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HM King, Pakistan president attend Arabian horse show

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Excellency Pakistan President Asif Ali Zardari, attended an Arabian horse show, which included a military formation by the Royal Guard cavalry of the Bahrain Defence Force (BDF).

H.E. President Zardari was briefed on the horses and the longstanding efforts made in the Kingdom of Bahrain to care for and preserve their bloodlines.

This came as HM the King re-

ceived H.E. President Zardari at Al Safriya Palace yesterday.

First Lady

The Pakistani leader was accompanied by Her Excellency Aseefa Bhutto Zardari, First Lady of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

During the meeting, HM King Hamad and H.E. President Zardari exchanged cordial talks reflecting the longstanding ties and close cooperation between the two countries at all levels.

His Majesty commended the



HM the King with H.E. Pakistan President Asif Ali Zardari and H.E. First Lady Aseefa Bhutto Zardari

successful visit of H.E. President Zardari to Bahrain and its positive outcomes in enhancing bilateral relations. HM the King expressed appreciation for His Excellency's role and efforts in further developing these relations.

H.E. President Zardari expressed appreciation to HM the King for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to him and his accompanying delegation.

His Excellency praised the horse show and the Kingdom's efforts to preserve these pure-bred horses.

Bahrain condemns terrorist attack in Pakistan

TDT | Manama

The Kingdom of Bahrain strongly condemned and denounced the terrorist attack that targeted a police vehicle in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province in northwestern Pakistan, which resulted in the death of several officers.

A statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs expressed the Kingdom's sincere condolences and sympathies to the government and people of Pakistan, and to the families of the victims.

It reaffirmed Bahrain's absolute rejection of acts of violence and terrorism that aim to undermine security and stability and terrorise innocent civilians.



Asset freeze

US sanctions Iranian officials and financial networks over protest crackdown



The wreckage of a burnt bus bearing a banner that reads "This was one of Tehran's new buses that was paid for with the money of the people's taxes," in Tehran's Sadeghieh Square. (AFP).

White House claims Iran 'halted' 800 protester executions

AFP | Washington

The US imposed sanctions yesterday on Iranian security officials and financial networks, accusing them of orchestrating a violent crackdown on peaceful protests and laundering billions in oil revenues.

Meanwhile, the White House said yesterday Iran halted 800 executions under pressure from President Donald Trump over its crackdown on a wave of protests, but US military action remains an option.

"The president understands today that 800 executions that were scheduled and supposed to take place yesterday were halted," Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt told reporters.

"All options remain on the table for the president," she said,

adding that Trump had warned Tehran of "grave consequences" if the killing of demonstrators continued.

Measures

Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent announced the measures in the wake of the biggest anti-government protests in the history of the Islamic republic, although the demonstrations appear to have diminished over the last few days in the face of repression and an almost week-long internet blackout.

"The United States stands firmly behind the Iranian people in their call for freedom and justice," Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said in a statement, adding that the action was taken at President Donald Trump's direction.

Among those sanctioned is Ali Larijani, secretary of Iran's Supreme Council for National Security, whom Washington accused of coordinating the crackdown and calling for force against protesters.

Four regional commanders of

Iran's Law Enforcement Forces



The sanctions freeze any US assets of those designated and prohibit Americans from doing business with them.

and Revolutionary Guard were also sanctioned for their roles in the crackdown in Lorestan and Fars provinces.

Gunshot

Security forces in Fars "have killed countless peaceful demonstrators" with hospitals "so inundated with gunshot wound patients that no other types of

patients can be admitted," the Treasury said.

The Treasury additionally designated 18 individuals and entities accused of operating "shadow banking" networks that launder proceeds from Iranian oil sales through front companies in the UAE, Singapore and Britain.

These networks funnel billions of dollars annually using cover companies and exchange houses, as Iranian citizens face economic hardship, according to the Treasury.

The sanctions freeze any US assets of those designated and prohibit Americans from doing business with them.

Foreign financial institutions risk secondary sanctions for transactions with the designated entities.

The action builds on the Trump administration's "maximum pressure" campaign against Iran.

In 2025, the Treasury sanctioned more than 875 persons, vessels and aircraft as part of this effort, it said.

600 exhibitors for Autumn Expo 2026

TDT | Manama

The Autumn Expo is set to welcome visitors for its 36th edition, taking place from January 22 to 31, 2026, at the Bahrain International Exhibition & Convention Centre.

The event will feature approximately 600 exhibitors from over 24 countries, further solidifying its position as one of the region's leading family shopping festivals.

This year's expo will showcase a wide array of international pavilions offering thousands of imported and exclusive products, alongside a comprehensive entertainment program catering to all family members.

Highlights include children's activities, an electronic games zone, and an expanded food court featuring a variety of cuisines.

Model

Dana Osama Al Saad, Vice President of Resources and Projects at the Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority (BTEA), said the expo represents a comprehensive model for modern family-oriented exhibitions and reflects the confidence of regional and international markets in Bahrain's status as a leading hub for events and exhibitions.

Meanwhile, Mohammed Ibrahim, General Manager of Informa Bahrain, noted that this year's edition is distinguished by the diversity of exhibits and activities, enhancing the visitor experience and supporting commercial activity.

The expo will be open daily from 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM in Halls 2, 3, 5, and 6 at the Bahrain International Exhibition & Convention Centre.

Admission is free, with pre-registration available via the official website.



Renewed push

Shura Council to vote on \$769m fund accounts after MPs' rejection last year

Approval sought again as reserve fund assets rise by end of 2023

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Despite rejection by Parliament last October, the Shura Council's Financial and Economic Affairs Committee is urging members to approve the Future Generations Reserve Fund's 2023 accounts after the fund's assets climbed to \$768.9 million by 31 December 2023, with the matter due to be put to a vote next Sunday.

MPs, in Decision No. (10) issued on 21 October 2025, declined to approve the annual report and audited financial statements, citing observations.

The Shura committee's report recommends approval, while adding its own notes and follow-up points.

Profit

The audited statements show the fund swung back into profit in 2023, recording \$64.3 million for the year after a loss of about \$70.8 million in 2022.

The annual return was 8.4 per cent in 2023, compared with minus 11.5 per cent the year before. The accumulated reserve stood at \$542.7 million at end-2023.

Oil-sale receipts or dues recorded for the year totalled \$92.4 million, up from \$54.5 million in 2022.

Crude

Under the law establishing the reserve, funding comes from a \$1 deduction from the price of



The Future Generations Reserve Fund's board plans to move investments outside Bahrain and exit local investments during 2026.

each exported barrel of crude sold above \$40.

Law No. (16) of 2022 raised the deducted amounts in steps linked to higher oil prices.

The committee also drew attention to amounts due to the fund, saying the balance of in-



Khalid Al Maskati, Head of Financial and Economic Affairs Committee

debtedness reached \$13.6 million at end-2023, up from about \$7.7 million a year earlier, and called for closer follow-up on collection.

Expenses

Operating expenses rose to

about \$6.1 million in 2023 from roughly \$5.5 million in 2022, which the committee linked mainly to higher salaries and other costs.

It proposed looking at paying running costs directly from the reserve account to reduce repeat strain on the state budget and to present the fund's position in a clearer way.

Investment

In the response cited in the report, the Ministry of Finance and National Economy, speaking for the fund's board, said it follows a conservative investment approach and that losses can occur.

It also said the board plans to move investments outside Bahrain and exit local investments during 2026, while a tower project is due to be handed over in 2026.

BTEA extends Hawa Al Manama festival for two more days

Events set for today and tomorrow from 5pm until 12 midnight

TDT | Manama

The Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority (BTEA) announced the extension of the Hawa Al Manama festival for an additional two days, in light of the strong turnout the event has witnessed since its launch and in response to requests from participants and Manama Souq traders to extend its duration.

The authority said that the event will welcome visitors today and tomorrow from 5:00 pm until 12:00 midnight, amid continued high attendance by citizens, residents, and visitors, and the positive interaction generated by the diverse tourism experiences it offers.

Experiences

Hawa Al Manama features a range of innovative experiences inspired by the period spanning the 1960s to the 1990s, a phase marked by significant cultural and economic transformations.

It also includes cultural and heritage activities designed to reflect the authenticity of the location and the nature of its associated experiences, such as specialised performances, historical exhibitions, and experiences that revive details of daily life in the souq over the past decades, in addition to interactive spaces dedicated to families and visitors of all age groups.

Bahrain and Pakistan cooperation boosts women's advancement



HRH Princess Sabeeka with H.E. Aseefa Bhutto Zardari
TDT | Manama

Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, Wife of the King and President of the Supreme Council for Women (SCW), emphasised that such cooperation between the Kingdom of Bahrain and Pakistan supports shared objectives in consolidating the principles of equality and equal opportunities in the field of women's advancement.

HRH Princess Sabeeka was speaking as she received Her Excellency Aseefa Bhutto Zardari, First Lady of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, at the headquarters of the SCW.

Visit

Her Royal Highness welcomed the First Lady and wished her a pleasant stay in the Kingdom of Bahrain, highlighting the importance of the visit in strengthening bilateral cooperation and promoting the exchange of distinguished experiences and best practices in the field of women's advancement between Bahrain and Pakistan.

HRH Princess Sabeeka praised the First Lady's keen interest in the Global Women's Empowerment Award and her personal participation in the side event held on the sidelines of the Second World Summit for Social Development

(WSSD2) in Doha in November 2025, which introduced the third edition of the Award.

Her Royal Highness expressed her appreciation for the content of the address delivered by the First Lady during the event, commending its thoughtful and balanced approach, particularly her emphasis that "the Award symbolises the values of inclusion, equality and equal opportunity, and reflects the belief that women's empowerment is not only a matter of justice, but a key driver in unlocking the potential of societies and advancing sustainable development for all."

Appreciation

HRH Princess Sabeeka also expressed her appreciation for Pakistan's participation in the third edition of the Award, wishing all participants continued success.

For her part, the First Lady of Pakistan commended the pioneering role of the Supreme Council for Women and the outstanding efforts led by Her Royal Highness the Wife of the King and President of the Council in consolidating the principles of women's empowerment, supporting their advancement, and strengthening their effective participation across all areas of development.

Pakistan president visits Bahrain EDB



H.E. Shaikh Khalid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa welcomes H.E. President Asif Ali Zardari

TDT | Manama

His Excellency Pakistan President Asif Ali Zardari visited the Bahrain Economic Development Board (Bahrain EDB) as part of His Excellency's official visit to the Kingdom of Bahrain.

