

Sinner claims historic Wimbledon title

World No. 1 avenges French Open loss to dethrone defending champion Alcaraz | P16

New Gaza-bound aid boat leaves Italy

Samsung says Galaxy Z Fold7 is here to wow your world

First in Bahrain: Polytechnic Supply Chain Accredited

Bahrain greets French president on Bastille Day

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, yesterday sent cables of congratulations to French President Emmanuel Macron, on France's National Day (Bastille Day).

HRH Prince Salman sent a similar cable to the Prime Minister, Francois Bayrou.

HM the King sent a cable of congratulations to the President of the Montenegro Republic, Jakov Milatovic, on Statehood Day.

Small airplane crashes at London regional airport

AFP | London

A small plane has crashed at a London regional airport, the police and Southend London airport announced yesterday.

Video footage showed a 12-metre plane in flames with a plume of black smoke at Southend-on-Sea, an airport east of London.

"We are working with all emergency services at the scene now and that work will be ongoing for several hours," said a statement from Essex police.

Wildfires in Syria's west contained after 10 days

AFP | Damascus

Syria's civil defence agency yesterday said wildfires in the country's west, which have burned vast tracts of forest and farmland and forced evacuations, had been brought under control after 10 days. In a statement on Facebook, the agency said that "with the spread of the fires halted and the fire hotspots brought under control on all fronts" on Saturday, teams on the ground were working to cool down the affected areas while monitoring any signs of reignition.

The blazes in the coastal province of Latakia broke out amid an intense heat-wave across the region.

The UN humanitarian agency OCHA said they destroyed about 100 square kilometres (40 square miles) of forest and farmland.

220 fils (includes VAT)



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Push Brings Care

MP-backed plan now activated

24/7 care begins

Parliament backed proposal

Focus on urgent response

Mahir Haneef
TDT | Manama

Access to emergency care for sickle cell anaemia patients in Bahrain has entered a new phase, with the Government Hospitals Administration launching 24-hour operations at the Hereditary Blood Disorders Centre (HBDC) in Salmaniya Medical Complex.

The move follows a strong parliamentary call earlier this year to provide faster and more specialised care for patients facing unpredictable pain crises.

On January 22nd, Parliament approved a proposal by Dr Maryam Al Dhaen to create a separate emergency pathway with dedicated staff for sickle cell cases.

Care on call

Dr Maryam Athbi Al Jalahma, CEO of Government Hospitals, said the round-the-clock service will improve emergency response times, cut down on waiting periods, and ensure high-quality, efficient care that



meets patient needs.

"This reflects our commitment to providing integrated, sustainable healthcare," she said.

HBDC has been the central point for treating hereditary blood disorders, yet patients have long struggled with delays during off-hours. The expansion to 24/7 care directly addresses these gaps.

Parliamentary push

During the parliamentary session in January, Dr Al Dhaen emphasised that sickle cell pa-

tients face sudden, severe attacks that require immediate medical response.

"Sickle cell patients can be struck by intense attacks at any moment. The sooner they get the right care, the better their chances," she said.

She anchored her proposal in Article 8 of Bahrain's Constitution, which affirms the right of every citizen to healthcare.

The plan also calls for more accurate genetic testing, better screening measures, and expanded use of preimplantation genetic testing (PGT) to prevent

future cases.

Support and impact

Zakaria Ibrahim Al Kazem, Chairman of the Bahrain Sickle Cell Society, welcomed the announcement and described it as a "significant advance in healthcare standards." He said the move demonstrated continued support for those affected by hereditary conditions.

With sickle cell anaemia among the most common inherited disorders in the Kingdom, the updated care model is expected to reduce pressure on

Bahrain became the first Middle Eastern country to administer Casgevy, a CRISPR-based gene therapy for sickle cell anaemia, in early 2025.

emergency services and improve patient outcomes.

Part of bigger shift

Earlier this year, Bahrain made headlines as the first country in the region to administer Casgevy, a gene therapy for sickle cell treatment that uses CRISPR technology.

Alongside the launch of 24-hour care, the development reflects a growing emphasis on both innovation and access.

Authorities say both preventive and medical strategies are needed to protect public health and manage long-term costs.

Bahrain's sickle cell community may now have a stronger system to depend on, whether day or night.

Pride in Red



Bahraini families on the "Seasons" tourism trip proudly raised the Kingdom's flag in Moscow's iconic Red Square, showcasing national pride and celebrating the strong ties between Bahrain and Russia. The well-organized journey highlights cultural exchange, featuring visits to historical landmarks in Moscow and St. Petersburg, blending heritage, entertainment, and family joy.

US Senate report

'Inexcusable' failures led to Trump assassination attempt

AFP | Washington

A congressional inquiry into the attempt to assassinate US President Donald Trump at a campaign rally a year ago yesterday lamented "inexcusable" failures in the Secret Service's operations and response, and called for more serious disciplinary action.

On July 13, 2024, a gunman shot the then-Republican presidential candidate during a campaign rally in Butler, Pennsylvania, grazing his ear.

One bystander was killed and two other people in addition to Trump were wounded before a government sniper killed the gunman, 20-year-old Thomas Crooks.

"What happened was inexcusable and the consequences imposed for the failures so far do not reflect the severity of the situation," said the report released by the US Senate

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee.

The dramatic incident energized Trump's bid to return to the White House, with his campaign using a photo of him bloodied and pumping his fist as he was hurried offstage to woo voters.

The report did not shed new light on the gunman's motive, which still remains a mystery, but accused the Secret Service of "a cascade of preventable failures that nearly cost President Trump his life."

"The United States Secret Service failed to act on credible intelligence, failed to coordinate with local law enforcement," said the committee's Republican chairman Rand Paul.

"Despite those failures, no one has been fired," he added.

"It was a complete breakdown of security."

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Parliament’s Twin Tech Triumph

Shura and Council of Representatives Win Big for Digital Transparency



Shura Council Chairman H.E. Ali Bin Saleh Al Saleh (second from right) and H.E. Kareema Mohammed Abdullah Al Abbasi (third from left), Secretary-General of the Shura Council, receiving the award.

● Shura, Reps win awards

Mahir Haneef
TDT | Manama

Bahrain’s Parliament clinched a twin victory for digital transparency as both the Shura Council and the Council of Representatives were honoured at the Bahrain Digital Content Awards 2025 for their revamped digital platforms. Transparency through tech The Shura Council’s upgraded website, SHURA.BH, was recognised in the ‘Inclusion and Empowerment’ category for offering comprehensive legislative content, real-time updates on

sessions and decisions, and tools to support users with special needs. The platform also enables transparent tracking of legislation dating back to 2002. Her Excellency Kareema Mohammed Abdullah Al Abbasi, Secretary-General of the Shura Council, said the award reflects the Council’s ongoing commitment to the directives of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa to embrace artificial intelligence and modern technology in national development. She added that the Council’s digital initiatives align closely with the government’s broader transformation plan led by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, who continues to champion advanced digital services across sectors. The Council of Representatives also won in the same category for its ‘MP Portal’, a platform designed to improve public access to MPs and their activities. Speaker Ahmed bin Salman Al Musallam and Secretary-General Eng. Mohammed Ibrahim Al Sisi Al Buainain oversaw the initiative, which aims to foster civic engagement and open communication. Dr. Yasser Saqr Al-Shirawi, Assistant Secretary-General for Resources and Services, accepted the award on behalf of the Council during the ceremony yesterday. Al Abbasi credited the success to the professionalism of na-

tional staff and said the award serves as a powerful motivator to expand digital transformation across Bahrain’s legislative institutions. With both parliamentary chambers now officially recognised for enhancing public access through technology, Bahrain is reinforcing its credentials as a regional leader in digital governance.

Innovation Unlocked

BDCA 2025 recognizes creative tech solutions that empower Bahrain

Ashen Tharaka
TDT | Manama

Bahrain honored 30 pioneering digital initiatives at the 2025 Bahrain Digital Content Awards (BDCA), held under the patronage of His Excellency Ali Bin Saleh Al Saleh, Chairman of the Shura Council.

The ceremony, hosted by the Bahrain Technology Companies Society (BTECH) in collaboration with WorkSmart, gathered leaders from government, business, and tech communities to spotlight Bahrain’s growing leadership in digital transformation.

Tareq Fakhroo, Chairman of BTECH, shared heartfelt praise for the winners, saying, “Their creative and forward-thinking ideas are helping shape the future of digital innovation in Bahrain and strengthening our country’s position as a hub for technology in the region.”

He added that the wide variety of winning projects shows how far Bahrain has come in both its service and production sectors.

“These 30 projects highlight a dynamic and growing digital landscape,” Fakhroo said, “and they play a big role in helping us move closer to the goals set out in Bahrain’s Economic Vision 2030.”

Speaking at the ceremony, Ahmed Al Hujairy, Chairman of the BDCA Awards, expressed his joy in celebrating this year’s winners.

“It’s truly inspiring to see so many innovative and future-focused projects being recognised,” he said. “These initiatives stood out for offering smart, practical, and scalable digital solutions that align with global trends. We’re proud to have had a panel of local and international experts carefully evaluate all entries and select the best.”

Spotlight on the Winners

In the Government and Citizen Engagement category, four groundbreaking public service solutions were honored.

These included the eShabab mobile app by the Ministry of Youth Affairs, Government Hospitals’ official website, Virtual



Ahmed Al Hujairy, Chairman of the BDCA Awards

Customer Service Center from the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning, and the AI-Driven Drug Addiction Recovery System developed by the Ministry of Interior.

For their commitment to inclusive technology, winners in the Inclusion and Empowerment category included the ATTA App by the Royal Humanitarian Foundation, the Shura Council’s website, the MP Portal by the Council of Representatives, and the Smart Inspection System (SI) by the Labour Market Regulatory Authority. In the field of urban transformation, Smart Settlements and Urbanization winners impressed with citizen-centric platforms like the Property Check system by the Survey and Land Registration Bureau and the Electricity Consumption Dashboard developed by the HH Shaikh Nasser AI R&D Center.

Business and Commerce category

Commerce and innovation went hand in hand in the Business and Commerce category.

Recognised for their impact were Tijara by Bahrain Development Bank, Hadeya (E-Gift) by The BENEFIT Company, the Sahel App by Bahrain Commercial Facilities Company, and Flight Operations Hub by Gulf Air Group.

The digital celebration of culture was evident in the Culture and Heritage winners: Travelage Platform by Travilege Solutions and Water Taxi Booking App by Urbansoft Technologies. The future of education was front and center in the Learning and Education category, with winners like Maryam AI Learning Assistant by Gulf University, AI-Powered Talent Platform by



Tareq Fakhroo, Chairman of BTECH

Lumofy, Teacherless AI Classroom by the HH Shaikh Nasser AI R&D Center, and the BBS Parents App from Bahrain Bayan School.

For their strides in sustainability, the Environment and Green Energy category applauded the ML Platform by the HH Shaikh Nasser AI Center and the Beyon Green Energy Program by Beyon.

Health tech

In health tech, the Health and Wellbeing category awarded Participant Registration Solution and Organ Donation Services by the Ministry of Health, and the Digital Health Care Platform by Ideas Technology W.L.L.

The media world also had its share of trailblazers. In the Media and E-Information category, 7amdaan.io’s Digital Ad Robot, BraveCF TV by BRAVE Combat Federation, and albilad newspaper’s website were celebrated for pushing digital boundaries in content and engagement.

Finally, the AI-Driven Business Content category recognized DOO for its Multilingual AI-Powered Customer Experience Platform, showcasing Bahrain’s growing role in intelligent business solutions.

Award Chairman Mr. Ahmed Al Hujairy summed it up best: “These projects are not just award-winners; they are blueprints for Bahrain’s future in digital excellence. We hope they inspire others to innovate, scale, and lead.”

As Bahrain continues to embrace AI and emerging tech, events like the BDCA not only celebrate achievement—they serve as powerful reminders of the Kingdom’s vision to lead in the digital age.



Distinguished guests at the event

List of the winners

Government and Citizen Engagement

eShabab Mobile App – Ministry of Youth Affairs
Official Government Hospitals Website
Virtual Customer Service Center – Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning
AI-Driven Drug Addiction Recovery and Policy Optimization System – Ministry of Interior

Inclusion and Empowerment

ATTA Mobile App – Royal Humanitarian Foundation (RHF)
Shura Council Official Website
MP Portal – Council of Representatives
Smart Inspection System (SI) – Labour Market Regulatory Authority

Smart Settlements and Urbanization

Property Check Platform – Survey and Land Registration Bureau
Electricity Consumption Dashboard – HH Shaikh Nasser AI Research and Development Center

Business and Commerce

Tijara Platform – Bahrain Development Bank
Hadeya (E-Gift) Feature – The BENEFIT Company
Sahel App – Bahrain Commercial Facilities Company
Flight Operations Hub – Gulf Air Group

Culture and Heritage

Travelage Platform – Travilege Solutions
Water Taxi Booking Application – Urbansoft Technologies Middle East WLL

Learning and Education

Maryam AI Learning Assistant – Gulf University
AI-Powered Talent Management Platform – Lumofy W.L.L
Teacherless AI Classroom – HH Shaikh Nasser AI Research and Development Center
BBS Parents App – Bahrain Bayan School

Environment and Green Energy

ML Platform – HH Shaikh Nasser AI Research and Development Center
Beyon Green Energy Program – Beyon

Health and Wellbeing

Participant Registration Solution – Ministry of Health
Organ Donation Services – Ministry of Health
Digital Health Care Platform – ideas Technology W.L.L
Media and E-Information

Digital Ad Robot – 7amdaan.io

BraveCF TV – BRAVE Combat Federation
albilad newspaper website – albilad newspaper
AI-Driven Business Content

Multilingual AI-Powered Customer Experience Platform – DOO

Educational visit organised for summer programme students



H.E. Ali Abdulhussain Al Asfor visits the museum's collection of artefacts among students by introducing them to the nation's history and the sacrifices of its heroes.

