not stay silent while their citizens are exposed to hateful and violent speech and images — content that, as we know, can spur real-life hate and violence. Refusing to protect the public, especially the most vulnerable, from dangerous content in the name of 'free speech' actually serves the interests of those who are already privileged, beginning with the powerful companies that drive the dissemination of information.

Speech has always been filtered. In democratic societies, everyone has the right to express themselves within the boundaries of the law, but no one has ever been guaranteed an audience. To have an impact, citizens have always needed to appeal to, or bypass, the 'gatekeepers' who decide which causes and ideas



are relevant and worth amplifying, whether through the media, political institutions, or protest. The same is true today, except that the gatekeepers are the algorithms that automatically filter and rank all contributions. Of course, algorithms can be programmed any way companies like, meaning that they may place a premium on qualities shared by professional journalists: credibility, intelligence, and coherence.

But today's social-media platforms are far more likely to prioritize potential for advertising revenue above all else. So the noisiest are often rewarded with a megaphone, while less polarizing, less privileged voices are drowned out, even if they are providing the smart and nuanced perspectives that can truly enrich public discussions.

If the algorithm does not do the job of silencing less privileged voices, online trolls often step in, directing hateful and threatening speech at whomever they choose. Women and minorities are particularly likely to be victims of online harassment, but anyone may be targeted.

Victims of online harassment often respond with self-censorship, and many, with their sense of security and even self-worth eroded, remove themselves from social media altogether. In this sense, by offering blanket protections in the name of 'free speech', countries actually

privilege hate speech. But why should a victim's rights count less than those of their bullies?

In a democracy, the rights of the many cannot come at the expense of the rights of the few. In the age of algorithms, government must, more than ever, ensure the protection of vulnerable voices, even erring on victims' side at times. If already-vulnerable people are besieged by mobs of extremists and aggressors, it is entirely understandable that they will fear speaking up. If that happens, 'free speech' is dead.

Not all NetzDG critics dispute this assessment: some agree that the speech of the vulnerable does need extra protection. But they argue that the necessary protections are already in place. After all, severe insult and incitement to hatred and violence are prohibited, and perpetrators can be prosecuted. French President Emmanuel Macron, for example, favors focusing on strengthening the judicial system's ability to deal with hate speech and misinformation.

But, in the digital age, speed is decisive. The technology is instant, and online posts can be shared widely within minutes. Democratic institutions move rather slowly — much too slowly for police and the courts to be effective in fighting trolls and online hate. And many victims are not in any position to hire a high-quality lawyer. Relying on the state's most cumbersome institutions alone is not an

effective strategy for protecting free speech on today's digital communication networks.

Hate speech and other kinds of dangerous and illegal content must be attacked at the source. On one hand, there is a need for increased media literacy on the part of consumers, who need to be taught, from a young age, about the real-world consequences of online hate speech. On the other hand — and this is what the NetzDG attempts to ensure — social-media platforms must ensure that their products are designed in ways that encourage responsible use.

But this is no quick fix. On the contrary, it demands a fundamental rethink of business models that facilitate and even reward hate speech. Firms cannot be allowed to profit from damaging content, while shrugging off responsibility for its consequences. Instead, they must revise their algorithms more effectively and scrupulously to flag content that humans should monitor and assess, while entrenching in all of their business decisions an awareness of their responsibility in the fight for truly free speech.

This may contradict the straightforward business logic of doing whatever maximizes profit and shareholder value. But it is, without a doubt, what is best for society. The German government is right to push companies in the proper direction.

The Ritz-Carlton, Bahrain launches a new destination package for families

With the backdrop of the Arabian Gulf, traveling families will embark on a weekend of island discovery with the '2 Together' travel package and enjoy a full suite of signature experiences and Ritz Kids activities at the 5-star Ritz-Carlton, Bahrain, along with daily access to the elevated Ritz-Carlton Club® Level, the only VIP hotel lounge of its kind in the Kingdom of Bahrain. New destination package launches 15 February, and features a 20% savings value on two night minimum stay in the trending island kingdom of Bahrain.

Families will arrive to the private beach resort to experience a home-away-from-home atmosphere as they ascend seven stories to the exclusive Ritz-Carlton Club Level for a personal check-in by a dedicated concierge. From there the journey begins in the Club's private lounge where continuous culinary offerings



complement the memorable family vacation in an intimate and convenient setting overlooking the resort and Arabian Gulf.

For families wanting their own private space, the resort's seaside Villas offer the perfect family escape and includes a roundtrip private

airport transfer when booking the '2 Together' package.

