



HM King Hamad thanked by Umm Al Quwain Ruler
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His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa received a cable of thanks from His Highness Sheikh Saud bin Rashid Al Mualla, Member of the United Arab Emirates Supreme Council and Ruler of Umm Al Quwain, in response to HM's cable of condolences on the passing of the late Sheikha Hessa bint Hamid bin Abdul Rahman Al Shamsi.

Bahrain condemns terror schemes against Jordan
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The Kingdom of Bahrain strongly condemned and denounced the terrorist schemes targeting security and stability in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

A statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs affirmed the unwavering support of Bahrain for Jordan and the legitimate measures it takes to preserve its security and stability.

The ministry expressed the Kingdom's appreciation for the efficiency and vigilance of the Jordanian security and intelligence services in foiling terror schemes and wished Jordan and its people continued security, progress, and prosperity.

US strike in Yemen
AFP | Sanaa

Yemeni rebel media said one person was killed in a US strike on Sanaa yesterday, accusing Washington of launching more than a dozen air raids on the Houthis-held capital. Rebel-held areas of Yemen have endured near-daily strikes by the US since it launched an air campaign against the Houthis on March 15.

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Gaza turned into a 'mass grave'

Israel's military operations and blockade of humanitarian aid worsen Palestinian situation



A Palestinian man inspects the damage inside a building hit in overnight Israeli strikes on Jabalia's southwestern district of Nazla in the northern Gaza Strip. (AFP)

AFP | Geneva

Medical aid agency Doctors Without Borders (MSF) yesterday said Israel's military operations and blockade of humanitarian aid had turned Gaza into a grave-

yard for Palestinians and those helping them.

Israel, fighting in Gaza since the October 7, 2023 Hamas attacks, resumed operations in the Palestinian territory in March after the collapse of a two-month-old ceasefire amid

differences over the next phase.

Hundreds of thousands of people have been displaced, with Israel blocking humanitarian aid since March 2, before the truce disintegrated.

Medical supplies, fuel, water and other essentials are in short

Gaza has been turned into a mass grave of Palestinians and those coming to their assistance

AMANDE BAZEROLLE, DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS (MSF) COORDINATOR



supply, the UN says.

"Gaza has been turned into a mass grave of Palestinians and those coming to their assistance," said MSF coordinator Amande Bazerolle.

Last month, Israeli forces opened fire on ambulances in Gaza, killing 15 medics and rescuers in an incident that sparked international condemnation.

"We are witnessing in real time the destruction and forced displacement of the entire population in Gaza," Bazerolle added.

"With nowhere safe for Palestinians or those trying to help them, the humanitarian

response is severely struggling under the weight of insecurity and critical supply shortages, leaving people with few, if any, options for accessing care," she said.

Israel yesterday announced that it had converted 30 percent of Gaza's territory into a buffer zone as it pressed its unrelenting military offensive, vowing to maintain its blockade on humanitarian aid to the war-ravaged territory.

Israel resumed air and ground attacks across the Gaza Strip on March 18, ending a two-month ceasefire with Hamas that had largely halted hostilities, with rescuers yesterday saying at least 11 were killed in strikes across the Palestinian territory.

The UN said an estimated 500,000 Palestinians have been displaced since the end of the Gaza ceasefire, triggering what it described as one of the most severe humanitarian crises the territory has faced in more than 18 months of war.

The Israeli military yesterday said that as part of its resumed operations, it had "achieved full operational control over several key areas and routes throughout the Gaza Strip".

Thriving together

Bahrain committed to continuing zero-tariff policy on US goods

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The historic and multifaceted relationship between Bahrain and the US continues to thrive, with a strong emphasis on advancing mutual economic and trade interests.

His Excellency Abdulla bin Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry and Commerce, reaffirmed the Kingdom's dedication to deepening these ties as part of the broader strategic partner-

ship between the two nations.

In response to a proposal concerning the imposition of reciprocal tariffs on US imports submitted by a Member of Parliament, the Minister emphasised that the Government of Bahrain is committed to continuing its zero-tariff policy on US goods, and pursuing avenues to deepen trade relations with the US building upon the landmark US-Bahrain Free Trade Agreement, implemented in 2006 as



H.E. Abdulla bin Adel Fakhro

America's first FTA in the Gulf region, continuing to strengthen what has become a model eco-

nommic partnership.

Bahrain's strategic position as the Gateway to the Gulf has enabled bilateral trade between the two nations to grow from \$780 million in 2005 to nearly \$3 billion today, supported by our full tariff-free access for US goods – a policy that contributed to a US trade surplus of over \$440 million with the Kingdom in 2024 and an accumulated trade surplus of \$4.4 billion since 2006.

Bahrain has also cemented its

role as a regional hub through initiatives like the dedicated US Trade Zone at Khalifa bin Salman Port, which provides an efficient gateway for American goods to reach the Kingdom and regional markets.

Fakhro affirmed that Bahrain remains dedicated to fostering a supportive environment for trade and investment, ensuring that the benefits of this strong partnership continue to flourish for both nations.

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MPs approve Hoora public event hall plan

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MPs have approved a proposal to build a public event hall in Hoora, offering low-income families and expat residents in the capital a cheaper place for weddings and funerals.

The plan, submitted by MP Mohammed Hussain Janahi, was passed during the latest sitting of Parliament.

He told the chamber that residents in the First Constituency of the Capital Governorate struggle to afford the steep prices demanded by private halls.

“The cost of hiring a private hall runs into hundreds of dinars, which is simply out of reach for many families,” he said. “This public hall will give them a dignified space to hold their occasions without the strain.”

MP Janahi said many households in the area were under pressure and that the hall would ease one of the burdens they face.

He described it as a practical measure that would allow residents to mark both celebrations and bereavements without sinking into debt. The proposal was co-signed by MPs Ahmed Qarata, Eman Showaiter, Ali Saqer Al Doseri and Abdulhakim Al Sheno.

‘Register for support’

Many citizens living abroad remain unregistered, making it harder for authorities to assist them during emergencies

● **198,000 consular services processed by Foreign Ministry**

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has kept pace with the paperwork, and the challenge lies in reaching the people.

It has processed nearly 200,000 overseas transactions since the beginning of the current legislative term, yet many citizens living abroad remain unregistered, leaving themselves exposed in times of trouble.

The figures were provided by Foreign Minister, His Excellency Dr Abdullatif Al Zayani, in response to a parliamentary question submitted by MP Jalal Kadhém.

He said the ministry had handled a total of 198,057 consular services, achieving a completion rate of 99 per cent.

Support

These covered passport renewals, driving licences, police certificates, document attesta-



Image used for illustrative purposes only

tions, birth records and support in legal cases involving Bahrainis overseas.

“There is no law requiring citizens abroad to share their details with us,” he said. “Many are not registered at all, and even among those who are, the records are often years out of date. We are asking people to come forward and register, because it can make all the difference when something goes wrong.”

Among those most affected are students. Many have not reported their current place of study or residence.

According to ministry data, 4,031 students are currently re-

corded abroad.

Groups

The largest groups are in Egypt, the UK and the UAE. A single Bahraini student is listed in Damascus, and one in Doha.

The ministry has made changes to simplify consular procedures.

Bahrain has joined the Apostille Convention, which allows documents to be accepted across borders with a single certification.

It has also linked up with the national appointment system, introduced electronic attestation and begun issuing emergen-



H.E. Dr Abdullatif Al Zayani

cy travel documents for Bahrainis in GCC states who lose their ID cards.

Plans

Dr Al Zayani said plans to open additional service counters across Bahrain were being considered, depending on available resources and staffing.

Between 2023 and 2024, the ministry dealt with over 137,000 requests for documents and nearly 3,000 legal matters.

These included support for detained or hospitalised Bahrainis, assistance with death certificates and other urgent family cases.

No applications have been left unresolved since the start of the legislative term.

Overseas missions continue to forward all requests to the appropriate authorities.

Transactions

The embassy in Riyadh processed 10,842 transactions. Cairo handled 9,630, while Mumbai dealt with 4,946.

Other busy missions included London, Washington, Amman, Abu Dhabi, New Delhi and Jakarta.

Workloads varied across different posts.

The Bahrain embassy in Baghdad dealt with 82 requests, while Geneva recorded 90.

Mission

Paris logged 457, while mission in Seoul handled matters for nine Bahraini students.

The ministry also operates a 24-hour contact and response centre at its headquarters in Manama.

It manages enquiries, complaints and emergencies, working closely with other departments and Bahraini missions abroad.

A public survey conducted in 2024 found that 98.92 per cent of users were satisfied with the ministry’s consular services, according to the ministry.



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Global symposium on AI and law



Speakers at the event

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As the pace of the digital transformation accelerates globally, artificial intelligence (AI) is at the forefront of discussions on the future of justice. It is used to analyze legal data, make recommendations, and improve the efficiency of judicial procedures and decisions.

While these technologies offer opportunities to speed up litigation and increase transparency, they also raise

questions about impartiality, accountability and the scope of the human role.

Experts

The Judicial and Legal Studies Institute (JLSI), in cooperation with the Supreme Judicial Council and the French Embassy to Bahrain, organized an international symposium under the title: “Artificial Intelligence in Law and Justice: Current Trends and Future Prospects”, with the participation of a group of experts in the

fields of artificial intelligence and the judiciary, along with a number of government officials and legal professionals from the Kingdom of Bahrain and beyond.

This event builds on the ambition of the international AI Action Summit held in France in February 2025 that brought together heads of states, major experts and officials and representatives of the private sector.

The opening session of the symposium took place on April 14 in the JLSI premises.

Bangladesh glorious occasion



Bangladesh’s Ambassador to the Kingdom of Bahrain, His Excellency Md. Rais Hasan Sarower, ndc, and Mrs. Dilruba Akhter lead a cake-cutting ceremony marking the 54th Independence and National Day of Bangladesh, held yesterday at the Grand Ambassador Ballroom, Diplomat Radisson Blu Hotel, in the presence of senior government officials, ambassadors, embassy staff, and distinguished guests.

Crypto crimes

19 accused in drug case, BD491,000 laundered, and sentences handed down

The group moved the drugs using dead drop methods, and handled the cash, taking in drug sale proceeds and funnelling them to recipients in different Asian countries in return for a cut.



TDT | Manama

Over BD491,000 laundered through crypto wallets and dead drops as 19 defendants stood trial at the High Criminal Court for drug trafficking and money laundering.

Sentences ranged from one to 15 years, with 11 of the accused fined BD100,000 each.

The court ordered the deportation of convicted expats following their jail terms and confiscated the full amount linked to the laundering scheme.

Free

Three defendants walked free, among them the client of lawyer Dalal Al Thawwadi, who had filed a defence brief seeking his acquittal.

The first six defendants were sentenced to 10 years behind bars and fined BD5,000 each for

drug dealing.

The first, second and those from the sixth through the fourteenth were also given five years and fined BD100,000 apiece for laundering the profits of the trade.

Proceeds

The court ordered BD491,000 seized as proceeds of crime.

The remaining five were jailed for a year and fined BD1,000 each. All convicted foreign defendants are to be deported once their sentences are served.

Defendants 20 to 22 were found not guilty.

The case began with a tip-off to the General Directorate of Anti-Narcotics.

Operation

Investigators learned that the first defendant, still at large and believed to be abroad, was directing a drug-selling operation in Bahrain and laundering the takings with the help of his brother, the second defendant. The pair reportedly arranged

for the profits to be funnelled through local bank accounts, accessed with the help of other suspects.

The sixth defendant and unnamed others allegedly agreed to hand over control of their accounts for a cut of the proceeds.

They were said to be fully aware that the accounts would be used to process funds tied to narcotics sales.

Bank accounts

To muddy the trail, the first defendant is believed to have bought up several bank accounts in Bahrain.

From there, money was scattered across various accounts, withdrawn, and transferred abroad using exchange outlets.

It was also moved to cryptocurrency platforms and converted into USDT, then funnelled through digital wallets out of Bahrain.

Once offshore, it was converted into Asian currency and redirected into accounts run from the suspect's home country.

Investment scammer extradited to Bahrain

TDT | Manama

An Asian national sentenced in absentia to 10 years for running an unlicensed investment scheme has been returned to Bahrain after an international arrest warrant was enforced by the Public Prosecution.

He had left the country following the verdict, but was eventually detained abroad and handed over to Bahraini authorities.

The extradition was arranged

through coordination with the Ministry of Interior's Directorate of International Affairs and Interpol.

The man was among several defendants found guilty of receiving money from victims on the promise of investment, despite lacking authorisation from the relevant bodies.

The court ordered prison terms of a decade each, fines of BD100,000 per person, repayment of the sums taken, and

seizure of the proceeds.

Arrest warrants

Following the convictions, the men left the country. Arrest warrants were issued and shared internationally.

One of them was tracked down and delivered into Bahraini custody.

He has since been referred to the Public Prosecution, which began steps to carry out the court ruling.

He is now being held at the Reform and Rehabilitation Centre to serve his sentence.



Bahrain-GCC cooperation



His Excellency Nebras Mohammed Talib, Chief Executive Officer of the Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA), received Mohammed bin Hassan Al Obaidly, Director General of the Executive Bureau of the Council of Ministers of Labour and Ministers of Social Affairs in the GCC States. The meeting focused on enhancing cooperation between Bahrain and other GCC member states in labour market regulation and social affairs. Discussions included strategies to support labour market stability, improve the work environment, and safeguard the rights of all stakeholders. Al Obaidly commended Bahrain's efforts in managing a stable and fair labour market, highlighting the importance of promoting joint GCC initiatives and exchanging expertise to enhance the work environment across the region.

Restaurant owner on trial over deadly gas blast



Rescuers at the site of the explosion

TDT | Manama

A restaurant owner accused of triggering a deadly gas explosion that flattened a building in Arad, killing two and injuring six, has gone on trial.

The blast tore through the property on 12 February. Prosecutors say the man, in his fifties, had been running a restaurant inside without proper safety checks or clearance from Civil Defence.

The Lower Criminal Court heard that he was not in the dock. Lawyer Zainab Hassan appeared on his behalf, representing him through advocate Jaafar Marhoon.

She asked for a copy of the case file and time to prepare her defence. The hearing was

adjourned to 22 April.

According to prosecutors, the defendant opened the kitchen before fire safety systems were approved.

He is also accused of using unlicensed gas sensors and shut-off valves. When the leak started, they did not work.

