

## Kingdom condoles with Egypt over train accident



TDT | Manama

The Kingdom of Bahrain offered condolences to Egypt, its leadership, government and people, over the victims of a train derailment in Matrouh Governorate, which resulted in the death and injury of a number of people.

In a statement, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs expressed the Kingdom's solidarity with the government and people of Egypt, wishing a speedy recovery for the injured.

## Dust, humidity set to persist



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Light to moderate dust covered much of Bahrain yesterday morning, according to the Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications' official weather program.

The "feels-like" temperature rose to 43°C, even though the actual air temperature was 39°C.

Slight fog and dust were reported in several areas, which slightly reduced visibility.

The dusty conditions are expected to continue during the day today before the weather becomes more humid at night.

Winds are variable, blowing at 5-10 knots and turning generally northerly at 10-15 knots at times.

**Waves**

Sea conditions remain calm, with waves between one and three feet.

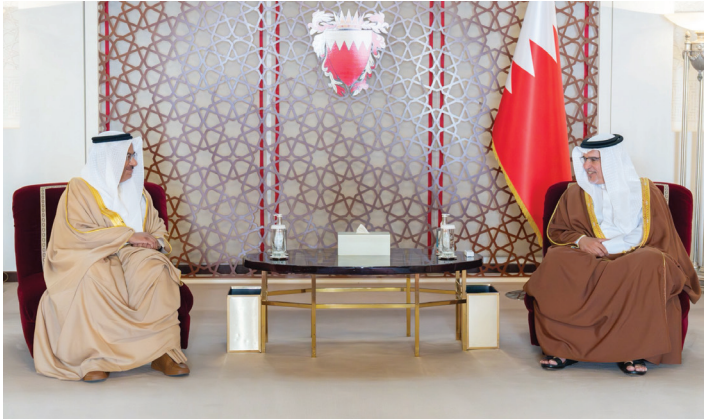
Humidity is expected to reach up to 85%, making the heat feel stronger, especially along coastal areas.

Residents are advised to stay hydrated and take precautions against the stifling conditions.

220 fils (includes VAT)



# Bahrain backs sustainable, competitive financial sector



HRH the Deputy King with Yousif Abdullah Al Yousif and members of the BHB Board of Directors

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The Deputy King, His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, affirmed the Kingdom of Bahrain's commitment to advancing the financial and banking sector, with a focus on enhancing its sustainability and global competitiveness.

HRH Prince Salman emphasised the sector's vital role in driving the Kingdom's continued comprehensive development, led by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

HRH the Deputy King was speaking as he received yesterday

Yousif Abdullah Al Yousif, Chairman of the Bahrain Bourse and members of the Board of Directors, at Riffa Palace.

His Excellency Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Minister of Finance and National Economy, along with several senior officials, also attended the meeting.

**Financial markets**

HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister reiterated the importance of the role of financial markets in supporting the Kingdom's economic development, expanding the base of investment opportunities across diverse sectors, and reinforcing Bahrain's position as a key regional and international hub for financial investments and innovation.

He also extended his congratulations to the Chairman and Board members of BHB, wishing them continued success in their future endeavours and in achieving BHB's strategic aspirations.

HRH the Deputy King outlined the significant role played by BHB in strengthening the Kingdom's competitiveness by con-



tinuously advancing its operations and cementing Bahrain's position as a leading investment hub.

**Efforts**

HRH Prince Salman commended the efforts of BHB in supporting the Kingdom's economic environment and further expanding investment opportunities.

He highlighted the importance of encouraging innovation and development within the Kingdom's economic sector, in alignment with the ongoing advancements in the sector's legislative and regulatory framework.

His Royal Highness set out that these efforts further drive the growth of the Kingdom's economy.

**Gratitude**

The Chairman of the Bahrain Bourse and members of the Board of Directors expressed their gratitude for His Royal Highness's steadfast commitment to the progress of the Kingdom's national economy, reaffirming their dedication to advancing the Kingdom's aspirations.

# Sustained progress, bright future ahead

Bahrain economy expands 2.7% in first quarter as non-oil sectors drive growth

Mohammed Darwish  
TDT | Manama

Bahrain's economy grew by 2.7 per cent in real terms in the first quarter of 2025, lifted by a 2.2 per cent rise in non-oil activity, the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry said in its report "Overview of the Local Economy Q1 - 2025".

Accommodation and food services led with 10.3 per cent growth.

Financial and insurance activities rose 7.5 per cent, while construction was up 5.4 per cent.

Financial and insurance remained the largest single share of real GDP at 17.4 per cent.

Trade with Gulf partners eased. Bahrain-GCC exchange came in at \$2.14 billion, down 10 per cent from \$2.38 billion a year earlier.

**Domestic payments**

At the same time, domestic payments moved further online: Fawri+ transactions were up 11 per cent and point-of-sale transactions rose 14 per cent.



Image used for illustrative purposes only

Bahrain ranked second in the Arab world in the 2025 Quality of Life Index.

The report set the global backdrop with the IMF's October 2024 outlook. Investment in advanced economies is forecast to reach 22.5 per cent by 2026.

In the European Union, general government revenue is projected at 45.7 per cent for 2024, 2025 and 2026.

### Top export market

Saudi Arabia was Bahrain's top export market in the quarter, taking \$727 million.

The main item was unwrought aluminium alloys worth \$113 million, 16 per cent of sales to the kingdom.

The United Arab Emirates followed with \$479 million, led by agglomerated iron ores and concentrates at \$85 million (18 per cent).

**Third**

The United States ranked third on \$262 million, with unwrought aluminium alloys at \$124 million (47 per cent).



Qatar placed fourth with \$179 million, of which agglomerated iron ores and concentrates made up \$143 million (80 per cent).

The Netherlands was fifth on \$129 million, headed by unwrought aluminium alloys at \$61 million (47 per cent).

### Total trade

Within the GCC, total trade stood at \$2.14 billion.

Exchange with Qatar rose 164 per cent year on year, from \$73 million to \$192 million.

Saudi Arabia recorded the largest bilateral flow with Bahrain at \$944 million, followed by the UAE at \$795 million.

On imports, Australia ranked first with \$595 million.



Tourism pact

# Tourism MoU Action Begins

● Oman expertise shared

● Fifty participants attend

● MoU programme implemented

**Mahir Haneef**  
TDT | Manama

The Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority (BTEA) has moved to implement its tourism cooperation memorandum of understanding with Oman by hosting a specialised MICE workshop at Exhibition World Bahrain.

The session was delivered by Khalid bin Walid Al Zadjali, Director of Oman Convention Bureau at the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism, and brought together 50 representatives from sectors linked to business tourism. Participants included BTEA's marketing and promotion teams, Exhibition World Bahrain management, hotels,



Dana Osama Al Saad



Khalid bin Walid Al Zadjali



The global MICE industry was valued at over USD 900 billion in 2022 and is projected to surpass USD 1.5 trillion by 2032.

travel agencies, the Economic Development Board, and other relevant government and social entities.

## Cross-border exchange

Al Zadjali reviewed Oman's experience in hosting and organising regional and international

conferences and highlighted ways Bahrain could benefit from this within the framework of the executive programme of the MoU. He said the exchange of expertise and joint efforts would help achieve shared objectives in developing the MICE sector in both countries.



Representatives from business tourism sectors in Bahrain and Oman

## Strategy in focus

Dana Osama Al Saad, BTEA Deputy CEO for Resources and Projects, emphasised that the workshop was part of implementing the executive programme of the tourism cooperation MoU between the two governments. She said it also

supports ongoing efforts to further develop the MICE sector in the Kingdom, a key pillar of the Tourism Strategy 2022-2026.

## Venue as proof

Al Saad added that the advanced facilities of Exhibition World Bahrain enhance the Kingdom's position as a leading

regional hub for hosting international events and reinforce its role as a pioneer in this sector.

The workshop therefore marked both knowledge-building at home and a milestone in Bahrain's cooperation with Oman, paving the way for further joint achievements in tourism.

# Heritage Meets Progress

Roots of history, homes of tomorrow

● 300 housing units underway

● 63 streets, 360 parking spaces

● Visitor centre, heritage revival

**Mahir Haneef**  
TDT | Manama

Muharraq's oldest neighbourhoods are being reshaped as bulldozers clear sites and scaffolding rises for a new wave of heritage-inspired housing. Work is under way on 300 units in the first phase of the Muharraq City Development Project, a drive to modernise the city while keeping its cultural identity intact.

The project was launched under the order 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, to



Construction work is underway

safeguard Bahrain's architectural character. Housing and Urban Planning Minister Amna bint Ahmed Al Rumaihi said the redevelopment of expropriated land is advancing on schedule, with the first housing packages expected to be delivered in batches from early next year.

## Streets and spaces

Alongside the new homes, 63 streets and walkways are being redesigned, with infrastructure

upgrades to handle heavier demand. More than 360 parking spaces are being mapped out, while 47 open areas and green pockets will add breathing space to the dense urban fabric. Lighting, landscaping and shop signs are also being standardised to create a unified look across the city.

Heritage remains central to the scheme, with 57 historically significant properties set for development in coordination

with the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities.

## Visitor centre

A new visitor centre is also under construction to showcase the project's designs and models of the residential units. It will serve as an information hub and offer technical consultations in line with guidelines for heritage areas. Ministry teams plan to meet residents' councils in Muharraq to update them on progress.

## Accelerating pace

Al Rumaihi said demolition and construction are accelerating to meet the timetable, describing the scheme as one of the most ambitious urban renewal efforts in the region. She praised the backing of MPs, the Muharraq Municipal Council and government entities for pushing the project forward.

The first phase, she added, will be the start of a wider plan to revive the city's heritage streets while providing homes that reflect the aspirations of Bahraini families.

# Buri plan sets metro hub and air-conditioned central market



Discussion on the ongoing project

**Mohammed Darwish**  
TDT | Manama

Buri's detailed plan, described by the Urban Planning and Development Authority as the most prominent of 96 plans it has recently completed, sets out a five-square-kilometre site with a main metro hub, an air-conditioned central market tied to a logistics zone, and farmland taking about half the area.

Residents and MP Dr Munir Seroor welcomed the plan after a meeting with the Authority's CEO, Ahmed Al Khayyat.

Dr Seroor thanked the leadership and the government, and noted the response of the Minister of Housing and Urban Planning, Amna Al Rumaihi, who directed the Authority to receive residents, consider their observations on the Buri detailed plan and answer questions.

## Springs

Assurances were given that cemeteries, mosques and

historic features such as the springs will be preserved.

The Authority indicated flexibility to adjust the layout to keep the eastern section of the village cemetery and maintain Ain Huwais and Al Juwailiyah mosques.

Al Khayyat said around half the site is reserved for agriculture and will be offered through the Government Land Investment Platform.

## Priority

Dr Seroor called for priority for Buri residents in the future central market and in the allocation of housing and farming plots.

The transport layout includes a main junction linking Buri to Salmabad, Zayed Town and A'ali, with multiple access points.

A 'Buri Path' will pass archaeological sites, springs and green areas to create a continuous visitor route. In the south of the plan, near the village, numerous residential plots are set out.

## 'Future Bet' programme



His Excellency Nawaf bin Mohammed Al Maawda, Minister of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments, met with a group of young participants in the third edition of the "Future Bet" programme organised by the Bahrain Institute for Political Development (BIPD). The Minister emphasised that young people are a fundamental pillar in advancing judicial development, reflecting the goals of the comprehensive development process led by 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, to build capacities and develop the skills of national cadres. The meeting was attended by Bassam Ismail Al Binmohammed, a member of the BIPD's Board of Trustees, and Eman Faisal Janahi, Executive Director of BIPD.



# Bahrain Crowns Cyber Guardians

National talents and institutions celebrated for cyber readiness

● Bahrain hosts cyber drill

● Institutions, talents recognized

● Annual exercise mandated

Mahir Haneef  
TDT | Manama

Bahrain's fight against cyber threats took center stage as the National Cybersecurity Centre (NCC) concluded its 'Cyber Shield 2025' exercise, highlighting not only the nation's digital defenses but also the people and institutions driving them.

In the presence of His Highness Lieutenant-General Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, National Security Advisor, Commander of the Royal Guard and Secretary-General of the Supreme Defence Council, the exercise closed under the theme of 'Supply Chain Attacks,' with wide participation from government agencies, vital sectors, and private entities.

## Honoring excellence

His Highness affirmed that the exercise's success reinforced Bahrain's high national readiness and reflected its capacity to tackle advanced threats. H.H. directed the NCC to hold the exercise annually, stressing its role in safeguarding the Kingdom's advanced digital infrastructure.

At the ceremony, His Highness honored participating entities and individuals, underscoring the importance of human talent in cyber defense. "This platform not only strengthened coordination between institutions but also reflected the honorable image of Bahraini talent,"

*Supply chain cyberattacks, like the 2020 SolarWinds breach, are among the fastest-growing global threats, often striking thousands of organizations through a single vendor*

H.H. said.

## Institutional champions

The winners of the entities' competition cut across diverse sectors: telecommunications and transportation (stc Bahrain), government (Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry), security (Ministry of Interior), energy and industry (Bapco Energies), financial and banking (Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait), education (Bahrain Institute for Political Development), and health (Gulf Medical and Diabetes Center, as listed in



the PR).

Each represented the frontline of their sector, showing that cybersecurity is as critical in hospitals and classrooms as it is in energy facilities or finance.

## Faces of defense

Individual winners were also celebrated - representatives from stc Bahrain, the Prime Minister's Office, the General Secretariat of the Supreme Defence Council, Bapco Energies, National Bank of Kuwait, Arabian Gulf University, and Bio Lab. Their performance demon-

strated the depth of Bahrain's cyber readiness across public and private institutions.

