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Bahrain draws support from Latvia

TDT | Manama

Latvia President Edgars Rinkevics expressed his condemnation and denunciation of the Iranian attacks targeting the territory of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

He affirmed his country's solidarity and support for the measures undertaken by Bahrain to safeguard its sovereignty, security, and national achievements.

This came as His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa received a telephone call from President Rinkevics.



HM the King

During the call, HM the King affirmed that the Kingdom will remain steadfast in its established approach founded on



President Rinkevics

wisdom and moderation, and in promoting peace and cooperation with its Arab, regional, and international partners.

Nurseries, special education schools set for reopening

TDT | Manama

The Ministry of Education has announced that nurseries, kindergartens, and schools catering to pupils with special needs will reopen from Sunday, 5 April 2026.

All other students will continue remote learning until further notice.

The decision follows a review of recent precautionary measures introduced to ensure continuity in education.

The ministry said the updated arrangement provides greater flexibility for families while supporting early childhood education and special education needs.

From Sunday, parents will have the option to send children back to nurseries and kindergartens.

Schools serving students with special needs, in both the public and private sectors, will also resume in-person teaching and support services.

Non-Bahraini health fees rise as waits persist

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Long waits for serious cases in Bahrain's public health system and the delayed start of health insurance for non-Bahrainis were thrust back into view.

This came after MP Mahmoud Fardan said the strain on state care could no longer be brushed aside.

H.E. Health Minister Jaleela Al Sayed said a tender had been put out for the insurance scheme and fees for non-Bahrainis were already being raised in stages.

Fardan said the timing was far from ideal given the exceptional circumstances, but argued that the figures spoke for themselves.

He said government hospitals and primary health-care centres had recorded about 67,028 cases between 2023 and 2025, which he said showed the weight now falling on the health sector.

Illnesses

The lawmaker pointed to National Audit Office findings on long waits in outpatient clinics for serious illnesses, including kidney disease and heart valve cases.

Addressing aggression, advancing jobs



His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, remotely chaired the 525th Government Executive Committee meeting. The Committee reviewed plans implemented to address the impact of the hostile Iranian aggression against the Kingdom of #Bahrain, as well as initiatives aimed at developing labour market procedures.

MPs seek six-month LMRA fee relief for distressed firms

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

A six-month break from Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) fees is being sought under an urgent proposal from MP Abdulwahid Qarata and four other MPs,

who say firms are under strain as income falls and costs climb. The proposal calls for a full waiver of all fees charged by the authority, including those linked to issuing and renewing licences and work permits, sponsorship transfers, residency renewals tied to work contracts, annual work contract charges, recruitment fees and

any other sums paid by companies for services it provides.

In their explanatory note, the MPs say businesses in Bahrain are going through exceptional strain, with income in some key trades said to have fallen by 40 to 60 per cent.

Construction, tourism, retail and logistics are named among the hardest hit. The note says many small and medium-sized firms have shut, while thousands of Bahraini and expat jobs have been lost.

It says higher labour costs, energy bills, rents and international shipping charges have left many firms short of cash and unable to pay suppliers.

Reward heroes

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Parliament yesterday passed an urgent proposal urging the government to reward and honour everyone who helps maintain security and safety in Bahrain after the Iranian attacks.

This includes members of the Bahrain Defence Force (BDF), the Royal Guard, the National Guard, the Interior Ministry

(both civilian and military personnel), and volunteers.

The motion calls on the government to take suitable steps to recognise them through financial rewards, job-related benefits or honorary medals, in keeping with the scale of the work carried out during that period.

It was submitted by MPs Bader Al Tamimi, Hamad Al Doy, Lulwa Al Rumaihi, Mohammed Salman Al Ahmed and Moham-



MP Bader Al Tamimi

med Mousa.

Speaking in support of the proposal, Al Tamimi said it was meant to acknowledge "the great efforts" made by members of the security and military bodies in Bahrain, led by the BDF, the Royal Guard, the National Guard and the Interior Ministry, alongside civilian support teams.

He said those groups had played "a prominent national role in preserving security and

stability" and in meeting "the various challenges imposed by the exceptional circumstances" linked to the attacks.

Al Tamimi said the personnel involved had shown "a high level of readiness, discipline and professionalism" and had helped in "protecting lives and property, ensuring the continuity of essential services, and strengthening the sense of security among citizens and residents" despite the pressure of the situation.

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