



No Immunity Treason

TDT | Manama

The Speaker of Bahrain's Parliament, Ahmed bin Salman Al Musallam, voiced full support for remarks made by HM King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, stressing that parliamentary membership does not grant immunity to defend or justify acts of treason.

Al Musallam said the legislature "does not take pride" in any member who supports or executes actions that harm the nation or its supreme interests, warning that those who deviate from national principles must bear the consequences of their positions.

He expressed regret over what he described as some lawmakers aligning with "traitors," adding that such positions contradict both patriotism and the oath of office.

The speaker underlined that all members of the legislative authority have national duties, with the country's interests taking precedence over all affiliations. He said lawmakers must act as a shield for the nation, uphold unity, and represent the people faithfully.

Referring to "Iranian aggression" against Bahrain, Al Musallam said the incident exposed those who had "sold their conscience," insisting that treason has no justification and no place in the kingdom.

He also praised the readiness and response of Bahrain's armed forces in confronting the incident, adding that citizens stand united behind the leadership.

King's vision

TDT | Manama

Bahrain's labour system continues to advance under the leadership of HM King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, delivering stronger protections for workers and improving workplace standards in line with national law and the constitution, said Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh, the head of the Shura Council.

220 fils (includes VAT)



Historic Flight

First US flight to Venezuela in seven years lands in Caracas, marking historic resumption of air links. What's happening in the world? | P8

Nation Above All

TDT | Manama

HM King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa reaffirmed that Bahrain's security and unity remain a shared responsibility, "a trust in the hands of all its citizens."

Speaking to the media, the HM King said a recent incident, which Bahrain attributed to an Iranian attack, exposed attempts to undermine the country's security while also revealing "true loyalties" during a critical moment.

He noted that Bahrain's armed forces remained on high alert and fully prepared to defend the nation.

His Majesty called on Iran to cease interference in the internal affairs of Bahrain and other Gulf states, expressing strong concern over actions he said threatened national sovereignty.

He added that such concerns reflected broader public sentiment across the Kingdom.

The King also criticised individuals accused of cooperating with external actors, describ-



HM the King



HRH Prince Salman

ing such actions as a betrayal of national trust. He stressed that citizenship represents a binding responsibility and commitment, not merely a formal status.

Addressing the legislative authority, His Majesty expressed regret over the alignment of some parties accused of undermining national security, underscoring that public rep-

resentation requires loyalty to the nation. He added that legal measures taken against those convicted in related cases aimed at safeguarding stability and preventing escalation, noting that citizens across the Gulf broadly support firm action against such violations.

King's Vision Guides

HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister, said remarks by HM King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa serve as a guiding framework for national action and a firm approach to safeguarding the country's interests and achievements.

The Crown Prince said the directives reflect a wise leadership vision that prioritises the nation and its citizens, while reinforcing security, stability and prosperity across the kingdom.

He stressed the importance of confronting those who align themselves with hostile forces or act against national interests, underscoring that Bahrain's strength lies in the unity and solidarity of its people under the King's leadership.

Gulf strategic backbone

Bahrain, Saudi Arabia reaffirm 'historic' strategic ties in Manama talks

TDT | Manama

His Royal Highness Crown Prince and Prime Minister Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa met Saudi Arabia's Ambassador Naif bin Bandar Al Sudairi in Manama. Both sides reaffirmed the strength of longstanding ties and strategic cooperation between the two Gulf allies.

Prince Salman highlighted the support of HM King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and hm King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud in strengthening bilateral relations, noting that ties are rooted in shared aspirations for prosperity and development.

He also praised the role of Saudi Crown Prince and Prime Minister Mohammed bin Salman, saying his initiatives and vision reflect the depth of relations between the two kingdoms and contribute to advancing cooperation across sectors.

The Crown Prince and Prime Minister said Bahrain remains



HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister with Saudi Ambassador Naif bin Bandar Al Sudairi

committed to expanding coordination and partnership with Saudi Arabia at all levels, stressing the importance of building on the strategic relationship to

create new opportunities for growth.

Discussions also covered regional and international developments, as well as outcomes

of the recent extraordinary GCC consultative summit in Jeddah, which both sides said had reinforced Gulf coordination and integration.

'Cross Safely'

TDT | Manama

Bahrain will launch Gulf Traffic Week on May 3, under the theme "Cross Safely," as authorities intensify efforts to raise road safety awareness and reduce traffic accidents across the region.

The Director-General of Traffic, Major General Shaikh Abdulrahman bin Abdulwahab Al Khalifa, said the annual campaign is an important platform for strengthening community awareness on road safety and its role in protecting lives and property.

He said this year's observance comes amid "exceptional regional circumstances" in the GCC, circumventing the importance of prioritising public and road safety for all road users.

The campaign coincides with World Traffic Day on May 4, he noted, praising motorists in Bahrain for increasing compliance with traffic laws and improved driving behaviour, which contribute to smoother traffic flow and safer roads.

Shaikh Abdulrahman said responsible road culture reflects Bahrain's "civilised image".

Attempted Robbery

TDT | Manama

The Public Prosecution in the Capital Governorate has ordered the detention of an Asian man following an attempted robbery at a money exchange company.

Investigations show that the suspect allegedly entered the premises and threatened two staff members with a knife, demanding cash. The employees quickly triggered the alarm system, forcing him to flee the scene before any money was taken.

Following a police investigation, officers identified and arrested the suspect, recovering the knife and clothing used in the incident. He later confessed during questioning after being confronted with CCTV footage and other evidence.

PARTNERS IN PROGRESS

Workers' Rights Commended

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa received a congratulatory cable from the head of the executive council of the Free Trade Union Federation of Bahrain on the occasion of International Workers' Day.

In the message, council chief Yacoub Yusuf Mohammed ex-

tended greetings on behalf of the federation's members, describing May 1 as a day that reflects the values of work and contribution, and highlighting the role of workers in national development.

He praised the king's continued royal patronage and support for Bahraini workers, saying his directives had helped strengthen labour rights, improve work-

ing conditions, and ensure a safe and stable work environment.

The union official also commended the king's leadership in addressing regional challenges, including regional tensions, saying government measures had helped safeguard national security and maintain economic and labour stability.

He added that Bahrain's labour

market remained resilient despite challenges and reaffirmed the union's commitment to national unity and continued support for stability and development.

Meanwhile, His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, received a congratulatory cable from the Chairman of the Executive

Council of the Free Trade Union Federation on the occasion of International Workers' Day.

In the message, Yacoub Youssef Mohammed extended his best wishes to the Crown Prince, commending Bahrain's continued commitment to supporting workers and strengthening labour rights and stability in the Kingdom.

Steps up autism inclusion

Four students fully integrated in Primary School



- 1,500 students with special needs in government schools
- 440 students with autism
- Programmes support skills development and integration

TDT | Manama
Hasan Barakat

Four students. One classroom shift. And a milestone in Bahrain's growing push for inclusive education.

At Buri Primary Boys School, four students with autism have been successfully integrated into mainstream classrooms this academic year, following a structured journey of academic, social, and behavioural development.

The process began with specialised support in dedicated classrooms, followed by gradual partial integration before full inclusion, under the supervision of qualified special education staff.

The most recent case involved student Hassan Abdulaziz Abdulameer, whose transition followed the meeting of readiness criteria, including stronger social interaction and clear academic progress.

Special education teacher Ayman Ahmed Haroon said the student's development reflected consistent progress. Learning difficulties specialist Jaafar Abbas Hilal noted that the support plan focused on strengthening language skills and applying them in everyday classroom situations.

Officials said Bahrain continues to invest in tailored programmes that help students move step by step towards full inclusion in mainstream education.

Workers Day Tribute



National cadres in Bahrain were praised as a key pillar of development on the occasion of International Workers' Day. The Shura Council Services Committee highlighted their dedication and commitment across sectors, noting their vital role in driving the Kingdom's progress.

Municipal Staff Honoured



The Northern Area Municipal Council marked International Workers' Day with a ceremony honouring its employees for their service and dedication. Officials praised staff contributions to improving municipal services and enhancing institutional performance.

School Labour Awareness



BIS students marked Labour Day with activities promoting respect, empathy, and appreciation for all professions. From creative exercises for younger students to debates and research projects for seniors, the programme encouraged understanding of workers' roles in society. The celebration concluded with a "Wall of Gratitude," reinforcing the value and dignity of every form of work.

Parliament panel flags issues in corporate tax bill



TDT | Manama
Hasan Barakat

Parliament's Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee raised constitutional concerns over a draft law introducing corporate income tax while approving the legality of several other legislative proposals.

The committee, chaired by Mahmood Mirza Fardan, reviewed several draft laws and proposals as part of its ongoing oversight of legislative compliance with the Constitution.

Members found a potential constitutional issue in the draft corporate income tax law and business activities framework submitted under royal decree, which

placed it under further scrutiny.

In contrast, the committee approved the constitutionality of a proposal to amend Article 104(b) of the private sector Labour Law.

It also endorsed a proposal to introduce a new Article 7 bis to the Judicial Authority Law, referring it to the Financial and Economic Affairs Committee for further review before submission to the Bureau of the Council of Representatives.

Under supplementary items, the committee approved amendments to the law regulating industrial areas and a draft law ratifying changes to the GCC unified excise tax agreement.

Labour Concerns



TDT | Manama
Mohammed Darwish

Bahrain's main trade union federation marked May Day by warning that workers face shrinking job security, weaker trade union representation, rising poverty and a widening gap between rich and poor.

The General Federation of Bahrain Trade Unions, in a statement for International Workers' Day, said the day should be when workers see the gains they fought for in pay, rights and workplace conditions.

It praised the government's measures in Bahrain to limit the damage from the crisis.

BD8000 House Theft



The Interior Ministry announced that the Capital Governorate Police Directorate arrested a 36-year-old man for stealing items valued at around BD8,000 from a house in Manama.

The investigation led to the suspect's arrest. Legal procedures were taken, and the case was referred to the Public Prosecution.

US envoy visits American Mission Hospital



Stephanie L. Hallett, the United States ambassador to Bahrain, paid a courtesy visit to King Hamad American Mission Hospital, where she was briefed on the facility's advanced medical services and patient care standards.

The ambassador was received by senior management, including chief executive George Cheriyan and group CEO Julia Tovey, who guided her through the hospital's departments and

outlined its clinical capabilities.

During the tour, Hallett saw the hospital's modern technologies and its approach to patient-centered care, as well as its role in expanding access to specialised treatment in Bahrain.

She praised the institution's use of advanced medical systems and the quality of care provided, highlighting its contribution to the kingdom's healthcare sector.

Bahrain Becomes DHL Hub

Deal reflects confidence in kingdom's investment climate

TDT | Manama

All legal and regulatory procedures have been completed to register one of the world's largest companies in the air freight sector, namely "DHL Air Bahrain," to take the Kingdom of Bahrain as a centre and headquarters for its operational and commercial activities. This milestone marks a significant step in strengthening Bahrain's position as a regional and global hub for civil aviation and logistics.

Dr. Shaikh Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications, said the development reflects Bahrain's steady progress in line with the National Civil Aviation Strategy (2026-2027) and Bahrain Economic Vision 2030.

The Minister noted that the decision highlights strong international confidence in Bahrain's



regulatory framework, investment environment, advanced infrastructure, and strategic location that connects key regional and global markets. He said it will enhance the Kingdom's air cargo capabilities and strengthen its role as a leading logistics hub.

The move also supports the broader civil aviation ecosystem, complementing national carriers such as Gulf Air and enhancing sector diversity and operational flexibility.

He further pointed out that DHL Air Bahrain operates a fleet of 12 cargo aircraft, conducts 266

"Bahrain's supportive business environment and strong infrastructure have been key enablers of our growth"

ABDULLAZIZ ABDULLAH BUSBAIT, CEO OF DHL AIR BAHRAIN FOR THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

weekly flights to 23 countries, and has handled over 70% of Bahrain's air cargo traffic in the past five years.



India-Bahrain Air Connectivity Strengthens

IndiGo and Air India Express Announce New Summer Schedules

TDT | Manama
Pradeep Puravankara

Travel options between India and Bahrain have received a significant boost as major carriers IndiGo and Air India Express have announced a series of direct flights and reinstated routes starting this season. In a key development for the Indian expatriate community, Air India Express officially commenced its direct flight services from Kozhikode to Bahrain yesterday, April 30, 2026, marking a vital addition to the region's connectivity. From now on, Air India Express will operate four flights weekly from Kozhikode to Bahrain.

The move comes as a major relief for travelers, aligning with the upcoming summer vacation season when travel demand typically surges. Alongside the new Kozhikode service, Air India Express is also strengthening its footprint by reinstating direct flights between Kannur International Airport and Bahrain starting May 7, 2026. These Kannur flights will operate twice a week, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, departing Kannur at 20:35 and returning from Bah-



rain at 23:35.

This expansion is part of a broader regional strategy by Air India Express, which has officially reinstated its full operations across West Asia. As of today, the airline—a Tata enterprise—has restored connectivity to Qatar and Bahrain while enhancing flight frequencies to the UAE, Oman, and Saudi Arabia. The carrier now operates over 40 daily flights to the Gulf region from major Indian gateways including Delhi, Mumbai, Kochi, Kozhikode, and Bengaluru.

In Qatar, the airline has resumed vital links to Doha from Kochi and Kozhikode. Meanwhile, its Saudi Arabian network now covers Jeddah, Riyadh, and Dammam from var-

ious South Indian cities. The airline continues to maintain a robust presence in the UAE and Oman, operating a fleet of over 100 aircraft.

IndiGo is also set to play a major role in this expansion, resuming its daily direct service between Mumbai and Bahrain starting Saturday, May 2, 2026. According to the new schedule, the flight will depart Mumbai at 20:50 and arrive in Bahrain at 21:55. The return leg departs Bahrain at 22:55, reaching Mumbai at 05:10 the following morning. Beyond Mumbai, IndiGo has also opened bookings for connecting flights to various Indian cities and announced that direct services from Bahrain to Kochi and Hyderabad will commence on June 18.

