

Naser books Tokyo 400m final

Bahrain's sprint star targets gold at World Championships | P16

Jennifer Lopez recalls missing out on Evita role to Madonna

Strategic Alliance: Alba and Hydro strengthen Alumina-Supply partnership

# Driving Future

H.H. Shaikh Isa opens Al Jasra Interchange to ease travel for 57,000 drivers daily

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## Royal Move Shields Bahrainis

TDT | Manama

Following the directives of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, passports have been renewed for all Bahraini citizens who recently had their Kuwaiti citizenship revoked, to enable them to travel freely.

The directives reflect HM the King's commitment to reuniting families and maintaining their cohesion and strong familial bonds.

## HRH Prince Salman appoints Finance Ministry director

TDT | Manama

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, issued Edict (57) of 2025, appointing a director at the Ministry of Finance and National Economy, based on a proposal by the Minister of Finance and National Economy.

Mohammed Jassim Mohammed Bu Ali shall be appointed as Director of the Human Resources and Financial Directorate at the Ministry of Finance and National Economy, succeeding Shaikha Maram bint Rashid Al Khalifa.

The Minister of Finance and National Economy shall second the director appointed under Article (I) to any government entity as deemed necessary.

The Minister of Finance and National Economy shall implement the provisions of this edict.

33% increase in road capacity

'Infrastructure a top priority'

'Development across all sectors'

Mahir Haneef  
TDT | Manama

Bahrain opened a new chapter in its infrastructure drive yesterday as His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Minister of the Prime Minister's Court, marked the official launch of the Al Jasra Interchange Development Project.

The 884-metre project will boost capacity at the key junction by 33 percent, allowing the interchange to handle up to 57,000 vehicles per day. Officials said the new interchange, one of the Kingdom's road network development initiatives, will ease congestion, improve traffic flow, and enhance safety for commuters.

### Strategic milestone

His Highness noted that infrastructure remains a top priority for Bahrain because of its role in driving sustainable development, strengthening competitiveness, and supporting economic growth, all under the leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa. H.H. affirmed that development programmes are progressing strongly to improve all sectors and enhance the quality of government services.

H.H. highlighted that delivering projects in line with the highest standards of quality and efficiency reflects the government's commitment, led by HRH



HH Shaikh Isa visits the Al Jasra Interchange Development Project to mark its official opening



Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, to advance long-term national objectives.

### Team Bahrain drive

H.H. Shaikh Isa commended the efforts of the national workforce at the Ministry of Works and other authorities that delivered the project, stressing that such achievements embody the determination of



Team Bahrain. His Highness said government projects aim to improve competitiveness, attract investments, and create opportunities for citizens.

Minister of Works H.E. Engineer Ibrahim bin Hassan Al-Hawaj expressed gratitude for H.H. Shaikh Isa's visit and said the interchange reflects the government's support for developing

HH Shaikh Isa



The Al Jasra Interchange lies on a route linking Manama with the King Fahd Causeway, a vital connection to Saudi Arabia.

Bahrain's infrastructure. He noted that the project is part of broader efforts to keep pace with urban growth and comprehensive development goals.

### Road to growth

The Al Jasra Interchange project was designed to improve access to Salman City and surrounding areas by creating a safer and more efficient road network. By increasing the intersection's daily vehicle capacity to 57,000, officials said, the project underscores Bahrain's push to align infrastructure delivery with its economic and social development priorities.

## Alliance Rising

# Bahrain, UAE Relations Enter New Strategic Chapter

HH affirms historic bonds

Leaders drive bilateral cooperation

Mahir Haneef  
TDT | Manama

Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates are pushing their ties towards a higher level of cooperation, with His High-

ness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa affirming that bilateral relations continue to advance towards a strategic partnership.

The Minister of the Prime Minister's Court made the remarks during a meeting yesterday with the UAE's Ambassador to Bahrain, His Excellency Fahad Mohammed Salem bin Kardous Al Ameri, at Gudaibiya Palace.

