

**India Secures Uranium**

A major clean energy deal and an enthusiastic reception marked Narendra Modi's Australia visit, as both nations deepened strategic ties. | P6-7

Gulf bloc urges restraint, diplomacy, and protection of vital shipping routes.

# THE DAILY tribune



Muchova battles back to claim first Wimbledon final berth

AI-powered virtual agent recognised for transforming customer service and sales

**Innovation and leadership development**



Deputy Prime Minister, Shaikh Khalid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, chaired the second board meeting of the Institute of Public Administration (IPA) for 2026, stressing that developing national cadres and elevating government performance are top priorities under the Kingdom's development agenda. IPA Director General Dr. Shaikha Rana bint Issa Al Khalifa presented the institute's H1 2026 operational report, highlighting 44 training services delivered to 2,079 trainees across four government leadership development tracks, professional programmes, and contracted courses. Several new trainers were also formally accredited during the period.

**Revamped Human Rights Committee**



Foreign Minister Dr. Abdulatif Al Zayani chaired the inaugural meeting of the newly restructured Committee for International Human Rights Affairs at the Foreign Ministry. He noted that the National Human Rights Action Plan 2022-2026 had significantly elevated Bahrain's standing globally, and the reformed committee would serve as a national coordination platform for all human rights issues with an international dimension.

**Disability Allowance Services Enhanced**



The Ministry of Social Development upgraded disability allowance services, reducing application processing time from 20 working days to 10. The ministry has also reduced required documents by 50% and introduced instant digital certificates verifiable through QR codes, eliminating the need for in-person visits.

220 fils (includes VAT)



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## Partnership for Regional Stability

TDT | Manama

**H**is Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, received US Ambassador to Bahrain Stephanie Hallett at Riffa Palace on Thursday, reaffirming the strong and longstanding strategic ties between the two countries.

During the meeting, HRH Prince Salman highlighted the continued growth of Bahrain-US relations across various fields, stressing the importance of strengthening cooperation to achieve shared goals and aspirations.

The Crown Prince emphasised that the strategic part-

nership between Bahrain and the United States continues to expand through mutual agreements, including the Comprehensive Security Integration and Prosperity Agreement (CSIPA), which supports joint efforts in security, stability and development.

HRH Prince Salman also noted the important role the United States plays, alongside its allies, in promoting regional and international security and stability.

The meeting also covered regional and international developments, focusing discussions on ongoing events and efforts to enhance security and stability.

The two sides further addressed concerns over hostile Iranian actions against the region and reviewed several issues of common interest.



## US and Iran Exchange Blows Over Gulf Skies

**Bahrain Condemns Iran Over Civilian Missile Strikes**

**Kuwait and Jordan targeted; Qatar on high alert**

**T**he Bahrain Defence Force (BDF) announced it successfully intercepted and destroyed multiple Iranian drone and missile attacks on Thursday morning, July 9. The General Command described the strikes as part of a "systematic hostile approach" targeting civilians, and confirmed all military units remain on maximum alert. The BDF condemned the attacks as a serious violation of international humanitarian law, warning the public to avoid touching any suspicious objects from debris and to report them to authorities.

Kuwait reports one injured



Images from video released by U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) show precision strikes on Iranian military targets during a large-scale operation targeting air defense systems, missile sites and military infrastructure.

Kuwait's Defence Ministry confirmed its forces intercepted three ballistic missiles, one cruise missile, and ten hostile drones in Kuwaiti airspace at dawn. Defence spokesman Colonel Saud Abdulaziz Al-Atwan said shrapnel caused material damage at multiple locations across the country. One

person was injured and is receiving medical care in stable condition.

Strike on Jordan Air Base  
Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps fired ten ballistic missiles at a US command centre in West Asia and Al-Azraq Air Base in Jordan, claiming to have destroyed both. Jordan confirmed

- US targets struck (July 9) - **90**
- Kuwait drones intercepted- **10**
- Casualties reported: **1 (stable)**

its air defences intercepted and downed eight of the incoming missiles. The IRGC warned that US bases in the region would face heavier strikes if American forces continued their operations.

**Qatar on high alert**

Qatar's Interior Ministry issued emergency alerts urging residents to remain indoors as warning sirens sounded across the Gulf. Doha formally condemned the Iranian strikes on Jordan, Bahrain, and Kuwait as violations of national sovereignty and international law. Qatar's Foreign Ministry called for de-escalation and dialogue, reaffirming full solidarity with the three targeted countries.

**New Appointment**

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, issued Edict (29) of 2026 appointing Sara Nooh Isa Al Zowaid as Director of the Planning, Policy and Follow-up Directorate at the General Secretariat of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports.

**Road Closures**



The Ministry of Works announced temporary lane closures as part of ongoing road improvement and resurfacing projects. Two southbound lanes toward Riffa will close in stages between Shaikh Isa bin Salman Highway and Amman Avenue from today till July 12. Additional phased lane closures will also take place on Shaikh Isa bin Salman Causeway towards Manama for resurfacing works over a two-week period starting today. Authorities urged road users to follow traffic rules and exercise caution during the works.

**Digital Cooperation in Geneva**



Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications, Dr. Shaikh Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, held a series of bilateral meetings with ministers, senior officials, and representatives of international organisations during his participation in Geneva Digital Week.

The meetings brought together key figures including the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union Doreen Bogdan-Martin, officials from the UAE, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Ireland, Estonia, Pakistan, Zimbabwe, Singapore, Gabon, the United States, South Africa, Malaysia, and representatives of the Digital Cooperation Organisation and Smart Africa. Discussions focused on enhancing cooperation in digital transformation, telecommunications, artificial intelligence, digital infrastructure, capacity building, and exchanging expertise and best practices to support sustainable development and advance digital policies.

## Government Hospitals Win Top Arab Healthcare Honour

Holistic Role Model certification awarded at seventh Gold Initiative cycle

**B**ahrain's Government Hospitals have been awarded the Holistic Role Model Certificate by the Arab Hospitals Federation, securing the distinction during the seventh cycle of the Gold Initiative Certificate programme in recognition of excellence across institutional quality, patient safety, innovation, and sustainability. The achievement reflects the

hospitals' participation across six key programme categories — governance, healthcare quality, patient safety, risk management, innovation, sustainability, and national talent development — earning one of the federation's highest institutional accolades.

CEO Dr. Mariam Athbi Al Jalahmah said the recognition reflects Bahrain's sustained commitment to healthcare ex-

cellence and the dedication of its national workforce. She described the award as a product of collective effort built on quality, governance, and patient-centred care.

Dr. Al Jalahmah added the honour will drive further adoption of global best practices, reinforcing Bahrain's standing as a regional model for healthcare quality.



# HRH Crown Prince Approves Municipal Reforms

New rules introduce collective housing controls, municipal fee exemptions and land reclamation charges

TDT | Manama

**H**is Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, issued a resolution amending Bahrain's Municipalities Law executive regulations, introducing new provisions on collective housing, municipal fees and land reclamation.

The amendments allow municipal councils to establish a permanent general committee, headed by the council chairman, to prepare agendas and review matters referred to the council.

Under the new rules, property owners must notify municipalities before renting



properties as collective housing and provide proof that health, safety and security requirements are met. Collective housing is defined as accommodation occupied by five or more unrelated people.

Municipalities will also maintain a dedicated database for collective housing units to support monitoring and regulation.

The resolution grants exemptions from municipal fees for vacant buildings and facilities without electricity meters, as well as construction sites that have not yet been completed. Fees will begin once the property is occupied or an electricity meter is installed.

It also sets land reclamation licence fees for areas reclaimed from seawater at 400 fils per square metre.

The resolution takes effect the day after its publication in the Official Gazette, with the Minister of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture responsible for implementation

## Al Mazare' Street Expansion Plan Under Study

Ministry of Works will assess the widening project aimed at improving traffic flow



Al Mazare' Road

TDT | Manama  
Hasan Barakat

**T**he Ministry of Works has been directed to study the expansion of Al Mazare' Street in Jasra to improve traffic safety and address growing congestion concerns.

The directive was issued by the Ministerial Committee for Development Projects and Infrastructure, which reviewed several government development projects and service performance indicators.

Northern Municipal Council member Mohammed Saad Al Doseri welcomed the decision, saying the move reflects contin-



Mohammed Saad Al Doseri, Northern Municipal Council member

ued efforts to enhance Bahrain's road network and upgrade infrastructure to meet current and future needs.

He said residents had previ-

ously raised concerns over traffic congestion and repeated accidents on Al Mazare' Street, calling for the road to be expanded to two lanes.

Al Doseri said the proposed expansion would help improve traffic movement, reduce congestion and increase safety for road users, particularly as the area continues to experience urban growth.

He also praised the follow-up and support of Deputy Prime Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa for development and service projects across the Kingdom.

Meanwhile, the committee noted progress in Bahrain's tree-planting programme, with 15 percent of this year's target completed by the end of May.

## Council Delivers on Development Goals

● 48 Decisions and 1,200 Public Requests Handled

● Service improvements and BD50,000 in operational savings

TDT | Manama  
Hasan Barakat

**T**he Capital Municipal Council has completed its fourth-term review, recording 48 resolutions, 149 committee meetings, and handling more than 1,200 public requests through the Tawasul platform.

The council stated its work focused on strengthening municipal services, improving urban development and supporting Bahrain Economic Vision 2030. During the term, it held 19 sessions, with 30 resolutions approved, 10 still under review and three rejected due to technical and regulatory issues.

The council's five committees held 149 meetings and issued 88 recommendations, referring 56



• 120 new parking spaces created in Juffair through road improvement projects.

• Additional parking facilities and pedestrian pathways developed in cooperation with the Ministry of Works.



Engineer Saleh Tarada, Council chairman

for discussion during general sessions.

Key areas addressed included municipal regulations, urban

planning, food truck licensing, labour accommodation standards, sound insulation in buildings, municipal fines, park security systems and a national building information platform.

The council received 1,203 requests, proposals and complaints through the Tawasul e-platform between September 2025 and June 2026, all were reviewed and coordinated with relevant authorities.

It also achieved annual savings of around BD50,000 following its relocation to the new Tubli headquarters, these funds will support future municipal projects.

Major achievements included infrastructure projects such as a sewage network tender for Complex 721 in Jid Ali, along with development works in Jidhafs, Sitra, Zinj and East Sitra. More than 60 per cent of reported sewage issues across 10 complexes have been resolved.

The council also highlighted progress on park development, completing maintenance at seven parks, opening two new parks in East Sitra Housing City, and planning further rehabilitation projects across the governorate.

## Global SME Summit Calls for Digital Push

● Experts focus on digital tools

● Green finance and skilled workers to strengthen

TDT | Manama  
Neethu V

**T**he future of small and medium-sized enterprises will depend on how quickly they embrace technology, invest in workforce skills and strengthen resilience against emerging global challenges, participants at the 14th World MSME Day Conference in Sarajevo concluded.

The two-day conference brought together business leaders, policymakers and entrepreneurship experts from around the world to discuss practical strategies for helping SMEs remain competitive. Discussions focused on accelerating digital transformation, improving cy-



bersecurity, expanding access to sustainable finance, strengthening supply chains and fostering stronger collaboration between governments, businesses and academic institutions.

Bahrain's approach to SME development was among the conference highlights, receiving positive recognition from delegates who described the Kingdom's support for entrepreneurs as an effective model for driving economic growth, innovation and employment.

Dr. Abdulhasan Aldairi, Chairman of the Bahrain SMEs Society and the United International SMEs Organization (UNISMO), said the conference reinforced the growing influence of digital technologies in shaping the global business landscape. He noted that artificial intelligence, digi-

tal platforms and e-commerce are becoming essential tools for SMEs seeking to expand and remain competitive.