H.E. President Zardari was received by H.E. Shaikh Khalid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, Deputy Prime Minister; H.E. Dr. Abdulatif bin Rashid Al Zayani, Minister of Foreign Affairs; H.E. Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Minister of Finance and National Economy; H.E. Noor bint Ali Alkhulaif, Minister of Sustainable Development and Chief Executive of the Bahrain EDB; H.E. Abdulla bin Adel Fakhro Minister of Industry and Commerce; H.E. Khalid Ibrahim Humaidan, Governor of the Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB); H.E. Sameer Abdulla Nass, Chairman of the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI); and other senior officials.



The visit would support efforts to identify new opportunities to enhance trade and direct investment between the two countries.

Ties

H.E. Shaikh Khalid bin Abdullah welcomed the Pakistani President and accompanying delegation, noting that the visit reflects the longstanding ties between the two countries, supported by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

He said the visit underscores

the shared vision of the leaderships of both countries to further develop bilateral relations and expand cooperation in the areas of investment and economic development in line with mutual interests.

The Deputy Prime Minister also highlighted the mutual trust underpinning Bahraini-Pakistani relations and commended the significant contributions of the Pakistani community to the Kingdom of Bahrain's overall development.

He expressed hope that the visit would support efforts to enhance trade and direct investment between the two countries.

The Finance Minister gave a presentation on Bahrain's competitive investment environment, highlighting major development projects, the Board's role in attracting direct investment to priority economic sectors, the services it provides to investors, and Bahrain's ongoing efforts to diversify its economic base.

Ministry launches remote inspection service for land transport sector



H.E. Fatima Abdullah Al Dhaen
TDT | Manama

As part of government efforts to improve service quality and reengineer procedures, the Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications launched a remote inspection service for the land transport sector, as a new digital service aimed at expediting the rectification of violations and enhancing the efficiency of regulatory operations.

H.E. Fatima Abdullah Al Dhaen, Undersecretary for Land Transport and Post Affairs, said the service reflects the ministry's adoption of innovative digital solutions to enhance inspection efficiency.

Cost-of-living allowance may be based on net pay

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

An urgent proposal to change how Bahrain's cost-of-living allowance is calculated was submitted to Parliament by five MPs led by Jalal Kadhem.

The MPs want eligibility to be assessed using net income after deductions, rather than the gross salary used under the current system.

Kadhem said the aim is to keep the allowance directed at low-income Bahraini families and to help them manage rising living costs and basic monthly bills.

"The cost-of-living allowance was made to support low-income Bahraini families and help them deal with rising living costs and basic monthly bills," he said.

Deductions

He said the current method relies on gross pay and does not take account of mandatory deductions taken each month under laws and regulations, such as housing service instalments, housing loan re-



"The aim is to keep the allowance directed at low-income Bahraini families and to help them manage rising living costs and basic monthly bills."

— MP JALAL KADHEM

payments and insurance contributions, including a 1 per cent unemployment insurance deduction.

Kadhem said this can leave some households classed as ineligible even though their disposable income falls after those deductions, alongside other commitments such as personal loans and everyday household costs.

Category

"Many citizens, after mandatory deductions are taken out, fall in practice into the low-income category, yet they are denied support because the gross salary figure does not reflect their real living conditions," he said.

The proposal was submitted by Kadhem, Second Deputy Speaker Ahmed Qarata, Dr Ali Al Nuaimi, Dr Hisham Al Ashiri and Mamdouh Al Saleh.



The aim is to keep the allowance directed at low-income Bahraini families and to help them manage rising living costs and basic monthly bills.

'Digital safety'

Shura Council proposes bill to bar children under 15 from social media

● Move to strengthen privacy and cut exposure to harmful online material

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

A new Shura-drafted legislation would bar children under 15 from creating accounts on digital platforms, as the upper chamber prepares to debate adding a "digital safety" chapter to Bahrain's Child Law.

The proposal goes before the Shura Council on Sunday with a recommendation from its Women and Child Affairs Committee that it be taken up.

Services

In the draft, "digital platforms" is used in a wide sense, covering services such as social media and other apps or sites where users open accounts, interact or communicate, and access digital content.

Teenagers aged 15 to 18 would still be able to use them, but under rules meant to strengthen privacy and cut exposure to harmful material.

Platforms used for education would be exempt, with the Minister of Education to decide which services qualify.

Amendment

The amendment was submitted by the Second Deputy Chairperson of the Shura Council, Dr Jehad Al Fadhel, alongside the First Deputy Chairman, Jamal Fakhro; Head of the Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee,



From left, Dr Jehad Al Fadhel and Jamal Fakhro



Digital platforms cover services such as social media and other apps or sites where users open accounts, interact or communicate, and access digital content.

Dalal Al Zayed; Head of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and National Security Committee, Dr Ali Al Rumaihi; and Head of the Financial and Economic Affairs Committee, Khaled Al Maskati.

In its report, the Women and Child Affairs Committee said it had reviewed the view of the Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee, which found the draft sound on constitutional and legal grounds.

Change

The change would insert a new "Chapter Seven (Repeated)" into Law No. 37 of 2012 under the title "Child Digital Safety".

The added chapter would include six new articles, with a second article dealing with implementation.

The committee said the aim was to extend child protection into online life, where children can be exposed to harmful content, breaches of privacy and other forms of misuse.

Platforms

It defined digital platforms as electronic means that allow users to interact and communicate in the digital space and offer digital services or content, where the service operates in, or is directed at users in, the Kingdom.

Under the draft, children who have not completed 15 would be banned from opening accounts on such platforms.

For those aged 15 to 18, use would be allowed but tied to controls and duties aimed at privacy and safer use, with the

rules framed around that age group's stage of growth.

The Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA) would be tasked with issuing policies, standards and instructions on what internet service providers must do to protect children from harmful content and support digital safety online.

A separate body, to be named by decree, would draw up the list of administrative penalties for breaches, set out how they are enforced and appealed, and lay down rules on checking a user's age.

The committee also referred to moves in other countries to set age limits and place duties on platforms and service providers, with a mix of bans and regulated access depending on age.

Focus on legal framework for AI use in public prosecutions

Rehab Mohammad
TDT | Manama

The Public Prosecution chaired the 50th meeting of the Committee of Specialists from Public Prosecutions and Public Prosecutor's Offices of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

The meeting was chaired by Advocate General Counselor

Fahd Khalid Al-Buainain, and attended by Chief Public Prosecutor Mohammed Yousif Al-Zubari, representing the Public Prosecution of the Kingdom of Bahrain, alongside representatives of public prosecution authorities from GCC member states.

Agenda

The meeting discussed a number of agenda items, most notably

by a proposal submitted by the Public Prosecution of Bahrain to develop a guiding (model) legal framework regulating the use of artificial intelligence in the work of public prosecutions and public prosecutor's offices.

Discussions also included the periodic review of unified judicial instructions for members of public prosecution bodies across GCC states, as well as certain criteria related to the Hamed



Fahd Khalid Al-Buainain

Al-Othman Award for public prosecution members.

Cooperation

In his remarks, the Chair of the meeting, Al-Buainain emphasized the importance of strengthening joint GCC cooperation in judicial and legal fields, developing prosecution work mechanisms, exchanging expertise, keeping pace with legal and technological developments, en-

hancing performance efficiency, and reinforcing the principles of justice and the rule of law across GCC countries.

At the conclusion of the meeting, participants reaffirmed their commitment to continued coordination and cooperation among public prosecution authorities of GCC states, in support of institutional integration and the advancement of joint Gulf judicial cooperation.

Parliament to review Bahrain's entry into design pact

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

The government has referred to Parliament a draft law that would approve Bahrain's accession to the Locarno Agreement, the treaty that sets a shared classification system for industrial design filings.

The bill has been sent to the Council of Representatives for committee review, with the Financial and Economic Affairs Committee named as the main committee and the Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee asked to give comments, under

Decree No. 77 of 2025.

The Locarno Agreement, overseen by the World Intellectual Property Organization, is meant to make design registration easier to sort and search by using the same class and subclass numbers across member states.

In its memorandum, the Legislation and Legal Opinion Commission said the aim is to adopt the Locarno Classification so Bahrain's approach to design classification matches the system used abroad for filing and protection.

The treaty explains how the



Ahmed Al Salloom, Chairman of Parliament's Financial and Economic Affairs Committee

classification is maintained, including a committee of experts that can amend the list

of classes and subclasses and circulate changes through WIPO channels, as well as rules on when updates take effect after notification.

The commission said the agreement does not conflict with the Constitution, but needs a law to take effect in Bahrain under the rules governing international agreements.

The proposed draft law is framed in two articles with one approving accession to the agreement, and the other requiring the Prime Minister and ministers, each within their remit, to carry it out.

Man jailed for scalding female colleague

Rehab Mohammad
TDT | Manama

The High Criminal Court has sentenced a man in his twenties to three years in prison after convicting him of assaulting his female co-worker by throwing hot water on her, resulting in a permanent disability assessed at 5%, according to medical reports. The incident occurred following a workplace dispute at a café over the handling of an order.

The argument escalated when the defendant physi-

cally assaulted the victim and knocked her to the ground, prompting intervention by other staff members.

After the situation appeared to have calmed, the defendant called the victim by name and, when she turned towards him, he threw hot water prepared for café use onto her face.

Investigations revealed that the defendant continued his assault outside the workplace by striking the victim with a metal water heater.

He later confessed to the charges during prosecution questioning.

Ten-year prison term and fine for Asian drug dealer

Rehab Mohammad
TDT | Manama

The High Criminal Court has sentenced an Asian national to 10 years in prison and fined him BD5,000 after convicting him of possessing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances with intent to traffic.

The court also ordered his permanent deportation following completion of the sentence and the confiscation of all seized items. According to case details, police officers on patrol became suspicious of a vehicle parked on the roadside with the defendant

inside.

Upon stopping him, officers observed signs of nervousness and trembling, while he was using his mobile phone to send a voice message in a foreign language via WhatsApp.

A previously sent message containing a location was found, and when the defendant noticed the police presence, he attempted to flee but was apprehended.

A liquid substance of unknown nature was found in his possession, and a search of the vehicle led to the seizure of substances suspected to be narcotics.

The defendant and the seized



items were referred to the Anti-Narcotics Directorate.

Further investigations re-

vealed that the incident was part of an organized criminal operation involved in importing

A liquid substance was found in his possession, and a search of the vehicle led to the seizure of substances suspected to be narcotics.

and distributing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances using the so-called "dead drop" method.

The defendant's role was limited to receiving, storing, and distributing the substances in

return for financial gain.

With authorization from the Public Prosecution, the defendant's residence was searched, resulting in the seizure of large quantities of narcotic drugs of various types and weights, in addition to tools used for consumption and packaging.