His Excellency Shaikh Salman bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, Chief Executive Officer of the NCC, expressed gratitude to His Highness Shaikh Nasser for his support, noting that this backing was pivotal to achieving the exercise's objectives.

By closing the exercise with recognition for both institutions and individuals, Cyber Shield 2025 spotlighted Bahrain's cyber guardians as the frontline of national security.



HH Lieutenant-General Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa graces the event

## GCC national jailed three years for tombak smuggling

Mohammed Darwish

A GCC national has been jailed for three years and fined BD60,000 for attempting to smuggle the banned substance tombak into Bahrain.

A second defendant, an Asian national, received a six-month jail term.

The court ordered the confiscation of the goods and the tanker used.

## Verdict

The Public Prosecution said in a statement yesterday that the verdict was delivered by the Second Lower Criminal Court.

The case began after Customs Affairs at the Interior Ministry reported seizing a shipment of four tonnes of tombak.

The load had been hidden inside a tanker and was bound for entry by sea.

Investigators heard the cus-



The seized tanker and the banned substance, tombak

toms officer who made the seizure, examined the goods and sent samples for lab tests, which confirmed the substance was tombak.

Prosecutors also took statements from the customs broker and staff of the two clearance and shipping firms involved.

Checks showed the second defendant and the first had agreed to change the importer's name, register the load under the institution where the second works and file false customs data to let it through, even though the first defendant had no right to import it.

The Public Prosecution ordered the arrest of the first defendant and questioned the second, who admitted the charges.

The case was then sent to the competent criminal court, which issued the judgment.

## 23 questions for 13 ministers in Shura Council's last session



Shura Council

TDT | Manama

Twenty-three questions for 13 ministers in the last session, as the Shura Council sought answers on schools, hospitals, trade, oil and tourism, with standout queries on delivery-rider licences and food prices.

The Council said the questions formed part of its oversight role under Article 91 of the Constitution. Legislative monitoring by the Council's Secretariat-General showed the Ministries of Education, and Industry and Commerce each received four questions.

The Ministry of Health received three, and the Ministry of Electricity and Water Affairs two. Questions also went to the Ministries of Oil and Environment; Interior; Justice, Islamic Affairs and Waqf; Labour; Works; Transportation and Telecommunications; and Tourism. As the competent bodies, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs was asked about the Tender Board, and

the Ministry of Cabinet Affairs about the Labour Fund (Tamkeen).

## Projects

The subjects ranged from Tamkeen's support for renewable-energy projects and the occupancy rate of the Bahrain International Exhibition and Convention Centre, to medical errors, building a research habit among pupils, family stability and the conditions of delivery riders.

Members asked about road and infrastructure works, public-transport licences, and the Labour Market Regulatory Authority's checks on employers' payment of wages under contracts.

Other questions covered the number of restaurant licences and food and drink prices, the Ministry of Education's services for students with learning difficulties, efforts to attract holding companies and ease their procedures, licensing for delivery services, and the plan to shift from fossil fuels to renewable energy.

## Escape From Nightmare

Swift action ensures safe repatriation



Image used for illustrative purposes only

Pradeep Puravankara  
TDT | Manama

An Indian woman from Kerala who allegedly faced severe mental and physical harassment in Bahrain has been safely rescued and repatriated, following swift intervention by India's Union Minister of State Suresh Gopi and coordinated action by the Indian Embassy in Manama with local Bahraini authorities.

The woman, identified as Prabha from Ernakulam, had arrived in Bahrain in mid-June to work as a housemaid. Her plight soon came to light and was brought directly to the attention of the Minister, who immediately intervened to ensure urgent steps were taken.

## Coordinated action

Embassy officials, working

in close collaboration with Bahraini authorities, swiftly located Prabha and provided the necessary support for her safe return to India. The rescue underscores the critical role of fast diplomatic action in safeguarding vulnerable workers abroad.

## Call for safe routes

Social worker Amaldev O.K. expressed gratitude to the embassy staff for their dedication. "The unwavering support and timely intervention from the Indian Embassy and the local authorities were instrumental in ensuring Prabha's safe return," he said. He also urged all domestic workers to travel only through official channels such as the Indian Embassy or NORKA to ensure protection of their rights and prevent exploitation.



# Bahrain Powers Sustainable Future

Landmark plant to anchor carbon neutrality drive

● **1.4GW and 30MIGD output**

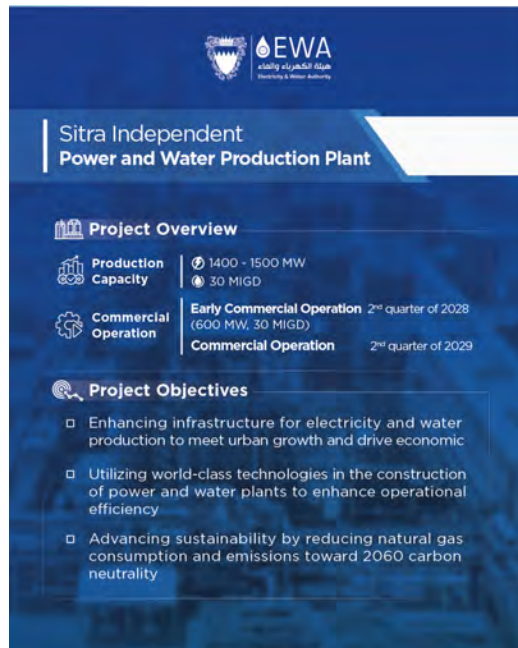
● **Old plants set for replacement**

● **Strategic projects shaping future**

**Mahir Haneef**  
TDT | Manama

Bahrain has set its sights on a future built on cleaner and more efficient energy with the launch of a landmark project in Sitra. The Electricity and Water Authority (EWA) has invited international bids for a new Independent Water and Power Production Plant that will provide as much as 1,500 megawatts of electricity and 30 million imperial gallons of potable water each day.

The project is not only about expanding capacity. It marks the replacement of aging plants that have long relied on high volumes of natural gas. By shifting to advanced power generation



and reverse osmosis desalination, Bahrain is moving toward reduced emissions and better use of resources in line with its carbon neutrality pledge for 2060.

## Sustainability shift

EWA President Kamal bin Ahmed Mohammed said the

new facility will adopt the latest technology to enhance efficiency. He noted that initial operations are expected to start in the second quarter of 2028, with the plant reaching full commercial operation by mid-2029.

Global confidence  
Seven international developers have been shortlisted for the project. They include ACWA Power, TAQA, Gulf Investment Corporation, JERA, Korea Electric Power Corporation, Sumitomo Corporation and a Chinese consortium. Their involvement highlights the Kingdom's ability to attract leading global part-

ners.

The Sitra IWPP comes as part of a broader plan that includes the new Al Hidd water plant and the country's first solar-powered electricity and water facility. Together, these initiatives strengthen Bahrain's ability to secure long-term supplies while preparing its infrastructure for urban and economic growth.

Mohammed described the Sitra IWPP as a national commitment to sustainable transformation, stressing that it will improve readiness for the Kingdom's development needs and support its long-term resilience.

## Council final session set

**Mohammed Darwish**  
TDT | Manama

The Northern Municipal Council will hold its first sitting of the final session of the sixth term on 8 September, chairman Dr Sayed Shubbar Al Wadaei said.

Work begins on 1 September with the formation of the council's committees. Chairs and members will be chosen in line with the council's internal regulations and Municipalities Law No. 35 of 2001, after which the session opens formally.

Dr Al Wadaei said the council is revising its work plan to sharpen delivery on agreed

priorities.

## Recommendations

It will review recommendations and decisions already taken, set out the most workable methods for the next phase, and push projects that meet service and development needs. He named infrastructure and service projects among the main files for the final session, describing them as serving the public interest.

The chairman said members will base their work on a shared policy of 'understanding, dialogue and consensus', and will continue joint tasks with partner bodies in municipal work.

## Online exploitation of minor

TDT | Manama

A 17-year-old has been remanded in custody after allegedly luring and exploiting a 15-year-old girl online, the Public Prosecution announced yesterday.

The case reached prosecutors following a report from the Child Protection in Cyberspace Unit at the General Directorate of Anti-Corruption and Economic and Electronic Security at the Interior Ministry.

Investigators identified the user behind a social media account suspected of contacting the girl.

## Indecent clips

Questioned by prosecutors,

the suspect said he had randomly added the girl's account, posed as a member of the Child Protection in Cyberspace Unit and coaxed her into sending indecent clips.

Prosecutors ordered his detention pending inquiry and a forensic download of his mobile phone to determine the extent of any offending. Investigations continue.

The Family and Child Prosecution chief stressed the need for parents to watch their children's use of social media, check what they can access and monitor who contacts them, adding that steady family supervision offers the strongest protection against online risks.

## Documentary on Filipino language and identity unveiled

TDT | Manama

In a meaningful tribute to Filipino culture and solidarity, the Filipino Club Bahrain (FCB), in partnership with various community organizations, officially launched a special video documentary on August 27, 2027.

This initiative represented the conclusion of the Buwang Wikang Pambansa (National Language Month) celebration, conducted under the evocative theme, "Cultivating Filipino and Native Languages: Historical in National Unity."

The theme for this year highlights the significance of

both the national language and local dialects in preserving and enhancing national identity and pride as language is essential in promoting unity among Filipinos.

Rosemarie Hernandez, the president of the Filipino Club Bahrain, emphasized the necessity of valuing and safeguarding the Filipino national language and native dialects in our rapidly evolving world.

"In an era of swift change, it is increasingly vital to appreciate our national language and native dialects—because within each word resides our history, culture, and identity as a nation," Hernandez stated in the video project.



Reverse osmosis is now used in nearly 70 percent of new desalination plants worldwide because it consumes less fuel and cuts carbon emissions.

## Inspection visit



H.E. Shaikh Meshaal bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Works, and Nawal Ibrahim Al Khater, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Education, conducted an inspection visit to several government schools currently undergoing comprehensive maintenance, including Bait Al Hikma Primary School for Girls and Isa Town Secondary School for Boys. Shaikh Meshaal bin Mohammed said that the Ministry of Works launched the maintenance of 27 government schools during the summer break, at a total cost of BD9 million, in preparation for the 2025-2026 academic year. The works include civil, mechanical, and electrical upgrades, repainting, repairs to doors and windows, replacement of water and electrical systems, as well as installing energy-saving lighting and heat-insulated windows.

## 37 Filipinos complete successful dressmaking program

TDT | Manama

Thirty-seven Filipinos celebrated their graduation from the Basic Dressmaking Skills Training Program held at the Arman Hotel in Juffair.

The program was formally set in motion with welcoming remarks from Pinay Ikaw Na (PIN) president Dinah Sta. Ana, who warmly recognized the graduates, guests, and partners.

In her message, she underscored the value of perseverance and community support in achieving success, setting an inspiring tone for the occasion.

The seven-week initiative was designed to provide Filipinos with practical skills that facilitate entrepreneurship and gen-



The graduates display their unique creations

erate income from home.

## Final project

Guided by head trainer Epifania Fuyoc and the assistant teachers, the trainees successfully completed their final project by designing gowns inspired

by Maria Clara, the traditional Filipino attire that represents grace and cultural heritage, named after the famous character from Dr. Jose Rizal's novel Noli Me Tangere.

All the graduates willingly received their Certificate of Com-

pletion, while teachers received a Certificate of Appreciation for their valuable guidance and contribution in the training process. Graduates were organized into groups, each assigned a distinct color theme, which contributed vibrancy and a personal touch to

the graduation celebration.

Each group presented their dance performances, infusing the program with energy, liveliness, and entertainment.

Spanning from traditional routines to contemporary pieces, the presentations highlighted

the creativity and talent of the participants.

Pinay Ikaw Na (PIN), the women's organization collaborated for the program, takes pride in being the sole organization to have facilitated six batches of this training.





# Tamkeen launches Digital Enablement Programme

To support enterprises in adopting innovative digital solutions

● The Program consists of two main tracks

● Track One: Providing digital solutions in collaboration with partnered digital solutions providers.

● Track Two: Allowing enterprises to choose their preferred service provider based on their specific needs

Manama

The Labour Fund “Tamkeen” announced the launch of the Digital Enablement Program, aimed at supporting enterprises in enhancing their operations by adopting digital tools and solutions that improve operational efficiency and increase overall

تمكين  
Tamkeen

DIGITAL ENABLEMENT PROGRAM

Empowering Businesses with Digital Solutions

TRACK 1:

Our partnered digital solution providers

Cover the costs of digital tools through our accredited partners for the approved support time.

TRACK 2:

Integration of your own digital solution

Support of up to 60% of total product and service cost, which includes:

Technology Software

Technology Services

Technology Hardware

Advisory Services

60%

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productivity. The programme features two main tracks: The first track provides access to digital solutions through partnered service providers, offering innovative tools designed to boost productivity and meet diverse business needs. The second track allows enterprises to choose their own service providers to deliver the digital solutions that best suit their operational needs. On this occasion, Her Excellency Ms. Maha Abdulhameed Mofeez, Chief Executive of the Labour Fund Tamkeen, emphasized that the launch of the Digital Enablement Program complements Tamkeen’s ongoing efforts to support enterprises through a wide range of initiatives. She stated that the program seeks to encourage enterprises to adopt innovative digital solutions that will enhance operational processes, improve productivity, and positively contribute to the national economy, while also creating more high-quality job opportunities for Bahraini talent.

