



King congratulates Donald Trump on Independence Day

TD | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al-Khalifa yesterday sent a cable of congratulations to US President Donald Trump, marking his country's Independence Day.

HM the King extended deepest congratulations to President Trump on this occasion, wishing further progress and prosperity.

Similar messages of congratulations were also sent by Prime Minister HRH Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister.

Southern governorate to hold virtual workshop

TD | Manama

The Southern Governorate announced holding a virtual workshop titled "Al Janubiya app and Remote Communication" on July 6 at 11:00 am.

The workshop will tackle the role of electronic communication in monitoring and identifying the citizens' needs and opinions.

The event will present samples of the services delivered by the Al Janubiya app, such as the "Live Chat" service that offers quicker, easier and real-time interaction.

The Southern Governorate's citizens may register through the email pr@southern.gov.bh or WhatsApp to 322344.

BAHRAIN COVID-19

- TOTAL CASES: 28,410
- ACTIVE CASES: 4,997
- DEATHS: 95
- DISCHARGED: 23,318
- NEW CASES: 573
- CRITICAL: 48

210 fils (includes VAT)



Blasts in Iran were attacks?

● Reports suspect Israeli cyber attack

● Iran says determined the cause

● Warns of strategy change if foreign involvement found

TD | Agencies

Israeli hands are allegedly behind the mysterious blasts that rocked Iranian facilities, unconfirmed reports said.

Several reports claim that an Israeli cyberattack caused the fire at the enrichment facility and explosion at a missile factory.

Neither Iran nor Israel confirmed or rejected the speculations.

Iranian security body, without denying the reports, said it had determined the cause of an "accident" at a nuclear site but declined to release details, citing security reasons.

It, however, citing unnamed Israeli social media accounts claims that the Jewish state was behind the incident, issued a warning.

"If there are signs of hostile



A handout picture provided on Thursday by Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation shows the damaged building at the Natanz facility

countries crossing Iran's red lines in any way, especially the Zionist Regime (Israel) and the United States, Iran's strategy to confront the new situation must be fundamentally reconsidered," Iran's Supreme National Security Council said.

A spokesman for Iran's Supreme National Security Council, referring to one of the country's main uranium enrichment plants said, "Investigations by relevant bodies have accurately determined the cause of the accident at... Natanz nuclear complex."



Iran restarted enriching uranium at Natanz last September after having agreed under the accord to put such activities there on hold.

"Due to certain security concerns the cause and details of this accident will be announced at the proper time," state news agency IRNA quoted Keyvan Khosravi as saying.

The Islamic republic's nuclear body said the incident happened Thursday at a warehouse under

construction at the complex in central Iran, saying it caused no casualties or radioactive pollution.

Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation gave no further details, but Natanz governor Ramezan-Ali Ferdowsi told the *Tasnim news agency* that a fire had bro-

“If there are signs of hostile countries crossing Iran's red lines in any way, especially the Zionist Regime (Israel) and the United States, Iran's strategy to confront the new situation must be fundamentally reconsidered”

IRAN'S SUPREME NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

ken out at the site. Hours after the announcement on Thursday, IRNA published an editorial warning Iran's arch-foes against hostile actions.

Iran's nuclear body has yet to provide an explanation for the cause of the incident, which came six days after an explosion near a military complex in Parchin area southeast of Tehran rocked the Iranian capital.

Authorities blamed that blast on "leaking gas tanks".

Parchin is suspected of having hosted conventional explosion tests with nuclear applications, which the Islamic republic denies.

Drones targeting Saudi shot down

Coalition forces intensify attacks on Iran-backed Houthi militia

TD, Agencies | Manama

The Saudi-led military coalition has intensified its military campaign against Iran-backed Houthi militia with the coalition intercepting and downing four explosive-laden drones aimed at Saudi Arabia, yesterday.

The drones moving in the direction of Saudi were downed by the coalition over territory controlled by the Houthis, said

COL Turki Al-Malki, the official spokesman of the Coalition to Restore Legitimacy in Yemen.

"Joint Coalition Forces intercepted and destroyed this morning (4) bomb-laden UAVs launched by the terrorist, Iran-backed Houthi militia toward the Kingdom, (3) of which were dealt with in Yemeni airspace.

Al-Malki said the forces are capable of "confronting and thwarting these threats by

surveying and destroying the bomb-laden UAVs directly following their launch from areas under the Houthi militia's control."

The Joint Forces Command, he said, will implement all necessary measures to protect civilians and civilian objects following the customary International Humanitarian Law.

The Western-backed coalition announced on Wednesday the launch of a new military oper-

ation against the Houthis after they stepped up cross-border missile and drone attacks on Saudi Arabia.

Last week, Houthi fighters fired missiles that reached the Saudi capital Riyadh in the first such assault since a six-week ceasefire prompted by the novel coronavirus epidemic expired in late May. The coalition said it intercepted the attack.

The coalition intervened in Yemen in March 2015 after the



The drones moving in the direction of Saudi were downed by the coalition over the Houthi territory

Houthis ousted the internationally-recognised government from the capital, Sanaa, in late 2014. The Houthis say they are fighting a corrupt system.

Tragedy strikes

Mass burial for scores killed in Myanmar jade mine disaster

Hpakant | Myanmar

Dozens of jade miners were buried yesterday in a mass grave after a landslide in northern Myanmar killed over 170, most of them migrant workers seeking their fortune in treacherous open-cast mines near the China border.

Women wept by the open plywood caskets, some marked with just a name, a few with a solitary photo, before the bodies were carried into a huge grave gouged from the red earth by



A digger sealed the grave with earth, with many victims yet to be identified

a mechanical digger near the scene of the landslide.

It was the worst accident in memory to befall Myanmar's notoriously dangerous jade mines.

The tragedy occurred on Thursday when a hillside collapsed in heavy monsoon rains, sending a deluge of smothering mud over the workers who were scouring the land for fragments of jade.

"The search and rescue missions continued today... 172 bodies were found by midday," the Myanmar Fire Services Depart-

ment said in a Facebook post, raising the overnight toll by 10.

They join scores killed each year in Hpakant, an area is close to the Chinese border in Kachin state, where billions of dollars of the precious stone is believed to be scoured each year from bare hillsides by poor migrant workers seeking to strike it rich.

As photos of the dead circulated on social media Facebook users began to identify workers hundreds of miles from home, leaving moving tributes to friends and family members.