Organised in cooperation with the Chamber of Economy of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the International University of Sarajevo and several partner organisations, the conference also stressed the need to create more opportunities for young entrepreneurs and women while helping SMEs access international markets.

A major concern raised during the event was the increasing shortage of skilled workers across parts of Europe. Dr. Aldairi said many countries are already experiencing labour shortages and warned that the gap is expected to widen in the coming years.



## GFH Foundation Collaborates with "Kaaf Humanitarian" to Support Deserving Bahraini Families

**G**FH Foundation announced its collaboration with Kaaf Humanitarian, part of Al Eshlah Society, to support a number of initiatives aimed at underprivileged Bahraini families. This includes providing the GFH Education Grant, alongside supporting the monthly cash sponsorship programme, contributing to enhancing families' living stability and enabling their children to continue their education.

This collaboration comes as part of joint efforts to support Bahraini students from families in need, enabling them to continue their educational jour-

ney and expand their future opportunities. It also supports the family sponsorship programme, which contributes to strengthening the living stability of beneficiary families and enabling them to meet their basic needs.

Commenting on the occasion, Dr Mohamed Abdulsalam, Board Member of GFH Foundation, said: "We are pleased to collaborate with Kaaf Humanitarian in supporting initiatives that address the needs of deserving Bahraini families and open wider horizons for their children's future. By supporting education and providing



regular living assistance, we aim to contribute to improving the quality of life of underprivileged

Bahraini families and helping their children build a more stable future."

For his part, Mr Mohammed Jassim Sayyar, Chief Executive Officer of Kaaf Humanitarian, expressed his appreciation for the partnership with GFH Foundation, affirming that it reflects an effective model of integration between the private and charitable sectors in serving the community. He noted that such partnerships help unify efforts and expand the impact of development initiatives, positively reflecting on the lives of Bahraini families in need. He added that Kaaf Humanitarian believes in the importance of building strategic partnerships with private

sector institutions, given their pivotal role in strengthening social impact and enabling initiatives to achieve sustainable outcomes that serve the wider community.

It is worth noting that GFH Foundation is the community arm of GFH Bank, dedicated to supporting initiatives with sustainable impact through a strategic approach based on collaboration, capacity building, and investment in programmes and initiatives that contribute to building healthier and more prosperous communities in the Kingdom of Bahrain and the region.

# AI, Technology and Global Security Take Centre Stage at UN Police Summit

Bahrain participated in the 5th United Nations Chiefs of Police Summit (UNPOC), held at the UN Headquarters in New York. The summit brought together police leaders, government officials and senior UN representatives from around the world.

Inspector General of Police Lt. General Tariq bin Hassan Al-Hassan represented Bahrain at the two-day summit on July 7 and 8, which focused on shaping the future of international law enforcement and strengthening cooperation among police agencies.

Discussions at the summit highlighted the growing role of technology and artificial intelligence in modern policing. Delegates explored ways to use digital tools to improve efficiency while ensuring accountability, human rights protection and respect for the rule of law.

Participants also stressed the importance of intelligence-led policing and responsible innovation as security challenges continue to evolve globally.

Global Cooperation Against Crime

The summit also addressed the need for stronger interna-



tional coordination to tackle transnational crimes, including organised crime, illegal trafficking and illicit arms flows.

Speakers emphasised that closer partnerships between national police forces, the United Nations and international organisations are essential to enhance capabilities and support joint security efforts.

The summit concluded with a call for faster implementation of international cooperation mechanisms and greater adoption of innovation to strengthen



police readiness worldwide.

Bahrain's participation reflects the Kingdom's continued engagement with international

security initiatives and its commitment to supporting global efforts in maintaining safety and stability.

## Ashura Season Marked by Strong Coordination

Islamic delegation commends security and organisational arrangements



Interior Minister, General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdul-Lah Al Khalifa, received a high-level Islamic delegation, reaffirming the ministry's commitment to ensuring safe conditions for religious commemorations.

The delegation opened by expressing gratitude to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa for his directives ensuring all needs of the Ashura season were met, and praised Crown Prince and Prime Minister His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa for his support of the government's role in facilitating religious freedoms.

The delegation commended the Interior Ministry's security and logistical arrangements, citing organised procedures and community awareness efforts that ensured a peaceful observance.

The Minister praised the cooperation of mourning hall heads, preachers, and participants for their discipline, describing the approach as a community partnership model.

He stressed the importance of maintaining this collaboration across all future religious seasons, calling Ashura 2026 a benchmark for years ahead.

## BDF and Italy Discuss Military Cooperation



The Bahrain Defence Force (BDF) and the Italian Armed Forces have discussed ways to strengthen military cooperation and defence relations between the two countries. Major General Staff Ghanem Ibrahim Al Fadala, Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations at the BDF, received Lieutenant General Giovanni Maria Iannucci, Commander of the Joint Operations Command of the Italian Armed Forces, and his delegation. The meeting reviewed existing military cooperation between Bahrain and Italy and explored opportunities to further enhance defence ties and coordination.

## Final Call on Plastic Bag Ban

Single-use plastic bags thinner than 57 microns will be banned next month



TDT | Manama  
Hasan Barakat

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce has urged manufacturers, importers and traders to complete preparations for Bahrain's upcoming ban on thin single-use plastic bags, with the regulation set to take effect next month.

Sayed Ali Shubbar, Director of the Inspection and Standards Directorate at the ministry, said businesses must comply with Resolution No. 7 of 2026, which prohibits the use of single-use plastic bags with a thickness of less than 57 microns.

Speaking during an interview on Bahrain TV, Shubbar encouraged companies to make full use of the remaining transition period by adjusting production lines, securing compliant alternatives and clearing existing stock before the regulation comes into force.

He said the ministry has already prepared a comprehensive guidance manual explaining the resolution's requirements and is providing dedicated communication channels to answer business questions. Awareness sessions have also been organised to help manufacturers, importers and traders understand the new standards and ensure smooth implementation.



**"We will continue supporting businesses to achieve full compliance and adopt sustainable packaging."**

- SAYED ALI SHUBBAR

Shubbar noted that the commercial sector had been involved throughout the implementation process. The ministry first notified the draft regulation to the World Trade Organization before sharing it with the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry and holding meetings with stakeholders to explain the technical specifications and address concerns.

He said the ministry received strong cooperation from most companies, with many already modifying production lines or working with suppliers to source compliant products. Several businesses have also begun offering environmentally friendly alternatives ahead of the deadline.

Acknowledging the challenges faced during the transition, Shubbar said businesses have been working to clear old inventory, identify new suppliers and understand the technical requirements, particularly those related to the thickness and specifications of approved plastic bags.

## MP calls for curbs on bakery price rises

TDT | Manama  
Mohammed Darwish

A call to rein in steep bread prices has been made by MP Dr Munir Seroor, who says some bakeries are using subsidised flour, adding small extras, and then charging far higher sums. Dr Seroor urged the Consumer Protection Directorate to establish clear weight rules and fair price bands for baked goods.

The MP said the step was needed to protect shoppers while keeping fair trade between bakeries.

Some bakeries, he said, add milk, sesame or colouring to bread and then raise the price severalfold. He added that such extras do not justify those price jumps.

The government has provided fixed support for flour and bread to ensure citizens and residents can obtain this basic good at affordable prices," Dr Seroor said.

He said the law bars the resale of subsidised flour because it is meant for the public and is linked to food security and social calm.

But he said some bakeries were exploiting that support by changing the product slightly, then selling it for far more.

Dr Seroor called on the Consumer Protection Directorate



**"Transparency is key to protecting consumers."**

- DR MUNIR SEROOR, MP



to check that bakeries stay within fair price bands and to act against those charging unjustified sums.

He also called for prices and weights to be displayed plainly so buyers can compare goods before they pay.

"We see abuses with our own eyes in some bakeries, and this calls for firm measures to stop these practices," he said.

He said proper weights and scales, along with clear rules for bakeries, were needed so that public support still reached the people it was meant to help.

## Court Orders Store to Pay Accountant BD7,700

Employee resigned after 23 years; company failed to settle entitlements

High Labour Court ordered a well-known store to pay an accountant BD7,695,556 in end-of-service benefits following a legal dispute triggered by his resignation after more than two decades of service.

The accountant joined the company in 2001, earning a final monthly salary of BD550, before resigning on January 31, 2025. The company allegedly failed to settle his entitlements, prompting a lawsuit.

The court ruled that as a foreign national not covered by Bahrain's Social Insurance Law until February 2024, he was entitled to benefits covering the period from March 2001 to February 2024 under Decision No. 109 of 2023. The court calculated his total entitlement at BD12,295,556, with BD7,695,556 payable after deducting an outstanding loan, plus legal costs.

## Expat Jailed Six Months for Using Forged University Degree

Court orders deportation and confiscation of fake certificate



Lower Criminal Court sentenced a foreign national to six months in prison for submitting a forged university degree to obtain a teaching position, ordering his permanent deportation upon release.

The case emerged after the Ministry of Education discovered the fake certificate during routine verification procedures. The defendant presented it to a private school

and to authorities for official accreditation.

Investigations confirmed the forgery through witness statements, a verification report, and direct confirmation from the named university that it had never issued the qualification. The court convicted the defendant, confiscated the document, and ruled he be permanently deported after serving his sentence.

# AI Tool to Support Job Seekers

Labour Ministry explores innovation to improve employment services

TDT | Manama

**M**inistry of Labour's Information Systems Steering Committee reviewed the award-winning "Smart Employment Guide" concept, an artificial intelligence-powered initiative designed to support the employment of Bahraini citizens by matching their skills with suitable job opportunities and recommending relevant training pathways.

The committee held its regular meeting under the chairmanship of Labour Minister



and Minister of Legal Affairs, Yousif bin Abdulhussain Khalaf, with committee members in attendance.

During the meeting, the minister stressed the impor-

tance of adopting innovative ideas and initiatives to enhance government services, improve operational efficiency, and raise the quality of services provided to benefi-

ciaries. He stressed that modern technologies play a key role in supporting Bahrain's digital transformation and strengthening government performance.

The initiative seeks to use artificial intelligence and advanced digital systems to support national employment efforts by introducing a smart assistant capable of matching job seekers' skills with available vacancies. It also recommends training programmes aligned with labour market needs, helping improve services for job seekers while enhancing customer satisfaction.

## GCC-EU Trade Talks Held in Brussels



TDT | Manama

**B**ahrain's Ambassador to Belgium, Dr. Mohammed Ali Bahzad, chaired the GCC delegation at the seventh GCC-EU Trade and Investment Dialogue in Brussels, representing the bloc's current presidency.

The meeting brought together representatives from the GCC General Secretariat, member state officials, and EU experts to advance bilateral economic ties.

Talks covered a wide range of trade and investment priorities, including economic diversification, renewable energy cooperation, WTO frameworks, digital trade, intellectual property, and customs coordination to prevent sanctions circumvention.

The annual dialogue aims to deepen the GCC-EU partnership by expanding trade links, encouraging mutual investment, and unlocking new market opportunities across Gulf and European economies.

## Food Trucks Given Six-Month Grace Period to Meet New Rules

Operators have until December 21 to comply with updated municipal, safety and operating requirements



TDT | Manama  
Hasan Barakat

**T**he Ministry of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture announced a six-month grace period for food truck operators to comply with new regulations governing the sector, giving businesses until December 21 to meet the updated requirements.

In a statement shared on its digital platforms, the ministry urged food truck owners to use the grace period to regularise their operations and ensure full compliance with municipal regulations and public safety standards.

The ministry said the move is aimed at organising the growing food truck sector, protecting the safety of residents and vis-

itors, and preventing practices that create public nuisance, disrupt traffic or affect the appearance of neighbourhoods.