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The programme seeks to encourage enterprises to adopt innovative digital solutions that will enhance operational processes, improve productivity, and positively contribute to the national economy, while also creating more high-quality job opportunities for Bahraini talent

MS. MAHA ABDULHAMEED MOFEEZ, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE LABOUR FUND TAMKEEN



This programme comes as part of Tamkeen’s strategic priorities for 2025 which focuses on enhancing the position and competitiveness of Bahrainis in the private sector, equipping Bahrainis with suitable skills for career development in the private sector, and prioritizing

enterprise growth, digitization and sustainability, and supporting the development of the ecosystem surrounding the labor market and private sector. To learn more about the program details and application process, enterprises can visit [www.tamkeen.bh](http://www.tamkeen.bh).



## Bahrain Islamic Bank Muharraq Branch Closure Announcement

Bahrain Islamic Bank (BisB) announces the closure of its Muharraq Branch, effective Sunday, 5th October 2025.

All other BisB branches and financial malls will continue to serve customers and process transactions as usual. Customers can also access services through the BisB Mobile Application and e-Banking platform.

Licensed as an Islamic Retail Bank by the Central Bank of Bahrain

## No tax hikes, vows Germany’s Merz

AFP | Frankfurt, Germany

German Chancellor Friedrich Merz said Sunday his coalition would not increase taxes, despite a growing budget deficit and calls from his governing partner to raise levies. Finance Minister Lars Klingbeil of the Social Democrats (SPD) has floated tax increases to plug a 30 billion euro (\$35 billion) hole in 2027 spending plans. But Merz’s centre-right Christian Democrats (CDU) have rebuffed the suggestion. “We have a coalition agreement, and we have agreed in this coalition agreement that taxes will not be raised,” Merz said in an interview with public broadcaster ZDF. “And this coalition agreement stands.” Merz dismissed concerns of a “clash” in the coalition and said the fact the SPD had a different view on the issue was “acceptable”. Germany’s economy, in decline since 2023, shrank more than expected in the second quarter as US tariffs battered exports, official data showed last week. Merz ally Markus Soeder, CSU premier of Bavaria, recently advocated for tax cuts and argued they would help Germany’s



YOU KNOW WHAT

Germany is the largest economy in Europe and the third-largest in the world by nominal GDP, powered mainly by its strong manufacturing and export sector, especially cars and machinery.

competitiveness. But Merz, under pressure to turn Europe’s top economy around, told ZDF that Germany needed to “work more and longer”. He cited an excessive number of days of sick leave, stagnant productivity and high labour costs as factors weighing on the nation’s competitiveness.

## Norway picks BAE Systems for navy frigates order

Oslo, Norway

The Norwegian government has chosen BAE Systems to build five to six frigates as part of its strategic partnership with Britain, Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Store announced yesterday. The contract is worth an estimated 100 billion kroner (\$10 billion), according to media reports. BAE beat out competing bids for the frigates from French, German and US groups. UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer, French President Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Friedrich Merz had all travelled to Norway in recent months to push for their respective offers. “Their capabilities and the closeness of our partnership supported our common belief that the British frigate is the best, as well the very strong integration between the Norwegian and British navies over the years,” Store said. “We’ve just agreed a £10 billion deal with Norway to export our world-leading Type 26 frigates. Supporting thousands of UK jobs, from apprentices to engineers,” Starmer said, in a social media post.





# Max opens 7th store in Bahrain at Hamad Town



Manama

**M**ax, the region's leading value fashion brand, proudly announces the grand opening of its 7th store in Bahrain, located at Hamad

Town, Roundabout 1. This expansion further strengthens the brand's presence across the Kingdom, bringing affordable fashion closer to one of Bahrain's fastest-growing communities.

The new store offers an ex-

tensive collection of menswear, womenswear, kidswear, footwear, and accessories, designed to deliver both style and value for the entire family. With this launch, Max continues its commitment to making global fashion trends

accessible to everyone in Bahrain.

Part of the Landmark Group, Max was established in 2004 and has since grown to become the largest value fashion brand in the Middle East, North Africa, and India, with more than

500 stores across 19 countries. Recognized as the most trusted value fashion retailer in the Middle East, Max has become the go-to destination for customers seeking quality, affordable fashion.

Max stores are also located

at City Centre Bahrain, Oasis Mall Juffair, Oasis Mall Riffa, Al Hayat Mall, and Seef Mall - Isa Town, with a new store coming soon at Bahrain Mall.

Shop the full collection online at MaxFashion.com



## Britain's energy grid bets on flywheels to keep the lights on

AFP | Liverpool, United Kingdom

**B**ritain's energy operator is betting on an age-old technology to future-proof its grid, as the power plants that traditionally helped stabilise it are closed and replaced by renewable energy systems.

Spinning metal devices known as flywheels have for centuries been used to provide inertia -- resistance to sudden changes in motion -- to various machines, from a potter's wheel to the steam engine.

Grid operators are now looking to the technology to add inertia to renewable-heavy electricity systems to prevent blackouts like the one that hit Spain and Portugal this year.

In an electricity grid, inertia is generally provided by large spinning generators found in coal-fired and gas power plants, helping maintain a steady frequency by smoothing fluctuations in supply and demand.

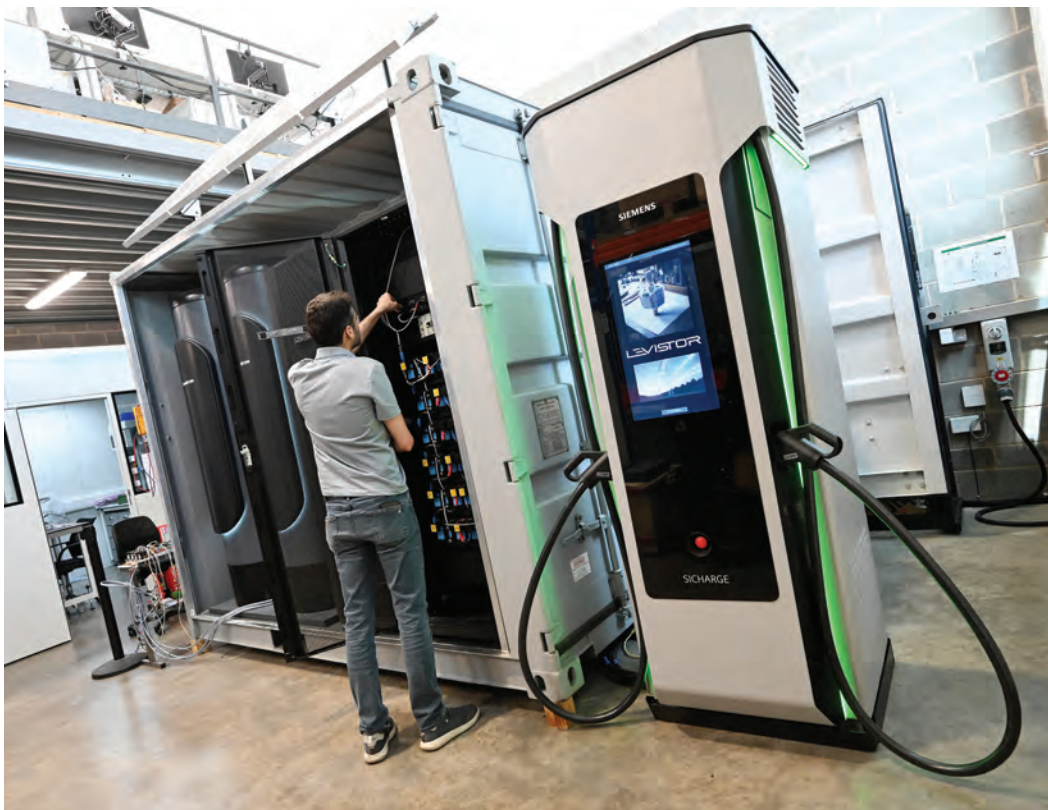
But renewable energy sources like solar and wind power don't add inertia to the grid, and usually cannot help with other issues, such as voltage control.

Flywheels can mimic the rotational inertia of power plant generators, spinning quicker or slower to respond to fluctuations.

Without rotating turbines, "the system is more prone to fluctuations than it would be otherwise", explained David Brayshaw, a professor of climate science at the University of Reading in England.

"As we get to ever higher levels of renewables, we're going to have to think about this more carefully," Brayshaw told AFP.

### Flywheels and batteries



An engineer works on a battery electrical storage system (C) next to a flywheel energy storage system (L) and an ultra fast EV charger (R) at Levistor's office and workshop in south west London

**GRID OPERATORS ARE NOW LOOKING TO THE TECHNOLOGY TO ADD INERTIA TO RENEWABLE-HEAVY ELECTRICITY SYSTEMS TO PREVENT BLACKOUTS LIKE THE ONE THAT HIT SPAIN AND PORTUGAL THIS YEAR.**

The Iberian Peninsula, which is powered by a high share of renewables, went dark on April 28 after its grid was unable to absorb a sudden surge in voltage and deviations in frequency.

Spain's government has since pointed fingers at conventional power plants for failing to control voltage levels.

It could serve as a wake-up call similar to a 2019 outage which plunged parts of Britain into darkness following a drop

in grid frequency.

That blackout prompted UK energy operator NESO to launch what it called a "world-first" program to contract grid-stabilising projects.

Flywheels and batteries can add synthetic inertia to the grid, but engineering professor Keith Pullen says steel flywheels can be more cost-effective and durable than lithium-ion batteries.

"I'm not saying that flywheels are the only technology, but they

could be a very, very important one," said Pullen, a professor at City St George's, University of London and director of flywheel startup Levistor.

In the coming years, Pullen warned the grid will also become more unstable due to greater, but spikier demand.

With electric cars, heat pumps and energy-guzzling data centres being hooked onto the grid, "we will have more shock loads... which the flywheel smooths

out".

### Carbon-free inertia

Norwegian company Statkraft's "Greener Grid Park" in Liverpool was one of the projects contracted by NESO to keep the lights on.

Operational since 2023, it is a stone's throw from a former coal-fired power station site which loomed over the northern English city for most of the 20th century.

But now, instead of steam turbines, two giant flywheels weighing 40 tons (40,000 kilograms) each whirr at the Statkraft site, which supplies one percent of the inertia for the grid needed in England, Scotland and Wales.

Each flywheel is attached to a synchronous compensator, a spinning machine that further boosts inertia and provides voltage control services in the Liverpool region.

"We are providing that inertia without burning any fossil fuels, without creating any carbon emissions," said Guy Nicholson, Statkraft's zero-carbon grid solutions head.

According to NESO, 11 other similar synchronous compensator and flywheel projects were operational in Britain as of 2023, with several more contracted.

### 'Not fast enough'

The government is "working closely with our industry partners who are developing world-leading technology, including flywheels, static and synchronous compensators, as we overhaul the energy system", a Department for Energy Security and Net Zero spokesperson told AFP.

But, "we aren't building them fast enough to decarbonise the grid", warned Nicholson.

Britain aims to power the grid with clean energy 95 percent of the time by 2030, before completely switching to renewables in the next decade.

"At the moment... we can't even do it for one hour," said Nicholson.

Even when there is sufficient solar and wind energy being generated, "we still have to run gas turbines to keep the grid stable", he explained.

Still, Britain and neighbouring Ireland seem to be ahead of the curve in procuring technology to stabilise renewable-heavy grids.

"In GB and Ireland, the system operators are leading by contracting these services," Nicholson said. "On the continent, there hasn't been the same drive for that."

"I think these things are driven by events. So, the Spanish blackout will drive change."



**A modern flywheel can spin at speeds of up to 60,000 revolutions per minute (RPM), storing enough energy to instantly stabilise power grids during sudden demand surges or blackouts.**



# Premium Economy Now Standard on Bahrain Flights

Exclusive rollout begins this December

- Bahrain flights fully upgraded
- Premium Economy seats guaranteed
- Emirates expands retrofit programme

Mahir Haneef  
TDT| Manama

From December 4th, every Emirates flight connecting Bahrain and Dubai will feature the airline's newest Premium Economy cabins and refreshed Business Class, making Bahrain the only route in the region to be served exclusively with the carrier's upgraded on-board products.

The move is part of Emirates' massive fleet retrofit programme, which is introducing Premium Economy to more destinations across the Middle East, India, and beyond. While cities such as Amman, Muscat, and



Emirates is the world's largest operator of both the Boeing 777 and the Airbus A380, the two aircraft types at the centre of its multi-billion-dollar retrofit programme.

Mumbai will see partial deployment starting in October, only Bahrain will receive a guarantee that every single service will carry the enhanced cabin.

**Fleet transformation**

The programme is one of the largest of its kind in commercial

aviation. A total of 219 aircraft, including 110 Airbus A380s and 109 Boeing 777s, are scheduled for retrofitting, with 67 aircraft already completed. Emirates has been rolling out the work at the rate of one aircraft every three weeks, steadily expanding the reach of its new Premium Econ-

omy class.

By the end of 2025, the airline expects to offer Premium Economy across 68 cities worldwide, 36 of them exclusively. That will amount to more than two million seats, up from 1.8 million this year.

**Local boost**

For travellers in Bahrain, the upgrade promises consistent comfort on one of the Gulf's busiest short-haul routes. Families, business travellers, and transit passengers alike will benefit from the uniform cabin standard when connecting through Dubai to global destinations.

The first Bahrain service with the new product will operate on Thursday, December 4, 2025, with retrofitted Boeing 777s. From that date forward, all flights on the route will carry the Premium Economy offering. With this commitment, Bahrain's travellers are assured that their gateway to the world is one of the first to be fully aligned with Emirates' newest onboard experience.

## Trump administration official upbeat on fate of tariffs

AFF | Washington, United States

A top Trump administration trade official expressed optimism Sunday that the US Supreme Court will uphold the sweeping tariffs that a lower court has struck down.