The '2 Together' vacation package starts at BHD 144++ per night for Club Rooms and Suites and BHD 720++ for Villas, and includes access to the private Ritz-Carlton Club® Level Lounge, complimentary



internet access, valet parking and access to the Royal Beach Club fitness facilities and Ritz Kids activities for children ages 4-12 years. Roundtrip private airport transfer also avails for reservations of Club Suites, Diplomatic Suites, and Villas. The 5-star luxury beach resort is

located in the Al Seef district in Manama, Bahrain.

For additional information, please call (800) 00995, the hotel directly at (+973) 1758 0000, or visit <http://www.ritzcarlton.com/en/hotels/middle-east/bahrain> for more information.

EXCLUSIVE to THE TIMES KUWAIT

Traffic Policies for Megacities



Rema Hanna
Co-Director of the Evidence for Policy Design
research program at Harvard University

Urbanization has many advantages. By bringing people together physically, cities inspire innovation and fuel opportunity. They bring workers closer to jobs and facilitate the diffusion of arts and culture. But the benefits of urban life are often accompanied by costs. Perhaps none feels more burdensome and downright infuriating than traffic congestion. Packed roads and bumper-to-bumper traffic mean time wasted and workdays shortened. And stationary vehicles still emit huge quantities of exhaust fumes, damaging the environment and human health.

Many governments have tried to develop policies to reduce traffic congestion by making it more expensive to get behind the wheel. Since 2003, London has successfully implemented a congestion charge, while Singapore wants to use GPS technology to police its own congestion-pricing strategy.

But such policies are harder to implement in poorer countries, where technological capabilities and infrastructure are often lacking. That is why developing countries typically seek more basic policies to improve traffic flows.

For example, in India, Delhi's suffocating air pollution has led the government to experiment with 'even-odd' policies: individuals can drive only on certain days, based on the numbers on their license plates. But this approach has had minimal impact. Gabriel Kreindler of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology has shown that while the policy reduced congestion slightly, drivers circumvented the rule by switching to other vehicles. Vendors also started selling old plates so that drivers could change their tags as needed.

Sadly, India did not learn from other countries' experience. Research by Lucas Davis of the University of California, Berkeley, had already shown that a similar policy, implemented in Mexico City in 1989, did not reduce air pollution — the intended goal — or significantly ease traffic congestion. As in Delhi, households in Mexico City found numerous ways to skirt the rules.

With these documented failures in mind, I



worked with colleagues to study policies that might be more effective. With MIT's Benjamin Olken and Kreindler, we examined the impact in Jakarta, Indonesia, of the widespread policy of high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) restrictions, which limit travel based on the number of passengers in a car.

“Despite what drivers and eventually the government believed, the three-in-one policy was highly effective in reducing congestion.”

Jakarta has some of the worst traffic gridlock in the world. Since the early 1990s, Jakarta's government has sought to improve traffic flows with a rule that private cars driven during rush hours in the city's central business district must contain three or more passengers. Just about everyone despised this 'three-in-one' policy, and people often complained that it created further inconvenience, without reducing time spent on the road. Our research sought to

quantify the policy's true impact. In defending the view that the policy was onerous and ineffective, drivers often pointed to an informal business of enlisting 'professional' passengers. These 'jockeys' would wait near the entry points of Jakarta's three-in-one roads, and, for about 15,000 rupiah (\$1.10), accompany drivers so their vehicle would be in compliance. Lone drivers in need of two additional passengers could hire a mother and baby. According to the policy's opponents, what looked like carpooling was an evasion of it.

Eventually, the Jakarta government sided with the policy's naysayers, announcing in March 2016 that the rules would be suspended indefinitely. For researchers, this created a golden opportunity to measure the impact of a policy before its adoption and immediately after its repeal. To do that, we queried a Google Maps interface every ten minutes, 24 hours a day. With this real-time, crowd-sourced traffic data for each route previously under restriction, we were able to ascertain what happened to traffic flows after the policy was suspended.

The results were striking. Despite what drivers and eventually the government believed, the three-in-one policy was highly effective in reducing congestion. Our data

showed that traffic congestion worsened significantly after the policy was rescinded. On Jakarta's regulated roads, average speeds fell from 28 kilometers per hour to 19 kilometers per hour during the morning rush, and from 21 kilometers per hour to 11 kilometers per hour during the evening rush.

Moreover, we found increases in traffic at times of day that were not previously regulated, and more vehicles appearing on non-regulated roads in general. Thus, suspending the three-in-one policy produced more traffic and less carpooling.

