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WHY IPL REMAINS MOST EXCITING CRICKET LEAGUE



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Study: Youth less happy than older people

WORLD HAPPINESS REPORT PLACES FINLAND AT NO. 1 SPOT FOR 7TH TIME

DUBAI
BY STEPHEN N. R.
Senior Associate Editor

There is rising unhappiness among younger people, and the trend has caused the United States and some large western European countries to fall down a global wellbeing index, while Nordic nations retain their grip on the top spots.

In North America, Australia and New Zealand, happiness among groups under 30 has dropped dramatically since 2006-10, with older generations now happier than the young.

Dr Vivek Murthy, the US surgeon general, said allowing children to use social media was like giving them medicine that is not proven to be safe. He said the failure of governments to better regulate social media in recent years was "insane".

Murthy spoke to the *Guardian* as new data revealed that young people across North America were now less happy than their elders.

Happiness inequality increased in every region except Europe, which authors described as a "worrying trend".

The rise was especially distinct among the old and in Sub-Saharan Africa, reflecting inequalities in "income, education, health care, social acceptance, trust, and the presence of supportive social environments at the family, community and national levels," the authors said.

Happiness survey

The annual World Happiness Report, launched in 2012 to support the United Nations' sustainable development goals, is based on data from US market research company Gallup, analysed by a global team now led by the University of Oxford.

People in 143 countries and territories are asked to evaluate their life on a scale from zero to 10, with 10 representing their best possible life. Results from the past three years are averaged to create a ranking.

Finland remained in the top spot — with an average score of 7.7 — followed closely by Denmark, Iceland and Sweden, while Afghanistan and Lebanon held the bottom two spots, with scores of 1.7 and 2.7 respectively.

— With input from Reuters

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Reuters

PALESTINIAN EVACUEES ATTEND IFTAR IN ABU DHABI

Palestinian evacuees from Gaza gather for iftar at Emirates Humanitarian City in Abu Dhabi yesterday. The facility is hosting over 1,200 Gazans who were provided a safe haven here after the Hamas-Israel war broke out on October 7. **SEE ALSO P9**

UAE to launch real time cloud seeding

Project seeks to transform weather modification techniques

ABU DHABI
BY ABDULLA RASHEED
Abu Dhabi Editor

UAE is all set to launch cloud seeding in real time in a bid to enhance rainfall in the country.

A team of the UAE Research

Programme for Rain Enhancement Science (UAERP) held a project kick-off meeting with Professor Daniel Rosenfeld of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and his team at the Mohammed Bin Zayed University of Artificial Intelligence (MB-ZUAI), one of the project collaborators.

Alya Al Mazroui, director of UAERP, said: "With the goal of unity in science, this initiative underscores UAERP's commitment to advancing cutting-edge research in rain

enhancement science, furthering our mission to address global water security challenges. We look forward to supporting Professor Rosenfeld and his team as they seek innovative solutions."

Prof Rosenfeld, a leading expert on weather modification and climate change, said: "Through our project, we aim to develop actionable methods to identify cloud seedability for real-time analysis, revolutionising the way cloud seeding is performed and evaluated."

Weather alert

Meanwhile the National Centre of Meteorology (NCM) has predicted cloudy weather this weekend, with a chance of heavy rain accompanied by thunder and lightning in some parts of the UAE between Sunday and Tuesday.

The NCM forecast said that the UAE will see partly cloudy to overcast skies on Friday and Saturday with a chance of light to moderate rain over scattered areas.

SEE ALSO P2

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NATION

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Dubai Metro impact drives surge in city-wide rents

Dubai South offers alternatives with homes for all income categories

DUBAI
BY MANOJ NAIR
Business Editor

Are you considering renting an apartment near a Dubai Metro station in JLT or the emerging residential hub of Al Furjan?

Real estate experts say residents must be prepared for rental premiums of up to 30 per cent or more compared to units slightly further away. With rents rising, the Dubai Metro significantly impacts residential rents in these areas, potentially widening the rental gap further.

According to a recent report from Reidin-GCP, the proximity of buildings or communities to these stations is exerting its own influence on rental prices. In Al Furjan, two-bedroom apartments command rents of Dh80,000 and above, with rates nearing Dh100,000 for units in newly completed buildings, depending on their proximity to a station.

In JLT, two-bedroom options vary widely in price,

Real estate experts say residents must be prepared for rental premiums of up to 30 per cent or more compared to units slightly further away.

ranging from Dh105,000 to Dh180,000, reflecting the influence of metro proximity on rental demands.

As a solution, more and more residents are turning to Dubai South for respite. Dubai's sprawling mixed-use destination is home to about 25,000 residents, and their numbers will rise sharply in the coming 24-36 months while offering affordable rents.

Nabil Al Kindi, CEO of Dubai South Properties, said, "Our mandate has always been offering spacious properties for affordable prices," he said.

"Looking ahead to 2025, Dubai South Properties is on track to complete approximately 2,500 units. Other developers could add around 5,500 units to the market."

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