In the presence of the Northern Governor, His Excellency Ali Abdulhussain Al Asfor, the Northern Governorate organised a field visit for students of the summer programme, held under the slogan "Our Nation and King Unite Us", to the Military Museum of the Bahrain Defence Force (BDF).

During the visit, the Northern Governor expressed his deep pride in the museum's collection of artefacts and historical documents that chronicle the heroic achievements of BDF personnel.

He highlighted the importance of such visits in inspiring national pride and strengthening loyalty and belonging

Initiatives

He affirmed that initiatives of this kind play an effective role in fostering national identity and enhancing awareness of the BDF's role in safeguarding the Kingdom's security and stability under the prosperous era of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

The visit included a guided tour of the museum, during which the students explored various sections and exhibits, including paintings, photographs documenting the development of the BDF, models of historic forts, Arabian horses, traditional military uniforms, and medals symbolising Bahrain's rich national legacy.

Courts given power to set bankruptcy trustee fees

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Courts in Bahrain have been handed firm authority to decide and revise how much bankruptcy trustees are paid, following the publication of a new order by the Minister of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Waqf.

Trustees are now required to put forward a proposed fee either when nominated or within 10 days of appointment.

The court will consider the request along with input from any creditors' committee and may agree to it or ask for changes.

Figure

It can also raise or reduce the figure later, depending on how the case unfolds.

The payment is to come out of the insolvent estate.

The court must weigh several points in reaching a decision.

Assets

These include the size and nature of the debtor's business, how involved or demanding the work was, what results were achieved in preserving or raising the value of assets, and how much time and effort went into the job.



If the trustee also helped draw up a reorganisation or liquidation plan, that too will be taken into account.

In cases where a trustee is asked to run the business themselves rather than the debtor, the court may grant them a monthly allowance for the time being.

Sum

Where the sum is paid out in stages, courts are to use a set of figures laid out in tables attached to the order unless they choose otherwise.

If the estate is short of cash, payment can be held off until money becomes available.

Trustees may also be paid extra in cases where they have done more than what would reasonably be expected.

This includes settling tangled claims, recovering funds or lost property, cutting costs, or arranging outside funding to help keep the business running.

Stakes

Anyone with a stake in the case, including trustees, creditors or the debtor, may challenge the amount or the expenses set by the court provided they act within thirty days.

Appeals may also be brought under the country's insolvency law.

Trustees' fees and related expenses are to be treated as administrative claims and take priority over all other unsecured debts.

They must be paid out of whatever money the estate holds or from the first takings



Trustees' fees and related expenses are to be treated as administrative claims and take priority over all other unsecured debts.

if it holds nothing at the time.

Duties

Should the trustee be asked to carry out further duties after six months have passed since the reorganisation plan was agreed or since a final ruling on any appeal, the court is to assess the pay afresh using the same yardstick.

The decision was signed by Justice Minister Nawaf bin Mohammed Al Maawda and came into force the day after it appeared in the Official Gazette.

R&D statistics workshop



The Ministry of Education, through the Bahrain National Commission for Education, Science and Culture, organised a national workshop on measuring research and experimental development statistics, in collaboration with the Higher Education Council and coordinated with UNESCO and its Institute for Statistics (UIS) in Montreal, Canada. The event was attended by over 200 representatives from Bahrain's public, private, non-profit, and higher education sectors. In his opening remarks, His Excellency Dr. Mohammed bin Mubarak Juma, Minister of Education, highlighted the importance of tracking experimental research and development (R&D) data to guide national policy and strategic planning, strengthen research practices, and support the knowledge economy. He emphasised Bahrain's commitment to UNESCO's annual surveys, national data submissions, and R&D initiatives to boost its international rankings in research, science, innovation, and competitiveness.

Call for GCC-wide rules on sign language interpreters

TDT | Manama

GCC-wide push to regulate sign language interpreting has been floated following a visit by the Bahrain Deaf Society to Kuwait, where delegates called for formal contracts, rights protections and unified training for interpreters.

The chairman of the society, Sayed Hassan Al Ghuraifi, led the delegation during meetings at the Center of Community Service and Continuing Education.

He said the visit aimed to explore ways institutions across the GCC might agree on shared rules for supporting deaf people and those who work with them.

Talks focused on creating standard forms for managing interpreter work, formalising contracts, and securing legal protections for those in the profession.

Al Ghuraifi said these steps would help improve service quality while giving interpreters



Sayed Hassan Al Ghuraifi leads Bahrain Deaf Society's delegation to Kuwait

proper standing in both public and private sectors.

The two sides also discussed the difficulties faced by deaf communities, as well as by interpreters who often work without clear structures or guarantees.

Training, job pathways, and recognition of qualifications all came up.

Conversations

The Bahraini delegation also visited the Maastricht School of Business in Kuwait, where conversations turned to young people with hearing impairments and how to prepare them for work through academic and hands-on schemes.

Al Ghuraifi said the Center of

Community Service and Continuing Education plays a strong role in community learning and training, and he welcomed the opportunity to lay the groundwork for deeper regional cooperation.

He added that the society is looking to build on this visit to support the deaf more effectively across Gulf countries.

Thirst Quenchers 2025 fourth week successful

TDT | Manama

The Indian Community Welfare Association – ICRF Bahrain continue its annual summer awareness program – Thirst Quenchers 2025.

The fourth week event of ICRF Thirst Quenchers 2025 was held yesterday at a worksite near Alba.

Aligning with the Ministry of Labour's initiative to ensure a safe working environment during the sweltering three months,

ICRF Bahrain distributed water, juice, laban, orange, apple and banana at the worksite of Al Ghana Aluminium located near Alba.

This year the event is supported by the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Labour, Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) and IOM.

Around 150 workers took part in the event.

Ms Nedal Abdulla Al Alawai from the Ministry of Interior, Mr Hasan Al Aradi, Head of



ICRF Bahrain officials and volunteers with workers at worksite

Occupational Safety & Health Inspection from the Ministry of Labour, and Mr Yaser Al Saffar, Member at the Bahrain Health & Safety Society, have joined the distribution and all spoke about the support extended to the workers by each organisation.

Precautions

ICRF Advisor Dr Babu Ramachandran talked about health-related safety precautions to be taken during the summer months.

Announcement to the Shareholders of Nass Corporation B.S.C.



Nass Corporation B.S.C. (“**NASSCORP**”) shareholders are hereby notified that the Offeree Board Circular issued by the Board of NASSCORP, the Offer Document issued by the Offeror and the Acceptance and Transfer Form (**“Offer Documents”**) relating to the formal Voluntary Conditional Exit Offer by A N S D COMPANY W.L.L. (**“Offeror”**) to acquire up to 100% of the issued and paid up ordinary shares of NASSCORP (constituting voting rights), not currently owned by the Offeror, or the shares held by the Partners of the Offeror or the shares held by the Concert Parties or the treasury shares, representing up to 42.23% stake of NASSCORP’s share capital by way of cash offer of BHD 0.075 per NASSCORP Share at the discretion of each NASSCORP Shareholder (**“Offer”**) have been posted on the websites of NASSCORP and Bahrain Bourse (**“BHB”**) on 14 July 2025 (the **“Posting Date”**).

The Offeree Board Circular contains, among other things, the following:

- i. The letter to the NASSCORP shareholders from the Board;
- ii. The letter to the NASSCORP shareholders from the Independent Committee containing the Recommendation of the Independent Committee on the Offer; and
- iii. The fairness opinion issued by the Professional Independent Adviser containing the advice and recommendation of the Professional Independent Advisor to the Independent Committee.

Terms not defined herein are defined in the Offer Documents.

DISCLAIMER STATEMENT

THE OFFER DOCUMENTS, THE CIRCULAR AND ACCEPTANCE AND TRANSFER FORM IN RESPECT OF THE OFFER HAVE BEEN FILED WITH THE CENTRAL BANK OF BAHRAIN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CENTRAL BANK OF BAHRAIN RULEBOOK VOLUME 6, TAKEOVERS, MERGERS AND ACQUISITIONS MODULE.

THE CENTRAL BANK OF BAHRAIN, THE BAHRAIN BOURSE AND THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE, IN THE KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN, ASSUME NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ACCURACY AND COMPLETENESS OF THE STATEMENTS AND INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS ANNOUNCEMENT AND EXPRESSLY DISCLAIM ANY LIABILITY WHATSOEVER FOR ANY LOSS HOWEVER ARISING FROM THE RELIANCE UPON THE WHOLE OR ANY PART OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS ANNOUNCEMENT.

DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

THE DIRECTORS OF NASSCORP, ISSUING THIS ANNOUNCEMENT JOINTLY AND SEVERALLY, ACCEPT FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ACCURACY OF INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS ANNOUNCEMENT. TO THE BEST OF THE KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF OF THE DIRECTORS, WHO HAVE TAKEN ALL REASONABLE CARE TO ENSURE THAT SUCH IS THE CASE, THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS ANNOUNCEMENT IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE OFFER RECEIVED FROM A N S D COMPANY W.L.L. AND CONTAINS NO MATERIAL OMISSIONS LIKELY TO AFFECT THE IMPORTANCE AND COMPLETENESS OF THIS ANNOUNCEMENT.

Shareholders should not rely on only this announcement but should refer to the contents of the Offer Document and the Offeree Board Circular. If you are in any doubt about the contents of this announcement and the aspects of the offer, you should consult a licensed securities dealer or licensed institution in securities, a bank manager, solicitor, professional accountant or other professional advisors.

Dispatch of Offer Documents to Shareholders

The Offer Documents and Acceptance and Transfer Form will be dispatched by mail to all NASSCORP shareholders whose names appeared in the NASSCORP share register at their addresses as registered in the share register pursuant to the Central Bank of Bahrain Rulebook Volume 6, Takeovers, Mergers and Acquisitions Module.

Electronic versions of the Board Circular, the Offer Document, the sample Acceptance and Transfer Form, and any other related documents are available on NASSCORP’s website: www.nasscorporation.com, SICO’s website: www.sicobank.com and Bahrain Bourse’s website: www.bahrainbourse.com.

Alternatively, any NASSCORP shareholder who wishes to receive electronic copies of the Offer Document, the Acceptance and Transfer Form, and any other related documents may email compliance@nasscorporation.com.

Details of the Offer

Securities for which the Offer will be made

The Offer is extended, on the same terms and conditions, to all the NASSCORP Shares (other than any NASSCORP Shares held in treasury and those Shares held by the Partners of the Offeror and the Concert Parties) which have been validly issued, fully paid, and are held in dematerialized form through Bahrain Clear acting as Share Registrar. For the purposes of the Offer, the expression “Offer Shares” will include all such Shares. Based on the Shareholders’ Registry as at the Last Practicable Date, the Offer Shares total 90,835,345, representing 42.23% of the Offeree’s issued and paid-up ordinary shares with voting rights (the “Offer Shares”). Eligible Shareholders holding original share certificates shall follow the procedure prescribed in Section 6.2 of the Offer Document to apply for the Offer.

NASSCORP is registered with the Ministry of Industry and Commerce (**“MOIC”**) under Commercial Registration number 60037-1 as a Public Bahraini Shareholding Company whose ordinary shares are listed on BHB.

The Offeror

The Offeror has its registered domicile at Building No. 159, Road Al Mazrea, Block 1004, Jasra, Kingdom of Bahrain. The Offeror has been established on 20 April 2025 by a consortium of existing shareholders of the Offeree (the “Consortium”) for the sole purpose of launching the Offer and subsequently delisting the Company as detailed in the Offer Document. The Offeror has not engaged in any other activity. The Offeror’s share capital is equal to BHD 10,000 divided into 100,000 shares of 100 Fils each and it has been entirely paid-up by the founding Partners.

Shareholding in Nass Corporation B.S.C.

Neither the Offeror nor Partners nor any of Concert Parties have purchased or sold any NASSCORP Shares during the 6-month period prior to the date of the Offer Document and hold together 57.77% of the issued share capital of NASSCORP as of the date of the Offer Document. The Managers of the Offeror also hold NASSCORP shares as highlighted in section 7 of the Offer Document.

Consideration of the Offer

The consideration for the Offer is constituted by a cash consideration.