These findings have implications for traffic-control measures in other cities. For example, our data imply that Jakarta's HOV restrictions were more effective than London's congestion pricing or Delhi's even-odd policy. The findings also suggest that while Jakarta's 'jockeys' were a visible presence, they did not weaken the effect of the policy.

As megacities continue to emerge in many developing countries, strategies like Jakarta's three-in-one approach can help reduce gridlock. But they can succeed in delivering benefits only if they are crafted wisely, enforced effectively, and studied well. People will always seek to circumvent regulations, but policymakers must consider all the evidence before they decide to take the off-ramp.

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South African President Jacob Zuma steps down

Em battled South African President Jacob Zuma, under intense pressure from his own ruling African National Congress (ANC) party, tendered his resignation on 14 February.

Announcing his resignation in a television address to the nation, the 75-year-old said, "Even though I disagree with the leadership of my organization, I have always been a disciplined member of the ANC... As I leave I will continue to serve the people of South Africa as well as the ANC, the organization I have served... all of my life." The axiom, 'what goes around comes around' comes to mind.

President Zuma's resignation speech almost echoed the words of his predecessor, Thabo Mbeki, who tendered his resignation on 20 September, 2008. Despite having nine more months to his second-term in office, President Mbeki was forced to step down by the ANC following a court ruling of improper interference by the President in the country's National Prosecuting Authority.

The court had decreed that the President Mbeki interfered in the prosecution's case against his Deputy-President Jacob Zuma, whom the president had earlier sacked over indictments of corruption and fraud. In 2007, Mr. Zuma defeated President Mbeki to become leader of the ANC and was believed to be the main figure behind the ANC National Committee's move to recall the president.

Flash forward to 12 February, 2018 and the National Executive Committee of the ANC has once again asked the country's leader, this time President Jacob Zuma, to step down. President Zuma's nine year presidency had been mired by repeated allegations of corruption and other wrongdoings. He had been resisting increasing pressure to quit since December when his deputy Cyril Ramaphosa replaced him as leader of the ANC. The president who has over the years survived several previous confidence motions against him in parliament, but has now decided against testing his support on the floor of Parliament anymore.



Some of the corruption and charges of wrongdoing leveled against the president since he took office in 2009, and even before, include: In 2016, South Africa's highest court ruled that President Zuma had violated the constitution when he failed to repay government money spent on his private home. Last year the Supreme Court of Appeal

ruled that he must face 18 counts of corruption, fraud, racketeering and money laundering relating to a 1999 arms deal. More recently, the President's links to the wealthy India-born Gupta family, who are alleged to have influenced the government, have caused his popularity to plummet. On 28 December 2007, the National Prosecuting Authority served Zuma an indictment to stand trial in the High Court on various counts of racketeering, money laundering, corruption and fraud. On 14 June 2005, President Thabo Mbeki removed Zuma from his post as Deputy President due to allegations of corruption and fraud related to the \$5-billion weapons acquisition deal by the South African government in 1999.

In December 2005, Zuma was charged with raping a 31-year-old woman at his home in Forest Town, Gauteng. The alleged victim was from a prominent ANC family, the daughter of a deceased comrade of Zuma in the struggle against apartheid.

Liberia's Sirleaf wins African leadership prize



The 2017 'Mo Ibrahim Prize for African Leadership' has been awarded to Africa's first female president and former-president of Liberia, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf.

Announcing the award, the prize committee praised Ms. Sirleaf's work in rebuilding Liberia after the civil war and for leading the process of reconciliation in the country. The committee also pointed out that Liberia was the only country on the continent to improve in every category and sub-category of the Ibrahim Index of African Governance.

Following her election as Africa's first female president in 2006, Ms. Sirleaf served two terms in office before stepping down last month to make way for former US footballer and newly elected President George Weah.

The prize committee admitted that while Ms. Sirleaf was accused of tolerating corruption, she had shown exceptional leadership in difficult circumstances. The former president is the fifth recipient of the prize, which honors African leaders who governed well, raised living standards of the people and then stepped down at the end of their term in office.

The prize was first awarded in 2007 and since then there have been only four winners; on six occasions no African leader was considered worthy of the annual award. Other recipients of the award include former presidents, Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique in 2007; Festus Mogae of Botswana in 2008; Pedro Verona Pires of Cape Verde (2011) and Hifkimpunye Pohamba of Namibia in 2014.

Uganda to investigate allegations of refugee fraud



United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has welcomed the move by the Ugandan government to investigate alleged wrongdoings in the country's refugee programs.

