

India-Bahrain digital bridge

Bahrain picked as launchpad as Gamezop bets big on MENA gamification market

- USD 4m expansion investment
- Bahrain hub to scale MENA
- Gamification boosts app revenue

Mahir Haneef
TDT | Manama

India-based gamification company Gamezop has announced a USD 4 million investment to establish its Middle East headquarters in Bahrain, positioning the Kingdom as its strategic entry point into the region's fast-expanding digital economy.

The move marks a significant step in strengthening digital collaboration between India and Bahrain, as Gamezop aims to transform how apps and websites across the Middle East engage users. The expansion is



backed by BITKRAFT Ventures and supported by the Bahrain Economic Development Board (EDB).

Strategic gateway

Founded by brothers Yashash and Gaurav Agarwal in 2016, Gamezop allows apps and websites to embed casual games, quizzes, astrology, and crick-

et content to increase user engagement and ad revenue. With its Bahrain hub, the company plans to onboard more than 1,000 new partner platforms across the region and double its global revenue within 18 months.

Gamezop's co-founder Gaurav Agarwal said the company chose Bahrain for its business-friendly

policies, digital readiness, and regional accessibility. "Our presence here marks the beginning of what we hope will become a strong digital bridge between India and the Middle East," he said.

Backing Bahrain's vision

According to Musab Abdulla, Executive Director of ICT at

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The gamification market in the Middle East and Africa is projected to grow at over 25 percent annually, driven by mobile-first users and rising demand for immersive digital experiences

the Bahrain EDB, the arrival of Gamezop aligns with the Kingdom's vision to become a regional creative and digital content hub. "Bahrain's gaming and content creation ecosystem is building strong momentum, powered by robust digital infrastructure and a growing pool of creative

talent," he said.

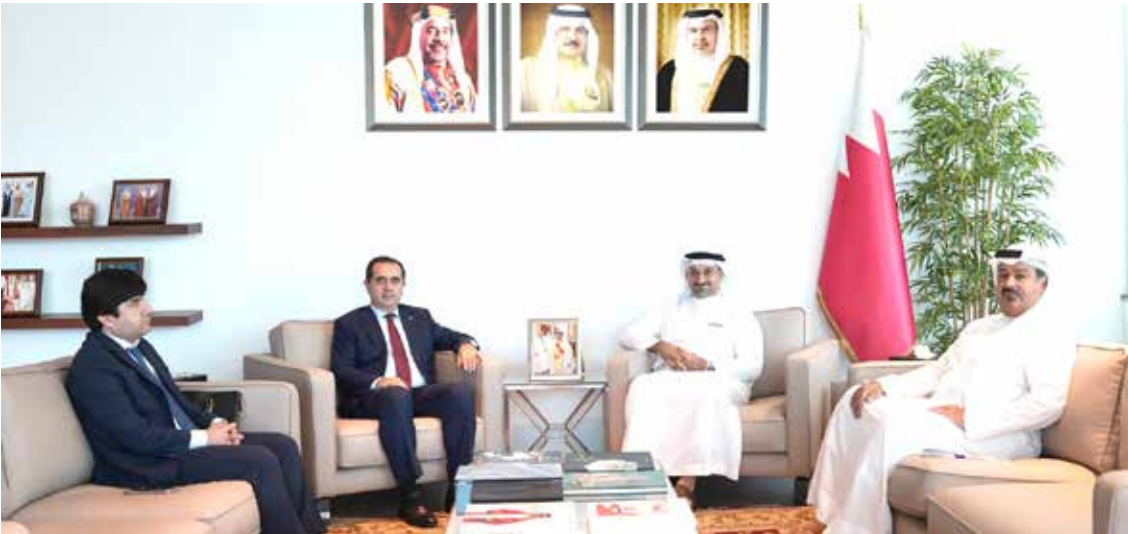
The company's model is simple but powerful: it allows digital platforms to embed games and share the ad revenue generated. With over 45 million monthly users across 70+ countries and integration into more than 9,000 platforms, Gamezop brings international experience to its MENA expansion.

Digital future

Bahrain's selection as Gamezop's headquarters signals growing interest from Indian tech firms in using the Kingdom as a launchpad into the Gulf. The region's high smartphone usage, young population, and surging demand for interactive digital content make it a promising market for gamification-driven growth.

Gamezop's entry is expected to create local job opportunities, foster partnerships with regional platforms, and contribute to Bahrain's long-term strategy of becoming a digital innovation leader.