The cash consideration is provided for those Offeree shareholders who want to exit their investment and is equal to BHD 0.075 per each Offeree share tendered for acceptance. Assuming that all Offeree shareholders who are eligible to accept the Offer tender their shares in cash, the total amount to be disbursed by the Offeror is equal to BHD 6,812,651 (**“Offer Consideration”**).

The Offer Consideration was determined based on a 4.5% discount to NASSCORP share’s weighted average closing market price on all trading days on the Bahrain Bourse during the three months between 27 February 2025 and 27 May 2025 (inclusive), rounded to three decimal places. The discount-to-market-price approach was applied in determining the Offer Consideration per share to adjust for the Offeree’s negative profitability in FY2024, which was not fully reflected in the share trading price due to the limited trading activity of the Offeree’s shares.

Shareholders Eligible for the Offer

NASSCORP Shareholders, other than the Offeror, the Partners of the Offeror, the Concert Parties and any NASSCORP Shares held in treasury, whose names appear in the Shareholders Registry on the Record Date, will be eligible to accept the Offer (each an “Eligible Shareholder” and collectively the **“Eligible Shareholders”**).

Conditions Precedent to the Offer

The implementation of the Offer will be subject to the fulfilment, or waiver by the Offeror where applicable, of the following conditions precedent:

- (a) The Extraordinary General Meeting of the Offeree having approved the conversion of NASSCORP into a closed Bahraini shareholding company and subsequent delisting of the shares of the Offeree from the Bahrain Bourse, with a majority of 75% of the votes attaching to the disinterested shares that are cast either in person or by proxy at the meeting. For such purposes, disinterested shares shall be the shares owned by a person other than the Offeror, any shareholder of the Offeror and Connected NASSCORP Shareholders and the treasury shares held by the Offeror;
- (b) The receipt by the Offeree of in-principle no objection from the CBB to delisting of the Offeree;
- (c) The receipt of in-principle no objection from the CBB pertaining to the Offeror’s proposed increase in its shareholding in the Offeree as a controller of the Offeree; and
- (d) Obtainment of any required anti-trust unconditional approvals in any applicable jurisdictions.

Offer Period and Acceptance Procedures

The Offer will be open for acceptance from the **Offer Opening Date** to the Initial Offer Closing Date, which is at least fifteen days from the Offering opening Date, and subject to the Final Closing Date as a result of the announcement of the Offer having become unconditional in all aspects whichever is later (the **“Offer Period”**).

Please refer to section 5.9 ‘Procedures for Acceptance’, Section 6 of the Offer Document and Section 9.1.4 of the Board Circular for further details.

Compulsory Acquisition and Sell-out

In the event that the Offeror acquires not less than 90% of the total Offer Shares, the Offeror shall not exercise the right to compulsorily acquire all the Shares of the Shareholders who have not accepted the Offer (the “Dissenting Shareholders”) pursuant to Rule TMA-3.4.4. However, in such case, Dissenting Shareholders shall have the right to sell out their shares within three months beginning immediately after the day on which the Offer receives 90% or more acceptances pursuant to Rule TMA-3.4.14.

Delisting

Upon approval by the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Offeree of the conversion and delisting of the Offeree, and upon obtainment of the requisite no-objection or approval to such conversion and delisting from the CBB, Bahrain Bourse, and Bahrain Clear, the Offeree shall, following the declaration of the Offer as unconditional in all respects, proceed to apply to the Ministry of Industry and Commerce for the conversion of the Offeree into a closed Bahrain Shareholding Company.

The conversion process requires, inter alia, the publication of the resolutions of the Extraordinary General Meeting relating to the conversion in the Official Gazette and daily newspapers and the lapse of an objection period of fifteen (15) working days prior to the execution of such resolutions, in accordance with the provisions of the Commercial Companies Law.

It should be noted that there is no assurance that this process will be completed within a pre-defined timeframe, and it is likely that completion will only occur subsequent to the settlement of the Offer. Furthermore, should an objection be raised during the objection period which the Offeree is unable to resolve in a timely manner, this may result in an indefinite delay to, or in the most extreme circumstances, the permanent cessation of the delisting and conversion process.

The Offeree shall also join Bahrain Private Market administered by Bahrain Clear with effect from or about the date of effective de-listing and conversion to enable transfer of shares following conversion into closed form.

Suspension of Trading

Trading in NASSCORP shares will be suspended on the BHB from the Suspension Date, being one (1) business day before the Offer Opening Date and will remain suspended until one (1) Business Day after the Offer Settlement Date. In the event of the successful completion of the Offer, the suspension will not be resumed due to intent to proceed with the conversion of the Offeree and the delisted of its shares in BHB.

NASSCORP shareholders willing to accept the Offer may potentially be holding the NASSCORP shares in one of the following forms:

- (a) shares in Demat form held in a brokerage account with a registered broker in the BHB;
- (b) shares in Demat form held in the CSD of Bahrain Clear; or
- (c) shares in physical form with an original share certificate only.

For NASSCORP Shareholders holding shares in certificated form, it is important to note that participation in the Offer requires dematerialization of their shares and the issuance of an investor number. This process must be completed through Bahrain Clear by submitting the necessary documentation and fulfilling the required procedures, as further detailed in the Circular.

Settlement

For those NASSCORP shareholders accepting the Offer, settlement will be made by Payment in cash on the Settlement Date

Further details are included in the Offer Documents that have been sent to the shareholders of NASSCORP pursuant to the Central Bank of Bahrain Rulebook Volume 6, Takeovers, Mergers and Acquisitions Module.

The opinion of the professional independent adviser

Pursuant to Directive 2.2.1 of the TMA Module, Volume 6 of the CBB Rulebook, our Professional Independent Adviser has provided its advice to the Independent Committee as follows:

According to the Professional Independent Adviser, the Offer is Fair and Reasonable, from a financial point of view to the shareholders of the 90,835,345 ordinary and paid-up shares of NASSCORP, not currently owned by the Offeror, or the shareholders in the Offeror or the shares held by the Concert Shareholders or the Treasury shares, representing up to 42.23% stake of NASSCORP’s issued and paid-up share capital. Based on the Professional Independent Adviser’s Opinion, it is their advice to the Board Independent Committee that they recommend Acceptance of the Offer to the NASSCORP Shareholders.

The detailed Professional Independent Adviser’s fairness opinion letter has been set out in Part VI of the Circular.

Recommendation of the Independent Committee to the shareholders of NASSCORP

Taking into consideration Offeror’s statements made in the Offer Document and relying solely on the contents of the Adviser’s Opinion, the Independent Committee’s assessment is that the Offer is Fair and Reasonable in accordance with the facts available at the time of review. Accordingly, the Independent Committee unanimously recommends that the NASSCORP Shareholders (other than the Connected NASSCORP Shareholders) ACCEPT the Offer to acquire the NASSCORP Shares at the cash price of BHD 0.075 per share.

The Independent Committee unanimously recommends that the NASSCORP Shareholders vote in favour of the relevant resolutions which will be proposed in such general meeting to consider the delisting of NASSCORP Shares from the Bahrain Bourse and the conversion of NASSCORP to a Closed Bahraini Shareholding Company.

Detailed Independent Committee recommendation letter has been set out in Part V of the Circular.

In case of any doubt, NASSCORP Shareholders (other than the Connected NASSCORP Shareholders) are also advised to seek independent professional advice, as deemed appropriate, prior to making any decision.

Key Dates	
Offeror’s Firm Intention Announcement Date	2 June 2025
Dispatchment of Offer Document to the Offeree	23 June 2025
Issuance of Offeree’s Board Circular and publishing	
A summary of it in two newspapers	14 July 2025
Circulation of EGM Agenda	17 July 2025
Last Trading Date	21 July 2025
Suspension Date	22 July 2025
Record Date for NASSCORP Shares	24 July 2025
Offer Opening Date	27 July 2025
EGM Date	7 August 2025
Initial Offer Closing Date	10 August 2025
Offer to be declared unconditional in all respects	11 August 2025
Sell-Out Notice*	To be announced*
Final Offer Closing Date	25 August 2025
Offer Result Announcement Date	26 August 2025
Settlement Date	4 September 2025
End of Sell-Out Period	To be announced*

** The Sell-Out Notice will be sent to Dissenting Shareholders only in the circumstances set forth in Section 5.16 of the Offer Document. These dates are subject to change, and any such changes shall be announced to NASSCORP shareholders in accordance with applicable CBB regulations.*

Key Parties

The Offeree Nass Corporation B.S.C. P. O. Box 669, Manama, Building 1115D, Road 4815, Block 948, Lhassay Area, Kingdom of Bahrain. Tel: (973) 1770 8333	Receiving Agent SICO B.S.C.(C) 4th Floor, Harbour Gate, Bahrain Financial Harbour, Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain Tel: (973)17515022	Share Registrar Bahrain Clear B.S.C. 4th Floor, Harbour Gate, Bahrain Financial Harbour, Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain Tel: (973) 17108781
The Offeror A N S D Company W.L.L. [Building No. 159, Road Al Mazrea, Block 1004, Jasra, Kingdom of Bahrain Tel:(973) 17725028	Legal Advisor to the Offeree Zu’bi & Partners Attorneys & Legal Consultants GFH Tower, 10th Floor Building 1411, Road 4626, Block 345, Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain Tel: (973) 17549608	

Professional Independent Advisor to the Offeree

Grant Thornton - Bahrain
Al Nakheel Tower, Avenue 58,
Seef District, P.O.Box 11175
Kingdom of Bahrain
Tel: (973) 17500188

Zain Bahrain Recognized Among Al Bilad’s Top 50 Strongest Companies



Manama, Bahrain

Zain Bahrain is proud to be recognized as one of the “Top 50 Strongest Companies in Bahrain” by Al Bilad for the third consecutive year. The recognition highlights the company’s commitment to excellence and continued leadership in driving digital innovation across the Kingdom. Zain Bahrain proudly maintains a Bahrainization rate of 93%, reinforcing its focus on developing local talent and supporting national workforce goals.

The award ceremony, attended by H.E. Mr. Abdullah

bin Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry and Commerce, and Mr. Sameer Abdulla Nass, Chairman of the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry, brought together key leaders to celebrate the achievements of top-performing companies across the Kingdom. This achievement reflects Zain Bahrain’s unwavering focus on elevating customer experience and contributing meaningfully to national progress. Through its investment in talent, technology, and community-focused initiatives, the company continues to lead with purpose and impact.

Alba Awarded EcoVadis Platinum Rating for the Second Time, Championing a Sustainable Tomorrow

Manama, Bahrain

Aluminium Bahrain B.S.C. (Alba), the world’s largest aluminium smelter on one site, is proud to announce that it has secured once again the esteemed EcoVadis Platinum Rating. This marks the second consecutive year Alba has achieved top-tier recognition, confirming Alba’s position as a visionary leader, setting the benchmark in operational excellence, environmental stewardship and corporate social responsibility.

“To receive the EcoVadis Platinum Rating for the sec-



Ali Al Baqali, Alba’s CEO

ond consecutive year is an immense source of pride for Alba. We are deeply invested

in pushing our boundaries to driving positive environmental and social impact, continuously improving our practices, and supporting a greener Bahrain and a more sustainable world. This achievement inspires us to aim even higher,” said Ali Al Baqali, Alba’s Chief Executive Officer.

The EcoVadis Sustainability Rating assesses organisations across four key pillars: environment, labour and human rights, ethics, and sustainable procurement. Alba’s attainment of the platinum tier places the Company among the top 1% of companies assessed globally.



Safa, Bahrain’s leading carbon offset and climate action platform, and a local portfolio company of Bahrain Mumtalakat Holding Company (Mumtalakat), has named Talal Arif Al Araifi as Chief Executive Officer. Prior to his appointment, he served as Chief Executive Officer of Mazad, a portfolio company of Mumtalakat, where he successfully drove significant growth and expansion. Safa’s Board of Directors, chaired by

EU and Indonesia announce ‘political agreement’ on trade deal

AFP | Brussels, Belgium

EU chief Ursula von der Leyen and Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto on Sunday announced a “political agreement” to conclude a long-awaited free trade deal, as US leader Donald Trump upends global commerce.

“We’re living in turbulent times and when economic uncertainty meets geopolitical volatility, partners like us must come closer together. So today we’re taking a big step forward in this partnership,”



Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto meets with EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen in Brussels

von der Leyen told journalists in Brussels. A European Commission statement called Sun-

day’s agreement a “decisive milestone” towards striking the deal -- which is to be concluded

in September by EU trade chief Maros Sefcovic and Indonesia’s chief economic minister Airlangga Hartarto.

“There’s a lot of untapped potential in our trade relationship. And therefore this agreement comes at the right time, because the new agreement will open new markets,” von der Leyen said.

Brussels has stepped up efforts to improve ties with key potential partners around the world as Trump threatens a trade war with sweeping tariffs.

Bahrain joins digital superhighway

Seef becomes tech gateway

- Cable lands near Seef
- Connectivity capacity boosted tenfold
- Supports Economic Vision 2030

Mahir Haneef
TDT | Manama

Bahrain has officially joined the world’s elite digital infrastructure network following the landing of the 2Africa Pearls submarine cable system near Seef District on June 4, marking a transformative leap in global connectivity and digital capacity for the Kingdom.