During prosecution questioning, the defendant confessed to possessing the seized substances.

Laboratory analysis by the Criminal Investigation Directorate confirmed that the items contained narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

Driver falls asleep, kills pedestrian

TDT | Manama

An Asian defendant appeared before the First High Criminal Court to respond to charges of causing the death of a pedestrian in a traffic accident.

He told the court that he fell asleep while driving, losing control of the vehicle and causing it to veer off course, resulting in the fatal collision.

The court has scheduled February 24 for the verdict, following the defendant's admission to the act attributed to him.

The Public Prosecution charged the accused with causing the victim's death through negligence, driving without exercising utmost care, endangering pedestrians, and damaging public property.

The charges also included failure to drive with caution and vigilance, which contributed to the accident.

Housing Ministry ties property zoning to plan for 2030

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning says property classifications are decided under a set of planning rules led by the "National Strategic Structural Plan 2030", which it described as the top guide for urban growth and land use.

The ministry's comments came in a written reply to a parliamentary question from MP Hanan Fardan.

The 2030 plan steers growth in stages and spells out how land should be used. Classification and reclassification decisions rely on "urban classification maps" for each governorate.

Shura to debate adverts on public building wall space

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Spare wall space on public buildings could be used for adverts under a draft change that the Shura Council is due to take up on Sunday, 18 January, after the Public Utilities and Environment Committee backed the plan.

The proposal amends Article 12 of Decree-Law No. 14 of 1973 on regulating advertisements, attached to Decree No. 27 of 2025.

The aim is to allow government bodies to rent out vacant spots on public buildings, or parts of buildings used for public services, as advertising space, under rules to be set by a ministerial decision.



The aim is to allow government bodies to rent out vacant spots on public buildings, or parts of buildings used for public services, as advertising space.

A blanket ban in the current law would remain in place, but the amendment adds an exception for adverts placed under



Dr Mohammed Ali Hassan, Head of Public Utilities and Environment Committee

those rules.

The committee said it reviewed the draft law and the Council of Representatives' decision and attachments, after MPs agreed the bill.

It also looked at the view of the Ministry of Municipalities

Affairs and Agriculture, which supported the approach.

The Shura Council's Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee said the draft was sound from both constitutional and legal standpoints, according to the Public Utilities and Environment Committee.

Revenue

In its report, the committee said the change would widen the areas that can be used for advertising, with revenue expected through licensing fees and other returns linked to use of the sites.

It added that the ministerial rules are meant to keep adverts from harming the look of public buildings or affecting the public services provided from them.

Lane set for closure

● From today to Jan. 24

TDT | Manama

The Ministry of Works announced that, as part of the laying of electrical cable works for the Electricity & Water Authority on Sahla Avenue in the North Sehla Area, the slow lane for northbound traffic near its intersection with Shaikh Salman Highway will be closed.

One lane will be provided to ensure the continued movement of traffic. The closure will be effective for two weekends, starting from today to Saturday, January 24, starting on Friday at 12:00 am to Saturday at 12:00 pm.

All road users are requested to observe and obey traffic rules for the safety of all.

Capital Governor inaugurates Coffee and Chocolate Expo 2026 fifth edition in style

● Exhibition aims to boost economic and tourism activities

TDT | Manama

The Capital Governor, His Excellency Shaikh Khalid bin Hamoud Al Khalifa, opened the fifth edition of the Coffee and Chocolate Expo 2026, organised by Bedayat Company at Water Garden City in Manama.

The event forms part of the economic and tourism activities hosted by the Kingdom of Bahrain.

It comes within the framework of national efforts to stimulate the exhibitions and hospitality sector and to enhance the Kingdom's status as a leading destination for hosting special-



H.E. Shaikh Khalid bin Hamoud Al Khalifa at the ribbon-cutting ceremony

ised events with developmental impact.

On this occasion, the Governor said that organising this exhibition reflects the rapid development witnessed by the Kingdom's economic and investment sector and its active role in supporting economic development.

He noted that such events stimulate investment and open new horizons for cooperation and partnerships.

He also highlighted the Kingdom's competitive advantages and its advanced regulatory and organisational infrastructure for hosting high-quality events at both regional and international levels.

The Governor affirmed that the Capital Governorate places great importance on supporting initiatives and projects that strengthen national economic growth and enhance its competitive capabilities, in line with

the government's directions and future economic vision.

The vision aims to achieve sustainable development, diversify sources of income, and expand investment opportunities across various sectors.

The exhibition features a wide range of activities and specialised events in the chocolate and coffee sectors, including professional competitions, educational workshops for children and adults, and live demonstrations of production

"The Capital Governorate places great importance on supporting initiatives and projects that strengthen national economic growth and enhance its competitive capabilities."

— H.E. SHAIKH KHALID BIN HAMOUD AL KHALIFA, CAPITAL GOVERNOR

and preparation techniques. It also includes health and educational awareness seminars, with broad participation from companies, factories, and cafés specialising in the production and distribution of chocolate and coffee at both local and international levels.

Oil prices **tumble** after Trump eases concerns over Iran

Dialling back of US threats against Iran triggers sharp drop in crude prices

● Oil prices slump around five percent

● Silver also plunges from record high

● TSMC earnings boost tech stocks

AFP | London

Oil prices slumped yesterday after US President Donald Trump appeared to dial down threats of imminent military action on crude producer Iran.

International oil benchmarks Brent North Sea crude and West Texas Intermediate slumped around five percent after Trump on Wednesday said he would “watch it and see” on possible intervention in the Islamic republic.

Trump added that he was told that the killings of protesters there had stopped.

Crude prices had surged over recent days as Trump talked about coming to the aid of the Iranian people over the crackdown on demonstrations, sparking concerns over possible disruption of global supplies.

“Oil prices are trading sharply lower after Trump signalled he is not taking military action against Iran,” noted Victoria Scholar, head of investment at Interactive Investor.

Volatility extended across commodity markets, with silver plunging more than seven



A man walks past an electronic quotation board displaying numbers of the Nikkei Stock Average (R) on the Tokyo Stock Exchange in Tokyo

percent in Asian deals after hitting a record high above \$93.75 an ounce.

This was after Trump also held off slapping tariffs on critical minerals.

The price of gold, which has hit multiple record highs in recent months thanks to its status as a safe haven investment, dipped yesterday.

In stock market trading, a forecast-busting fourth quarter net profit by Taiwanese chip-making titan TSMC helped turn around investor sentiment.

The tech-heavy Nasdaq Composite jumped nearly one percent as trading got underway in New York.

“A strong set of results from Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company quickly shifted the mood, reminding markets that enthusiasm around artificial intelligence and long-term growth themes remains very much alive,” said Forex.com analyst Fawad Razaqzada.

He noted that technology stocks had looked vulnerable in recent weeks as investors shifted funds into other sectors.

Meanwhile Labor Department data showed that first-time unemployment claims dipped back under 200,000 last week in the United States.

“The key takeaway from the report is that it corroborates a

low firing-low hiring environment that will keep the Fed on watch but also on hold in terms of a rate cut this month and possibly until June,” said Briefing.com analyst Patrick O’Hare.

With US inflation continuing to run higher than its target rate of two percent and both the labour market and overall economy holding up, Federal Reserve policymakers have indicated they will likely hold off cutting rates at this month’s meeting.

In European trading, London’s top-tier FTSE 100 index hit a fresh record high after official data showed Britain’s economy rebounded in November.

China’s top diplomat calls Carney visit ‘turning point’ in ties



Mark Carney
AFP | Beijing

China’s top diplomat said yesterday that a visit by Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney to Beijing marked a “turning point” in the two countries’ long acrimonious relationship.

The first visit by a Canadian leader to Beijing in eight years was a “turning point and symbol for the relationship between two countries”, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said in a statement, according to a readout.

“The leaders of the two countries will hold meetings and talks, which I believe will open up new prospects for bilateral relations,” he added.

Carney, who has also said ties between the two sides are shifting, is meeting with top Chinese leaders in Beijing yesterday, as he pulls away from traditional ally the United States.

Following President Donald Trump’s aggressive tariffs on Canadian products, Carney has sought to reduce his country’s economic reliance on its main market, the United States.

Video from Chinese state media showed Carney arriving in Beijing for his four-day state visit late Wednesday evening to a red carpet welcome.



Silver experienced massive volatility, plunging over seven percent shortly after hitting a record high of \$93.75 per ounce, following President Trump’s decision to hold off on new tariffs for critical minerals

Frankfurt edged higher in afternoon deals as traders reacted to news that Germany’s economy eked out meagre growth in 2025, dodging a third straight year of recession.

The Paris stock market fell slightly, dragged down in part by a drop in the share price of TotalEnergies in the wake of oil’s retreat.

In Asia, Tokyo closed down 0.4 percent, cooling off after gains fuelled by speculation that Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi would call an election to capitalise on strong public approval ratings.

Takaichi’s ruling party and a coalition partner said Wednesday she intends to dissolve parliament next week for a snap election, seen as a chance to push through her ambitious policy agenda.

Pressure piles on Musk’s X to curb sexualised deepfakes

AFP | San Francisco

More governments vowed crackdowns yesterday to prevent Grok, the AI chatbot on Elon Musk’s X platform, from undressing or sexualizing images of real people in their jurisdictions, in a face of a growing backlash against the deepfakes.

The Philippines became the third country to ban Grok altogether, following Southeast Asian neighbours Malaysia and Indonesia, while Britain and France said they would keep up the pressure.

Several countries have demanded that Musk’s xAI, the developer of Grok, rein in the chatbot after it was used to generate a flood of lewd photos of women and children.

X said Wednesday that it would “geoblock the ability” of all Grok and X users to create images of people in “bikinis,



underwear, and similar attire” in jurisdictions where such actions are illegal.

The announcement came after California’s attorney general launched an investigation into xAI over the sexually explicit material, and several countries either blocked access

to Grok or opened their own probes.

“We have implemented technological measures to prevent the Grok account from allowing the editing of images of real people in revealing clothing,” X’s safety team said, adding that the restriction applied to “all users”

without exceptions.

In an “extra layer of protection,” image creation and the ability to edit photos via X’s Grok account is now available only to paid subscribers, it said.

“I welcome that X is now acting to ensure full compliance with UK law -- it must happen immediately”, British Prime Minister Keir Starmer -- a favourite target of Musk’s political posts -- wrote yesterday on X.

“If we need to strengthen existing laws further, we are prepared to do that,” Starmer warned.

Meanwhile, Philippines cybercrime chief Renato Paraiso said the country’s block could be effective by the end of the day.