Workers are backbone of Bahrain's economy

TDT | Manama
Hasan Barakat

Workers across the Kingdom of Bahrain are recognised as a driving force behind the Kingdom's growth, as Parliament marked International Workers' Day with a message focused on jobs, rights and economic resilience.

The Council of Representatives praised the role of employees across all sectors, highlighting their contribution to productivity and national development under the leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, and the continued support of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister. Parliament stressed the impor-

ance of expanding quality job opportunities for young Bahrainis, while reinforcing the position of citizens as the first choice in employment and training.

It also pointed to the need for stronger legislative and regulatory frameworks to keep pace with labour market demands and economic changes.

The Council commended government programmes and cooperation with the private sector, particularly efforts aimed at supporting job seekers and addressing unemployment through targeted policies.

It underlined the importance of protecting workers' rights and recognising their contribution, describing the workforce as a cornerstone of Bahrain's economic strength.



NHRA reduces drug approval processing time

TDT | Manama

Pharmaceutical companies in Bahrain will now face shorter waiting times to update registered medicines following a service upgrade aimed at speeding up approvals and improving efficiency.

The National Health Regulatory Authority (NHRA) enhanced its system for processing changes to registered medicines, reducing timelines and strengthening regulatory checks.

Under the new framework, major changes will be processed within 40 working days, down from 45, while minor changes can be approved within seven working days.

Applications can now be submitted electronically through the "Adwiyah" system, allowing companies



"The upgrade strengthens medicine oversight and improves efficiency for companies."

to upload documents, pay fees and receive approvals digitally.

The authority said the improvements also streamline procedures by reducing approval layers, standardising service information and increasing transparency.

Continued support for UN missions



TDT | Manama

Top police official has reaffirmed support for United Nations missions in the kingdom during a meeting with senior UN security officials, the Interior Ministry said.

Police Chief Lt. Gen. Tariq bin Hassan Al Hassan met UN Resident Coordinator Khalid M. Al-Moqed, George Altaras, Senior Security Adviser in the UN Department of Safety and Security, and Majed Mastoor, UN Security and Safety Director in Bahrain.

Police Chief stressed the Interior Ministry's commitment to providing full support to UN missions, stating that protecting international personnel and assisting their humanitarian work remains a security priority in line with international agreements and standards.

UN officials expressed appreciation for Bahrain's "leading role" in ensuring the safety and security of UN staff and operations, praising the level of coordination and professionalism that helps enable humanitarian and development programmes.

Security Cooperation



Bahrain Defence Force Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sheikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa received Finance and National Economy Minister Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa in Manama, where they discussed cooperation and coordination between the two sides.

Three-Month Pension Payment Pause

- Deferment will carry no interest, fees, or penalties
- Payments are postponed, not cancelled
- Intended as a temporary relief measure



Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Pension replacement payments for public-sector workers and retirees would be paused for three months under an urgent proposal approved by Parliament on Tuesday, as MPs sought relief for households facing strain from the after-effects of the Iranian attacks.

The proposal, put forward by MP Mohammed Al Maarafi and four other MPs, calls for the three-month deferment to be

This proposal comes as Bahrain faces exceptional economic conditions resulting from the Iranian attacks and their direct and indirect effects on citizens' living conditions

MOHAMMED AL MAARAFI, MP

granted without interest, added fees or extra charges.

Mr Al Maarafi said the measure aimed to ease the month-

ly burdens on people who had used pension replacement to meet their needs, but now found the payments harder to bear.

"Those effects have weighed on people's ability to meet their financial duties on time. Pension replacement is one of the funding tools used by public-sector workers and retirees to meet their needs, but the monthly sums due under this system can add to the burden in the current circumstances, especially with rising living costs or where some families' income has been affected."

Finances

The proposed pause would not cancel the sums owed. It would delay repayment dates for three months, giving beneficiaries time to reorder their finances.

Mr Al Maarafi said the step was temporary and sought to balance household relief with the financial position of the bodies concerned.

"Deferring pension replacement payments for three months, without any interest or added fees, is a temporary measure aimed at easing financial pressure and giving beneficiaries a period in which to rearrange their affairs," he said.

"This is not a write-off of the debt. It is a temporary deferment that balances the interests of beneficiaries with the financial considerations of the bodies concerned, while also matching the state's approach in helping citizens during exceptional circumstances."

He said the proposal had been filed urgently because of the need for near-term measures to ease the economic effects now being felt by families.

"The urgency of this proposal stems from the need to take measures that ease the current economic effects and help those benefiting from the pension replacement system, strengthening their ability to face living pressures," he said.

Government shoulders majority of water costs

TDT | Manama

Consumers in Bahrain paid less than half the cost of water services in 2024, while covering just over two-thirds of electricity costs, according to data released by the Electricity and Water Authority.

The authority said total spending on producing, transmitting and distributing water and electricity reached 713.1 million Bahraini dinars (\$1.89bn) last year, with electricity accounting for 550.8 million dinars and water for 162.3 million dinars.

State subsidies covered 52% of water costs, or 85.2 million dinars, leaving consumers to pay 48%. For electricity, government support stood at 175.3 million dinars, or 32%, with consumers covering the remaining 68%.

The figures were provided in response to a parliamentary question by MP Mamdouh Al Saleh.

The authority said all water supplied through Bahrain's network is desalinated and safe for drinking, with no mixing with groundwater. Most desalination uses seawater, except at Ras Abu Jarjur, which uses reverse osmosis to treat groundwater.

The authority said produc-



Mamdouh Al Saleh, MP

Water

- Total production cost: BD117.3 million
 - Transmission: BD31 million
 - Distribution: BD14 million
 - Gas share of production costs: 29%
- ## Electricity
- Total production cost: BD416.8 million
 - Transmission: BD79 million
 - Distribution: BD55 million
 - Gas share of generation costs: 58%

tion costs remain unchanged regardless of subsidy levels or tariff adjustments.

Relief for Souq Al Baraha traders

TDT | Manama



Mohammed Al Olaiwi, MP

The parliament approved an urgent proposal calling for government intervention to support tenants and investors at Souq Al Baraha in Diyar Al Muharra, as traders warn that rising rents and weak footfall are pushing businesses to the brink.

The motion, led by MP Mohammed Al Olaiwi, urges the Ministry

of Industry and Commerce and the Labour Fund (Tamkeen) to introduce rent relief, wage support for Bahraini employees, and to open talks with the market's owners and management.

Al Olaiwi told parliament that many small and medium-sized traders were struggling with high operating costs, including rents and service charges, while customer numbers had declined.

He said the downturn had been worsened by reduced regional tourism and visitor flows, which he linked to wider regional tensions affecting travel and spending patterns in the Gulf.

According to the proposal, traders say repeated rent increases and fees have become unsustainable, forcing some tenants to consider closure or legal disputes with management.

MPs Seek Tamkeen Aid for Left-Out Bahraini Staff

TDT | Manama

Bahraini workers left outside Tamkeen aid schemes would be brought under support for companies hit by the current conditions, under an urgent proposal put forward by MP Mohammed Moosa and four other MPs.

The plan covers Bahraini staff who have never received Tamkeen aid, as well as those who benefited before but are no longer covered by the latest schemes.

Its aim is to help firms under strain keep Bahraini workers on the payroll, while easing the risk that families lose part or all of their income.

Mr Moosa said the proposal had been tabled because some businesses faced mounting strain that harmed their ability to keep local staff.

He said this had fallen hardest on Bahraini employees who have not benefited from support programmes, or who benefited previously and are not included in the current support schemes.



Quote

This has increased concern over the job stability of these groups, and the possibility that they may lose their sources of income

MOHAMMED MOOSA, MP

The MP said the gap raised fears over job security among workers already carrying living costs.

He added that such a blow would weigh on Bahraini households and called for urgent action to bring all eligible workers under Tamkeen's aid umbrella.

BIS Hosts Grand Investiture Ceremony



Juzer Rupawala, Director of Lulu International Group, with Bhavans Bahrain Indian School officials and students

TDT | Manama

Bhavans Bahrain Indian School (BIS) marked the start of the 2026-2027 academic year with an investiture ceremony celebrating student leadership and responsibility.

The event was attended by Juzer Rupawala, Director of Lulu International Group, who highlighted the importance of leading by example and urged students to embrace integrity and initiative.

Sreyas Sreevalsan was elected Head Boy and Sarah Ann Roy as Head Girl, while Daksh Choudhary and Mayookha Roopchand were named Vice-Head Boy and Vice-Head Girl, respectively,



following a selection process.

The ceremony featured the formal induction of the student council—including sports captains, house leaders, committee members and prefects—who received sashes and badges symbolising their roles.

School director Himanshu Verma said leadership requires accountability and ownership, while director Ritu Verma congratulated the students on their appointments.

Principal Saji Jacob administered the council oath, urging

members to uphold discipline and serve as role models.

The ceremony concluded with the school anthem after an interactive session between school leadership and the newly elected council, which reinforced support for student governance initiatives.

Salary-only rule for housing applications

TDT | Manama

Five Bahraini lawmakers have submitted an urgent proposal to exclude cost-of-living allowances from income calculations used to determine eligibility for state housing programmes.

The initiative, led by MP Jalal Kadhem, calls on the government to base housing eligibility assessments on basic salaries only, arguing that allowances intended to offset rising living costs should not be treated as part of applicants' income.

The proposal is backed by MPs Jaleela Alawi, Najib Al Kuwari, Mohammed Al Maarafi and Jameel Mulla Hassan. It seeks amendments to provisions under Ministerial Decision No. 909 of 2015 and its subsequent updates, which regulate access to government housing services.

MP Kadhem said the current system counts cost-of-living allowances as part of monthly income, despite their purpose being to help households cope with higher expenses rather than increase their eligibility threshold.

BEYON B.S.C.


Financial Highlights (presented for information purposes only)
For the three months ended 31 March 2026

Three months ended 31 March	Unit	2026	2025	Variation %
Gross revenue	BD million	119.0	117.6	1.2%
Expenses	BD million	95.3	91.5	4.1%
Profit attributable to Beyon shareholders	BD million	15.3	18.1	(15.4%)
Return on net worth (Annualized)	%	10.5	12.5*	(16.0%)
Weighted average number of shares outstanding during the period	Million	1,653	1,653	0.0%
Basic and diluted earnings per share for the period	Fils	9.2	10.9	(15.6%)

*Based on actual figures for the year ended 31 December 2025

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Financial Position
As at 31 March 2026

	BD'000	
	31 March 2026 (reviewed)	31 December 2025 (audited)
ASSETS		
Non-current assets		
Property and equipment	469,319	471,548
Right-of-use assets	58,245	57,607
Goodwill	161,766	162,290
Other intangible assets	174,284	176,537
Equity accounted investees	15,731	11,917
Deferred tax assets	6,659	6,682
Investments	57,805	59,915
Other non-current assets	11,958	11,728
Total non-current assets	955,767	958,224
Current assets		
Inventories	9,166	7,205
Trade receivables and other assets	188,889	176,906
Investments	17,212	17,163
Cash and bank balances	145,532	145,995
Total current assets	360,799	347,269
Total assets	1,316,566	1,305,493
LIABILITIES		
Non-current liabilities		
Trade payables and other liabilities	39,695	39,915
Lease liabilities	50,947	50,441
Loans and borrowings	307,340	305,196
Deferred tax liabilities	5,227	5,385
Total non-current liabilities	403,209	400,937
Current liabilities		
Trade payables and other liabilities	265,945	235,979
Lease liabilities	8,993	8,804
Loans and borrowings	22,955	22,531
Total current liabilities	297,893	267,314
Total liabilities	701,102	668,251
Net assets	615,464	637,242
EQUITY		
Share capital	166,320	166,320
Statutory reserve	93,826	93,826
General reserve	44,000	44,000
Other reserves	(8,368)	(4,383)
Treasury shares	(5,000)	(4,494)
Retained earnings	258,992	278,873
Total equity attributable to equity holders of the Company	549,770	574,142
Non-controlling interest	65,694	63,100
Total equity	615,464	637,242

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income
For the three months ended 31 March 2026

	BD'000	
	2026 (reviewed)	2025 (reviewed)
REVENUE	118,976	117,551
EXPENSES		
Network operating expenses	(43,481)	(42,051)
Staff costs	(18,376)	(17,196)
Depreciation and amortisation	(19,389)	(19,364)
Impairment loss on trade receivables and contract assets	(991)	(726)
Other operating expenses	(13,109)	(12,211)
Total expenses	(95,346)	(91,548)
Results from operating activities	23,630	26,003
Finance and related income	1,065	1,361
Finance and related expense	(5,760)	(6,010)
Other income (net)	689	1,685
Share of profit from equity accounted investees (net)	588	417
Profit before taxation	20,212	23,456
Tax expense	(2,332)	(2,604)
Profit for the period	17,880	20,852
Other comprehensive income:		
Items that are or may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss:		
Foreign currency translation differences – foreign operations	(1,891)	2,122
	(1,891)	2,122
Items that will never be reclassified to profit or loss:		
Investment fair value changes (equity securities)	(2,175)	(8,372)
	(2,175)	(8,372)
Other comprehensive income	(4,066)	(6,250)
Total comprehensive income for the period	13,814	14,602
Profit for the period attributable to:		
Equity holders of the Company	15,286	18,077
Non-controlling interest	2,594	2,775
	17,880	20,852
Total comprehensive income for the period attributable to:		
Equity holders of the Company	11,220	11,827
Non-controlling interest	2,594	2,775
	13,814	14,602
Basic and diluted earnings per share (Fils)	9.2	10.9