Allegations of inflating refugee numbers, trafficking of women and children, and fraud first came to light in local media, after UN representative in Uganda, Rosa Malango, made a spot check at a refugee camp in the capital Kapala and found only 7,000 refugees, against the official figure of 19,000.

According to official figures, Uganda is reported to be hosting a total of around 1.4 million refugees, mostly from South Sudan and DR Congo. The new allegations will cast doubts on those figures. Other assertions in the media report include faking documents on delivery of food assistance, as well as

demanding refugees pay bribes to access various services that should be free of cost.

So far, four government officials including the Commissioner for Refugees in Uganda, Apollo Kazungu have been suspended as investigations also consider whether UN aid agencies were involved in the fraud.

"UNHCR takes all allegations of corruption, fraud and misconduct very seriously. Dishonest or fraudulent conduct by those involved in refugee response causes great harm to the people we care for and erodes public confidence and donor trust. It is also a disservice to the model policies of Uganda, a country hosting more than a million refugees," said Valentin Tapsoba, Director of UNHCR's Regional Bureau for Africa.

Uganda operates an open border policy and allows refugees to enjoy similar rights to those

enjoyed by its own citizens, provides access to social services and allocates land for shelter and agriculture.

A spokesperson of the prime minister whose office leads the overall refugee response in coordination with UNHCR and other UN aid agencies says 'the investigations will determine what the facts are and what action to take'. "These reports do not change or deter Uganda's long-held record and commitment to providing safety to refugees," the spokesperson said.

UNHCR is also quick to point out that 'corrupt acts of individuals should not be attributed to the integrity of all. The agency commends the government and the people of Uganda for offering 'remarkable hospitality and generosity' in sharing their land and resources for decades.

Somali judge elected President of International Court of Justice

Judge Abdulqawi Ahmed Yusuf of Somalia has been elected as President of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in The Hague, Netherlands.

The ICJ is the main legal entity of the United Nations and is responsible for settling disputes between member states and for giving legal advices and opinions to authorized UN bodies and specialized agencies.

Judge Yusuf was elected as the 25th President of the ICJ for a three-year term and succeeds Ronny Abraham of France, whose tenure as ICJ President ended on 6 February. Before heading the top UN judicial body, Judge Yusuf served as vice-president of ICJ from 2015 and was appointed as a judge to the ICJ in 2009. He is only the third African to hold the title of ICJ President since the establishment of the judicial body in 1945.



Judge Yusuf holds a PhD in international law from the Graduate Institute of International Studies of Geneva and completed his post-graduate studies in international law at the University of Florence in Italy. He is a multi-

linguist, fluent in Somali, Arabic, English, French, and Italian.

He is the founder and General Editor of the African Yearbook of International Law and one of the founders and chairperson of the Executive Committee of the African Foundation for International Law. Judge Yusuf is also a member of the Institut de droit international (Geneva), a member of the editorial advisory board of the Asian Yearbook of International Law, and a member of the Thessaloniki Institute of Public International Law and International Relations curatorium. He has authored several books and numerous articles on various aspects of international law as well as articles and op-ed pieces in newspapers on current Northeast African and Somali affairs.

Ultraviolet light to fight influenza

Continuous low doses of far ultraviolet C (far-UVC) light can kill airborne flu viruses without harming human tissues, according to a new study at the Center for Radiological Research at Columbia University in the US. The findings suggest that use of overhead far-UVC light in hospitals, doctors' offices, schools, airports, airplanes, and other public spaces could provide a powerful check on seasonal influenza epidemics, as well as influenza pandemics.

Scientists have known for decades that broad-spectrum UVC light, which has a wavelength of between 200 to 400 nanometers (nm), is highly effective at killing

bacteria and viruses by destroying the molecular bonds that hold their DNA together. This conventional UV light is routinely used to decontaminate surgical equipment. "Unfortunately, conventional germicidal UV light is also a human health hazard and can lead to skin cancer and cataracts, which prevents its use in public spaces.

Far-UVC light has a very limited range and cannot penetrate through the outer dead-cell layer of human skin or the tear layer in the eye, so it is not a human health hazard. But because viruses and bacteria are much smaller than human cells, far-UVC light can reach their DNA and kill them. Influenza virus spreads from

person to person mainly through fine liquid droplets, or aerosols, that become airborne when people with flu cough, sneeze, or talk. The new study was designed to test if far-UVC light could efficiently kill aerosolized influenza virus in the air, in a setting similar to a public space. In the study, aerosolized H1N1 virus — a common strain of flu virus — was released into a test chamber and exposed to very low doses of 222nm far-UVC light. A control group of aerosolized virus was not exposed to the UVC light. The far-UVC light efficiently inactivated the flu viruses, with about the same efficiency as conventional germicidal UV light.