He said X’s pledge to limit access would have no effect on the plans, adding that the government would watch to see if the platform follows through on its promises.

Amazon expands ‘sovereign cloud’ in Europe



AFP | Frankfurt

Amazon’s cloud computing division said yesterday that it would expand its “sovereign cloud” across the European Union, hoping to cash in as EU governments seek to safeguard their citizens’ data.

Amazon Web Services (AWS) would expand its physical “footprint” into Belgium, the Netherlands and Portugal, it said in a statement, adding to a site in eastern Germany.

The expansion would “provide organisations with further options to deploy workloads in the cloud with the highest level of sovereignty and operational independence”,

AWS said.

Spooked by a lack of European tech champions to compete with US giants, EU leaders have pushed “digital sovereignty” in recent years and called for reducing the continent’s reliance on American technology.

The worries have only grown as US President Donald Trump’s administration has taken a more confrontational tone with EU leaders, not least by seeking to annex the Danish territory of Greenland.

The American CLOUD Act further mandates that companies must pass on data if requested by authorities, adding to the clamour for back-end and cloud-computing services that run on EU infrastructure.

AI risks ‘mass unemployment’ in London: mayor

AFP | London

London mayor Sadiq Khan yesterday joined the chorus of warnings on the impact of artificial intelligence for jobs, saying that the UK capital risks

“an era of mass unemployment”.

The Labour mayor’s comments are to be included in a London speech late yesterday outlining the opportunities and risks posed by AI.

With the UK capital home

to a large number of finance, professional services and creative jobs, London is “at the sharpest edge of change”, Khan was to say according to excerpts of the speech sent to media.

Khan will point also to “huge potential benefits” of the technology if used responsibly, as he unveils a review into its impact on the capital’s jobs market alongside free AI training for millions of Londoners.

News in brief

Colombian president says will meet Trump in US on February 3

Colombian President Gustavo Petro announced Wednesday



that he will meet with his US counterpart Donald Trump on February 3 to address diplomatic tensions and Washington's military campaign in Latin America. "We'll see the results of that meeting," Petro said during a televised meeting with his ministers. Petro's US visit will come on the heels of a bitter war of words with Trump in

the last year, including Washington's threats to take military action in Colombia, as well as the US-led attack on Caracas to depose leftist leader Nicolas Maduro.

A federal immigration agent shot a man Wednesday

US immigration officer shoots Venezuelan man in Minneapolis

in Minneapolis, city officials said, urging the public to "remain calm" a week after agents shot and killed an American woman in the same city. "We understand there is anger," officials for the midwestern city wrote on X, adding "the City of Minneapolis again demands that ICE leave the city and the state immediately." Department of Homeland Security officials confirmed the shooting in a post on X, saying "an illegal alien from Venezuela" was targeted for a traffic stop and resisted arrest.



New Zealand warned Pacific neighbour over oil smuggling 'shadow fleet'

A "shadow fleet" of 19 tankers



suspected of smuggling oil for Russia and Iran was flagged by New Zealand with Cook Islands authorities in 2024, according to a confidential list obtained by AFP. The small Pacific island is home to a flourishing international shipping registry, allowing foreign vessels to sail under its flag for a modest fee of a few thousand dollars. There is mounting evidence the archipelago has become a haven for foreign smugglers, who sail under the Cook Islands flag to escape scrutiny as they flout Western sanctions.

CURIOSER & CURIOSER

ISS astronauts splash down on Earth after first-ever medical evacuation



The four members of the SpaceX Crew-11 (file photo)

AFP | Washington

Four International Space Station crewmembers splashed down in the Pacific Ocean yesterday, NASA footage showed, after the first ever medical evacuation in the orbital lab's history.

A video feed from NASA showed the capsule carrying American astronauts Mike Fincke and Zena Cardman, Russian cosmonaut Oleg Platonov and Japanese astronaut Kimiya Yui land off the coast of San Diego at 12:41 am (0841 GMT).

A health issue prompted their mission to be cut short, after spending five months in space.

The US space agency has declined to disclose any details about the health issue but stressed the return was not an emergency situation.

The affected crewmember "was and continues to be in stable condition," NASA official Rob Navias said Wednesday.

Fincke, the SpaceX Crew-11 pilot, said in a social media

post earlier this week: "First and foremost, we are all OK. Everyone on board is stable, safe, and well cared for."

"This was a deliberate decision to allow the right medical evaluations to happen on the ground, where the full range of diagnostic capability exists. It's the right call, even if it's a bit bittersweet."

The Crew-11 quartet arrived at the ISS in early August and had been scheduled to stay onboard the space station until they were rotated out in mid-February with the arrival of the next crew.

James Polk, NASA's chief health and medical officer, said "lingering risk" and a "lingering question as to what that diagnosis is" led to the decision to bring back the crew earlier than originally scheduled.

American astronaut Chris Williams and Russian cosmonauts Sergey Kud-Sverchkov and Sergei Mikaev, who arrived at the station in November aboard a Russian Soyuz spacecraft, remained on the ISS.

Greenland standoff draws European reinforcements

Multinational military mission arrives as US persists in its bid for control

- European military mission arrives in Greenland
- Russia condemns NATO's Arctic buildup
- Greenland PM calls for diplomacy

AFP | Nuuk

A European military mission was taking shape in Greenland yesterday, drawing a sharp rebuke from Russia, as Denmark said Washington still aimed to take control of the mineral-rich Arctic island.

Greenland's Prime Minister Jens-Frederik Nielsen insisted meanwhile that "dialogue and diplomacy are the right way forward", hailing in a Facebook post the fact that a dialogue was now "underway".

The developments came a day after a White House meeting failed to resolve "fundamental disagreement" over Greenland, an autonomous Danish territory that President Donald Trump insists the United States needs to ensure its security.

Two Danish troop transport planes landed in Greenland on Wednesday.

Britain, Finland, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden have also announced the deployment of military personnel as part of a reconnaissance mission to Greenland's capital Nuuk, under Denmark's "Arctic Endurance" exercise organised with NATO allies.

The modest military reinforcements -- 13 soldiers from Germa-



Greenlandic flags are fixed on a building in Nuuk, Greenland

ny, for example -- are meant to prepare armed forces for future exercises in the Arctic, according to European defence sources.

"A first team of French service members is already on site and will be reinforced in the coming days with land, air, and maritime assets," French President Emmanuel Macron said yesterday.

Germany's defence ministry said the aim was to "explore the framework conditions for possible military contributions to support Denmark in ensuring security in the region".

'NATO consensus'

The foreign ministers of Denmark and Greenland met with US Vice President JD Vance and Secretary of State Marco Rubio in Washington on Wednesday.

Danish Prime Minister Mette

YOU KNOW WHAT

Donald Trump has dismissed Denmark's \$14 billion investment in Arctic security as inadequate, derisively comparing the nation's defensive efforts to owning just "two dogsleds" compared to US requirements

Frederiksen said in a statement yesterday that "a working group" was being set up to discuss how

Arctic security could be improved.

"However, this does not change the fact that there is a fundamental disagreement, because the American ambition to take over Greenland remains intact," Frederiksen said, hailing the arrival of European military personnel in Greenland.

"There is consensus within the NATO alliance that a strengthened presence in the Arctic is crucial for European and North American security," she said.

Trump has argued that if the United States does not take Greenland, "China or Russia will", deriding Danish efforts to increase security for Greenland as amounting to "two dogsleds".

Denmark says it has invested almost \$14 billion in Arctic security.

Trump to host Venezuelan opposition leader sidelined by US

AFP | Washington

US President Donald Trump is scheduled to meet yesterday with Venezuelan opposition leader Maria Corina Machado, whose pro-democracy movement he has sidelined since toppling her country's leader, and whose Nobel Peace Prize he openly envies.

Machado's White House visit comes a day after Trump used glowing terms to describe his first known call with Venezuela's interim president Delcy Rodriguez, confirming his satisfaction with the allies of Nicolas Maduro remaining in power, for now at least.

Trump called Rodriguez a "terrific person" and hailed "terrific progress" made since US special forces seized Maduro and his wife in a deadly raid.

Rodriguez said the call was "productive and courteous," and characterized by "mutual respect."

"Many topics were discussed," Trump said on social media, "in-



Nobel peace prize laureate Maria Corina Machado addresses a press conference (file photo)

cluding Oil, Minerals, Trade and, of course, National Security."

Notably absent was any mention of a political transition, an issue that Washington has recently downplayed compared to economic concerns, especially access to Venezuelan oil.

Machado, who campaigned for

years to end Maduro's rule, will seek yesterday to bring the issue back into the foreground.

Nobel sharing?

Machado, 58, was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize last year for her activism in pursuit of democracy in Venezuela, despite

threats of imprisonment by Maduro's government.

Venezuela's opposition has argued and presented evidence that Maduro stole the 2024 election from Machado's party, namely candidate Edmundo Gonzalez Urrutia -- claims supported by Washington.

Venezuela's electoral authorities, seen as allied with Maduro, never released data from the vote.

Hundreds of people were arrested in post-election protests, and while Gonzalez Urrutia fled to Europe for asylum, Machado remained in the country in a hidden location, appearing only intermittently at rallies.

She appeared in Oslo, Norway last month to collect her Nobel prize after a daring escape by boat, and has not yet returned to her home country.

Trump has openly fumed about not being awarded the prize, calling it a "major embarrassment" for Norway.

27 BC

The title Augustus is bestowed upon Gaius Julius Caesar Octavian by the Roman Senate

1412

The Medici family is appointed official banker of the Papacy

1547

Ivan the Terrible, aged 17, crowns himself the 1st tsar of Moscow



1793

French King Louis XVI sentenced to death by the National Convention during the French Revolution

1919

The 18th Amendment to the US Constitution, authorizing the prohibition of alcohol, is ratified by a majority of US states

Gulf allies convince Trump 'to give Iran a chance'

Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and Oman convince US leader to avoid military action, for now

● US receives assurances executions will halt

● Iran protests diminish after severe crackdown

AFP | Paris

Gulf allies have convinced Donald Trump to "give Iran a chance", a Saudi official said yesterday, after the US leader repeatedly threatened strikes on the Islamic republic over a crackdown on protests that activists say has left thousands dead.

Iran was shaken over the last week by some of the biggest anti-government protests in the history of the Islamic republic, although the demonstrations appear to have diminished over the last few days in the face of repression and an almost week-long internet blackout.

The Norway-based Iran Human Rights (IHR) NGO said on Wednesday that Iranian security forces had killed at least 3,428 protesters, warning that the final toll would be far higher.

Iranian authorities have lashed out at "rioters" who they claimed were backed by Israel and the US, vowing fast-track justice that activists fear will translate into a spree of executions.