Global gateway

With an investment of US\$ 205 million, the arrival of the world’s longest submarine cable places Bahrain at the centre of a digital superhighway stretching 45,000 kilometres. The cable’s high-speed data capacity is set to reinforce Bahrain’s position as a digital hub and significant-



ly boost its potential to attract tech-driven investment, innovation, and high-skilled jobs.

The cable landing ceremony

was attended by His Excellency Dr. Shaikh Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Minister of Transportation and Telecommuni-

cations, and Khalid Al Osaimi, Chief Executive Officer of stc Bahrain. Officials confirmed the ground connection process was

completed in record time.

Strategic synergy

Dr. Shaikh Abdullah highlighted the move as a key milestone in achieving Bahrain’s Economic Vision 2030. He stressed the importance of public-private partnerships, describing the collaboration with stc Bahrain as a model for how national goals can be accelerated through joint ventures.

“This project marks a qualitative leap that strengthens Bahrain’s global connectivity and supports its ambitions in the digital economy,” he said.

Al Osaimi noted that the new system would multiply the country’s existing connectivity by ten times. He said the move supports the Kingdom’s economic diversification agenda and elevates its status as a regional leader in the ICT sector.

Future-proof infrastructure

The 2Africa Pearls cable system is designed to support a massive 180 terabits per second, making it the only submarine cable in the GCC capable of meeting surging demand from

data-heavy platforms like cloud computing, online gaming, and content streaming.

Its low latency and high bandwidth are also expected to accelerate the growth of emerging technologies such as 5G, AI, and the Internet of Things (IoT), while delivering more reliable internet performance to consumers and businesses alike.

With this digital milestone, Bahrain is now positioned to serve as a crucial node in the global data exchange map.



At 45,000 km, the 2Africa Pearls system is longer than the Earth’s circumference, making it the world’s most extensive under-sea cable project.

First in Bahrain: Polytechnic Supply Chain Accredited

Boost for student employability

● CIPS accredits MSc programme

● First in Bahrain recognition

● Application deadline July 15

Mahir Haneef
TDT | Manama

Bahrain Polytechnic has become the first educational institution in the Kingdom to receive international accreditation from the Chartered Institute of Procurement & Supply (CIPS) for its Master of Science in Supply Chain Management programme.

The globally recognised endorsement positions Bahrain



Professor Ciaran O Cathain

Polytechnic as a regional leader in the field, reaffirming its commitment to high-quality, market-aligned education in one of the world's most critical sectors.

Rigorous standards met



CIPS Regional Director for Middle East, Africa and Asia-Pacific, Sam Achampong

The accreditation followed a comprehensive review by CIPS, which assessed the programme against its global standards for procurement and supply edu-

cation. This included evaluation of the curriculum, quality assurance systems, faculty qualifications, student support mechanisms and infrastructure.

Professor Ciarán Ó Catháin, CEO of Bahrain Polytechnic, said the milestone demonstrated the institution's strategic focus on equipping students with practical, globally relevant skills. "This is a testament to our deep commitment to providing high-quality education that is directly aligned with labour market needs, not only in Bahrain but also regionally and internationally," he said. "This accomplishment opens up broader opportunities for our graduates and enhances the Polytechnic's capacity to support Bahrain's economic vision."

International recognition

CIPS Regional Director for

Middle East, Africa and Asia-Pacific, Sam Achampong, said the recognition reflected the Polytechnic's strong alignment with international benchmarks. "This accreditation clearly demonstrates their dedication to excellence and their alignment with CIPS Global Standard," he said. "It's truly inspiring to see this new partner in our region committed to developing the next generation of highly skilled procurement and supply chain professionals."

Dr Lorraine Cowley, Head of the School of Logistics, said the endorsement would offer graduates substantial employability benefits and help fast-track their path toward becoming MCIPS-certified professionals.

Programme details

The programme is designed to produce graduates with ad-

vanced analytical capabilities, critical thinking, research proficiency and leadership skills required for managing complex supply chain.



CIPS accreditation is recognised in over 150 countries and is considered the global benchmark for excellence in procurement and supply chain education.

Syria signs \$800 mn port deal with UAE-based company

AFP | Damascus, Syria

Syria signed a \$800 million deal with UAE-based company DP World yesterday to develop the port of Tartus, state media reported, as the new authorities continue their efforts to support post-war reconstruction.

Following the toppling of longtime Syrian ruler Bashar al-Assad in December, the new Islamist authorities have worked to reconnect the country to global companies and kickstart reconstruction after 14 years of civil war.

"In the presence of President Ahmed Al-Sharaa, an agreement was signed between the General Authority for Land and Sea Ports and DP World, valued at \$800 million, as a strategic step aimed at enhancing port infrastructure and logistics services in Syria," state-run news agency SANA said.

Following the signing of the deal, DP World CEO Sultan Bin Sulayem said Syria's economy had "significant assets, including the Port of Tartus, which represents an opportunity to transport and export many Syrian industries".

In a statement also shared by state media, he pledged to make Tartus "one of the best ports in the world".

DP World operates dozens of marine and inland ports and terminals globally, particularly in Asia, Africa and Europe.

The Syrian civil war devastated the country's infrastructure, and the new authorities hope to use the lifting of Western sanctions to attract investments and fuel reconstruction efforts.

Qutaiba Badawi, head of the General Authority for Land and Sea Ports, said the parties were

"not merely signing a technical agreement, but we are laying the foundation for a new phase of field and maritime work in Syria, repositioning ourselves on the regional and international economic map".

In May, Damascus signed a 30-year contract with French shipping giant CMA CGM to develop and run the port of Latakia.

That same month, Syria signed a \$7 billion energy deal with a consortium of Qatari, Turkish and US companies as part of efforts to revive its crippled power sector.

Macron to raise French defence targets, citing Russia threat

AFP | Paris, France

President Emmanuel Macron is to set new French defence targets in the face of a menacing Russia and a potential United States disengagement from Europe, his office said.

"Defence efforts" must be made in the face of mounting threats and a disintegrating world order, Elysee officials said ahead of the president's 7:00 pm (1700 GMT) speech to the armed forces, traditionally held on the eve of France's national Bastille Day holiday.

Despite France's difficult budgetary situation, the president's announcements will be "major", they said.

French military and security officials have been warning of global threats weighing on France, with Defence Chief of Staff Chief Thierry Burkhard saying on Friday that Russia posed a "durable" threat to Europe and that the "rank of European countries in tomorrow's world" was being decided in Ukraine, invaded by Russia in 2022.

Russia currently views France as its "main adversary in Europe", Burkhard said.

He also warned of the consequences -

quences of a diminished US commitment to Europe, along with cyber threats, disinformation campaigns and the risk of terror attacks.

"We have to take account of the fact that there has been a change in strategic parameters," he said.

On Sunday, Defence Minister Sebastien Lecornu weighed in, telling the La Tribune weekly newspaper that "it's our job to provide answers".

France needed to make "a new effort" if it wanted to "depend on nobody" in the future, the minister said.

France's defence budget has already increased sharply since Macron took power, rising from 32.2 billion euros (\$37.6 billion at current rates) in 2017 to 50.5 billion currently, and is projected to reach 67 billion euros in 2030. Several NATO countries are boosting their military spending, after the alliance's members agreed last month to spend five percent of their gross domestic product (GDP) on security

EU chief delays retaliation for US tariffs in search of deal

Brussels, Belgium

EU chief Ursula von der Leyen said yesterday that Brussels will continue to hold off on hitting back at US steel and aluminum tariffs, as it seeks a deal to avoid broader 30-percent levies.

US President Donald Trump on Saturday threw months of painstaking negotiations into disarray by announcing he would hammer the 27-nation bloc with the sweeping tariffs if no agreement is reached by August 1.

"The United States has sent us a letter with measures that would come into effect unless there is a negotiated solution, so we will therefore also extend



Scrap copper is prepared for recycling at a workshop in Anqing, in China's eastern Anhui province

the suspension of our countermeasures until early August," von der Leyen told journalists.

"At the same time, we will continue to prepare for the countermeasures so we're fully prepared," she added.

The European Commission president insisted that the European Union has "always been very clear that we prefer a negotiated solution. This remains the case, and we will use the time that we have now till August 1".

The move by von der Leyen will spur hope that Trump's latest threat -- in which he also targeted Mexico -- has not killed off the progress made in negotiations so far between Brussels and Washington.





News in brief

◆ **Russia's foreign** affairs ministry on Sunday described reports claiming that President Vladimir Putin had encouraged his Iranian ally to accept a "zero enrichment" agreement on its nuclear programme as "defamation". US news outlet Axios reported on Saturday, citing three anonymous sources familiar with the matter, that Putin had "encouraged" Iran to accept a deal with the United States that would prevent the Islamic republic from enriching uranium. The article "appears to be a new political defamation campaign aimed at exacerbating tensions around Iran's nuclear program", the Russian ministry of foreign affairs said on Sunday. "Invariably and repeatedly, we have emphasised the necessity of resolving the crisis concerning Iran's nuclear program exclusively through political and diplomatic means, and expressed our willingness to help find mutually acceptable solutions," the statement read.



Russia slams report it backed 'zero enrichment' Iran nuclear deal

◆ **Israel yesterday** said it had launched a new national communications satellite on board a SpaceX rocket from the United States. The Dror 1 satellite was blasted into orbit on a Falcon 9 from Cape Canaveral in Florida, Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) and the foreign ministry said. "This \$200 million 'smartphone in space' will power Israel's strategic and civilian communications for 15 years," the ministry wrote on X. Accompanying video footage showed the reusable, two-stage rocket lift off into the night sky. SpaceX said the launch happened at 1:04 am in Florida (0504 GMT Sunday). IAI, which called the launch "a historic leap for Israeli space technology", said when it announced the project to develop and build Dror 1 that it was "the most advanced communication satellite ever built in Israel".

Israel launches communications satellite from Florida

◆ **North Korean** leader Kim Jong Un offered Moscow his full support for its war in Ukraine during talks with Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov, Pyongyang state media said yesterday. Lavrov's visit to North Korea was the latest in a series of high-profile trips by top Moscow officials as both countries deepen military and political ties amid Russia's offensive against Kyiv. Pyongyang sent thousands of troops to Russia's Kursk region to oust Ukrainian forces and has also provided the Russian army with artillery shells and missiles. Moscow said Lavrov's talks with Kim were held in a "warm comradely atmosphere." Lavrov expressed "sincere gratitude to Pyongyang" for its role in Kursk and support of Russia's operation, the Russian foreign ministry said in a statement. Moscow also said the two sides "agreed" that the West was to blame for "the growing tension" on the Korean peninsula.

North Korea's Kim offers Russia full support on Ukraine in Lavrov talks



SPOTLIGHT

Indonesia foils attempt to smuggle 1,200 endangered birds



People remove their bird cages after participating in a bird singing contest in Banda Aceh (file)

AFP | Kupang, Indonesia

Indonesian authorities have foiled a smuggling attempt of more than 1,200 endangered Javan white-eye birds after discovering them stuffed into cages, they said yesterday. The popular cage-bird is listed as endangered by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and a protected species by the Indonesian environment and forestry ministry. Officials found the huge cache of birds in eight cages on Friday, including 140 that died, at a port on Flores island in eastern Indonesia, Joko Waluyo, an official at a provincial conservation agency, told reporters Sunday. The birds were due to be taken by ferry to Surabaya, a city in the east of Indonesia's

main island Java. "The alleged perpetrator, who has not yet been found, brought Javan white-eye birds in 8 bird cages. The number of birds that were attempted to be transported was 1,260, 140 of which were found dead," said Joko. The surviving white-eye birds were released back into the wild. "The release aims to save all secured (birds), increase the population in nature, and raise public awareness," he said. Under Indonesian law, poaching or trading of protected species is punishable up to 15 years in prison. Indonesia's illegal trade in wildlife along with habitat loss has driven numerous endangered species, from the Sumatran elephant to the orangutan, to the brink of extinction.

xAI apologizes for Grok's offensive posts

AFP | New York, United States

Elon Musk's startup xAI apologized Saturday for offensive posts published by its artificial intelligence assistant Grok this week, blaming them on a software update meant to make it function more like a human. After the Tuesday upgrade, Grok praised Nazi leader Adolf Hitler in the posts on social media platform X, and suggested that people with Jewish surnames were more likely to spread online hate. X deleted some of those posts several hours later, amid growing outrage. "We deeply apologize for the horrific behavior that many experienced," the company posted on X Saturday, adding that it had modified the system "to prevent further abuse." The company said the change occurred after the chatbot was prompted to "reply to the post just like a human" as well as "tell like it is and you are not afraid to offend people who are politically correct." As a result, Grok became susceptible to users' "extremist views," which made it produce "responses containing unethical or controversial opinions to engage the user."