The US Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit on Friday ruled that many of Trump's tariffs, which have upended global trade, were illegal because he did not have authority to impose them.

But the court allowed the levies to remain in place for now, giving Trump time to take the fight to the conservative-majority Supreme Court.

Peter Navarro, Trump's adviser on trade issues, said on Fox News show "Sunday Morning Futures" that the 7-4 ruling



Postal workers sort through mail and packages during a media tour hosted by the US Postal Service at the Los Angeles Processing and Distribution Center, the largest in the country, equivalent to 29 football fields

against the tariffs was motivated by politics. He called the judges who voted against Trump's signature policy "politicians in black robes."

The dissenting opinions in this vote were "very, very strong," Navarro said.

"I think it provides a very clear road map to how the Supreme Court can certainly rule in our favor."

Friday's ruling said Trump cannot impose open-ended tariffs on almost all imports into the United States, as he is trying to do.

But "we never said they were permanent," Navarro insisted.

"We feel very optimistic. If we lose the case, President Trump is right. It will be the end of the United States," he added.

The courts entered the fray following a lawsuit filed by Democratic-run states and a coalition of small import businesses.

The latter are "trying to preserve the right to import cheap Chinese crap, mostly," Navarro said.

## French PM says 'fate of France' at stake in confidence vote

Paris, France



**French Prime Minister Francois Bayrou**

BFMTV and Cnews.

"If you think that I can give up the battles that I fight, that I am fighting here, that I have been fighting for years and that I will continue to fight in the future, you are mistaken."

Earlier on Sunday, Socialist leader Olivier Faure said the party's decision to vote against Bayrou's government was final.

"The only thing I'm waiting for him to do now is to say goodbye," Faure said, referring to the prime minister.

French Prime Minister Francois Bayrou said on Sunday the destiny of France was at stake in a forthcoming confidence vote, which he called to resolve a budget standoff but is expected to lose.

The September 8 vote in parliament will not decide "the fate of the prime minister" but "the fate of France", Bayrou said, during an interview with four news channels.

The prime minister stunned France on Monday by saying he would request the vote in a divided parliament, as he tries to garner enough support for his minority government's plan to slash spending -- even as opposition parties say they will not back him.

"I think that the days ahead are crucial," the 74-year-old prime minister said in the interview with franceinfo, LCI,

## China manufacturing *shrinks* in August

- Beijing and Washington have extended a truce on most reciprocal duties to November 10 as they continue talks.

AFF | Beijing, China

China's factory output ticked up in August but still recorded a fifth straight month of contraction, official data showed yesterday, as Beijing and Washington press on with trade talks.

The Purchasing Managers' Index -- a key measure of industrial output -- was 49.4, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) said, up slightly from 49.3

in July. A Bloomberg analysts' poll had forecasted the index would be 49.5.

The last time China recorded a figure above 50 -- indicating growth -- was in March.

NBS statistician Zhao Qinghe hailed the improvement from a month earlier as evidence that "overall economic prosperity continues to expand". In July,

the NBS attributed manufacturing struggles to severe weather, including floods and high temperatures.

China has struggled to maintain a strong economic recovery since the pandemic, as it fights a debt crisis in the crucial property sector, chronically low consumption and elevated youth unemployment.

"Economic momentum slowed in (the third quarter) as domestic demand remains weak," Zhiwei Zhang, chief economist at Pinpoint Asset Management, said Sunday.

"The macro outlook in the rest of the year largely depends on how long exports can stay strong and whether fiscal policy will become more supportive."

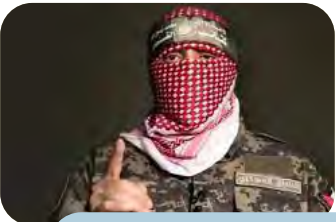
China's bruising trade war with the United States -- now on hold pending a deal -- threatens the export-dependent economy.

Senior Chinese trade negotiator Li Chenggang urged "equal dialogue and consultation" between the two nations when he concluded a three-day visit to the United States on Friday.



News in brief

◆ **Israel said Sunday** its forces had killed the spokesman of Hamas's armed wing in a strike on Gaza a day earlier, the latest fatality in the group's senior ranks in the nearly two-year war. "Hamas terror spokesperson Abu Obeida was eliminated in Gaza," Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz said in a post on X, after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu earlier said he had been targeted in a strike. Israeli forces have been preparing for an offensive to seize Gaza City, the largest urban centre in the Palestinian territory, intensifying bombardments in the area in recent days and warning of imminent evacuation.



Israel says killed spokesman for Hamas armed wing

WFP says Yemen's Huthis detained agency employee



after their offices had been raided.

◆ **Senior experts** who recently resigned in protest from the top US public health agency denounced Sunday growing politicization of the organization, warning of a breakdown in the "firewall" between science and ideology. US President Donald Trump plunged American health policy and scientific rigor deeper into crisis this past week when he fired the head of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Susan Monarez, after less than one month on the job. Monarez had clashed with vaccine skeptic Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr over his vaccine policy overhaul. Her ouster triggered the departure of five other senior CDC officials, including Demetre Daskalakis as director of the CDC's National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases. "I've been worried for months," Daskalakis told the ABC News Sunday show "This Week, speaking of the impact the gutting of the historically independent CDC agency will have on public health. "The firewall between science and ideology has completely broken down," he said.

Directors who quit US health agency warn it is 'destroying' protections



SPOTLIGHT

Hospitalised Thai princess recovering after blood infection: palace

Princess Bajrakitiyabha Mahidol has been unconscious in hospital since falling ill during a military dog training session in December 2022.

AFP | Bangkok, Thailand

The Thai king's eldest daughter, who has been gravely ill in hospital for more than two years, is recovering after suffering a blood infection this month, the palace said on Sunday.

Princess Bajrakitiyabha Mahidol has been unconscious in hospital since falling ill during a military dog training session in December 2022.

She suffered a severe infection in the bloodstream this month and was receiving continuous treatment to stabilise her blood pressure, according to the palace.

"The medical team has reported that Her Royal Highness's infection is getting better and Her Royal Highness's blood pressure has stabilised," the Bureau of the Royal Household said in a statement on Sunday.

"The medical team are continuing to give antibiotics to control the infection and are using machines to help the function of her lungs and kid-



Princess Bajrakitiyabha Mahidol

neys," it added.

Educated in Britain, the United States and Thailand, Bajrakitiyabha held several positions with the United Nations and campaigned for better treatment of women in prisons.

Known in Thailand as "Princess Bha", the 46-year-old is the only child from King Maha Vajiralongkorn's first marriage.

She is seen as close to her father, and was appointed to a senior role in his bodyguard command a year before her hospitalisation.

The 73-year-old king, who has seven children from four marriages, has not announced his chosen heir, though succession rules favour men.



Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg (C) and activists prepare to board as their boat

# Aid flotilla with Greta Thunberg sets sail for Gaza

The group defines itself on its website as an independent organisation

● The flotilla, flying Palestinian flags, has hundreds of people aboard

● Irish actor Liam Cunningham and Spain's Eduard Fernandez are amongst them

● Activists will also stage simultaneous demonstrations and other protests in 44 countries

AFP | Barcelona, Spain

A flotilla carrying humanitarian aid and activists, including Swedish climate campaigner Greta Thunberg, left Barcelona yesterday vowing to try to "break the illegal siege of Gaza", organisers said.

Some 20 vessels set off from the port city on Spain's east coast just after 3.30 pm (1330 GMT) pledging to "open a humanitarian corridor and end

the ongoing genocide of the Palestinian people", said the Global Sumud Flotilla -- sumud being the Arabic term for "resilience".

The group defines itself on its website as an independent organisation with no affiliation to any government or political party.

The flotilla, flying Palestinian flags, has hundreds of people aboard, among them activists from dozens of countries including Irish actor Liam Cunningham and Spain's Eduard Fernandez.

Also aboard were European lawmakers and public figures including former Barcelona mayor Ada Colau.

The flotilla is expected to arrive at the war-ravaged coastal enclave in mid-September.

"The question here today is not why we are sailing. This story is not at all about the mission that we are about to embark upon," Thunberg told reporters.

"The story here is about Palestine. The story here is how people are being deliberately deprived of the very basic means to survive. The story here is how the world can be silent," she added.

For Cunningham, "the fact that you guys are here, and the flotilla is happening, is an indication of the world's failure to uphold international law and humanitarian law, and it is a shameful, shameful period in the history of our world. And we should be collectively ashamed."

Organisers said that dozens of other vessels are expected to leave Tunisian and other Mediterranean ports on September 4 to join the aid mission.

Activists will also stage simultaneous demonstrations and other protests in 44 countries "in solidarity with the Palestinian people", Thunberg, part of the flotilla's steering committee, wrote on Instagram.

"This will be the largest solidarity mission in history, with more people and more boats than all previous attempts combined," Brazilian activist Thiago Avila told journalists in Barcelona last week.

"We understand that this is a legal mission under international law," Portuguese lawmaker Mariana Mortagua, who will join the mission, told journalists in Lis-

bon last week.

Previous attempts

Israel has already blocked two attempts by activists to deliver aid by ship to Gaza, in June and July.

In June, 12 activists on board the sailboat Madleen, from France, Germany, Brazil, Turkey, Sweden, Spain and the Netherlands were intercepted by Israeli forces 185 kilometres (115 miles) west of Gaza.

Its passengers, who included Thunberg, were detained and eventually expelled.

In July, 21 activists from 10 countries were intercepted as they tried to approach Gaza in another vessel, the Handala.

The Spanish government says it will "deploy all of its diplomatic and consular protection to protect our citizens" sailing with the flotilla, the country's Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Albares said Saturday.

Thunberg poses for a photograph as a flotilla carrying humanitarian aid and activists prepare to leave for Gaza



The boat carrying Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg and activists leaves the port of Barcelona



1715

King Louis XIV of France dies after a reign of 72 years, the longest of any major European monarch

1878

First female telephone operator starts work, Emma Nutt, for the Edwin Holmes Telephone Dispatch Company in Boston



1905

Wilfrid Laurier oversees Alberta and Saskatchewan joining the Confederation of Canada as its 8th and 9th provinces, both separated from the Northwest Territories

1939

World War II starts when Germany invades Poland by attacking the Free City of Danzig

X

TOP  
4  
TWEETS

01



On the International Day for People of African Descent, we honour the extraordinary contributions of people of African descent. We also recognise the enduring injustices they continue to face. Let us act to ensure justice, dignity & equality for people of African descent around the world.

@antonioguterres

02



Had a fruitful meeting with President Xi Jinping in Tianjin on the sidelines of the SCO Summit. We reviewed the positive momentum in India-China relations since our last meeting in Kazan. We agreed on the importance of maintaining peace and tranquility in border areas and reaffirmed our commitment to cooperation based on mutual respect, mutual interest and mutual sensitivity.

@narendramodi

03



Happy African Traditional Medicine Day! Today we recognize the vital role of traditional medicine in providing accessible, affordable, and culturally rooted health care to millions of people across the continent. It's great to see how @WHOSouthAfrica marked the day with a traditional cleansing ritual Imhpho, honouring ancestral healing knowledge and its enduring relevance in modern public health.

@DrTedros

04



X has now exceeded 1 billion downloads on Android alone! And roughly 1.5 billion on iPhone.

@elonmusk

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



Russia's President Vladimir Putin, Chinese President Xi Jinping, his wife Peng Liyuan and foreign leaders pose during a family photo of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Summit in Tianjin

# Putin and Modi in China for summit hosted by Xi

Modi told Xi India was committed to taking forward our ties

● Xi told Modi that he hoped the two countries would recognise that they are "partners rather than rivals"

AFP | Tianjin, China

President Xi Jinping gathered the leaders of Russia and India among dignitaries from around 20 Eurasian countries on Sunday to kick off a showpiece summit aimed at putting China front and centre of regional relations.

The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit is being held in the northern port city of Tianjin until Monday, days before a massive military parade in the capital Beijing to mark 80 years since the end of World War II.

Russian President Vladimir Putin touched down in Tianjin on Sunday with an entourage of senior politicians and business representatives.

Xi held a flurry of back-to-back bilateral meetings with leaders including Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko -- one of Putin's staunch allies -- and India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on his first visit to China since 2018.

Modi told Xi that India was committed to taking "forward our ties on the basis of mutual trust, dignity and sensitivity".

Xi, in turn, told Modi that he hoped the two countries would recognise that they are "partners rather than rivals".

If they see each other as "opportunities for development rather than threats", China-India relations will grow steadily, Xi added, according to state broadcaster CCTV.



India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi (L) and China's President Xi Jinping shake hands



Belarus' President Alexander Lukashenko and India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi interact



Russia's President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi

"The interests of 2.8 billion people of both countries are linked to our cooperation. This will also pave the way for the welfare of the entire humanity," Modi told Xi.

'Project influence'

The bilateral talks were held at the Tianjin Guest House, an intimate venue surrounded by lush greenery.

Security guards positioned themselves around and inside the venue, their eyes scanning reporters and guests carefully, as Chinese diplomats hurried through the halls.

Large sections of Tianjin were closed to traffic, with a significant police presence deployed around the city.

Official posters promoting the SCO lined the streets, displaying words such as "mutual benefit" and "equality" written in Chinese and Russian.

More than 20 leaders including Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian and his Turkish counterpart Recep Tayyip Erdogan are attending the bloc's largest meeting since its founding in 2001.

Talks on the sidelines

Putin is expected to hold talks on Monday with Erdogan and Pezeshkian about the Ukraine conflict and Tehran's nuclear programme respectively.