If the results are confirmed in



other settings, it follows that the use of overhead low-level far-UVC light in public locations would be a safe and efficient method for limiting the transmission and spread of airborne-mediated microbial diseases, such as influenza and tuberculosis.

At a price of less than \$1,000 per lamp — which could be reduced significantly when mass produced — far-UVC lights could prove to be a relatively inexpensive and effective protection, unlike influenza vaccines, against all airborne microbes, even newly emerging strains.

Wireless switch to turn on light in cancer therapy

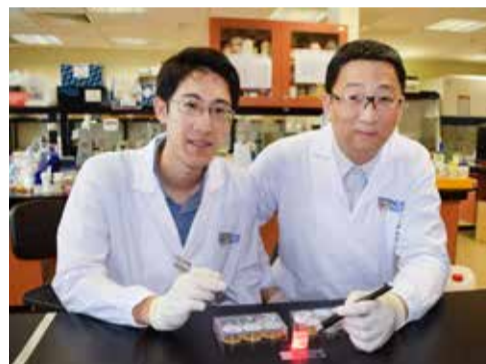
A team of scientists from the National University of Singapore (NUS) has developed a way to wirelessly deliver light into deep regions of the body to activate light-sensitive drugs for photodynamic therapy (PDT).

PDT is a treatment method that uses a light sensitive drug, called a photosensitizer, which is triggered by a specific wavelength of light, to produce a form of oxygen that kills nearby cells. This provides a precision approach to cancer therapy that overcomes many of the whole-body side effects of classical drugs such as chemotherapy. In addition to directly killing cancer cells, PDT shrinks or destroys tumors by damaging blood vessels in the tumor, preventing the cancer cells from receiving necessary nutrients. PDT may also activate the immune

system to attack the tumor cells.

Currently PDT has been limited to the treatment of surface cancers. Traditional light sources such as light-emitting diodes (LEDs) or lasers may be used for surface tumors, such as skin cancer, but the low penetration of light through tissue limits the depth to less than a centimeters. Also, for the inner lining of some organs, such as the esophagus, an endoscope — a thin, lighted tube used to look at tissues inside the body — can be used to insert a fiber optic cable, but other regions cannot be easily accessed by this way. For organs such as the brain or liver, the organ must be exposed by surgery before PDT can be used.

The NUS team's novel approach of enabling PDT to be used for the inner organs of the body



is achieved by inserting a tiny wireless device at the target site, thereby extending the spatial and temporal precision of PDT deep within the

body. The miniaturized device, which weighs 30 mg and is 15 mm³ in size, can be easily implanted, and uses a wireless powering system for light delivery. Once the device has been implanted at the target site, a specialized radio-frequency system wirelessly powers the device and monitors the light-dosing rate.

This novel approach enables ongoing treatment to prevent recurrence of a cancer, without additional surgery. The application of the technology can also be extended to many other light-based therapies, such as photothermal therapy, that face the common problem of limited penetration depth. The researchers now hope to bring these capabilities mainstream in order to provide opportunities to 'shine light' on human diseases.

Self-healable, malleable, recyclable electronic skin



Researchers at the University of Colorado in the US have developed a new type of malleable, self-healing and fully recyclable 'electronic skin' that has applications ranging from prosthetic development, to better biomedical devices and robotics.

A number of different types and sizes of wearable 'electronic skins' also known as 'e-skin' are being developed in labs around the world as researchers recognize their value in diverse medical, scientific and engineering fields. What differentiates the new product

is that it has sensors embedded to measure ambient pressure, temperature, humidity and air flow, as well as the presence of a dynamic network polymer called polyimine, which has been laced with silver nanoparticles to provide better mechanical strength, chemical stability and electrical conductivity.

Like other e-skins, the thin translucent material can mimic the function and mechanical properties of human skin, but the chemical bonding of polyimine allows the new e-skin to be both self-healing and fully recyclable at room temperature. Another benefit of the new e-skin is that it can be easily conformed to curved surfaces like human arms and robotic hands by applying moderate heat and pressure to it without introducing excessive stresses. The researchers said their aim was to try and mimic biological skin with e-skin that has desired functions.

To recycle the skin, the device is soaked into a recycling solution, which makes the polyimine degrade into its constituent parts while the embedded silver nanoparticles sink to the bottom of the solution. Both the recycled solution and nanoparticles can then be used to make new, functional e-skin.