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows
For the three months ended 31 March 2026

	BD'000	
	2026 (reviewed)	2025 (reviewed)
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Profit for the period	17,880	20,852
Adjustment for:		
Non-operating items, including tax	6,338	5,568
Share of profit from equity accounted investees (net)	(588)	(417)
Depreciation and amortisation	19,389	19,364
Impairment loss on trade receivables and contract assets	991	726
	44,010	46,093
Working capital changes:		
Increase in trade receivables and other assets	(17,411)	(12,829)
Increase in inventories	(1,977)	(2,358)
Increase / (decrease) in trade payables and other liabilities	897	(1,153)
Cash generated from operating activities	25,519	19,753
Taxes paid	(3,472)	(2,785)
Payment to charities	(128)	(1,696)
Net cash from operating activities	21,919	15,272
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Acquisition of property, equipment and intangibles, net of disposal	(16,690)	(29,519)
Net cash from (purchase) / sale of other investments	(1,228)	10,631
Interest and investment income received	1,638	1,478
Net cash used in investing activities	(16,280)	(17,410)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Dividend paid	(1)	(6,280)
Payment of lease liabilities	(3,690)	(2,909)
Interest paid	(4,650)	(5,848)
Borrowings drawn, net	2,828	17,860
Acquisition of share-based payment treasury shares (net)	(496)	(461)
(Acquisition) / sale of market making shares (net)	(10)	286
Net cash (used in) / from financing activities	(6,019)	2,648
(Decrease) / increase in cash and cash equivalents during the period	(380)	510
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January	127,759	102,292
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 March	127,379	102,802

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity
For the three months ended 31 March 2026

2026	Equity attributable to equity holders of the Company											Non-controlling interest	Total equity
	Share capital	Statutory reserve	General reserve	Other Reserves			Treasury shares		Retained earnings	Total			
				Foreign currency translation reserve	Investment fair value reserve	Share based payment reserve	Market making shares	Share based payment treasury shares					
At 1 January 2026	166,320	93,826	44,000	(15,938)	10,995	560	(3,439)	(1,055)	278,873	574,142	63,100	637,242	
Profit for the period	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,286	15,286	2,594	17,880	
Other comprehensive income													
Foreign currency translation differences	-	-	-	(1,891)	-	-	-	-	-	(1,891)	-	(1,891)	
Investment fair value changes	-	-	-	-	(2,175)	-	-	-	-	(2,175)	-	(2,175)	
Total other comprehensive income	-	-	-	(1,891)	(2,175)	-	-	-	-	(4,066)	-	(4,066)	
Total comprehensive income for the period	-	-	-	(1,891)	(2,175)	-	-	-	15,286	11,220	2,594	13,814	
Contributions and distributions													
Final dividends declared for 2025	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(3,601)	(3,601)	-	(3,601)	
Donations approved for 2025	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(3,566)	(3,566)	-	(3,566)	
Acquisition of market making shares (net)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(10)	-	-	(10)	-	(10)	
Acquisition of treasury shares	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(496)	-	(496)	-	(496)	
Equity-settled share-based payment	-	-	-	-	-	81	-	-	-	81	-	81	
Total contributions and distributions	-	-	-	-	-	81	(10)	(496)	(35,167)	(35,592)	-	(35,592)	
At 31 March 2026 (reviewed)	166,320	93,826	44,000	(17,829)	8,820	641	(3,449)	(1,551)	258,992	549,770	65,694	615,464	

The condensed consolidated interim financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 30 April 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

Abdulla bin Khalifa Al Khalifa
 Chairman

Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa
 Deputy Chairman

Andrew Kvalseth
 Chief Executive Officer

Beyon reports Q1 2026 financial results

Manama

Beyon BSC, yesterday announced its financial results for the first quarter of 2026. Beyon reported net profit attributable to equity holders of BD15.3M (US\$40.6M) for Q1 2026, a 15% decrease from BD18.1M (US\$48.0M) reported for the corresponding quarter of 2025. The decrease in net profit attributable to equity holders is mainly due to one-off income of BD 2.5M (US\$ 6.6M) recorded in Q1 2025 that did not recur in Q1 2026, alongside the current geopolitical situation negatively impacting Beyon and several of its subsidiaries, including operations in the Kingdom of Bahrain, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the Maldives. Earnings per share (EPS) are 9.2 fils for the first quarter of 2026, compared to 10.9 fils in Q1 2025.

Total comprehensive income attributable to equity holders in Q1 2026 was reported at BD11.2M (US\$29.7M), a 5% decrease from BD11.8M (US\$31.3M) in the first quarter of 2025, mainly due to foreign currency translation differences.

Operating profit for Q1 2026 stood at BD23.6M (US\$62.6M), a 9% decrease from BD26.0M (US\$69.0M) reported in Q1 2025. EBITDA totaled BD43.0M (US\$114.1M) in Q1 2026, compared to BD45.4M (US\$120.4M) in

Beyon Chairman
HE Shaikh
Abdulla bin
Khalifa Al
Khalifa



	Q1 2026		Q1 2025		Variance
	BDM	US\$M	BDM	US\$M	
Gross Revenues	119.0	315.6	117.6	311.9	+1
EBITDA	43.0	114.1	45.4	120.4	-5
Operating Profit	23.6	62.6	26.0	69.0	-9
Net Profit attributable to equity holders of the company	15.3	40.6	18.1	48.0	-15
Total Comprehensive income attributable to equity holders of the company	11.2	29.7	11.8	31.3	-5
Customer Base (telecom operations)*	4.6M		4.5M		+2
Contribution to Revenues by International Operations	57%		55%		+2
Contribution to EBITDA by International Operations	60%		57%		+3

*Excludes subscriber numbers from Sabafon, Beyon's associate company in Yemen, and Etihad Atheeb Telecom, Beyon's investment in Saudi Arabia.

the same period last year, reflecting a 5% decline, with an EBITDA margin of 36%.

Revenues for Q1 2026 increased by 1% to BD119.0M (US\$315.6M), up from BD117.6M (US\$311.9M) in Q1 2025, primarily driven by growth in digital services and international operations.

Beyon's balance sheet remains strong with total equity attributable to equity holders of BD11.2M (US\$29.7M), a 5% decrease from BD11.8M (US\$31.3M) in the first quarter of 2025, mainly due to foreign currency translation differences.

Operating profit for Q1 2026 stood at BD23.6M (US\$62.6M), a 9% decrease from BD26.0M (US\$69.0M) reported in Q1 2025. EBITDA totaled BD43.0M (US\$114.1M) in Q1 2026, compared to BD45.4M (US\$120.4M) in

holders of the company of BD549.8M (US\$1,458.4M) as of 31 March 2026, 4% lower than BD574.1M (US\$1,522.8M) reported as of 31 December 2025. Total assets of BD1,316.6M (US\$3,492.3M) as of 31 March 2026 are 1% higher than total assets of BD1,305.5M (US\$3,462.9M) as of 31 December 2025. Net assets as of 31 March 2026 which stand at BD615.5M (US\$1,632.6M) are 3% lower than BD637.2M (US\$1,690.2M) reported as of 31 December 2025. The Company reported cash and bank balances of BD145.5M (US\$385.9M) as of 31 March 2026.

Strong support

Beyon Chairman HE Shaikh Abdulla bin Khalifa Al Khalifa announced the financial results for the first quarter of 2026 following a meeting of the Board of Directors in which he affirmed the strong support extended to the telecommunications and information technology sec-

tor in the Kingdom of Bahrain, under the leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, and the directives of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, provides a solid foundation for continued progress and stability.

"Beyon entered 2026 with positive strategic momentum, marked by its selection as the Winning Investor for the Fixed Telecommunications Network Development Project in Kuwait by the Kuwait Authority for Partnership Projects (KAPP), reinforcing its position as a trusted partner for large-scale infrastructure initiatives."

"The Group delivered a modest increase in revenues during the first quarter, as it maintained its focus and foremost priority on operational continuity and efficiency, whilst continuing to fulfil its national role. Beyon has demonstrated resilience, underpinned by the strength of its diversified portfolio and disciplined strategic direction."

"I would also like to extend

my appreciation to the executive management team and all employees across the Group for their continued dedication during this period. Their efforts remain central to navigating the current environment and advancing the Group's long-term ambitions."

Confident

"Looking ahead, we remain confident in Beyon's ability to adapt to evolving market conditions, while continuing to pursue opportunities that strengthen our regional footprint and deliver sustainable long-term value for our stakeholders."

Commenting on the quarter, Beyon CEO Andrew Kvaalseth said, "The first quarter of 2026 reflects a more challenging operating environment, which has impacted overall performance. Despite this, the fundamentals of our business remain strong, supported by the continued execution of our strategy and steady growth in core revenue streams, particularly across digital services and international operations."

"Building on the

strategic progress achieved in 2025, we continue to focus on scaling our digital portfolio and embedding advanced technologies, including AI-driven capabilities, across our operations to enhance efficiency, customer experience, and long-term value creation."

"During the quarter, we maintained momentum across key strategic initiatives related to our connectivity and digital businesses. Batelco by Beyon strengthened its regional infrastructure leadership through the renewal of its partnership with the GCC Interconnection Authority and the advancement of its data centre strategy. In parallel, our digital businesses continued to evolve, delivering secure and scalable digital solutions that support transformation across government and enterprise sectors. Together, these initiatives are central to enabling future-ready, integrated digital ecosystems."

"We are confident in the strength of our strategy, the diversity of our portfolio, and our ability to capture growth opportunities as markets stabilise. We remain focused on building a future-ready digital group that contributes to ongoing progress and delivers long-term value." Mr. Kvaalseth concluded.



Beyon CEO
Andrew
Kvaalseth

Bahrain's legal measures boost investor confidence, stability: Kanoo

TDT | Manama

Bahrain's recent legal measures highlight the kingdom's commitment to maintaining security and stability amid current challenges, Bahrain Chamber chairman Nabeel Kanoo said.

He said the steps, taken in line with the constitution and established legal frameworks, reflect efforts to respond to evolving regional developments while reinforcing the rule of law and strengthening state institutions.

Kanoo described security and stability as the foundation of economic growth, noting that a predictable environment plays a key role in attracting investment and enhancing the competitiveness of the national economy.

He added that the measures



Security and stability remain the cornerstone of Bahrain's economic growth and investor confidence

NABEEL KANOO, CHAIRMAN OF THE BAHRAIN CHAMBER

taken by authorities strike a balance between rights and responsibilities, supporting sustainable stability while preserving institutional integrity.

Kanoo also called for greater

public awareness and collective responsibility to safeguard national achievements, stressing the importance of unity in addressing challenges with flexibility and efficiency.

He praised the role of authorities in maintaining public order, saying their efforts contribute to societal reassurance and ensure the continuity of economic activity. The business leader reaffirmed the private sector's support for national development initiatives, highlighting the importance of public-private partnerships in driving comprehensive growth.

Kanoo said the current phase requires enhanced coordination among all stakeholders to boost economic resilience and sustain growth. He added that Bahrain, under HM King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and with the support of HRH Crown Prince and Prime Minister Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, continues to strengthen the rule of law and advance development in line with national aspirations.

Women outpace men in banking access in Bahrain

● The Bahrain figures show that access to banking is almost level between men and women

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Bahraini women are slightly more likely than men to hold bank or payment accounts, giving the kingdom the highest Arab rate for women's access to licensed financial services, according to a report by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia.

The ESCWA 'Financial Inclusiveness Report' records account ownership among women in Bahrain at 83pc, against 82pc among men. The one-point gap is among the smallest in the Arab world and far below the regional divide.

Arab states

Across Arab states, 42pc of women hold financial accounts, compared with 57pc of men, leaving a gap of 15 points.

The Bahrain figures show that access to banking is almost level between men and women. In several Arab countries, the gap is above 20 points. Oman follows Bahrain with a four-point gap, while Ku-

wait stands at five, Qatar at around seven and the Comoros at eight. The divide is wider elsewhere, reaching 20 points in Jordan, 23 in Tunisia and Palestine, and 34 in Algeria.

Struggle to obtain credit

The report links women's access to accounts, savings, credit and payment services with their ability to take part in paid work and run small businesses. It says more women are running businesses across the region, though many still struggle to obtain credit.

ESCWA also points to barriers that still hold women back in parts of the Arab world. These include poor access to loans, banking products that do not always match women's needs, and a lack of data split by gender.

Benefit

Bahrain's standing comes as digital banking and payment services spread further, with Benefit and bank apps now widely used. Digital banking platforms, fintech firms and Central Bank of Bahrain rules have helped widen access to services during 2025 and 2026.

Banks and financial institutions have also placed more weight on reaching women and young people as part of wider work to bring more people into banking.

EU to ease merger rules in bid to take on US, Chinese rivals

AFP | Brussels, Belgium

The European Union announced plans yesterday to overhaul the bloc's rulebook on company mergers as Brussels seeks to forge European champions to compete with Ameri-

can and Chinese rivals. The biggest shake-up in two decades of the rules comes as the EU worries it will fall further behind the world's biggest economies if it does not do more to boost European industry.

"Europe needs bold, innovative companies that can compete on the global stage. We have the talent. Now we must build the environment for Europe's next champions," EU chief Ursula von der Leyen said

in a statement.

In its merger decisions, the EU has focused on prioritising the consumer, opting to block deals if they risked higher prices for citizens and unfair competition.

Workforce key to growth and resilience, says Bapco Energies CEO

CEO Mark Thomas commends staff on International Workers' Day



The Group's achievements directly reflect the dedication, professionalism, and expertise of its workforce, who have consistently demonstrated resilience and commitment, particularly during periods of regional challenges, while maintaining the highest standards of safety and operational sustainability

MARK THOMAS, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Manama

Bapco Energies chief executive Mr Mark Thomas has congratulated His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister, on the occasion of International Workers' Day, highlighting the key role of employees in driving the group's performance.