Xi met Erdogan on Sunday to discuss the situations in Gaza and Ukraine, a readout from Ankara said.

Turkey has hosted three rounds of peace talks be-

tween Moscow and Kyiv this year that have failed to break the deadlock over how to end the conflict.

The Russian president needs "all the benefits of SCO as a player on the world stage and also the support of the second largest economy in the world", said Lim Tai Wei, a professor and East Asia expert at Japan's Soka University.

"Russia is also keen to win over India, and India's trade frictions with the United States presents this opportunity," Lim told AFP.

The summit comes days after India was hit by a sharp bump up in US tariffs on its goods as punishment for New Delhi's purchases of Russian oil.

Many of the assembled dignitaries will be in Beijing on Wednesday to witness the military parade, which will also be attended by North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.



Putin arrives for a welcoming ceremony



The SCO comprises China, India, Russia, Pakistan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Belarus -- with 16 more countries affiliated as observers or "dialogue partners"

The SCO members collectively account for over 20% of global GDP, and they are increasingly working on trade and connectivity projects such as the Belt and Road Initiative and the International North-South Transport Corridor.

Largest regional bloc, covering 60% of Eurasia and 40% of the world's population.



# Indonesian finance minister's home looted as protest anger grows

Protests follow the death of motorcycle taxi driver Affan Kurniawan

● Sri Mulyani was not inside the house when the incident occurred

● Several other lawmakers' homes have also been looted in recent days

AFP | Jakarta, Indonesia

The home of Indonesia's finance minister was looted overnight, soldiers guarding her residence and a witness told AFP yesterday, as protest anger at police spreads to lawmakers.

Southeast Asia's biggest economy has been rocked by protests in major cities since the death of motorcycle taxi driver Affan Kurniawan, who was run over by police during a rally against financial perks for lawmakers.

The demonstrations are the biggest and most violent of Prabowo Subianto's presidency, a key test for the ex-general less than a year into his rule, and anger has now spread to some members of parliament.

The house of minister Sri Mulyani Indrawati in South Tangerang, a city neighbouring the capital Jakarta, was ransacked in the early hours of Sunday in two waves, said neighbour Damianus Rudolf.

"In the first group of looters, there were dozens of motorcycles ridden by two to three people each. In the second group, there were around 150 people," the 34-year-old told AFP.

"They looted a television, sound system, living room decorations, clothes, plates, bowls."

Sri Mulyani was not inside the house when the incident occurred, state news agency Antara reported, citing two witnesses.



Protesters ride motorcycles in front of a police headquarters that was burned and looted during demonstrations in Surabaya



A firefighter extinguishes a fire at a government building that was set on fire and looted during demonstrations in Surabaya



A car, which was set on fire the previous night during a protest, remains on a street in Bandung, West Java

## Indonesia president says some protests 'leaning towards treason and terrorism'

AFP | Jakarta, Indonesia

Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto yesterday spoke out against protests over economic conditions and inequality, saying some actions in rallies that have spread across the country in recent days amounted to treason and terrorism.

"The rights to peaceful assembly should be respected and protected. But we cannot deny that there are signs of actions outside the law, even against the law, even leaning towards treason and terrorism," he said in a speech at the presidential palace in the



Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto capital Jakarta.

Protests began on Monday over perceived lavish perks for lawmakers and low wages but viral footage of a police tactical van killing a young delivery driver on Thursday has aggravated the unrest.

At least three people were killed after a fire started by protesters at a council building in eastern Indonesia. Thousands protested in Jakarta and in major cities around the country.

The protests are the biggest and most violent of Prabowo's presidency, a key test for the ex-general less than a year into his rule.

He pledged an investigation into the killing of motorcycle gig driver Affan Kurniawan and promised to help his family. Seven officers in the tactical van were detained for further investigation.

She is an influential figure who once served as managing

director of the World Bank and has served as finance minister

for three different presidents. Soldiers were guarding her

residence on Sunday afternoon, when an AFP journalist saw trucks carrying away some objects from the house.

Several other lawmakers' homes have also been looted in recent days, including the house of Ahmad Sahroni from the NasDem party that serves in Prabowo's ruling coalition. Crowds attacked the property on Saturday night and damaged objects, including a car, Antara reported.

The house of another NasDem party politician, Nafa Urbach, was ransacked early Sunday, local media reported citing a witness.

A mob stormed the house of lawmaker Eko Hendro Purnomo on Saturday night, Antara reported.

Protests have spread to other major cities, including Yogyakarta, Bandung, Semarang and Surabaya in Java, and Medan in North Sumatra province.

## Illinois governor calls Trump troop deployments an invasion

AFP | Chicago, United States

US President Donald Trump's ultimate aim in sending troops to American cities is to seize control of elections in 2026, Illinois Governor JB Pritzker said yesterday, calling such deployments an invasion.

Trump -- who has unleashed unprecedented military patrols in Los Angeles and Washington to curb protests against his immigrant deportation drive and combat what he deems out-of-control crime -- has said he's also considering sending troops to cities like Baltimore and Chicago.

Democrat Pritzker said there had been no effort by the Trump administration to coordinate such plans with officials in Illinois, a Democratic stronghold.

"So it's clear that, in secret, they're planning this, well, it's an invasion with US troops, if they in fact do that," Pritzker told CBS



US President Donald Trump (C) and his granddaughter Kai Trump (L) load the motorcade on the south lawn of the White House in Washington DC, as they head to Trump National golf course in Sterling, Virginia

Sunday show "Face the Nation." Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem earlier told the network she would be adding resources to Immigration and Customs Enforcement operations in

Illinois, but that any decision to send National Guard reservists or other troops was up to Trump. If troops are sent along with ICE, "they'll be in court pretty quickly, because that is illegal,"

Pritzker said.

"National Guard troops, any kind of troops, on the streets of an American city don't belong unless there is an insurrection, unless there is truly an emergency."

Pritzker alleged that Trump has aims "other than fighting crime" in sending military forces to cities or states that don't ask for it.

"The other aims are that he'd like to stop the elections in 2026 or, frankly, take control of those elections. He'll just claim that there's some problem with an election, and then he's got troops on the ground that can take control," Pritzker said.

Trump to date has mentioned only Democratic cities that did not vote for him in discussing potential troop deployments, and has called Pritzker "that slob"

while slamming him for speaking out against troop deployments.

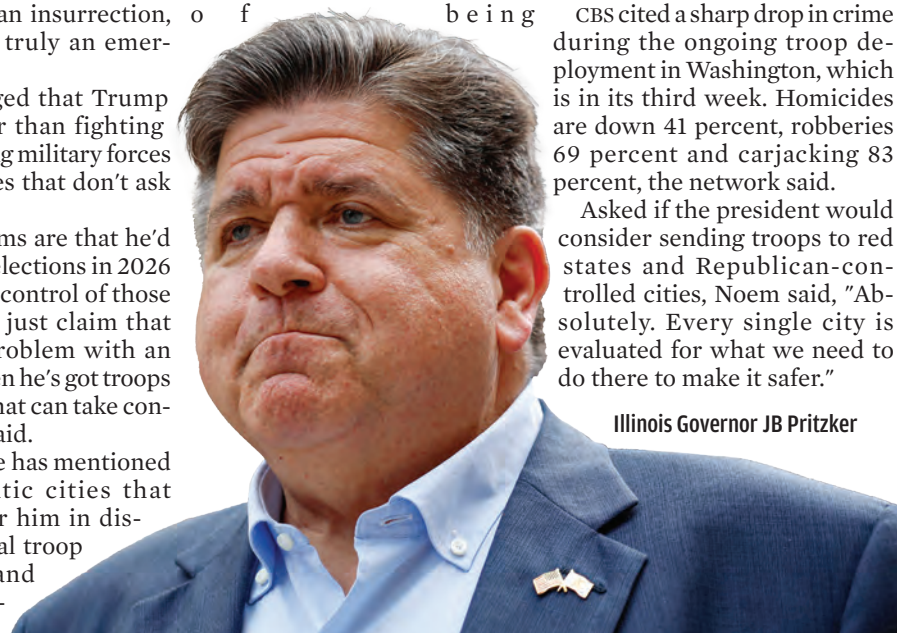
"You send them, and instead of being

praised, they're saying, 'you're trying to take over the Republic,'" Trump said. "These people are sick."

CBS cited a sharp drop in crime during the ongoing troop deployment in Washington, which is in its third week. Homicides are down 41 percent, robberies 69 percent and carjacking 83 percent, the network said.

Asked if the president would consider sending troops to red states and Republican-controlled cities, Noem said, "Absolutely. Every single city is evaluated for what we need to do there to make it safer."

Illinois Governor JB Pritzker







## Ed Sheeran ruined expensive Aston Martin after driving through puddle

**Bang Showbiz** | Los Angeles

Ed Sheeran wrecked his Aston Martin after driving through a puddle. The 34-year-old singer has recalled how he had to abandon his £200,000 supercar after misjudging the size of a puddle as he returned home from a studio session. Speaking to Saltburn star Barry Keoghan on the YouTube channel GOAT Talk, Ed said: “I was driving back from the studio

Ed Sheeran

and there’s a country lane to get to my house, and I was driving down it and there was this big puddle. “I was like: ‘I’ll just drive slowly through this puddle.’” However, the Bad Habits hit-maker soon realised that he had made a serious error of judgement. He recalled: “I can see It (the water) at my windows, and I’m like, ‘Oh f\*\*\*.’ Then (the car) stops.” Ed explained how he had no choice but to leave the car on the road as it wouldn’t start after

going through the puddle. He said: “I keep trying to start it, then I open my door and all this water comes in, and I left it on the road. “Someone picked it up and I haven’t seen it since. “It’s the worst purchase I ever made.” Meanwhile, Ed revealed last month that he believes that his family will need round-the-clock protection from bodyguards until he dies. The Shape of You singer - who lives on a sprawling Suffolk estate with wife Cherry Seaborn

and their daughters Lyra, four, and Jupiter, three - feels that the security measures are needed because of “sinister” incidents that have taken place. He told Australia’s 60 Minutes Show: “It’s things that people don’t really even take into account. “Like kidnap threats and s\*\*\* like that. We’ve had attempted break-ins, things left on my car. It’s way more sinister than just fans turning up and wanting selfies. “We have a level of security that probably won’t change

until I pass away. That’s just our life now.” Ed also revealed that he has had some “arguments” with fans who attempt to take pictures of his young children. He said: “I’ve had some real arguments before. I’m fine with taking pictures, but I just think it’s weird with a four-year-old and a three-year-old...”

## Britney Spears says Sam Asghari marriage was distraction from custody issues

**Bang Showbiz** | Los Angeles

Britney Spears says her Bill-fated marriage to Sam Asghari was a “fake distraction” from being “cut off” from her sons. The 43-year-old singer’s sons Jayden James, 18, and Sean Preston, 19, moved to Hawaii with their father Kevin Federline in 2023 but her relationship with them was strained even before then and Britney believes her short marriage to Sam was just a way for her to distract from her grief. Britney – who tied the knot with Sam in June 2022 before they split in July 2023 – wrote on Instagram: “We’re just people so fragile and human the hardest years of my life were my two sons gone for those 3 years ... I was cut off from calling or texting and I remember in shock my secret to survival was denial and a lot of tears its weird me and Sam were married but it almost felt like a fake distraction to help me deal with it ...”

However, with her relationship with her sons on the mend, Britney believes that she is now healing. She wrote: “well I know im healing bc im hungry again like a child or baby... im so hungry it hurts and when I eat its like its my first time ever eating in my life ... I believe although I loved my home there is waaay too much abuse and trauma in there.... Today I thank jesus for food

Britney Spears

it feel like telling others NO... Owning my body... and letting them REALLY know where im from... My soul has never experienced food like this a day in my life... so silly and embarrassing im going to eat cookies and cream ice cream now...god bless u all.”

In November 2024, it was reported that Jayden had visited his mother in Los Angeles and that December, both boys spent Christmas with Britney. She wrote on Instagram at the time: “Best Christmas of my life !!!”



## Taylor Swift makes ‘very good sourdough’ and sends it to her friends

**Bang Showbiz** | Los Angeles

Taylor Swift makes “very good sourdough” and sends it to her friends, according to Zoe Kravitz. The pop star recently opened up about her love of baking revealing she’s “very deep in a sourdough obsession” and now her pal Zoe has confirmed Taylor’s bread is very good and she regularly sends loaves to her friends so they can test it. During an appearance on BBC Radio 2’s The Scott Mills Breakfast Show, Zoe said: “She does make very good sourdough bread ... It’s insane.” The host then asked Zoe when Taylor last sent her some bread and she replied: “Like a week ago ... She sent me some bread. She’s a really good friend. “She makes really good bread and she shares it with her friends .. Imagine anyone sending you bread. It’s really just a beautiful [thing to do] ... “ Taylor opened up about her baking during an appearance on her boyfriend Travis Kelce’s New Heights podcast with his brother Jason, declaring: ““I have a new baking obsession every six months. Right now, we’re very deep in a sourdough obsession that has taken over my life ... “The sourdough’s taken

over my life in a huge way. I’m really talking about bread 60 per cent of the time now. It’s become a huge, huge factor.” Taylor added that she’s been experimenting with different flavours including “blueberry lemon, cinnamon swirl, cinnamon raisin” and she’s been “workshopping” a new recipe called “funfetti” with added sprinkles. She added: “It’s gotten pretty crazy over here. I’m just, like, always baking bread, and texting my friends, and being like, ‘Can I bake you some bread? I need some feedback. Do you like this one better than the other one? I did the rise a little differently’ ... “I’m on like sourdough blogs, there’s a whole community of us.” Travis revealed his girlfriend sent him some loves while he was away at a training camp for the Kansas City Chiefs and admitted he’s glad he’s working out every day because he’s now consuming too much bread. He added: “It’s been so fun to see what Taylor actually gets into around the house ... I am the luckiest man in the world.”