Efficient, affordable drug testing by printed device

Engineers at McMaster University in Canada have created a printed paper-based device that can speed up and improve accuracy of the screening process in drug manufacturing. Their work could also be used to diagnose diseases, identify environmental contaminants and pinpoint biological warfare agents.

Currently, the pharmaceutical industry tests the viability of drugs through multiple stage screening process. The first stage involves testing thousands of drug candidates in rapid succession to see how well they bind, block or degrade a molecule of interest to the target disease. Subsequent stages involve more extensive testing of drugs that show promise in this first step.

However, the way this initial first screen is now done results in many inaccurate results, with as many as 95 percent of drug candidates



having no chance of becoming a useful drug. In most cases, these inaccuracies arise from the candidate drugs sticking together during the screen to create particles that physically, instead of chemically, block the activity of the molecule targeted by the drug. Such inaccuracies are usually discovered only in the slower and more expensive second stage of screening, resulting in significant time and money wasted during the drug discovery process.



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BRAZIL

From frozen-in-time colonial towns to otherworldly landscapes of red-rock canyons, thundering waterfalls and coral-fringed tropical islands, Brazil offers it all.

Famous for being home to one of the world's top national football teams, the Rio de Janeiro Carnival and the remarkable Iguazu Falls, Brazil is more than just an exciting world travel destination. As South America's largest country, Brazil covers a majority of the continent's northeastern region and borders all of its countries except for Chile and Ecuador. From the Amazon rainforest in the North to the tropical beaches along the Atlantic, to the Pantanal wetlands and the vibrant metropolises of the Southeast there are plenty of interesting places to visit in Brazil.



Rio de Janeiro: There is no destination more animated and exciting than Rio de Janeiro. Located in southeastern Brazil, Rio de Janeiro is the most visited city of South America due to its famous mountains, landmarks, beaches and Carnival festivals. It is situated on one of the world's largest harbors surrounded by natural attractions that include the Sugarloaf and Corcovado mountains and famous beaches like Copacabana and Ipanema. The city's iconic landmark is the enormous Christ the Redeemer statue sitting atop Corcovado Mountain. Carnival celebrations here are among the largest in the world, with vibrant parades, costumes, dancing, music, fireworks and street parties.



São Paulo: Not only is Sao Paulo the largest city in Brazil, but it is also one of the largest in the world according to population. Located in southeastern Brazil, Sao Paulo is known for its skyscrapers, gastronomy and robust culture scene. It is home to many ethnic groups from all over the globe including the largest Japanese community outside of Japan. Although Sao Paulo is known for its concrete jungle, it also contains a large number of public parks and even portions of the Atlantic rainforest.

Brasilia: Located in the Brazilian Highlands, Brasilia was installed in 1960 as Brazil's capital. Its modern day infrastructure is designed in the shape of an airplane in which each of its sections serve as different districts such as government, commercial, residential and cultural. The city's new and creatively designed buildings attract many architecture aficionados. Most significant is the Three Powers Square, which houses the Presidential



Palace, the Congress and the Supreme Court. Other important buildings include the Brasilia Cathedral with its glass roof that resembles hands reaching up to heaven.



Curitiba: This thoroughly urban capital of Paraná state is a well-known performance center. Visit the Wire Opera, a steel tube building with a see-through roof, as well as the Guaíra Theatre for some great programs. Curitiba is also well known to urban planners across the globe as one of the most efficient cities ever built. You will find a six-block stretch designated as a pedestrian zone, tons of parks and trees, innovative solutions to urban problems like pollution and poverty. It is a unique place to recharge before ending your Brazilian adventure.



Fortaleza: Nice beaches, dynamic shopping and lively culture all make Fortaleza one of Brazil's popular places to visit. The capital of the Ceará state on the country's northeastern coast, Fortaleza is Brazil's fifth largest city. The most popular beach is Praia do Futuro, but other favorites are Iracema, Mucuripe and Meireles. Not only are the beaches great for swimming, sunbathing and surfing, but they also offer hotels and restaurants. Fortaleza also serves as the jumping-off point for many visitors to truly spectacular beaches, rolling dunes and idyllic fishing villages up and down the Ceará coast.