Minister of Industry and Commerce receives newly appointed Ambassador of Tajikistan



Abdulla bin Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry and Commerce, received Karimi Akram, the newly appointed Ambassador of the Republic of Tajikistan to the Kingdom of Bahrain, residing in Riyadh. The Minister welcomed the Ambassador, highlighting the strong bilateral relations between the two brotherly countries and their continuous progress and growth in various fields. He affirmed Bahrain's keenness to further strengthen cooperation with the Republic of Tajikistan, especially in industrial and commercial sectors, to achieve shared goals and aspirations

Stocks climb as strong US jobs data pushes off rate hike



A trader works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange

Al Baraka Islamic Bank announces winner of July's AlBarakat grand prize totalling \$120,000

- Lucky customer wins year-long \$10K monthly salary in draw
- 40 additional \$400 winners

TDT | Manama

Al Baraka Islamic Bank Bahrain, one of the leading Islamic banks in the Kingdom of Bahrain, has recently announced the winner of the Al Barakat Grand Prize for July 2025.

Fadhel Mohamed Al Attar has won a monthly salary of USD 10,000 for an entire year, totalling USD 120,000, through the bank's monthly draws held for customers of the Al Barakat Investment Account.

The draw for the July 2025 Grand Prize took place on Wednesday at the Bank's headquarters in Bahrain Bay, in the presence of the Bank's marketing team, internal and external auditors, and under the supervi-



Mazin Dhaif, Chief Retail Officer at Al Baraka Islamic Bank

sion of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce.

This July Grand Prize comes as part of the leading "Al Barakat" Prize Scheme, through which Al Baraka Islamic Bank continues to offer valuable cash prizes to its customers throughout the year.

The Al Barakat Grand Prizes for this year comprise various awards, making it one of the most attractive scheme with a total of USD 4 million in prizes.

Additionally, the Bank or-

We are currently finalising preparations for the remaining AlBarakat Prize draws for 2025, which will include major surprises and unprecedented winning opportunities. We promise all our valued customers, as always, to continue delivering a rich banking experience that meets their expectations and ambitions, combining the benefits of savings with valuable rewards

MAZIN DHAIF

ganised a surprise special draw under the "Al Barakat" programme, where 40 lucky customers each won cash prizes of USD 400, amounting to a total of USD 16,000.

Mazin Dhaif, Chief Retail Officer at Al Baraka Islamic Bank,

said, "We are proud to continue offering the Al Barakat Prizes, which have become a distinctive feature in Bahrain's banking market. Through this unique scheme, we have succeeded in bringing joy to thousands of customers over the past years and enabling them to realise their financial aspirations. Today, we are pleased to announce the winner of the July Grand Prize and extend our warmest congratulations and best wishes to him and all the winners."

Al Barakat Investment Account from Al Baraka Islamic Bank, compliant with Sharia principles, offers numerous chances to win outstanding cash prizes throughout the investment period, with a minimum deposit requirement of BD 50 or approximately USD 135. Individuals of all nationalities over the age of 18 can open an Al Barakat Investment Account through Al Baraka Islamic Bank's mobile application without needing to visit a branch. Accounts can also be opened for those under 18 by their parents or legal representatives.

- US job growth beats expectations at 147,000
- Dollar slides on reduced rate cut chances
- Oil prices fall ahead of OPEC meeting

AFP | London

Stock markets rose and the dollar slid yesterday as strong jobs data showed the resilience of the US economy and reduced the likelihood of interest rate cuts.

Investors were also keeping a close eye on President Donald Trump's bid to push through a tax-cutting budget and reach trade deals.

London's stock market and the pound recovered, having taken a knock Wednesday on rumours that British finance minister Rachel Reeves faced losing her job.

Oil prices fell, with OPEC and the cartel's crude-producing allies expected to announce a rise to output Sunday.

Investors had been keenly awaiting the US government's monthly non-farm payrolls report, seen as one of the best

data points on the health of companies and the labour market.

Job growth came in at 147,000 last month, beating expectations, and rising from an upwardly revised 144,000 figure in May.

"The much stronger non-farm payrolls data means a July rate cut is now no longer in consideration, which is music to stock market bulls' ears," said City Index and FOREX.com analyst Fawad Razaqzada.

Wall Street's main indices opened higher, the S&P 500 and Nasdaq Composite pushing up from record closes.

"But with the July 9 tariff deadline looming next week, can stocks retain their gains ahead of the long weekend?," added Razaqzada.

US markets are closed on Friday for US Independence Day celebrations, but negotiators from several nations are racing to reach trade deals with Washington ahead of the deadline imposed by Trump.

Yesterday's jobs numbers comes one day after a smaller survey showed the US private sector unexpectedly shed jobs last month for the first time since March 2023. That suggested that the US economy was beginning to be hit by the uncertainty caused by Trump's trade war.