Mr Thomas said the occasion provides an opportunity to recognise the contributions of staff across all subsidiaries, commending their role in supporting sustainable growth, operational excellence and business

continuity. He noted that the group's achievements reflect the dedication, professionalism and expertise of its workforce, adding that employees have demonstrated resilience and commitment, particularly during periods of regional challenges, while maintaining high standards of safety and operational sustainability.

Mr Thomas said Bapco Energies remains focused on investing in human capital, fostering innovation and ensuring a safe and supportive work environment, in line with its long-term strategy.

He expressed appreciation to employees and wished them continued success in supporting

the kingdom's energy sector and broader national development.



Bapco (Bahrain Petroleum Company) operates one of the oldest oil refineries in the Gulf, with refining activities in Bahrain dating back to 1936.

AFP | London, United Kingdom

Oil strikes 4-year peak, stocks rise

Oil prices struck a four-year high on Thursday on worries over a resumption of hostilities in the Middle East, while US and European stock markets mostly rose as investors turned to central bank decisions and

corporate earnings.

International benchmark Brent crude soared more than seven percent to \$126 a barrel, but then eased and turned lower.

Central banks remained a focus on Thursday, a day after the Federal Reserve kept interest rates unchanged as the United

States faces elevated inflation triggered by the war.

The European Central Bank and Bank of England also both held rates steady.

But the ECB warned risks to the eurozone growth and inflation outlook have "intensified" because of the war in the Middle

East and its impact on global energy supplies.

Data released Thursday showed that growth in the eurozone economy slid to 0.1 percent in the first quarter. In the United States, it rebounded by a less-than-expected annual rate of two percent as consumer

spending cooled and effects of the Middle East war began to ripple through the global economy.

Meanwhile the Federal Reserve's preferred inflation measure jumped 3.5 percent in March as energy costs surged on the back of the war.

INTERIM CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, for the three months ended 31 March 2026

(All figures in Bahraini Dinars)

NATIONAL HOTELS COMPANY (B.S.C)



INTERIM CONDENSED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION at 31 March 2026

	31 March 2026 (Reviewed)	31 December 2025 (Audited)
ASSETS		
Non-current assets		
Property, plant and equipment	36,219,358	36,242,610
Investment property	26,598,007	26,718,337
Investment in an associate	5,725,693	6,536,326
Investment securities	4,686,247	4,553,138
	73,229,305	74,052,411
Current assets		
Inventories	81,064	81,468
Investment securities	1,361,396	1,381,254
Trade receivables and other assets	1,200,824	997,164
Bank balances and cash	10,203,775	9,480,742
	12,847,060	11,940,628
TOTAL ASSETS	86,076,365	85,993,039
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Non-current liability		
Employees' end of service benefits	251,380	241,288
Current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	3,103,772	1,912,099
Total liabilities	3,355,152	2,153,387
Equity		
Share capital	12,127,500	12,127,500
Statutory reserve	6,063,750	6,063,750
General reserve	1,087,579	1,087,579
Property revaluation reserve	14,418,702	14,418,702
Investments fair value reserve	1,801,540	1,660,641
Share of reserves of an associate	111,972	96,627
Retained earnings	47,110,170	48,384,853
Total equity	82,721,213	83,839,652
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	86,076,365	85,993,039

INTERIM STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME for the three-month ended 31 March 2026 (Reviewed)

	31 March 2026	31 March 2025
Hotel services revenue	1,329,873	1,653,487
Rental revenue	410,711	455,156
Operating costs	(1,126,604)	(1,203,642)
GROSS PROFIT	613,980	905,001
Share of profit of an associate	272,022	347,316
Dividend income	199,948	149,957
Interest income	135,877	122,197
Change in fair value of investments at fair value through profit or loss	(19,658)	63,851
Other income	3,256	17,882
Depreciation	(544,513)	(598,563)
General and administration expenses	(116,510)	(142,429)
PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD	544,202	865,212
BASIC AND DILUTED EARNINGS PER SHARE (FILS)		
	4	7
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		
Items not to be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods:		
- Net changes in fair value of investments at fair value through other comprehensive income	140,899	10,404
- Share of other comprehensive income of an associate	15,345	12,721
Other comprehensive income for the period	156,244	23,125
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD	700,446	888,337

INTERIM CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS for the three-month ended 31 March 2026 (Reviewed)

	31 March 2026	31 March 2025
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Profit for the period	544,202	865,212
Adjustments to reconcile profit to net cash flows:		
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	339,181	386,964
Depreciation of investment property	205,332	211,599
Share of profit of an associate	(272,622)	(347,316)
Dividend income	(199,948)	(149,957)
Interest income	(135,877)	(122,197)
Change in fair value of investments at fair value through profit or loss	19,658	(63,851)
Allowance for expected credit losses	16,562	13,508
Provision for employees' end of service benefits	24,452	14,466
Operating profit before working capital changes	541,740	808,428
Working capital changes:		
Inventories	404	(20,789)
Trade receivables and other assets	(105,524)	(173,778)
Trade and other payables	(344,712)	(93,674)
Net cash flows from operations	91,908	520,187
Directors' remuneration paid	(269,500)	(262,125)
Charitable contribution paid	(13,600)	(16,750)
Employees' end of service benefits paid	(14,360)	(15,048)
Net cash flows (used in) from operating activities	(204,952)	224,224
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(315,820)	(271,686)
Additions to investment property	(85,002)	(11,415)
Maturity of debt investment at amortised cost	-	700,000
Interest received	204,917	166,410
Movement in bank deposits with maturity of more than three months	-	(100,000)
Dividend received from an associate	1,100,000	700,000
Dividends received on investments	24,000	24,000
Net cash flows from investing activities	927,986	1,207,909
NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	723,034	1,432,133
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January	7,980,742	1,824,797
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT 31 MARCH	8,703,776	3,256,930

INTERIM CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY for the three-month ended 31 March 2026 (Reviewed)

	Reserves								Total equity
	Share capital	Statutory reserve	General reserve	Property Revaluation reserve	Investments fair value reserve	Share of Reserves of associate	Total reserves	Retained earnings	
Balance at 1 January 2026	12,127,500	6,063,750	1,087,579	14,418,702	1,660,641	96,627	23,327,299	48,384,853	83,839,652
Profit for the period	-	-	-	-	-	-	544,202	544,202	544,202
Other comprehensive income for the period	-	-	-	-	-	140,899	15,345	156,244	156,244
Total comprehensive income for the period	-	-	-	-	-	140,899	15,345	156,244	700,446
Dividend	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1,818,885)	(1,818,885)
Balance at 31 March 2026	12,127,500	6,063,750	1,087,579	14,418,702	1,801,540	111,972	23,483,543	47,110,170	82,721,213

Faisal Ahmed Al Zayani (Chairman)

Adel Nahabah Hamadeh (Vice Chairman & Managing Director)

US sanctions DR Congo ex-leader Kabila over rebel ties

Washington, United States

The United States yesterday slapped sanctions against the Democratic Republic of Congo's long-serving former president Joseph Kabila, backing allegations he has assisted Rwandan-linked rebels who have seized vast parts of his country. "President Trump is paving the way for peace in the Democratic Republic of Congo, and he has been clear that those who continue to sow instability will be held accountable," Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said.

UN says Hormuz 'strangling' economy

UN chief Antonio Guterres sounded the alarm over the worsening global economic impacts of the Strait of Hormuz remaining effectively closed due to the Iran war. The closure of the vital waterway is "strangling the global economy," the secretary-general warned in remarks to the media.

US Congress votes to end record government shutdown

Washington, United States

The US Congress yesterday approved funding for most of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), ending a record-breaking partial government shutdown that has disrupted critical agencies for more than two months. The House approved the measure, already passed by the Senate, sending it to President Donald Trump for signature. It will fund key DHS agencies through the end of the fiscal year on September 30. It does not include new money for immigration and border enforcement, leaving unresolved the political dispute that triggered the shutdown.

Lebanon says six killed in new Israeli strike on south

Beirut, Lebanon

Lebanon's health ministry said six people were killed in an Israeli strike on the village of Zebdine, raising the number of people killed in raids on the country's south yesterday to at least 15. The state-run National News Agency said an Israeli drone targeted the group in Zebdine "while they were gathered near the village's cemetery".



Queen Camilla, King Charles III, U.S. President Donald Trump and First Lady Melania Trump pose during a farewell ceremony at the White House on day four of the State Visit of King Charles III and Queen Camilla to the United States of America, on April 30, 2026 in Washington, DC.

Trump congratulates Iraq PM-designate, hails 'new chapter' with US

Washington, United States

US President Donald Trump congratulated Iraq's new prime minister Ali al-Zaidi on Thursday, saying his nomination heralded a "tremendous new chapter" between the two countries. "We wish him success as he works to form a new Government free from terrorism that could deliver a brighter future for Iraq," Trump, who had opposed the candidacy of former premier Nouri al-Maliki, said on his Truth Social network. "This is the beginning of a tremendous new chapter between our Nations -- Prosperity, Stability, and Success like never seen before. Again, Ali, CONGRATULATIONS!"

Trump in fresh attack on Germany's Merz over Iran

AFP | Washington, United States

US President Donald Trump renewed his criticism of German Chancellor Friedrich Merz yesterday, telling him to focus on ending the Ukraine war instead of "interfering" on Iran.

Trump's second



roadside of the week against Merz came a day after he said he was considering the redeployment of some of the tens of thousands of US troops stationed in key NATO ally Germany. "The Chancellor of Germany should spend more time on ending the war with Russia/Ukraine (Where he has

Trump was apparently infuriated by Merz's comments on Monday that Tehran was "humiliating" the United States in negotiations to end the US-Israeli war on Iran that has just entered its third month.

He added that Merz should

riated by Merz's comments on Monday that Tehran was "humiliating" the United States in negotiations to end the US-Israeli war on Iran that has just entered its third month. The US leader's comments also come a day after he had a call with Russian President Vladimir Putin that Trump said focused mostly on ending the war in Ukraine, which Moscow's forces invaded in February 2022. Trump has long said he could bring a quick end to the war there but has made little progress.

Germany says 'prepared' for any US troop reduction

AFP | Berlin, Germany

Germany said yesterday it was "prepared" for a possible reduction in US troops threatened by President Donald Trump, while also stressing the importance of a "reliable transatlantic partnership". Trump had on Wednesday said the United States was considering redeploying some of the tens of thousands of US troops stationed in Germany amid a row with Chancellor Friedrich Merz over the war in Iran. Speaking during a visit to Morocco, German Foreign Minister Johann Wadepuhl said: "We are prepared for that, we are discussing it closely and in a spirit of trust in all NATO bodies, and we are expecting decisions from the Americans about this." Any such decisions would "be discussed with us and with others, as is proper among allies",



he said. Merz earlier said that Germany's approach to the war in the Middle East "remains oriented toward a united NATO and a reliable transatlantic partnership". Berlin was "in close and trusting contact with our partners, including and especially in Washington", he said, without directly mentioning the Trump threat. "We are doing this in our shared transatlantic interest. We are doing it with mutual respect and a fair sharing of burdens," he added. "This transatlantic partnership is particularly close to our hearts -- both to us as a whole and to me personally, as you know." German Chancellor Friedrich Merz (C), operates a robot dog with a remote control during his visit to the German army barracks in Munster, northern Germany

1707

Acts of Union come into force, uniting England and Scotland to form the Kingdom of Great Britain

1753

Publication of "Species Plantarum" by Carl Linnaeus, the formal start date of plant taxonomy adopted by the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature



1840

"Penny Black," the world's first adhesive postage stamp is issued by the United Kingdom

1886

Nationwide demonstrations and strikes demanding an eight-hour workday begin in the US

Cost of Iran war equals aid for more than 87m people: UN aid chief

AFP | Nairobi, Kenya

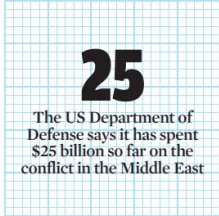
The Pentagon's spending on its war with Iran could cover the UN's entire 2026 aid appeal and bring lifesaving support to more than 87 million people, its aid chief told AFP Thursday.

The US Department of Defense says it has spent \$25 billion so far on the conflict in the Middle East, while the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) sought \$23 billion for this year's aid appeal.

"I know what we could do with 25 billion," OCHA head Tom Fletcher told AFP. "We have a direct comparison of what we can do with that money."

The OCHA appeal target is "less than one percent of what the world is spending on guns and arms and defence in the coming year," he added.

Fletcher said the war, and the resulting closure of the Strait



of Hormuz, has doubled fuel prices and driven up food costs by 20 percent.

"That makes our job much harder. But it also pushes more people into hunger and starvation," he said, referring specifically to Somalia, from where he spoke to AFP.

"We reckon the numbers who are hungry right now are double what it was six months ago."

Worldwide, Fletcher said there were

more than 300 million people in critical need of support, but he had been forced to prioritise 87 million due to tightening budgets, as the United States and others curb donations.

Without funding, "hundreds of millions of lives over several years" will be lost, he said.

Somalia has been particularly hard-hit by the shortages from the war as well as drought and flooding.

"It's a poisonous cocktail of factors," he said, adding it had been a "very rough visit".

With its Somalia programme only 13 percent funded, the UN has had to shut down health centres at a time when half a million children face severe acute malnutrition, he said.

Doctors at one clinic told him patients were seven times more likely to die due to the extra walking distances.

"It's just devastating," said Fletcher.



First direct US-Venezuela flight in years arrives in Caracas



A ribbon in the colors of the Venezuelan flag is cut following the arrival of an American Eagle, operating a regional flight for American Airlines, aircraft at Simon Bolivar International Airport in La Guaira, La Guaira state, Venezuela

AFP | Caracas, Venezuela

The first direct flight between the United States and Venezuela in seven years landed Thursday in Caracas, a new sign of a thaw after Washington deposed leftist leader Nicolas Maduro.