Australia says China likely to spy on military drills with US

AFP | Sydney, Australia

Australia's government said yesterday it expects China to spy on major military drills it is conducting with the United States and other allies. It also renewed a charge -- denounced by Beijing as a "false narrative" -- that China wants to establish a military base in the South Pacific. The comments by a government minister came as Prime Minister Anthony Albanese made a six-day visit to China to bolster recently repaired trade ties. More than 30,000 military personnel from 19 nations are set to join in the annual Talisman Sabre exercise from Sunday across Australia and Papua New Guinea. "The Chinese military have observed these exercises since 2017 and it would be very unusual if they didn't do that this time," said Pat Conroy, Australia's minister for the defence industry and for Pacific Island affairs. "We'll obviously observe their activities and monitor their presence around Australia," he told Australian public broadcaster ABC. The strategically important South Pacific region is at the centre of a diplomatic scramble for influence pitting China against its Western rivals.

Truce talks deadlocked

Gaza civil defence says Israeli strikes kill 43



A Palestinian woman pushes a man and child on a wheelchair as people gather to receive bags of flour at a UN World Food Programme (WFP) warehouse on Al-Jalaa street in Gaza City, in the northern Gaza Strip

- Spent a week trying to agree on a temporary truce
- Each side accused the other of blocking attempts
- Israel's military blamed a technical problem for that strike that killed 10

AFP | Gaza City, Palestinian Territories

Gaza's civil defence agency said Israeli air strikes yesterday killed more than 40 Palestinians, including at a market and a water distribution point, as talks for a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas stalled. Delegations from Israel and the Palestinian group have now spent a week trying to agree on a temporary truce to halt 21 months of devastating fighting in the Gaza Strip. But on Saturday, each side accused the other of blocking attempts to secure an agreement at the indirect talks in the Qatari capital, Doha. On the ground, civil defence agency spokesman Mahmud Bassal said at least 43 people were killed in the latest Israeli strikes, including 11 when a market in Gaza City was hit. Elsewhere, eight children were among the 10 victims of a drone strike at a water point in the Nuseirat refugee camp, in central Gaza, Bassal said. Israel's military blamed a technical problem for that strike, saying it had been targeting a mem-

ber of Hamas ally Islamic Jihad. "As a result of a technical error with the munition, the munition fell dozens of meters from the target," a statement read. "The incident is under review." Reports of casualties were being examined, it added. Khaled Rayyan told AFP he was woken by the sound of two large explosions after a house was hit in Nuseirat. "Our neighbour and his children were under the rubble," he said. Another resident, Mahmud al-Shami, called on the negotiators to secure an end to the war. "What happened to us has never happened in the entire history of humanity," he said. "Enough." 150 targets in 24 hours The Israeli military, which has recently intensified operations across Gaza, said in a statement that in the past 24 hours the air force "struck more than 150 terror targets throughout the Gaza Strip". It released aerial footage of what it said were fighter jet strikes attacking Hamas targets around Beit Hanoun, in northern Gaza, showing explosions on the ground and thick smoke in the sky. Media restrictions in Gaza and difficulties accessing many areas mean AFP is unable to independently verify tolls and details provided by the civil defence agency and other parties. Fuel shortages UN agencies on Saturday warned that fuel shortages had reached "critical levels", threatening to worsen conditions for Gaza's more than two million people. On Sunday, the Handala -- a former Norwegian trawler loaded

with medical supplies, food and children's equipment -- set off from Sicily. The pro-Palestinian activists on board hope to reach Gaza, despite Israel having recently detained and deported people aboard a previous vessel, the Madleen, including Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg. Forced displacement fears Talks to seal a 60-day ceasefire and hostage release were in the balance on Saturday after Israel and Hamas accused each other of trying to block a deal. Hamas wants the complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from Gaza, but a Palestinian source with knowledge of the talks said Israel had presented plans to maintain troops in more than 40% of the territory. The source said Israel wanted to force hundreds of thousands of Palestinians into the south of Gaza "in preparation for forcibly displacing them to Egypt or other countries". A senior Israeli official said Israel had demonstrated an openness "to flexibility in the negotiations, while Hamas remains intransigent, clinging to positions that prevent the mediators from advancing an agreement". Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said he is prepared to enter talks for a more lasting end to hostilities once a temporary truce is agreed, but only if Hamas disarms. Thousands of people gathered in Israel's coastal hub of Tel Aviv on Saturday to call for the release of the hostages. "The window of opportunity... is open now and it won't be for long," said former captive Eli Sharabi.

1789

Bastille Day - the French Revolution begins with the storming of the Bastille prison in Paris, now celebrated as France's national day

1798

US Sedition Act prohibits "any false, scandalous, and malicious writing" about the government



1850 1933

First public demonstration of ice made via refrigeration by Florida physician John Gorrie

All non-Nazi political parties are banned in Germany

X

TOP
4
TWEETS

01



Nowadays, hope can seem hard to find. I see hope in activists raising their voices for human rights, in humanitarian heroes overcoming obstacles to help the most vulnerable. And I see hope in the @UN, where countries address the world's biggest challenges together.

@antonioguterres

02



Along with the President of the European Commission, France shares the same very strong disapproval at the announcement of horizontal 30% tariffs on EU exports to the United States from August 1st.,

@EmmanuelMacron

03



The fuel shortage in #Gaza has reached critical levels. @WHO joins @UNOCHA @UNDP, @UNFPA, @UNOPS, @UNRWA and @WFP in calling for fuel to be allowed in consistently and in sufficient quantities to sustain life-saving operations.

@DrTedros

04



The Rozgar Mela reflects our Government's commitment to empowering the Yuva Shakti and making them catalysts in building a Viksit Bharat.

@PMOIndia

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

New Gaza-bound aid boat leaves Italy

AFP | Syracuse, Italy

A Gaza-bound boat carrying pro-Palestinian activists and humanitarian aid left Sicily yesterday, over a month after Israel detained and deported people aboard a previous vessel.

The Handala, operated by the Freedom Flotilla Coalition, left the port of Syracuse shortly after 12:00 pm (1000 GMT), an AFP journalist saw, carrying about fifteen activists.

Several dozen people, some holding Palestinian flags and others wearing keffiyeh scarves, gathered at the port to cheer the boat's departure with cries of "Free Palestine".

The former Norwegian trawler -- loaded with medical supplies, food, children's equipment and medicine -- will sail for about a week in the Mediterranean, covering roughly 1,800 kilometres (1,120 miles), in the hope of reaching Gaza's coast.

In early March, Israel imposed a total aid blockade on Gaza amid an impasse in truce negotiations, only partially easing restrictions in late May.

The boat will make a stop at Gallipoli, in southeastern Italy, where two members of the hard-left France Unbowed party (LFI) are expected to join.

The initiative comes six

weeks after the departure of the Madleen, another ship that left Italy for Gaza transporting aid and activists, including Greta Thunberg.

Israel authorities intercepted the Madleen about 185 kilometres west of Gaza's coast.

"This is a mission for the children in Gaza, to break the humanitarian blockade and to break the summer silence on the genocide," said Gabrielle Cathala, one of the two France Unbowed party members set to board the boat on July 18.

"I hope we will reach Gaza but if not, it will be yet another violation of international law" by Israel, she added.



A view of the Freedom Flotilla ship "Handala" (C) ahead of the boat's departure for Gaza at a port in Syracuse, Sicily, southern Italy

UAE extradites 3 suspects

AFP | Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Police in Dubai said three individuals accused of a litany of crimes, including drugs and human trafficking, were extradited to Belgium, authorities said on Sunday.

Officials said the three suspects had been wanted in Belgium in connection with cases of "cross-border organised crime".

In December, reports first

surfaced that one of Belgium's most wanted international drug traffickers, Othman El Ballouti, had been arrested in Dubai.

Ballouti was among the three names provided by Dubai police in a statement.

"The three suspects, Mathias Akyazili, Giorgi Faes, and Othman El Ballouti, face several serious criminal charges, including operating a notorious gang, trafficking narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, committing robbery, and engag-

ing in human trafficking," read the statement released by the government of Dubai's media office.

Authorities said the three Belgian nationals were taken into custody based on INTERPOL red notices issued against them in an operation "that showcased Dubai police's close coordination with international law enforcement agencies". Belgium and the United Arab Emirates signed an extradition agreement in 2021.

Russia's Lavrov visits Beijing to discuss Ukraine

AFP | Moscow, Russia

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov met yesterday in Beijing with his Chinese counterpart to discuss Ukraine and relations with the United States. Russia's top diplomat

arrived in China following a visit to North Korea, where he received assurances of support in its conflict with Ukraine.

Lavrov and Wang Yi "discussed relations with the United States and the outlook for settling the Ukrainian crisis,"

Russia's foreign ministry said in a statement. The statement from the Russian foreign ministry said Lavrov and Yi also discussed other "burning issues" such as the war in Gaza and the "situation on the Korean peninsula".

LEGAL VIEWPONT

BRICS a new global regime

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DR. ABDELGADIR WARSAMA GHALIB



BRICS, is shining these days in Brazil, they came from all parts of the world. BRICKS, is a new name that brings a new global regime, interestingly, growing steadily and finds vast welcome everywhere in many parts of the world. In this name "B" resembles Brazil, "R" resembles Russia, "I" resembles India, "C" resembles China & "S" resembles South Africa.

BRICS, is a new economic forum called for by such countries to represent the new World for global new future. Now, BRICKS is having many new members to the club. The countries of BRICKS, almost represent more than half of the population of the globe and more are coming. Interestingly, even some European countries are knocking the door of the club for membership.

As a matter of history, after World War 11, certain forums were established including the UN, World Bank, IMF... etc. Those international agencies were initially established to help in reshaping the world after the massive destruction that happened due to the World War(s) 1 & 11. However, by time it becomes clearly evident that many countries are not happy regarding the performance of our "Big" international agencies.

In response to the BRICKS meeting taking place in Brazil, President Trump, said he will fix 10% of tariffs on all products from BRICKS. What is the meaning of this? Guess.

BRICS group calls loudly for reformation of the international arena and the enforcement of international justice mechanism, particularly the role of the mentioned agencies. In BRICS, they advocate for immediate reformation as the performance of such agencies clearly shows drastic failure in adopting fair international agenda for the betterment of all countries & all people.

BRICS group calls for involvement of all and likewise calls for dismantling the solo grip cemented around the international agencies, in this respect they call for the involvement of all countries, a call that should cover all political, economic & social affairs... To streamline this, in a new positive clear action, they formed a new financial & credit agency with very big capital, they are working for unified currency, unified banknote, unified projects to help all countries and all people around the world. This will shake-up the current economic strategy and new strategy will come-up with new look.

All are invited and such invitation is finding overwhelming support from all parts of the world. Even from many big countries such as Japan, England, Indonesia, Egypt, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia,, they all expressed their desire to join hands with BRICS. The new look & new movement for the world as called for by BRICS have already started and will never stop. The train started pedaling and is cruising slowly but steadily towards the "new world" platform.

Many countries with special location, special abundant natural resources including water, land, livestock, gold, oil & other precious metals....., special human resources cadre..., among other things, as such they have the required eligibility to join BRICS. Moreover, the relations between such countries and BRICS countries seemed to be in good shape and pave the way for them to join.

BRICS stand represents the new era for new collaboration and unified harmony in all matters that affect our generation and the coming generations. A genuine stand that will find the support of all irrespective of the political, ethnical, economic, social differences.

(The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Daily Tribune)

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BisB Offers Instant Islamic Finance via App

No documents, no delays

- App-based Shariah-compliant loans
- Instant funds against Tejoori savings
- No paperwork or branch visit

Mahir Haneef
TDT | Manama

Bahrain Islamic Bank (BisB) has unveiled a new instant financing option that allows customers to access personal funds through its digital app by pledging their Tejoori Al Islami deposits.



Faisal Al Abdulla, Chief Retail Banking Officer at BisB

The move introduces a fully automated, Sharia-compliant



financing route that eliminates the need for physical paperwork or branch visits. Customers can now instantly apply for personal finance directly through the

‘BisB Digital’ application, using their existing Islamic deposit balances as collateral.

Digital shift

Described as secure, real-time, and paperless, the service provides liquidity through a fast, pledge-based model that adheres to Islamic banking principles. The financing amount is based on the value of the pledged deposit, ensuring compliance while offering immediate convenience.

Faisal Al Abdulla, Chief Retail Banking Officer at BisB, said the launch reflects the bank’s push toward more responsive and accessible digital banking solutions. “By introducing instant pledge-based financing via the

‘BisB Digital’ application, we are not only simplifying access to personal finance but also enhancing customer convenience,” he said.

Customer-first model

The new feature comes as part of BisB’s wider effort to merge innovation with compliance, offering customers a seamless Islamic banking experience tailored to modern expectations.

Customers interested in the pledge-based financing option can activate the feature by downloading the app and navigating to the finance section.

BisB continues to position itself as a leader in digital Islamic



Digital Islamic banking in the GCC is projected to grow at over 17 percent annually, driven by demand for faster, compliant financing tools.

finance by aligning technological convenience with core faith-based values.