Taylor Swift



## Austin Butler wants to ‘disappear’ after press tour

**Bang Showbiz** | Los Angeles

Austin Butler plans to “disappear” after the Caught Stealing press tour. The 34-year-old actor - who stars in the new crime thriller alongside Regina King, Zoe Kravitz, Matt Smith, Liev Schreiber, and Bad Bunny - has revealed that he intends to take a step back from the spotlight once the press tour ends. Speaking to Extra, Austin shared: “After this press tour, I’m going to turn my phone off and I’m going to disappear. I find that that’s very, very

good for the brain. “Just get away from the noise, you know? Spend some time in nature.” Austin admitted that he loves to be “around lovely people”. He added: “Be of service. That’s something that I think about a lot.” Austin also revealed that he relished the experience of working with Zoe Kravitz. The Hollywood star explained: “You learn a lot ... The ideas that she comes up with are really creative and nuanced, and she understands story. It’s a great thing to get to work with somebody like that.”

Meanwhile, Austin previously admitted that he’s still trying to understand fame. Asked how he was coping with the pressures of success, Austin told The Sunday Times newspaper: “I’m trying to figure that out. One interesting thing is that internally not much changes – it’s just a collective idea of who you are that changes (from others.)

Austin Butler



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Yesterday's solution

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How to play

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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Across

1- Remove dirt with a broom; 6- Cornfield cacophony; 10- Drinks (as a cat); 14- Chest or closet material; 15- Put \_\_\_ on (limit); 16- Architect Saarinen; 17- You \_\_\_ right; 18- Sauce brand; 19- The Stooges, e.g.; 20- Continues a subscription; 22- Ridicule; 24- \_\_\_ Angeles; 26- Vocalist; 27- Underwater missile; 31- Acapulco gold; 32- Communion table; 33- Bicker; 36- Quattro minus uno; 39- Film unit; 40- Wrinkle removers; 41- Weed whackers; 42- Eur. carrier; 43- Lost; 44- Hospital rooms; 45- Leaves in a bag; 46- Violent whirlwind; 48- Dead Sea document; 51- Travel on snow; 52- Nonmetallic element; 54- Grunts; 59- \_\_\_-Day vitamins; 60- Region; 62- Prepare to propose; 63- Let's just leave \_\_\_ that; 64- Nitti's nemesis; 65- Slow, to Sallier; 66- Makes lace; 67- Neb. neighbor; 68- First name in cosmetics;

Down

1- Skin marking, often due to injury; 2- Existed; 3- Biblical paradise; 4- Alleviate; 5- Thief; 6- Elevator unit; 7- Mil. school; 8- Earnings; 9- Counterfeit; 10- Releases; 11- High home; 12- Earlier; 13- In a minute; 21- Turf; 23- About, in memos; 25- Flies high; 27- Sailors; 28- Olive genus; 29- Numbered rds; 30- Comrade; 34- Caviar; 35- Flying pests; 36- When said three times, a 1970 war movie; 37- Funny Fox; 38- Canadian gas brand; 40- Sicilians, e.g.; 41- Solo of "Star Wars"; 43- Long time; 44- Crease in the skin; 45- Picks up the check; 47- Authorizes; 48- Actress Berger; 49- Wedge; 50- Enticed; 52- And \_\_\_ goes; 53- Tableland; 55- Singles; 56- Lease; 57- Head of France; 58- Gin flavorer; 61- Request;

Yesterday's solution

L	A	P	S		C	A	S	T	S		W	A	S	P
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N	E	A	R		E	S	T	E	E		N	E	R	D



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AL NOORAIN BAKERY EST has a vacancy for the occupation of BREAD BAKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39456969 or UMZAL1975@GMAIL.COM

ALMOAYYED INDUSTRIAL CONTRACTING AND TRADING B.S.C CLOSED has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES REPRESENTATIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17705313 or ALIHASSAN@ALMOAYYEDINTL.COM.BH

FIRST RAY CONSULTANCY COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DECORATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33974695 or SHAFIQKIYANI@YAHOO.COM

STAR LOOK LADIES SALON W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33287850 or STARLOOK.BH@GMAIL.COM

FAIHAN SHABAN FAIHAN FARHAN has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33656333 or HGOOD8908@GMAIL.COM

AL AMEERI ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 1772667 or aala-meei68@gmail.com

AREENA CONTRACTOR GROUP CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17245222 or HR@AREENAGROUP.COM

AWS SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(PAINT FINISHER), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33046925 or MOMINCH3303@GMAIL.COM

GRADUAL MINER COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33028821 or ANS950098@GMAIL.COM

BEECONS CONSULT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSULTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35320779 or hg-dynammic@gmail.com

AL BAHAR TRADING CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17210994 or aljkbatte@gmail.com

MANIK ABDUS SATTAR INETRIOR DECOR W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34086033 or MANIKMDM28@GMAIL.COM

AUDIO AVENUE CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33311207 or FAIZAN2944@GMAIL.COM

EIGHTY SEVEN STAR SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33862071 or ASADULLAH4471@GMAIL.COM

EXPEDITE STATRUP CONSULTANCY CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38120778 or RASHED.NEWAZI81@GMAIL.COM

AWS SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER-CLEANING-(HAND & CHEMICAL SOLUTIONS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33046925 or MO-MINCH3303@GMAIL.COM

PAPILLON Restaurant CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17259900 or EALFARIS@GMAIL.COM

ASN LANDSCAPE SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(GARDENING), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17442629 or BRICKSTECHCONT@GMAIL.COM

BDC SECURITY SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17329715 or yusuf.alzayani@BAS.COM.BH

CO CO DIP JUICE AND CHOCOLATE has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36697609 or S.NOOR.ALMARZOOQ@GMAIL.COM

SAEDAT ALBAYIH BAKRIES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of PURCHASING AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700038 or Khalid.fathi@hotmail.com

ZHU LIRONG COMPUTER CONSULTANCY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38362331 or SIJIEDAYAR@GMAIL.COM

TANWEER CARGO CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39353384 or Jamilbahrain74@gmail.com

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

Star Lion Contracting Services has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17270787 or Info@starlionservice.com

CINDERELLA CLEANING AND CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER (WOODEN BOXES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 13102828 or attar88@hotmail.com

FINALF SERVICES CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE WORKER HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35949635 or AYANKHAN359496@GMAIL.COM

Nass Corporation B.S.C. has a vacancy for the occupation of SPECIALIST (EMPLOYMENT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17725522 or yousif@aannass.net

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

DEEP RIVER CONSULTANCY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34311959 or FARHADKHAN39071453@GMAIL.COM

ELITE FACILITY MANAGEMENT CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17382228 or MUSTAFA@ELITEFMC.COM

ELITE FACILITY MANAGEMENT CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17382228 or MUSTAFA@ELITEFMC.COM

KNAVI MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE BOY / FARRASH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37951786 or SINGHNAVDEEP555@GMAIL.COM

ORIENTAL GREEN CITY CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17312155 or jashim3645@gmail.com

ARABIAN PRINTING & PUBLISHING HOUSE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17291331 or AREAPLUSTECH@GMAIL.COM

WAHRAN RESTARANT has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33080006 or JASSI-MAL65@GMAIL.COM

WADI ABHA FOR VEGETABLE AND FRUITS has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33312593 or NOORALGAILAN.BH@GMAIL.COM

Al amoor Middle East Cleaning Co.W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36410050 or SAMEER.SAYED4U@GMAIL.COM

FASHION BY AYSHAZ has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35552809 or AISHA.ALZAYANI@GMAIL.COM

GULF HOTELS GROUP - GULF HOTEL has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17713000 or khalid.alawadi@gulftohelbahrain.com



# Classifieds

## VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

URBAN EDGE CONSTRUCTION & TRADING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38114011 or FAISALTMUNEER11@GMAIL.COM

VITOL BAHRAIN E.C has a vacancy for the occupation of ANALYST RESEARCH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39693940 or MAA@VITOL.COM

MERIMUL GRAPHIC DESIGN BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39960100 or OLIVERLEA.100@GMAIL.COM

Mantech Commercial services W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17731717 or hr@bakgroup.net

VIET SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MARKETING EXECUTIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37870023 or VIETTOURISM.BH@GMAIL.COM

VIET SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PROMOTER(COMMERCIAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17870023 or VIETTOURISM.BH@GMAIL.COM

OPAL SPA has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39776769 or OPALNAIL@HOTMAIL.COM

HARTLAND COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ADMINISTRATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36609375 or INVEST2BH@GMAIL.COM

WAHAJ HAIRDRESSING CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33332392 or KHANSAJJD.CAN@GMAIL.COM

SIYANA INDUSTRIAL SERVICES & SIAM SCAFFOLDS- SIMPLE COMMANDITE COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17552722 or SIAM7373@BATELCO.COM.BH

GULF HOTELS GROUP - GULF HOTEL has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17713000 or khalid.alawadi@gulfothelbahrain.com

SIYANA INDUSTRIAL SERVICES & SIAM SCAFFOLDS- SIMPLE COMMANDITE COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17552722 or SIAM7373@BATELCO.COM.BH

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

ITALIAN CORNER RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(FOOD DISTRIBUTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 38061060 or PASHAREALESTATE101@GMAIL.COM

TORNADO GARAG has a vacancy for the occupation of AUTOMOBILE PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39333602 or AMHS68@HOTMAIL.COM

SKY RIVER PUBLICITY & ADVERTISMENT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PRINTING PRESSMEN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33213724 or HA9162709@GMAIL.COM

MANALI BLISS FASHION DESIGN W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN(-FABRICS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39581236 or PESO.BAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

ABU JAMEEL AUTO GARAGE has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33799354 or EY-CARSERVICES21@GMAIL.COM

HUBANI CARGO HANDLING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36485455 or ZAINSANA6018888@GMAIL.COM

ECO BLAST TRADING AND CONTRACTING CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17640556 or ALSAON@GMAIL.COM

TANDOORI TAWAH RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER (RESTAURANTS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33303746 or ADEEL\_RAUF2003@YAHOO.COM

EWAN REAL ESTATE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17484836 or ALI@EWANBH.COM

BEARDO GENTS SALOON AND SPA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33405224 or arahookfhan@gmail.com

YATEEM OXYGEN CO.W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY VEHICLE DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17401201 or utilities@amyateem.com

BAHRAIN ASPHALT ESTABLISHMENT B.S.C

CLOSED has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON ASST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17551111 or MOHAMED.ABUALI@HAJIHASSAN.COM

Real Value Contracting WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36767312 or INFO@REALVALUECONTRACTING.COM

Ahmed Mansoor AlAali B.S.C. Closed - Structural and Mechanical Division has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17265509 or adeel.hameed@al-aali.com

AMYAR DESIGN has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39892211 or AMYAR.DESIGN@GMAIL.COM

AL JUFAIR RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36677709 or BUZAHRAA@HOTMAIL.COM

Ahmed Mansoor AlAali B.S.C. Closed - Structural and Mechanical Division has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17265509 or adeel.hameed@al-aali.com

NEXT GEN PLASTICS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37133815 or HASS-ABBHUTTA@HOTMAIL.CO.UK

ZUBAERI CO SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35180928 or BANNUBEEF10@GMAIL.COM

ALDOOR EXCAVATION & BUILDING CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17877246 or zainabhr@aldoorbh.com

ALDOOR EXCAVATION & BUILDING CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of AUTOMOBILES MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17877246 or zainabhr@aldoorbh.com

SWASTON MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE WORKER HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34129693 or ZIDIMAHARA41@GMAIL.COM

KHALIL EBRAHIM HASAN MOHAMMED ESTABLISHMENT has a vacancy for the occupation of MARKETING EXECUTIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39669442 or KHALILE150@GMAIL.COM

AL RAWNAQ PALACE TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33114441 or

ASFCO Auto Electrical has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (CAR ELECTRICAL WORKSHOP), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39120524 or punjabi.tadka8388@gmail.com

WAQAS ALI FASHION DESIGN W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38868452 or BAHRAINBUSINESSSOLUTION@GMAIL.COM

KHALID STYLE TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33222100 or KHALID-STYLE777@HOTMAIL.COM

JALAL SCHINDLER LIFTS & ESCALATORS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TEAM LEADER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17536956 or RASHID\_BUAL@JALAL.COM

SEVEN HILLS SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39697979 or hr@7hills-group.com

GLOBAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SOLUTION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SYSTEM ANALYST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39931131 or hr@globalits.bh

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

KAPIL JEWELLERS has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17211821 or KAPILJEWELLERSBH@GMAIL.COM

MISRIYA PACK TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34383035 or MTCBAHRAIN.BH@GMAIL.COM

AL NAMAMA CENTRE FOR HIRING HEAVY MACHINERY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17550011 or azizb@gmail.com

MANGROVE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ROOM ATTENDANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39633019 or PASHA@KCBBAHRAIN.COM

GREEN VIEWS CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33545996 or GREENVIEWSCONTRACTING@GMAIL.COM

SALON KARRANAH ALSHABI has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36388878 or SALA-MA98559@OUTLOOK.COM

TRUST LINE BUSINESS SUPPORT SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34194751 or RAFIPLY@GMAIL.COM

GULF AIR HOLIDAYS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DIRECTOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17338575 or MISHAL.ABUBSHAIT@GULFAIRGROUP.BH

LULU CONTRACTING CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17720648 or INFO@LCMWLL.COM