No alarms went off. Gas filled the room until it exploded. The force of the blast brought down the building.

Two people were killed. Six others were injured.

Investigation

The Public Prosecution began investigating after a report from Hidd Police Station. Prosecutors visited the scene.

A forensic doctor examined the dead and wounded. Crime

scene teams combed through the wreckage.

Gas pipes, debris, burnt walls and broken fittings were collected as evidence.

Statements were taken from survivors, passers-by and Civil Defence personnel.



Investigators concluded that the defendant ignored basic safety steps.

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SCAN MENU

Goodbye, garbage!

Rubbish pile cleared to protect Hamad Town from pests after residents' outcry

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

A pile of rotting rubbish in Block 1205, Hamad Town, was cleared at dawn yesterday after residents raised the alarm over the stench and the creeping risk of pests.

Councillor Abdulla Mubarak Bilal, who represents the area on the Northern Municipal Council, organised a field inspection with backing from several government departments.

Staff from the Supreme Council for the Environment, Civil Defence, the Ministry of Works, the Ministry of Health, the Housing and Urban Planning Ministry, and the Northern Municipality took part in the visit.

Clean-up

The clean-up began in the early hours, with the municipality removing waste and violations before the group arrived.

That cleared the way for a site assessment and a series of decisions to keep rubbish from returning.

The municipality said it would fill and seal off the site.

Concrete barriers

Civil Defence proposed concrete barriers at the entrance from Avenue 3 to block vehicle access.

The Ministry of Health flagged a shortage of pesticides for dealing with snakes and



Officials from the Northern Municipal Council, along with representatives from government departments, inspect the site



mole crickets, both reportedly seen in the area.

The Ministry of Works said it would dredge a nearby channel

to stop water from collecting and turning foul.

Immediate problem

According to the environment council, the rubbish removal had dealt with the immediate

problem.

No further steps were needed for the time being.

Councillor Bilal said joint fieldwork like this was key to keeping neighbourhoods in order.

Waste container space mandatory for commercial buildings



Mohammed Darraj, municipal council member

TDT | Manama

Owners of new commercial buildings in the Southern Governorate may be required to provide a fixed space for rubbish containers within each property, following a unanimous vote by the municipal council yesterday.

The idea, put forward by councillor Mohammed Darraj, passed without objection and now awaits a decision from the minister in charge of municipal affairs.

If approved, the measure

would become part of the building rules that govern new developments.

The proposal stems from complaints that rubbish bins are often dragged around by tenants, left blocking entrances or cluttering pavements.

By setting a dedicated space inside each building, the council hopes to curb the practice and bring a measure of order to waste disposal in mixed-use and residential areas.

Idea

The council's technical committee reviewed the idea during its 13th meeting and concluded that the measure would also help reduce pollution and encourage residents to take more care with public cleanliness.

It recommended including the requirement in Bahrain's construction conditions.

The Municipalities Law gives the minister 15 days to object. If that happens and the council refuses to back down, the matter would be passed to the Cabinet for a final call.

Abandoned home plots for 'public car parks'

TDT | Manama

Councillors agreed yesterday to seize abandoned homes, some used to house undocumented labourers and linked to theft and drug activity, and turn the plots into car parks, aiming to ease neighbourhood disputes and clear out properties long left to rot.

The decision followed a proposal from Mohammed Hussain Darraj, who represents the fourth constituency.

He told The Daily Tribune that several derelict homes in residential areas had become hotspots for illegal activity, including the sheltering of undocumented workers, theft, and drug use. He said the buildings posed a safety risk and had become a source

of ongoing nuisance to nearby families.

Mr Darraj added that the constituency suffers from a shortage of public parking, which has led to frequent rows among residents.

Reclaiming the abandoned properties, he argued, would help ease the pressure on local streets.

The council said the sites could be better put to use and that clearing them would improve the appearance of the neighbourhood, in line with the area's ongoing development.

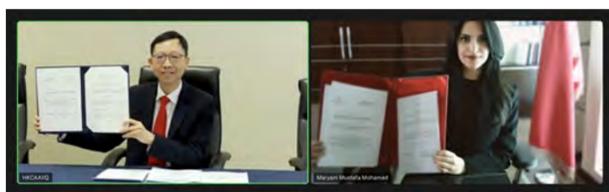
The proposal has now been referred to the relevant authorities to set out the steps required for implementation, based on recommendations outlined in the supporting study.

Bahrain-Hong Kong partnership on academic and vocational programme

TDT | Manama

Dr. Maryam Hasan Mustafa, Chief Executive of the Education and Training Quality Authority (BQA), emphasised that the Bahrain's education sector receives significant attention and support from His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, and vigorous follow-up from His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

She pointed out that the Kingdom continues its efforts to assure the quality of academic and vocational programmes and qualifications, while fostering competitiveness among higher education and vocational training institutions to offer high-quality programmes and qualifications that contribute to delivering learning outcomes at the highest levels of quality



The signing of the MoU

and meeting the labour market requirements.

This statement was made during the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Education and Training Quality Authority (BQA) and the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ), to enhance the quality review processes of academic and vocational programmes and support qualifications frameworks.

In this context, the Chief Executive of the Education and

Training Quality Authority stated that signing the Memorandum of Understanding with the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications is a strategic step to establish foundations for bilateral cooperation and exchange expertise between the two parties.

Collaboration

This collaboration aims to improve programmes and qualifications, enhance the efficiency of education and training institutions in line with global

quality standards, and positively contribute to advancing learning outcomes and promoting excellence.

Mr. H. B. Chao of the Hong Kong, Executive Director of the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications, stated that the MoU with the Education and Training Quality Authority - Kingdom of Bahrain marks a significant step toward strengthening bilateral cooperation in education and training quality assurance and supporting qualifications frameworks.

"This partnership will facilitate the exchange of expertise and best practices, enhance accreditation and quality assurance systems, and support international recognition of qualifications, positively reflecting on the higher education and vocational training sectors," he added.

'Concordia' Art Photography Competition launched

● In celebration of World Art Day

TDT | Manama

Marking World Art Day, the Bahrain Arts Society has announced the launch of its "Concordia" Art Photography Competition.

This initiative seeks to document and highlight the artistic beauty of the monumental artwork "Concordia" by world-renowned artist Sir Brian Clark, which graces the façade of Bahrain International Airport.

The Society invites professional and amateur photographers alike to participate by submitting their creative photographic works.

The competition is divided into two main categories: professional camera photography and mobile phone photography.

One winning photograph will be selected from each category. Winning entries

The winning entries will receive a cash prize and will be showcased on display screens at Bahrain International Airport's terminals, in addition to

being featured on the digital platforms of both the Airport and the Society.

Interested participants should note that the deadline for submissions is Wednesday, April 30, 2025.

For further details on competition terms and conditions or to complete registration, please visit the Bahrain Arts Society's official social media accounts.

Push for two parking spaces per flat in Southern Governorate

TDT | Manama

A proposal requiring two parking spaces per flat in new commercial apartment buildings across the Southern Governorate has been backed in full by the Southern Municipal Council.

The plan, tabled by councillor Mohammed Darraj, is intended to address pressure on parking in residential neighbourhoods. Developers would be obliged to include a minimum of two bays for every unit in upcoming projects.

"It serves the interests of both citizens and residents," Mr Darraj said. "The aim is to ensure enough parking is available and to ease the tensions that often arise between neighbours over space."

The council's technical com-

mittee recommended that the requirement be written into the building rulebook as part of town planning conditions.

Councillors agreed the measure was necessary, citing overcrowding and a steady rise in housing density.

”
The aim is to ensure enough parking is available and to ease the tensions that often arise between neighbours over space

MOHAMMED DARRAJ, SOUTHERN MUNICIPAL COUNCILLOR

Invita partners with Tamkeen

To champion accessibility and inclusion for hearing-impaired

TDT | Manama

The Labour Fund (Tamkeen) and Invita have partnered to enhance accessibility for the hearing-impaired through Nasmaakum, an innovative sign language mobile application developed by Invita to promote inclusivity for individuals with hearing and speech impairments across Bahrain.

This collaboration is set to revolutionize communication standards, empowering businesses and individuals to bridge the gap between the hearing-impaired community and the wider society. Nasmaakum will enable Tamkeen to communicate with customers with hearing and speech impairments, opening the door for them to benefit from Tamkeen's support.

Mr. Esam Hammad, Executive



“At Tamkeen, we believe in fostering innovation, inclusivity, and utilizing the latest technologies to drive social and economic growth. Our partnership with Nasmaakum exemplifies our commitment to empowering individuals with impairments and creating equal opportunities for all.”

ESAM HAMMAD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE AT THE LABOUR FUND



“We are delighted to collaborate with Tamkeen in this significant initiative. By integrating Nasmaakum into the broader community, we are not only setting new benchmarks for inclusivity but also empowering individuals with impairments to connect with the world effortlessly.”

RAHUL BHALLA, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF INVITA

Director of Customer Experience at the Labour Fund “Tamkeen,” expressed pride in this initiative which reflects Tamkeen’s commitment to offering the highest levels of service to

all members of society through various channels. He stated:

“At Tamkeen, we believe in fostering innovation, inclusivity, and utilizing the latest technologies to drive social and economic

growth. Our partnership with Nasmaakum exemplifies our commitment to empowering individuals with impairments and creating equal opportunities for all. We are proud to support

this initiative that aligns with our mission of promoting Bahrain as a hub of innovation and accessibility.”

Rahul Bhalla, Chief Executive of Invita, stated: “We are delighted

to collaborate with Tamkeen in this significant initiative. By integrating Nasmaakum into the broader community, we are not only setting new benchmarks for inclusivity but also empowering individuals with impairments to connect with the world effortlessly. This partnership reinforces our shared vision of creating a more inclusive Bahrain.”

This partnership underscores Bahrain’s commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities, by ensuring that hearing-impaired individuals have equal access to communication and services. Nasmaakum is poised to expand its reach, helping businesses across Bahrain adopt this transformative technology and making the country a regional leader in accessibility and inclusion.

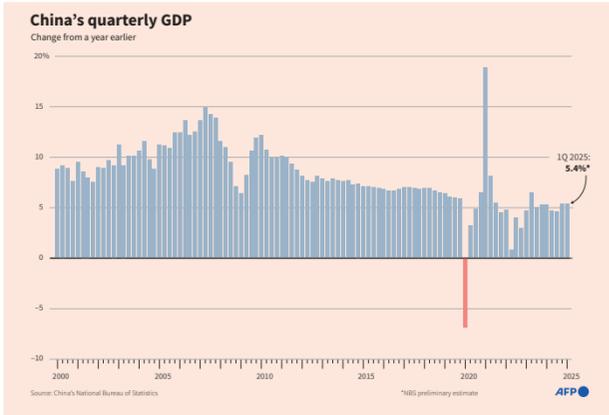
China’s economy beats forecasts

AFP | Beijing, China

China said yesterday its economy topped forecasts in the first quarter, as exporters rushed to shift goods ahead of swingeing US tariffs, but warned it faced “certain pressures” from Donald Trump’s trade blitz.

Beijing and Washington are locked in a fast-moving, high-stakes game of brinkmanship since the US president launched a global tariff assault that has particularly targeted Chinese imports.

Official data Wednesday offered a first glimpse into how those trade war fears are affecting the Asian giant’s fragile recovery, already feeling the pressure of persistently low consumption and a property market debt crisis.



Tit-for-tat exchanges have seen US levies imposed on China rise to 145%, and Beijing setting a retaliatory 125% toll on imports from America.

“At the moment, the imposition of high tariffs by the US will put certain pressures on our country’s foreign trade and

economy,” Sheng Laiyun, Deputy Commissioner of the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), told a news conference.

But, he said, “it will not change the general trend of China’s economy continuing to improve in the long run”.

The NBS said that “according to preliminary estimates, the gross domestic product in the first quarter... (was) up by 5.4 percent year on year at constant prices”.

That was above the 5.1 percent predicted by analysts polled by AFP.

Retail sales, a key gauge of consumer demand, climbed 4.6 percent year-on-year, the NBS said -- exceeding expectations following greater efforts by Beijing to boost consumer demand after years of weak spending.

And industrial output soared 6.5 percent in the first quarter of the year, up from 5.7 percent in the final three months of 2024.

But Beijing warned the global economic environment was becoming more “complex and severe” and that “proactive and effective macro policies” were needed to boost growth and consumption.

“The foundation for sustained economic recovery and growth is yet to be consolidated,” the NBS said.

Figures released Monday showed Beijing’s exports soared more than 12 percent on-year in March, smashing expectations, with analysts attributing it to a “front-loading” of orders ahead of Trump’s so-called “Liberation Day” tariffs on April 2.



China’s top leaders last month set an ambitious annual growth target of around five percent, vowing to make domestic demand its main economic driver. Many economists consider that goal to be ambitious given the problems facing the economy.

Saudi asset management industry exceeds SAR 1 Trillion: Fitch

TDT | agencies

The Saudi Arabian asset management industry grew by over 20% in 2024, exceeding SAR1 trillion (USD266 billion) assets under management (AUM) for the first time, Fitch Ratings says. The industry is likely to attract steady inflows in 2025-2026, with AUM set to surpass SAR1.3 trillion (USD350 billion), due to the growing investor base, favourable demographics, ongoing reforms, deepening capital markets, and digital transformation moves. However, the market is not immune from global volatilities,

such as those caused by the US government’s tariff rises on 2 April. Oil price changes are amongst the key factors that could affect the industry.

