

World Bank unveils Water Forward plan

The programme will expand reliable water services and strengthen resilience against droughts and floods, with funding support from development banks, governments and private partners. | P10

Unified Bahrain Kuwait Vision

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Bahrain and Kuwait continue to share a deeply rooted and historic fraternal relationship built on strong ties of cooperation, mutual respect, and shared Gulf interests.

Reflecting these close bilateral relations, His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, received Kuwait's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Shaikh Jarrah Jaber Al-Ahmad Al Sabah, and his accompanying delegation at Al Sakhir Palace during his official visit to the Kingdom.

At the start of the meeting, the Kuwaiti Foreign Minister conveyed the greetings and best wishes of His Highness Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah, the Amir of Kuwait, expressing his hopes for continued progress and prosperity for Bahrain under His Majesty the King's leadership.

His Majesty warmly welcomed the minister and requested him to extend his greetings and best wishes to the Amir of Kuwait, wishing him continued good health and happiness, and further advancement and prosperity for the people of Kuwait.

The King praised the significant role played by the Kuwaiti leadership in strengthening Bahrain-Kuwait relations and in supporting joint Gulf Cooperation Council initiatives. He reaffirmed the depth of the historical ties and the strong fraternal bonds between the two countries and their peoples, which continue to grow through ongoing cooperation and mutual commitment.

The meeting also reviewed the latest regional and international developments, alongside issues of shared concern. His Majesty emphasized the importance of continued consulta-



tion and coordination between Bahrain and Kuwait to further enhance bilateral relations and serve mutual interests across various fields.

For his part, the Kuwaiti Foreign Minister expressed his appreciation to His Majesty for the warm reception and hospitality, commending Bahrain's efforts

in strengthening bilateral ties and praising the close fraternal relations between the two countries under His Majesty the King's leadership.

Foreign Minister welcomes Kuwait Foreign Minister upon arrival in Manama.



UN Moves to Protect Libya's Oil Revenues



The UN Security Council has unanimously adopted Resolution 2819, extending the mandate of the Libya sanctions committee for 15 months until 1 August 2027.

Bahrain presided over the voting session and voted in favour of the resolution, which was submitted by the United Kingdom as the Council member responsible for the Libya file. Bahrain reiterated its support for Libya's stability, economic recovery, and protection of its national resources.

The resolution strengthens measures against the illegal export of Libyan oil and calls for continued efforts to prevent the exploitation of the country's oil wealth.

Flights Gradually Resuming



Gulf Air confirmed that flight operations from Bahrain International Airport are steadily being restored, with services expected to expand to more than 50 destinations by June 2026. Until 30 April 2026, Gulf Air will continue operating an interim network from King Fahd International Airport.

As part of the phased rollout, current destinations include major cities such as Riyadh, London Heathrow, Jeddah, Muscat, Dubai, Nairobi, Lahore, Dhaka, Islamabad, and Istanbul. Flights to Abu Dhabi are set to resume in April 2026.

Passengers can book tickets through Gulf Air's website, mobile app, or authorised travel agents. The airline reaffirmed that it is closely monitoring developments in coordination with authorities, with safety and passenger well-being remaining its top priority.

Border Security Oversight

Interior Minister Praises Joint Security Operations at Causeway Base

Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, Interior Minister visited the King Fahd Causeway Coast Guard Base on Wednesday to review operational readiness and security efficiency amid regional tensions linked to Iranian actions.

He commended the leadership's strategic vision, noting that directives from HM the King over recent years had helped develop an advanced national security system, enabling Bahrain to respond effectively to emergency situations. He also highlighted the government's coordinated approach under the Crown Prince and Prime Minister in enhancing national preparedness and ensuring public reassurance.

The Minister praised the close coordination between the Coast Guard, the Royal Bahrain Naval Force, and the National Guard in maintaining maritime safety and security across the Kingdom.

He further emphasized the Coast Guard's professionalism, noting its round-the-clock operations and continuous cooperation with relevant authorities to safeguard regional waters and strengthen strate-



gic capabilities.

During the visit, he called for the Coast Guard's continued development through advanced technology, training programmes, and internationally aligned security education. He also stressed the importance of improving joint operations, reviewing procedures, and enhancing inter-agency coordination.

At the King Fahd Causeway base, the Minister also

thanked Customs Affairs, Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs, and the General Directorate of Ports Security, praising their role in facilitating secure movement, protecting supply chains, and ensuring efficient services at the crossing point.



Hidden Drugs in Parcel

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Rehab Mohammad

A man was sentenced to 15 years in prison and fined BD 10,000 after being convicted of importing 1.2 kilograms of marijuana hidden inside a postal parcel sent from an Asian country, in one of the most serious drug smuggling cases detected before delivery.

According to court records, customs officers became suspicious of a parcel during routine inspections at the airport using an X-ray scanner. The shipment was later opened and found to contain six transparent bags with colored packaging filled with marijuana, carefully concealed.

The following day, the defendant arrived to collect the parcel. He admitted the parcel belonged to him, leading to his immediate arrest and referral to the Anti-Narcotics Directorate. Authorities later obtained permission to search his residence.

During the search, officers found additional items in his room, including marijuana seeds, a precision weighing scale, packaging materials, and a container with suspected drug traces.

Investigations revealed that the defendant ordered the parcel for both trafficking and personal use, and used a false name to avoid detection.

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