AWAL HOTELING (SHERATON BAHRAIN) COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17533533 or thomas.flindt@sheraton.com

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

DRAGON BEACH HOTEL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER/BARTENDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17230101 or ACCOUNTS@EATCORP.COMCOUNTS

EIGHTY LINE FOR TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33419310 or BAIGSHAKILO617@GMAIL.COM

FATENAT ALKHALEJ BEAUTY CENTRE has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39332314 or BEAUTY.GULF@HOTMAIL.COM

PAKTIN CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35580136 or JUTTNASIR845@GMAIL.COM

INTERIOR SOLUTIONS COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17832022 or hamida.alhubail@havelockone.com

INTERIOR SOLUTIONS COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of MACHINE OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17832022 or hamida.alhubail@havelockone.com

Mstspooltech garage has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36899553 or HAMAD.S13@HOTMAIL.COM

INTERIOR SOLUTIONS COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17832022 or hamida.alhubail@havelockone.com

MEER AIZEM INTERIOR DECORATION CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE WORKER HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66691949 or YAMEENABUBAKAR65@GMAIL.COM

AREENA CONTRACTOR GROUP CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17245222 or HR@AREENAGROUP.COM

SAVOY GRANDE HOTEL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 32250282 or HIREN@BRUPCO.COM

BRITE ZONE CLEANING SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33307494 or NAIMMINHAS69@GMAIL.COM

WEST CITY TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17760191 or ABDULLA.BUDAHOOM@GMAIL.COM

PLAY RESTAURANT AND LOUNGE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TEAM LEADER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 16666661 or hrm@sevensholding.com

BD CAR ACCESSORIES SERVICE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37783376 or UBAYEDUL7878@GMAIL.COM

HALO LOUNGE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of RECEPTIONIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33414177 or MIAMIEVENTSBAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

AL-MODON RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DISH WASHER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39454456 or WAHABSROR@GMAIL.COM

TALAL METAL SCRAP CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(RAW MATERIALS SEPARATION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39179077 or FA260881@GMAIL.COM

GULF DIGITAL SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33056512 or MOMINSHK5@GMAIL.COM

HEVAN DECORATION COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(-SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33742314 or IFTIKHARCHHEEMA822@GMAIL.COM

TRULOGIC TECH SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37552807 or MS9829958@GMAIL.COM

VIBRANT SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY MAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17008217 or JALALEBRAHIM@GMAIL.COM

IQBAL KHAN SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35616531 or IJAN8659@GMAIL.COM

AL-AHLIA CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17737000 or h.s.m1111@gmail.com

AL-AHLIA CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17737000 or h.s.m1111@gmail.com

ALI ABDULLA ALI MALALLA CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36777578 or AAAMALALLA@GMAIL.COM

ALJALBOOT FISH RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36393636 or Aljal-bootfish@gmail.com

ALJUMAIRY MODERN INDUSTRIES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17675002 or info@aljumairymodernindustries.com

SACHI RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CASHIER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37798920 or NACHU405@GMAIL.COM

AL-AHLIA CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17737000 or h.s.m1111@gmail.com

NASSER ABD MOHAMMED B.S.C(CLOSED) has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700888 or admin@nasserco.net

BAHRAIN SPECIAL TECHNICAL SERVICES STS CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17622082 or info@BAHSTS.COM

PACK MATE TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of STORE LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33019912 or warid.clearing@GMAIL.COM

FALCON ISLAND CLEANING EST has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33454414 or falcon-i@hotmail.com

ABU AYAAN SALOON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34027318 or HASHIR.ELECTRONICS@GMAIL.COM

Almoayed Air Conditioning W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of AIR-CONDITIONING TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or proffice@almoayedcg.com

SALOMY CLEANING CONTRACTING CO WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77908555 or SALOMYCC@GMAIL.COM

Ahmed Mansoor AlAali B.S.C. Closed - Structural and Mechanical Division has a vacancy for the occupation of CLERK, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17265509 or adeel.hameed@al-aali.com

ALNESF ALAAKHER SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39617050 or ALNESF\_ALAAKHER@HOTMAIL.COM

Half Moon Trading Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33405060 or HALFMOONTRADING99@GMAIL.COM

HUBANI CARGO HANDLING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36485455 or ZAINSANA6018888@GMAIL.COM

AL HARAM PLUS TRADING CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33261718 or ALHARAMTRADE.BH@GMAIL.COM

CERAM SPECIALIST DENTAL CENTER CO. w.l.I has a vacancy for the occupation of SPECIALISED DENTIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17131123 or accounts@cerammbh.com

NETHERLAND INTERNATIONAL BAHRAINI

PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17009091 or NETHERLAND170321@GMAIL.COM

MANI CHAKWALI SERVICES BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33179673 or MR2037645@GMAIL.COM

ALBUROOJ BUILDING EQUIPMENT HIRING has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36282959 or ALBUROOJHIRING@GMAIL.COM

IBN KHULDOON NATIONAL SCHOOL has a vacancy for the occupation of TEACHER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17687073 or h.radihi@ikns.edu.bh

Secure Me W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17749697 or secure.me@live.com

A M J FAMILY DECORATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON ASST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39066446 or gabonpaker@GMAIL.COM

ALAMEER RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33330800 or ALAMEER.RESTAURANTS@GMAIL.COM

A J M KOOHEJI GROUP BSC CLOSED has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66666564 or lmra@AJMKOOHEJI.COM

KRONOS CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39441273 or MRK1313@GMAIL.COM

GOLDEN TOUCH CLEANING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17345150 or raihan@gtcbbah.com

Abu Inzamam Commerce - Bahraini Partnership Co has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33803636 or ITC.WLL786@GMAIL.COM

Kingdom Security Protection Services W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17822228 or RASHEED@SECURICORE.BH

ZFK COMPUTER AND TECHNOLOGY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33341868 or SALES.EWAN@GMAIL.COM

WHITE BOARD PUBLICITY AND ADVERTISING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33935711 or QATARSILK@GMAIL.COM

COMPETITION GARAGE has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANICAL TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36212203 or COMPETITTINGARAGE@GMAIL.COM

HASEEB MOBILES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34315917 or AHSAN-VIRK287@GMAIL.COM

AL MUZAYYAN INTERIOR DECORATION CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66600587 or mrhamood666@proton.me

HOPSCOTCH RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BAKER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17691124 or hopscotch.bh@gmail.com

POWER TECH DEVELOPMENT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39279042 or gm@powertechdevelopment.com

MARCH25 CLEANING SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33921417 or NAUTOSERVICES@GMAIL.COM

Abu Amin car wash and polish has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANICAL HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36155379 or BATOOLY129@GMAIL.COM

CREATIVE LEADER FURNITURE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38288805 or EBRAHIM KHALIL KANOO COMPANY B.S.C. CLOSED has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17262262 or HR.S@EKKANOO.COM.BH

CLEAR ONE CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33413303 or clearone.bah@gmail.com

AL SAFEER TOWER HOTEL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17827999 or info@regholding.com

RACING FORCE INTERNATIONAL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact

17839999 or gov.rfi@racingforce.com  
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Tip-off at Buyant Ukhua Sport Complex in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

# Four-peat bid underway as Australia roll past Bahrain

Arab and Gulf champions turn focus to Lebanon after tough start in Mongolia

- **Bahrain fall to Australia 141-47 in opener**
- **Yousif Yaqoob Meshaei leads with 13 points**
- **Lebanon beat India 95-73 in other Group A game**
- **Nationals face Lebanon today, India next**

**Hussain Almaskati**  
TDT | Manama

Bahrain's youth men's basketball national team endured a tough opening to their FIBA U16 Asia Cup 2025 campaign yesterday morning, losing 141-47 to powerhouse Australia at the Buyant Ukhua Sport Complex in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

The result marked the beginning of Group A play, where the nationals, back-to-back Arab and Gulf champions, are targeting progression to the knockout stages and a potential spot at next year's FIBA U17 World Cup in Türkiye.

**Crocs in Command**

Australia, four-time defending champions and among the continent's heavyweights, wasted no time in asserting control. They erupted for 41 points in the first quarter to Bahrain's 11, before extending their lead to 71-26 at half-time. The Crocs piled on another

39 points in the third and closed strong with 31 in the final period, cruising to a 141-47 victory. Eight Australians finished in double figures, led by Luke Roland Paul with 20 points, 9 rebounds, 12 assists, and 6 steals in a near triple-double performance.

Despite the lopsided scoreline, Bahrain found bright spots. Guard Yousif Yaqoob Meshaei finished with a team-high 13 points, while Somto Patrick Onoduenyi added 11 points and 7 rebounds. Hussain Fuad chipped in with 9 points off the bench.

### Group A Challenge

Rassem Marzooqi's men now shift their focus quickly to today's clash with Lebanon at 9am (Bahrain time), before rounding off the group stage against India on Monday. In yesterday's other Group A game, Lebanon eased past India 95-73.

Only the group winners advance directly to the quarter-finals, while the second- and third-placed teams will battle in play-offs for the remaining spots in the last eight.

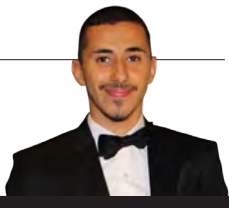
### Road to Istanbul

The FIBA U16 Asia Cup, now in its eighth edition, doubles as the qualifier for the 2026 FIBA U17 World Cup in Türkiye. The top four teams in Mongolia will book their ticket to Istanbul.

Bahrain are making their sixth appearance, and their third consecutive showing, in the competition. Their best finish remains eighth place in 2013 in Tehran.

### INSIDE THE GAME

## Australia's relentless pressure dismantles Bahrain in Asia Cup opener



Hussain Almaskati

The FIBA U16 Asia Cup Group Phase game between Australia and Bahrain, ending 141-47, was a masterclass in tempo from the Aussies. From the opening tip, the Crocs dictated terms, as reflected in the game's flow: Australia led for 39:33 minutes with zero ties or lead changes, built a biggest lead of 96 points by the fourth quarter, and strung together a devastating 19-0 run that crushed Bahrain's early resistance.

### Numbers Tell the Story

Australia's efficiency dwarfed Bahrain's across every metric. The Crocs made more than half of their shots, including a strong conversion inside the paint and from beyond the arc, while Bahrain struggled to find the basket.

### Play by Play

#### Q1 - Setting the Tone

Australia wasted no time. Alexander Mabbott's jump-ball win led to Tom Dammers' layup, and after Bahrain briefly tied it at 2-2 through Somto Onoduenyi, the Crocs launched their 19-0 run fuelled by steals, fast breaks, and Pavey's two triples. By the buzzer, it was 41-11. Bahrain's only bright spots were blocks by Onoduenyi and free throws from Hussain Fuad.

#### Q2 - Relentless Pressure



Australia's Dammers #5 goes a layup under intense pressure

### Standout Performers

- Luke Roland Paul: 20 points, 9 rebounds, 12 assists, 6 steals (near triple-double)
- Max Pavey: 12 points, 3 assists, 2 steals
- William Troy Hamilton: 14 points, 4 rebounds
- Tom Walter Dammers: 12 points, 3 assists
- Bahrain: Yousif Meshaei (13 points), Somto Onoduenyi (11 points, 7 rebounds, 3 blocks), Hussain Fuad (9 points)

The Crocs' defense forced turnover after turnover, turning them into transition buckets. Luke Roland Paul's steal-and-assist sequences and Hamilton's corner three highlighted their rhythm. Bahrain managed a rare highlight through Onoduenyi's three-pointer, but Australia's consistent shooting and 11 assists in the quarter widened the gap to 74-25.

#### Q3 - Balanced Attack

The third quarter showed

Australia's depth. Mabbott's and-L, Jorgenson's layup, and second-chance put-backs by Edwards and Machar showed their control of the glass. Bahrain briefly found rhythm through another Onoduenyi triple, but Australia kept scoring efficiently to reach 109-38.

#### Q4 - Closing Statement

Australia's bench kept the energy high. Max Pavey threw down a fast-break dunk (140-45), while Awak Machar continued punishing turnovers

with layups. Bahrain's offense collapsed under pressure, with missed shots and turnovers dominating their play. Meshaei's late free throws were mere consolation as the Crocs sealed the 141-47 rout.

### Game Analysis

Australia ran a textbook game plan that kept Bahrain on the back foot the entire match. Their full-court defense generated 22 steals, which they turned into 42 points off turnovers. With 42 assists, the Crocs created open shots at the basket and beyond. Their rotations kept intensity high, with bench players scoring 67 points.

Bahrain, in contrast, relied on individual efforts from Onoduenyi and Meshaei but struggled with 31 turnovers and poor shot selection. The silver lining was seven blocks and a handful of successful long-range shots, which are signs of potential if they can improve execution.

### The Big Picture

This game showed why Australia is chasing a historic four-peat at the U16 Asia Cup. Their combination of athleticism and team cohesion leaves little room for error. For Bahrain, the loss is a tough lesson, but flashes of skill and defensive effort suggest a foundation to build on for the rest of the tournament.

### Key Stats

- Points: Australia 141 - Bahrain 47
- Rebounds: 67-35 (22 offensive to 10, 45 defensive to 25)
- Assists: 42-11
- Steals: 22-9
- Blocks: 5-7 (Bahrain actually out-blocked Australia)
- Turnovers: 11-31
- Fouls: 20-26

The numbers highlight the Crocs' dominance: 42 points off turnovers to 1, 49 fast-break points to 9, 30 second-chance points to 7, 82 paint points to 14, and 67 bench points to 21.