The American Airlines flight took off at 10:26 am (14:26 GMT) from Miami en route

to Caracas, where the United States has resumed diplomatic relations after years of tension. Envoy Air flight 3599 landed less than three hours later.

The flight's manifest included senior officials from Washington set to fly to Caracas to meet the government, a prospect unthinkable just months ago.

Israel may soon have to 'act again' against Iran

AFP | Jerusalem, Undefined

Israel's defence minister on Thursday said his country may soon have to "act again" against Iran, to ensure

the Islamic republic "does not once again become a threat to Israel".

"US President Donald Trump, in coordination with (Israeli) Prime Minister Benjamin Ne-

tanyahu, is leading the efforts to achieve the campaign's objectives, to ensure that Iran does not once again become a threat to Israel, the United States and the free world in the

future," Israel Katz said during a military ceremony, according to a statement from his office.

"We support this effort and are providing the necessary

support, but it is possible that we may soon have to act again to ensure these objectives are met," he added.

Lebanon slams Israel

Lebanese President Joseph Aoun condemned the "continuing Israeli violations" in south Lebanon, saying they were occurring "despite the ceasefire, as do demolitions of homes and places of worship, while the number of killed and

wounded rises day after day". "Pressure must be exerted on Israel to ensure it respects international laws and conventions and ceases targeting civilians, paramedics, civil defence, and humanitarian health and relief organisations," he added.

'Major energy crisis'

The world is facing a "major energy and economic challenge" as oil prices have soared in the wake of the war in the Middle East, said IEA chief Fatih Birol at the same

Paris meeting. "With the world faced with the biggest energy crisis in history", oil prices were "putting a lot of pressure in many countries", he added.

Florida to execute man who has spent nearly 50 years on Death Row

Miami, United States

A Florida man who has spent nearly 50 years on Death Row is to be executed by lethal injection on Thursday for the murder of a 13-year-old girl.

James Hitchcock, 70, was convicted of the 1976 murder of Cynthia Driggers, his step-niece, and sentenced to death

in 1977. Hitchcock, who maintains his innocence, is to be executed at 6:00 pm (22:00 GMT) at the Florida state prison in Raiford.

Hitchcock's nearly five decades on Death Row make him among the inmates who have spent the most time in prison awaiting execution in the United States.

Myanmar moves Aung San Suu Kyi to house arrest

Yangon, Myanmar

Myanmar's junta chief-turned-president yesterday ordered deposed leader Aung San Suu Kyi to be moved to house arrest, five years after sweeping her into detention in a 2021 coup.

A statement from the office of Min Aung Hlaing said he had "commuted the remaining sentence" of the 80-year-old Suu Kyi "to be served at the designated residence".

The office also shared a photograph seeming to show Suu Kyi sitting flanked by two men -- one in a khaki shirt and another in a police uniform.

It was not immediately clear where she will be moved, but a senior source from her dissolved National League for Democracy

(NLD) party told AFP she would likely be kept sequestered at an address in the capital Naypyidaw.

"We do not know where it is exactly," the source said, speaking on condition of anonymity for security reasons.

A Naypyidaw police source said security forces had been ordered to "enforce restrictions" in areas of the capital on Thursday night.

"The 'designated residence' mentioned in the order will remain under their direct custody and control," they said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The official statement also did not make clear how many years remain in Suu Kyi's sentence.



China FM says Taiwan is 'biggest risk point' in US-China ties

Beijing, China

China's foreign minister Wang Yi on Thursday urged the United States to maintain "stability" between the two countries and help promote "world peace", but said Taiwan posed the "biggest risk point" to their relationship.

In a call with US Secretary of State Marco Rubio, Wang said that Beijing and Washington should "safeguard the hard-won stability" in China-US relations, China's foreign ministry said.

The talks between the two -- which also included discussions of the situation in the Middle East -- came two weeks before US President Donald Trump is expected to visit China for a high-stakes meeting with counterpart Xi Jinping.

In 2025, Washington and Beijing clashed over trade and tariffs until a truce was declared in October, when Trump and Xi met in South Korea.



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



Earthquakes are inevitable, but the devastation they cause does not have to be. With intention & forethought, we can build safer towns & cities, however hard the ground shakes. Let us honour the victims by investing in disaster resilience.

@antoniguterres

02



It's never too late to start something new, but it's always too late to wait for 'the perfect time.' Make today the day you take one small step forward. Anon.

@DrTedros

03



Europe needs bold, innovative companies that can compete on the global stage.

We have the talent. Now we must create the environment for Europe's next champions.

Today, we are publishing our draft merger guidelines to better support companies to thrive, scale, and innovate.

And boost Europe's competitiveness

@vonderleyen

04



Let us #PrayTogether that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

@Pontifex

Disclaimer: (Views expressed by columnists are personal and need not necessarily reflect our editorial stance)

King Charles honours fallen US troops on last day of visit

● "He's a great king -- the greatest king, in my book," Trump told reporters as Charles and Queen Camilla arrived at the White House

● As the royal couple drove off following handshakes and a bit of chat, Trump added: "Great people. We need more people like that in our country."

AFP | Washington, United States



Britain's King Charles III and Queen Camilla, escorted by US Army Maj.

King Charles III paid respects to fallen US troops at a military cemetery on Thursday, the final day of a state visit aimed at healing ties between Britain and the United States strained by the war in Iran.

By all accounts, the four-day visit has been a success, with President Donald Trump serving as solicitous host-in-chief who kicked off the monarch's stay with a pomp-filled welcome and lavish white-tie banquet at the White House.

"He's a great king -- the greatest king, in my book," Trump told reporters as Charles and Queen Camilla arrived at the White House for a brief farewell

ceremony under bright spring sunshine on Thursday morning.

As the royal couple drove off following handshakes and a bit of chat, Trump added: "Great people. We need more people like that in our country."

Charles and Camilla then visited Arlington National Cemetery just outside Washington, where they laid a wreath and flowers at the hilltop Tomb of the Unknown Soldier honoring America's unidentified war dead.

The pair stood solemnly as a bugler played "Taps," before visiting the adjacent display room of military exhibits and artifacts.

Next on the agenda was a "block party" to mark 250 years since American independence from Britain and meetings with Native Americans at a national park, before departing for the British island territory of Bermuda in the Atlantic.

Light moments

The centerpiece of the whirlwind trip was Charles's speech Tuesday to the US Congress, the first by a British monarch since Queen Elizabeth II in 1991.

The address was warmly received, even as Charles ranged over subjects from climate change and the need for re-



Britain's King Charles III shakes hands with a veteran military member

straints on presidential power to the importance of NATO and defense of Ukraine -- sensitive issues for Trump's ruling Re-

publicans.

The 77-year-old monarch skirted around tensions between Trump and Prime Minister Keir Starmer over Britain's refusal to join the war against Iran, insisting the partnership between the two countries was "born out of dispute, but no less strong for it."

The royals visited New York on Wednesday, where they stopped at the 9/11 memorial and met leftist Mayor Zohran Mamdani.

Charles, who is passionate about gardening and the environment, later visited an urban sustainable farming project in Harlem, while Camilla celebrated the 100th birthday of Winnie the Pooh at the New York Public Library. Security has been tight for the royal visit, which came just days after an alleged assassination attempt against Trump at a Washington media gala.

The trip has seen light moments between Charles and Trump, including the US president joking that his Scottish-born mother had a crush on the future king when he was younger.

India considers stronger safeguards as online fraud surges



AFP | New Delhi, India

India's central bank is seeking recommendations to tackle a surge in online fraud as scammers siphon off billions of dollars annually from users of its widely used digital payments network.

The South Asian country's vast digital payment ecosystem has received global acclaim as a model of low-cost innovation and financial inclusion.

But it has also spawned online crimes, with fraudsters cheating users of nearly \$3 billion in 2025 -- a nearly 40-fold increase since 2021.

"The potential of digital payments is impeded by complaints related to frauds," the Reserve Bank of India said in a note published earlier this month that sought suggestions for stronger defences against frauds.

Users can send the bank recommendations until May 9.

Most scams are a result of "manipulation of users through social engineering, coercion, or impersonation" rather than a "technical compromise of systems", according to the central bank.

Instances of fraudsters posing online as law enforcement officials and blackmailing people to transfer huge amounts of money are notoriously rampant in the world's most populated country.

"Almost all sections of society especially the vulnerable groups such as senior citizens have fallen prey to" online fraud, the note said.

"Therefore, there is an urgent need to put in place systems and processes to address these issues."

Among the measures being considered by the central bank is "a short delay" before the execution of payments above a certain amount.

"It can act as a preventive control by disrupting the fraudster's psychological influence over the victim and by giving the payer an opportunity to reconsider the transaction," the bank reasoned.

The bank said it was also considering an extra layer of authentication by a "trusted person for high-value digital transactions".

Over the past decade, digital transaction volumes in India have increased by 38-fold, while transaction values have more than tripled, according to the central bank's data.

Gaza flotilla organisers say 211 activists 'kidnapped' by Israel

AFP | Athens, Greece

Organisers of a Gaza-bound aid flotilla yesterday said Israel's army had "kidnapped" 211 activists including a Paris city councillor in a raid in international waters off Greece.

Helene Coron, a spokeswoman for the Global Sumud France, told an online news conference that the operation had taken place near the Greek island of Crete, at an "unprecedented" distance from the Gaza coast.

Yasmine Scola, an activist on board the flotilla, said her colleagues had been "kidnapped" by Israel.

Coron said those intercepted included Paris Communist local councillor Raphaëlle Primet and another 10 French nationals.

"We don't have the information for the other nationalities, but the boats were mixed in terms of nationality, so there were crew members from all 48 delegations," she said.

Rome, in a government statement, called for the immediate release of "all the unlawfully detained Italians".

Some ships still on route

The organisers of the latest flotilla of pro-Palestinian activists seeking to break Israel's



Boats of a new humanitarian flotilla bound for the Gaza Strip make a symbolic leave from Barcelona's Port Vell on April 12, 2026 as the departure of the flotilla has been postponed due to bad weather.

Israel says arrested 175 activists from Gaza flotilla far from its waters

AFP | Jerusalem, Undefined

Israel's army arrested around 175 activists from a Gaza-bound aid flotilla in international waters off Greece, the Israeli foreign ministry and the flotilla's organisers said Thursday.

"Approximately 175 activists from more than 20 boats

of the condom flotilla are now making their way peacefully to Israel," the ministry said in a statement, using its latest epithet to poke fun at the flotilla after prophylactics were found in a previous convoy.

The statement included a video of the activists aboard an Israeli navy ship.

blockade on Gaza announced early on Thursday that their

boats had been surrounded by Israeli military ships while off

the coast of Crete.

"At the time of publishing this statement (06:30 am Paris time, 04:30 GMT), at least 22 of the flotilla's 58 boats have been stormed by Israeli forces in complete violation of international law," the Global Sumud Flotilla said in a statement.

According to an AFP verification, based on tracking data from the organisers, the boats were intercepted in the Greek exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

Around thirty boats from the flotilla are still en route, most now in Greek territorial waters south of Crete, according to the same source.

Coron said the operation had taken place over 1,000 kilometres from the Gaza Strip. The longest such operation to date had been 185 kilometres in June 2025, she said.

Scola said her ship had been carrying school supplies and food.

The flotilla set sail in recent weeks from Marseille in France, Barcelona in Spain and Syracuse in Italy.

Overnight from Wednesday to Thursday, the flotilla said its boats had been "illegally surrounded" by Israeli vessels.



Israeli military operations carried out in retaliation have killed more than 72,000 people in the Palestinian territory, also mostly civilians, according to the Gaza health ministry.

India exit polls suggest ruling party gains in state elections

Elections in five states and territories have taken place in April

- All eyes will be on West Bengal
- Exit polls predict the BJP has a slight edge over TMC
- Polls say it would be a tightly contested race in Kerala

AFP | New Delhi, India

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ruling party appeared set for gains in crucial state elections in India, according to exit polls released yesterday ahead of final results due on May 4.

Exit polls have a patchy record in India, but they often show early markers of the final outcome.

Elections in five states and territories have taken place in April including in the major opposition-held states of West



India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi (L) interacts with Uttar Pradesh's Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath during a public meeting for women in Varanasi

Bengal and Tamil Nadu.

Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), the ruling party in the national parliament, is hoping to make inroads in the opposition strongholds.

Results in all the elections -- which were also held in Assam, the smaller coastal territory of Puducherry and the Communist-run Kerala -- will be re-

leased on Monday.

All eyes will be on West Bengal, where the BJP waged an aggressive bid to dislodge Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, the firebrand leader of the All India Trinamool Congress (TMC), in power in the state since 2011.

Exit polls predict the BJP has a slight edge over TMC, and a win this time would mean the BJP

gets to rule the state of over 100 million people for the first time. Banerjee's party won 213 of the 294 seats in the previous election held in 2021.

Past elections have resulted in violence in the state.

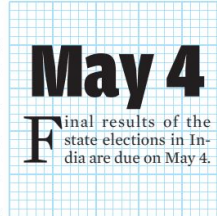
The campaign this time was marked by protests over the removal of millions of names from voter rolls during a Special Intensive Revision -- meant to remove ineligible voters but which critics say is skewed against marginalised and minority communities.

Political activist Yogendra Yadav said there was "no way" the TMC would lose in a "fair election".

"The only way the BJP can win is by rigging, ie, electoral malpractice of one form or the other, from voter list manipulation to counting fraud," he said in a post on X on Wednesday.

Both in the northeastern state of Assam and southern Puducherry, the BJP-led alliance is widely expected to be re-elected.

In the southern state of Tamil



Nadu, a key industrial hub with more than 80 million people, exit polls predict the ruling Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) under Chief Minister MK Stalin will hold onto power.