Trump has not ruled out new military action against the Islamic republic under supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, after Washington backed Israel in its June 12-day war against Iran.



Iranians attend the funerals of security forces personnel killed in recent protests in Tehran

But with the belligerent rhetoric on all sides appearing to tone down for now, a senior Saudi official said yesterday that Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Oman led efforts to talk Trump out of an attack on Iran, fearing "grave blowbacks in the region".

The Gulf trio "led a long, frantic, diplomatic last-minute effort to convince President Trump to give Iran a chance to show good intention", the official said on condition of anonymity.

Some personnel were moved out of a major US military base in Qatar on Wednesday, and staff at US missions in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait were warned to exercise caution as fears mounted of a US attack.

In telephone talks yesterday, Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi told Saudi Arabian counterpart Faisal bin Farhan of the importance of "global condemnation of foreign interference in the internal affairs of regional countries" and vowed Iran would defend itself "against any foreign threat", according to a statement on his Telegram account.

On Wednesday, Saudi Arabia informed Iran it would not allow its airspace or territory to be used to attack the country, two sources close to the kingdom's government said.

The developments came hours ahead of a UN Security Council meeting on Iran later yesterday,

which was requested by the US.

'Good news'

Up until Wednesday, the United States was threatening military action against Iran should it carry out the death penalty against people arrested over the protests.

In an announcement at the White House, Trump said he had now received assurances from "very important sources on the other side" that executions would not go ahead.

"They've said the killing has stopped and the executions won't take place -- there were supposed to be a lot of executions today and that the executions won't take place -- and we're going to

YOU KNOW WHAT

Despite the diplomatic cooling, a human rights NGO reports that at least 3,428 protesters have already been killed by Iranian security forces during the country's historic and violent anti-government demonstrations

find out," Trump said.

Attention had focused on protester Erfan Soltani, 26, in prison in Karaj outside Tehran since his arrest, and rights groups said was due to be executed on Wednesday.

Yesterday, the Iranian judiciary said Soltani has "not been sentenced to death" and was facing charges of propaganda against Iran's Islamic system and acting against national security.

If he is convicted, "the punishment, according to the law, will be imprisonment, as the death penalty does not exist for such charges".

In an interview with US network Fox News, Araghchi said there would be "no hanging today or tomorrow".

Commenting on Truth Social, Trump said: "This is good news. Hopefully, it will continue!"



TOP 4 TWEETS

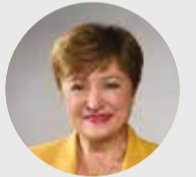
01



We cannot be bystanders to injustice, indifference, or impunity. And we have the power to chart a different course. The @UN Charter gives us our compass. Our pursuit for peace with justice gives us our purpose. And our common humanity gives us the imperative to act.

@antoniogeterres

02



In Kyiv today to discuss IMF support for Ukraine and to witness firsthand the resilience of a people who have endured four years of an unjust war. Your courage inspires the world.

@KGeorgieva

03



Just landed in Beijing. The relationship between Canada and China has created opportunities and prosperity on both sides of the Pacific. We're ready to build a new partnership -- one that builds on the best of our past, and responds to the challenges of today.

@MarkJCarney

04



In Adre, at the Chadian border, I met Sudanese refugees who just fled the horrors of war at home. UNHCR is playing a crucial role here, ensuring people find safety and protection, shelter and other vital assistance. But it is far from enough, given the scale of this calamity.

@BarhamSalih

Russia expels UK diplomat accused of being spy



A woman walks outside the British embassy building in Moscow

AFP | Moscow

Russia said yesterday it was expelling a British diplomat, calling him an undercover spy in an accusation blasted by London as "malicious" and "baseless."

The Kremlin has long singled out Britain as one of the most hostile Western states -- with relations virtually frozen even before Moscow's full-scale of-

fensive on Ukraine.

The two countries have expelled each others' embassy staff several times in recent years.

Moscow-London ties have been plagued by spy allegations for decades and were already at their lowest point before Russia's 2022 Ukraine attack.

Since then, Britain became one of Kyiv's strongest backers.

Fatal back-to-back crane failures tied to same Thai firm: minister

AFP | Bangkok

The collapse of a highway construction crane killed two people near Bangkok yesterday, with a Thai minister saying the building firm was also involved in a crane failure the day before that left 32 dead.

Car dashcam footage verified by AFP showed the moment the massive crane fell yesterday, unleashing clouds of dust as well rubble across the area as several vehicles pulled over or reversed to avoid falling debris.

Transport Minister Phiphat Ratchakitprakarn linked Italian-Thai Development to the country's second deadly crane collapse in two days, according to local media.

The company was contracted to build a section of a China-backed high-speed rail project where a massive crane fell on Wednesday, in Nakhon Ratchasima province, derauling



A recovery worker takes pictures at the site of a construction crane collapse

a passenger train below and killing 32 of nearly 200 people on board.

"Yes, it is Italian-Thai. I still do not understand what happened," Phiphat told local media yesterday.

"We have to find out the facts,

whether it was an accident or something else," he said, adding that two people were killed.

The company -- one of Thailand's biggest construction firms -- has seen several deadly accidents at its sites in recent years.

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

Bahrain Interior Minister Reviews Wireless Early Warning System



Interior Minister and Civil Defense Council Chairman, H.E. Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, chaired a council meeting today to review national emergency preparedness. High-ranking ministers attended to discuss the Wireless Alerts Project, a new system designed to broadcast emergency warnings to the public in record time. The project represents a significant advancement in civil protection, ensuring citizens and residents receive vital information before, during, and after emergencies. H.E. the Minister directed a phased trial run of the system to verify operational readiness and digital infrastructure. Emphasizing international best practices, the Minister noted that the system integrates modern technology with community awareness to enhance public safety.

HH Shaikh Ali bin Khalifa Receives Bahraini Ambassador to India



His Highness Shaikh Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Advisor to His Royal Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, received Mr. Abdulrahman Mohammed Al-Qaoud, Bahrain's Ambassador to India, at his office. During the meeting, His Highness highlighted the deep-rooted ties between Bahrain and India, praising the Ambassador's dedicated efforts to enhance bilateral cooperation. He emphasized the importance of further strengthening these relations across various sectors to drive mutual growth and prosperity. Ambassador Al-Qaoud expressed his sincere gratitude to His Highness for the continuous support and guidance he has received.

Northern Governor Discusses Bilateral Cooperation with Bangladeshi Ambassador



His Excellency Hassan Abdullah Mohammed Al Madani, Governor of the Northern Governorate, received His Excellency Mohammed Rais Hassan Sarwar, Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to the Kingdom of Bahrain, to discuss strengthening ties between the two nations. During the meeting, the Governor highlighted the depth of the bilateral relations and the positive growth in various fields of cooperation. He emphasized the importance of continued coordination and mutual action to serve the shared interests of both friendly countries. For his part, the Bangladeshi Ambassador expressed his sincere appreciation for the warm reception.

Sunni Endowments Director General Discusses Cemetery Service Upgrades



His Excellency Ahmed Khalil Khairi, Director General of the General Administration of Sunni Endowments, met with cemetery supervisors to review operational progress and improve services for mourners and visitors. The meeting focused on enhancing management mechanisms and addressing administrative and field challenges. H.E. the Director General emphasized the supervisors' vital community role and the importance of maintaining the sanctity of cemeteries. He stressed the need for strict adherence to regulations and better coordination to ensure high-quality service delivery. During the session, the Director General directed the study of new proposals to overcome existing difficulties and improve the work environment.

BTECH and RUW Discuss AI Integration in Education



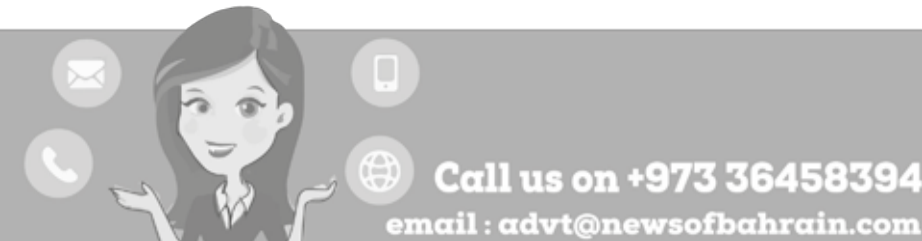
The Bahrain Technology Companies Society (BTECH), in collaboration with the Royal University for Women (RUW), held the first 2026 edition of the BTECH Majlis, focusing on "AI for Education and Training." The event gathered academic and industry leaders to discuss how artificial intelligence is reshaping learning and workforce readiness. RUW President, Professor Riyad Y. Hamzah, highlighted the importance of industry-academic partnerships in preparing future-ready talent. BTECH Chairman, Mr. Rashid Al Snan, added that the Majlis serves as a vital platform for bridging the gap between the technology sector and educational institutions, supporting Bahrain's digital transformation goals. Moderated by Khalid Jalal, the panel featured experts Dr. Eshaa Alkhalifa, Eng. Shurooq Ahmed, Faisal Abol, and Aakash Munjal. They shared insights on integrating AI to enhance learning outcomes and workforce upskilling.

Parliamentary Committee Reviews Job Vacancies and Unemployment Benefits



The parliamentary inquiry committee, chaired by MP Jalila Alawi Al-Sayed, met on Thursday to investigate job vacancy procedures and the suspension of unemployment benefits. This follows a detailed review conducted on Wednesday with H.E. Yousef bin Abdulhussain Khalaf, Minister of Labor, regarding the Ministry's electronic job-matching system. The committee discussed its investigation axes and work mechanisms, focusing on addressing obstacles faced by job seekers. Members affirmed their commitment to working with concerned authorities to formulate practical recommendations and a national consensus plan. The initiative aims to protect citizens' livelihood rights, ensure social stability, and enhance transparency in the labor market. The committee includes Vice-Chairman MP Mahmoud Mirza Fardan and MPs Abdul Wahid Qarata, Munir Surour, Mohsen Al Asbool, Abdullah Al Rumaihi, and Mahdi Al Shuwaikh.

