Saied sacks 57 judges, tightens grip on courts

Fri, 2022-06-03 00:04

TUNIS: Tunisian President Kais Saied on Thursday sacked 57 judges accused of corruption and other crimes, after passing a new law strengthening his grip on the judiciary.

Saied, who has steadily extended his powers since he sacked the government and suspended parliament last July, issued a decree late on Wednesday allowing himself to unilaterally sack judges for “actions … that could compromise the judiciary’s reputation, independence or functioning.”

Main category:
Middle-East

Queen Elizabeth’s platinum jubilee: A reminder of the special bonds between Saudi and British royal families

Thu, 2022-06-02 22:41

LONDON: As congratulations flooded into London this week from heads of state around the world, two messages in particular served as reminders of the special relationship that has flourished between the Saudi and British royal families throughout the 70-year reign of Queen Elizabeth II.

Main category:
Middle-East

Abu Dhabi bans single-use plastic bags

Wed, 2022-06-01 23:55

ABU DHABI: Restrictions on single-use plastic bags took effect in the UAE capital Abu Dhabi Wednesday, as part of its efforts for a “greener future.”

The “single-use plastic bags ban starts today … to encourage sustainable living in Abu Dhabi,” the emirate’s media office said.

“Retailers in the emirate are encouraged to offer environmentally friendly reusable bags with a nominal fee to encourage positive behavioral change in the community, and support emirate-wide efforts for a greener future.”

Main category:
Middle-East

Demonstrations over building collapse in Iran show no sign of abating

Wed, 2022-06-01 23:48

PARIS: The deadly collapse of a building in southwestern Iran has accentuated anger over price rises and economic deprivation that sparked protests which have now lasted three weeks and show no sign of abating, observers say.

With video footage showing the use of bitter slogans against the government and even supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, the protests present a hugely delicate moment for the Islamic republic’s leadership.

Main category:
Middle-East

US, Israeli officials to coordinate to prevent Iran from getting nuclear weapons: White House

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Wed, 2022-06-01 19:57

US and Israeli officials committed to coordinating efforts to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons in a meeting of senior officials, the White House said in a statement on Wednesday.
The officials also discussed economic and diplomatic steps to achieve their goals and reviewed ongoing cooperation between the US and Israeli militaries in Tuesday’s meeting, the White House said.

Main category:
Middle-East