But the polls also predict debutant actor-turned politician C. Joseph Vijay from the Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam party to emerge as a strong opponent to the traditional parties in the state, including DMK.

And it would be a tightly contested race in Kerala, the only state in the country ruled by communists, with a Congress-led alliance expected to win this time.

287 nominations for Nobel Peace Prize: institute

AFP | Oslo, Norway

The Norwegian Nobel Institute on Thursday announced that 287 nominations had been submitted for this year's Nobel Peace Prize.

The list comprised 208 individuals and 79 organisations, it said, without identifying them.

While fewer than the record 376 registered in 2016, the institute said the number remained "consistently high".

"In an increasingly conflictual world, there is no lack of candidates whose principled commitment and innovative action points towards a brighter future," the institute said in a statement.

In line with Nobel statutes, the identity of the nominees is kept confidential for 50 years.

White House against Anthropic expanding Mythos model access

San Francisco, United States

The White House is opposing Anthropic's plans to expand access to its new artificial intelligence model Mythos to 120 companies, the Wall Street Journal reported Wednesday.

President Donald Trump's administration and Anthropic had only recently started to mend ties following a dispute over the AI firm's refusal to grant the military unconditional use of its software.

Anthropic has withheld the powerful Mythos model from public release citing potential cybersecurity risks and concerns it could be exploited by hackers.

Instead it shared a version with selected companies including Apple, Microsoft and Nvidia under a project called "Glasswing" to help improve their security infrastructure.

Kanpai! Space-brewed sake sells for \$700,000

- The drink was packaged in a 100-millilitre bottle and went to an anonymous buyer for 110 million yen (\$686,000).

AFP | Tokyo, Japan

A small bottle of Japanese sake, made from mash fermented in space, sold for almost \$700,000, its brewer said as the company explores ways to make the drink on the Moon.



Sake brewer Dassai teamed up with aerospace and engineering firm Mitsubishi Heavy Industries to build specialised brewing equipment and send it to the International Space Station (ISS) along with sake ingredients.

The alcoholic fermentation process was carried out in November inside facilities at the ISS that mimicked lunar gravity, the two firms said in a joint statement, dated Tuesday.

The mash was returned to Earth in February and was refined into 116 millilitres (four fluid ounces) of sake in March in Japan.

The drink was packaged in a 100-millilitre bottle and went to an anonymous buyer for 110 million yen (\$686,000).

The remaining 16 millilitres allowed for taste tests.

"It offers a pronounced acid-

ity. It has a well-balanced and robust sake flavour," a Dassai spokeswoman told AFP.

Proceeds from the sale will be donated to support Japan's space development efforts, the two firms said.

"This result demonstrates experimentally that sake production is feasible even under lunar-gravity conditions using a process comparable to that on Earth," the firms said.

Dassai says it wants to build a sake brewery on the moon by 2050 to "improve quality of life for future lunar habitation".

Teen with 30 tortoises under clothes nabbed at Thai airport

AFP | Bangkok, Thailand

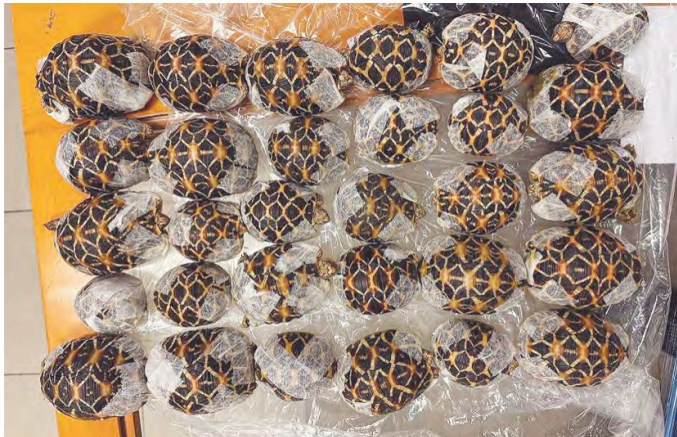
Thai authorities arrested a teenager at a Bangkok airport for allegedly smuggling 30 protected tortoises valued at about \$9,000 that were taped under her clothing, wildlife officials said Wednesday.

Thailand is a major transit hub for wildlife smugglers who often sell highly prized endangered animals on the lucrative black market in Asia.

Authorities became suspicious of the 19-year-old Taiwanese woman's unusual movements as she prepared to board a flight to Taipei early Tuesday, Thailand's wildlife conservation department said in a statement.

A search at Suvarnabhumi airport's departure terminal uncovered the Indian star tortoises -- 29 alive and one dead -- strapped to her body, the department said.

"The suspect had used adhesive tape to immobilise the



Indian star tortoises confiscated from a woman attempting to travel with them at Suvarnabhumi International Airport in Bangkok.

animals, packed them into cloth bags and attached them to her body to evade detection," it added.

The Thai customs department said the tortoises -- protected

under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) -- commanded a high price on the black market, placing their total estimated value at around \$9,000.

The woman was charged with illegally transporting animals and evading customs controls.

The surviving tortoises were transferred to wildlife conservation officials for care and to serve as evidence.



Indian star tortoises are classified as a vulnerable species by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), which says they have been targeted to meet international demand for use as "exotic pets".

Myanmar mass prison sentence cut trims Suu Kyi's sentence

Yangon, Myanmar

Myanmar's coup-chief turned president cut all prisoners' sentences by one-sixth on Thursday, a blanket measure a source close to deposed leader Aung San Suu Kyi said would further shorten her detention.

Suu Kyi has been sequestered since a 2021 military coup, but the senior member of her dissolved National League for Democracy (NLD) party said while her term had been reduced, her remaining sentence is still unclear.

"We also don't know exactly how many years she has left," the source told AFP, speaking on condition of anonymity for security reasons.

“Made in the Gulf”

Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries have made notable progress in advancing industrial cooperation, including strengthening industrial integration, aligning policies and strategies, and supporting supply chains, officials said on Thursday.

Bahrain's Minister of Industry and Commerce, Abdullah bin Adel Fakhro, who chairs the current session, highlighted these developments during the 56th meeting of the GCC Industrial Cooperation Committee.

GCC Secretary-General Jassem Mohamed Albudaiwi opened the meeting by expressing appreciation to Bahrain's King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa for the kingdom's support in facilitating GCC initiatives and advancing joint Gulf action across sectors.

Albudaiwi said the committee plays a central role in coordinating industrial policies among



member states, unifying efforts to achieve deeper industrial integration, and enhancing the global competitiveness of the Gulf's industrial sector.

He added that the sector's growing capabilities are helping

expand international partnerships and strengthen the GCC's position in the global industrial economy.

The Secretary-General also welcomed the Supreme Council's approval, during its 46th

session in December 2025, of a proposal to hold the “Made in the Gulf” forum and exhibition in October 2026, aimed at showcasing the region's industrial capabilities and boosting integration.

Doha slams Israel over “freedom flotilla” incident



Qatar condemned Israeli aggression against a Global Freedom Flotilla, calling the incident a “flagrant violation” of international law and maritime security.

In a statement, the Qatari foreign ministry said the move was an extension of Israel's ongoing blockade of the Gaza Strip, which it described as unjust.

The ministry warned that Israeli policies, including the

closure of border crossings and obstruction of humanitarian aid, would further worsen the already dire humanitarian situation in the Palestinian territories, particularly in Gaza.

It also accused Israel of using food as a weapon against civilians.

Qatar urged the international community to take a firm stance to pressure Israel to open crossings, lift restrictions on aid deliveries, and ensure protection for Palestinians.

Kuwait warns against weaponising vital sea lanes

Kuwait rejected any Iranian move to close or obstruct the Strait of Hormuz, warning that international waterways must not be used as “tools of coercion,” according to its UN envoy.

Speaking before a UN Security Council high-level session on maritime security, Kuwait's Permanent Representative Tareq Albanai said the strategic waterway is a “vital artery” for global trade and must remain open to international navigation.

He stressed that maritime security is a shared international responsibility, adding that any disruption to shipping routes

would pose a direct threat to global peace, security, and economic stability.

Albanai reaffirmed that freedom of navigation is a binding obligation under international law, including the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea.

He also urged the Security Council to take “firm and practical measures” to protect maritime routes and hold accountable those who threaten them, reiterating Kuwait's commitment to a unified Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) position grounded in respect for sovereignty, good neighbourly relations, and diplomacy.



Peace advocacy

Oman's Foreign Minister Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi met with the Vatican's ambassador to the sultanate, Nicholas Henry Tivin, to discuss bilateral ties and interfaith dialogue, officials said.

The talks, held at the Foreign Ministry's General Diwan, focused on relations between Oman and the Holy See, as well as efforts to promote understanding among religions and cultures based on respect and tolerance.

Busaidi praised recent statements by Pope Leo XIV calling for justice, peace, an end to wars and the rejection of violence, stressing the importance of dialogue and peaceful solutions to global conflicts.

The Vatican envoy, in



turn, commended Oman's “balanced and wise” foreign policy, highlighting its role in fostering dialogue, containing crises and advancing humanitarian efforts.

Senior officials from both sides attended the meeting, including the head of the Foreign Ministry's Europe department.

Oman, Russia pledge deeper cooperation



Oman's Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi met Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Georgy Borisov in Muscat, reaffirming both countries' commitment to expanding bilateral cooperation.

The two sides reviewed progress in relations following Sultan Haitham bin Tariq's landmark visit to Russia last year. They discussed strengthening cooperation in key sectors including trade, investment, energy, transport, tourism, as well as cultural, scientific and technical fields, according to

Oman's Foreign Ministry.

Both officials also exchanged views on regional and international developments, stressing the importance of intensified consultations, adherence to international law, and a continued reliance on dialogue and diplomacy to address global challenges and promote stability.

The meeting was attended by senior officials from both sides, including Oman's Undersecretary for Political Affairs Sheikh Khalifa bin Ali Al Harthy and Russia's Ambassador to Oman Oleg Levitin.

Pakistan-Saudi Ties



Saudi Arabia's Ambassador to Pakistan, Nawaf bin Saeed Ahmad Al-Malkiy, met Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar in Islamabad to discuss recent regional developments.

According to a statement, the two sides reviewed the evolving situation in the region and exchanged views on promoting stability through dialogue and engagement.

Dar underscored the importance of diplomatic engagement between relevant parties to maintain peace and stability, while expressing appreciation for Saudi Arabia's continued support and cooperation with Pakistan.

Both officials reaffirmed the “deep-rooted and fraternal” relations between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, highlighting continued coordination on matters of mutual interest.

Canadian PM adviser in Abu Dhabi talks

Shaikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, UAE Minister of Foreign Affairs, received Scott Gilmore, Senior Advisor to the Canadian Prime Minister for Foreign Policy, Defence and Security Affairs, in Abu Dhabi.

The two sides reviewed the latest regional developments and the overall situation in the Middle East, and discussed



ways to enhance bilateral cooperation and partnership between the United Arab Emirates and Canada across various sectors, according to an official statement.

Red Sea operations



USS Gerald R. Ford (CVN 78) continues to conduct routine flight operations while sailing in the Red Sea.

Classifieds



Call us on +973 36458394
email : advt@newsfbahrain.com

VACANCIES AVAILABLE

QUICK ZEBRA SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

QUICK ZEBRA SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

QUICK ZEBRA SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

QUICK ZEBRA SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

Fuji Electric Co Ltd- Foreign Branch has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR FOR SERVICES, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17564569 or dhanya.anup@fuji-electric.com

PROTECTS SECURITY SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

HARDEEZ has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17262998 or ssaeh@americana-food.com

GULF CITY CLEANING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39641612 or yousif@aanass.net

A- KARIM ALJAHROMI CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER/OPERATOR(EARTH DRILLING MACHINE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17831000 or akjcont@gmail.com

NASS MECHANICAL CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of RIGGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17725522 or yousif@aanass.net

PROTECTS SECURITY SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

NASS MECHANICAL CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of RIGGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17725522 or yousif@aanass.net

PROTECTS SECURITY SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

EFS Facilities Services Bahrain W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17102960 or NSHAH@BFHARBOUR.COM

NASS MECHANICAL CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of RIGGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17725522 or yousif@aanass.net

AUTOFIX AUTO MOBILE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (CAR MECHANICAL WORKSHOP), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34587298 or MALIKAHSAM273@GMAIL.COM

AL MAALI FURNITURE has a vacancy for the occupation of UPHOLSTERER(FURNITURE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 38007404 or abdullah.mirza2004@icloud.com

SIYANA INDUSTRIAL SERVICES & SIAM SCAFFOLDS- SIMPLE COMMANDITE COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of RIGGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17273133 or SIAM7373@BATELCO.COM.BH

AL OLAYA SUITES HOTEL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17161616 or CORP@DADABAI.COM

MTQ OILFIELD SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER(METAL SPRAYER), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17166827 or ahmed@mtqos.com

WHITE FALCON PRIVATE SECURITY SERVICES CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66626168 or TDAINEH@GMAIL.COM

INTERNATIONAL TURKEY SYSTEMS B.S.C (CLOSED) has a vacancy for the occupation of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact

77535678 or afaf.alkalfaf@its.ws

INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES COMPANY LTD has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17727662 or Personnel@intercol.com

ITALIAN KITCHENS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ALUMINIUM TECHNICIAN (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 66648668 or ALAAMEMO93@GMAIL.COM

MAGIC SHINE CLEANING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17345051 or info@magicshinebh.com

MAGIC SHINE CLEANING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17345051 or info@magicshinebh.com

MAGIC SHINE CLEANING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17345051 or info@magicshinebh.com

CAPITAL FACILITIES MANAGEMENT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SERVICE MAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77132211 or operations@cfmbahrain.com