Classifieds



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LINKED IT SOLUTIONS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 13313113 or INFO@LINKEDITSOLUTIONS.TECH

PURPLE ORYX CONSULTANCY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66600704 or SHOJIVIRK3@GMAIL.COM

AL MASHARIB SUPERMARKET W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33518111 or ALMASHARIBSUPERMARKET@GMAIL.COM

NAHAR MAIN RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 3398012 or naharmai@gmail.com

MOHAMMED MOHSIN FURNITURE WORKSHOP W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER (FURNITURE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 37705167 or MOHAMMEDMOHSEN01@GMAIL.COM

TIP TOP BAKERY has a vacancy for the occupation of BAKER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39462260 or AHUJAIR@HOTMAIL.COM

KARAK DANDANAH has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 3555911 or HAMAD-SALAH96@GMAIL.COM

SAMRAT SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for

the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35518081 or SAJIDPAKISTANI111@GMAIL.COM

GHAUSIA PARVEEN HADAITULLAH HUSAIN BAKSH (191002) has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33667325 or ECH3968@GMAIL.COM

MASOOMA STAR FACILITIES SUPPORT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39395894 or MUHAMMAD-AYAN3440@GMAIL.COM

NORTHERN AREA TAILORING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17506730 or kasandrafashion@gmail.com

CRUST PEAK COMBINE FACILITY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (MAINTENANCE), GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37433737 or FAKHROUBH12@GMAIL.COM

JABDATI CAFETERIA has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33832633 or AQEELAHH@GMAIL.COM

ZUHU RESTAURANT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33131708 or SUR-FRAZMB@YAHOO.COM

BAROLA INTERIOR DECORATION W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39187678 or KHAN19.MUJAHID@GMAIL.COM

MASKATI BROTHERS & COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17464646 or jobs@maskatibros.com

Golden Diyar construction has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (CONSTRUCTION), GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17530670 or HWBAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

LISSTO UPFRONT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35619326 or MAAN-MR88@GMAIL.COM

WHITE METALS SERVICES CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (METAL CLEANING), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36213700 or RAAJIRIF@GMAIL.COM

ALFIYA ELECTRONIC AND MOBILE SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36872945 or ALFIYAELECTRONIC.BH@GMAIL.COM

MIFFTAH ALKHAYR FOR FRUITS AND VEGETABLES has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39500540 or RAEESRASHED2266@GMAIL.COM

BAHRAIN SERVICES & MAINTENANCE COMPANY B.S.C. (CLOSED) has a vacancy for the occupation of SERVICEMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17727676 or aqeel@basma.com.bh

ALMOAYYED SECURITY has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or profice@almoyyedcog.com

Jehlum Contracting W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 38398065 or SHABANGUJJAR3002@GMAIL.COM

NESTO HYPERMARKET W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17272206 or WESTERNBAHRAIN2021@GMAIL.COM

SAUCE AND ROLL SHAWARMA has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33171722 or QAMAR-RAMADHAN@GMAIL.COM

M K AYAN RESTAURANT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34213950 or abdu-rahman987800@gmail.com

NUMA CAFETERIA has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33582891 or PISCU7@GMAIL.COM

AL HURAIN RESTAURANT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34509779 or MYA-BID11@GMAIL.COM

Golden Steel Contracting W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33919012 or goldensteelcontracting@gmail.com

AL JAZEERA SECURITY CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36945444 or info@jssbahrain.com

MOHAMMAD FIAZ INTERIOR DECORATION W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33689627 or MUHAMMAD33689627@GMAIL.COM

CIRCLE INTEGRATED SERVICES W.L.L. has a va-

cancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17822228 or INFO@CIRCLE.BH

CIRCLE INTEGRATED SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17822228 or INFO@CIRCLE.BH

FAREED ALUMINUM CENTRE has a vacancy for the occupation of STRUCTURAL STEEL WORKER (WORKSHOP), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39664848 or factory@fareedaluminum.com

PAN ARAB COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17514166 or info@panarabco.net

1980S A NOSTALGIC RESTAURANT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33533149 or INFO@HALYAGROUPINTL.COM

NAPCO NATIONAL COMPANY FOR GENERAL TRADING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17762222 or TONY.ABIRAMIA@NAPCOGROUP.COM

FAST BAKERY has a vacancy for the occupation of BAKER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39641687 or wolyatali@gmail.com

LELYAN HEENA SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of HAIRDRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36083609 or You-sifon@GMAIL.COM

PANORAMA CONTRACTING & ENGINEERING SERVI has a vacancy for the occupation of SCAFFOLDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17729935 or AHMED@PANORAM-ABH.COM

Manama Packaging Industry W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17675246 or MFIKRAM@GMAIL.COM

GOJRA CARGO HANDLING BAHRAIN PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33766412 or SAMUNDRICARGO434@GMAIL.COM

GOLDEN FINGERS MANPOWER AGENCY has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33821293 or BABY.PRIN86@GMAIL.COM

KHALIL KANOO MOTORS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN (CARS ENGINEERING), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17593434 or eyad@KEKANOO.COM

AL REEM GATE CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of FIRE & SAFETY SPECIALIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39771192 or inter.island.bh@gmail.com

ADAM PASTERIES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39600998 or PAINTPLUS@HOTMAIL.COM

AL AREEN LEISURE AND TOURISM CO THE LOST PARADISE OF DILMUN W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17845151 or ADNAN.ASLAM@LPDOWATERPARK.COM

Durrat Al Rifaa Machinery has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER/OPERATOR (EARTH MOVING MACHINES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33313181 or ZAMZAM-SPRING@HOTMAIL.COM

AL SENYA COLDSTORE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35539440 or JASEM001@HOTMAIL.COM

1980S A NOSTALGIC RESTAURANT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33533149 or INFO@HALYAGROUPINTL.COM

SAFIA MAINTINANCE SERVICES CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33689339 or alrams007@gmail.com

SAFIA MAINTINANCE SERVICES CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33689339 or alrams007@gmail.com

DELOITTE & TOUCHE-MIDDLE EAST has a vacancy for the occupation of SENIOR AUDITOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17214490 or RKIKHIA@DELOITTE.COM

AL JAZEERA SECURITY CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36945444 or info@jssbahrain.com

SHAFA ALAH Conditioner Central Contracting has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36108435 or FOUZIANADEEM110@GMAIL.COM

DOLPHIN TECHNICAL SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33640002 or INFO@DTS-BAH.COM

NEW GOLDEN RESTAURANT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER (FOOD DISTRIBUTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 35953947 or AYANMUHAMMED-KAPPURATH@GMAIL.COM

AREENA CONTRACTOR GROUP CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17245222 or HR@AREENAGROUP.COM

i Print Puplic Relations W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17252923 or sharaf3941@gmail.com

JASIM AHMED RASHED SAAD ALDOSERI (193044) has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33656333 or HGO-0D8908@GMAIL.COM

PENZA GENERAL TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39604488 or ALAWADI66@HOTMAIL.COM

MUGHAL PURA CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (CONSTRUCTION), GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33137132 or AYSHASALEMBH12@GMAIL.COM

ALFAHAD LAUNDRY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKERS (LAUNDRY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33900099 or VIRG072N@GMAIL.COM

JEWELLERY CORNER has a vacancy for the occupation of JEWELRY GOLDSMITH (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17623444 or AMSAFAR@GMAIL.COM

MARIA TARIQ SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39609881 or MOONLANDBAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

NAWAZ 2025 SALON FOR MEN W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36864833 or NAWAZ58BANJABI@GMAIL.COM

CREMICA SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35056297 or SHAIKHABDUL11110@GMAIL.COM

MUHAMMAD MOHSIN SUPER GROW COMBINED SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33458832 or MOHSINBAHI765@GMAIL.COM

MOHAMMED ALI A. ALASHIRI (AMEER ALBEHAR-9265) has a vacancy for the occupation of FISHERMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32202880 or alsaeed4@aol.com

AMAS SERVICES CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34112433 or AMBHAC-BH@GMAIL.COM

RASHAT HAIL RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK (ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 3777564 or ALJIMARHOON499@HOTMAIL.COM

Dream World Construction Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34111999 or sharef.works@gmail.com

DOT WOULD CLEANING AND PEST CONTROL CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33714498 or SR5286764@GMAIL.COM

FULLER MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66964403 or DANICAR-FULLER2024@GMAIL.COM

Desert Landscape Co S P C has a vacancy for the occupation of AGRICULTURE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33152222 or AHMAD.JUMA@DESERTGROUP.AE

HAPPINESS WORLD GENERAL TRADING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17000447 or KS000M922@GMAIL.COM

ABDULAZIZ ALSAYED TRADING & CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SERVICEMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33747598 or AHMEDALSAYED88@HOTMAIL.COM

URBAN CONSTRUCTION BAHRAIN PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 35685814 or UBCBAH@GMAIL.COM

DRAGON JEA DECORATION COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39392967 or 479452015@QQ.COM

H A CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34530350 or HAMDYWSF6@GMAIL.COM

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR (SITE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of FITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of RIGGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR (SITE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ERECTOR-STEEL (CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of FITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of RIGGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

Mohamed Ali Idrees Alghanemi has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33374488 or M-ALGANEMI@HOTMAIL.COM

AL INSAF GENTS SALON W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36802554 or APU-SEN269@GMAIL.COM

MAHER WELDING & SMITHERY WORKSHOP has a vacancy for the occupation of MACHINIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17673308 or maherws@batalco.com.bh

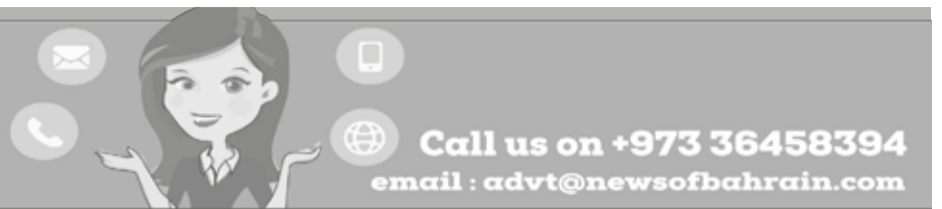
MEYRICK STAR SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33351722 or meyrickstarserviceswll@gmail.com

RUNWAY CAR ACCESSORIES has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33244485 or GAFOOR-SAYED@YAHOO.COM

SaVoy Thai Restaurant has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36321263 or KHALIL@EXPERTSERVICES.COM

BAB AL BAHRAIN RESTAURANT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK (ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 77934737 or BABAL

Classifieds



VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

TECHFIT DESIGN AND INTERIOR W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39400314 or ALTAF.CA@MSN.COM

THE RITZ - CARLTON BAHRAIN HOTEL W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CUSTOMER SERVICES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17580000 or rc.bahr.hr@ritzcarlton.com

HARJIT EVENT MANAGEMENT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE WORKER HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39820273 or HARJITKUMAR605@GMAIL.COM

GREEN LIFE CITY FRUITS AND VEGETABLES 2 W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33922311 or PRABHULESH@GMAIL.COM

Coffee Partners W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (FOOD & BEVERAGES SECTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 35952221 or SHAHLEEN@black22bh.com