Under the new rules, food truck owners must obtain written permission from the property owner before parking or operating at any location. Food trucks are also prohibited from parking within street rights-of-way or directly in front of residential buildings to minimise disruption to nearby residents.

The regulations further require food trucks to remain at least 50 metres away from road intersections and traffic signals to maintain clear visibility and smooth traffic movement. Operators must also leave a minimum distance of two metres between their vehicles and other parked vehicles.



Food trucks must keep their surroundings clean and dispose of waste properly.

The ministry also stressed the importance of ensuring that all electrical connections used in food trucks meet safety standards. Operators have been instructed to follow all necessary safety precautions to reduce risks associated with food preparation, equipment and vehicle operations.

## GCC Law Platform to Include Bahrain First

Digital platform supports regional integration in legislation, trade and investment

TDT | Manama

Mohammed Darwish

**B**ahrain has been placed among the first GCC states to be linked to a single online law platform, in a step Dalal Al Zayed said showed trust in the kingdom's legal system and public bodies.

The head of Shura Council's Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee said the Gulf Legislation Platform would give lawmakers, lawyers and researchers one digital gateway to national and GCC laws.

Ms Al Zayed said Bahrain's place in the first phase of the electronic link carried weight beyond the technical work.

'The presence of the Kingdom of Bahrain in the first phase of the electronic linking project for the Gulf Legislation Platform carries an important meaning that goes beyond the technical aspect,' she said. 'It shows trust in the readiness of Bahrain's legislative and institutional system.'

She said lawmaking could no



A unified legal reference will strengthen Gulf legislation.

DALAL AL ZAYED

longer be seen only through a national lens, given its links with trade, investment, the economy, human rights, services and the movement of people across the Gulf.

Legislation today is no longer within the national scope only, but has become part of a Gulf system linked to the economy, investment, trade and the move-

ment of people and services,' she said.

Ms Al Zayed said the platform would allow both the legislative and executive branches to use legal data when amending or drafting laws.

It would also save time by placing Gulf and national laws in one online source, with search tools that reduce the need to consult several separate references.

'The legislator, lawyer or researcher can now reach unified Gulf legislation and national legislation through one electronic window, saving time and effort while also raising the accuracy of the work,' she said.

Ms Al Zayed said the platform would help lawmakers compare legal texts across GCC states and draw from tested approaches when dealing with shared legal questions. She said Bahrain's role in the project would also allow the kingdom to share legal experience with other GCC states and benefit from their work in return.

## 59 Cases Sent to Prosecution Over Market Violations

Ministry conducts more than 24,000 inspections

Referred 59 cases to Public Prosecution

Intensified market monitoring efforts

TDT | Manama

Rehab Mohammad

**M**ore than 21,000 commercial violations were detected across Bahrain during the first half of 2026 as the Ministry of Industry and Commerce stepped up inspections to ensure businesses comply with market regulations.

The ministry revealed that inspection teams recorded 21,080 violations between January and June, while 59 cases were referred to the Public Prosecution for further legal action.

As part of its monitoring campaign, the ministry carried out 22,151 routine inspection visits and 2,644 targeted inspection



Enhanced inspection drives across Bahrain led to the detection of 21,080 commercial violations and the referral of 59 cases to the Public Prosecution in the first half of 2026.

campaigns covering commercial establishments across various sectors.

The ministry said businesses were given opportunities to correct violations, with 10,384 notices issued requiring establishments to remove breaches

and regularise their status. Following these measures, 9,659 violations were resolved after companies took corrective action.

Authorities also implemented enforcement measures against non-compliant businesses, including 17 administrative closure decisions and completing settlement procedures in 14 cases. The ministry highlighted the role of public participation in strengthening market oversight, noting that it received 4,974 inquiries and 524 complaints during the same period, all of which were reviewed and followed up.

## Bahrain Eyes Streamlined Government Procedures

TDT | Manama

**M**inister of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture, Eng. Wael bin Nasser Al Mubarak, received the President and Board Members of the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI), reaffirming the ministry's commitment to deepening cooperation with the private sector.

The minister described the private sector as a key driver of sustainable development, stressing that BCCI serves as a strategic partner in strengthening Bahrain's business and investment environment.

The meeting was also attended by Eng. Shaikh Mohammed bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Undersecretary for Municipal Affairs, and Eng. Asim Abdullatif Abdullah, Undersecretary for Agriculture and Animal Wealth,



alongside BCCI President Nabeel Khalid Kanoo and board members.

### Accelerating Transactions

Discussions covered areas of mutual interest. Both sides explored ways to improve procedural efficiency, speed up transaction processing, and raise the standard of government services to support Bahrain's development goals.

Kanoo expressed appreciation for the meeting, underlining its importance in strengthening coordination between the ministry and the chamber.

On the sidelines, BCCI board members toured the historic Manama Municipality building and visited the Municipal Exhibition, which chronicles the evolution of municipal work and key milestones across Bahrain's development journey.

## NBB Launches Fifth Edition of EVOLVE Summer Internship Programme

TDT | Manama

The National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) officially commenced the 2026 edition of EVOLVE, its flagship summer internship programme. Now in its fifth year, the programme builds on the Bank's longstanding commitment to the continued development of national talent.

EVOLVE continues to serve as a structured learning platform that bridges academic knowledge with practical experience, enabling high school and university students to develop a deeper understanding of the banking and financial services sector. This year's programme welcomes participants from 12 schools and 7 universities, with the school cohort already underway. Through a combination of interactive class-

room sessions, practical assignments, and on-the-job training, participants will gain first-hand exposure to the Bank's operations while building the confidence and professional awareness required to succeed in an evolving industry.

The programme's curriculum has been designed to offer students a well-rounded and engaging experience, covering key areas across banking, innovation, digital transformation, customer service, and responsible business practices. This year's external trainings are being delivered by Mada Translation, Marsh, Bahrain Institute of Banking & Finance (BIBF), Emeritus, Bahrain FinTech Bay, Paramedics Academy, INJAZ Bahrain, Mumtalakat, and the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC). The sessions encompass a wide array of topics, such as sign language, mental health



awareness, team building, artificial intelligence (AI), fintech, first aid, entrepreneurship, sovereign wealth funds, and cybersecurity.

Interns will also benefit from trainings conducted by NBB employees and external subject matter experts, who will share in-

sights into different professional disciplines and the opportunities available within the financial services sector.

Commenting on the occasion, Hend Mahmood, Group Chief Human Resources Officer at NBB, said, "EVOLVE has reached its fifth

year because of the role it is playing in enhancing the capabilities of young people to actively serve Bahrain's economic growth aspirations. Our mandate as a national institution extends beyond providing financial services, as we have a responsibility to open doors, transfer knowledge, and create environments where talent can grow with purpose. By giving students access to practical learning and professional mentorship, we are helping them make informed choices about their future while contributing to a stronger pipeline of competent and ambitious Bahrainis."

In addition to technical and professional development, EVOLVE places strong emphasis on personal growth, collaboration, and community awareness. The programme encourages attendees to strengthen their

communication skills, work effectively in teams, and develop a broader appreciation of the values that underpin a successful career. This holistic approach reflects NBB's focus on nurturing individuals who are well-prepared to contribute meaningfully to their workplaces and wider society.

Since its inception, EVOLVE has become one of NBB's key initiatives supporting human capital development in Bahrain. Its continuation over the years demonstrates the Bank's dedication to creating impactful opportunities for students and investing in the Kingdom's future workforce. Through this initiative, the Bank remains steadfast towards supporting Bahrain's Vision by equipping young people with the aptitude, exposure, and mindset needed to participate actively in the country's long-term progress.

## BENEFIT Recognized Among Bahrain's Top 50 Companies

TDT | Manama

BENEFIT, the Kingdom's innovator and leading company in fintech and electronic financial transactions service, has been recognized among Albilad Newspaper's "Top 50 Bahraini Companies", highlighting its continued role in advancing Bahrain's digital

financial services sector and supporting the growth of the Kingdom's fintech ecosystem.

The award was received by Abdulwahed AlJanahi, Chief Executive at BENEFIT, during a ceremony held in Manama in the presence of H.E. Abdullah bin Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry and Commerce, alongside senior officials, business leaders, and representatives from the public and private sectors.

This recognition reflects BENEFIT's leading position in the Bahraini market and its continued commitment to advancing digital payment solutions and financial services that enhance efficiency, security, and accessibility for individuals and businesses. It also underscores the company's role in strengthening



Bahrain's digital financial infrastructure and supporting the sector's ongoing transformation in line with the evolving needs of the economy and the wider financial ecosystem.

The award forms part of Albilad Newspaper's initiative to recognize Bahraini companies that have made a meaningful contribution to the national economy. The initiative highlights companies that demonstrate strong performance, sound governance, innovation, and economic impact, while supporting the competitiveness of the local market and promoting effective institutional practices.

Commenting on the recognition, Abdulwahed AlJanahi stated: "We are proud to see BENEFIT recognized among Bahrain's Top 50 Companies by

Albilad Newspaper. This recognition reflects the company's position and its growing role in developing Bahrain's fintech sector. It also speaks to the dedication of our team and their commitment to delivering trusted and innovative digital solutions that meet market needs and support the Kingdom's digital transformation journey.

We extend our sincere appreciation to Albilad Newspaper for this important initiative, which highlights the contribution of national companies to Bahrain's economy."

He added: "This recognition gives us further motivation to continue developing our digital solutions and investing in innovation to meet the needs of our customers and partners, while supporting the efficiency of the financial sector and the competitiveness of the national economy. We remain committed to strengthening Bahrain's electronic payments and digital financial services ecosystem through advanced solutions that contribute to reinforcing the Kingdom's position as a leading financial and fintech hub."

## Batelco by Beyon's AI Powered Agent Basma Wins MEA Business Achievement Award

TDT | Manama

Batelco by Beyon has been recognised with the AI Exceptional Products and Services Achievement Award at the prestigious MEA Business Achievement Awards 2026, held recently in Dubai.

The award recognises the success of Basma, Batelco by Beyon's AI-powered agent, which has transformed the way customers engage with the company by delivering fast, intelligent and personalized sales and support at scale. Unlike traditional chatbots that are limited to scripted responses, Basma is designed to understand customer intent, engage in natural conversations and seamlessly connect with customers. In addition, Basma is capable of completing both support and sales actions behind the scenes, creating a smoother and more efficient customer journey.

Since its launch, Basma has handled thousands of customer conversations daily, independently resolving enquiries while significantly improving the overall self-service experience for customers and reducing response times. Bas-



ma demonstrates how AI can move beyond experimentation to deliver measurable business value and tangible benefits for customers.

The award reflects Beyon's broader commitment to embedding artificial intelligence across the Group. As one of several AI-driven initiatives, Basma is an illustration

of this strategy, demonstrating how AI as a core business capability can support innovation, operational excellence, and business growth.

The MEA Business Achievement Awards recognise organisations across the Middle East and Africa that demonstrate excellence in innovation, leadership and business transformation.

The AI Exceptional Products & Services category celebrates organisations that have successfully implemented artificial intelligence solutions delivering measurable business impact, innovation and customer value.



## BisB Launches New Latest Edition of "Athr" Summer Internship Programme

TDT | Manama

Bahrain Islamic Bank (BisB), the leading provider of innovative Islamic financial solutions for simplifying money matters in the Kingdom of Bahrain, has announced the launch of its latest "Athr" Summer Internship Programme. The initiative reaffirms the Bank's commitment to developing young Bahraini talent and equipping university students with practical experience that supports their confident transition into the labour market.

This year's programme will welcome 52 interns, signifying a 120% increase from the previous edition. This growth reflects the continued success of Athr and the rising demand for structured workplace learning opportunities that allow students to gain direct exposure to the

banking sector. Over the course of two months, participants will undertake comprehensive training across various departments within BisB, giving them first-hand insight into banking operations, business functions, and the wider corporate environment.