MOSAM INTERIOR DECORATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34287219 or SAMULLAH589@GMAIL.COM

SAFeway FOOD INDUSTRIES CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(HAND WRAPPING), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17003828 or SAFEWAY-FOOD@GMAIL.COM

SILVER A B CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38826888 or SILVERABCONTRACTING@GMAIL.COM

NASS MECHANICAL CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of RIGGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17725522 or yousif@aanass.net

NASS MECHANICAL CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of RIGGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17725522 or yousif@aanass.net

NASS MECHANICAL CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of RIGGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17725522 or yousif@aanass.net

NASS MECHANICAL CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of STEEL FABRICATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17725522 or yousif@aanass.net

OMARS RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17292956 or DAMPASSEAFODBAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

NEW INDIAN BAKERY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of FOOD SERVICE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34633301 or R.K.TAJ@GMAIL.COM

VALOR MANPOWER has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR(HOUSEKEEPING AFFAIRS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39993345 or GRAYS.BH25@GMAIL.COM

AL FARHAN PERFECT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of REPAIRMAN (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36629978 or ALFARHANBALOCHI@GMAIL.COM

Delmon World general trading has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33022259 or ALWAN1007@HOTMAIL.COM

ZAMAN ALL SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34354460 or PAPERFLOWBH@GMAIL.COM

HDFC BANK LIMITED has a vacancy for the occupation of SERVICES SUPPORT MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 16577006 or RAGHUNATHA.REDDY@HDFC.BANK.IN

GOURMET JOJO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of FOOD SERVICE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17001720 or PRINCEBURGER@GMAIL.COM

AFLAH TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36677709 or BUZAH-RAAG@HOTMAIL.COM

BLUE LOTUS INTERIOR DECORATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39892156 or RAJEERACPR@GMAIL.COM

BIN KAWAT REAL ESTATE COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33323541 or SAMADERATY2013@GMAIL.COM

NASS MECHANICAL CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of STEEL FABRICATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17725522 or yousif@aanass.net

AL ABBASIYA RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37337873 or SHABIRIBRAHIM33@GMAIL.COM

COCO GENERAL TRADE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34199744 or FAISALWASIF@GMAIL.COM

AWAL A.C & REFRIGERATION WORKSHOP W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MACHINE OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17293388 or hrl@gulfstarbh.com

NASS MECHANICAL CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of STEEL FABRICATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17725522 or yousif@aanass.net

J D AUTO SPARE PARTS AND SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33374837 or eleven.11@outlook.com

BAHRAIN PRECAST CONCRETE CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRAFTSMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17879600 or JSA@BPC.BH

Security Solutions Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77996666 or GOVERNMENT@MRE.CO

EVER FINE TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CASHIER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39151200 or GEE-PASBAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

ALMAJALIS COLD STORES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39457503 or EMEDEFAIE@BATELCO.COM.BH

AL HILAL PREMIER HOSPITAL SAQIA COMPANY B.S.C CLOSED has a vacancy for the occupation of NURSE(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33601401 or hrd@ALHILALHEALTHCARE.COM

ALWARDI TRANSPORT CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR ACCOUNTING, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17730626 or TURKI.ALWARDI@HOTMAIL.COM

AL SHAAFAT CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39241222 or ALSHAAFATCONTRACTING@GMAIL.COM

NADIRAH INTERIOR DECOR W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE WORKER HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39575473 or FARERWAY2@GMAIL.COM

tac track technology W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33668870 or AMD.MORSY@GMAIL.COM

red gulf contracting has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17251216 or abual792008@Gmail.com

K R K CONTRACTORS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36463994 or KRKCONTRACTOR-WLL@GMAIL.COM

MESRI KHEL POINT SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE BOY / FARRASH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33523852 or LEVEL3376@GMAIL.COM

NAFEES PERVAZ FACILITY SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39648698 or NABEEL@LIVE.COM

MS FIX SERVICES BAHRAIN PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE WORKER HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33046028 or MEHRAN4024@YAHOO.COM

DAR ALMAHARA EMPLOYMENT AGENCY has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33032121 or s_hashem@hotmail.com

HAIRMES SALON & SPA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34034430 or HAIRMES.BH@GMAIL.COM

N F Z SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32116017 or HAJIFAZAN24@GMAIL.COM

KUL ALZAIN FITNESS AND BEAUTY CENTRE has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39115535 or KULALZAIN@GMAIL.COM

Business Oasis Industrial Supplies W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39400019 or HSHOALA@BUSINESS-OASIS.NET

TEA TIME W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36960999 or INFOBAHRAIN2@GMAIL.COM

JEREH GROUP MIDDLE EAST BAHRAIN Branch of a Foreign Company has a vacancy for the occupation of CIVIL ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77904677 or ZHONGSHU.GAN@JEREH.COM

B2 FITNESS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TRAINER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36900617 or FITNESSB2BH@GMAIL.COM

VINEZ FACILITIES MANAGEMENT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34482910 or RANJAN8012@GMAIL.COM

AQUARISE CONSTRUCTION OF FLOATING STRUCTURES has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35458563 or CHANGAIZBASHIR79@GMAIL.COM

NEAT AND TIDY LAUNDRY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(LAUNDRY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 37103199 or KHALIDDOSSARY2@GMAIL.COM

MASANE SPA & SALON LOUNGE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33283936 or A.H.BH1141@GMAIL.COM

BLUE SWIMMING CRAB FACTORY FOR PRE-SERVING FISH has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(FISH CUTTING), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33323995 or clearance@aradafish.com

MAHIN SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DECORATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37143551 or F34407337@GMAIL.COM

QUICK ZEBRA SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

TOPNOTCH MANAGEMENT COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE WORKER HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38110044 or SSVCD3116@GMAIL.COM

ALMAJLES RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17777191 or SALMAN.ZUHAIR@HOTMAIL.COM

IN & OUT SUPERMARKET has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17530005 or shaheen@khhgroup.com

BROWN STONE CLEANING has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39865798 or ABUFAZANAC@GMAIL.COM

IBRAHIM LATE OSMAN FASHION DESIGN A BAHRAIN PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38218421 or IBRAHIMOSMAN983@GMAIL.COM

FOUAD WOOD CARPENTRY DECORATION has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17786098 or fouadgeneraltrade@gmail.com

TEA TIME W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SANDWICHES MAKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36960999

or INFOBAHRAIN2@GMAIL.COM
VAIDYARATNAM AYURVEDIC HEALTH CENTRE has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17877884 or ADMIN-EWG@BATELCO.COM.BH

Al Sahel Resort B.S.C. (Closed) has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17561327 or hr@edamah.com

QASR ALSHABAB CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77086603 or QAMARSHB@GMAIL.COM

PROTECTS SECURITY SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

ZONFUL RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of FOOD SERVICE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39027865 or ALJETBANY108@GMAIL.COM

NASS MECHANICAL CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17725522 or yousif@aanass.net

CORNERSTONE BUILDERS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34126711 or INOVATEDGE@GMAIL.COM

NASS MECHANICAL CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of RIGGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17725522 or yousif@aanass.net

AVAT NAFEES CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33494978 or NAFISTABBASUN0009@GMAIL.COM

ROUTE 66 RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 16066066 or MM@EATROUTE66.COM

ALMEHZA AUTO GARAGE has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39699998 or ALMEHZA999@HOTMAIL.COM

CRYSTAL GLOW SALON AND SPA has a vacancy for the occupation of HAIR DRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39458384 or ALAWAY196@GMAIL.COM

BANNU BEEF PULAO RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35506142 or BANNUBEEF1@GMAIL.COM

DAR FOZ TAILOR & FASHION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33346281 or SAWARI.DOC@GMAIL.COM

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of FLAME-CUTTER(HAND), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of FITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

KAREGE GLOBAL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34342238 or ORA-MATRADINF.BH@GMAIL.COM

REGAL MAINTENANCE & SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17448936 or regal@rmswll.com

PROTECTS SECURITY SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

7 SPICES RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17333788 or a.eskander@hotmail.com

LUCKY BOX W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (PROJECT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33141422 or LUCKYBOX142@GMAIL.COM

SUN STAR FOR HEAVY MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34687716 or HGUL@MAIL.COM

RUBY GRACE CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELP-

ER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33314315 or CNLZBIANCA@GMAIL.COM

KHALID TRANSPORT EST. has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR FOR SERVICES, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17785830 or Khalid@abulfatih.com

FAMILY CHAAYAKKADA RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17259458 or NAVAFABOBACK-ER91@GMAIL.COM

DELMON PRECAST W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of QUALITY INSPECTOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17725522 or yousif@aanass.net

ALI HADI ISA ALI ABDULLA SALEM /NOR ALJABAL 8775 has a vacancy for the occupation of SEAMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33780237 or ALIHAD-IA88@HOTMAIL.COM

FLORIDA GULF CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33323995 or clearance@jardafish.com

PELLA CARPENTRY WORKSHOP W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER(FURNITURE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 3977869 or PELLATOUCHE@GMAIL.COM

DE SECRET GARDEN W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER/BARTENDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39333989 or ANTHONY.QUADROS@GMAIL.COM

ALHAMAD CONSTRUCTION & DEVELOPMENT CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17226618 or ACKR007@GMAIL.COM

TITOLO INTERIOR DESIGNING AND TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PLUMBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33322255 or HUSSAINALHAMAR@GMAIL.COM

TH COFFEE INTERNATIONAL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COFFEE SERVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33530495 or Fatima.Amosawi@timhortonsme.com

WALID FATEH COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35172145 or WALIDBAHRAIN015@GMAIL.COM

Wynndham Grand Manama has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17826260 or ANaser@wynndhamgrandbh.com

ABDULAZIZ ALSAYED TRADING & CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SERVICE MAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33747598 or AHMED-ALSAYED88@HOTMAIL.COM

EM BODYSHOP W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN(CARS ENGINES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17547474 or mirza@alzayani-investments.com

AJWA SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17215189 or YASIRWQA579@GMAIL.COM

QASR AL HADEEL CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICAL WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32162723 or AXADOCLEARANCE@GMAIL.COM

TRIM SPOT GENTS SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37119705 or KMDANISH.BH@GMAIL.COM

THAI MASSAGE has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17827278 or AFAKHRO@BUSINESSPLUS.BH

EMCO COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17821988 or emco@emco.com.bh

ALSHAEB ROASTERY COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66663136 or ALNATSHHEH_MILLS@HOTMAIL.COM

ICG SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17623723 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

Classifieds

VACANCIES AVAILABLE
CONTINUED

RAMSIS ENGINEERING CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17830801 or Abbas@ramsisc.com.bh

GUARDUS SECURITY CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or HRD@ALMOAYYEDCG.COM

MAMOUN SUPERMARKET W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66664555 or S.JALI2421976@GMAIL.COM

ALMOAYYED SECURITY has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or profice@almoayedcg.com

ALMOAYYED CLEANING & MAINTENANCE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or profice@almoayedcg.com

ALMOAYYED SECURITY has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or profice@almoayedcg.com

al hara al muharraga contracting has a vacancy for the occupation of MAINTENANCE CLERK, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37070404 or ha_almajed@hotmail.com

QUICK LAUNDRY has a vacancy for the occupation of WASHING MACHINE OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36647676 or ANA.ALJOWDER@GMAIL.COM

JASSIM ALMUTAWA TRADING SHOWROOM has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17772040 or INFO@JASSIMALMUTAWA.COM

DELMON INTERNATIONAL HOTEL has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17224000 or HR@DELMONHOTEL.COM

ALMOAYYED SECURITY has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or profice@almoayedcg.com

ALMOAYYED SECURITY has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or profice@almoayedcg.com

HAIRPAGE SALON AND SPA has a vacancy for the occupation of THERAPIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36508030 or M.ALHMED@GMAIL.COM

AL ASIF RESTAURANT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37743832 or AS-IFAHMED175698@GMAIL.COM

ENNA PUBLICITY AND ADVERTISING has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38112699 or TAHIRSHAFQ705@GMAIL.COM

NASSER ABD MOHAMMED B.S.(CLOSED) has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700888 or admin@nassercn.net

MARINE & INDUSTRIAL SOLUTIONS CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33174790 or ADMIN@BAHRAIN@MI-SOLUTIONS.IN

BS TAILORING has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33399694 or KHALO000193@GMAIL.COM

SUKOON COMPANY FOR CENTRAL COOLING AND AIR CONDITIONING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36816650 or MRALNYMHLAALDYN@GMAIL.COM

GILL BROTHERS MANAGEMENT CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35545213 or GILLBROTHERSMANAGEMENTCO@GMAIL.COM

BUTT G MAINTENANCE SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36603834 or nadeemyasir126@gmail.com

My Choice - Nowshad Co.W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39677640 or fatyehrahim@hotmail.com

Fereej Courts project signed to boost community sport

TDT | Manama

Bahrain's efforts to expand community sports infrastructure received a boost when a new neighbourhood sports initiative was signed in the presence of a senior royal sports official.

HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, First Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, President of the General Sports Authority and President of the Bahrain Olympic Committee, witnessed the signing of an agreement for the "Neighbourhood Courts" initiative between the General Sports Authority and Bin Higris Real Estate Development and Investment.

The agreement was signed by



Dr. Abdulrahman Askar, Chief Executive of the General Sports Authority, and Eng. Aref Higris, Chairman of Bin Higris Real Estate Development and Investment.

HH Shaikh Khalid said the initiative reflects Bahrain's leader-

ship vision to strengthen sport as a community practice and continues earlier national efforts aimed at embedding sport in daily life, particularly among young people.

He said providing accessible sports courts within residential areas would help channel youth energy, strengthen social cohe-

sion, and support the discovery of sporting talent for clubs and national teams.

He also highlighted the importance of public-private partnerships, noting that cooperation with the private sector is essential to advancing sustainable development in the sports sector.