Parati: A paradise of tropical forests, waterfalls, emerald sea and coastal mountains, Parati is a popular tourist attraction located along Brazil's Green Coast in the Rio de Janeiro state. Also spelled Paraty, this beautiful city is a former Portuguese colony established on the shores of the Bay of Ilha Grande. The heart of Parati is its historic center with cobbled streets and multicolored colonial houses, many of which now serve as bed-and-breakfast accommodations called pousadas. One of the

Iguazu Falls: One of the world's most stunning natural wonders, Iguazu Falls is a series of magnificent waterfalls located on the Iguazu River, straddling the border between Brazil and Argentina. The Falls in and of themselves are a breathtaking spectacle, but their beauty is all the more enhanced by the surrounding lush forest teeming in exotic wildlife. The gateway to the Falls on the Brazilian side is Foz do Iguaçu, a big and reasonably safe city by Brazilian standards.

most popular attractions are the colonial defense forts that still boast original walls and cannons.



Bonito: This city is a one-street town full of charisma. It serves as an ecotourism model for Brazil and as a hub for the surrounding areas. If you are an outdoor adventurer and water enthusiast, then this is your spot. Discover Abismo Anhumas, a gigantic cavern covered in stalactite where you can dive and swim in an underground lake as well as do some abseiling.



Recife: Nicknamed the 'Venice of Brazil' because of its numerous waterways and bridges, Recife is the capital of the Pernambuco state and one of the largest and most important cities on Brazil's northeastern coast. Situated amid tropical forests with many islands and rivers, Recife is a popular tourist destination because of its historic old town, beaches and vibrant culture.

Manaus: The capital of the Amazonas state in northwestern Brazil, Manaus is an important tourist destination because it serves as a gateway to the Amazon rainforest. As a result of the region's flourishing rubber industry during the early 20th century, Manaus today is one of Brazil's largest cities, featuring distinguished landmarks like the Amazonas Opera House, and the Rio Negro Palace. Another significant sight is the Meeting of the Waters, which is a natural phenomenon where the two rivers of Negro and Solimões run side by side for more than three miles without fully mixing.



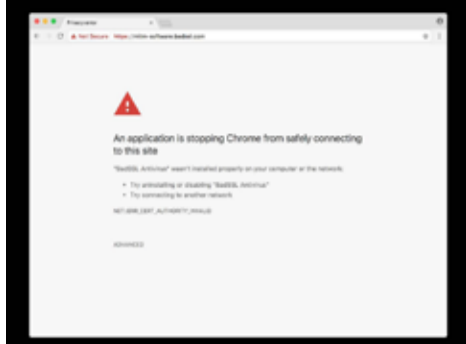
Indonesian street vendor kiosks get smart tech

Chrome to mark sites without HTTPS as 'not secure'

With the launch of version Chrome 68 in July, Google's browser will flag every site that does not use HTTPS encryption as 'not secure' and prominently highlight this in its URL bar.

Over the course of the last few years, Google has strongly advocated the use of HTTPS to help keep your browsing data safe from anybody who could be spying on your web traffic while it is in transit between your browser and a server. With Chrome version 62, Google already started marking all HTTP sites that had data entry fields as insecure and even back in 2016, it already started showing the same warning for all sites that asked for passwords and credit cards. With the upcoming update in July, every HTTP site will be flagged as 'not secure,' whether it includes input fields or not.

Developers have clearly heard the call. Google notes that 81 of the top 100 sites on the web now use HTTPS by default and that 80 percent of Chrome traffic on both Chrome OS and Mac and 70 percent of traffic from Chrome



on Windows is now protected. For Chrome traffic on Android, that number is 68 percent.

Still, this means that there are, and probably always will be, plenty of sites that have not made the move yet. Despite projects like Let's Encrypt and others, the process of enabling HTTPS for existing sites is not easy and it is likely that some webmasters and developers will simply opt to keep things running as they are, no matter the warnings that Chrome will soon show their visitors.

Street vendor kiosks that adorn the streets of Indonesian capital Jakarta are getting on smart tech bandwagon thanks to East Ventures, an early-stage investor that has backed unicorns like Tokopedia, Traveloka, Mercari.

Their latest investment, Warung Pintar (smart kiosk store) helps street vendors revamp their store with a bright and colorful design, and a range of tech that includes a digital POS, free Wi-Fi, an LCD screen, power bank chargers and more. The venture, which announced a \$4 million seed round last week, was conceived barely six months ago.

East Ventures' managing partner Willson Cuaca said the whole idea came about when the firm was revamping their Jakarta office in October 2017. "One street vendor was worried we would chase him out because we had renovated our space and made it look nice. Instead, we asked him 'Why don't we help to renovate your kiosk?'" explained Mr. Cuaca.