“Saudi Arabia’s asset management industry is the largest in the GCC, with AUM having crossed SAR1 trillion, and further growth expected”, said Bashar Al Natoor, Global Head of Islamic Finance at Fitch. “Almost all mutual funds listed on the Saudi Exchange are Sharia-compliant, indicating strong demand for Islamic products.”

bank-affiliated asset managers held nearly two thirds of industry revenue. However, international competition is rising. BlackRock, Goldman Sachs, Morgan Stanley, Citigroup, and Mizuho Bank received regulatory approval to set up

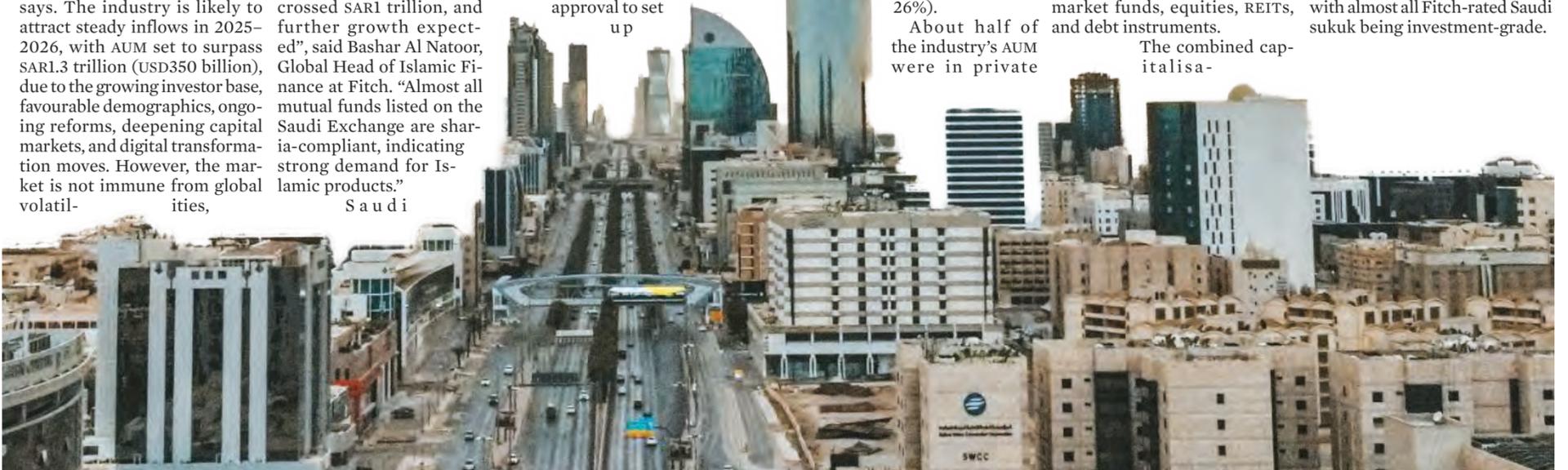
their regional headquarters in Saudi Arabia in 2024. The government is aiming for the industry AUM to reach 40% of the GDP by 2030 (2024: 26%).

About half of the industry’s AUM were in private

funds, followed by discretionary portfolio management (DPM), and public funds. The private funds’ AUM are split mainly between real estate and equities. About half of AUM under DPM are in local shares. Public funds’ AUM are split between money market funds, equities, REITs, and debt instruments.

The combined capitalisa-

tion of GCC listed equity markets crossed USD4 trillion at end-2024, dominated by the Saudi Exchange. Foreign investor ownership in Saudi stocks reached 10.8% in 9M24 (2023: 12.8%). About 63% of the Saudi debt capital market is in sukuk, with almost all Fitch-rated Saudi sukuk being investment-grade.



Trump touts trade talks, China calls out tariff 'blackmail'

Remains upbeat about his strategy of imposing global tariffs

● The multiple negotiations the Trump administration says are underway are running parallel to a full trade war against top US economic rival China.

AFP | Washington, United States

US President Donald Trump touted tariff negotiations with Japan yesterday while China angrily accused Washington of "blackmail" in a trade war that the WTO warns will have "severe" economic consequences for the global economy.

Trump remained upbeat about his strategy of imposing global tariffs, then negotiating individual trade agreements, with the goal of lowering barriers to US products and forcing more manufacturing to be based in the United States.

He said he would meet a Japanese delegation Wednesday both on tariffs and another of his longtime complaints -- the cost of the US military deployments to defend the crucial Pacific ally.

"Japan is coming in today to negotiate Tariffs, the cost of military support, and 'TRADE FAIRNESS.' I will attend the meeting," Trump posted on his Truth Social app.

The multiple negotiations the Trump administration says are



An exhibitor controls robot hands from ROHand at the Canton Fair in Guangzhou, in southern China's Guangdong province

underway are running parallel to a full trade war against top US economic rival China.

"If the US really wants to resolve the issue through dialogue and negotiation, it should stop exerting extreme pressure, stop threatening and blackmailing, and talk to China on the basis of equality, respect and mutual benefit," Foreign Ministry spokesman Lin Jian said.

"There is no winner in a tariff war or a trade war," Lin said, adding: "China does not want to fight, but it is not afraid to fight."

Beijing's commerce ministry noted that taking into account previous tariffs and the new ones, certain Chinese products now cumulatively face 245 percent duties to enter the US market.

While concern is growing that the US economy could be rocked by the trade war, China said on Wednesday that it saw a forecast-beating 5.4 percent in the first quarter as exporters rushed to get goods out of factory gates ahead of the US levies.

Heron Lim from Moody's

Analytics told AFP the impact would be felt in the second quarter, as tariffs begin "impeding Chinese exports and slamming the brakes on investment."

World Trade Organization head Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala said the uncertainty brought by the tariffs "threatens to act as a brake on global growth, with severe negative consequences for the world, the most vulnerable economies in particular."

Japan test case?

Trump posted that he hoped

"something can be worked out which is good (GREAT!) for Japan and the USA!"

And Japan's envoy said he was optimistic of a "win-win" outcome for both countries.

South Korea, a major semiconductor and auto exporter, said Finance Minister Choi Sang-mok would meet US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent next week.

"The current priority is to use negotiations... to delay the imposition of reciprocal tariffs as much as possible and to minimize uncertainty for Korean companies operating not only in the US but also in global markets," Choi said on Tuesday.

Stephen Innes at SPI Asset Management called the discussions with Japan in particular the "canary in the tariff coal mine."

"If Japan secures a deal -- even a half-baked one -- the template is set. If they walk away empty-handed, brace yourself. Other nations will start pricing in confrontation, not cooperation," he wrote in a newsletter.

The Daiwa Institute of Research warned on Wednesday that Trump's reciprocal tariffs could cause a decline of 1.8 percent in Japan's real GDP by 2029.

Chip stocks across Asia slumped after Nvidia said it expected a \$5.5 billion hit due to a new US licensing requirement on the primary chip it can legally sell in China.

Trump also ordered a probe

Something can be worked out which is good (GREAT!) for Japan and the USA

TRUMP



on Tuesday that may result in tariffs on critical minerals, rare-earth metals and associated products such as smartphones.

Although popular among Republicans, the tariffs war is politically risky for Trump at home.

California Democratic Governor Gavin Newsom announced he was launching a new court challenge against Trump's "authority to unilaterally enact tariffs, which have created economic chaos, driven up prices, and harmed the state, families, and businesses."

Stocks mixed as US hits Nvidia chip export to China

● Trump has also kicked off an investigation that could see tariffs imposed on critical minerals such as rare earths, which are used in a wide range of products including smartphones, wind turbines and electric vehicle motors

● The dollar slid once more against main rivals

● Gold hit a record \$3,317.75 an ounce before paring back gains

AFP | London, United Kingdom

Wall Street shares fell but European stocks diverged yesterday after the US government imposed restrictions on exports of a key Nvidia chip to China, the latest trade war salvo between the world's biggest economies.

After a relatively peaceful couple of days on markets following

Key figures at 1540 GMT

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| New York - Dow: | ▼ 0.1% at 40,332.34 points |
| New York - S&P 500: | ▼ 0.7% at 5,356.74 |
| New York - Nasdaq: | ▼ 1.6% at 16,556.19 |
| London - FTSE 100: | ▲ 0.3 percent at 8,275.60 (close) |
| Paris - CAC 40: | ▼ 0.1% at 7,329.97 (close) |
| Frankfurt - DAX: | ▲ 0.3% at 21,311.02 (close) |
| Tokyo - Nikkei 225: | ▼ 1.0% at 33,920.40 (close) |
| Hang Seng Index: | ▼ 1.9% at 21,056.98 (close) |
| Shanghai - Composite: | ▲ 0.3% at 3,276.00 (close) |
| Euro/dollar: | ▲ at \$1.1370 from \$1.1291 on Tuesday |
| Pound/dollar: | ▲ at \$1.3235 from \$1.3232 |
| Dollar/yen: | ▼ at 142.65 yen from 143.18 yen |
| Euro/pound: | ▲ at 85.90 pence from 85.30 pence |
| Brent North Sea Crude: | ▲ 1.9% at \$65.92 per barrel |
| West Texas Intermediate: | ▲ 1.9% at \$61.91 per barrel |

tariff-related volatility last week, investors were once again on the defensive, sending gold, a safe-haven asset in times of uncertainty, above \$3,300 an ounce for the first time.

Wall Street's main indexes were down in late morning deals, with Nvidia shares tanking by more than 6% and the dollar under pressure again.

Nvidia notified regulators late Tuesday that it expects a \$5.5 billion hit this quarter owing to

a new US licensing requirement on the chip it can legally sell in China.

The company at the heart of helping to power artificial intelligence said it must obtain licences to export its H20 chips to the Asian country because of concerns they would be used in supercomputers there.

"It's another stark reminder that geopolitics and technology remain deeply entangled -- and that markets will continue to



dance to Washington's tune, whether they like it or not," said Fawad Razaqada, market analyst at City Index and Forex.com.

The United States on Monday opened the door to tariffs targeting semiconductors and chip-making equipment, with Trump saying on Sunday an announcement would be made "over the next week".

Trump has also kicked off an investigation that could see tariffs imposed on critical minerals

such as rare earths, which are used in a wide range of products including smartphones, wind turbines and electric vehicle motors.

It is the latest front in Trump's erratic trade war, which has seen the US leader impose a universal 10% duty, pause higher levies on some countries and temporarily exempt some sectors from duties.

"Markets continue to suffer from the White House's tariff

flip-flopping," Razaqada said.

"The stop-start nature of US trade policy this month has made long-term positioning something of a fool's errand, with volatility dominating the landscape."

In Europe, London's benchmark FTSE 100 stock index closed 0.3% higher, as official data showed UK inflation slowed more than expected in March.

Frankfurt also finished 0.3% in the green but Paris fell almost 0.1%.

Shares in Dutch tech giant ASML, which makes machines that produce semiconductors, fell more than 5% as its net bookings came in below expectations.

ASML's disappointing earnings report "has only added to the sector-wide tech concerns", said David Morrison, analyst at Trade Nation.

The dollar slid once more against main rivals. Yields on 10-year Treasury bills eased but remain high following a selloff last week that raised doubts about the haven status of US bonds.

Gold hit a record \$3,317.75 an ounce before paring back gains.

Oil prices rose almost 2% after recent sharp falls on fears that the tariffs will dampen global economic growth.

Tariff tremors to rattle global trade, warns WTO

Global trade uncertainty could have 'severe negative consequences': WTO chief

World merchandise trade is on course to fall 0.2% this year

"Severe downside risks" could see trade "shrink even further, to 1.5% in 2025

Asian exports and imports set to swell by 1.6%

AFP | Geneva, Switzerland

Global trade is expected to plummet this year in the wake of President Donald Trump's tariff offensive, fuelling uncertainty that threatens "severe negative consequences" for the world, the World Trade Organization warned yesterday.

Since returning to office, Trump has imposed a 10% tariff on imports of goods from around the world along with 25% levies on steel, aluminium and cars.

While Trump made a U-turn on steeper tariffs for dozens of countries, he has escalated a trade war with China, slapping

145% levies on Chinese goods while Beijing retaliated with a 125% duty on US products

"I am deeply concerned by the uncertainty surrounding trade policy, including the US-China stand-off," WTO chief Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala said in a statement. "The recent de-escalation of tariff tensions has temporarily relieved some of the pressure on global trade," she said.

"However, the enduring uncertainty threatens to act as a brake on global growth, with severe negative consequences for the world, the most vulnerable economies in particular."

At the start of the year, WTO expected to see global trade expand in 2025 and 2026, with merchandise trade seen growing in line with global GDP, and trade in services growing even faster.

But

in the organisation's annual global trade outlook published yesterday, it determined that as things stand, world merchandise trade is on course to fall 0.2% this year.

The number, calculated in line with the tariff situation on April 14, is already nearly three percentage points lower than what would have been expected without the tariffs Trump has slapped on countries around the globe.

'Severe downside risks'

The WTO warned that "severe downside risks" could see trade "shrink even further, to 1.5% in

2025, if the situation deteriorates".

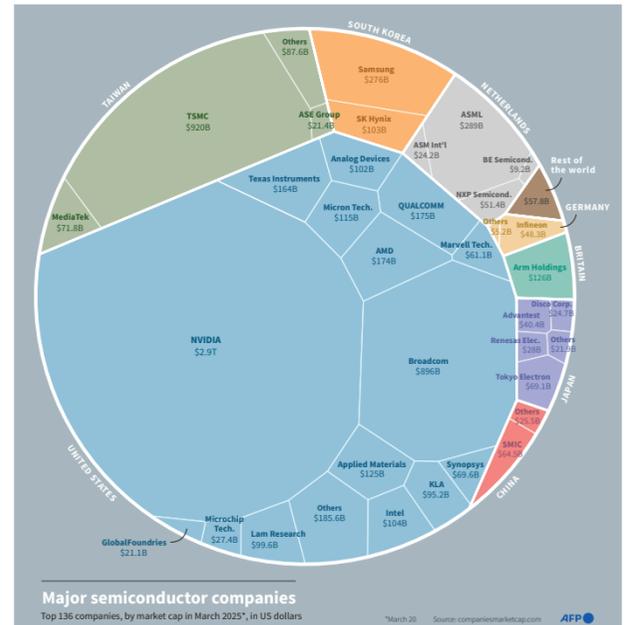
The WTO also cautioned that services trade, while not directly subject to tariffs, was also "expected to be adversely affected".

The global volume of commercial services trade was now forecast to grow by 4.0% -- around a percentage point less than expected.

This year, the impact of the tariffs was expected to be felt quite differently in different regions, the WTO said.

"Under the current policy landscape, North America is expected to see a 12.6% decline in exports and 9.6% drop in imports in 2025," the organisation said.

"The region's performance would subtract 1.7 percentage points from world merchandise trade growth in 2025, turning the overall figure negative," it pointed out.



age points from world merchandise trade growth in 2025, turning the overall figure negative," it pointed out.

Asia, meanwhile, was projected to post "modest growth", with both exports and imports set to swell by 1.6%.

European exports were on track to grow by 1%, and imports by 1.9%.

'Decoupling'

Okonjo-Iweala told reporters she was especially concerned about the "sharp projected decline in US-China bilateral trade", currently expected to fall by 81%.

