

# ROYALE HAYAT HOSPITAL CELEBRATES 7 YEARS OF TRUST



**KUWAIT:** Royale Hayat Hospital has been named Best Hospital in Kuwait for the Seventh Year at the Service Hero Awards, Arab World's 100 percent consumer-driven customer satisfaction index. "Receiving this award for the seventh time is an honor. We value this award, because it reflects the satisfaction of our community and customers. At Royale Hayat Hospital, we work as a team to provide the best and most advanced services and technology in the medical and hospitality industry. As chairman and members of the board, we are committed to fulfill the needs of patients and families in Kuwait."

Since launching in 2006, Royale Hayat continues to provide the safest, most modern and highest quality of medical care and services to the Kuwaiti society in an environment of compassion, comfort and care. This vision has guaranteed Royale Hayat's leading place in the health sector and has redefined the benchmarks in hospitality.



## SURPRISED ASTRONOMERS FIND TATOOINE-LIKE, TWO-STAR SYSTEM

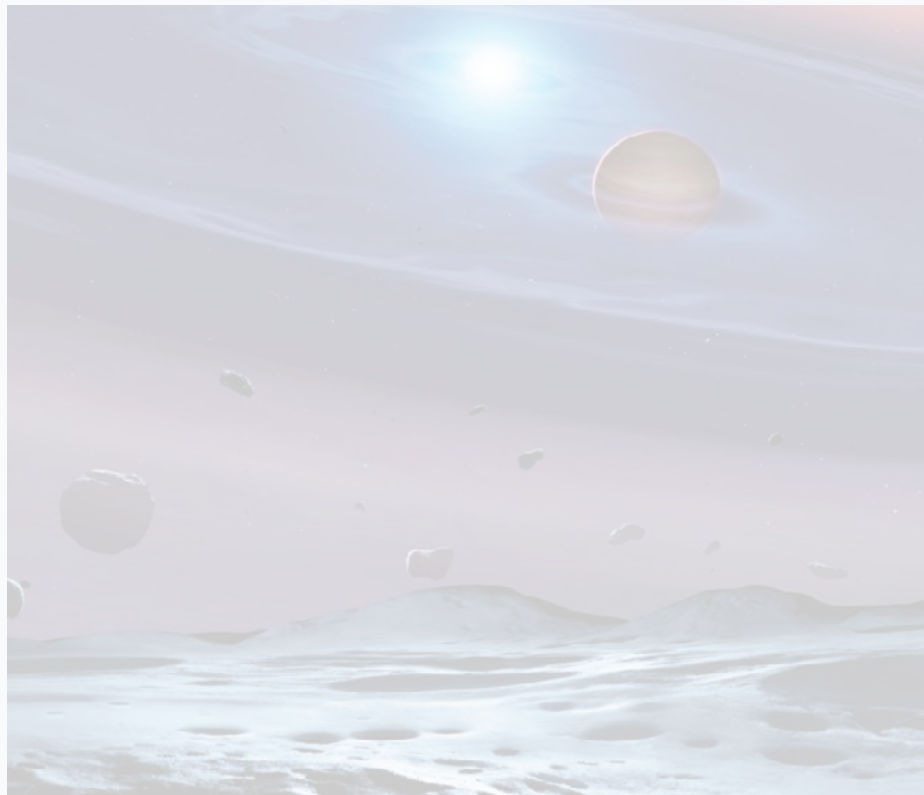
**PARIS:** Astronomers said Monday they had found hints of a planetary system closely resembling that of Tatooine, the home of Star Wars Jedi Luke Skywalker, orbiting a duo of suns. The evidence came in the form of seemingly rocky debris orbiting two stars "a white dwarf and a brown dwarf" in a system called SDSS 1557 some 1,000 light years away.

The "debris appears to be rocky and suggests that terrestrial planets like Tatooine might exist in the system," said a statement from University College London (UCL), which took part in the study.