The name "Athr" was chosen in alignment with BisB's sustainability slogan, "A Lasting Impact," symbolising the Bank's view that investing in people is a cornerstone of sustainable practices. BisB believes that the programme's true value lies not only in the knowledge and experience provided to the interns, but also in the contribution they bring to the workplace. In this way, the initiative becomes a mutual learning journey with enduring benefits for both participants and the Bank.

Through Athr, interns will



Afnan Ahmed Saleh, Chief Human Resources Officer at BisB



Fatema AlAlawi, Chief Executive Officer of BisB

have the opportunity to apply their academic knowledge to real projects under the guidance of experienced professionals. The programme is designed to bridge the gap between classroom learning and practical application by developing participants' technical, analytical, and professional capabilities, while strengthening their communication, collaboration, and critical thinking skills. It also aims to deepen their understanding

of workplace culture, professional ethics and the standards expected within the financial services sector.

By the end of the programme, participants are expected to gain direct experience using banking systems, tools, and processes, while building greater confidence in managing workplace responsibilities independently.

Commenting on the occasion, Ms. Fatema AlAlawi, Chief Executive Officer of BisB, said, "Investing in Bahrain's youth is an investment in the future of the banking sector and the national economy as a whole. Through Athr, we aim to provide students with a high-quality training ex-

perience that will have a tangible impact on their career paths. By connecting academic knowledge with practical exposure, the programme enables attendees to acquire the skills and experience needed to succeed in today's rapidly changing professional environment. This year's expanded edition demonstrates our continued focus on developing national capabilities and providing a platform where the youth can build the confidence, acumen, and mindset to support the progress of Bahrain's financial sector and the Kingdom's broader development ambitions."

For her part, Ms. Afnan Ahmed Saleh, Chief Human Resources Officer at BisB, added, "Athr allows students to prepare for life after university by allowing them to apply what they have learned in a real workplace setting. Our focus is to deliver

a training experience that enriches their knowledge, enhances their readiness for the job market, and leaves a positive impact on their future careers. We believe that engaging young talent at the early stages of their professional journey is essential to building a qualified national workforce capable of meeting the evolving needs of the financial sector."

The launch of Athr forms part of BisB's broader strategy to develop human capital and strengthen its role in preparing qualified nationals with the competencies required to keep pace with rapid changes prevalent across the banking industry. The initiative also aligns with the Bank's institutional focus on supporting sustainable development and contributing to a knowledge-based national economy driven by innovation.

**Taiwan warns of 'destructive' winds as typhoon nears**  
AFP | Taipei

Taiwan's weather forecaster warned yesterday of "destructive" winds as the biggest typhoon in years swept towards the island after pounding US Pacific territories.

Typhoon Bavi is whipping up waves several metres high and is expected to batter the island's north on Friday and Saturday before smashing into China, already hit by deadly storms this week.

"Relatively destructive" winds are likely to "cause damage" in Taiwan, including in the port city of Keelung and the coastal county of Yilan, Central Weather Administration (CWA) forecaster Jason Cheng said.

Locals in Taipei stacked sandbags at the entrances to businesses hit by recent floods while fishermen tied down their boats, as authorities urged the public to take precautions.

After hitting Guam and the Northern Marianas on Monday as a super typhoon, Bavi was downgraded to a typhoon as it moved across the Pacific Ocean.

**Palestinian legislative vote set for Nov 28: presidential decree**  
AFP | Ramallah

Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas issued a decree yesterday setting legislative elections for November 28, which if they take place, would mark the first such vote in two decades.

The last legislative elections in the Palestinian territories were held in 2006, when Hamas won, defeating Abbas's Fatah party, which had previously dominated Palestinian politics.

As a result, the Palestinian Legislative Council, which is the parliament of Abbas's Palestinian Authority, has not met since 2007.

"The presidential decree calls on the Palestinian people in Jerusalem, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip to participate in free and direct legislative elections to elect members of the Palestinian Legislative Council on the date specified," the official Wafa news agency reported, citing the decree.

Holding elections is part of the reforms demanded by the international community, which supports the Palestinian Authority financially.

# Tensions spike as Iran, US trade strikes

Fighting resumes hours before Khamenei burial



A screen grab shows a fresh round of strikes against Iran

● **Hormuz tensions escalate further**

● **Iran targets regional allies**

● **US hit military sites**

AFP | Washington

**90**  
Iranian military targets were struck by the United States, according to US military officials

New fighting erupted between the United States and Iran hours ahead of the burial of longtime supreme leader Ali Khamenei yesterday, with Tehran targeting US allies in the region and American strikes hitting the perimeter of an Iranian nuclear power plant.

The renewed hostilities, triggered by tensions over the Strait of Hormuz, sparked concerns of a return to full-scale war after an April ceasefire and a June US-Iran accord ended five weeks of conflict.

This was the second day in a row that the decades-old foes exchanged attacks, with Iranian officials reporting the US attacks had killed 17 people.

The Islamic republic said it had resumed its attacks targeting US assets in Kuwait, Bahrain and Qatar, while sirens blared in Jordan -- another US ally -- where the military said it had intercepted eight missiles launched from Iran.

The fighting came with Iran preparing to bury Khamenei, who was killed alongside close family members on February 28.

The last of a marathon six days of funeral ceremonies, Khamenei's burial yesterday in his hometown of Mashhad will be closely watched for signs of his son Mojtaba Khamenei, who has yet to appear in public since being appointed.

Crowds of men and women clad in black, many urging vengeance, were already massing against the backdrop of slogans including "there will be blood", correspondents said.

**'Effort to overshadow'**

The United States targeted the perimeter of Iran's only civilian nuclear plant with a strike yesterday, Iranian state media reported, citing the deputy governor of Bushehr province.

US military officials said yesterday's strikes hit approximately 90 Iranian military targets, including air defence systems, missile and drone storage sites.

Iran's army said it had targeted a Patriot missile interceptor system in Kuwait, an early warning system in Qatar, as part of its attacks on US bases in the region.

The Strait of Hormuz, a vital oil and gas corridor, remains a key point of contention, with Tehran insisting on control of the waterway despite it being open to free passage before the war began.

## Ukraine opens probe after crowds attack army conscription vehicle

AFP | Kyiv

Ukraine opened a criminal investigation yesterday after crowds of people in the western city of Lviv surrounded and overturned an army conscription vehicle the night before.

The incident drew a swift backlash from Ukrainian officials, some of whom called on citizens to direct their anger at Russia and not the army.

Ukraine has seen a steady increase in clashes between citizens and army conscription police since Russia's invasion in 2022, with authorities reporting over a hundred such incidents this year alone.

The unrest erupted after officers detained a man suspected of evading military service and took him to a draft centre, authorities said.

"An investigation has been launched into the circumstances of an incident that occurred in Lviv involving servicemen of the Ukrainian armed forces, police officers, and around 200 civilians," Ukraine's prosecution service said.

"Two criminal proceedings have now been initiated on the grounds of obstructing the lawful activities of the Armed Forces of Ukraine during a special period (martial law) and using violence against a law enforcement officer," it added.

## Ebola outbreak is 'fastest growing ever' as 600 die



Healthcare workers carry on a stretcher a patient suffering from Ebola at a treatment centre in Bunia

AFP | Nairobi

The Ebola outbreak in Democratic Republic of Congo is the "fastest growing" ever, African health authorities said yesterday, as the World Health Organization said it had killed 600 people.

Updated numbers issued by the UN health agency showed there have been 1,759 confirmed cases in DR Congo since the outbreak was declared in mid-May, including 600 confirmed deaths.

"This is the fastest growing Ebola outbreak ever, not only among the previous Bundib-

ugyo outbreaks, but all the different viruses that are causing Ebola," Wessam Mankoula, head of emergency preparedness and response for the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) told reporters.

He compared it to the deadliest Ebola outbreak -- in 2013-16 in West Africa -- when there were 994 cases in the first six weeks, while there have been 1,596 in the current one.

"Unfortunately the virus is still ahead of our response. It's moving faster than deploying the resources to control the situation," Mankoula said.

## Florida airport renamed 'Trump' in latest push to expand his brand

AFP | West Palm Beach

A Florida airport was renamed after Donald Trump yesterday, accelerating a push by the US president and supporters to plaster his name and image on everything from national landmarks to banknotes.

The Republican leader's son Eric celebrated by landing in the private family Boeing 757 -- so-called "Trump Force One" -- at what had been known as Palm Beach International Airport for nearly half a century.

"A beautiful day," a grinning Eric Trump said on Fox News at the newly minted President Donald J. Trump International Airport, a short drive from the family's Mar-a-Lago golf resort and compound.



Former President Donald Trump's Boeing 757 private jet is parked at Palm Beach International Airport

The airport renaming was signed into law by Florida's Republican governor, Ron DeSantis.

"I don't think there's anybody more synonymous with Palm Beach than Donald Trump and maybe all of Florida," Eric Trump said.

He pointed out that the main road leading out of the airport is already called "President Donald J. Trump Boulevard."

And now anyone flying into Palm Beach will have a ticket where "you're going to see 'DJT' in perpetuity."

Travelers at the airport yesterday morning were mixed on the name change.

Corporate pilot Chris Bailey welcomed the switch, telling AFP that Trump has "certainly done enough to warrant a name of an airport."

But others were hostile.

"Palm Beach is a better brand.

People don't really like Donald Trump," John Manov, a doctor, said. "It seems in poor taste."

**Banknotes, buildings, bridge**

Breaking the long-held US tradition against celebrating living figures -- and particularly serving presidents -- on currency and buildings, the Trump name and image are spreading rapidly.

Officials, including US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent, were due to unveil the Donald J. Trump Bridge in Tennessee yesterday.

Washington already features the renamed Donald J. Trump United States Institute of Peace and giant posters with his face have been hung from the facades of major government buildings.

1940

Battle of Britain begins as Nazi forces attack shipping convoys in the English Channel

1985

French foreign intelligence agents blow up the Greenpeace flagship Rainbow Warrior in Auckland harbor, New Zealand, to prevent it from interfering with French nuclear tests in the South Pacific. Dutch photographer Fernando Pereira is killed.

1991

Boris Yeltsin is sworn in as the first elected President of the Russian Federation



2012

The American Episcopal Church becomes the first to approve a rite for blessing gay marriages

# India clinches agreement for Australian uranium supply

Modi receives massive rock-star welcome from supporters at a Melbourne stadium

● Nuclear cooperation strengthened

● Defence ties expanded further

● Critical minerals cooperation boosted

AFP | Melbourne

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi clinched a uranium supply deal for his country's nuclear energy future yesterday while visiting Australia, where he fronted tens of thousands of cheering supporters in a stadium.

With India growing so fast and needing more power, Modi has outlined plans to substantially scale up nuclear power generation in coming years.

Australia lays claim to around 28 percent of the world's uranium resource, but legal hurdles and political sensitivities have hindered exports to India.

"We have signed an important agreement today on nuclear energy," Modi said after talks with his Australian

counterpart Anthony Albanese in Melbourne.

"This will pave the way for uranium supplies from Australia to India and give our clean energy objectives fresh momentum."

A joint statement said the arrangement allowed long-term uranium exports for "exclusively peaceful purposes".

The exports would fall under safeguards established by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

"The arrangement facilitates Australian

uranium exports to India, to help increase the share of non-fossil fuel power capacity," Albanese told reporters.

India and Australia entered a nuclear cooperation agreement in 2015 that paved the way for uranium exports.

The two countries have grown considerably closer in recent years, partly driven by a joint desire to keep Beijing's military ambitions in check while cultivating trading

partners outside China.