"This level of a drop in US-China trade of the magnitudes we are talking about, this virtually can amount to a decoupling of the two economies," she said. While US-China trade accounts for just around three% of world merchandise trade,

Okonjo-Iweala cautioned that their decoupling "could have far-reaching consequences".

She voiced concern that it could "contribute to a broader fragmentation of the global economy along geopolitical lines into two isolated blocks".

In that scenario, "our estimates suggest that global ... GDP would be lowered by nearly seven% in the long term," she said.

"This is quite significant and substantial."

145

Trump escalated a trade war with China, slapping 145% levies on Chinese goods while Beijing retaliated with a 125% duty on US products



WTO chief Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala

Trump

Global uncertainty will 'certainly' hit growth: World Bank president

AFP | Washington, United States

The uncertainty kicked up by Donald Trump's stop-start tariff rollout will undoubtedly hit growth, the president of the World Bank said yesterday, ahead of next week's semi-annual meeting of global financial leaders in Washington.

"Uncertainty and volatility are undoubtedly contributing to a more cautious economic and business environment," Ajay Banga told reporters, alluding to the market turbulence unleashed by the new US administration's tariff policy.

This uncertainty would "certainly" cause slower growth than previously anticipated, he added during the virtual event.

The World Bank and International Monetary Fund's (IMF) Spring Meetings kick off on Monday, with the Bank keen to promote its agenda to drive job creation in developing and emerging market economies.

But the gathering of finance

We're having a constructive dialogue with the US administration. I don't know where it'll end, but I've got no problem with the dialogue I'm having. They're asking the right questions, and we're trying to give them the right answers

AJAY BANGA, PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD BANK

ministers and central bankers will take place against a challenging international backdrop, with US President Donald Trump's tariff policy threatening to derail economic growth in many parts of the world.

Since taking office in January, the US president has imposed 25 percent levies on several sectors including autos, steel and aluminium, as his administration seeks to redress what it says is an unfair trading relationship with the rest of the world.

The White House also imposed a new "baseline" tariff of 10 percent on most countries,

and announced higher import taxes on dozens of trading partners, only to then temporarily roll many of them back.

China -- America's third-largest trading partner -- has been hit with a barrage of new tariffs totalling 145 percent overall.

Beijing, in turn, has announced retaliatory tariffs of 125% on US goods.

'The right questions'

The United States is the top shareholder at the World Bank Group, and has historically been a key driver of policy at the Washington-based institution,

which has been led by a US citizen for most of its history.

Shortly before leaving office, Joe Biden's administration committed the United States to \$4 billion in new funding for the World Bank's agency that leverages donor funds to provide loans and grants to some of the world's poorest countries.

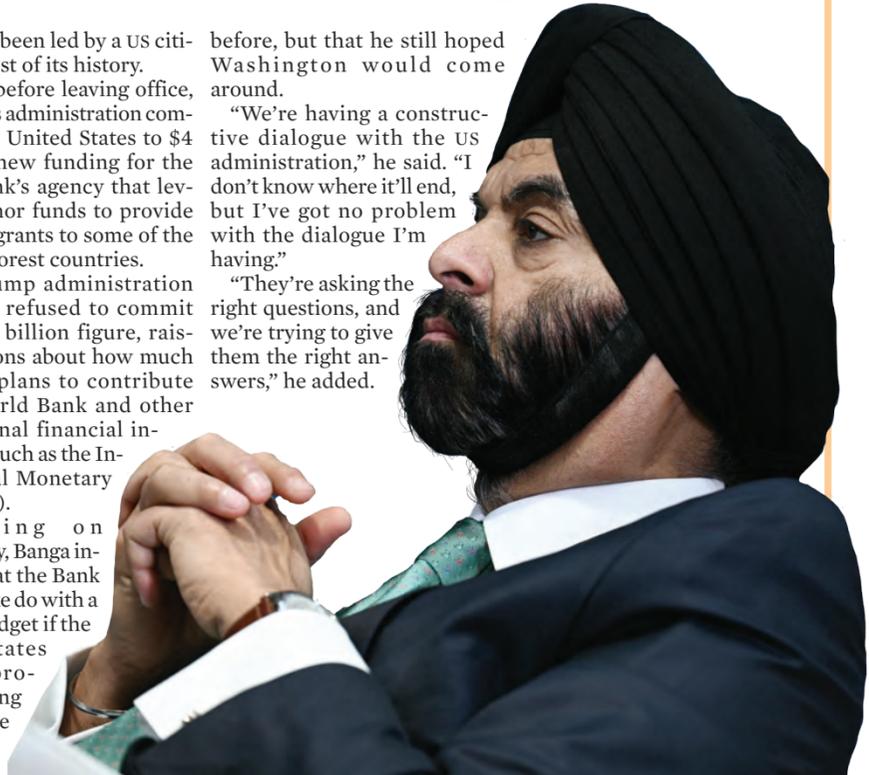
The Trump administration has so far refused to commit to that \$4 billion figure, raising questions about how much money it plans to contribute to the World Bank and other international financial institutions such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

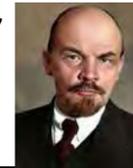
Speaking on Wednesday, Banga indicated that the Bank would make do with a smaller budget if the United States did not provide funding at the same level as

before, but that he still hoped Washington would come around.

"We're having a constructive dialogue with the US administration," he said. "I don't know where it'll end, but I've got no problem with the dialogue I'm having."

"They're asking the right questions, and we're trying to give them the right answers," he added.





News in brief

◆ A magnitude 5.6 earthquake struck off the southern Philippines yesterday, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) said, with no immediate reports of damage or casualties. The quake off the coast of the island of Mindanao had a depth of 30 kilometres (18.6 miles), the USGS added. The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology placed the epicentre about 43 kilometres southwest of the town of Maitum, located in a mountainous and sparsely populated area. Local authorities told AFP early indications were that the quake had caused no significant damage. "It was strong but didn't last long. We have checked but it was negative (for damage or casualties)," said Gilbert Rolifor, a fire department official in Maitum.



5.6-magnitude quake rattles southern Philippines

◆ More than 175,000 Syrians who fled their country's civil war to neighbouring Turkey have returned home since the fall of president Bashar al-Assad in December, the Turkish interior ministry said yesterday. Nearly 2.8 million Syrian refugees are still in Turkey, Interior Minister Ali Yerlikaya said, adding that the 175,412 returns between December 9 and April 13 were all "voluntary". The Turkish government, which supports the Islamist-led rebels who toppled Assad, is hoping to accelerate the return of refugees to ease tensions their presence has generated in parts of the country. Overall, around 400,000 Syrians have returned from neighbouring countries since Assad's fall, according to the UN refugee agency UNHCR. The agency also says more than one million Syrians displaced within their country by the conflict had also returned to their homes.

◆ Prime Minister Anthony Albanese promised yesterday to defend Australia's interests in its trade tangle with the United States, in a televised debate ahead of May 3 national elections. US President Donald Trump's 10 percent tariffs on close ally Australia have loomed large in the duel between 62-year-old Albanese and his hard-nosed conservative challenger, former policeman Peter Dutton. Asked if he trusted the US president, Albanese said he had "no reason not to" despite Trump having promised to give "great consideration" to Canberra's free trade arguments before deciding to impose the tariffs anyway. "We made it very clear that it was an act of self-harm," the centre-left Labor Party leader said. But Albanese said his government "won't budge" from Australian policies to ensure access to cheap medicines, enforce health rules on beef imports, and make big social media platforms pay for using local Australian news.

Australian PM vows not to bow to Trump on national interest



Pocket watch found on Titanic victim to go on sale in UK

AFP | London, United Kingdom

A pocket watch, tickets and Amoney found among the belongings of passengers on the Titanic are among items on sale at a UK auction later this month.



The gilt silver and brass watch was found among the possessions of Danish second-class passenger Hans Christensen Givard, who was among the 1,500 people who died when the vessel sank after hitting an iceberg in 1912.

His body was recovered from the North Atlantic and buried in Halifax, Canada, on 10 May 1912.



Givard's pockets contained a savings book, keys, cash in a wallet, a compass, a passport and the gilded pocket watch, which it is estimated will fetch around £50,000 (\$66,000) at the April 26 auction.

The gilt silver and brass watch was found among the possessions of Danish second-class passenger Hans Christensen Givard

Other items on sale include a letter and medal belonging to first-class Swedish passenger Erik Gustaf Lind and a silver dollar certificate and rare third-class ticket used by Ernest Portage Tomlin. Both men died in the disaster. The violin played by the bandleader in the 1997 Hollywood film depicting the sinking is also on sale, and is expected to fetch up to £60,000.

Israel says no aid will enter Gaza

Israel resumed air and ground attacks across the Gaza Strip on March 18

◆ Defence Minister Israel Katz said Israel would continue preventing aid from entering the besieged territory of 2.4 million people

AFP | Jerusalem, Undefined

Israel said yesterday it would keep blocking humanitarian aid entering Gaza, where a relentless military offensive has turned the Palestinian territory into a "mass grave", a medical charity said.

Israel resumed air and ground attacks across the Gaza Strip on March 18, ending a two-month ceasefire with Hamas that had largely halted hostilities in the territory, with rescuers on Wednesday saying at least 11 were killed in strikes across



A partial view shows tents housing displaced Palestinians in the campus of the Islamic University in Gaza City

Gaza.

Israel had already halted the entry of aid into Gaza on March 2, exacerbating the severe humanitarian crisis in the war-battered territory.

Defence Minister Israel Katz said Israel would continue preventing aid from entering the besieged territory of 2.4 million people.

"Israel's policy is clear: no humanitarian aid will enter Gaza, and blocking this aid is one of the main pressure levers preventing Hamas from using it as a tool with the population," Katz said in a statement Wednesday. "No one is currently planning to allow any humanitarian aid into Gaza, and there are

no preparations to enable such aid." Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has cited military pressure as the only way to secure the release of the 58 hostages currently held in Gaza.

"Hamas will continue to suffer blow after blow. We insist that they release our hostages, and we insist on achieving all of our war objectives," Netanyahu told troops in northern Gaza Tuesday.

On Wednesday, the Palestinian group Islamic Jihad released a video of an Israeli hostage, showing him alive and appealing to Israeli authorities and US President Donald Trump to secure his release.

Israeli media identified him

as Rom Braslavski from Jerusalem, who was abducted by militants from the Nova music festival during Hamas's attack on Israel on October 7, 2023.

Israel says 30 percent of Gaza turned into buffer zone

Israel announced yesterday that it had converted 30 percent of Gaza's territory into a buffer zone as it pressed its unrelenting military offensive, vowing to maintain its blockade on humanitarian aid to the war-ravaged territory. The Israeli military said it had "achieved full operational control over several key areas and routes throughout the Gaza Strip".

Trump says Harvard a 'joke'

AFP | Washington, United States

US President Donald Trump doubled down yesterday on a funding standoff with top university Harvard that has become a focal point of his war against elite educational institutions.

Harvard has stood out for defying Trump's attempts to force it to submit to wide-ranging government oversight, in contrast to several other universities that have folded under intense pressure from the White House.

"Harvard can no longer be considered even a decent place of learning, and should not be considered on any list of the World's Great Universities or Colleges," Trump said on his Truth Social platform.

"Harvard is a JOKE, teaches Hate and Stupidity, and should no longer receive Federal Funds."



People gather around the John Harvard Statue on the Harvard University campus in Cambridge, Massachusetts

On Tuesday, Trump threatened to strip the university of its tax-exempt status as a nonprofit educational institution, after earlier freezing \$2.2 billion in

practices, and that it submit itself to "audits" of academic programs and departments.

On Tuesday, Harvard President Alan Garber said the school would not "negotiate over its independence or its constitutional rights." The US president and his administration have justified their pressure campaign on universities as a reaction to what they say is uncontrolled anti-Semitism and support for the Palestinian armed group Hamas. The anti-Semitism allegations are based on protests against Israel's war in Gaza that swept across campuses last year.

The White House has also strong-armed dozens of universities and colleges with threats to remove federal funding over their policies meant to encourage racial diversity among students and staff.

TOP 4 TWEETS

01



Had a fruitful conversation with President Alexander Stubb. Finland is an important partner country in the EU. We are committed to elevating our ties. Exchanged our perspectives on regional and global issues, including the situation in Ukraine. @narendramodi

02



Over the last decade, Americans have been slandered, fired, charged, and even jailed for simply voicing their opinions. That ends today. I am announcing the closure of the @StateDept's Counter Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference, formerly the Global Engagement Center (GEC), which cost taxpayers more than \$50 million per year and actively silenced and censored the voices of Americans they were supposed to be serving. @SecRubio

03



The consensus on the #PandemicAccord draft not only puts a generational agreement into place to make the world safer, but also demonstrates that multilateralism is alive and well. @DrTedros

04



Today, I honored workers in our defense-industrial sector with awards. More than 40% of all the weapons used on the front lines to defend Ukraine are made in Ukraine. @ZelenskyyUA

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

Iran FM says uranium enrichment 'non-negotiable'

◆ Araghchi is set to head to Iranian ally Russia on Thursday

◆ Iran has engaged with Russia and China, which were both parties to the 2015 deal

AFP | Tehran, Iran



Iran's enrichment is a real, accepted matter. We are ready to build confidence in response to possible concerns, but the issue of enrichment is non-negotiable

FOREIGN MINISTER ABRAGHCHI



People walk along Tehran's Karim Khan Zand Avenue past a building with a landmark anti-US mural with the slogan "Down with the USA" and skulls replacing the stars on the US flag

Iran confirms next round of US talks to be in Italy not Oman: state TV

Tehran, Iran

The next round of nuclear talks between Iran and the United States will be held on Saturday in Italy and not Oman, Iranian state media reported.

"The second round of Iran-US nuclear talks will be held next Saturday in Rome... and the Omani foreign ministry will be hosting the talks," Iran's state

TV said. European officials had earlier said the talks would be held in Rome, but Iranian officials had insisted they would be held in Oman. Also on Wednesday, a spokesman for the Italian foreign ministry confirm to AFP that the talks would be held in Rome.

Iran's foreign ministry spokesman Esmail Baqaei in a post of Saturday's talks. "We will find out the true opinions of the Americans during the negotiation session," he said.

Iran's top diplomat said he hoped to start negotiations on the framework of a possible agreement but said that required "constructive positions" from the United States.

"If we continue to (hear) contradictory and conflicting positions, we are going to have problems," he warned.