TOYX STORE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66757111 or AYMAN.H.AL-MUTAWA@GMAIL.COM

ABDULAZIZ ALSAYED TRADING & CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SERVICEMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33747598 or AHMEDALSAYED88@HOTMAIL.COM

Star-Grace Management Services W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36863894 or stargracemanagement@gmail.com

DRESS CODE BOUTIQUE has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 1755253 or SHABBIR-SHARAFALI@GMAIL.COM

WEATHERFORD DRILLING INTERNATIONAL BAHRAIN W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (OPERATIONS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33621022 or ismael.altamimi@weatherford.com

ASRAAR ALMALIKI ABAYAT has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33665773 or A_ALMALIKI@LIVE.COM

BALA CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33802366 or club88bah@yahoo.com

N & A KHUSHI CONSTRUCTION BAHRAIN PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35374029 or NAKHUSHI@GMAIL.COM

HAQUE STAR CONSTRUCTIONS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN (MAINTENANCE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33998608 or ENAMUL.HAQUE64@YAHOO.COM

H L B CLEANING SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33539886 or SAMEER101SAM@GMAIL.COM

BLACK55 BROKERAGE IN REAL ESTATE has a vacancy for the occupation of CASHIER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33343321 or RASHED.RIFFA@GMAIL.COM

BOLAN REAL ESTATE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33096702 or KHALEEJ.TOWN22@GMAIL.COM

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ERECTOR-STEEL-(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

MAGNUM SHIPCARE SERVICES CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of PIPEFITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17832244 or per121@alkhalidiagroup.com

BAHRAIN SERVICES & MAINTENANCE COMPANY B.S.C. (CLOSED) has a vacancy for the occupation of SERVICEMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17727676 or aqeel@basma.com.bh

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

BAHRAIN SERVICES & MAINTENANCE COMPANY B.S.C. (CLOSED) has a vacancy for the occupation of SERVICEMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17727676 or aqeel@basma.com.bh

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

GOLDEN TOUCH CLEANING CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17345150 or raihan@gtcbah.com

TASHYED HOSPITALITY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER (HOTEL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17729935 or manni.hr@mannaitrading.com

AL HAFAZ CONSULTANCY COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE BOY / FARRASH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39930364 or NOORNEWS31@GMAIL.COM

AL- MAHARAT AL -MUTKANA AUTO CENTER has a vacancy for the occupation of MACHINE MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17611961 or AYOUBI72@GMAIL.COM

SAIF AL SHAHRIYAH REAL ESTATE AND INTERIOR DECOR W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DECORATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 13106833 or SAIFULBAHRAINBM@GMAIL.COM

Swan International Assistance W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of BUSINESS RELATIONS MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17333623 or HR@SIASSISTANCE.COM

BREEZY AIRCON SERVICES AND MAINTENANCE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCE).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33767900 or FALAKSHER34414@GMAIL.COM

GATE SMART CITY GLASS AND STEEL W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(METAL CASTING), suitably qualified applicants can contact 35064327 or SMARTCITYGLASS170@GMAIL.COM

B&H ELECTRONICS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39349688 or UMERLUL6197@GMAIL.COM

NASSER ABD MOHAMMED B.S.C(CLOSED) has a vacancy for the occupation of VEHICLE SHEETMETAL WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700888 or admin@nasserco.net

MODERN KNOWLEDGE SCHOOLS has a vacancy for the occupation of ADMINISTRATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17727712 or hr@mkschoolsbh.com

AL-NAMAL MECHANICAL CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17251444 or namalco@batelco.com.bh

ALHAMAD CONSTRUCTION & DEVELOPMENT CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17226618 or ACKR007@GMAIL.COM

SALON ALWISAMA FOR MENS SHAVING has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33538877 or LULWAAALTHAWADI77@GMAIL.COM

KKC INDUSTRY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39413666 or GARYXU@KCCIND.COM

SUQ TOWER W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33007764 or suqtower@gmail.com

ALMOAYYED COMPUTERS MIDDLE EAST W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of COMPUTER NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17705313 or ALIHASSAN@ALMOAYYEDINTL.COM.BH

FIZAIYA CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33522100 or MTAHIRNAWAZ786@GMAIL.COM

SOLO CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17711333 or hassan@emaar.bh

ARADOUS BAKERY has a vacancy for the occupation of BAKER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39993911 or HUSSAIN.ALTAAN@GMAIL.COM

Harem ALSultan beauty salon has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66300077 or ENAS_S@MOE.GOV.BH

LUBYSCO CAFETERIA has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39803803 or MATDOSRI95@GMAIL.COM

ARAD CITY TEA CAFETERIA W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34343495 or ABDULLAH33821112@GMAIL.COM

AI SPACE BAHRAIN PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of MARKETING EXECUTIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35546274 or ALI673799@GMAIL.COM

JIVAN CONTRACTING CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of FITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33301828 or HA2500@YAHOO.COM

BLACK HANIWALA COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS,

suitably qualified applicants can contact 37617271 or HAMMID777MP@GMAIL.COM

EAST ARAB CONTRACTING ESTABLISHMENT has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17713731 or EASTARABCON@GMAIL.COM

HOUSE OF TRAVEL B.S.C CLOSEED has a vacancy for the occupation of TRAVEL AGENT(TICKETING & RESERVATION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17578578 or j.amin@hotmail.com

BARIDHARA FACILITIES SUPPORT CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33331276 or SAJBONWLL@GMAIL.COM

KHURRAM MALO MAINTENANCE SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33580196 or KHURRAMMALO143@GMAIL.COM

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

EHSAAN ALKHAIR CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39681440 or ABDULLAALHAIKI@HOTMAIL.COM

FLY PHOONE ACCESSORIES FOR MOBILE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36066121 or JAF3323@GMAIL.COM

ABDULRAHMAN BIN MOHAMED JUMA & SONS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17223360 or hitesh@arjumasons.com

GHAZALI USED TOOLS has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36505588 or REMO01221REMO@GMAIL.COM

JIVAN CONTRACTING CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of FITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33301828 or HA2500@YAHOO.COM

JIVAN CONTRACTING CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANICAL FITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33301828 or HA2500@YAHOO.COM

MS CARGO & PACKAGING CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of TRAVEL AGENT(TICKETING & RESERVATION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 35045694 or SALAHUDDIN4938@GMAIL.COM

PRO MAGIC CLEANING COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 77003388 or ALAA00SELIM@GMAIL.COM

Bright Future Contracting has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33681568 or brightfuturecont@gmail.com

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Arsenal beat Rosenior's Chelsea in League Cup semi first leg

AFP | London

Arsenal ruined Chelsea manager Liam Rosenior's first home game as they moved closer to Wembley with a 3-2 win in the League Cup semi-final first leg on Wednesday.

Rosenior's side had beaten second-tier Charlton 5-1 in his debut in the FA Cup third round last weekend.

But Arsenal ensured his first game on the Stamford Bridge bench was significantly less enjoyable.

Ben White put the Premier League leaders ahead in the first half and Viktor Gyokeres punished a blunder by Chelsea goalkeeper Robert Sanchez to score their second after the interval.

Alejandro Garnacho came off the bench to pull one back for Chelsea before Martin Zubimendi grabbed Arsenal's third goal.

Garnacho gave Chelsea a glimmer of hope with his second goal in the closing stages.

But Arsenal will go into the second leg at Emirates Stadium on February 3 as firm favourites to reach the Wembley final in March.

Manchester City won 2-0 at Newcastle in the first leg of the other semi-final on Tuesday.

Arsenal are unbeaten in their last 10 matches in all competitions as they try to win their first trophy since the 2020 FA Cup.

Gunners boss Mikel Arteta had claimed his players were motivated by their 4-0 aggregate defeat against Newcastle in the League Cup semi-finals



Chelsea's Spanish goalkeeper #01 Robert Sanchez concedes an opening goal from Arsenal's English defender #04 Ben White

last season. They also lost in the semi-finals of the 2025 Champions League, the 2022 League Cup and the 2021 Europa League.

Top of the Premier League and Champions League, and through to the FA Cup fourth round, Arsenal may never have a better chance to end their silverware drought.

Rosenior, sacked by Hull in 2024, was hired by Chelsea last week to replace Enzo Maresca after earning plaudits for leading French club Strasbourg to a seventh-place finish last season.

The 41-year-old's introduction

to Stamford Bridge was hampered by the absence of Cole Palmer, Moises Caicedo, Reece James, Liam Delap, Jamie Gittens and Malo Gusto due to a combination of injuries, illness and suspension.

Set-piece experts

Despite saying he had been focused on playing Arsenal since the moment he took charge last week, Chelsea looked completely unprepared as they were caught cold in the seventh minute.

Arsenal's set-piece prowess has become their most essential attacking quality over the last

two seasons and Rosenior became their latest victim in the seventh minute.

Declan Rice curled a corner into the six-yard box and when Sanchez mistimed his attempt to catch the ball, the unmarked White had time and space to guide a downwards header into the net.

White's first goal since 2024, when he netted against Chelsea, was Arsenal's 24th from set-pieces -- including 18 at corners -- in all competitions this season, the most by any club in Europe's top five leagues.

Chelsea tried to respond but Kepa Arrizabalaga saved from

YOU

KNOW WHAT

Arsenal's opening goal was their 24th from a set-piece this season—including 18 from corners—ranking them as the most prolific dead-ball team across all of Europe's top five leagues

Enzo Fernandez and Estevao Willian.

Arsenal doubled their lead in the 49th minute thanks to Sanchez's howler.

White's low cross should have been easy for Sanchez, but he let it slip through his grasp and Gyokeres tapped into the empty net for his first goal in open play in 16 games.

It was a rare moment of vindication for the much-maligned Sweden striker, who has scored just eight times in 26 appearances since arriving from Sporting Lisbon last year.

Rosenior sent on Garnacho for Marc Guiu and the change made an immediate impact.

Garnacho struck in the 57th minute, drilling home from close range after Arsenal failed to clear.

Zubimendi restored the Gunners' two-goal advantage in the 71st minute.

Muharraq's title bid ends in Tunisia

Hussain Almaskati TDT | Manama

Bahrain champions Muharraq saw their impressive run in the 44th Arab Club Men's Volleyball Championship come to an end yesterday, losing 3-1 (25-20, 24-26, 22-25, 21-25) to hosts Etoile Sportive du Sahel in the semi-final.

Muharraq started with authority at the Sports Palace Hall in Tunisia, taking the opening set 25-20 through composed attacking and solid blocking. Jacob Link and Mateusz Jozwik set the tempo, while Mohammed Abdulla and Naser Anan delivered crucial points late to keep the hosts at bay.