Unlike most other retail ventures, the startup is not immediately seeking revenue. The only fee is \$5,000 from the vendor, and that is to cover the cost of a new prefab kiosk, which is distinctively colored bright orange with black. Warung Pintar provides all the tech smarts free of charge to help kiosk owners engage with the local community, for example, the Go-Jek and Grab drivers who tend to hang around the kiosk store near East Ventures' office.

Indeed, after that first vendor said his revenue had grown five-times, East Ventures decided that there was an opportunity to be realized. "The whole vision is social impact," Mr. Cuaca said. "We quickly did a seed round and it became over-subscribed, we're overwhelmed by the response."

Alongside East Ventures, other investors include SMDV, Digital Garage, Insignia Ventures Partner, Tripura Group, and a number of

undisclosed angels. East Ventures' associate Agung Bezharie moved over to become CEO of the business.

While it is not looking to make money right now, the team behind Warung Pintar is assessing the potential to draw revenue without charging the kiosk owners directly. They are looking at taking a cut if kiosks connect financial service providers to store owners, or help to broker other services.



There may also be opportunities to tap online commerce, perhaps to enabling ordering coffee or other goods locally, once the business has established a wider network. The initial focus in Jakarta — via a district-by-district approach — but there are plans to expand across Indonesia, which is the world's fourth largest country with 260 million people and Southeast Asia's largest economy, said Mr. Cuaca.

"For the longest time nobody took care of these vendors," said Cuaca, who said there are discussions ongoing to extend the financing round further still.

He added that the venture is influenced by the ongoing focus on combining online and offline commerce in China, except while retaining human jobs rather than automating them.

Healthcare market in GCC to cross \$100 billion by 2023

Continued from Page 1

The average life expectancy at birth in the GCC is about 77 years and the crude death rate of three per 1,000 people is much lower than that of many developed countries.

In addition, rising affluence in the region has promoted sedentary lifestyles and high-fat, fast food choices that have led to an upsurge in chronic non-communicable diseases (NCD), such as obesity, diabetes, cancers and cardio-pulmonary diseases. Nearly three-quarter of all the deaths registered in the region in 2015 were from NCDs; and the rates for cardiovascular diseases, cancers and diabetes are among the highest in the world.

Meanwhile, according to latest figures from the World Health Organization (WHO), the



overall number of physicians per 1,000 people in the GCC averaged 1.75; nursing personnel averaged 4.75 per 1000 population; and the number of hospital beds per 1,000 population averaged 1.73. These figures contrast sharply with those for the developed world, for instance the figures for the United States and the European Union were on average 3.1 physicians, 8.9 nursing staff and 4.2 beds per 1,000 population.

The combination of economic and financial pressures, together with increased demand and limited health resources, have forced governments in the region to invite greater private sector participation in the delivery of health services. In line with this strategy, there has been a foray of private players into various healthcare sectors, including investments in specialized hospitals and individualized

healthcare services. However, the presence of state-funded and private healthcare providers have led to confusion about the strategic directions of healthcare delivery in the GCC. Public health facilities currently offer free healthcare to citizens of GCC, and at a nominal charge to expatriates.

With pressure on existing health services mounting, there is an increasing trend in the region to limit public health care to citizens, or at least charge expatriates considerably more to access public health facilities and services. Meanwhile, private health facilities target mainly the more affluent sections of citizens and expatriates in the society.

But, with a significant portion of expatriate population in the GCC made up of blue-collar workers, who can ill-afford high healthcare costs, it is clear that policy makers need to devise a strategy that provides for Universal Health Coverage (UHC) as mandated by the WHO. This mandate calls for ensuring delivery of essential healthcare services across all strata of society, without causing financial hardship to any healthcare recipients.

The health care challenges, and strategies being implemented to overcome them, by GCC states are hampering efforts towards achieving UHC across the region. Even the planned roll-out of mandatory national health insurance schemes is rife with potential potholes. It has been shown that private medical insurances generally tend to increase overall healthcare expenditures and moreover, at this stage, it is not clear who would foot the bill for insurance premiums — the employer who would in most cases not be willing to, or the employee who cannot afford to.

In view of these challenges, policy makers in the region are being urged to emphasize, prioritize and strengthen sustainable healthcare strategies. Among the recommendations made by the Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office of the WHO is to design and launch programs that focus on shifting the service modality from curative to preventive primary care; from reactive to proactive care; and from intermittent to continuous and consistent care. The healthcare policies should not only ensure the sustainability of GCC healthcare services, but also to safeguard its affordability and accessibility to all sections of society.

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0.950 Dabur Vatika
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KD. ~~3.630~~
1.790 Olay
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