Araghchi is set to head to Iranian ally Russia on Thursday, Iran's ambassador in Moscow Kazem Jalili said.

Iran has said the visit was "pre-planned" but will include discussions on the Iran-US talks.

TV said. European officials had earlier said the talks would be held in Rome, but Iranian officials had insisted they would be held in Oman. Also on Wednesday, a spokesman for the Italian foreign ministry confirm to AFP that the talks would be held in Rome.

Iran's foreign ministry spokesman Esmail Baqaei in a post of Saturday's talks. "We will find out the true opinions of the Americans during the negotiation session," he said.

Iran's Revolutionary Guards have said the country's military capabilities are off-limits in the talks.

Late on Sunday, IRNA said Iran's regional influence and its missile capabilities -- both sources of concern for Western governments -- were also among its "red lines".

The head of the International Atomic Energy Agency, Rafael Grossi was due in Iran later Wednesday for talks with senior officials.

The UN watchdog was tasked with overseeing Iran's compliance with the 2015 nuclear deal.



In its latest report, the IAEA said Iran had an estimated 274.8 kilograms (605 pounds) of uranium enriched to up to 60 percent. That level far exceeds the the 3.67 percent ceiling set by the 2015 deal but still falls short of the 90 percent threshold required for a nuclear warhead.



Prague zoo breeds near-extinct Brazilian mergansers

AFP | Prague, Czech Republic



Five chicks of the critically endangered Brazilian merganser have been born at the Prague Zoo, fuelling hopes for a reintroduction of the duck in the wild, a breeder said Wednesday.

The two males and three females born on January 29 are the first Brazilian mergansers ever

born outside South America, Prague zoo birds curator Antonin Vaidl told AFP.

"The Brazilian merganser is the only merganser living in the southern hemisphere and one of the most endangered anseriformes, or perhaps the most endangered anseriform of all," Vaidl said, referring to an order of waterfowl.

Estimated 500,000 Palestinians displaced since end of Gaza ceasefire: UN

United Nations, United States

An estimated 500,000 Palestinians have been displaced since the end of the Gaza ceasefire, when Israel resumed military operations in the narrow coastal territory, the United Nations said Wednesday. "Our humanitarian partners estimate that since March 18, about half a million people have been newly displaced or uprooted once more," said Stephanie Tremblay, spokesperson for UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres.

UN watchdog chief says Iran 'not far' from nuclear bomb

Tehran, Iran

The United Nations nuclear watchdog chief Rafael Grossi warned on Wednesday that Iran was "not far" from possessing a nuclear bomb, shortly before he arrived in Tehran for talks. Western countries including the United States have long suspected Iran of seeking to acquire nuclear weapons, an allegation Tehran has consistently denied, insisting that its programme is for peaceful civilian purposes.

"It's like a puzzle. They have the pieces, and one day they could eventually put them together," Grossi told French newspaper Le Monde in an interview published on Wednesday.



WHO countries strike landmark agreement on tackling future pandemics

Geneva, Switzerland

Years of negotiations culminated early Wednesday with countries agreeing the text of a landmark accord on how to tackle future pandemics, aimed at avoiding the mistakes made during the Covid-19 crisis.

After more than three years of talks and one last marathon session, weary delegates at the World Health Organization's headquarters finally sealed the deal at around 2:00 am (0000 GMT) Wednesday.

"Tonight marks a significant milestone in our shared journey towards a safer world," said WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

"Safe countries of origin"

Kosovo, Bangladesh, Colombia, Egypt, India, Morocco and Tunisia

EU lists seven 'safe' countries of origin, tightening asylum rules

● To allow EU governments to process asylum applications from those countries quickly

● The EU had already presented a similar list in 2015 but the plan was abandoned due to heated debates

● Currently less than 20 percent of people ordered to leave the bloc are returned to their country of origin.

AFP | Brussels, Belgium



The European Union yesterday published a list of seven countries it considers "safe", in a bid to speed up migrant returns by making it harder for citizens of those nations to claim asylum in the bloc.

The European Commission said it was proposing to designate Kosovo, Bangladesh, Colombia, Egypt, India, Morocco and Tunisia as "safe countries of origin".

The move is set to allow EU governments to process asylum applications filed from citizens of those countries more quickly -- by introducing a presumption that such applications lack merit.

"Many member states are facing a significant backlog of asylum applications, so any-

thing we can do now to support faster asylum decisions is essential," said Magnus Brunner, the EU's commissioner for migration.

EU candidate countries would also in principle meet the criteria to be designated as safe countries, exceptions being when they are hit by a conflict, the commission said.

The EU had already presented a similar list in 2015 but the plan was abandoned due to heated debates over whether or not to include Turkey.

Brussels has been under pressure to clamp down on irregular arrivals and facilitate deportations, following a souring of public opinion on migration that

has fuelled hard-right electoral gains in several countries.

Led by hawks including Sweden, Italy, Denmark and the Netherlands, EU leaders called in October for urgent new legislation to increase and speed up returns and for the commission to assess "innovative" ways to counter irregular migration.

In response, last month the commission unveiled a planned reform of the 27-nation bloc's return system, which opened the way for member states to set up migrant return centres outside the EU.

Currently less than 20 percent of people ordered to leave the bloc are returned to their country of origin, according to EU data.



Germany Germany has been one of the world's top destinations for asylum seekers in recent years—receiving more asylum applications than any other EU country. In fact, in 2023 alone, it registered over 350,000 applications, with Syrians, Afghans, and Turks among the largest groups.

2023 The number of asylum seekers worldwide reached record highs in 2023, with over 5.6 million applications globally—driven by conflict, persecution, and climate-related displacement.

EU The EU's Common European Asylum System (CEAS) aims to standardise asylum procedures, but acceptance rates vary widely—for example, in 2022, Ireland approved about 76% of applications, while Hungary approved just 1%.

United States The U.S. has a unique "credible fear" screening process. In 2022, 72% of people passed this initial interview—granting them the right to plead their asylum case in court.

Berlin palliative doctor accused of killing 15 patients

Suspect was originally held on suspicion of manslaughter in four deaths

● German press reports identify the suspect as Johannes M., but prosecutors have not released a name

● On five occasions, prosecutors alleged that the suspect had "set fire to their apartments to cover up these killings".

AFP | Berlin, Germany

Prosecutors said yesterday they charged a Berlin palliative care doctor with the murder of 15 patients, alleging he acted out of a "lust" for killing.

The 40-year-old suspect is accused of having killed 12 women and three men between September 2021 and July 2024 using a deadly cocktail of sedatives.

German press reports identify the suspect as Johannes M., but prosecutors have not released a name.

The doctor allegedly "administered an anaesthetic and a muscle relaxant to his patients... without their knowledge or consent", the Berlin prosecutor's office said in a statement.

The relaxant "paralysed the respiratory muscles, leading to respiratory arrest and death within minutes".

The victims, who were all receiving care at the time, were

aged between 25 and 94 years old.

On five occasions, prosecutors alleged that the suspect had "set fire to their apartments to cover up these killings".

On one occasion, the suspect is accused of having killed two patients on the same day.

On the morning of July 8, 2024, he is alleged to have killed a 75-year-old man at his home in the central Berlin district of Kreuzberg.

"A few hours later" he allegedly struck again, killing a 76-year-old woman in the neighbouring Neukoelln district.

The suspect's alleged attempt to incinerate the crime scene failed when the fire did not catch, prosecutors said.

"When he noticed this, he reportedly informed a relative of the woman, claiming that he was standing in front of her apartment and that no one had responded to his ringing," they said.

'Lust for murder' On another occasion, the suspect is accused of alerting the emergency services himself "out of fear of being discovered". The suspect "falsely claimed to have already begun resuscitation efforts" on the 56-year-old victim, who was initially kept

alive by rescuers but died three days later in hospital.

The list of accusations against the suspect has grown in length and severity since his initial arrest in August.

The suspect was originally held on suspicion of manslaughter in relation to four deaths.

Prosecutors subsequently said in November they were treating the alleged killings as murder cases, adding four more deaths to the list of accusations.

"The accused appears to have had no motive for killing the people other than the act of killing itself," prosecutors said at the time.

The suspect had nothing other than a "lust for murder", they said.

The updated charge sheet, extended to cover 15 suspicious deaths, ac-

cused the suspect of carrying out the murders with "malice aforethought".

Prosecutors said they were seeking a "lifelong professional ban" and called for the suspect to be locked in "preventative detention".

Ongoing investigation

A special team of investigators had identified a total of 395 suspicious cases that needed to re-examine in light of the accusations against the doctor.

In 95 cases, an initial suspicion had been confirmed and preliminary proceedings had been initiated. Another 75 were still being assessed.

In the course of the investigation 12 exhumations had already been carried out, five of which related to the victims listed in the charges.

Another five exhumations were planned to go ahead shortly.

Trump signs order aimed at lowering drug prices



Trump

Washington, United States

U.S. President Donald Trump signed an executive order Tuesday aiming to lower crippling drug prices by giving states more leeway to bargain-hunt abroad and improving the process for price negotiations.

Americans face the highest prescription drug prices in the world, leaving many people to pay partially out of their own pockets despite already exorbitant insurance premiums.

"This (order) will provide meaningful relief to seniors and low income individuals who depend on insulin and many, many more," a White House official told reporters.

"Furthermore, it will foster a more competitive prescription drug market to ensure the prices being charged to patients and the government are more aligned with the value they provide, rather than some quirk in the way that the government pays for them."

The order directs the Food and Drug Administration

(FDA), which regulates prescription and over-the-counter pharmaceuticals, to allow more states to import medicines directly from countries with lower prices.

The administration of Trump's predecessor Joe Biden approved Florida's application to import from Canada last year but no other states were given the green light for their own deals.

The order also tweaks the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) passed under Biden, which allowed the Medicare health insurance plan for seniors to negotiate the prices of certain drugs for the first time.

The aim of the changes is to eliminate the difference between price negotiation rules for pills and those for injectable drugs -- a disparity that critics argue could harm investment in the orally-administered products.

Under the IRA, Medicare could negotiate on prices for "small molecule" drugs that patients swallow, such as ibuprofen, nine years after FDA approval.



CELEBS

celebs

Cate Blanchett 'serious' about quitting acting

● Oscar-winning actress eyes other life goals beyond the screen

● Blanchett initially expected her film career to last only five years

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Cate Blanchett is "serious" about quitting acting.

The 55-year-old actress - who has won a string of accolades, including two Oscars, four BAFTAs, four Golden Globes and three Screen Actors Guild (SAG) awards, over the years - doesn't want to spend her whole life on screen because there are so many other things she wants to accomplish.

She told the Easter edition of Radio Times magazine: "My family roll their eyes every time I say it, but I mean it. I am serious about giving up acting. (There are) a lot of things I want to do with my life."

The 'Black Bag' star - who has four children with husband Andrew Upton - admitted she

“My family roll their eyes every time I say it, but I mean it. I am serious about giving up acting. (There are) a lot of things I want to do with my life”

CATE BLANCHETT

has "spent a lifetime getting comfortable with the feeling of being uncomfortable" in the public eye because of her career.

She added: "When you go on a talk show, or even here now, and then you see soundbites of things you've said, pulled out and italicised, they sound really loud. I'm not that person. "I make more sense in motion - it's been a long time to remotely get comfortable with the idea of being photographed."

"I've always felt like I'm on the periphery of things, so I'm always surprised when I belong anywhere. I go with curiosity into whatever environment that I'm in, not expecting to be

accepted or welcomed."

Cate recently admitted she only expected her movie career to last five years.

She told Business Insider: "The shelf life of actresses when I first came on the scene was about five years.

"I think that female producers have more agency.

"There's more females in the writing room, and the more diverse the industry is at base level, when things are developed, the more exciting it is for audiences."

And earlier this year, the 'Blue Jasmine' star admitted her career on screen came as a surprise to her in the first place as she initially assumed she would only work on stage.

Speaking at the Rotterdam Film Festival, she said: "I was resigned, happily, to a career in theatre. I didn't think I was that girl. There was a sense women had a certain 'shelf life' in the film industry and a certain type of women got to parade on the screen and others didn't."



Cate Blanchett

Lil Nas X hospitalised after 'losing control of right side of his face'

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Lil Nas X has been hospitalised after "losing control" of the right side of his face.

The 26-year-old hip hop star has shared a video from his hospital bed in a gown and Von Dutch baseball cap as he appeared to be suffering from partial facial paralysis.

He wrote on TikTok: "Soooo lost control of the right side of my face."

In the clip shared with his 10.4 million followers on Monday (14.04.25) night, he grabbed his jaw and attempted to smile, saying: "This is me doing a full smile right now by the way.

"It's like, what the f***? Bro, I can't even laugh right now, bro. What the f***? Ah! Oh my God!"

In a later post to his Instagram Story, the 'Old Town Road' hit-maker showed both sides of his face and said: "We normal over here. We get crazy over here."

He wrote: "I'm so cooked."

In another post, he urged his fans not to worry about him and insisted he is "OK".



A video grab shows Lil Nas X in a video he shared from hospital

He said: "Guys I am OK!! Stop being sad for me! Shake Ur a** for me instead! (sic)"

And in a separate Instagram Story, he shared a selfie he took in hospital and captioned the picture: "Imma look funny for a lil but that's it. (sic)"

A number of celebrity friends replied to his post on TikTok to send him messages of support.

Tajari P. Henson commented: "Get well baby."

And Wanda Sykes added: "Get well love. Sometimes your body tells you to sit down somewhere. Rest up..."

Nas recently released his new EP 'Days Before Dreamboy', and insisted he wanted his current "era" to be focused on being true to himself.

Alec Baldwin has opened up about his evolving approach to parenting as he grows older

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Alec Baldwin has opened up about his evolving approach to parenting as he grows older.

The 67-year-old actor discussed his perspective on fatherhood during the latest episode of 'The Baldwins', in which he appears with his wife Hilaria Baldwin, 41 - and while reflecting on his journey as a parent Alec said his parenting style has changed significantly since having his eldest daughter, Ireland Baldwin, now 29, when he was 38 years old.

He added about how he now wants to savour time with his children rather than focus on discipline or control when it comes to his huge brood: "I don't want to be anything. I just want to be a father to my kids."



Alec Baldwin

'Beyond parody!' Emily Ratajkowski 'disgusted' by Blue Origin space flight

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Emily Ratajkowski has blasted the Blue Origin space flight as "beyond parody".