In the evening, Modi received a rock-star welcome from nearly 30,000 cheering and applauding fans from the Australian-Indian community who packed into the Marvel Stadium for a "Melbourne Meets Modi" event.

Australia's prime minister and his "very dear friend" Modi hugged and held their joined hands aloft before addressing spectators.

"Australians of all backgrounds have been enriched by your bringing your culture here and adding it to our multicultural character -- we are a better nation because we have you in it," Albanese told them.

Modi promised the adoring crowd: "A new phase of India and Australia partnership is about to start."

Australia's prime minister has previously referred to Modi as "The Boss", joking that he could pull bigger crowds than US rock icon Bruce Springsteen.

For the first time on record, the biggest group of Australian residents born overseas came from India,

**YOU**  
KNOW WHAT

For the first time, people born in India form the largest overseas-born group in Australia, surpassing the British diaspora

statistics for last year showed in June.

"In 2014, the Indian diaspora community in Australia was relatively small," said Teesta Prakash from the Australia India Institute.

"But in 2026, it is now the largest diaspora community within Australia. It has outstripped the British, which is a huge demographic change," she said.

In their talks, Modi and Albanese agreed to strengthen defence cooperation and to bolster supply chains for critical minerals.

The two nations would build a "temporary space tracking terminal" on Australia's Cocos Keeling Islands in the Indian Ocean, which will support Indian space flight projects, according to a joint statement.

Modi is scheduled to fly to New Zealand after Australia.



Australia's Prime Minister Anthony Albanese (R) and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi hold hands on stage during a community event at Docklands Stadium in Melbourne

## China factory fire kills at least 28 people: state media

AFP | Beijing

A fire that tore through a shoe factory in eastern China yesterday killed at least 28 people, state media said, after dozens of fire and rescue personnel raced to extinguish the blaze.

Hours after the fire broke out at the Huiteng Shoes factory around noon (0400 GMT), there were fears people were still trapped inside the building in Jinjiang city, Fujian province. President Xi Jinping said the fire resulted in "heavy human losses", with state news agency Xinhua later citing a preliminary toll of 28 dead.

Footage shared by state television CCTV showed firefighters dousing the facade and interior of a large, multi-story white building with fire hoses, as thick black smoke poured out. People can be seen taking refuge near the windows and on the roof of the building, while the



Firefighters at the scene of a footwear factory fire

blaze raged in the lower floors. The Ministry of Emergency Management said in a statement that fire and rescue teams dispatched 183 people and 35 vehicles to the scene.

Xi, in remarks carried by Xinhua, said there were "heavy human losses" and called for increased search and rescue

efforts. Live footage aired by CCTV showed the charred building with thick grey smoke billowing from broken windows. "The cause of the accident should be identified as soon as possible and... those responsible must be strictly held accountable," Xi said.

## Cleanup underway as death toll from China floods hits 39



Children sit next to houses which were damaged when the Liulan reservoir collapsed

AFP | Beijing

The death toll from devastating floods in southern China's Guangxi region rose to 39 yesterday, with nine people still missing, state media reported, as residents went about cleaning up.

Extreme weather has wreaked havoc on southern and central China this week, bringing torrential rain and severe flooding to Guangxi, with a super typhoon heading

towards eastern provinces this weekend.

Twenty-six deaths were linked to a dam breach at Liulan Reservoir, with seven still missing there, state news agency Xinhua reported.

Yesterday there were road blocks on the way to Liulan, AFP reporters saw.

Coaches filled with volunteers and the Chinese People's Militia -- a reserve army force of civilians -- were travelling towards the village.



TOP  
4  
TWEETS

01



Thank you Melbourne! Thank you Australia! Today was electrifying...  
@narendramodi

02



Thank you for joining me in Melbourne tonight @narendramodi . Our Indian community has contributed so much to the story of modern Australia. And it's made our country a better place. Tonight we celebrated the special relationship between Australia and India.  
@AlboMP

03



I promised that we would fix our NHS, so it's fit for the future. Today, more patients are reporting improved experiences with their GP, dentist, and pharmacist since we've been in government. Delivering real change to people across the country.  
@Keir\_Starmer

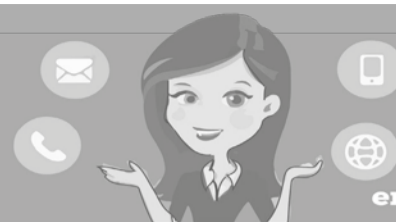
04



I'm in La Guaira, Venezuela, seeing first hand how communities, the authorities and humanitarian organizations are working together to support people who lost everything in the earthquakes. Solidarity and humanitarian action in the hardest times.  
@UNReliefChief

Disclaimer: (Views expressed by columnists are personal and need not necessarily reflect our editorial stances)

## Classifieds



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PATTNI JEWELLERY DESIGN W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of JEWELRY GOLD-SMITH (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36409109 or SATAPAR@HOTMAIL.COM

ALABDALEY FOR SELLING WATER W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39602040 or HESSAABDUL@OUTLOOK.COM

ALLAQ RESORT COMPANY BSC CLOSED SOF-ITEL BAHRAIN ZALLAQ THALA has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17631660 or ahmed@jazayani.com

GOLD AND BLACK SALON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HAIR DRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33133742 or PRABHULESHP@GMAIL.COM

MODERN MECHANICAL ELECTRICAL & TRANSPORT CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17708888 or lmra@mmetc.com

PK ICE BAR RESTURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36382575 or ADEELROSES@YAHOO.COM

HASSBI FOOD STUFF Co.W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33486964 or FIROZHASBI@GMAIL.COM

GOLDEN LION INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT AND CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17533125 or Gold-engroupbahrain@gmail.com

Secure Me W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified

applicants can contact 17749697 or secure.me@live.com

SOLO STAR SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39011110 or AMIRA.MADAN995@GMAIL.COM

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY SERVICES CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38080801 or HR@issbh.com

H.A.A. ALAALI VENTURES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17702700 or hrofficer@unitedenterprises.biz

MUHAMMAD ZAMAN ALI BUSINESS SOLUTIONS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33331564 or PAPERFLOWBH@GMAIL.COM

WESTPOINT HOME BAHRAIN W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WEAVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17838129 or ADEL.JABBER@WPHOME.COM

WESTPOINT HOME BAHRAIN W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WEAVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17838129 or ADEL.JABBER@WPHOME.COM

ARGAN DAY SPA has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 16030886 or HUSSAIN1897@GMAIL.COM

ATLAS ALUMINUM W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34130996 or S.HUSSAIN.ISMAIL@ATLAS-ALUMINUM.COM

DS SMART FACILITIES SUPPORT SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE WORKER HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35458472 or SAJJAD.AKHTAR49@HOTMAIL.COM

SUWAILEH COLD STORE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66330609 or MJABER60@YAHOO.COM

PARAGON CITY SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33007451 or PARAGONCITY88@GMAIL.COM

N93 BEAUTY SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34599042 or N.MH66@HOTMAIL.COM

MEHBOOB GENERAL CLEANING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38060144 or AMJCONSTRUCTION782@GMAIL.COM

BONTU FASHION has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35642557 or MAREKED-EYA16@GMAIL.COM

WE & YOU FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COMPUTER TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36368885 or MHMWDA-LAHLAWYA@GMAIL.COM

BRIGHTO INTERIOR DECORATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36461938 or aleemasghar577@gmail.com

INTERNATIONAL MARKETING COMPANY W.L.L CLEANTEC has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36636640 or HAN-ANKHALAF84@GMAIL.COM

ALADDINS PARADISE RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34199744 or FAISALWASIF@GMAIL.COM

63 BUILDING CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38899104 or HAMEED3633@GMAIL.COM

BOU BILAL BAKER has a vacancy for the occupation of BREAD BAKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36120088 or ABDULLAABDULHALEEM183@GMAIL.COM

PRIME LINE SHIPPING has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17245552 or Y3MK22@GMAIL.COM

SHER ALAM COMBINE SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE BOY / FARRASH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33082231 or SHREALMA49@GMAIL.COM

JJ STATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR KITCHEN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38008633 or AMINANDSONS17@GMAIL.COM

EBENEZER BLACKSMITH & WELDER has a vacancy for the occupation of SERVICEMAN, suit-

ably qualified applicants can contact 36557000 or HANAN.ADEL3313@GMAIL.COM

CARDIFF CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17217872 or naveed.ulzafar786@gmail.com

TAKAMUL SERVICES CO (TASCO) W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17344107 or MAJAJ101@HOTMAIL.COM

POWER WHEELS has a vacancy for the occupation of AUTOMOBILES MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37774590 or HR.MUHAMMADADNAN@GMAIL.COM

WHITE FALCON PRIVATE SECURITY SERVICES Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66626168 or TDINEH@GMAIL.COM

NEW DIMENSION CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17999360 or FISHERMANSENSE@GMAIL.COM

W B G S M W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38197777 or ZAIN.ARIF123@LIVE.COM

ZEPHYRWORKS SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33208384 or CMPASAO1122@GMAIL.COM

AJK TAILORING has a vacancy for the occupation of RECEPTIONIST (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33055827 or SAUDKHAN1264@YAHOO.COM

RAOUF CONTRACTING EST. has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17784497 or raouf@BATELCO.COM.BH

new mashaer market has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36656421 or NEW-MASHAER2015@GMAIL.COM

EMY BEAUTY has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33922216 or EMANNYOUSIF@GMAIL.COM

ALMASHRIQ KITCHENS has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17620026 or alkhshram@GMAIL.COM

FORCE POINT SECURITY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66767587 or Forceps17@gmail.com

ALMANAR TYERS CENTRE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39967747 or jifrafajar@gmail.com

RED DINGARDEN CARGO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of STOREKEEPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36563904 or KHANBWC@GMAIL.COM

AL SAFEER TOWER HOTEL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17827999 or info@regholding.com

ALTADHAMIN ALUMINUM CENTRE EST has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39186111 or AMJAD00@GMAIL.COM

SWIFT TRANSPORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY VEHICLE DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17291279 or info@swifttransportbh.com

HOOR ALEAIN LAUNDRY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(LAUNDRY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17697909 or ABUREDHA78@HOTMAIL.COM

ARROW EXPRESS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38787504 or ARROWEXPRESS.BH@GMAIL.COM

KASICO CLEARING has a vacancy for the occupation of CAR WASHER/CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17779344 or HAMAD.MADAN@ICLOUD.COM

M H INTERNATIONAL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33079694 or ABUFHD20008@GMAIL.COM

PEARL MATEL has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39995159 or MOHD-ALABBASI@HOTMAIL.COM

BLUE PALACE KARAK CAFETERIA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SANDWICHES MAKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33954309 or JAMALUDEEN2016@GMAIL.COM

ALMEIDA GLAM HAVEN LADIES SALON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTI-

CIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 0 or WINNERS.CLEARING@GMAIL.COM

AMERICAN CREATIVITY ACADEMY SCHOOL - BAHRAIN W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ADMINISTRATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17103030 or kahmed@beacon.edu.bh

ROHAN MART W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SHOPKEEPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38008479 or MADNIN-IAZ11@GMAIL.COM

PALACE VIEW TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37740426 or RANJSURESH452@GMAIL.COM

EDMA BAHRAIN INSULATION W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33444600 or hawra@edama.bh

SANDUH LINE CONSTRUCTION CO.W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17242566 or MH2990M@GMAIL.COM

RAMSIS ENGINEERING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANICAL HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17830801 or Abbas@ramsisc.com.bh

RAMSIS ENGINEERING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SHEET METAL WORKERS (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17830801 or Abbas@ramsisc.com.bh

RAMSIS ENGINEERING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of RIGGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17830801 or Abbas@ramsisc.com.bh

DESI HANDI RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33042626 or deshandirestaurant@gmail.com