All other planets discovered orbiting double stars have been gas giants similar to Jupiter. Now in SDSS 1557, a team has found planetary material with a high metal content, including silicon and magnesium, which is more common to rocky worlds. Building rocky planets around two stars is difficult, according to Jay Farihi from UCL, the study's lead author. The gravity of each star exerts push and pulls forces, preventing bits of rock and dust sticking together and growing, as in the usual planet-building process.

"With the discovery of asteroid debris in the SDSS 1557 system, we see clear signatures of rocky planet assembly," said Farihi. In our own Solar System, the asteroid belt contains left-over building blocks from the rocky planets Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars. These rocks are studied to better understand how potentially habitable planets are formed. The same approach was used to analyze the SDSS 1557 system, where planets cannot yet be detected directly, the astronomers said.

The discovery came as a "complete surprise," added the team, who assumed the system contained a single star, a white dwarf, only to discover a brown dwarf hidden in the asteroid dust. "But when we observed SDSS 1557 in detail, we recognized the brown dwarf's subtle gravitational pull on the white dwarf," said Steven Parsons of the University of Sheffield. The team studied the system by measuring different wavelengths of light, or spectra, using two large telescopes based in Chile. In the Star Wars saga, Tatooine is a desert planet circling two suns, and with three moons of its own. —AFP



**IN SPACE:** This handout image shows a disc of rocky debris from a disrupted planetesimal surrounds white dwarf plus brown dwarf binary star. —AFP

## CHATTING ROBOTS AND MUSIC: FUN GADGETS ON SHOW IN BARCELONA

**BARCELONA:** While smartphones get top billing at the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona, Spain, it's the quirky, under-the-radar products that are getting a lot of the visitors' attention. Here's a glimpse of some of the gadgets and apps displayed by start-up companies this week at the fair, the world's largest for wireless technology.

### Cute robot

Living in Seoul, Jong-Gun Park looked around him one day and decided his fellow South Koreans needed some help expressing their emotions. "We are so busy these days, always running to and from work, taking our kids to school, studying, that we no longer find the necessary time to interact with each other," said Park, CEO of the company Circulus. Enter Pibo, the friendly dinner table ice-breaker.

Pibo is a charming little robot whose goal is to get you and your loved ones sharing your daily life more. "Are you tired?" he asks, "I will play music without boredom." Sure, he still needs to hone his English, but he's always eager to ask about your day or provide updates on weather conditions. Still a prototype, Pibo comes in a case, should you wish to take him along on vacation. He is, after all, a member of the family. For an expected \$490 a pop.