The 33-year-old model and actress is "disgusted" after Amazon founder Jeff Bezos' rocket flew an all-female crew - including his fiancée Lauren Sanchez, 50, pop star Katy Perry, 40, and 70-year-old journalist Gayle King - into space for a short journey which marked the first all female spaceflight since Valentina Tereshkova's solo trip in 1963.

In a TikTok video, Emily ranted: "That space mission this morning? That's end time

s***. Like, this is beyond parody.

"Saying that you care about Mother Earth and it's about Mother Earth, and you're going up in a spaceship that is built and paid for by a company that's singlehandedly destroying the planet?"

"Look at the state of the world and think about how many resources went into putting these women into space. For what? What was the marketing there?"

"And then to try to make it like... I'm disgusted. Literally, I'm disgusted."

As well as Katy, Gayle, and Lauren, the crew for the 11-minute flight was round-

“Look at the state of the world and think about how many resources went into putting these women into space. For what? What was the marketing there? And then to try to make it like... I'm disgusted. Literally, I'm disgusted”

EMILY RATAJKOWSKI

ed off by aerospace engineer Aisha Bowe, 39, civil rights

activist Amanda Nguyen, 34, and film producer Kerianne Flynn, 45.

During a press conference after they returned, Gayle addressed critics by saying: "Anybody that's criticising it doesn't really understand what is happening here."

She also emphasised the mission's inspirational impact on young women.

Lauren also responded to detractors by highlighting the dedication of the company's employees.



Emily Ratajkowski

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How to play

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

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Across

1- "Jaws" boat; 5- Large marine food fish; 9- Non-pro sports org.; 12- Commendably; 13- Battery terminal; 15- Taverns; 16- Catchall abbr.; 17- Hue; 18- Brief letter, paper money; 19- Leave; 21- Spider; 23- 50%; 25- Son of Rebekah; 26- Everyday article; 29- Hair goops; 31- Clown Kelly; 35- That girl; 36- Customary; 38- Gutter site; 39- Expel gas or odor; 41- Eye sores; 43- Grandma; 44- Happen again; 46- Lauder of cosmetics; 48- Type of mouse; 49- Tooth covering; 51- Rowing implements; 52- Trauma ctrs.; 53- Honey producers; 55- Exam; 57- Money folding case; 61- Dried strip of egg dough; 65- Fortuneteller's start; 66- _say more?; 68- Makes lace; 69- Wedding cake feature; 70- Fess up; 71- Opposite of ecto.; 72- Georgia, once; Abbr.; 73- Electronics giant; 74- Untidy condition;

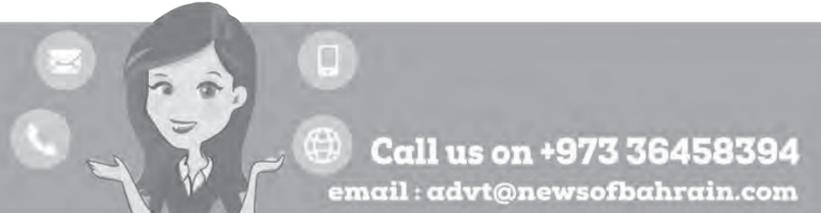
Down

1- Was in the red; 2- Nerve network; 3- Give it up for a performer?; 4- God of Islam; 5- Undiplomatic; 6- Game with Skip cards; 7- Vincent Lopez's theme song; 8- Worship; 9- Soon; 10- Against; 11- Previously owned; 14- Clear the board; 15- Brutal; 20- Prego competitor; 22- Showed up; 24- Wind instrument; 26- Twice, a comforting comment; 27- Macho types; 28- Novelist Jong; 30- Authority; 32- Elude; 33- Andrea Bocelli, for one; 34- Former Russian rulers; 37- Free to attack; 40- Drinking glass; 42- Tranquillity; 45- Coral habitat; 47- Exxon, once; 50- Hotelier Helmsley; 54- Luges; 56- Tribal symbol; 57- Fragments; 58- Egyptian fertility goddess; 59- Dirty look; 60- Floor model; 62- Hamlet, for one; 63- Old Fords; 64- Those, to Juan; 67- Rack;

Yesterday's solution

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Davies & mills co. .w.l has a vacancy for the occupation of ASSISTANT MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39725445 or MARTIN.STRAFORD@d-mills.COM

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Pearl Art Painting and Design has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33854845 or KHALIL.EBRAHIM85@HOTMAIL.COM

SKYSUN ENERGY SERVICES BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICAL TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32213637 or ARUN.SADASIVAN@GMAIL.COM

BAKE HOME BAKERY PROUDCTS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CONFECTIONER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39424492 or AFSALMUFAS@GMAIL.COM

JANATHA MOTOR VEHICLE PARTS & ACCESSORIES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39808782 or JANATHAGARAGEWLL@GMAIL.COM

JOY OF BRIDE WEDDING DRESSES RENTAL has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33430500 or edrisigroup@hotmail.com

KRIZEMA BEAUTY SALON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HAIR DRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17210135 or AHMED@BTSBAH.COM

SEE SIGN PUBLICITY AND ADVERTISING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of INSTALLER(NOTICE BOARD), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33520749 or ANOOP15880@GMAIL.COM

NAYA DELUXE MART W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE REPRESENTATIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34385260 or RAFAEKDELUXE@GMAIL.COM

IRON CENTER AUTO SERVICE WLL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANICAL TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39888815 or INFO11BH@GMAIL.COM

WEFLY INTERNATIONAL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ASSISTANT MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33621440 or SURESH@WEFLYINTERNATIONAL.COM

QUICK SOLUTION BUSINESS SUPPORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33415225 or SANEEJ201450@GMAIL.COM

ABU FARES PAPER INDUSTRIES WORKSHOP W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33886420 or HEBA.FARES235@GMAIL.COM

MR PAINT FOR CARS PAINT has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37377226 or MARIA-MAK98@OUTLOOK.COM

BLACK LIGHT CLEANING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36323466 or CHAINAPUNJABI2013@GMAIL.COM

MENGUIN SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE WORKER HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38924587 or AHMAD.BKSERVICES@GMAIL.COM

BASHOOK CORPORAION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DECORATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39970220 or

SAIFALLAHAUDITORING@GMAIL.COM

WEDAD MAHMOOD CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35306735 or WEDAADBH12@GMAIL.COM

GULF PEARL HOTEL has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER (HOTEL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17217333 or saali22bh@gmail.com

AAMIR NISAR DIGITAL MARKETING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37374493 or NISARAMIR878@GMAIL.COM

ALFANOUS AUTO SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANICAL HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17775412 or EIDADAM@BATELCO.COM.BH

ABOOT KHAN 088 SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34004548 or ATTAU3421@GMAIL.COM

MAHMOOD ALNOOH CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17795104 or info@mancobh.com

SALON SHAMS AL MAGHRIB has a vacancy for the occupation of HAIR DRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17631379 or MHMA75@HOTMAIL.COM

RED BIRD LAIDES BEAUTY SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37666667 or rafaeque1@yahoo.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

GULF PEARL HOTEL has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER (HOTEL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17217333 or saali22bh@gmail.com

ATELIER TOWER has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33697771 or alsab777@gmail.com

AL KHLUD BAKERY has a vacancy for the occupation of BAKER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33232111 or .amoosa@tala-amwaj.com.

SALIMAN KHAN SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(PAINT FINISHER), suitably qualified applicants can contact 35306735 or SALIMANKHANBH12@GMAIL.COM

Juffair Grand Hotel W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HOUSEKEEPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17827600 or HRD@THEJUFFAIRGRAND.COM

MOOD KARAK has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39119166 or KIFAH4298@HOTMAIL.COM

ALKOOHEJI TECHNICAL SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICAL TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17369993 or ABDULLA@KOOHEJITECHNICAL.COM

Shahrest RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34447865 or BOKANAAN@GMAIL.COM

VICNEZ FACILITIES MANAGEMENT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34482910 or RANJANI8012@GMAIL.COM

BRIGHT WEB W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 66368117 or USMANGHANI.UG127@GMAIL.COM

NOOR ALFAJR AIR CONDITIONERS WORKSHOP has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17466057 or MYAIYAH@GMAIL.COM

ALNAAR FOR CAR REPAIR AND CAR SPARE PARTS has a vacancy for the occupation of AUTOMOBILES MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33376816 or MAMA@BATELCO.COM

ALMOAYYED CONTRACTING GROUP W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or proficee@almoayyedcg.com

ALDOOR EXCAVATION & BUILDING CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17877246 or zainabhr@aldoorbh.com

AG HOSPITALITY WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17710271 or habib@alghali.com

ALUMINIUM SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ALUMINIUM TECHNICIAN (GENERAL), suitably qualified appli-

cants can contact 17290987 or SHRIFAHMADI@GMAIL.COM

A ONE 2 SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33719149 or MOHD.H.NA@GMAIL.COM

GOURMET BURGER W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36020031 or PRINCEBURGER@GMAIL.COM

AHMED MANSOOR ALAALI has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17265555 or adeel.hameed@al-aali.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

FORNREW W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BAKER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 37007911 or Ammar.hajji@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

MILLENIUM CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 35588880 or milleniumbh183@gmail.com

SARAZAAN SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE WORKER HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34690477 or SARAZAAN.SERVICES@GMAIL.COM

PHOTON FOR MEDICAL EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECRETARY(EXECUTIVE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36136377 or LASERMANTENANCE7@GMAIL.COM

REGAL MAINTENANCE & SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17448936 or regal@msswll.com

AHMED MANSOOR ALAALI has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17265555 or adeel.hameed@al-aali.com

ALKOOHEJI TECHNICAL SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17369993 or ABDULLA@KOOHEJITECHNICAL.COM

MANAL EDUCATIONAL CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35690567 or RAHMAT.UES@GMAIL.COM

WELCOME BAHRAIN COMBINED FACILITIES SUPPORT SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 38810733 or WELLCOMBABHRAIN@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

ABU BAKAR SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37090204 or ABUBAKARBH12@GMAIL.COM

SLICE BAKERY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39622211 or SOHEILA@UMAKEWEBAKE.COM

ABU AYAN SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32267835 or info.abuayanservices@gmail.com

CAFE LACO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39469641 or ASHRALFAJRA@GMAIL.COM

IKS GROOMING DEN W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER-HAIRDRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33900443 or Shaikhhsana1212@gmail.com

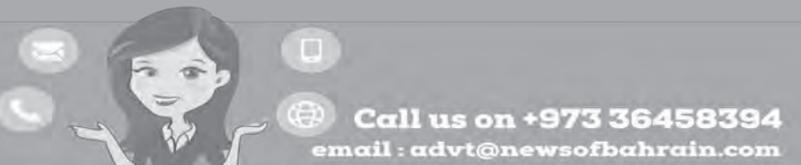
MODERN CONTRACTING CO. (MCC) W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17540407 or ALI@EGMCBH.COM

NOUVELAGE BEAUTY CENTER W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36944075 or MAHJOUBOLFAT@GMAIL.COM

NIBU PUBLICITY AND ADVERTISING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(PRESS MACHINE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36747977 or NIBUPUBLICITY@GMAIL.COM

RANA JAMSHAI COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37385000 or BHERASTAR284@GMAIL.COM

Classifieds



VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

IBN GULFAMIA STAR SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCE).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35130072 or AZEEMGUJJAR55A@GMAIL.COM

ALAALI CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17566444 or alaali-co@battelco.com.bh

SAYACORP HOSPITALITY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17170000 or kathrina.nisnisan@conradhotels.com

ASIAN FLAVOURS RESTAURANTS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17253030 or MOTOROX17@GMAIL.COM

ALI ADEL ALATAWI CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANT(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33327625 or ALIALATAWI20@GMAIL.COM

QASIM MOHAMED HASAN ALI HASAN has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCE).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38222239 or AL.E5WA.4EVER@HOTMAIL.COM

PAK STAR MOTORCYCLE SPARE PARTS has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33248620 or NAQASHMALIK65@GMAIL.COM

N Y SHINE MASTERS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34426392 or MARSHOOK1234@GMAIL.COM

THE TEA HOUSE CAFETERIA has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36318555 or teahousebh@gmail.com

ROSE POINT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of FLORIST/FLOWER SETTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38977709 or ARIFURR85@GMAIL.COM

MUHAMMAD NABEEL NAWAZ DECORE CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DECORATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38881547 or HGDYNAMIC@GMAIL.COM

RAFI BEST SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of RECEPTIONIST(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33900451 or daconscostrmer9211@GMAIL.COM

SIAM FOR MASSAGE has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470757 or JASIM-FAKHROO@GMAIL.COM

AL RAWNAQ PALACE TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of STORE LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17703190 or aidarwish1974@gmail.com

AHMED MOHAMMED JASSIM CONSTRUCTION CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17784584 or HR@AMJASSIM.COM

ABNA RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39650199 or Redahmattar@gmail.com

ALRASTAH MASHAWI & RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66738038 or JAFFAR.ROUTE66@GMAIL.COM

AL RAWNAQ PALACE TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of STORE LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17703190 or aidarwish1974@gmail.com

FRUIT GARDEN CENTER has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17790788 or S20532005@gmail.com

ABACUS BUILDERS COLLAGE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRAFTSMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17789689 or GOLDNEON@BATELCO.COM.BH

DIESEL MASTER MARINE MACHINERY REPAIRS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANICAL TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 13110088 or Midhat@dieselmater-bh.com

ELITE FACILITY MANAGEMENT CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17382228 or MUSTAFA@ELITEFMC.COM

ARABIAN HVAC CONTRACTING WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33600501 or EY-MANAC2012@GMAIL.COM

GREY WILD SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33751947 or ZAKIRKASHMIRI.ZK512@GMAIL.COM

RANGOLI SWEETS AND SNACKS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact

17271120 or RANGOLISWEETS.BH@GMAIL.COM

GOLDEN INTERFACE FOR TRADING EST has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES REPRESENTATIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33082121 or ABDULRQEEB2006@YAHOO.COM

PERFECT KEY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33188708 or PARADISEKEY1786@GMAIL.COM

FAROQ AHMED SAIN Contracting Co W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33165228 or F3165228@GMAIL.COM

GULF SKY TRANSPORT COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(HEAVY VEHICLE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17825693 or Gulfskytransport1@gmail.com