EXCELLENCE INDUSTRIAL MAINTENANCE COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17532010 or a.jawahery@exibah.com

G WORLD GENERAL TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39258605 or ALIMOHAMMAD0022111@GMAIL.COM

ATLAS STATIONARY AND TOYS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36960999 or HASH2H2@HOTMAIL.COM

TEHRAN CARPETS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33713882 or M.CLEARANCE@HOTMAIL.COM

IBELLA DECORS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33306770 or manju@ibella.co

G4S Secure Solutions Bahrain W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17714409 or mohamed.husain@bh.g4s.com

SAFINA FACILITIES SUPPORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of FITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17674319 or DUAJMKHALIFA@ASRY.NET

8T8 CARGO COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY VEHICLE DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33328694 or DARMAN.CARGO@YAHOO.COM

GOLDEN PARK LAND REAL ESTATE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77166539 or SPARKLINKBH@GMAIL.COM

BLUEWAVE DOCUMENTATION SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE WORKER HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36563904 or KHANBWC@GMAIL.COM

Al Sahel Resort B.S.C. (Closed) has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17561327 or hr@edamah.com

ARM Fabrication Workshop has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33880440 or A-ALMUMAMMARI@HOTMAIL.COM

Al Sahel Resort B.S.C. (Closed) has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17561327 or hr@edamah.com

BLISS SHINE

# Classifieds

## VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

POWER TECH CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39279042 or gm@powertechdevelopment.com

YAMEEN CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33488771 or YAMEENCON2011@GMAIL.COM

SAFINA FACILITIES SUPPORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRAFTSMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17674319 or DUAIJ.MALKHALIFA@ASRY.NET

GBL GROUP W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of RECEPTIONIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17454459 or zainab@gbg-group.co

ALMANNAI TRADING & INVESTMENT has a vacancy for the occupation of PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR & GEN. FOREMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17697800 or mannaigr@mannaingroup.net

FAREED ALUMINUM CENTRE has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39664848 or factory@fareedalu.com

Ramee Grand Hotel & Spa has a vacancy for the occupation of RESERVATIONS CLERK, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17111999 or hrs.bh@rameehotels.com

Bayanco Contracting Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39329326 or BAYANCOGM@GMAIL.COM

PATTAYA BEACH MASSAGE & SPA has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66383866 or NOVA.ALDALY@YAHOO.COM

CHAI FACTORY CAFE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 38229971 or HASSAN.MLAH@GMAIL.COM

THE COMMERCIAL NAME IS DELETED has a vacancy for the occupation of FOOD SERVICE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39899138 or QASSIM.8@hotmail.com

BRANDAT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39559966 or jahad.abeen81@icloud.com

BAHRAIN CITY CENTER TOWERS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ROOM ATTENDANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17811616 or BMFAQEEH@GMAIL.COM

M R MAINTENANCE COMPANY BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39396613 or MOSTAFAALADARODY@GMAIL.COM

COPY CRAFT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37472026 or AKSHAHAJAD@GMAIL.COM

BASE TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of STOCK-TAKING CLERK, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33188200 or RGSHAMLO6@GMAIL.COM

ALMOAYYED CLEANING & MAINTENANCE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or proffice@almoayyedcg.com

Ahmed Mansoor AlAali B.S.C. Closed - Structural and Mechanical Division has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17265509 or adeel.hameed@al-aali.com

SKY BLUE MOON CONSTRUCTION OF FLOATING STRUCTURES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33217676 or souhail\_1428@yahoo.com

PANORAMA CONTRACTING & ENGINEERING SERVI has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON ASST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17729935 or AHMED@PANORAMABH.COM

ABRAJ AL LAVALI COMPANY FOR USED FURNITURE AND ELECTRONICS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39867768 or BALJIT68SI@GMAIL.COM

ELITE PARADISE BUSINESS SOLUTIONS has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE WORKER HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37400773 or HAMZA.SHABBIR3321@GMAIL.COM

FAST & FURIOUS OFFICE SUPPORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34166900 or WFATHAR@YAHOO.COM

MUNIYA COLDSTORE has a vacancy for the

occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37221112 or AHSHAHEEN15@GMAIL.COM

UNIQUE STONE CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36461232 or citi20000@hotmail.com

Riffa Views International School W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TEACHER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 16565000 or nalmosawi@rvis.edu.bh

MIRROR MAGIC GENT SALOON has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33045673 or RAGEESHKT@GMAIL.COM

SAMIH CARPENTRY WORKSHOP STORE has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17250211 or ALNOOHHA@BATELCO.COM.BH

BISMA UMER MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34354463 or INFO.TRUEOH@GMAIL.COM

LIFE STYLE RESTURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38957212 or SHANK9379@GMAIL.COM

FRESH SPOT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39115638 or freshspotm@gmail.com

TURKISH SCISSORS GENT SALON CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17471020 or Sedat\_kuzen@hotmail.com

BE SPORT SWEAR has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39886050 or MOHAMMED.13\_17@HOTMAIL.COM

GEARHEAD GARAGE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66306530 or KHOKHARHILAL@GMAIL.COM

EXCELLENCE INDUSTRIAL MAINTENANCE COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of FITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17532010 or a.jawahery@exibah.com

SEHAM RAHEEL REAL ESTATE has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38947878 or SEHAMRAHEELBH@GMAIL.COM

AL BASIT FIXIT PRINTING AND ELECTRONICS has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17414224 or HELLO\_STAR16@HOTMAIL.COM

NES Bahrain W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DATA ANALYST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36742383 or BAHER.HAMDAN@NESFIRCROFT.COM

EXCELLENCE INDUSTRIAL MAINTENANCE COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17532010 or a.jawahery@exibah.com

Dar TARADA Alabaya has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33256669 or BORJ-ALASAD@HOTMAIL.COM

BLACK STONE SERVICE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32388997 or SOUAADGHALYAELBARNI@GMAIL.COM

NEW UDUPI RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39454529 or BULBUL.9321@YAHOO.COM

SOUTH GATE CONSTRUCTION AND CLEANING has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77061717 or YKHALFAN@GMAIL.COM

EFFECTIVE CONTROL CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of PIPEFITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39690207 or effectivecontrol23@gmail.com

U C A W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39624200 or GAJARIAS@GMAIL.COM

HAFAEZ SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39089204 or HAFFEZULLAHKASIM@GMAIL.COM

DS SMART FACILITIES SUPPORT SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35458472 or SAJJAD.AKHAR49@HOTMAIL.COM

MAYNAZ LADIES TAILORING has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35578505 or MISHQATBAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

TAFCO BUILDING CONSTRUCTION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CON-

STRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33502933 or Tafcobuilding@gmail.com

BURJ INTERNATIONAL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35316464 or ARMY35509@GMAIL.COM

RUHUL AMIN GENTS SALOON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66906432 or RUHULAMIN.BHO97@GMAIL.COM

PASTA BOX has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36377794 or ZM.ALSHAHKH11@GMAIL.COM

ROYAL SARAY RESORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of RESERVATIONS CLERK, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77707070 or hrm@sevenholding.com

A S ALUMINUM CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(METAL CASTING), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33291200 or SAWARI.DOC@GMAIL.COM

KHABAZ AIN AL DAR GATE BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of BAKER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34103333 or Sjbree5@gmail.com

R.B. HILTON LIMITED has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 32376386 or ALTRAD.MENAILBAHRAIN@ALTRAD.COM

ROYAL SARAY RESORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DIRECTOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77707070 or hrm@sevenholding.com

AL MESAYEL TAILORING has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17870207 or KINGDOMPACK@GMAIL.COM

BAHRAIN ASPHALT ESTABLISHMENT B.S.C CLOSED has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17551111 or MOHAMED.ABUALI@HAJIHASSAN.COM

AL-AHLIA CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17737000 or h.s.m1111@gmail.com

STATE BANK OF INDIA (FOREIGN BRANCH) has a vacancy for the occupation of ANALYST(CREDIT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17548033 or CEO.RBBH@STATEBANK.COM

ROYAL SARAY RESORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER/BARTENDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77707070 or hrm@sevenholding.com

YOLE ICE CREAM W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of FOOD SERVICE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77164299 or ALI39664299@GMAIL.COM

arab concepts construction has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36212123 or mega.bh@hotmail.com

ARABIAN GULF CAPITAL B.S.C CLOSED has a vacancy for the occupation of DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33554001 or hr@chambersandguilds.com

alshaya trading co w l l has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17565555 or AYMAN.JAFAR@ALSHAYA.COM

Glass Tech Industries B.S.C closed has a vacancy for the occupation of GLAZIER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39697800 or mannaigr@mannaigroup.net

668 CAFE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33113352 or 668.BHR@GMAIL.COM

NADEEN SCHOOL DILMUNIA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TEACHER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39206432 or shanee.puri@nadeenschool.com

SECURE VISION REPAIRING TECHNOLOGY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 35962411 or

City Point Hotel W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER (HOTEL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17500794 or ayman@sevenleisure.net

ZENVIX ELITE SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66378378 or MNOUR8374@GMAIL.COM

ALBARAKA LOGISTIC has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17740444 or info@

albarakabh.com  
BADER INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38880316 or FAREEDBADER@GMAIL.COM

PRO STRUCTURE BAHRAIN CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66627665 or FASTWAYBAH@GMAIL.COM

Bahrain Al Arabi International Decoration Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of GYPSUM CARVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17715919 or daaij@alarabi-bh.com

DREEM CAFETERIA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39610533 or FAISALKUNNATH916@GMAIL.COM

FABA COMMERCIAL SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CO-ORDINATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39738876 or accounts@faba.com.bh

GUJI SPECIALTY COFFEE has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32288979 or GUJI.BHR@GMAIL.COM

GULF CITY CLEANING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39641612 or yousif@aanss.net

Abdulaal Cleaning & Maintenance Company W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR (SITE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17404101 or SMALACME@GMAIL.COM

LZAEZ OM AHMAD RESTURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(GRILLING), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33840408 or LAZAEZ.OMAHMAD@GMAIL.COM

AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL CONTRACTORS (SPECIAL PROJECTS), INC. BHR has a vacancy for the occupation of WORK SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17532326 or A.KURIAN@AICI.COM.EG

M AZAM SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39771163 or RS1327493@GMAIL.COM

HOT PACK TRADING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35926222 or BAHRAIN@HOTPACKGLOBAL.COM

Al Sahel Resort B.S.C. (Closed) has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17561327 or hr@damah.com

FAIR FIX WORKSHOP has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33240114 or ALIALALLAL190@GMAIL.COM

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## region

### GCC Condemns Iranian Attacks on Gulf Tankers and Member States Gulf bloc holds Tehran fully responsible, invokes right to collective self-defence



The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) issued a sweeping condemnation of Iranian attacks on two tankers navigating the Strait of Hormuz — the Saudi vessel Wadyan and the Qatari tanker Al-Rukayyat — calling the strikes a blatant assault on international maritime security and global energy supplies.

The GCC also denounced repeated Iranian strikes on Bahrain and Kuwait, describing them as serious violations of international law, UN Security Council Resolution 2817, and the US-Iran understanding that established a ceasefire and reopened the strait.

Member states reaffirmed full solidarity, declaring that security among GCC nations is indivisible—any attack on one member constitutes an attack on all—and asserted their right to individual and collective self-defence under Article 51 of the UN Charter.

The bloc urged the UN Security Council to condemn the attacks and ensure unconditional, permanent reopening of the Strait of Hormuz, free of transit fees or unilateral Iranian mechanisms, in line with international maritime law.

Iran was held fully responsible for all consequences of its actions.