H.H. Shaikh Isa highlighted that the growing Bahrain-UAE partnership draws strength



HH Shaikh Isa with the UAE's Ambassador, H.E. Fahad Mohammed Salem bin Kardous Al Ameri

from the support of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and UAE President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

His Highness added that cooperation is further reinforced by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, and UAE Vice President and Prime Minister His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, who also serves as Ruler of Dubai.



# Energy Partnerships Rise

His Highness Shaikh Nasser hosts global oil leaders in Bahrain talks

**Global Reach**



Talks with Chevron's President focused on emerging markets and future energy

**Gulf Ties**



Talks with Kuwait Oil Company's CEO underlined deepening Gulf energy collaboration.

**Regional Power**



Discussions with Aramco's upstream head centered on regional energy cooperation.

**Service Strength**



H.H. Shaikh Nasser meets Halliburton's Chairman to discuss boosting cooperation in oilfield services

**Tech Edge**



Meeting with Schlumberger's CEO explored advanced drilling and digital oilfield solutions.



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**Balanced Progress**



His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa's leadership in advancing Bahrain's oil and gas sector through balanced policies was highlighted by Deputy Prime Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa during the inauguration of the Middle East Oil, Gas and Geosciences Show (MEOS GEO), held under the theme 'Energy for a prosperous future: Leading a sustainable tomorrow', with more than 120 companies taking part.

**Bahrain-US security partnership**



His Excellency General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, Minister of Interior, received Dr David Wyrick, head of the delegation from the University of North Carolina, USA, and U.S.-based Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.). Shaikh Hisham bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa, Undersecretary for Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs (NPRA) and Chairman of the Maan (together) Committee for Combating Violence and Addiction, was present. Gen. Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah commended the cooperation with the UNCG and D.A.R.E. in developing the Maan programme, one of the Kingdom's most important community-security initiatives, given its role in protecting youth from the risks of violence and addiction and in promoting positive behavioural patterns. He underlined the importance of continuing this research partnership for its positive impact on the programme's methodology .



# Hindi Day celebrated in style

More than 150 members of Indian community attend annual event at Embassy premises in Seef

TDT | Manama

An event to mark the Hindi Day was held at the Embassy premises in Seef which was attended by more than 150 members of the Indian community. Hindi Day is observed on 14 September every year to commemorate the adoption of Hindi as one of the official languages in India.

### Ceremony

His Excellency Mr. Vinod K. Jacob, Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Bahrain, presided over the ceremony and in his speech emphasized the importance and utility of Hindi; highlighted the initiatives taken by Government of India for propagation of Hindi; Hon-oble Prime Minister Narendra Modi's campaign of 'Atmanir-bhar Bharat'; strengthening of e-tools for Hindi; and initiative by ICCR to conduct Hindi classes for international students under Visitors Programme amongst other efforts. Ambassador Jacob also mentioned that to increase Hindi's visibility in international forums, leaders are increasingly making statements in Hindi, including in particular the address of Honorable Prime Minister Modi at the United Nations. UNESCO also celebrates Hindi



H.E. Indian Ambassador Vinod K. Jacob addresses the crowd



The Indian Ambassador with visitors and participants while touring the exhibition booths



Day where Hindi scholars participate.

### Digital age

The propagation of Hindi has gained new momentum in the digital age and with the increasing use of new technology, social media and online mediums. Hindi has become an interesting language, especially among the youth. The event included performances from Embassy officials and their family members and



A Diaspora Info Desk with brochures promoting Government of India initiatives

a short presentation from members of Pratham Hindi Toastmasters – a major diaspora grouping dedicated to promoting Hindi in Bahrain. In addition, a fort-night long celebration, as part of "Viksit Bharat" campaign initiated by Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, kicked off with the celebration of Hindi Day.

