

Ukraine to get huge supply of NATO weapons

AFP | Washington

NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte said yesterday that Ukraine will get a huge supply of weapons to boost its war effort against Russia under a new arms supply deal struck with the US.

“It will mean that Ukraine gets its hands on really massive numbers of military equipment, both for air defense, but also missiles, ammunition,” he told reporters at a White House meeting with President Donald Trump.

Trump said the supply amounted to “billions of dollars” worth of munitions and weapons, including Patriot anti-missile systems.

President Volodymyr Zelensky met yesterday with US special envoy Keith Kellogg in Kyiv and discussed air defence and sanctions on Russia during a “productive” conversation, the Ukrainian leader said.

Israel strikes kill 22 in Gaza

AFP | Gaza City

Gaza’s civil defence agency said Israeli air strikes yesterday killed at least 22 people, while Israel and Palestinian fighters reported facing each other in the territory’s north.

The latest violence came with apparent deadlock after a week of indirect talks in Qatar between Israel and the Palestinian group Hamas for a ceasefire after more than 21 months of war.

Man killed in Iraqi protests

AFP | Arbil, Iraq

A man was killed in Iraq’s autonomous Kurdistan region late Sunday during protests against power cuts, residents and a medical source revealed.

Residents in the Rawandz region, northeast of Kurdistan’s capital Arbil, said protesters had taken to the streets and blocked a main highway leading to a border crossing with Iran.

Security forces intervened to open the road.

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Reform Day

Cabinet rewrites national script

● 2025 labour targets updated

● New law draft approved

● 750 doctors to benefit

Mahir Haneef

TDT | Manama

The Cabinet has accelerated Bahrain’s 2025 reform agenda, endorsing key decisions spanning employment, healthcare, infrastructure, and draft legislation during its weekly meeting held yesterday.

Chaired by His Excellency Shaikh Khalid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa, the Deputy Prime Minister, the meeting approved updates to the National Labour Market Plan, introduced new training programmes for healthcare professionals, and pushed forward a draft Buildings Regulation Law.

According to a memorandum from the Ministerial Committee for Community Services, the Kingdom has achieved 49 percent of its goal to employ 25,000 Bahrainis in 2025, with 51 percent of new entrants and 63 percent of training targets already reached.

The Cabinet noted these outcomes followed agreements with the Legislative Authority during recent budget discussions. It also praised new initiatives launched by His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Minister of the Prime Minister’s Court and Chairman of Tamkeen, to train 750 Bahraini doctors and nurses in partnership with the Supreme Council of Health.

A draft Buildings Regulation Law was reviewed and advanced by the Cabinet, following a memorandum from the Ministerial Committee for Legal and Legislative Affairs. Additionally, the government’s response to seven parliamentary proposals and a draft law submitted by the Shura Council were also discussed.

The Cabinet approved multiple



H.E. Shaikh Khalid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa

reports from the Education and Training Quality Authority and took note of municipal-level decisions and building permit data spanning the first half of 2025.

Regional ties and national events

The Cabinet commended His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa’s visit to the UAE and his meeting with His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan. It also congratulated the UAE on Union Pledge Day,

acknowledging the country’s growth since its founding in 1971.

It further praised the successful organisation of Ashura activities, highlighting the co-ordinated efforts of the Ministry of Interior, Jaffari Endowments Council, Ma’atams directors, volunteers, and other agencies acting on HM’s directives.

International cooperation

Ministerial reports presented during the session included



In 2023, Bahrain’s healthcare sector employed over 4,300 Bahraini nurses and nearly 1,200 Bahraini doctors, according to the NHRA annual report.

outcomes from Bahrain’s participation in high-level regional and international forums, such as the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development and preparations for the upcoming World Summit for Social Development.

The meeting concluded with an affirmation of Bahrain’s continued efforts to align domestic reforms with global best practices while investing in its people and institutions.

Bright future ahead

Charity-Led Forum Empowers Bahrain’s Youth Futures

● Forum planned for September

● Event targets school students

● Labour market trends highlighted

Mahir Haneef

TDT | Manama

A new community-driven career forum is set to provide Bahraini students with sharper guidance on their academic and professional futures, as the Horizons Initiative prepares to host its first major event this September.

Organised in partnership with Isa Town Charity Society and the Bahrain Society for Sickle Cell Disease Patients Care, the initiative aims to build an early bridge between students, their families, and the evolving demands of the labour market. The forum aligns with Bahrain’s Vision 2030 and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, offering a platform for



MP Jalila Alawi Al Sayed Hasan, Ibrahim Ali Abdul Rahman Al Burshid, Assistant Undersecretary for Education at the Ministry of Education, and other education and training specialists

Forum ambitions

The announcement was made at an introductory meeting held at Al Ayam newspaper hall, attended by MP Jalila Alawi Al Sayed Hasan, Ibrahim Ali Abdul Rahman Al Burshid, Assistant Undersecretary for Education at the Ministry of Education, and other education and training specialists.

During the session, officials presented the forum’s core objectives, describing it as a pivotal



Globally, UNESCO estimates that over 40% of students lack access to adequate career guidance services during secondary education.

opportunity to empower students by helping them explore academic and career pathways both within Bahrain and abroad. They explained that the forum is intended to complement existing guidance programmes run by the Ministry of Education and align with Tamkeen’s broader efforts to develop national talent.

Beyond financial aid

Speakers stressed that charitable work should go beyond financial support, calling for early and sustained engagement

with students and their families to help them make informed decisions about their professional futures. Without such guidance, they warned, students risk choosing paths that may not reflect actual labour market needs.

The upcoming forum will include lectures, one-on-one counselling, interactive workshops, and conversations with industry experts. A key focus will be introducing participants to future-facing specialisations that reflect shifts in the global job landscape.