### Qatar, Saudi Arabia Discuss US-Iran Escalation, Call for Restraint



Qatar's Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani, held a telephone conversation with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan bin Abdullah Al Saud on Thursday to discuss the latest regional developments, including the recent military escalation between the United States and Iran.

During the call, the two ministers reviewed the situation following the military exchanges over the past two days and discussed efforts to reduce regional tensions.

Sheikh Mohammed reiterated Qatar's condemnation of the attacks targeting commercial vessels in the Strait of Hormuz, describing them as unacceptable despite ongoing efforts to de-escalate the crisis. He said such attacks undermine confidence, threaten the security of international navigation, and jeopardize regional initiatives aimed at maintaining peace and stability.

The Qatari Prime Minister stressed the importance of all parties committing to dialogue and diplomacy while implementing the provisions agreed under the existing memorandum of understanding. He said these steps are essential to preserving regional security, protecting recent diplomatic gains, and strengthening stability across the region.

He also reaffirmed Qatar's support for all international and regional efforts aimed at containing the escalation, reaching a comprehensive agreement, and achieving lasting peace and security in the Middle East.

### Jordan King Addresses Challenges



King Abdullah II of Jordan meets business, media and technology leaders during the Sun Valley Conference in Idaho, US. The King highlighted global political and economic challenges while promoting investment opportunities and strategic partnerships for Jordan across key sectors, including technology, artificial intelligence, healthcare and investment.

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# Belgium bid to crack Spain's ironclad defence in World Cup quarter-final

Spain's disciplined back line faces Belgium's experienced attack in a heavyweight clash

● Spain yet to concede

● Mikel Oyarzabal leads Spain with four goals

● Belgium's Lukaku remains a major threat

AFP | Los Angeles

Belgium meet Spain in the World Cup quarter-finals on Friday with the daunting task of breaching the European champions' watertight defence for the first time at the 2026 tournament.

In beating Cristiano Ronaldo's Portugal 1-0 on Monday, Luis de la Fuente's men became the first team in history to record six consecutive World Cup clean sheets.

Spain have not shown the attacking flair of France but they are playing the careful, possession-based football that took them to glory in South Africa in 2010.

The prodigiously gifted Lamine Yamal is the team's most potent attacker on paper but the teenager arrived in the United States still recovering from a late-season injury

and has netted just once in five games.

Mikel Oyarzabal has made up for that, scoring four times, including twice in a 3-0 romp against Austria in the last 32.

Barcelona midfielder Dani



Mikel Oyarzabal



Despite boasting teenage star Lamine Yamal, Spain have relied more heavily on Mikel Oyarzabal, whose four goals have outpaced the youngster's single strike

Olmo said club teammate Yamal was growing into the tournament.

"He brings so much to the team with his dribbling and presence. When he receives the ball, two or three opposing players close in on him, which opens up space," he said.

"Lamine scores and assists -- he's always done that in his short career -- and even when he doesn't,

he'll keep helping us with the work he's doing."

But the brutal truth is that Spain do not need to score many goals to win -- they have conceded just six shots on target in their five matches so far.

"We are a team where everyone attacks and everyone defends," said Olmo. "The coach says the number nine is the first to defend and the others follow suit.

"The defensive line has been spectacular, it's a historic milestone. We're happy for (goalkeeper) Unai (Simon). If we keep a clean sheet, we're closer to winning."

## Golden generation

Belgium, captained by the impressive Yuri Tielemans, have had a rollercoaster ride in the knockout phase so far.

First they came back from the dead to beat Senegal 3-2 before sweeping aside co-hosts the United States in the last 16, thanks to Charles De Ketelaere's first-half double.

The World Cup is likely the last hurrah for the remainder of the nation's so-called Golden

6 consecutive World Cup clean sheets have been recorded by Spain, the longest such streak in tournament history

Generation, including creative midfielder Kevin De Bruyne and striker Romelu Lukaku, both of whom now play for Napoli.

Neither player started the 4-1 win against the United States, though Lukaku came on and scored, but they remain potent threats and Real Madrid's Thibaut Courtois is one of the finest goalkeepers of his generation.

Lukaku's three strikes at the tournament so far mean he is with Diego Maradona, Rudi Voller and Rivaldo on eight World Cup goals.

Romelu Lukaku

Head coach Rudi Garcia has no shortage of quality at his disposal elsewhere, with Manchester City winger Jeremy Doku and Arsenal's Leandro Trossard giving him a goal threat.

Friday's clash with Spain in Los Angeles is Belgium's third

quarter-final in four World Cups but they have never reached a final.

Spain, despite their status in the game, have only progressed past the last eight twice, making it to the final group stage in 1950 and going all the way in South Africa 60 years later.



## England's Henderson has surgery after freak World Cup arm injury



Declan Rice, left, and Dan Burn try to help their teammate Jordan Henderson, center, who was injured in the celebrations after England defeated Mexico

AFP | Kansas City

England midfielder Jordan Henderson has undergone surgery on his broken arm after a freak injury following the team's thrilling World Cup win against Mexico.

The Brentford player fell over advertising hoardings during celebrations after the 3-2 victory at the Estadio Azteca, which took them through to the quarter-finals.

The 36-year-old former Liverpool captain, who has only played a few minutes at the 2026 tournament, was taken to hospital, having left the field on a stretcher.

Henderson, who has 91 caps, is now set to miss the remain-

der of the World Cup but will stay with the team at their Kansas City base.

"Surgery done. Let's get ready for the big one on Saturday," Henderson posted on Instagram.

"Thank you to all the staff that looked after me at Kansas City Orthopaedic Institute, especially the three surgeons who carried out the operation."

England forward Morgan Rogers praised the influence of veteran midfielder Henderson, despite his limited playing time.

"He's everything really and the heartbeat of the group," he said in Kansas City on Wednesday.

## Rogers backs Kane to outshine Haaland in World Cup showdown

AFP | Kansas City

England's Morgan Rogers backed Harry Kane to come out on top when he faces Norway's Erling Haaland in an enticing battle between the World Cup sharpshooters on Saturday.

The forwards, who will meet in the quarter-finals in Miami, are among the frontrunners in a thrilling race for the tournament's Golden Boot award, along with Lionel Messi and France's Kylian Mbappe.

Aston Villa forward Rogers admitted Manchester City's Haaland, who has scored seven goals so far, was almost impossible to stop.

"Has anyone ever stopped Erling Haaland? I'm not sure they have, but we're going to try," the 23-year-old said at England's Kansas City base camp on Wednesday.

"He's such an unbelievable player. The things he does, the numbers he puts up, you're just in awe of how good he is, and the level he's at."

Haaland has netted in each of his past 14 competitive outings for Norway -- 27 goals in total -- and is bound to prove a handful for England's shaky defence.

But Rogers is confident England captain Kane, one goal

behind Haaland in the race to be the World Cup's top scorer, would come out on top.

"They're the two, for me, that are

at the top of their game in this tournament, and have been two of the best players," he said.

"It's a spectacle, I suppose, for the fans and it's going to be a good one to see who comes out on top.

"I hope it's Harry, and I'm sure it will be. I think we've got that confidence in him. He's playing at probably the highest level that he's ever played at, which is madness to say, because of what he's been doing for so many years."

## No limit for Bellingham

Real Madrid midfielder Jude Bellingham, 23, has been England's other outstanding player at the 2026 World Cup in Canada, Mexico and the United States.

Rogers said there was no limit to the heights Bellingham could reach.

"You forget how young he is, that's how good he's been but I still think there's a long way to go and he'll probably say the same as well -- the drive and the hunger he's got in the game for what he wants to achieve," he said.

"He knows that he's got things to work on, things to improve on



Harry Kane



They're the two (Kane and Haaland), for me, that are at the top of their game in this tournament, and have been two of the best players

MORGAN ROGERS

like we all do and I think that's what's so exciting about being an England fan, an England player, being his friend.

"I think it's just how far he can go. No one really knows and kind of having no cap on what he can achieve really."

Rogers, who came on as a late substitute in England's thrilling last-16 win against Mexico, admitted it was impossible not to think ahead to the final as the tournament reached its closing stages.

"We're all aligned, we're all on the same page of attacking each game in the best way possible really," he said.

"So I think it's difficult because we're all human and we're all excited as we should be but at the same time we know we've got a job to do and it's still a long way away from that yet."

## Bahrain wrestlers head to Guangzhou



**Mohammed Darwish**  
TDT | Manama

Two young Bahraini wrestlers have been sent to China with a coach for an Asian training camp run by United World Wrestling and the Olympic Council of Asia.

Hassan Al Balushi, who will wrestle at 51kg, and Sajood Al Arabi, who will wrestle at 57kg, are taking part in the UWW-OCA Asian Youth Training Camp and Coaches Course in Guangzhou from July 6 to 17.

They have travelled with coach Alaa Issa Al Rougani after an invitation from the Olympic Council of Asia to national Olympic committees.

### Training with Asian rivals

Abdulredha Abdulhussain Haji, president of the Bahrain Wrestling Federation, said the camp would give Bahrain's young wrestlers a chance to train with Asian rivals from a range of schools and styles.

He said their place in Guangzhou was part of the federation's work to build wrestling in Bahrain, in line with the support given to combat sports by Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, First Deputy Chair-

man of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, Chairman of the General Sports Authority and President of the Bahrain Olympic Committee.

Mr Haji also said the move was in keeping with the work of the Bahrain Combat Sports Council, chaired by Shaikh Salman bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, Vice-President of the General Sports Authority.

### Coaches course

He said the camp would help the wrestlers sharpen their skills, learn from stronger Asian sides and raise their level before coming contests.

Mr Haji added that the federation was also keen to train Bahraini coaches, with Al Rougani taking part in the coaches' course held with the camp.

He said the course would help bring newer training methods into Bahrain and thanked United World Wrestling and the Olympic Council of Asia for their support for wrestling in Asia and overseas.

The Guangzhou camp is one of the recurring schemes held by UWW and the OCA to improve the fitness and skill of young wrestlers and train coaches to world standards.

## PSG's Lee set to join Atletico Madrid



PSG's Lee Kang-In in action

AFP | Madrid

Paris Saint-Germain's South Korea attacker Lee Kang-In is set to join Atletico Madrid in a deal worth almost 40 million euros (\$45.7 million), a source told AFP on Wednesday.

The 25-year-old joined the French club in 2023 from Mallorca and won the Champions League twice and Ligue 1 three times during his spell at Parc des Princes.

The source added there were "minor details to finalise" between the two clubs with two years remaining of Lee's contract.

He scored 16 goals in 124 appearances for PSG but had his gametime limited under Luis Enrique and suffered a thigh injury in January which limited his involvement.

Lee made the last of his 50 international appearances during the World Cup as South Korea were knocked out in the group stage.

PSG have already sold fellow attacker Goncalo Ramos to AC Milan and sources have told AFP the two-time European champions are holding talks with Monaco's Maghnes Akliouche and RB Leipzig's Yan Diomande.

# Bahrain coach sets sights on Asian Cup

**Mohammed Darwish**  
TDT | Manama

Salman Ramadan said Bahrain's Arab under-18 basketball title would count for little unless his side backs it up at next month's Gulf Championship in Qatar, where a place at the Asian Cup will be at stake.

The Bahrain youth coach, speaking after his team returned home with the Arab crown from Tunisia, said the target was clear.

'Our ambition is higher,' Ramadan said. 'Bahrain's aim is to reach the top level. Anything else would be failure.'

Ramadan thanked the Bahrain Basketball Association for giving him the chance to lead the team, but said the title was the result of work that had begun before his tenure.

'This was not our work alone,' he said. 'We won this title because of those who came before us. They laid the foundation, we are building on it, and those who come after us will carry on the path.'



Salman Ramadan, Bahrain basketball youth coach

He said the Gulf Championship would be tougher, with Saudi Arabia and Qatar among the sides Bahrain expect to face,

but added that his players had shown in Tunisia they were ready to fight for more.