### Campaign

As part of this campaign, a Diaspora Info Desk with brochures promoting Government of India initiatives like Know India Programme (KIP), Scholarship Programme for Diaspora Children (SPDC), Pravasi Bhartiya Bima Yojana (PBBY) and OCI benefits were distributed to the visitors



A short presentation on stage as part of the celebration to create awareness about the schemes. Also, as part of the "Swadeshi Mela", 'Made in India, Made for the World' initiative, an exhibition on India's Defence Capabilities which is ongoing was also open for viewing at the Embassy.

## Health worker appeals jail term in forgery cases

● Fined BD1,000

Mohammed Darwish  
TDT | Manama

A Ministry of Health employee has appealed a one-year jail term and a BD1,000 fine for forging an official certificate used to recommend a man's retirement. The High Criminal Court of Appeal is due to give its ruling on 29 September 2025. Case papers state that in March this year the defendant, a medical services assistant with the ministry's medical commissions, made a false certificate in the style of those commissions and attributed it to them.

### Retirement

The document asserted that the man had been examined, was medically incapacitated and was entitled to be referred to retirement, which was untrue. According to the file, she completed a beneficiary form saying the medical-incapacity provisions applied to his case and that he was retired after he stopped attending work. She then printed a genuine certificate, lifted the physicians' signatures from it, placed them on the false one, photographed the forgery on her phone and used it in full knowledge of its falsity.

The papers add that she uploaded the forged certificate through the ministry's electronic system, sent it from her phone to her email address, and forwarded it to the Social Insurance Organisation with a note stating that the medical commission decision was attached.

### Wrong data

By doing so, she entered wrong data into the ministry's system in a way that made it appear correct. The Public Prosecution received a report from the Ministry of Health alleging that a staff member had forged a certificate for a reviewer, entered it into the ministry's system and sent it to the Social Insurance Organisation for retirement approval and pension payment.

### Handwriting

Statements were taken from employees at the ministry and the Social Insurance Organisation, and a forgery expert at the Forensic Evidence Directorate examined the certificate and compared it with the defendant's handwriting. The expert found the document to be forged and attributed the act to her. When questioned, she admitted forging the certificate. She was remanded in custody pending investigation. The appeal verdict is listed for 29 September 2025.

## Bahrain, India look to future with AI-focused collaboration

TDT | Manama

His Excellency Mr. Vinod K Jacob, Ambassador of India to Bahrain, welcomed Indian companies and business groups to enhance their cooperation with the Kingdom including in the important area of Artificial Intelligence. Speaking at an event organised by Bahrain India Society in collaboration with Almoayyed Computers Middle East in Bahrain on 14 September 2025, the Ambassador expressed hope that Bahraini stakeholders would participate in the upcoming INDIA AI IMPACT SUMMIT scheduled to take place in New Delhi in February 2026.

### Developments

Ambassador Jacob also highlighted recent developments in India-Bahrain bilateral relations including the launch of electronic visa system for Bahraini nationals to visit India, opening of new Indian Consular Application Center in Bahrain Mall, across the board reduction of 5 to 6 percent on service fees for Consular services provided by Indian Embassy, contribution of Indian Naval Ship Tarash to regional security in collaboration with CMF in April this year which led to interdiction of almost 2500 kg of narcotics seizures as well as planned business delegation visits to Bahrain.

# Fake e-funds data

TDT | Manama

The First High Criminal Court has handed down prison sentences and heavy fines against 10 defendants convicted in a major fraud case involving more than BD230,000 in unlawfully obtained social insurance and Tamkeen funds. Two of the accused were sentenced to 10 years in prison and fined BD100,000 each, while eight others received one-year prison terms and fines of BD500 apiece. The court also suspended the three-year prison sentence of the seventh defendant on the condition that the stolen funds are repaid to the Social Insurance Organization (SIO).

**Suspects**

According to the Financial Crimes and Money Laundering Prosecution, the group — three men and seven women — forged documents and entered false data into the electronic systems of the SIO and Tamkeen to create fictitious employment periods. These falsifications allowed



The Public Prosecution charged the defendants with falsifying electronic records, forging private documents, and unlawfully obtaining public funds.

them to unlawfully claim retirement pensions, end-of-service benefits, and lump-sum compensations.