Impact of US tariffs varies across European Union

AFP | Paris, France

European countries are not all equally exposed to the US market and so will not suffer the same consequences should President Donald Trump go ahead with his threats to impose 30-percent tariffs on the European Union.

Ireland, with a major pharmaceutical industry, is in the front line along with Germany, for whom the United States is a major outlet for its cars, steel and machine tools.

France is less exposed, even if it does have aeronautics, food, wine and luxury goods companies that risk losing markets.

The EU as a whole has an annual trade surplus with the United States of \$235.6 billion, according to the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), which reports to the U.S. Department of Commerce. Only China has a higher amount.

Ireland, Europe’s lab

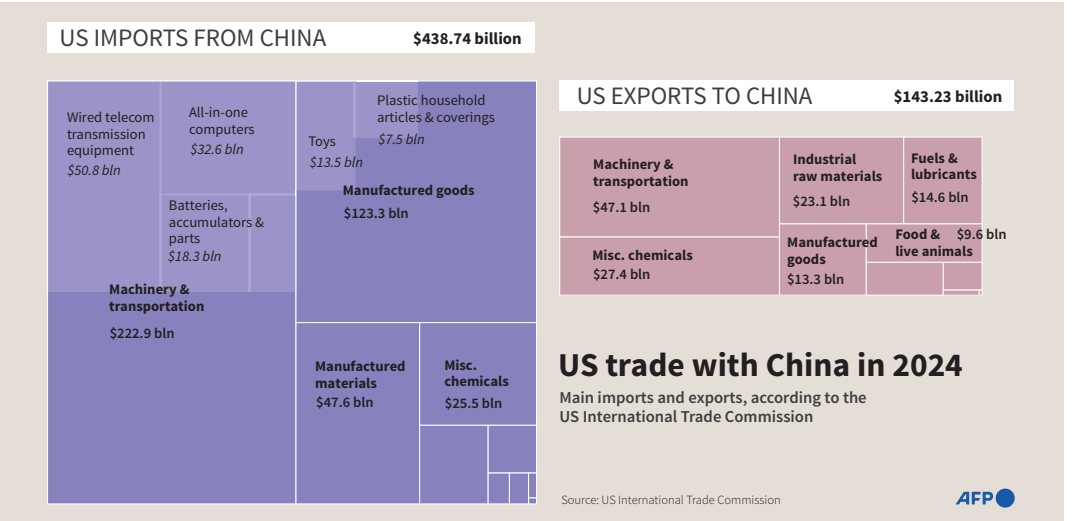
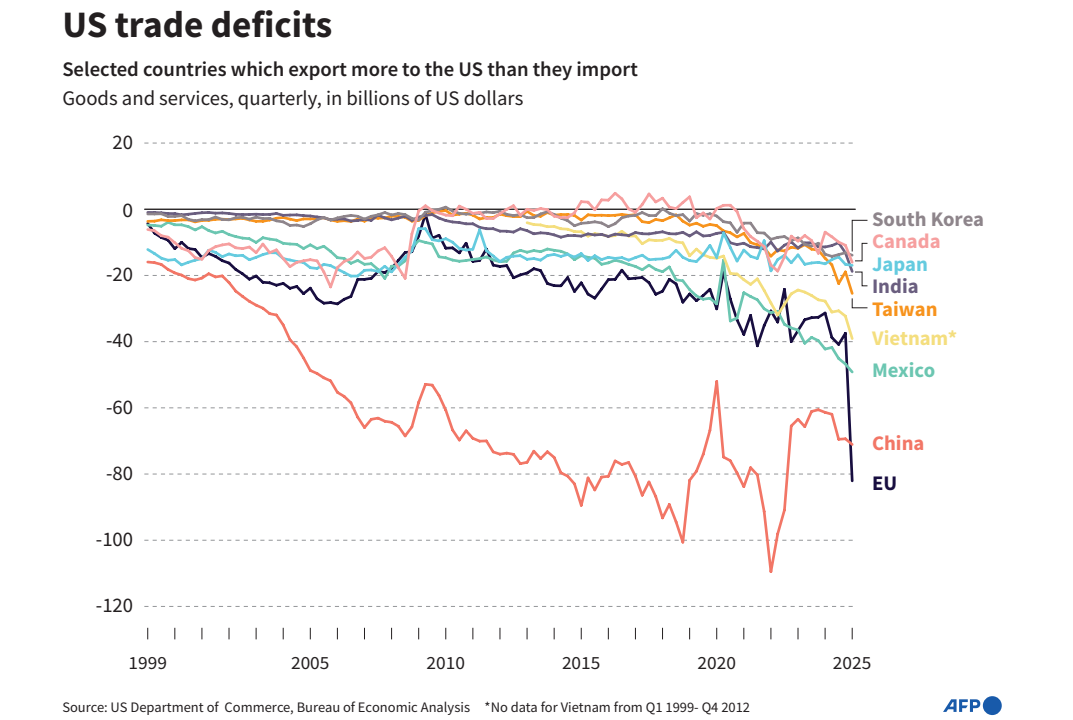
Ireland has the largest surplus among EU members, at \$86.7 billion.

That is largely due to the presence of major American pharmaceutical companies such as Pfizer, Eli Lilly, and Johnson & Johnson. They all set up in Ireland to benefit from a 15 percent corporate tax, compared to 21 percent in the United States.

These companies can thus host their patents in Ireland and sell on the American market, where drug prices are traditionally higher than in the rest of the world.

Ireland also hosts most of the European headquarters of American tech giants, such as Apple, Google and Meta, also attracted by the attractive Irish tax system.

Overall, pharmaceuticals account for 22.5 percent of EU exports to the United States, ac-



the EU and the United States to “quickly find solutions and to avoid an escalation”.

Italy, France in the second line

Italy and France, with surpluses of \$44 billion and \$16.4 billion respectively, according to US statistics (French data says the surplus is much smaller), would appear to be less affected. But some sectors are heavily exposed.

The food and wine industries would be particularly affected in both countries, as is also the case for Spain.

A 30-percent tariff would be a “catastrophe” for the French wine and spirits sector, Jerome Despey, head of the viticulture branch of the FNSEA union, said Saturday.

Coldiretti, Italy’s main agricultural organisation, said Sat-

urday that tariffs of 30 percent would cost US consumers and Italian food producers some \$2.3 billion.

Like Germany, Italy is also concerned about its automotive sector. Franco-Italian manufacturer Stellantis (particularly Fiat and Peugeot) has suspended its forecasts for the year due to these uncertainties.

Exposed French sectors also include aeronautics and luxury goods. LVMH, the world’s largest luxury conglomerate, makes a quarter of its sales in the United States.

About a fifth of France’s exports to the United States come from the aerospace industry, much of it from Airbus.

Austria and Sweden also have surpluses with the United States, \$13.1 billion and \$9.8 billion respectively.

cording to Eurostat, with many major players having announced major investments in the United States.

Germany, the industrial powerhouse

Germany, the EU’s largest economy, is under particular

pressure due to its dependence on exports: it has a surplus of \$84.8 billion with the United States, thanks to its large automobile, chemical, steel and machine industries.

The United States accounts for 23 percent of the revenue of Mercedes Benz. While some

of that is accounted for by SUVs manufactured in the United States and exported, they risk being hit by any tariff reprisals from the EU.

The Federation of German Industries (BDI) reacted promptly to Donald Trump’s announcements on Saturday, calling on

techbuzz

Slimmer, smarter, sleeker

Samsung says Galaxy Z Fold7 is here to wow your world

- At 215 grams, Galaxy Z Fold7 is even lighter than Galaxy S25 Ultra
- It is just 8.9 mm thick when folded and 4.2 mm thick when unfolded
- The device comes with a 6.5-inch Dynamic AMOLED 2X cover display, a wider screen with a new 21:9 aspect ratio

TD T | Manama

Samsung Electronics has announced the launch of the Galaxy Z Fold7, the slimmest and lightest device in its foldable lineup, weighing just 215 grams. The flagship foldable combines Galaxy AI with



powerful hardware to deliver an ultra-premium smartphone experience in a compact form. The Fold7 features a re-designed 8-inch Dynamic AMOLED 2X main display that is 11% larger than its predecessor, offering an expansive workspace for editing, multitasking, and immersive viewing. The device reaches 2,600 nits of peak brightness, ensuring visibility even in direct sunlight. Samsung has reengineered the device with a thinner Armor FlexHinge, a more dura-

ble titanium plate layer, and 50% thicker Ultra-Thin Glass. The frame uses upgraded Armor Aluminum for enhanced strength, while the cover display is protected with Corning Gorilla Glass Ceramic 2. The Fold7 is powered by the Snapdragon 8 Elite for Galaxy processor, delivering significant performance gains, including a 41% boost in AI processing. It runs on One UI 8 based on Android 16, with Galaxy AI tools optimised for large screens. Features such as Circle to Search,

Drag & Drop AI, and Gemini Live enable seamless multitasking and intelligent assistance. Camera capabilities also see a major upgrade, with the introduction of a 200MP wide-angle camera—making it the first of its kind in the Galaxy Z series. AI-powered imaging features enhance low-light photography, video clarity, and post-shot editing with tools like Generative Edit, Photo Assist, and Audio Eraser.

YOU KNOW WHAT

Samsung's foldable phones, like the Galaxy Z Fold and Flip series, are tested to withstand over 200,000 folds – which equals folding the phone 100 times a day for more than five years!

Galaxy Z Flip7: Big AI power in your pocket

TD T | Agencies

Samsung has unveiled the Galaxy Z Flip7, its most compact and intelligent foldable phone yet. Featuring a sleek design, AI-powered tools, and a new 4.1-inch edge-to-edge FlexWindow, the Flip7 combines portability with flagship



performance. At just 188g and 13.7mm when folded, it's the slimmest

Z Flip to date. The 6.9-inch main display offers an immersive viewing experience, while the 4,300mAh battery – the largest in the Flip series – and a 3nm processor ensure all-day, high-speed performance. The FlexWindow displays messages, schedules, and selfies with a bright 2,600-nit, 120Hz screen. With Samsung

DeX, it doubles as a workstation. Galaxy AI enables intuitive controls, while Gemini Live allows voice and camera-based assistance without opening the phone. Features like Now Bar, Now Brief, and customization tools make the Flip7 a highly personal, always-ready companion for users on the go.

Huawei debuts Pura 80 Series and MatePad 11.5

TD T | Dubai

During the Product Launch in Dubai under the theme “Fashion Next,” Huawei unveiled a range of new products including the HUAWEI Pura 80 Series and the HUAWEI MatePad 11.5. It was officially announced with great fanfare that XMAGE will return to the Grand Palais in Paris this year, where it will host the “The World, You and Me” XMAGE Awards Ceremony and Annual Exhibition at Paris Photo 2025. Zhu Ping, President of Huawei Device Business Marketing and Sales Services, said: “Huawei is progressing globally, launching flagship devices and building local community connections. The Pura 80 Series we unveil today in Dubai features cutting-edge imag-

ing technology that empowers creators to better capture emotions and ideas.” The Pura 80 Series, rebranded in 2024, offers three models that merge stylish design with top-tier performance. It marks Huawei's return to the global smartphone market. The MatePad 11.5, already popular worldwide for its multitasking and connectivity, is expected to raise the bar further in display and productivity. The XMAGE Awards 2025, launched globally on June 11, has drawn entries from over 170 countries, with nearly 5 million submissions.



Sony unveils high-res shotgun microphone and ultra-fast CFexpress memory cards

TD T | Dubai

Sony has announced the launch of the ECM-778, a high-resolution mono shotgun microphone designed for professional content creation in films, documentaries, and dramas. Compact yet powerful, the ECM-778 delivers immersive, clear audio with spacious highs and stable mid-lows – ideal for demanding production environments. Weighing just 102g and measuring 176mm, the ECM-778 features a newly developed capsule, brass acoustic tube, and precision-tuned circuitry. It offers excellent forward directivity and can be mounted on boom poles or directly on compatible cameras, including Sony's Cinema Line and Alpha series models with XLR terminals. Sony also introduced its lat-



est CFexpress Type A memory solutions: the CEA-G1920T (1920GB) and CEA-G960T (960GB) cards, alongside the MRW-G3 card reader. Designed for Sony's mirrorless and cinema cameras, the cards are CFexpress 4.0-compatible and offer read speeds over 1800 MB/s, more than twice as fast as previous models. They meet the VPG400 standard, ensuring stable recording at 400 MB/s – ideal for long-form video and high-speed stills. The MRW-G3 card reader supports fast data transfer, significantly enhancing post-production workflows. With these new products, Sony continues to expand its ecosystem of professional-grade tools, reinforcing its commitment to supporting creators with premium audio and data solutions for efficient, high-quality production.

Motorola launches razr 60 and edge 60 pro in Australia



motorola razr 60 (left) and motorola edge 60 pro (right)

TD T | agencies

Motorola has introduced two AI-powered smartphones to the Australian market – the motorola razr 60 and motorola edge 60 pro – both available from 10 July for \$1,199 RRP.

