



Messi scores after missed penalty as Argentina overturn Egypt's dream start **12** SPORT

BUSINESS 5 Shipping confidence returns as Bahrain port achieves record recovery

Unified Customs Centre Goes Fully Digital



President of Customs Shaikh Ahmed bin Hamad Al Khalifa visited the Unified Customs Clearance Centre at Khalifa Bin Salman Port after it completed all requirements to become a remote electronic service centre under Bahrain's Government Service Centres Evaluation Programme. Mohammed Ali Al Qaed, Chief Executive of the Information & eGovernment Authority (iGA) and Chairman of the programme's evaluation committee, attended the visit.

The Unified Customs Clearance Centre, one of the first customs service centres to join the Government Service Centres Evaluation Programme launched in 2017, achieved 100% compliance with the programme's standards. The centre also earned the Silver Shield in 2019 and the Gold Shield every year from 2020 to 2024, highlighting its continued excellence in government service delivery.

LMRA Digital Services Expanded



The Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) launched an instant digital service allowing labour supply agencies to automatically cancel their licences once their commercial registration is cancelled through the Si-jilat system. The new service removes paperwork requirements and reduces processing time, supporting Bahrain's wider digital transformation efforts to provide faster and more efficient government services.

220 fils (includes VAT)



World-Class Logistics Destination

Kingdom pledges deeper ties with global logistics giants to sharpen its competitive edge

Strategic DHL Partnership

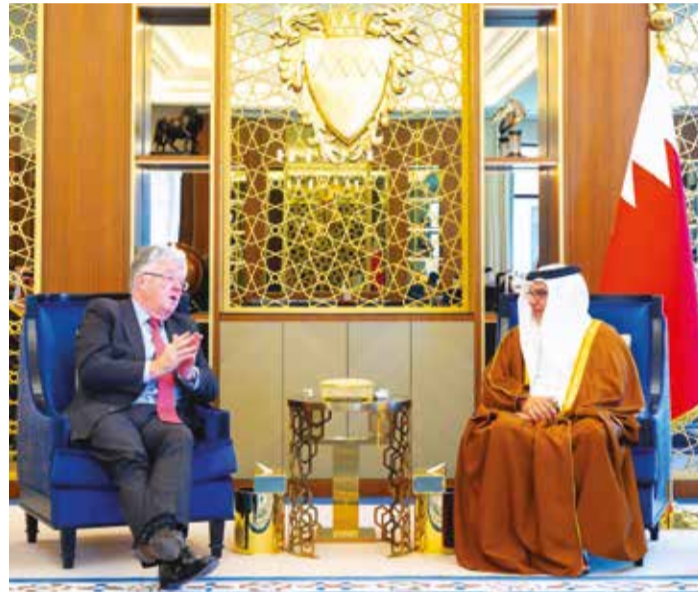
Infrastructure Drives Growth

Regional Logistics Expansion

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His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, met with DHL Express Chief Executive Officer John Pearson at Gudaibiya Palace, underscoring Bahrain's drive to become a premier global logistics hub.

HRH the Crown Prince stressed the strategic impor-



tance of Bahrain's logistics sector, noting that sustained infrastructure investment directly supports the Kingdom's comprehensive development agenda under the leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

Bahrain-DHL Partnership

HRH Prince Salman commended the existing collabo-

ration with DHL Express and reaffirmed Bahrain's commitment to broadening ties with world-leading logistics companies — a move designed to further cement the Kingdom's position as a competitive and attractive destination for global freight operators.

DHL Express CEO John Pearson expressed appreciation for HRH's ongoing efforts to strengthen bilateral cooperation and highlighted the partnership's role in delivering high-quality logistics services across the region.

The meeting was attended by HH Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Minister of the Prime Minister's Court; HE Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Minister of Finance and National Economy; and HE Shaikh Ahmed bin Ali Al Khalifa, Chairman of DHL Express Bahrain.

DHL Expansion Plans Reviewed



Finance and National Economy Minister Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa received John Pearson, Global CEO of DHL Express, to discuss strengthening cooperation and supporting the continued growth of Bahrain's logistics sector.

During the meeting, Shaikh Salman reaffirmed Bahrain's commitment to further developing the logistics sector as one of the Kingdom's key economic growth drivers. He highlighted ongoing efforts to strengthen Bahrain's position as a leading regional logistics hub, supported by its strategic location linking regional and global markets, as well as its modern ports and airport infrastructure, which enhance supply chain efficiency and facilitate regional and international trade.

Royal Trust, National Purpose



His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, met with several newly appointed Undersecretaries and Assistant Undersecretaries at Gudaibiya Palace.

HRH Prince Salman affirmed that the Kingdom's ac-

complishments are driven by the ambitions of its people, in continued support of Bahrain's comprehensive development vision under His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

Investing in National Talent

The Crown Prince congratulated the newly appointed of-

ficials on receiving the Royal Trust, emphasising that confidence placed in the national workforce reflects its proven competence and that investing in homegrown talent strengthens government performance.

HRH called on officials to uphold dedication and excellence as tools for capitalising on op-

portunities, fostering innovation in government, and advancing the Kingdom's standing.

The newly appointed Undersecretaries and Assistant Undersecretaries expressed gratitude for the Royal Trust and pledged their full commitment to Bahrain's continued progress.

Three Tankers Hit Near Hormuz

Oil surges, equities stumble amid renewed shipping threats and tech sector jitters

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Oil prices jumped more than two percent after three tankers were struck by projectiles or drones near the Strait of Hormuz within 24 hours, reigniting fears over global energy supplies. The British maritime security agency UK-MTO confirmed the attacks, raising doubts about the durability of the US-Iran ceasefire.

Investor confidence in artificial intelligence stocks took a fresh hit. The Nasdaq Composite shed over one percent in New York, while the Dow briefly touched



an all-time high before turning negative. European markets in Frankfurt and Paris also closed lower.

Seoul led Asian losses as Samsung shares plunged more than six percent, despite the chipmaker reporting an 1,800-percent surge in second-quarter operating profit. Analysts warned that in richly valued markets, strong earnings alone are no longer sufficient—investors now demand clear guidance and lasting pricing power.

Markets also awaited the Federal Reserve meeting minutes for clues on future interest rates.

Bahrain joins UN's first AI governance talks



Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications, Dr. Shaikh Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, participated in the United Nations' inaugural Global Dialogue on Artificial Intelligence Governance in Geneva, Switzerland. The landmark forum brought together ministers, senior officials, policymakers, international organizations, private sector leaders, and academics. The event focused on strengthening international cooperation and developing comprehensive, responsible frameworks for AI governance. Bahrain's participation underscores its growing role in shaping global digital policy discussions at the highest international levels.