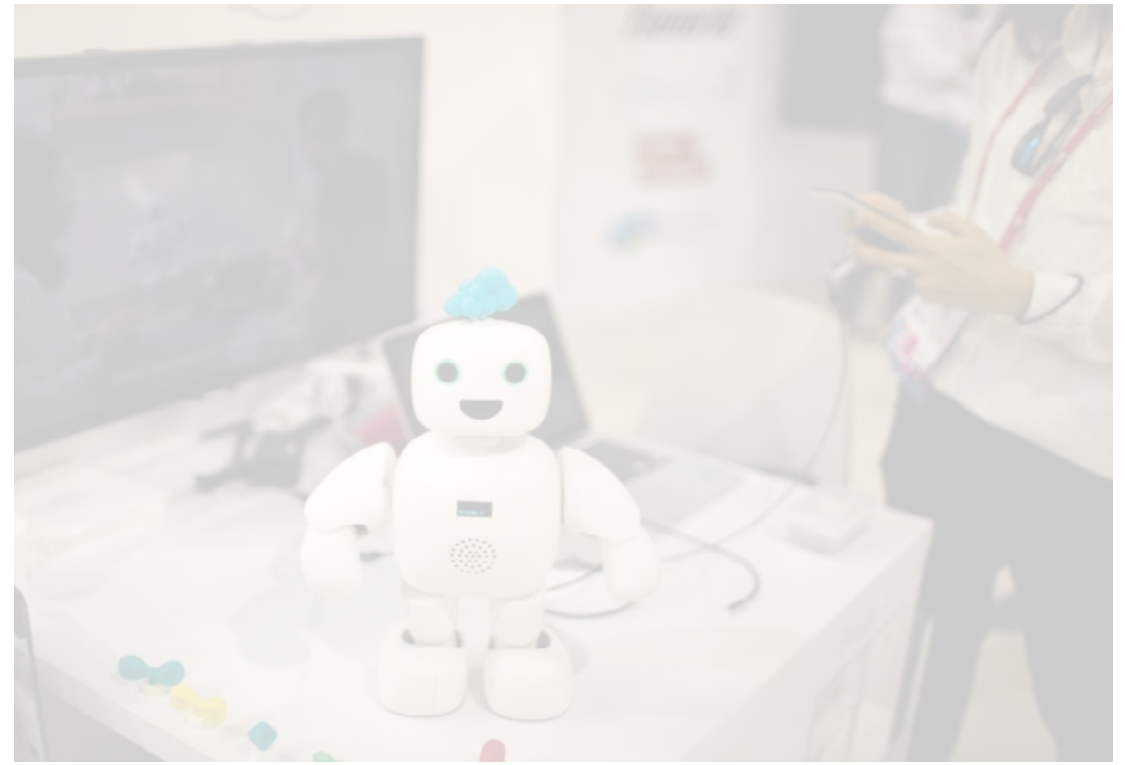
### Just add water

Growing your own veggies may become possible even for urbanites with tiny studio apartments. Israeli startup Living Box offers a modular, unfoldable, solar-powered little greenhouse that you can use to harvest anything from tomatoes to tea and herbs. "We have a slow release water system for irrigation, with a novel liquid nutrient solution and bacteria to avoid the use of pesticides, as well as an app prototype updating weather conditions and other relevant data right to your smartphone, so you don't have to monitor it," explained Nitzan Solan, CEO of the company.

The idea was to create a sustainable, affordable and simple mobile farming system that could be operated by anyone around the globe. As of now, Living Box is testing in 50 sites around Israel, the U.S. and Nigeria, and aims to try locations in Spain and Fiji. It is expected to carry a market price of \$300.

### Cool hang

The hang, a metal percussion instrument shaped like a flying saucer, is beloved of street performers the world round and often associated with meditation practices like yoga. Now it comes in a fully digital version. When delicately tapped, the Oval can reproduce the sounds of a



**BARCELONA:** Pibo robot, whose main purpose is getting you and your loved ones sharing your daily life again, receives instructions from her owner, at the Four Years from Now (FYFN) show, a sidebar event of Mobile World Congress in Barcelona, Spain. — AP

hang as well as other instruments, like drums, trumpets and even violins.

Musicians Ravid Goldschmidt and Alex Posada, the co-founders of the Spanish startup that makes the oval, say they sought to start a "revolution of percussion" with this instrument. Already on the market, the Oval is aimed at all kinds of consumers, with about 40 percent estimated to be amateur or professional musicians. It goes for about \$950.

### To see or not to see

Samsung's Relumino headset aims to do nothing less than help the blind see. The gadget, shaped like virtual reality glasses, recasts images of the world in a way that someone with vision problems can see more clearly. The glasses are still in a developmental stage and, although it's still too early to venture a market price for them, Samsung Senior Engineer Junghoon Cho hopes to compete with other more expensive visual aids out there.

Besides correcting blurred images, the headset can eliminate blind spots and improve peripheral vision. "If we make our own project,

people who are visually impaired can walk outside using our glasses... We want to help them have a better social relationship with other people," said Cho.

### Shopping vision

Worried the new couch might not squeeze through door? Sri Lanka-based startup Live room is trying to solve your angst. Its virtual reality technology aims to give shoppers a live look at how products in online stores would fit into your home. This is how it works: you shoot an image of the space in question via a live view button and then consult their catalog on the app for the item you want.

The item will pop up on your tablet or smartphone set in the image of your home. You can move and rotate the item and change its colors, fabric and material. "If you're buying online, via e-commerce, you have only images. You have to visualize the product in your mind and maybe the dimensions and the colors are wrong," said founder and CTO Sameera Nilupul. "With this technology, you can see exactly how the products look in your own home." —AP

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