'The boys gave more than 100 pc in Tunisia, especially given the circumstances,' he said. 'They fought for every inch in defence and made many sacrifices for Bahrain.'

Ramadan also thanked his technical and administrative staff, naming Talal Ahmed, the fitness coach, administrator Ahmed Abdulrahman and the head of delegation for their part in the title run.

Ramadan said reaching the Asian Cup remained a key aim, but warned that the level would be far higher, with teams such as Australia, New Zealand, China, Japan and the Philippines among the leading sides.

'Australia and New Zealand have many players in American universities, China have height, Japan have speed, and the Philippines are strong,' he said.

He added that Bahrain's long-term aim was to keep rising, with the dream of reaching the Basketball World Cup.

## Al Malki wins Under-18 billiards title

**Mohammed Darwish**  
TDT | Manama

Faisal Al Malki beat Mohamed Al Shuroqi 7-3 to win the first Under-18 billiards ranking event held by the Bahrain Billiards and Darts Federation at its hall in Al Ahli Club.

The Bahrain junior player halted Al Shuroqi's run in the final after building an early lead, losing ground in the middle of the match and then regaining control at the table.

Yousif Ibrahim, the event supervisor, gave Al Malki the winner's cup and handed Al Shuroqi the silver medal. Ali Mohammed Jaafar took bronze for third place, while Ali Hassan was given the medal for fourth.

Al Malki made the sharper start, moving 3-0 ahead. He was helped by Al Shuroqi's misses late in the second and third racks, with balls left on for the Bahrain player to clear.



U18 Billiard Champions

Al Shuroqi, still new to the sport, then found his range. He won the fourth rack after Al Malki potted the cue ball, and took the fifth in similar fashion before ending the rack on the nine ball.

That cut the gap to 3-2, but Al Malki hit back. Two racks

in a row moved him 5-2 clear and left Al Shuroqi chasing the match again.

The seventh rack gave Al Malki more room. He cleared from the break, leaving Al Shuroqi without a visit to the table. Al Shuroqi took the next rack to make it 6-3, but the

comeback went no further.

In the last rack, Al Malki laid a snooker which Al Shuroqi could not escape cleanly. The runner-up was then given one last chance, but could not take it.

Al Malki returned to the table, cleared the rack and sealed the title.

## Jorge Jesus to take over as Portugal coach after World Cup exit

AFP | Lisbon

Jorge Jesus is set to be appointed Portugal coach after Roberto Martinez stepped down in the wake of their World Cup exit, a source said yesterday.

The 71-year-old Jesus has reached "full agreement" with the Portuguese Football Federation and will be unveiled at a press conference today in Lisbon, the source added.

Spaniard Martinez stepped down after Cristiano Ronaldo's side slumped to a 1-0 World Cup last-16 exit to Spain.

Jesus left the Saudi club Al-Nassr last May and is set to sign a four-year contract, run-



Jorge Jesus reacts during a match (file photo)

ning until the 2030 World Cup to be co-hosted by Portugal, Spain, and Morocco.

The well-travelled veteran has managed a dozen clubs in Portugal including Lisbon rivals

Benfica and Sporting.

His managerial stints overseas have included Brazilian club Flamengo, Turkey's Fenerbahce and Saudi clubs Al-Hilal and Al-Nassr, the later at which he coached Ronaldo.

Following Portugal's elimination on Monday, the 41-year-old five-time Ballon d'Or winner confirmed this sixth World Cup would be his last but did not reveal whether he intended to extend his international career.

Martinez had been in charge of the Portuguese team since 2023, winning the Nations League with them in June 2025.

# Muchova beats Gauff to reach Wimbledon final

● Gauff pushed match to decider

● Epic tie-break sealed victory

AFP | London

Czech 10th seed Karolina Muchova saved a match point to reach her first Wimbledon final with a pulsating three-set win against Coco Gauff yesterday.

Muchova held her nerve in a gripping final set tie-break, winning 6-2, 1-6, 7-6 (12/10) in two hours and 35 minutes in searing temperatures on Centre Court.

In the final, Muchova will face Czech ninth seed Linda Noskova or Ukrainian 12th seed Marta Kostyuk, who met in the other semi-final later yesterday.

Muchova is into her second Grand Slam final and her first since finishing as the 2023 French Open runner-up.

In her first Wimbledon semi-final, Muchova exorcised the ghosts of her previous dismal experiences in south-west London.

The 29-year-old had lost in the first round on her previous four appearances at Wimbledon.

Gauff had won six of her seven previous meetings with Muchova, but the Czech won their



Czech Republic's Karolina Muchova returns to US player Coco Gauff

most recent encounter in Stuttgart this year and once again she got the better of the two-time Grand Slam champion.

"It sounds really nice to be in the final. It was such a big fight. You are up and down, no time to think but it was very nerve-wracking," Muchova said.

After battling injuries earlier in her career, Muchova is finally fulfilling her potential, but even she has been taken back by her success at Wimbledon over the last fortnight.

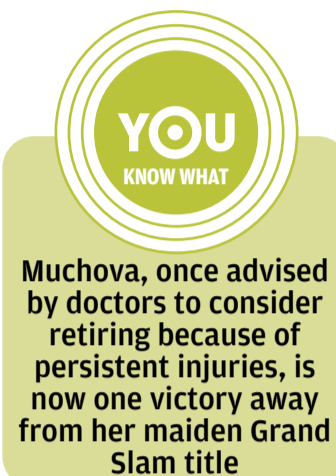
Muchova takes "pills, sprays,

eyedrops" to manage a grass allergy, but she is no longer adverse to playing on the lawns of the All England Club.

## Gripping finale

Muchova is at last unimpeded after suffering a multitude of injuries in recent years, including problems with her right wrist, left wrist, abdomen, back, thigh, ankle and foot.

In 2022, doctors told Muchova that it would be a good idea for her to quit tennis altogether, while in 2023 and 2024 right



wrist surgery sidelined her for 10 months.

Now she is just one win away from a maiden Grand Slam title.

Gauff, seeded seventh, had struggled badly with her serve for much of the tournament and has the most double faults on the women's tour this year.

Muchova took advantage of that glaring flaw to break in the third game of the first set and again in the fifth.

The Czech sealed the set with an ace, sending Gauff scurrying to the sanctuary of the locker room to compose herself.

Gauff had 12 unforced errors in the first set, but in keeping with her tenacious character, she hit back with a dominant second set that could not have been more different to her spluttering start.

# Pogacar reclaims Tour de France yellow jersey with stage six win



Tadej Pogacar in action

AFP | Gavarnie-Gèdre

Reigning champion Tadej Pogacar stamped his authority on the Tour de France, winning the mountainous sixth stage and reclaiming the race leader's yellow jersey.

Pogacar now leads by 2min 42sec from his main rival Jonas Vingegaard, who finished second on the 186km Pyrenean stage from Pau to Gavarnie-Gèdre to move up to second overall.

Pogacar's team-mate Isaac Del Toro beat Remco Evenepoel in the sprint for third to leapfrog the Olympic champion in the standings for third overall at 3:27.

Norwegian Torstein Traeoen had started the day in yellow but he lost contact with the lead group before the halfway point of the punishing Tourmalet climb with around 50 kilometres still to ride, and from then on it was clear that his grip on the jersey was gone.

To make matters worse he crashed on the descent -- his second spill in as many days.

Pogacar's UAE Emirates-XRG team ramped up the pace on the two Pyrenean behemoths, the Col d'Aspin and Col du Tourmalet, on another scorching day in southwestern France where temperatures again hit 40C.

The world champion attacked about 4km from the summit of the Tourmalet and he quickly gapped his rivals.

At the summit, Pogacar led Vingegaard by 30 seconds with Paul Seixas, Florian Lipowitz and Del Toro another minute behind.

Other contenders Evenepoel and Juan Ayuso were in a small group a further 20sec back.

On the descent and then the final long but gentle climb to the finish, Pogacar gradually extended his lead, all but suffocating any hope of his rivals challenging him for the overall victory this year.

# Expanded World Cup; same old story as Europe dominates quarter-finals

● Europe claims six spots among last eight

● Argentina and Morocco only non-Europeans

● Europe increases quarter-final presence

AFP | New York

The expansion of the World Cup to 48 teams has offered more of a chance to continents that were previously underrepresented at the tournament, but a glance at the quarter-final line-up tells a familiar tale.

Six of the countries in the last eight are European, with the exceptions being Lionel Messi's Argentina, the reigning champions, and Morocco.

With France, Spain, Belgium, England, Norway and Switzerland still in contention, there could be an all-European semi-final line-up, like in 2018.

Europe's share of the spots at a World Cup has decreased dramatically in recent decades, from boasting 14 of 24 berths in Italy in 1990, to 16 out of 48 now.

The rest of the world has



France players attend a training session (file photo)

therefore seen its share of the places shoot up, with Africa having 10 teams this year compared to just five in Qatar in 2022.

But now that we are down to the business end, Europe is dominating -- in fact, six teams in the quarter-finals is an increase on four years ago, when five European sides remained at this stage.

The 2002 World Cup remains an outlier, when only four European teams made the quarter-finals.

In football, Europe is where the wealth is concentrated, with the vast majority of the world's top talent playing in the continent's biggest leagues.

Western European academies

see the best coaches produce the most talented youngsters, and many countries elsewhere have benefited from this.

Morocco, the only remaining African side after becoming the continent's first ever World Cup semi-finalists in 2022, have become a leading force thanks to a two-pronged approach.

Several members of their squad, including playmaker Azzedine Ounahi are products of the Mohammed VI Academy, a state-of-the-art facility outside the capital Rabat.

But most of their players were born in western Europe and came through academy systems there -- captain Achraf Hakimi and Brahim Diaz from

Spain, Noussair Mazraoui in the Netherlands, Ayyoub Bouaddi in France, for example.

In the 1-1 draw with Brazil in their tournament opener they became the first side in World Cup history to at one point field a full foreign-born 11.

Morocco now have the chance to at least match their historic run to the semis in 2022.

"Morocco are evolving all the time, as are France," coach Mohamed Ouahbi said ahead of yesterday's clash between the nations.

"These two teams are even better than they were four years ago and that was to be expected given the great work being done by both federations."

## Brazil's curse

Nearly a quarter of all players selected for this World Cup represented a country other than their birthplace -- frequently those players were born in Europe but chose to wear the colours of a nation from elsewhere.

Argentina are different. Most of their players were born there, but many were picked up early by European clubs -- Messi is the ultimate example, having been barely a teenager when he joined Barcelona.

Most of Brazil's players are based in Europe too, but this is the first World Cup in which they have failed to make the quarter-finals since 1990.

That is despite appointing a European coach, in Carlo Ancelotti. The thought-process was essentially, if you can't beat them, join them.

However, Brazil's defeat to Norway in the last 16 maintained their record of having lost every time they have come up against European opposition in a World Cup knockout tie since they last won the trophy in 2002.

Meanwhile, this World Cup appeared to represent the perfect opportunity for the United States to reach at least the quarter-finals -- as they did once before, in 2002. Their tournament ended in a 4-1 humbling by Belgium.



Morocco became the first team in World Cup history to field an entire starting XI of foreign-born players during their tournament-opening draw with Brazil

Asia, meanwhile, had a record nine representatives, but only Australia and Japan got beyond the group stage.

Colombia had high hopes but were defeated on penalties by Switzerland, another small Western European nation with an oversized wealth of talent.

They are through to their first quarter-final since 1954, and their established record of playing and competing against Europe's top sides helps them believe they can give Argentina a game.

"This is a unique opportunity for us. We have seen that Argentina are not unbeatable," said Switzerland coach Murat Yakin.