ABDULLAH ABDUL KADIR LAUNDRY BAHRAIN PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(LAUNDRY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33892327 or ABDULLAH33821112@GMAIL.COM

BUTT G CARGO HANDLING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36606384 or NADEEMYASIR126@GMAIL.COM

ZEESHAN CARGO HANDLING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36408685 or ZEESHANRIZWAN1653@GMAIL.COM

VOLAR SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66612396 or VOLARSERVICES3@GMAIL.COM

SWIFT MANPOWER W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 3666427 or HAMADALKHALIFA23@GMAIL.COM

IDEAL STAR PUNJABI CHASKA RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33448200 or IDEALSTARBAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

GAD ALKHAIR TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33306237 or HASSANBEH99@GMAIL.COM

SALMAN FASHION CREATOR CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17789567 or NADWICLEARANCE@GMAIL.COM

QUALITY FIRST CONSTRUCTIONS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PLUMBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33274996 or QFCWLL1@GMAIL.COM

AFWA SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33514410 or ZAKIBSS99@GMAIL.COM

U M F R R CARGO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38206258 or UMF.BH.PK@GMAIL.COM

HAILAT PUBLICITY AND ADVERTISING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ADVERTISING SERVICES SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37539184 or RANANAZIMRAJPOOT@GMAIL.COM

Intercol Electro-Mechanical Services Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN(HEATING & REFRIGERATION ENGINEERING), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17727600 or Personnel@intercol.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

NASSER ABD MOHAMMED B.S.C(CLOSED) has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700888 or NASSERAB@BATELCO.COM.BH

MECHANICAL CONTRACTING & SERVICES COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of INSPECTOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17623723 or mcsc@mcscwll.com

top men tailoring has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17827979 or pollyne@topmenbh.com

STAR GROUP COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17300013 or ahmed@stargroupbh.com

ALBURAQ ALDHAHABI CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33611111 or SALMANALKHALIFA.OFFICE@GMAIL.COM

ASILA JEWELLERS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of JEWELRY GOLDSMITH (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17343617 or asila@asilajewellers.com

LAYLA ISA AHMED ISA has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified

applicants can contact 39809256 or ABDL-LA9090@GMAIL.COM

ARRAY INNOVATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COMPUTER SOFTWARE SPECIALIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39926662 or alaa@array.world

MOORE STEPHENS - SPECIALIZED PARTNERSHIP has a vacancy for the occupation of AUDITOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17200144 or hasan@msbahrain.com

KATANA TORII JAPANESE CUISINE has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 38080801 or INFO@KATANATORII.COM

ALMOAYYED CLEANING & MAINTENANCE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or proffice@almoayyedcg.com

MASTER PHONE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17003317 or KARIM5519@GMAIL.COM

BADR AL SAFAA MEDICAL CENTRE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MEDICAL SERVICES AIDE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39425758 or INFO@BADRALSAFAA.COM

PROSOF CONSULTANTS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of STOREKEEPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39095401 or sajeed@zayani.com

Emkan Real Estate Development W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17257644 or asheeratrading@gmail.com

Al Raof Cafeteria has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(JUICE & SANDWICHES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39664685 or BUHAJAR06@HOTMAIL.COM

SANGEETHA RESTAURANT DELIGHTS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17272768 or sangeethadelights@gmail.com

Al Riyadh Technical Services W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17741567 or ANAND@ALRIYADHGROUP.COM

YOKOGAWA ENGINEERING BAHRAIN W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17707700 or sumedha.munasinghe@bh.yokogawa.com

LUMOFY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DIRECTOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17420989 or AFARAJ@LUMOFY.COM

Westin Hotel Bahrain City Centre has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38885874 or Ali.alqattan@maf.ae

RANWA STONE CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36361228 or ALI-JMAA16@GMAIL.COM

TRIDENT CLEANING SOLUTION ESTABLISHMENT has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37707040 or MOHAMMEDMOBEE@GMAIL.COM

ALYAMAMA HOUSE FOR CLEANING CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17345569 or YAMAMAHOUSE1@GMAIL.COM

S S SAMSANA MANAGEMENT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37106333 or SAMIULLAHRAZA@GMAIL.COM

ARRAY INNOVATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COMPUTER SOFTWARE SPECIALIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39926662 or alaa@array.world

ROYAL BAHRAIN HOSPITAL has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17532010 or hussain.alali@royalbhrrn.com

BAHRAIN COFFEE BREWERS COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SERVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39379127 or ANEESH@FOODVEST-HOLDING.COM

DARJELING RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33840744 or FATE-MAAHMED2030@GMAIL.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

CONTRATECH W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17554430 or INFO@CONTRATECH-BH.COM

B.R.C. (Weldmesh) Gulf W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MACHINE OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17728222 or abdulla-2111@hotmail.com

EAGLE HILLS DIYAR COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ADMINISTRATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 13303353 or yg@eaglehills.com

GHAREEB EXPRESS RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(JUICE & SANDWICHES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 66648111 or SAMIALMULLA15@GMAIL.COM

NOMAD URBAN CAFE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER (RESTURANTS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39773662 or VIBIN@ONEBAHRAINHOSPITALITY.COM

Arabian International Contracting CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANICAL HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39677780 or AWALSERV@BATELCO.COM.BH

Sando Restaurant W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 66661212 or TARIQ.BUCHEERY@MAIL.COM

TEA MADEENA has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17340947 or A7MED.00780@GMAIL.COM

al enma house for security services W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36633319 or admin@enmabh.com

Real Value Contracting WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36767312 or INFO@REALVALUECONTRACTING.COM

ORIENTAL GREEN CITY CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR FOR BUILDING, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17312155 or jashim3645@gmail.com

INTERIOR SOLUTIONS COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of DRAFTSMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17832022 or hamida.alhubail@haveclockone.com

PATWA PEARLS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DESIGNER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35094042 or PATWAPEARLS@GMAIL.COM

KOOHEJI CONTRACTORS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17786500 or careers@kcbahrain.com

IBN SINA OPTICAL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33933997 or WORLD_TODAY82@YAHOO.COM

THE K - HOTEL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of GUEST ARRANGEMENT SPECIALIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17360000 or abbas.fardan@thekhotel.com

REDINGTON BAHRAIN W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39448544 or ALJAWAD75@HOTMAIL.COM

ERA CONSTRUCTION WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCE).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17500331 or hr@eraprojects.net

SALIMAN KHAN SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(PAINT FINISHER), suitably qualified applicants can contact 35306735 or SALIMANKHANBH12@GMAIL.COM

DELIRIO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES REPRESENTATIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34500277 or deliriotrading@gmail.com

FLEXISERVE SOLUTIONS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35466434 or USSIJLL@GMAIL.COM

DEWAN MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17003534 or RBH0666@GMAIL.COM

RAWABI FRESH MEAT BUTCHERY has a vacancy for the occupation of BUTCHER (ANIMALS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 38887174 or ALSHRAAWASEF@GMAIL.COM

WHITE LINE VISITOR SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37211033 or

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PSG survive Villa scare, reach semis

French champions survive Aston Villa onslaught to reach Champions League semi-finals 5-4 on aggregate

● **PSG advance despite 3-2 second-leg defeat to Aston Villa**

● **Early goals from Hakimi and Mendes extend first-leg advantage**

● **Villa storm back with three goals in dramatic second half**

AFP | Birmingham

Paris Saint-Germain survived a second half onslaught to beat Aston Villa 5-4 on aggregate and reach the Champions League semi-finals despite a 3-2 defeat on Tuesday.

The French champions were cruising towards the last four when full-backs Achraf Hakimi and Nuno Mendes struck in the first 27 minutes to add to their 3-1 first leg lead.

Youri Tielemans pulled a goal back for the English side before half-time and two goals in two minutes from John McGinn and Ezri Konsa transformed the tie early in the second period.

PSG were thankful to goalkeeper Gianluigi Donnarumma for keeping Unai Emery's men at bay and preventing another famous collapse in the Champions League knockout stages.

"At the end, we got them suffering like we did," said Emery. "To get this level is the next step forward that I want to try to build with Aston Villa."

Villa boss Emery was in charge



Paris Saint-Germain's Doue (L) and Marquinhos celebrate after the win

of PSG when Luis Enrique's Barcelona overturned a 4-0 first leg deficit with a dramatic 6-1 win in 2017.

Luis Enrique again emerged victorious over his compatriot but this time was the one who watched his team almost blow a seemingly unassailable lead.

"I have to say that match for us is something that allows us to grow up and try to compete even better," said Luis Enrique.

"On the whole two matches we deserved to win and we are very happy because it's the sec-

ond year in a row in the semi-finals."

Villa had not experienced a European night like this since 1983 and there was an embarrassing moment for the hosts before a ball was kicked as the Europa League anthem was played instead of the famous pre-match hymn of the Champions League.

Luis Enrique's surprise decision to start Bradley Barcola ahead of Desire Doue was justified just 11 minutes in when he sprinted down the left and Emiliano Martinez spilled his

cross into the path of Hakimi, who fired home the opener.

Another blistering break from the visitors cut Villa open as Ousmane Dembele squared for left-back Mendes to stroke in his fourth Champions League goal of the season and second of the tie.

Royals in raptures

Villa's refusal to give up the fight was rewarded when Tielemans' deflected effort pulled a goal back before half-time.

Villa fanatic Prince William

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I have to say that match for us is something that allows us to grow up and try to compete even better. On the whole two matches we deserved to win and we are very happy because it's the second year in a row in the semi-finals

LUIS ENRIQUE

and his son George were among the home support that were in raptures as what seemed an impossible fightback came closer to reality.

McGinn's deflected effort flew into the top corner to restore parity on the night at 2-2.

Emery's decision to start with Marcus Rashford up front ahead of top scorer Ollie Watkins was a controversial one before kick-off.

Rashford has been reborn since a January loan move from Manchester United.

The England international was denied a goal by a stunning save from Donnarumma.

But from the resulting corner, Rashford nutmegged Fabian Ruiz, skipped past Vitorino and cut the ball back for Konsa to slot in at the near post.

A PSG side that looked imperious in the first 45 minutes were suddenly all at sea as Villa missed a series of chances to take the game to extra time.

Donnarumma produced more brilliant saves to deny Tielemans and then Marco Asensio against

BETTER YOU KNOW
Aston Villa's European campaign was marked by an embarrassing moment when the Europa League anthem was played instead of the Champions League hymn before the match

his parent club.

Willian Pacheco blocked Ian Maatsen's goalbound effort in stoppage time to deny Villa at the death.

But they have surpassed expectations in their first experience of the elite level of European football for over four decades.

For PSG, their quest to win the competition for the first time goes on and they have rarely had a better opportunity to end that wait.

Arsenal are their likely semi-final opponents as the Gunners take a 3-0 quarter-final, first leg advantage away to holders Real Madrid on Wednesday.

On the other half of the draw Barcelona will face either Inter Milan or Bayern Munich in a heavyweight clash.

But PSG are arguably the continent's form side and with the Ligue 1 title long since sewn up, can focus entirely on conquering Europe in Munich on May 31.

Barca through to Champions League semis despite Guirassy hat-trick

● **Spanish giants advance to Champions League semi-finals despite 3-1 defeat in Dortmund**

● **Barcelona win 5-3 on aggregate**

● **Catalans carried 4-0 lead from first leg**

AFP | Dortmund

Barcelona are through to the Champions League semi-finals with a 5-3 aggregate win, despite losing 3-1 at Borussia Dortmund on Tuesday with Serhou Guirassy hitting a hat-trick.

Holding a 4-0 lead after a dominant performance in Catalonia, the visitors were made to sweat as Dortmund and Guirassy nearly pulled off a stunning turnaround.

Guirassy put Dortmund in front with a Panenka from the spot with 11 minutes gone and headed them two goals clear early in the second half.

Dortmund sensed a sensation but Barcelona hit back, Fermin Lopez forcing Ramy Bensebaini

into an own goal with just over half an hour remaining.

Guirassy reignited Dortmund's belief with a third on the

76th-minute mark and the final stages may have been different had Julian Brandt not been offside before scoring with 11 minutes remaining.

Despite losing their first competitive game in 2025, Barcelona are through to the semis, keeping their dream of a remarkable treble alive, 10 years after last completing the feat by winning the Champions League in Berlin.

Barcelona coach Hansi Flick praised Dortmund's performance and said his side "need to focus on the positive, not the negatives".

"What the team has shown in the past few weeks is incredible. We've got a lot ahead of us this season. We're a step further but we're not even close to the end," added the German.

Barcelona, considered title favourites, will face either Inter Milan or Bayern Munich in the final four.

'Fought until the death'

Clearly outclassed in the first leg, Dortmund will take inspiration from Tuesday's performance, not least the goalscoring form of Guirassy.



Despite spending most of his career bouncing between first and second divisions in France and Germany, Guirassy now leads all Champions League scorers with 13 goals this season

The 29-year-old Guinean, who has spent most of his career bouncing between the first and second divisions in Germany and France, now has 13 Champions League goals this season -- more than any other player.

"I'm proud of what we were able to do. Barcelona are a strong team but we fought until the death. We showed what we can do," Guirassy said to Amazon Prime.

Despite a big first-leg lead, Hansi Flick made good on his pre-match pledge to continue attacking, opting against resting any of his attacking trident of Robert Lewandowski, Lamine Yamal or Raphinha.

With coach Niko Kovac admitting Dortmund needed a "miracle" to reach the semis after the

debacle in Catalonia, the hosts' task got a little harder when captain and centre-back Emre Can was ruled out with injury just before the match.

But Dortmund raced out of the blocks, Guirassy and strike partner Maximilian Beier going close inside the opening 10 minutes before Pascal Gross was the victim of a clumsy foul in the box by Wojciech Szczesny.

Guirassy stepped up to the spot and was nerveless, calmly unleashing a Panenka to get the hosts underway.

Dortmund sliced Barcelona open repeatedly without re-

ward until half-time but made it count four minutes into the second-half, Guirassy heading in a Ramy Bensebaini assist from a corner.

With Dortmund's 81,355-strong Westfalenstadion smelling blood, Barcelona's familiar response was to send their attack down the right and the move paid off almost immediately.

After Yamal's cross was half-cleared, Fermin Lopez found himself in the teenager's channel, whipping a pass towards Lewandowski which Bensebaini hit into his own net.