# Sinner, Swiatek tested at US Open as Gauff sets up Osaka showdown

Jannik Sinner rallies from a set down as Gauff dominates and Swiatek digs deep

- Sinner beats Shapovalov in four sets
- Zverev suffers earliest exit in seven years
- Auger-Aliassime hits 50 winners to advance
- Swiatek recovers from 5-1 deficit to win

AFP | New York

Jannik Sinner kept his US Open title defence on track Saturday as Iga Swiatek struggled through to the last 16 and home favourite Coco Gauff booked a blockbuster clash with Naomi Osaka.

Sinner rallied from a set down to beat Canadian 27th seed Denis Shapovalov 5-7, 6-4, 6-3, 6-3 and is trying to become the first man to retain the title in New York since Roger Federer in 2008.

“I was in a very difficult moment,” said Sinner. “The scoreline was a bit against me today, but I just tried to stay there mentally.”

World number one Sinner will face Alexander Bublik next after the mercurial Kazakh put out US 14th seed Tommy Paul in a late-night thriller, winning in five sets.

“Week two is completely different. It’s getting tougher and tougher,” said Sinner.

Third seed Alexander Zverev fell to his earliest US Open exit in seven years at the hands of an inspired Felix Auger-Aliassime.

Canada’s Auger-Aliassime belted 50 winners but was a point away from going two sets down before outduelling Zverev 4-6, 7-6 (9/7), 6-4, 6-4.

“I didn’t play a good match,



Iga Swiatek returns against Anna Kalinskaya

and not a good tournament in general,” said 2020 runner-up Zverev.

Auger-Aliassime next takes on Andrey Rublev, who put an end to the fairytale run of Hong Kong’s Coleman Wong in five sets.

There were three more retirements in the men’s draw on Saturday after the injury-induced exit of sixth seed Ben Shelton the day before.

Alex de Minaur, Lorenzo Musetti and 435th-ranked Swiss qualifier Leandro Riedi all moved on when their opponents threw in the towel.

Eighth seed De Minaur led Daniel Altmaier 6-7 (7/9), 6-3, 6-4, 2-0 when the German retired, while 10th seed Musetti held a two-set lead over Flavio Cobolli before the latter quit because of an arm injury.

“I didn’t want to finish like

that, especially against Flavio. He’s probably one of my best friends on tour,” said Musetti.

Riedi became the lowest-ranked man to reach the fourth round of a major since 2002 as Polish opponent Kamil Majchrzak retired after eight games due to injury.

**Swiatek fights back**

Swiatek showed great resolve to dig herself out of trouble against Russian 29th seed Anna Kalinskaya under the lights of Arthur Ashe Stadium.

The world number two slid 5-1 behind in the opening set but saved four set points and won a tie-break before eventually seeing off Kalinskaya 7-6 (7/2), 6-4.

Swiatek, the 2022 US Open champion and six-time major winner, was far from her best but scrambled through to a last-16 meeting with Ekaterina Alexan-

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Leandro Riedi (ranked 435th) became the lowest-ranked man to reach the US Open fourth round since 2002 when his opponent retired after eight games

drova.

“I felt like I had nothing to lose because I was losing pretty bad. So in the end I just went for it because what else can you do?” Swiatek said of her fightback.

Russian 13th seed Alexandrova has never made it past the fourth round at a Grand Slam but destroyed Laura Siegemund 6-0, 6-1 and has surrendered just 10 games en route to the second week at Flushing Meadows.

Gauff swept past Polish 28th seed Magdalena Frech 6-3, 6-1 in her most polished display of the tournament to boost her hopes of collecting a second US Open title.

After battling to a tearful

Jannik Sinner in action

victory in the previous round, a much more composed Gauff dispatched Frech with relative ease.

“It’s been an emotional week, but I think I needed those tough moments to move forward. I was putting so much pressure on myself,” said Gauff, through to the last 16 in New York for the fourth year in a row.

Gauff heads into a showdown on Monday with former world number one Osaka after the Japanese star beat Australian 15th seed Daria Kasatkina 6-0, 4-6, 6-3.

Four-

”

I was in a very difficult moment. The scoreline was a bit against me today, but I just tried to stay there mentally

JANNIK SINNER

Grand Slam champion Osaka is enjoying her best US Open showing since winning the tournament for the second time in 2020.

The last-16 match will be a repeat of the duo’s first meeting at the US Open in 2019, when Osaka overpowered the then 15-year-old Gauff in straight sets.

“Everyone will be watching. That’s what tennis needs,” said Venus Williams, who progressed to round three of the the women’s doubles on Saturday with partner Leylah Fernandez.

Wimbledon runner-up Amanda Anisimova beat Romania’s Jaque-line Cristiana 6-4, 4-6, 6-2. Karolina Muchova, Beatriz Haddad Maia and Marta Kostyuk all won as well.

## Bahrain gear up for September friendlies

Talajic’s squad begin preparations for key matches against Qatar and the UAE

- Friendlies against Qatar (3 Sept) and UAE (8 Sept)
- Olympic players participating in AFC U23 Asian Cup in Doha
- First international matches since June World Cup qualifiers

TDT | Manama

Bahrain’s first team started their training camp, laying the groundwork for two upcoming international friendlies during the FIFA September break against Qatar and the UAE.

**Camp Begins in Riffa**



Bahrain’s players train on the pitches of the BFA in Riffa

Head coach Dragan Talajic welcomed the players in Riffa, though several key members were absent. Abdulla Al Subaie, Sayed Mahmood Al Mosawi, and Ahmed Dhiya remain in Doha with the U23 Olympic team, preparing for the AFC U23 Asian Cup 2026 Qualifiers, which kick

off on Wednesday.

The main contingent at the Bahrain Football Association pitches features the likes of Mohammed Jassim Marhoon, Amine Benaddi, Waleed Al Hayyam, Sayed Dhiya Saeed, Komail Al Aswad, and goalkeepers Ebrahim Lutfallah,

Mohammed Al Gharably, Abdulkarim Al Fardan, and Yousif Habib.

**Schedule for Upcoming Matches**

The Bahrain team will depart for Doha today to face the Qatari national side in a closed friendly

on September 3. Following that, the squad travels to Dubai on Thursday to continue preparations ahead of their 8 September match against the UAE at Zabeel Stadium, Al Wasl Club. The players are scheduled to return home on 9 September.

**Building for the Future**

These friendlies represent Bahrain’s first international action since exiting the third round of the AFC World Cup 2026 qualifiers in June. The team also gained match fitness last month through a series of exhibition matches against European club sides during their training camp in Maribor, Slovenia.

Looking ahead, these warm-up matches will serve as preparation for the FIFA Arab Cup 2025, scheduled this December in Doha.

Vingegaard makes move as he powers to Vuelta stage nine win

AFP | London

Jonas Vingegaard claimed stage nine victory in the Vuelta a Espana yesterday with a strong finish which helped him eat away at Torstein Traen’s general classification lead.

The Danish star, favourite to win the Grand Tour, also earned nearly half-a-minute on his likely closest contender Team UAE’s Joao Almeida.

Visma-Lease a Bike’s Vingegaard had said he and his team were saving their legs for the second and third weeks, but took two minutes out of Traen and trails by just 37 seconds overall.

It took a long time for the day’s break to form on the hilly 195.5 kilometres ride from Alfaro to the Valdezcaray ski resort, with several attacks quickly reeled in.



# Piastri wins chaotic Dutch GP

McLaren's Oscar Piastri extends championship lead after Norris retires

● Piastri wins from pole position

● Norris retires with smoke issue

● Verstappen second for Red Bull

● Isack Hadjar secures third place

AFP | Zandvoort

Oscar Piastri powered to victory at an incident-packed Dutch Formula One Grand Prix yesterday, with home favourite Max Verstappen claiming second place as Piastri's McLaren teammate Lando Norris suffered a dramatic breakdown late in the race.

Piastri led from pole to chequered flag at the Zandvoort circuit in a race that saw the safety car deployed three times to stretch his lead over Norris to 34 points in the championship race.

Racing Bulls' 20-year-old French rookie Isack Hadjar finished third to become the fifth youngest podium finisher of all time.

It was Piastri's sixth Grand Prix victory of the season and cemented the Australian's status as the man to catch in this year's drivers' championship.

"I felt like I was in control of that one and just used the pace when I needed to," said Piastri.

"If we can keep it running then that'd be great but there's a long way to go yet and we keep doing it one race at a time," added the Australian.



McLaren's Australian driver Oscar Piastri gestures after winning

A thrilling start saw Verstappen, who started third on the grid, overtake Norris before briefly losing control of his Red Bull.

To the cheers of tens of thousands of his "Orange Army" fans, Verstappen recovered brilliantly to settle in behind Piastri, who got off to a clean start.

But the faster race pace of the McLaren quickly told and Norris passed the Dutchman on his left-hand side in lap nine to restore the one-two for the papaya team.

The big unknown in the run-up to the race had been the weather at the famously unpredictable circuit just a stone's throw from the North Sea coast.

The first rain began to fall around lap 15 of 72 and just 10 laps later, claimed its first victim,

**"I felt like I was in control of that one and just used the pace when I needed to. If we can keep it running then that'd be great but there's a long way to go yet and we keep doing it one race at a time"**

OSCAR PIASTRI

as seven-time world champion Lewis Hamilton slid his Ferrari off the track into the barriers.

"I'm so sorry guys," said an unhurt Hamilton, who at the last Grand Prix had described himself as a "completely useless" driver who should be replaced.

The safety car deployment bunched up the field again but Piastri held off his determined teammate Norris, who in turn kept Verstappen at bay in third.

Behind the front-runners, Ferrari driver Charles Leclerc pulled off an extraordinary overtaking manoeuvre on George Russell from Mercedes.

**'Let's get Oscar'**

With the rain stopped and most drivers on fresh tyres, McLaren engineers on the Norris side of the garage told their man "let's go get Oscar".

Since Zandvoort returned to the Formula One circuit in 2021, the driver who started on pole has won every time, the track notoriously difficult for overtaking.

And Norris struggled to get



**Isack Hadjar (20) became the fifth-youngest podium finisher in F1 history - the youngest since Max Verstappen's first podium in 2016**

weekend for the scuderia.

With the cars bunched up again after the safety car, Piastri pulled out his fastest lap when it mattered to take control of the race once more.

Then with only six laps to go, Norris reported smoke in his cockpit, immediately crawling to a halt, his race over in heart-breaking fashion.

That left Piastri to hold off a last-ditch challenge by Verstappen in the closing laps to take the chequered flag.

A delighted Hadjar jumped into his team's arms at the end of the race before climbing onto the podium for the first time.

"This was always the target since I was a kid. So this is the first step, my first podium and hopefully much more," he said.

The Grand Prix circus next moves to Monza in Italy on September 7 when the Ferrari fans will be out in numbers, hoping for a better weekend for the team.



Second-placed Red Bull Racing's Dutch driver Max Verstappen (C), winner McLaren's Australian driver Oscar Piastri (L) and third-placed RB's French driver Isack Hadjar celebrate

## REHC unveils 2025-2026 racing season with international focus

● Season opens October 31, 2025

● 29 local and international races

● King's Cup prize rises to \$400,000

● Bahrain International Trophy on November 14

● Bahrain Turf Series includes 12 races

TDI | Manama

The Rashid Equestrian and Horseracing Club (REHC) has approved its racing calendar for the 2025-2026 season, which will kick off on Friday, October 31, 2025. The season will feature a diverse program of 29 local and international races and include a range of new initiatives and events aimed at enhancing the sport in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The calendar, which follows directives from the Club's



High Committee, chaired by His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, seeks to solidify Bahrain's status as a leading global destination for horseracing. The upcoming season aims to build on past successes with a "qualitative leap" in event organization and race quality, according to REHC CEO Yusuf Osama Buheji.

A major highlight of the season will be His Majesty the King's Cup Festival, which has seen its prize money increased to \$400,000. This two-day festival, scheduled for March 5 and 6, 2026, is expected to attract elite international participants.

The Bahrain International Trophy (Group 2), now in its seventh edition, will take place on Friday, November 14, 2025, and will be broadcast live in over 100 countries.

The Bahrain Turf Series will also continue with 12 races held in several stages, culminating in the final round on March 5, 2026. Additionally, the Crown Prince's Cup Festival is set for January 29 and 30, 2026, with the season's finale on April 17, 2026. The calendar will also see the return of night races and the second edition of the Future Stars Series for locally bred horses.



**The season will feature the return of popular night races and the second edition of the Future Stars Series, a program dedicated to supporting local talent**

To enhance the public's experience, the REHC announced an electronic ticketing system with different service tiers and the inauguration of a new main entrance gate. The events area will host entertainment activities and special celebrations for national occasions, including the RoyalTea Evening and a Ramadhan Nights Festival. Mr. Buheji thanked all partners and sponsors for their ongoing support in developing the sport and strengthening Bahrain's regional and international standing.

## Man City rocked by Brighton as West Ham ease pressure on Potter



Brighton's Dutch defender #06 Jan Paul van Hecke (L) vies with Manchester City's Norwegian striker #09 Erling Haaland (R)

AFP | London

Manchester City blew the lead in a shock 2-1 defeat at Brighton that extended their troubled start to the Premier League season.

City striker Erling Haaland marked his 100th Premier League appearance with his 88th goal in the competition since joining from Borussia Dortmund in 2022.

But the 25-year-old's third

goal this season wasn't enough to help Pep Guardiola's side bounce back from last weekend's 2-0 home defeat against Tottenham.

James Milner's second half penalty hauled Brighton level before Brajan Gruda's late strike completed City's collapse.

Spain midfielder Rodri made his first league start for City since suffering a serious knee injury against Arsenal in September 2024.