

Norris tops crucial Abu Dhabi practice

Championship
leader sets the pace
in second practice
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America First strategy realigns foreign policy

THE DAILY tribune



Millie Bobby Brown is a ‘natural-born mother’

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Putin offers India ‘uninterrupted’ oil in summit talks with Modi

AFP | New Delhi, India

Russian President Vladimir Putin said yesterday he was ready to continue “uninterrupted shipments” of fuel to India, as New Delhi faces heavy US pressure to stop buying oil from Moscow.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is hosting Putin at a summit in New Delhi dominated by energy, defence and trade talks, thanked the Russian leader for his “unwavering commitment towards India”.

Ukraine, US to hold new talks in Miami

Kyiv, Ukraine

Ukrainian negotiators and US officials will hold fresh talks on Washington’s plan to end Russia’s invasion at a meeting in Miami on Friday, a Kyiv official told AFP.

Fire forces 169 to evacuate plane at Brazil airport

AFP | Sao Paulo, Brazil

A fire on the tarmac at Sao Paulo international airport, Brazil’s largest, prompted the evacuation of 169 passengers from a Latam Airlines plane overnight Thursday, the airline said.

Passengers exited the aircraft via the boarding bridge and evacuation slides after the fire hit external equipment on the tarmac before departure for a domestic flight to Porto Alegre in southern Brazil.



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Muharraq Nights Festival opens



The historic city of Muharraq witnessed the launch of the fourth edition of the Muharraq Nights Festival, bringing renewed cultural activity to its traditional houses and neighbourhoods. The festival’s venues are hosting a wide range of exhibitions, workshops, musical performances blending folk and contemporary traditions, interactive visual experiences, and culinary displays inspired by Bahraini heritage.



Over 70,800 firms onboard as wage compliance reaches 99.4%

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Over 70,800 private-sector firms have joined Bahrain’s Wage Protection System (WPS) since its launch on 1 May 2021.



Yusuf Khalaf,
Acting Labour
Minister

In a reply to MP Abdulha-keem Al Sheno, the Labour Ministry said the second WPS version, launched on 21 October 2025, gives regulators stronger tools to track salary payments and flag violations. The upgrade was developed with the LMRA, Central Bank of Bahrain, Benefit Company and licensed financial institutions, offering more accurate, sector-level data than the earlier system.

Compliance is measured by whether wages are paid on time and through CBB-licensed channels, including bank accounts and prepaid cards.

The ministry recorded 65 violations in 2022, 61 in 2023, 115 in 2024, and 225 up to October 2025 — equal to 0.66% of enrolled firms, putting overall compliance at 99.4%. For enforcement, the LMRA reviews wage records before issuing work permits. Inspectors issue warnings, give up to a month for corrections, then revisit before filing violations and referring persistent cases to the Public Prosecution.

Interior Ministry team wins



Kuwait City

A team from the Ministry of Interior won first place in the 2024 Prince Naif bin Abdulaziz Award for Security Research at the GCC level for a study titled “The Negative Effects of Social Media Networks on the Gulf Family and Their Security Implications”.

The team, comprising Ali Ahmed Ameen, Director of the Crime Prevention Directorate and Director of the Maan (Together) Programme against Violence and Addiction; Dr. Khawla Hazeem Al Shamsi, Academic Lecturer at the Training Directorate; and Second Lieutenant Ali Kadhem Al Sindi, was honoured during the recent meeting of GCC Interior Ministers held in the State of Kuwait.

Council reviewing key laws on AI, cybersecurity and digital transformation.

MPs propose a national innovation fund and stronger support for youth and families.

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

MPs have unanimously approved His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa’s economic diversification programme, endorsing key priorities from job creation to national identity, according to a draft reply prepared.

Announced in the Royal Address opening the fourth ordinary session of the sixth legislative term, the programme sets out a national agenda focused on empowering youth and women, strengthening foreign policy and security, and accelerating economic development.

Lawmakers praised HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, for enhancing coordination between state bodies and launching new initiatives to support jobseekers.

Press

On the legislative side, the draft reply highlights the ratification of Law No. 41 of 2025, which amends Decree-Law No. 47 of 2002 regulating the press, printing and publishing. The Council pledges support for training and modern professional systems to strengthen

Key takeaways

Lawmakers praised HRH Prince Salman for boosting state coordination and launching new jobseeker initiatives.

Council reviewing major draft laws on AI governance, cybersecurity, digital government and updated data-protection rules.

MPs proposed a national research and innovation fund and urged stronger investment in renewable energy, advanced technology, space tech and the creative economy.

The reply supports developing media professionalism under the newly amended press and publishing law.

Lawmakers backed efforts to reinforce national identity through education, cultural initiatives and a proposed identity centre.

Council called for modernised social protection systems and highlighted the roles of HH Shaikh Nasser and HRH Princess Sabeeka in advancing youth, sport and women’s empowerment.

MPs reaffirmed Bahrain’s commitment to peace, coexistence and Arab causes, especially Palestine, during its term on the UN Security Council.

Reply supports strengthening readiness of the BDF, Interior Ministry and National Guard, calling them the Kingdom’s “shield”.

Environmental priorities include marine protection and regulating natural-pearl trade to enhance Bahrain’s global standing.

MPs stress prioritising Bahrainis in services and entitlements, with a focus on improving overall quality of life.

Ahmed bin Salman Al-Musallam, Speaker of the Council of Representatives

media standards.

The reply identifies digital transformation, artificial intelligence and non-oil sectors as central to future growth. MPs note that the Council is reviewing draft laws on AI governance, cybersecurity, digital government and updated data-protection rules as part of building a knowledge-based economy.

Research fund

To support national innovation, the draft proposes a research and innovation fund for projects in AI, advanced technologies and sustainable energy. It calls for more future-focused academic specialisations in universities, their inclusion in scholarship plans, and enhanced national training to equip young Bahrainis with digital, leadership and entrepreneurship skills.

Renewables

MPs encourage wider investment in renewable energy, green industry, space technology and the creative economy. They urge improvements in labour-market data, job quality and the effective use of existing government schemes. More flexible legislation, they add, would help attract investment and boost competitiveness. Stronger oversight systems are needed to monitor government performance, protect public funds, control debt and ensure fair access to services.

Values, identity

Lawmakers welcomed the King’s call to link scientific progress with Bahrain’s values and identity. They support the creation of a national identity centre and encourage more cultural and digital content showcasing Bahraini heritage, along with school and community programmes that promote tolerance.

On social policy, the Council stresses updating the social protection system to meet the needs of families and children while increasing opportunities for youth and women in decision-making.

Arab cause

MPs also reaffirm support for the King’s stance on Arab causes, especially Palestine, and his efforts to prioritise the issue during Bahrain’s term on the UN Security Council.

The reply endorses measures to strengthen the readiness of the Bahrain Defence Force, the Interior Ministry and the National Guard, and supports national efforts to protect the marine environment.