



Last update - 9:00 pm | 13 October 2021

Individuals vaccinated

(First dose)

1 1 6 9 7 4 4

(Second dose)

1 1 3 1 3 0 3

(Booster dose)

3 8 3 2 1 8



Learn about the criteria for booster shots.



US warns of 'other options' against Iran

Washington

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken warned yesterday that Washington had "other options" if diplomacy failed on Iran's nuclear programme, as his visiting Israeli counterpart said they reserved the right to use force.

Blinken told reporters that he had hoped for the success of talks with Iran, but "the runway that we have left to do that is getting shorter and shorter."

Referencing Israeli Foreign Minister Yair Lapid's threat to use force, Blinken said without elaborating: "We are prepared to turn to other options if Iran doesn't change course."

(Israeli-Palestinian story - Page 6)

Reform centres, open prisons programme praised

Cairo

Bahrain's pioneering initiative to adopt the reform centres and open prisons programme in accordance with well-defined regulations has earned praise.

The Arab Observatory for Human Rights of the Arab Parliament commended the directives of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, to start putting in place the necessary executive mechanisms for the programme.



HM the King



HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister

It described the move as a reflection of the kingdom's keenness to protect and promote the human rights system and a "model to emulate" according to international standards.

In a statement, the group noted that the royal directives reflect the keen vision of HM the King to protect the Bahraini social texture.

It described the move as an extension of the success of the alternative penalties programme as a national, civilisational and humanitarian project.

The observatory also praised Bahrain's efforts and tireless en-

deavour to develop the criminal justice system and foster human rights.

It lauded the meeting of Interior Minister General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa with heads and representatives of human rights institutions in the Kingdom and his directives to speed up the implementation of the executive mechanism of the open prisons programme.

Likewise, it stressed the importance of the move in rehabilitating the wrongdoers and reintegrate them in the community according to well-defined regulations.

'Bloodbath' in Yemen

More than 100 Houthi rebels killed in air strikes south of Marib: Saudi-led coalition

AFP | Riyadh

More than 100 Yemeni rebels have been killed south of Marib in Yemen, the Saudi-led coalition said yesterday, reporting a heavy toll for the third straight day in fighting for the strategic city.

The Iran-backed Houthis' latest casualties in the Abdiya district "exceeded 108", the coalition said, after announcing more than 156 dead on Monday and over 134 on Tuesday.

That brought the unconfirmed toll to about 400 in the area this week as an analyst said the rebels have made significant advances.

The coalition, which relies heavily on air strikes to combat the Houthis, did not reveal how it arrived at those figures. They could not be independently verified by AFP.

"We have conducted 19 operations targeting (Houthis) militia



A man walks through the mud past tents at a temporary camp for people displaced by the conflict, which has been inundated after heavy rains, in Yemen's south-western province of Taiz. (AFP)

members in the past 24 hours in Abdiya, destroying 12 of their military vehicles and their losses exceeded 108 members," the coalition said in a statement carried by state-run Al-Ekhbariya television.

Fighting for Marib, the inter-

nationally recognised government's last bastion in oil-rich northern Yemen, has left heavy casualties since the rebels renewed their campaign to seize Marib last month.

The Houthis said they were "on the edges of the city" in a

video statement on Tuesday.

Adam Baron, a political analyst focused on Yemen and the wider region, said the rebels had made "significant" territorial gains.

"The advances are quite significant on both a strategic and

psychological level -- these are areas that were seen as quite secure just a year or two ago," he told AFP.

Yemen has been devastated by a seven-year war pitting the rebels against the government supported by a Saudi-led military coalition.

The rebels overran the capital Sanaa, just 120 kilometres (75 miles) to the west of Marib, in 2014, prompting the Saudi-led intervention to prop up the government the following year.

Tens of thousands of people have been killed and millions have been displaced since then. Many fled to Marib, whose population has ballooned since the war began.

As well as the deaths in Abdiya, six people were killed in a car-bombing on Sunday that targeted the governor of Aden, the government's provisional seat of power. He survived the attack.

BAHRAIN COVID-19

TOTAL TESTED

6640843

ACTIVE CASES

621

DEATHS

1390

DISCHARGED

273851

NEW CASES

59

CRITICAL

4

210 fils (includes VAT)



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