The turning point came in a tense second set. Muharraq led 24-20 after Link and Abdulla stretched the cushion, but service errors and extended video checks allowed Etoile back into contention. Hamza Hfaiedh sparked the comeback as the hosts overturned the deficit to snatch the set 26-24, silencing Muharraq's bench.

Set three developed into a bruising battle of momentum swings. Muharraq repeatedly fought back to level the score, with Abdulla, Anan, and Jozwik keeping them in touch, but Etoile's Wajdi Baroudi and Ala Samoud were decisive at the



Mateusz Jozwik attacks for Muharraq in semi-final

net. A spectacular rally finished by Farrah pushed the hosts to a 25-22 win.

Muharraq showed resilience again in the fourth, closing to within a point at 21-20 after late strikes from Link and Anan. However, Etoile responded under pressure, with Hfaiedh sealing the contest 25-21 to send the home crowd into celebration.

Coached by Yaseen Al Meel, Muharraq bow out with pride after a strong tournament run that included group-stage wins over Oman's Majees SC, Qatar's Police CF, and the Palestinian Forces Club, and a dominant quarter-final sweep of Qatar SC.

Despite the defeat, the Red Wolves' semi-final showing underlined their growing stature among Arab volleyball's elite.

Muharraq Keep Pressure on Leaders

Hussain Almaskati TDT | Manama

Matchweek 12 of the Nasser bin Hamad Premier League saw two key fixtures yesterday, with Muharraq edging Al Ahli 1-0 in Bahrain's El Clasico at Khalifa Sports City, while Sitra secured a 1-0 victory over Bahrain Club at Shaikh Ali bin Mohammed Stadium.

In Sitra's clash against Bahrain Club, the breakthrough came in the 38th minute. Ali Nasser played out wide to Karl, who squared the ball to Othman Al Hajj. The striker finished first-time with a composed strike into the left corner, giving Sitra a crucial lead. Despite Bahrain Club's efforts, the hosts held firm to claim all three points, strengthening their mid-table position.

Meanwhile, Muharraq and Al Ahli produced a tense encounter. The decisive moment arrived in the 80th minute when Juninho scored the winner. A cross was delivered into the box, Arthur Rezende headed it into a dangerous area, and under intense pressure from Al Ahli captain Baqer Alasfoor, Juninho stretched high to connect and slot the ball home. The goal secured Muharraq three vital points and keeps them within striking distance of leaders Al Khaldiya.

Yesterday's results leave Al Khaldiya at the top of the table



Muharraq's Edimar Ribeiro da Costa Junior celebrates his late winner against Al Ahli

with 30 points, three clear of Muharraq, who sit second with 27 points. Sitra's win moves them to 15 points in sixth place, while Al Ahli remain in ninth with 12 points and Bahrain Club fight to climb from 11th with six points.

Earlier this season, in the reverse fixtures, Sitra defeated Bahrain Club 4-1, and Muharraq recorded a 3-0 victory over Al Ahli. With the title race tightening, every point will count as the league heads into its final stages.

Sinner on semi-final collision course with Djokovic at Australian Open

● Sinner opens defense against Hugo Gaston

● Alcaraz opens against home hope Walton

● Sabalenka faces French wildcard first

● Sabalenka and Gauff collide early

● Zverev, De Minaur face tough starts

AFP | Melbourne

Jannik Sinner was drawn yesterday against France's Hugo Gaston to start his Australian Open defence and is on a collision course to meet 10-time champion Novak Djokovic in a blockbuster semi-final.

World number one Carlos Alcaraz opens against home hope Adam Walton in his bid for a career Grand Slam and first Melbourne Park title.

The Spanish superstar is on the same side of the draw as last year's beaten finalist Alexander



Italy's Jannik Sinner (L) shakes hands with Serbia's Novak Djokovic after winning their French Open match (file photo)

Zverev and is scheduled to meet him in the last four.

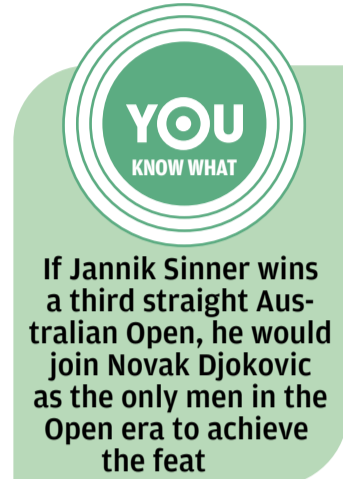
Italy's Sinner saw off Germany's Zverev in straight sets in last year's final and went on to add the Wimbledon and ATP

Finals crowns to his growing collection.

If the 24-year-old makes it three in a row he would join Djokovic as the only men in the Open era to do so.

The Serbian great is aiming for a record 25th major title and will meet 71st-ranked Spaniard Pedro Martinez first up.

"The draw is very difficult, it doesn't matter who you play,"



said Sinner at the draw ceremony.

"We are the best players in the world and the way is very, very long and very far. We will go day-by-day."

World number three Zverev faces big-serving Gabriel Diallo in round one while sixth seed Alex de Minaur has a tough encounter against former number six and 2022 semi-finalist Matteo Berrettini of Italy.

In the women's draw, American defending champion Madison Keys will take on Ukraine's Oleksandra Oliynykova while

world number one Aryna Sabalenka kicks off against French wildcard Tiantsoa Rakotomanga Rajaonah.

Keys stunned then title-holder Sabalenka 12 months ago in a classic three-set final to win her first major title aged 29.

But she failed to kick on from there, not winning another tournament all year, and Keys, the world number nine, will have a target on her back as champion.

Sabalenka and world number three Coco Gauff are on the same side of the draw and will meet in the semi-finals if they make it that far.

Gauff gets under way against Uzbekistan's Kamilla Rakhimova and could meet veteran Venus Williams, handed a wildcard aged 45, in the second round.

Second seed and six-time Grand Slam winner Iga Swiatek will play a yet to be determined qualifier in round one and could meet fourth seed Amanda Anisimova in the final four.

Swiatek has won the French Open, US Open and Wimbledon but is yet to go past the semi-finals in Melbourne.

The Australian Open starts Sunday.

Elite horses set for third round of Bahrain International Championship



TDT | Manama

son.

The Rashid Equestrian and Horse Racing Club will stage the third round of the fifth Bahrain International Championship on Friday, January 16, as part of the 14th race meeting of the 2025/2026 season, under the patronage of HH Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa. The meeting is sponsored by National Bank of Bahrain and Bareeq, and will be held at the club's Al Riffa racecourse.

The highlight of the evening is the Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Cup, alongside cups named after his sons Shaikh Hamad, Shaikh Abdullah and Shaikh Salman, in addition to the Al Adiyat Cup sponsored by Bareeq and the Al Wasmiya Cup sponsored by National Bank of Bahrain.

The event brings together a select field of top-class horses competing in one of the most prestigious fixtures of the sea-

The Bahrain International Championship continues to gain prominence by attracting high-rated international horses, elite trainers and leading jockeys, reinforcing Bahrain's growing status as a regional hub for international horse racing.

The Al Adiyat Cup for imported horses is again run as an internationally listed race, while the Bahrain-bred Al Adiyat Cup makes its debut, aimed at encouraging local ownership and production.

Strong competition is expected in the championship races, particularly in the Al Wasmiya Cup over 1,000 metres and the Al Adiyat Listed race over 1,800 metres, featuring proven winners and internationally campaigned contenders. The meeting also includes six additional races across a range of classes, offering competitive and closely matched fields.

Alcaraz career Grand Slam at 22 would be 'crazy' - Federer

AFP | Melbourne

Roger Federer said yesterday that Carlos Alcaraz winning the Australian Open to complete the career Grand Slam aged just 22 would be "crazy".

Spain's Alcaraz already has six major titles but success on the Melbourne Park hard courts is a glaring hole in his resume.

Should the world number one snap his Australia drought at the tournament starting on Sunday, he would become the youngest man to seal a career Grand Slam.

"At his young age to be able to complete the career Grand Slam already would be crazy," Swiss legend Federer said at Melbourne Park, where he will headline a "Battle of the World No.1s" at the official launch of the 2026 Australian Open on Saturday.

"Let's see if he's able to do 'crazy' this week. I hope he does because for the game that would be an unbelievable and special



Carlos Alcaraz and Roger Federer shake hands during after a Laver Cup match (file photo)

moment."

Alcaraz is aiming to surpass retired compatriot Rafael Nadal, who secured all four majors by the age of 24, but the top seed has not made it past the quarter-finals in four previous Australian Opens.

Federer, a six-time Melbourne champion, compared Alcaraz's

wait to lift the title there to Rory McIlroy's agonising attempts to win a first Masters in golf.

The Northern Irishman finally did it last year to complete the Grand Slam.

"It's like Rory going for the Masters. Those things are tough," said Federer.

Alcaraz faces home hope

Let's see if he's able to do 'crazy' this week. I hope he does because for the game that would be an unbelievable and special moment

ROGER FEDERER

Adam Walton in the first round. The now-retired Federer was also asked by reporters about Joao Fonseca, an up-and-coming Brazilian tennis talent aged 19.

Federer spoke glowingly of the teenager, saying: "What separates him from a lot of the other guys in the draw is just his power -- forehand, backhand, serve and just what he's able to bring point by point.

"He's exciting, he's got good aura, he's a very likeable character as well. I like watching him play.

"The sky's the limit."

Error-strewn Keys crashes out to Mboko in Australian Open warm-up

AFP | Adelaide

An erratic Madison Keys struck nearly 50 unforced errors yesterday as the Australian Open champion crashed out of her final warm-up for this year's opening Grand Slam to teenager Victoria Mboko.

The Canadian world number 17 withstood a second-set fight-back from Keys to win 6-4, 4-6, 6-2 in the quarter-final of the Adelaide International.

Keys won the Adelaide tournament 12 months on her way to lifting her maiden Slam title in Melbourne.

This year's Australian Open begins on Sunday and Keys has been drawn to face Ukraine's Oleksandra Oliynykova in the first round.

After dropping the first set, Keys rallied after twice being a break down in the second to the 19-year-old, before taking it to a deciding third set.



Madison Keys reacts during her match

But Mboko broke the American twice for a 4-1 lead and won

after 1hr 52min.

A year ago, Mboko was 337th in the world but she announced herself on the world stage last year by winning the WTA 1000 title in Montreal and the Hong Kong Open.

"There were ups and downs in the match, I had to weather the storm," Mboko said.

"She won here last year so I know coming in this would be a big fight. I'm glad I was able to get it done."