Equipped with moto ai, the devices offer intelligent features like Next Move for real-time suggestions and Playlist Studio for AI-generated music experiences. The razr 60 combines iconic flip design with a 3.6” external display, 50MP camera, and a durable titanium-reinforced hinge. A

standout for content creators, it includes Air Gestures for hands-free video recording. The edge 60 pro is built for entertainment and endurance, powered by a 6000mAh battery with 90W TurboPower™ fast charging, earning DXOMARK's top score for smartphone battery life. It features a 6.7” pOLED HDR10+ display, MediaTek Dimensity 8350 Extreme chipset, and a stylish quad-curved design. Both devices are available in Pantone-curated colours, combining aesthetic appeal with advanced performance and thoughtful AI integration.

Casio launches first automatic EDIFICE watches with EFK100 series

TD T | agencies

Casio America, Inc. has announced the launch of its first-ever automatic EDIFICE timepieces with the debut of the EFK100 series. The collection includes three models: EFK100CD-1A (Forged Carbon Dial), EFK100D-2A (Blue Dial), and EFK100D-7A (White Dial), marking a bold new chapter for the EDIFICE brand. Each model features a mechanical movement, minimalist dial with a six o'clock date window, and hollowed hour and minute hands with luminous tips for low-light visibility. Premium materials include sapphire crystal, forged carbon or electroformed dials, and a stainless-steel bracelet with hairline and mirror finishes.



A transparent case back showcases the inner workings and engraved oscillating weight, appealing to mechanical watch enthusiasts. With 100-meter water resistance, the EFK100 series combines durability with elegant styling. Prices range from \$280–\$300, and availability begins July 11 at Casio.com and select retailers.

DJI launches Power 2000: A compact, high-capacity portable power station

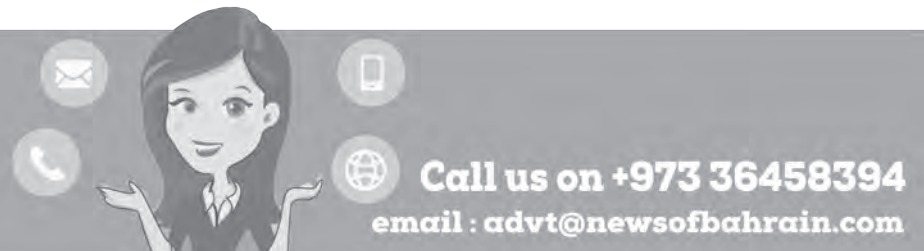
TD T | agencies

DJI has unveiled the DJI Power 2000, a powerful and compact portable power station designed for home backup, outdoor adventures, and professional productions. With a 2048Wh capacity, it charges to 80% in just 55 minutes and can expand to 22,528Wh using ten additional batteries. The Power 2000 supports 3000W output, powering most household appliances and charging multiple devices simultaneously through AC, USB-C, and USB-A ports. Users can recharge it via grid, solar, or car power, with solar charging taking as little as 75 minutes. It also features UPS functionality, ensuring con-



tinuous power during outages. Compact (16 inches tall), ultra-quiet (30dB), and app-controlled via DJI Home, the Power 2000 is built with advanced safety features, including 26 temperature sensors, 21 fuses, and a durable LFP battery good for 10 years of daily use. DJI also offers accessories including expansion batteries, chargers, and a transport hand truck.

Classifieds



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CLB RESTAURANTS has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66666330 or YOUSIF@YS-BG.COM

PLANEXCO ORGANIZING EXHIBITION AND CONFERENCE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37937932 or FADHEL.MIRZA@GMAIL.COM

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ALOHA SPA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36811851 or ABD911ABD@GMAIL.COM

specialist hair style salon has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35034245 or 3MARALMAH-MOOD@GMAIL.COM

red fox systems will has a vacancy for the occupation of ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17252979 or info@redfoxbahrain.net

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Mohammed Jalal Catering Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17533311 or RASHID_BUALI@JALAL.COM

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qualified applicants can contact 36960999 or HASH2H2@GMAIL.COM

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FATENAT ALKHALEEJ BEAUTY CENTRE has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39332314 or BEAUTY.GULF@HOTMAIL.COM

Classifieds

VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

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FIELD CORE SERVICE SOLUTIONS INTERNATIONAL LLC - Branch of a Foreign Company has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICAL SERVICE ADVISER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17291195 or FAHED.FAQIH@GE.COM

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a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17785050 or zainab.sayed@bukannan.com

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Marc Marquez dominates bruising German MotoGP



Ducati Lenovo Team's Spanish MotoGP rider Marc Marquez celebrates on the podium with his trophy

● **Marc Marquez Wins 200th Start**

● **Alex Marquez 2nd despite fractured hand**

● **Only 10 riders finish**

AFP | Sachsenring

Marc Marquez won a bruising German MotoGP yesterday to mark his 200th premier class start in style and stretch his lead in the world championship.

His brother Alex Marquez took second with Francesco Bagnaia third as only 10 riders finished, the lowest number completing a MotoGP since 2011.

While the rest of the grid struggled to remain on their bikes at this notoriously tricky Sachsenring track, Marc Marquez enjoyed a dream afternoon.

Setting off from pole he was never challenged, crossing the line over six seconds clear for his seventh perfect weekend of 2025 having also won Saturday's sprint.

At the midway stage of the 22-race campaign Marquez leads brother Alex by 83 points in the riders' standings, with his Ducati factory teammate Bagnaia yawning 147 off the lead.

"My confidence is super high now coming here with three wins in a row and now it's four," beamed Marquez.

"I have to be really concentrated for the second half of the season," he added.

His younger sibling was competing despite fracturing his left hand at the Dutch MotoGP

YOU

KNOW WHAT

This was the fewest finishers (10) in a MotoGP race since the 2011 Australian Grand Prix – another famously attritional event

a fortnight ago. "It's unbelievable, thanks to the doctors and everyone that I'm here," he said after his 100th MotoGP start.

For Marquez this was his seventh race win of the year and fourth on the trot as he tightens his grip on a seventh MotoGP world title - and first since 2019 - to draw level with the legendary Valentino Rossi.

Attritional

Despite sunshine taking over from Saturday's rain, the race proved one of the most attritional in years with eight riders crashing and two unable to take part after coming a cropper on Saturday.

The last time only 10 riders completed a MotoGP was in Australia, 14 years ago.

Pole-sitter Marquez enjoyed an electric getaway from the front of the grid, in contrast to 24 hours earlier.

Then, a first turn mistake had dropped him down the pack, and it wasn't until his last lap overtake of Marco Bezzecchi that he wrapped up his 10th sprint out of 11.

On a dry track, Marquez quickly pulled clear of the chas-

ing pack led by Fabio Di Giannantonio, who had set a new lap record in practice on Friday.

With Marquez set fair for another demolition job - he'd pulled almost two seconds clear by lap 10 of 30 - his main danger was maintaining focus and concentration around the ultra-demanding circuit with its short straights and tight bends in the former East Germany.

Others were not enjoying their afternoon at one of the toughest venues on the calendar quite so much - notably Pedro Acosta and Miguel Oliveira who both crashed out.

On lap 18 Di Giannantonio and Johann Zarco also hit the deck independently at turn one.

That left Bezzecchi's Aprilia chasing Marquez, a distant four-and-a-half seconds up the road.

But that situation only lasted until the following lap when Bezzecchi became the latest victim of turn one.

The DNF tally swelled even further with the exits of Lorenzo Savadori, Ai Ogura and former champion Joan Mir.

Two riders unable to line up on Sunday were KTM-Tech 3 duo Maverick Vinales, out with a fractured shoulder after a heavy fall in qualifying, and his appendicitis-hit teammate Enea Bastianini.

Also missing was Franco Morbidelli after his bone-crunching crash in Saturday's sprint.

The MotoGP season moves on to Czechia next Sunday where all eyes will be on defending champion Jorge Martin.

The luckless Spaniard has not finished a race this season after a series of heavy crashes, but has set his sights on Brno for his return to action.

Bangladesh level T20 series with thumping win over Sri Lanka

AFP | Dambulla

Bangladesh bounced back in emphatic fashion to level the three-match T20I series against Sri Lanka, cruising to an 83-run win in the second encounter at Dambulla on Sunday.

After being outclassed in the opening game atallekele, the visitors rang in three changes and produced a performance that ticked all the boxes. Asked to bat first, they posted



Bangladesh's Litton Das plays a shot

a competitive 177 before rolling over the hosts for a paltry 94

-- Sri Lanka's lowest T20I total against Bangladesh and their heaviest defeat to the Tigers in the format.

It was also the lowest T20I total ever recorded by Sri Lanka at home.

The hosts, chasing what seemed a gettable target on a decent surface, never got out of the blocks. The innings unravelled in a flash, lasting just 15.2 overs as wickets tumbled like a house of cards.

Hamoda shines as Bahrain grind out win over hosts

Second-half surge lifts Bahrain past hosts to 2-0 start at William Jones Cup

- Hamoda leads Bahrain's scoring push
- Taipei start fast, fade late
- Bench depth plays vital role

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

Bahrain made it two wins from two at the 44th William Jones Cup, shaking off a sluggish start to beat hosts Chinese Taipei National Development Team 71-63 yesterday at Xinzhuang Gymnasium in New Taipei City.

The win came on the heels of Bahrain's resounding 85-69 win over Japan U25 on Saturday, and now sets them up with Malaysia today as the Kingdom's squad continues its eight-game campaign.

Slow Start, Strong Finish

The Bahrainis fell behind 25-17 after the opening quarter as Chinese Taipei came out firing from beyond the arc, hitting six triples in the first ten minutes alone. But the visitors responded in the second quarter, tightening up on defense and outscoring the hosts 21-10 to take a narrow 38-35 halftime lead.

The third quarter was even-



Mustafa Rashed in action yesterday

ly matched at 11 points apiece, but Bahrain saved their best for last. Mohamed Hamoda knocked down a three-pointer midway through the fourth, while the team executed well in transition

and at the foul line to outscore Chinese Taipei White 22-17 in the final frame, sealing the eight-point win.

Hamoda Headlines



Devon Chism in possession against the hosts

Mohamed Hamoda led Bahrain in scoring with 11 points on an efficient 5-of-6 shooting, including a timely triple that sparked the fourth-quarter push. Ali Alhaddad added four

points in just ten minutes of action, while Mustafa Rashed chipped in with two and dished out three assists.

Bahrain's defensive effort was equally critical, holding their op-

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Bahrain didn't lead for a single second in the first quarter, but out-scored Chinese Taipei 54-38 the rest of the way

ponents to just 28.4% shooting from the field and 31.7% from deep. They also capitalized on second-chance opportunities, pulling down 11 offensive boards.

Chinese Taipei White were led by Gu Mao Wei-Jia with six points, while no other player scored more than four for the hosts. Their strong first quarter wasn't enough to overcome Bahrain's consistency down the stretch.

More to come

Looking ahead, Bahrain will next face Malaysia today at 9AM. It will be their third game in as many days as part of a grueling schedule that also includes matchups against Australia United, the UAE, and Chinese Taipei's senior squad later in the week.

Messi at the double again to lift Miami to MLS win over Nashville



Inter Miami's Argentine star Lionel Messi celebrates after scoring
AFP | Miami

Lionel Messi continued his historic Major League Soccer scoring run Saturday, netting two goals for the fifth game in a row to lift Inter Miami to a 2-1 victory over Nashville.

Just days after he became the first player to score multiple goals in four straight MLS matches, Messi did it again as Miami continued their climb up the Eastern Conference standings after their league hiatus for the Club World Cup.

Messi, the eight-time Ballon d'Or winner, opened the scoring in the 17th minute with a trademark left-foot free-kick,

which found the only gap in Nashville's defensive wall to go past goalkeeper Joe Willis.

Miami dominated in the first half but, just four minutes after half-time, Hany Mukhtar's header pulled Nashville level.

Messi grabbed the winner in the 62nd minute when he capitalized on a bad mistake from Willis, who misjudged a pass to tee up the Argentine for the strike.

The two goals -- on the heels of his two in a 2-1 win over New England on Wednesday -- took Messi's total to 16 in 16 appearances this season, tied with Nashville's Sam Surridge, who was unable to add to his tally of 16 on Saturday.

Liverpool honour 'champion' Jota in return to action at Preston



Preston and Liverpool players observe a minute's silence for Liverpool's late Portuguese striker #20 Diogo Jota during the pre-season friendly football match between Preston North End and Liverpool at Deepdale stadium in Preston

- Liverpool beat Preston 3-1
- Minute's silence observed
- Players wore black armbands

AFP | London

Diogo Jota was hailed "a champion" yesterday by Liverpool manager Arne Slot as the Reds returned to the field for the first time since the Portuguese's death by beating Pres-

ton 3-1 in a pre-season friendly.

Father of three Jota died alongside his brother Andre Silva on July 3, 11 days after marrying his long-term partner Rute Cardoso, after their car came off the road and burst into flames in northern Spain.

A rendition of Liverpool's anthem "You'll Never Walk Alone" was played before kick-off at Deepdale and Preston captain Ben Whiteman laid a wreath in front of the away supporters.

A minute's silence was then observed and both teams wore black armbands.

