

Late Larin goal rescues Canada point

Co-hosts Canada were held to a 1-1 draw by Bosnia and Herzegovina in their Group B opener at Toronto Stadium yesterday, after a match in which both sides created major chances but neither could find a winner. | P12

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THE DAILY tribune

Burgan pull away late to end Al Najma hopes

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BUSINESS 5 NBB hands over first villa in 2026 Thara'a draw



U.S. Navy warships and air assets continue to patrol regional waters enforcing the blockade against Iran. As of today, U.S. forces have redirected 136 commercial vessels and disabled 9 to ensure compliance.

CBB opens applications for second GP15 graduate programme



TDT | Manama

The Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB) has announced the opening of applications for the second cohort of its Graduate Development Programme, GP15, with registration set to run from June 15 to July 31.

Applications will be accepted through the CBB's official channels, with successful candidates joining a structured training programme aimed at supporting the Kingdom's efforts to build a highly skilled national workforce.

Further details on eligibility criteria and the application process are available through the CBB's official platforms.

US official sees '80-85%' likelihood of Iran deal

Washington, United States

The United States is "80 to 85 percent" confident of signing a peace deal with Iran in the coming days, a senior official in President Donald Trump's administration said yesterday.

The deal would involve "significant" sanctions relief and the unfreezing of Iranian assets, in exchange for Iran agreeing to dismantle its nuclear program and hand over its nuclear material, the official said.

"I feel very good about the deal. I think the president has gotten to a very good spot," the senior official told reporters in a call, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Aviation vision takes flight

Bahrain showcases investments, digital reforms at Berlin Aviation Summit 2026

Minister highlights digital transformation, sustainability and major aviation investments

TDT | Manama

Bahrain's aviation ambitions took centre stage in Berlin, where the Kingdom highlighted major investments, industry partnerships and digital reforms aimed at strengthening its position as a regional transport and logistics hub.

Speaking at the Berlin Aviation Summit 2026 and the International Aerospace Exhibition (ILA Berlin) 2026, Transportation and Telecommunications Minister Dr Shaikh Abdulla bin Ahmed Al Khalifa outlined Bahrain's strategy to enhance the competitiveness and sustainability of its aviation sector through technology, innovation and digital transformation.



The minister said Bahrain's National Aviation Strategy is focused on creating an integrated aviation ecosystem that improves global connectivity, streamlines procedures and boosts operational efficiency.

He highlighted the Kingdom's progress in digitising aviation services and procedures, noting that faster aircraft registration and air operator certification processes have helped attract investment in aviation, logistics and aircraft maintenance services.

Among the major develop-

ments showcased was an agreement between DHL and Bahrain Airport Company to establish the Middle East's largest modern aircraft maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) hangar at Bahrain International Airport.

Dr Shaikh Abdulla also pointed to cooperation with AirAsia aimed at positioning Bahrain as a regional hub for the airline's Middle East operations, further strengthening the Kingdom's air connectivity and supporting long-term sector growth.

He said Bahrain remains committed to expanding interna-

tional partnerships and adopting advanced technologies to support the future development of the aviation industry and reinforce its role as a trusted regional centre for air transport and logistics services.

The minister added that ongoing efforts to modernise the sector are helping create new opportunities for investment, enhance service efficiency and support Bahrain's broader economic development goals.



Bahrain was the first Gulf country to operate an international airport, welcoming its first commercial flight in 1932.

Musk becomes world's first trillionaire as SpaceX shares jump
New York, United States

Shares in Elon Musk's SpaceX jumped as much as 30 percent on their trading debut Friday after the biggest IPO in history, making the polarizing entrepreneur the world's first trillionaire as he vowed to take humanity to Mars.

The blockbuster initial public offering, which raised more than \$75 billion, is expected to kick off a series of major IPOs by AI companies in the coming months.

Israeli, Palestinian groups urge G7 support for two-state solution



AFP | Paris, France

Palestinian and Israeli civil society groups urged support for a two-state solution, saying "the window of opportunity" was closing, as they met in Paris yesterday.

The government of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, one of the most right-wing in Israel's history, vehemently opposes the emergence of a sovereign and fully independent Palestinian state in the occupied West Bank and Gaza, and is working on the ground to undermine the possibility of a two-state solution.

The Paris meeting came ahead of a G7 summit in the French town of Evian-les-Bains next week and was attended by the EU's foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas as well as ministers from Brazil, Canada, the United Arab Emirates and Turkey.

In a statement, representatives of Palestinian and Israeli civil society groups called on G7 leaders to urgently take action.

"Israelis and Palestinians alike remain trapped in fear, insecurity, and trauma," they said.

From tentacles to technology

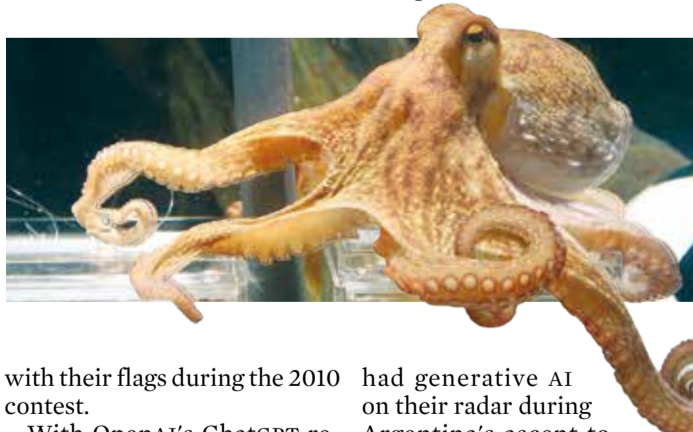
AI replaces Paul the Octopus for 2026 World Cup tips

AFP | Paris, France

ChatGPT and Claude are betting on Spain. Le Chat from France's Mistral reckons Les Bleus will clinch it. And China's DeepSeek and Qwen have a fondness for Argentina.

The 2026 World Cup is the first with widely available generative AI chatbots, and fans and researchers alike are turning to the systems in a bid to predict the final victors.

This year's fad for non-human answers recalls Paul the Octopus, the cephalopod who divined winning teams by eating from food containers marked



with their flags during the 2010 contest.

With OpenAI's ChatGPT released to the public only on November 30, 2022 -- in the midst of the last World Cup in Qatar -- few outside Silicon Valley

had generative AI on their radar during Argentina's ascent to the title.

But institutions from banks to universities are today testing out generative AI systems' foot-

ball foresight. Bank of America analysts found that their Microsoft CoPilot chatbot favoured Spain equally with France, who were tipped by around 40 percent of fans.

Meanwhile tech news site Tom's Guide asked Google's Gemini, ChatGPT and Perplexity -- with Spain predicted as the winners each time, and France as the second pick in each case.

Another news site, Decrypt, received similar results from western chatbots like ChatGPT and Anthropic's Claude -- but found that Chinese competitors DeepSeek and Qwen both tipped Argentina.