Arsenal held in controversial draw at Atletico

Manama

Arsenal were left frustrated with refereeing decisions following their 1-1 draw against Atletico Madrid in the first leg of their Champions League semi-final.

The match at the Metropolitan was defined by three penalty incidents that ultimately shaped the outcome. Viktor Gyokeres gave Arsenal the lead from the spot before half-time after being brought down in the box, but Julian Alvarez equalised for the hosts with a penalty of his own following a handball decision against Ben White.

The biggest talking point came late in the game when Arsenal were awarded a second penalty after Eberechi Eze went down under a challenge from David Hancko. Referee Danny Makkelie initially pointed to the spot, but the decision was overturned after a VAR review.

The call sparked anger from Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta, who questioned why the original decision was changed. Arteta insisted there was no "clear and obvious error," arguing that overturning the call had a major impact on the game.

Debate has since centred on whether VAR should have intervened. While the contact on Eze was minimal, similar incidents in recent matches have not been overturned, raising questions over consistency in officiating.

Mainoo signs new Manchester United deal until 2031

Manama

Kobbie Mainoo has signed a new long-term contract with Manchester United, committing his future to the club until 2031 and ending months of uncertainty surrounding his situation.

The 21-year-old midfielder, a product of United's academy, had been linked with a potential move earlier this season after limited opportunities under former manager Ruben Amorim. A proposed January loan switch to Napoli was ultimately blocked by the club, who made clear their desire to keep him.

Since the departure of Amorim, Mainoo has re-established himself as a key figure under interim boss Michael Carrick, starting almost every league match and showing consistent form in midfield.

Speaking after signing the deal, Mainoo described United as his "home" and expressed his ambition to help the club compete for major honours in the coming years. "This special club means everything to my family," he said. "I am determined to step up and play my role."

Defence Minister honours winners of BDF championship



TDT | Manama

Bahrain's Defence Minister Lt. Gen. Abdullah bin Hassan Al Nuaimi honoured winners of the Defence Minister's Bowling, Billiards and Snooker Championship at a closing ceremony held yesterday in Manama.

The event, staged at the Bahrain Defence Force Officers'

Club, opened with a welcome address before the minister presented trophies to top performers across the three disciplines.

In the bowling competition, Col. Mohammed Abdullah Al-Manaei secured first place and the highest average score award. Lt. Col. Yusuf Atiyallah Al-Saud finished second and also claimed the highest three-game

series, while Maj. Ali Abdullah Al-Manaei placed third and Maj. Salman Rashid Al-Manaei came fourth.

In billiards, 1st Lt. Ibrahim Suhail Al-Khalifan took first place, followed by 1st Lt. Mohammed Jassim Al-Maliki in second and Maj. Hamad Najeeb Al-Kuwari in third.

Al-Khalifan also won the snooker competition, with Maj.

Hamad Najeeb Al-Kuwari finishing second and Col. Hamad Mohammed Boursheed taking third place.

The minister also honoured organising committees and contributors, congratulating participants on their performance and praising the overall standard of organisation. Senior Bahrain Defence Force officers attended the ceremony.

IPL fines Rajasthan's Parag for vaping in dressing room

AFP | Mumbai, India

Rajasthan Royals captain Riyan Parag has been fined a quarter of his match fee for vaping in the dressing room during a game, the Indian Premier League said yesterday.

Images of Parag, 24, using an e-cigarette during Tuesday's match against Punjab Kings were broadcast live on television and quickly went viral on social media.

E-cigarettes are banned in India under a 2019 law that prohibits their manufacture, import, sale and storage, regardless of nicotine content.



"Riyan admitted to the offence and accepted the sanction imposed," a statement posted on the league's website said, adding that the team skipper

would also be hit with one demerit point.

The IPL added that India's cricket board was also exploring options to initiate "stringent

action" against the Rajasthan Royals, its officials and players to ensure that the reputation of the league "remains intact".

Violations of India's e-cigarette law can attract fines of up to 500,000 rupees (\$6,000) and jail terms.

Personal possession and vaping in public is also banned.

Rajasthan, winners of the inaugural IPL in 2008 under late Australian great Shane Warne, recently had their team manager Ravinder Singh Bhandar fined 100,000 rupees for using a mobile phone in the dugout during a match.



Flag handover ceremony



Host China's flag is paraded around Yasha Park Ring Theater



Flags of participating nations displayed during the closing ceremony

Bahrain signs off Sanya Games with grit, glow and a bronze

● The standout result came in beach wrestling, where Shamil Sharipov secured Bahrain's only medal

● There was near success in beach handball as well

TDT | Manama

Bahrain's campaign at the sixth Asian Beach Games in Sanya, China, concluded yesterday as the Kingdom's athletes and officials attended the closing ceremony after nine days of competition.

The Olympic Council of Asia President Sheikh Joaan bin Hamad Al Thani declared the Games closed as fireworks lit up the sky above Sanya Bay, marking the end of a multi-sport event that brought together more than 1,600 athletes from 45 OCA member countries. Competing across 14 sports, 15 disciplines and 62 events, the Games celebrated continental unity. In his closing remarks, Sheikh Joaan said: "Together, as one Asia, we have made history. United by our love of sport and a shared dream, we showed the very best of our continent."



Bahrain's delegation carries the national flag during the parade

For Bahrain, the Games delivered moments of promise. Adam Alnasheth of the national beach handball team carried the national flag at the closing ceremony, symbolising a delegation that competed across multiple disciplines with steady commitment.

The standout result came in beach wrestling, where Shamil Sharipov secured Bahrain's only medal. Competing in the men's over-90kg category, he delivered a 2-0 victory over Kyrgyzstan's Muzafar Alimovich Zhappuev to claim bronze, adding another achievement to his decorated career that already includes world and continental honours.

That result ultimately defined Bahrain's standing, with the team finishing tied-26th overall.

There was near success in beach handball as well, where Bahrain narrowly missed out on a podium finish after a 0-2 defeat to Thailand in the bronze medal match. Despite taking an early lead and starting strongly, they were gradually edged out in a closely fought contest.

Elsewhere, Bahraini athletes competed in open water swimming and additional beach wrestling events, with several progressing into the later rounds, underlining a steady rise in performance across beach sports in Asia.

Officials from the Bahrain Olympic Committee remained present throughout the Games, supporting athletes on site. This steady backing helped the delegation conclude its Sanya campaign with a sense of progress, even if further medals remained out of reach.

Kingdom line up Georgia test as preparations intensify

TDT | Manama

The Bahrain national football team will step up preparations for a stretch of international fixtures when they face Georgia in a friendly on June 5 in Tbilisi.

The match, confirmed by the Bahrain Football Association, will be played at the Mikheil Meskhi Stadium, with kick-off set for 9 PM Bahrain time. It represents an important test against higher-ranked European opposition as the national side continues refining squad depth and tactical approach.

Ranked 91st in the FIFA rankings, Bahrain will take on a



Georgia side placed 72nd, offering a valuable benchmark in a different tactical setting from their usual regional opponents. The fixture also marks Bahrain's return to facing European opposition for the first time since 2022, when they faced Serbia.

Elsewhere in the June window, an expected friendly against Tanzania is scheduled in Turkey.

Looking further ahead, Bahrain are set to defend their title at the 27th Arabian Gulf Cup

Bahrain's senior men's football national team

in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, from September 23 to October 6. They will then turn attention to the AFC Asian Cup 2027, which will also take place in Saudi Arabia.

Head coach Dragan Talaji has been overseeing preparations following the conclusion of domestic competition, including the Nasser bin Hamad Premier League, as he continues to evaluate squad options.

A proposed training camp in Slovenia remains under discussion, but focus is now firmly on this month's friendlies as Bahrain builds momentum ahead of a significant international period.

BIC revs up for adrenaline-filled weekend of racing



Batelco Fitness on Track, Open Track Night, and Bahrain Rotax karting's season-finale

● **Batelco Fitness on Track is scheduled for 6am to 10am**

● **The cost to participate is BD1 for runners and BD2 for cyclists.**

● **Children under the age of 12 can join free of charge if accompanied by a paying adult**

TDT | Manama

Bahrain International Circuit (BIC), 'The Home of Motorsport in the Middle East', is all set for a stacked weekend of exciting events, including a pair of engaging fan experiences and one of the Kingdom's leading racing championships.



Taking place on Friday, 1 May, will be the latest edition of Batelco Fitness on Track. Then, on Saturday, 2 May, Open Track Night will be raising the thrill levels along with the eighth and final round of the 2025/2026 Bahrain Rotax MAX Challenge (BRMC) – the Kingdom's premier karting championship.

Friday's Batelco Fitness on Track is scheduled for 6am to 10am, making for a bright and early start to the weekend.

This unique physical activity can be done either on foot or on a bicycle – and either individually or with a group of family and

friends – within the safe and controlled setting of a world-class Formula 1 venue.

Runners and walkers will be utilising BIC's 2.55-kilometre Inner Circuit while cyclists will enjoy their ride along the 3.543-kilometre Outer Circuit, with a separate dedicated area available for children.

The cost to participate is BD1 for runners and BD2 for cyclists. Registration and payment can be done in advance via the circuit's official website bahraingp.com or by calling the BIC Hotline on +973-17450000. Children under the age of 12 can join free of charge if accompanied by a paying adult.

Open Track Night will then bring the intensity up a notch from 6pm to 10pm on Saturday evening.

Those taking part can satisfy their need for speed in their very own cars or motorbikes along BIC's Inner Circuit, all within a controlled environment that promotes responsible driving.

Cars will be first out on the tarmac, with an Open Pit Lane scheduled from 6pm to 7.30pm. That will be followed by a single session from 7.30pm to 8pm, and then a members' session from 8pm to 8.30pm. The bikes will follow with their Open Pit Lane from 8.30pm to 10pm. A members' session will then take place from 10pm to 10.30pm.

Participation fees are BD71.500 for the half night and BD33 per session when booked in advance. On-the-day bookings are priced at BD82.500 for the half night and BD44 per session. Instructor sessions are also available, and additional drivers or passengers may take part for an extra fee.

Also on Saturday, Bahrain's best karters

will be wrapping up yet another action-packed campaign with the BRMC's much-anticipated finale.

The meeting will be held under lights from 3.30pm to 9.30pm at BIC's world-class grassroots motorsport facility, Bahrain International Karting Circuit (BIKC), where competitors will go wheel-to-wheel in their very own Rotax-powered machinery.

They will be battling it out along BIC's 1.414-kilometre CIK-FIA track for crucial championship points across the BRMC's five categories.

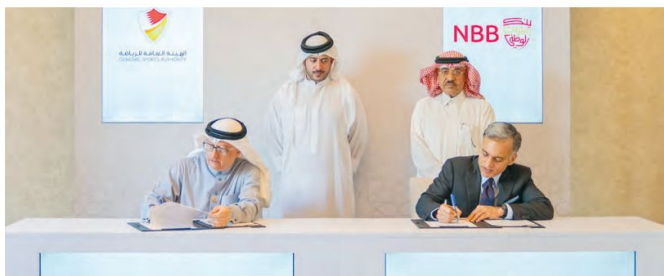
including Micro MAX, Mini MAX, Junior MAX, Senior MAX, and DD2 MAX.

All fans are welcome to attend and cheer for the talented racers. Entrance to BIKC is free of charge.

For more information on all that is happening this weekend at BIC and beyond, visit bahraingp.com, call the BIC Hotline, or follow the circuit's official social media channels.



Bahrain signs Khalifa Sports City deal



The deal signing

TDT | Manama

His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, First Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, Chairman of the General Authority for Sports, and President of the Bahrain Olympic Committee, witnessed the signing of a naming rights sponsorship agreement for Khalifa Sports City between the General Sports Authority and National Bank of Bahrain, in a move aimed at enhancing

the kingdom's sports infrastructure.

The agreement was signed by General Sports Authority chief executive Abdulrahman Askar and Usman Ahmed, Group Chief Executive Officer of the National Bank of Bahrain, in the presence of senior officials.

HH Shaikh Khalid said the deal reflects growing cooperation between the sports sector and private institutions, adding that naming rights sponsorships play a key role in improving the sustainability and

development of sports facilities in line with international standards.

He praised the partnership with the National Bank of Bahrain, noting that it supports the advancement of sports venues and strengthens Bahrain's position as a destination for regional and international events.

The initiative is part of broader efforts to develop Khalifa Sports City as a major hub for sporting activities, while opening new opportunities for investment and improving facility management across the sector.

Gill, Buttler guide Gujarat to comfortable win over Bengaluru

AFP | Ahmedabad, India

Sparkling cameos by skipper Shubman Gill and Jos Buttler complemented a stellar display with the ball and in the field, carrying Gujarat Titans to a four-wicket victory over defending champions Royal Challengers Bengaluru yesterday.

All seven previous matches in the IPL between the sides had been won by the chasing team and Gill therefore had little hesitation in asking Bengaluru to bat first at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad.

Virat Kohli smashed Kagiso Rabada for five fours in the second over of the match before succumbing to the same bowler not long thereafter as Bengaluru went from 79 for two to 155 all out.

Devdutt Padikkal top-scored with a fluent 40, while left-arm pacer Arshad Khan (3/22), Gujarat's most successful bowler, received excellent support from Afghan Rashid Khan.



Gujarat Titans' captain Indian cricket player Shubman Gill (C) is congratulated by Royal Challengers Bengaluru's Indian cricket player Virat Kohli (R) after his team's win

West Indian Jason Holder had headlined a flawless first half for Gujarat with three catches to go with the wickets of Jitesh Sharma and Romario Shepherd, triggering a middle-order collapse which compelled Bengaluru to summon Venkatesh Iyer as the impact

substitute. "It was one of those nights (when the ball kept following me)," player-of-the-match Holder said.

"The energy was quite high. I am just happy to hold on to the chances and happy to help the team win."