"I think what I take comfort in is that in the last month of

his life he was a champion in everything," Slot said in an interview ahead of the match.

"A champion for his family, which is the main and most important thing, because he got married.

"A champion for his country because he won the Nations League with a country that he cared about so much, because he also wore the flag when we had celebrations.

"And of course a champion for us by winning the Premier League."

Mohamed Salah was among the Liverpool starting line-up and captain for the day as Virgil van Dijk was left out of the

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Liverpool manager Arne Slot found comfort in the fact that in the last month of his life, Diogo Jota was "a champion" for his family (getting married), his country (winning Nations League), and the club (winning Premier League)

playing squad but was still in attendance.

Three of the players who travelled to Gondomar, just outside Porto, for Jota's funeral last weekend, Conor Bradley, Darwin Nunez and Cody Gakpo scored the goals in Liverpool's first steps back towards normality.

Multiple renditions of Jota's song, proclaiming him to be better than Portugal legend Figo, were belted out by the Liverpool support before a ball was even kicked.

Swiatek hits back at critics after Wimbledon triumph

Swiatek urges Polish media to back off after historic, flawless Wimbledon victory

- Swiatek pleaded with Polish media
- Criticized media treatment
- Requests “freedom” to do her job

AFP | London

Iga Swiatek pleaded with the Polish media to “leave me alone”, saying she knows what she is doing after crushing Amanda Anisimova 6-0, 6-0 to win her first Wimbledon title on Saturday.

The 24-year-old was seeded eighth at the All England Club after a disappointing first half of the season, though she is fourth in the rankings after a run to the Bad Homburg final two weeks ago.

Swiatek was asked at her post-match press conference whether winning Wimbledon so convincingly was a fitting riposte to those who have criticised her over her performances.

“For sure the past months, how the media sometimes describe me, and I’ve got to say unfortunately Polish media, how they treated me and my team, it wasn’t really pleasant,” she said.

“I hope they will just leave me alone and let me do my job because obviously you can see that we know what we are doing, and I have the best people around me.

Britain’s Catherine, Princess of Wales gives the winner’s trophy to Iga Swiatek (L)

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Swiatek, a lifelong admirer of the royal family, said receiving the trophy from Princess Catherine was “surreal” and one of the most special moments of her career

“I have already proved a lot. I know people want more and more, but it’s my own process and my own life and my own career.

“Hopefully I’m going to have a freedom from them, as well, to let me do my job the way I want it.”

‘Surreal’

Swiatek will climb to third in the rankings on Monday after winning her sixth Grand Slam title on a blazing day on Centre Court.

The former world number one destroyed the hapless US 13th seed in just 57 minutes and the American admitted she was “frozen by nerves”.



“It’s something that is just surreal. I feel like tennis keeps surprising me, and I keep surprising myself.

“I’m really happy with the whole process, how it looked like from the first day we stepped on a grass court. I feel like we did everything for it to go in that direction without expecting it, just working really hard.”

Swiatek said it was difficult to rank her Grand Slam triumphs but that winning on grass made it more “special and unexpected”.

“For sure, it feels like the emotions are bigger because at Roland Garros I know I can play well, and I know I can show it every year,” she said. “Here, I wasn’t sure of that. I also needed to prove that to myself.”

Swiatek said it had been special to be presented with the Venus Rosewater Dish by Catherine, Princess of Wales.

“Overall the process of getting the trophy from her royal highness was something surreal,” she said.

“Since I’m a kid, honestly I’m a big fan of the royal family. It was amazing. I really appreciate that. I’m really grateful that it was her royal highness giving the trophy.”

“For sure the past months, how the media sometimes describe me, and I’ve got to say unfortunately Polish media, how they treated me and my team, it wasn’t really pleasant. I hope they will just leave me alone and let me do my job because obviously you can see that we know what we are doing, and I have the best people around me

IGA SWIATEK

Anisimova ‘frozen by nerves’ in historic Wimbledon final rout

- Did not practice day before
- Vows to improve physicality

AFP | London

Amanda Anisimova said she was “frozen by nerves” as her Wimbledon dream turned into a nightmare as Iga Swiatek romped to a historic 6-0, 6-0 victory in Saturday’s final.

Anisimova had enjoyed a fairytale run to her first Grand Slam final just 18 months after returning to the game from a break to help her mental health.

However, she admitted the occasion and the draining nature of a two-week slam played in blistering conditions during a London heatwave had taken its toll in the most one-sided

”

I was a bit frozen there with my nerves. Maybe the last two weeks I got a bit tired or something. It’s not how I would have wanted my first Grand Slam final to go

AMANDA ANISIMOVA

final for 114 years.

“I was a bit frozen there with my nerves. Maybe the last two weeks I got a bit tired or something,” said Anisimova who will climb to a career-high seventh in the world thanks to her run at the All England Club.

“It’s not how I would have wanted my first Grand Slam final to go.

“I think I was a little bit in shock after, as well. But I told myself, ‘I’ll definitely come out stronger after this’. That’s not

Despite the crushing defeat, Anisimova’s run to the Wimbledon final will lift her to a career-high world No. 7—just 18 months after returning from a mental health break that saw her ranked outside the top 400

an easy thing to go through, losing 6-0, 6-0 in a Grand Slam final.

“If anything, I can look at it as a positive and something I can look at as motivation going forward. Obviously there’s a lot of things I need to do to progress.”

Anisimova returned to action in January 2024 and has since fought her way back from well outside the world’s top 400.

This season has been the best

of her career so far -- winning the Qatar Open in February.

The high point of her year came in beating world number one Aryna Sabalenka in a bruising semi-final on Thursday.

But the 23-year-old said that match had left her so physically exhausted she had been unable to even practice on the eve of the final.

“I didn’t practice yesterday. I think that I was just really fatigued,” she added.

“I could feel it also in my warm-up this morning. I mean, I had to take a break after every single rally out there in my warm-up.

“I think, if anything, it’s my physicality that I need to work on.”

Anisimova, though, is determined to use Saturday’s scarring experience as a driver to spur her on to her dream of one day becoming a Grand Slam champion.

“It’s honestly, like, a fork in the road. It’s whatever direction you want to go in,” she added.

“I’m going to choose the path of working towards my goals and to try and keep improving, hopefully put myself in more positions and opportunities like today.

“I think that’s going to help me reach my goals.”



Amanda Anisimova

Sinner claims historic Wimbledon title

World No. 1 avenges French Open loss to dethrone defending champion Alcaraz

- Sinner beats Alcaraz 4-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4
- First Italian Wimbledon champion
- 4th Grand Slam title

AFP | London

Jannik Sinner downed Carlos Alcaraz 4-6, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4 yesterday to win his first Wimbledon title, gaining sweet revenge for his painful defeat in the French Open final. The world number one is the first Italian to win at the All England Club and now has four Grand Slams to his name at the age of 23. The tennis world has been captivated by the emergence of the new rivalry to follow the storied “Big Three” era of Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic. Sinner and two-time defending Wimbledon champion Alcaraz have now shared the past seven Grand Slam titles between them, with the Italian winning four of those.



Italy's Jannik Sinner receives from the hands of Britain's Catherine, Princess of Wales the winner's trophy

Defeat in Paris last month was a bitter blow for Sinner, who led by two sets and squandered three match points in the final. Prior to yesterday's victory, he had lost five consecutive times against Alcaraz, including the

final of the Italian Open in the first tournament he played after returning from a three-month doping ban. But this time he turned the tables in impressive fashion. Both players were solid on

serve until the fifth game, when Alcaraz sprayed a forehand long to hand Sinner the first break of the match. But the Spaniard levelled at 4-4 to the delight of the Centre Court crowd, which included

Prince William and his wife Catherine, Princess of Wales. Sinner double-faulted to hand Alcaraz a second set point. The Italian laced a searing forehand down the line but Alcaraz produced a magical backhand winner, pointing his finger to his ear as the crowd rose to their feet.

Momentum shift

Sinner, still wearing a protective white sleeve after his nasty fall in his fourth-round match against Grigor Dimitrov, broke in the first game of the second set and led 3-1 after play was briefly halted by a flying cork. Sinner shook his racquet after winning the first point as he served for the set and was rewarded with cheers before levelling the match with a whipped forehand. The third set was a tense affair that went with serve until the ninth game when Sinner broke as Alcaraz slipped over on the baseline and he went 2-1 up. The momentum was now all with Sinner and he broke again in the third game of the fourth set to take the match by the scruff of the neck.

YOU
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Sinner equaled the Open era record by dropping just 17 games through the first three rounds - matching a mark set in 1972

The chance was always there that Alcaraz would produce the magic he found at Roland Garros but Sinner stayed ice-cool. The Spaniard had two break points to hit back in the eighth game but Sinner shut the door impressively. Sinner stepped up to serve for the championship amid a cacophony of noise, staying focused to seal the deal on his second championship point. The Italian cruised through the first three rounds at Wimbledon, losing just 17 games -- equalling an Open era record set in 1972.

Merlier doubles up as Van der Poel denied epic win at Tour de France

AFP | Châteauroux

Tim Merlier won stage nine of the Tour de France at Châteauroux yesterday after a heroic long-range escape from Mathieu van der Poel was caught in the final kilometre. There was no change atop the overall standings with Tadej Pogacar now holding a 54sec advantage over Remco Evenepoel in second with French starlet Kevin Vauquelin third. This was a second Tour win for Soudal Quick-Step sprinter Merlier this year, who was first across the line on stage three at Dunkirk. Merlier was led in by team leader Evenepoel. “It’s mad, we are supposed to be helping him (Evenepoel) but he’s helping us,” Merlier said. “I need to make it through the mountains now, I won’t be any use to Remco there, but I want to help him in the other ones,” said the 32-year-old. On a sun drenched slog from the Chinon vineyards, Van der Poel and a teammate broke early and built up a lead of 5min 30sec on the flat roads to Châteauroux. ‘Nearly made it’ Jonas Rickaert won the combativity award for accompanying Van der Poel to within 10km of the line before slumping over his

“It’s mad, we are supposed to be helping him (Evenepoel) but he’s helping us. I need to make it through the mountains now, I won’t be any use to Remco there, but I want to help him in the other ones”

TIM MERLIER

handlebars. “I’m really happy. That was one of his (Rickaert) dreams, to win the combativity award and that’s why we went,” Van der Poel explained. “In the end we nearly made it but we hadn’t expected to get that far,” he said of his 173km breakaway at an average speed on 49.9kph. As with many heroic exploits,

their epic escape was ultimately doomed to a gut wrenching narrow failure. But with his gung-ho all-in style Van der Poel grew his Tour de France legend here despite being caught with 700m to go, the plaudits will be both his and Merlier’s. “It’s hard to not be able to finish it off, but we put on a good show,” said the Dutch rider. As Van der Poel was reeled in, it looked as though Jonathan Milan would win a second consecutive stage but Merlier got ahead with 30m remaining as Milan finished second with Arnaud De Lie completing the podium. Road signs in honour of British cycling great Mark Cavendish had been placed at entry points to Châteauroux -- reading Cavendish City -- in homage to the now-retired 40-year-old, after he won three stages there in 2008, 2011 and 2021.



India collapse as third Test against England heads for thrilling finish



England's Brydon Carse celebrates after trapping India's captain Shubman Gill LBW

AFP | London

India suffered a dramatic top-order slump to set up a thrilling finale to the third Test against England at Lord's yesterday. The tourists had the upper hand after dismissing England for just 192 in their second innings, with off-spinner Washington Sundar taking 4-22, including the wickets of Joe Root, Jamie Smith and England captain Ben Stokes on the fourth day. That left India needing 193 to go 2-1 up in this five-match series after both teams made 387 in their first innings. India, however, collapsed to 58-4 at stumps, with the tourists requiring a further 135 runs to win on Monday's final day. Yashasvi Jaiswal was out for

a duck, skyng a hook off fast bowler Jofra Archer to wicket-keeper Smith. Karun Nair was lbw to Brydon Carse with India captain Shubman Gill, who has already scored a double hundred and two centuries this series, falling in similar fashion. And with what became the last ball of the day, Stokes bowled nightwatchman Akash Deep to raucous cheers from the home crowd at a sun-drenched Lord's. But India opener KL Rahul, fresh from his first-innings score of exactly 100, was still there on 33 not out following several typically elegant boundaries. “India will win, probably just after lunch,” a bullish Sundar told Sky Sports after stumps. But England batting coach Marcus Trescothick, speaking to the BBC, said: “When the

ball gets a little bit softer there are more runs to be had out there, but if you get it enough in the right place it’s very tricky. “We would have loved 250 and beyond but we would have taken 190 and our chance to bowl on that pitch and it’ll come down to who holds the pressure best tomorrow.” Earlier, Root and Stokes joined forces with England in trouble at 87-4. But a partnership worth 67 ended when Root, who made a hundred in the first innings, was bowled behind his legs trying to sweep Sundar. Root’s 40 was the top score of England’s second innings. Smith’s three previous scores this series had been 184 not out, 88 and 51, but he managed just eight before he was bowled by a Sundar delivery that kept a touch low.