

Royal approval for Highway Phase 2

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa ratified and issued a law approving a framework agreement to finance the second phase of the Shaikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah Highway development project, following its approval by both the Shura Council and the Parliament.

The law formalises an agreement between Bahrain and the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, aimed at supporting the continued expansion and upgrading of the strategic



highway. According to the law, Article One approves the framework agreement related to the financing contribution for the project's second phase. The agreement was signed on 23 March 2025 and is attached to the law as an official document.

Article Two stipulates that the Prime Minister and ministers are each responsible for implementing the law's provisions within their respective jurisdictions. It will come into effect the day following its publication in the Official Gazette.



Defence Diplomacy



The Commander-in-Chief of the Bahrain Defence Force, Field Marshal Sheikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, received the Italian Ambassador to Bahrain, Andrea Catalano, in the presence of the Minister of Defence Affairs, Lt. Gen. Abdullah bin Hassan Al Nuaimi.

Sheikh Khalifa welcomed the ambassador and highlighted the continued growth of Bahrain-Italy relations under the leadership of HM King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and support of HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa.



The Chief of Staff of the Bahrain Defence Force, Lt. Gen. Dhiyab bin Saqr Al Nuaimi, received the Egyptian Ambassador to Bahrain, Reham Abdelhamid Mahmoud Khalil.

Infrastructure panel reviews real estate development progress



Bahrain's Ministerial Committee for Development Projects and Infrastructure convened its latest meeting on Tuesday, reviewing national infrastructure progress, digital transformation initiatives, and measures to support citizens affected by recent events.

The 298th meeting of the committee was chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister, Sheikh Khalid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa.

On the agenda, the committee reviewed progress on requests submitted by the Real Estate Registration Directorate, following the launch of the electronic title deed service by the Survey and Land Registration Bureau. The new digital service was welcomed as a key step in enhancing efficiency, improving access to property documentation, and advancing Bahrain's digital transformation agenda.

The meeting also reviewed ongoing real estate development projects and initiatives

The committee praised directives by HM King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa to compensate citizens for homes and vehicles damaged in recent Iranian attacks.

across the Kingdom, underscoring their importance in supporting economic growth and advancing national development objectives.

At the outset, the committee praised the directives of HM King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, and the order issued by HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, to provide compensation for citizens whose homes and vehicles were damaged as a result of recent Iranian attacks.

Hasan Barakat

113,328 emergency calls handled



Emergency services received 113,328 calls on the 999 hotline amid recent regional tensions following Iranian aggression, authorities confirmed.

The Ministry of Interior said all police, civil defence, and ambulance units remain fully operational, responding swiftly to incidents and ensuring public safety.

Emergency operators handled each call by providing immediate reassurance, guidance, and directing cases to specialised response teams.

Authorities said the Main Operations Room continues to monitor field activity in real time, ensuring a unified national response and minimising risk to people and property.

Officials highlighted that rapid response and constant communication helped turn public concern into calm and structured action on the ground.

How Force Majeure Safeguards Businesses?

As regional instability continues to disrupt supply chains and business operations in Bahrain, companies are increasingly questioning how legal contracts hold up during crises.

Legal expert Afaf Tarada said the concept of force majeure is often misunderstood and does not automatically cancel contractual obligations during difficult times.



Legal expert Afaf Tarada

She explained that only situations where performance becomes "absolutely impossible" may qualify, while delays or increased costs are not sufficient grounds.

Businesses facing disrupted shipments and operational delays are now carefully assessing whether to invoke such clauses, though experts warn that misuse could lead to legal consequences.

Ultimately, courts determine whether force majeure applies based on the specific facts of each case, reinforcing it as a strict legal safeguard rather than an easy exit from obligations.

Force majeure, experts note, protects companies in true crises—but only when obligations cannot genuinely be fulfilled.

Bahrain Heads to IPU Forum with Regional Security Agenda



Ahmed bin Salman Al Musallam, Speaker of the Parliament and Chairman of the Executive Committee of Bahrain's Parliamentary Division, chaired a coordination meeting with the Kingdom's parliamentary delegation. This meeting was in preparation for their participation in the 152nd General Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), scheduled for Istanbul, Türkiye, from April 15 to 19.

Ahmed bin Salman Al Musallam stressed that Bahrain's parliamentary delegation will prioritise clarifying the facts and consequences of unjustified Iranian attacks against Bahrain,

other Gulf Cooperation Council states, and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

He underscored that these actions represent a direct threat to regional security and stability, calling for transparent and responsible communication of these developments to parliaments around the world.

The Speaker highlighted that the delegation will also draw attention to attacks targeting civilian facilities and infrastructure, describing them as a serious violation of international laws and conventions and an infringement on state sovereignty. He called for a unified international stance to reject and confront such actions.