'Gap too big' for Dortmund after first leg, says Guirassy

Borussia Dortmund striker Serhou Guirassy said his side had sealed their fate with a poor first leg performance in Barcelona last week, despite a much improved display in a 3-1 home win.

"It's great to be the top scorer in the Champions League; there are some great players. Being first also means that I'm a great scorer, but without the team, I can't do it alone."

Dortmund defender Niklas Sule, who won the Champions League with Bayern Munich in 2020, agreed "that we messed it up in the first leg...

”
It's great to be the top scorer in the Champions League; there are some great players. Being first also means that I'm a great scorer, but without the team, I can't do it alone

SERHOU GUIRASSY

the performance was too bad in Barcelona."

Verstappen and McLaren set for explosive Saudi GP

● The F1 circus heads to Jeddah as McLaren dominates, Verstappen fights for redemption

TDT | Manama

Formula 1's first triple-header of the 2025 season wraps up this weekend at the Jeddah Corniche Circuit, where the battle for supremacy intensifies. From April 18-20, the Saudi Arabian Grand Prix will showcase McLaren's dominance, but Max Verstappen is eyeing a comeback after a frustrating Bahrain Grand Prix.

Jeddah Awaits

Formula 1's first triple-header of the 2025 season wraps up this weekend at the Jeddah Corniche Circuit, where the battle for supremacy intensifies. From April 18-20, the Saudi Arabian Grand Prix will showcase McLaren's dominance, but Max Verstappen is eyeing a comeback after a frustrating Bahrain Grand Prix.

McLaren on Fire

McLaren has dominated the early stages of the season, with Lando Norris holding a commanding 77-point lead in the drivers' standings. Despite a messy weekend in Bahrain, Norris is feeling confident ahead of the Jeddah race. "It's a really fast track and we have a quick car," he said, looking forward to rounding off the triple-header on a high.

Oscar Piastri, who grabbed his second victory of the season in Bahrain, is



also brimming with confidence. "I'm determined to hit the ground running in Saudi," the Australian said, knowing his momentum will be crucial for the upcoming races.

Red Bull's Redemption

While McLaren is the team to beat, Red Bull's Max Verstappen has vowed to bounce back in Jeddah after a disappointing showing in Bahrain. The four-time world champion finished a rare sixth place in Bahrain and is determined to turn things around. "Jeddah is a good track for us," Verstappen noted, recalling past victories at the Saudi circuit.

Despite his struggles in Bahrain—where pit-stop issues and tyre degradation hampered his pace—Verstappen remains optimistic. "I'm hoping we can find more pace and bring out a performance similar to Japan," he added,

referencing his incredible comeback at the Japanese GP last season.

Battle for the Top Step

The Jeddah Corniche Circuit is one of F1's most thrilling tracks, with high-speed straights and minimal tyre degradation, making it a perfect hunting ground for McLaren. Mercedes, however, is in the mix, with George Russell netting three podium finishes in the opening races. With Verstappen's Red Bull looking to regain form, the stage is set for an exciting contest at the front.

McLaren Team Principal Andrea Stella expressed optimism for another successful race, noting that "the softer tyre allocation could make for an exciting race." If McLaren's form holds, Norris and Piastri could secure yet another 1-2 finish—but Verstappen is determined to change the script.

Saudi Arabia Eyes Formula 1 Team Ownership

As the engines roar into Jeddah for the fifth round of the 2025 Formula 1 season, a powerful statement from Prince Khalid bin Sultan Al-Abdullah Al-Faisal has set the paddock abuzz — Saudi Arabia could soon become the next nation to own a Formula 1 team.

The chairman of the Saudi Automobile and Motorcycle Federation believes the Kingdom is closer than ever to making a move from race host and sponsor to full team ownership. "It could happen," Prince Khalid said. "It could happen soon."

Saudi Arabia has rapidly deepened its footprint in the sport since debuting on the F1 calendar in 2021. With state-owned oil giant Aramco, a global F1 partner and title sponsor of Aston Martin, and the Public Investment Fund (PIF) previously buying into McLaren, the next logical step seems clear.

"People will buy a Formula 1 team to make money — especially if it's through a PIF company," he said, adding that the surging global popularity of F1 makes such a move increasingly attractive.

While the current grid will grow to 11 teams in 2026 with the arrival of Cadillac, there is technically space for one more, and Prince Khalid insists Saudi Arabia is ready — either by founding a new outfit or taking over



Prince Khalid bin Sultan Al-Abdullah Al-Faisal an existing one.

But it's not a decision to be taken lightly. "It's not easy to say which team to buy and how to manage it," he cautioned. "But if Saudi Arabia or a Saudi company enters F1, I'd like to see it done the right way — and be successful."

Prince Khalid also floated the idea of hosting two Saudi Grands Prix — one in Jeddah and another at the upcoming Qiddiya circuit in Riyadh — and expressed hopes that Saudi Arabia might even open future F1 seasons as the first race on the calendar.

With its ambitions on the rise and money no object, Saudi Arabia's push into Formula 1 could soon shift from speculation to full throttle reality.

Manners ready for fight night at Dilmun

● With stars in the ring and legends ringside, Bahrain is ready for an epic night of boxing

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

Bahrain is bracing for a storm of adrenaline as the Domestic Boxing Open Air Championship returns tomorrow night at Dilmun Club, now in its 5th edition at the venue and 8th overall. Fighters from across the GCC — including Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Qatar, Kuwait, Oman, and Bahrain — will go toe-to-toe in one of the region's most electric combat sports events.

With schools fighting for 1.5 minutes, juniors and youth facing off in 3 rounds of 2 minutes, and elite boxers going the full 3 x 3 minutes, the action will be non-stop. But don't expect the schedule to follow the age groups. According to Tony Davis, Bahrain's national boxing coach, bouts will be strategically mixed, with some of the night's most exciting fights appearing early to keep the energy high from the start.

"It's a Moment to Show What We Stand For"

Stepping into the spotlight once again is Sasha Manners, assistant coach at Killa Boxing Club (KBC) in Salmabad. Having won his last bout in December at the same championship, Sasha is returning with more than victory on his mind.

"Coming off the win in December, it feels amazing to step



Scott Welch (L) takes on Michael Murray



Scott Welch (L) takes on Michael Murray

back into the ring this weekend," Manners told TDT. "There's a special energy about these events. For me, representing KBC means carrying the pride and hard work of our entire team. It's a moment to show what we stand for."

KBC: Built for Battle

Known for producing some of the Kingdom's most promising fighters, KBC is fast becoming Bahrain's go-to arena for talent development. Sasha credits the gym's culture for sharpening both his skills and mindset.

"Training at KBC has been intense but incredibly rewarding.

The environment is serious — it pushes you to show up every day with focus and hunger. The coaches, teammates, and the whole culture at the club have helped shape me not just as a boxer, but as a disciplined individual overall."

Boxing as a Way of Life

For Manners, boxing serves as a foundation for discipline and growth — shaping both the fighter and the man. "Boxing has had a huge impact on who I am," he said. "It's taught me how to stay composed under pressure, how to push through challenges, and how to carry myself with

confidence and respect — both inside and outside the ring. It really does become a lifestyle."

Welch Watching Ringside

Adding serious star power to Friday's fight night is Scott Welch, former British, Commonwealth, and Inter-Continental heavyweight champion and current WBC Cares UK chairman. Welch is also remembered

for his role opposite Brad Pitt in the cult classic *Snatch* — and his presence in Bahrain brings weight to an already stacked card.

"Having someone like Scott Welch attend definitely adds some excitement," said Manners. "I wouldn't say pressure — more motivation. You want to put on a performance that earns the respect of someone who's

been in the game that long."

All Eyes on the Gulf Ring

With boxers flying in from across the region, competition is set to be tough — exactly how Sasha likes it.

"Facing fighters from across the Gulf is an exciting challenge. It's a chance to test my skills, learn from diverse styles, and prove the strength of KBC's training. Our club's commitment to the sport has prepared me well, and I'm eager to represent that on a bigger stage."

Inspiring the Next Generation

With boxing's popularity in Bahrain continuing to rise, Sasha sees each fight as a chance to give back.

"Bahrain's combat sports scene is growing fast, and I'm proud to be part of that movement. I hope my journey shows younger fighters what's possible with discipline and dedication. If I can inspire even one kid to walk into a gym and start their own journey — that's a win in itself."

A Title Fight for National Pride

With fighters from every corner of the Gulf stepping into the ring and a legend like Scott Welch watching from ringside, this year's edition of the Domestic Boxing Open Air Championship is more than just a night of punches and points. It's a powerful statement about the future of boxing in the region — with Bahrain, once again, at the very heart of the fight.

And for Sasha Manners, this is just another round in a much bigger battle — one that's only just begun.

BIC set to host triple-header of fan-favourite experiences

Batelco Fitness on Track set to take place tomorrow morning and Open Track at night, followed by Track Experiences on Saturday

● BIC follows F1 success with public access weekend events

TDI | Manama

Bahrain International Circuit (BIC), 'The Home of Motorsport in the Middle East', is all set for another action-packed weekend only days after its successful hosting of a record-breaking Formula 1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix 2025.

White F1's star drivers and teams were in the spotlight last week, tomorrow and Saturday, it's the public's turn to take centre stage in Sakhir.

They will have the opportunity to enjoy an incredible triple-header of BIC's most popular experiences, including Batelco Fitness on Track and Open Track on Friday, and then Track Experiences on Saturday.

These activities continue the circuit's stacked schedule of events being held throughout its exciting 2024/2025 season.

In Batelco Fitness on Track, fans are invited to stay active and make the most of the weather warming up heading into the summer months. Members of the public will have the opportunity to enjoy an early weekend workout within the safe and unique venue of a world-class F1 host facility.

Batelco Fitness on Track can be done either on foot or on a



bicycle, and either individually or with a group of friends and family. Friday's activity is scheduled for 6am to 10am. Runners and walkers will be utilising the circuit's 2.55-kilometre Inner Track, while cyclists will get to ride their bikes along the 3.543-kilometre Outer Track, with another dedicated area for children's cycling.

The cost to take part is BD2 for cyclists and BD1 for runners. Payment must be made upon booking. Children under the age of 12 can participate for free if accompanied by a paying adult. After an afternoon break,

Open Track will then light up the track on Friday night, further building on the theme from last week's grand prix that "The Desert Never Sleeps". Open Track is set to take place from 6pm to 9pm under lights and it offers speed lovers a thrill like no other, taking their very own private vehicles for an unforgettable spin along BIC's 2.55-kilometre Inner Track.

Those interested in taking part can book their slot in advance at a reduced rate. The discounted cost for the full night is BD99, while the half night is BD71.500, and a single session

is BD33. If booking on the day itself, the cost is BD115.500 for the full night, BD82.500 for half the night, and BD44 for a single session.

Instructor sessions are also available, while additional drivers and passengers can participate, all for an additional fee.

In every Open Track activity, driver etiquette is of ultimate importance, and there is no close or aggressive overtaking permitted. Overtaking is by invitation between corners and driving is monitored, with poor or dangerous driving being dealt with swiftly.



BETTER YOU KNOW

Cyclists in Batelco Fitness on Track will use the 3.543-kilometre Outer Track, while runners use the 2.55-kilometre Inner Track

Following Friday night's Open Track, Track Experiences will then bring the heat on Saturday from 8am to 3pm.

In this event, fans will have the chance to go on a unique adventure in three ultra-quick cars, including a Renault Clio Cup sports car, or in SR1 or SR3

Radical cars.

Participants can get an awesome introduction into the high-octane world of motorsports in the Clio Cup Driver Experience, buckled up in a Renault Clio Cup – boasting a 1.6-litre, Turbocharged engine – and taking it out onto the track behind a professional instructor in a lead-follow manner.

The Radical SR1 Driving Experience is ideal for amateurs and racers alike with its 185bhp engine. In the Radical SR3 Passenger Experience, fans will be taken from zero to 100kph in about 3.4 seconds, making for an amazing number of laps around BIC.

The cost to get behind the wheel for the Clio Cup Driver Experience is BD121. For the Radical SR1 Driver Experience, the cost is BD132, while the Radical SR3 Passenger Experience is BD38.500.

Swiatek through to Stuttgart WTA quarters



Iga Swiatek

AFP | Stuttgart

World number two Iga Swiatek won 6-2, 6-2 against Croatian qualifier Jana Fett in the last 16 of the WTA event in Stuttgart yesterday.

Swiatek broke her 153rd-ranked opponent twice in the first set and three times in the second.

The victory marked a return to winning ways for five-time Grand Slam winner Swiatek as she bounced back from a surprise defeat to Alexandra Eala in the quarter-finals of the Miami Open in March.

Chelsea fans must 'trust' the process despite blip, says Maresca

AFP | London

Enzo Maresca insists Chelsea are improving despite an alarming slump in form that has put the Blues at risk of missing out on the Champions League for a third consecutive season.

A disappointing 2-2 draw at home to struggling Ipswich on Sunday meant Chelsea slipped to sixth in the Premier League, with only a place in the top five enough to qualify for Europe's top club competition.

Maresca's team have won just five of their past 16 league games to tumble down the table after a bright start to his reign.

There has been a growing revolt against the Italian's patient, possession-based style of play among the fans at Stamford Bridge during his first season in charge.

Maresca appeared to suggest supporters influenced the decision of goalkeeper Robert Sanchez to play the ball long



Chelsea boss Enzo Maresca

from a goal kick, which came before Ipswich's second goal.

Chelsea finished 12th in the 2022/23 campaign and sixth last season, and the manager believes there have been tangible signs of progress.

"I think fans, they have to trust us, they have to trust the team, they have to trust the

club, what we are doing now," he said yesterday, on the eve of the second leg of the club's UEFA Conference League quarter-final against Legia Warsaw. "This season we spent almost all our season in the top four. I think it's a big proof that the team is improving and is doing the right things.

Zverev joins Shelton in Munich ATP quarters



Alexander Zverev during the match

AFP | Munich

German world number three Alexander Zverev is through to the quarter-finals through to the quarter-finals after cruising to a straight-sets win over Daniel Altmaier yesterday.

Zverev, the top seed at a tournament he won in 2017

and 2018, won 6-3, 6-2 to reach his 99th quarter-final on the ATP tour.

"He makes it complicated. He has beaten lots of top players before. He's beaten (Jan-nik) Sinner, he's beaten me before, so he knows how to make it complicated," said Zverev.

"I'm extremely happy with the win and looking forward to the next match."