Ten defendants jailed in BD230,000 fraud case targeting SIO and Tamkeen

They also fraudulently secured more than BD141,000 in Tamkeen wage support funds.

### Irregularities

The scheme came to light after irregularities were reported by both the SIO and Tamkeen. Authorities launched a joint investigation, freezing the defendants' assets and imposing travel bans. The Anti-Corruption and Economic Security Directorate confirmed the organized fraud, while the National Financial Intelligence Center tracked suspicious financial activity.

### Employment contracts

Forensic experts later authenticated the forged employment contracts. The Public Prosecution charged the defendants with falsifying electronic records, forging private documents, and unlawfully obtaining public funds. Officials said the ruling underscores the seriousness of financial crimes targeting state-run social and labor support programs, warning that such offenses carry severe penalties.



# Ten convicted over narcotics offences



● **Life term for first defendant**

**Mohammed Darwish**  
TDT | Manama

Ten defendants were convicted by the High Criminal Court yesterday for offences involving narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. The first defendant received life imprisonment and a BD5,000 fine. The remaining nine were each jailed for a year and fined BD1,000. The court ordered the seized items confiscated. According to the Narcotics Crimes Prosecution, the case began with information passed

to the Anti-Narcotics Directorate and later borne out by its inquiries. The first defendant was said to have kept drugs for sale, turned her home into a place for users to take them, and sold from the balcony of the property. **Warrant** Acting under a warrant from the Public Prosecution, officers arrested her at the residence alongside nine others. Prosecutors questioned the group and set out the seized items and other evidence during the inquiry. Once the investigation was complete, the file went to the High Criminal Court, which issued its ruling yesterday.

## Safety inspection



The Southern Municipality, in cooperation with the General Directorate of Civil Defence, the Electricity and Water Authority (EWA), and the Ministry of Works, has conducted a comprehensive field inspection campaign at Isa Town's popular market, covering 582 shops. The initiative aimed to ensure compliance with Civil Defence safety standards and to verify the safety of electrical connections and fire systems. As part of the campaign, Civil Defence teams inspected fire extinguishers to confirm their validity, placement, and accessibility, while also checking the operation of early warning systems. Specialists from the EWA examined electrical connections and extensions in shops and kiosks to ensure they met technical specifications and to identify any random or hazardous wiring.

# Public health at risk

Fake dermatologist on trial after being caught running unlicensed botox clinic

**Rehab Mohammad**  
TDT | Manama

The Second Minor Criminal Court has opened hearings in the case of a foreign woman accused of practicing medicine without a license and possessing unregistered medical drugs. During yesterday's session, the defendant denied the charges. The court adjourned proceedings to September 29 to allow her defense. According to case details, the National Health Regulatory Authority (NHRA) reported the woman after she promoted herself on social media as a dermatologist and cosmetic specialist, offering unlicensed medical ser-



Image used for illustrative purposes only  
vices from her apartment.

## Sting operation

In coordination with the General Directorate of Criminal Investigation and Forensic Evidence, authorities conducted a sting operation, catching the suspect in the act of injecting clients with Botox in exchange for money. She was using unauthorized medicines imported from outside Bahrain. A quantity of unlicensed drugs was also seized. The Public Prosecution stated

that the defendant had initially admitted to the charges during questioning. She was remanded in custody pending trial, while the confiscated items were secured as evidence. **Violations** Police investigations confirmed the violations, leading to her referral to court. A senior prosecutor underscored the importance of adhering to strict medical regulations aimed at safeguarding patients, warning that unlicensed practices pose serious risks to public health. He urged full compliance with the guidelines set by the NHRA.

# Creativity meets empowerment

Women's workshop by Milk Chic and Wild About Art, backed by XwhyZ

TDT | Manama

A wave of color, creativity, and empowerment filled Wild About Art Studio in Juffair as Milk Chic, supported by its parent company XwhyZ, hosted a Women's Empowerment Workshop designed to inspire self-expression and community connection. The initiative, carried out in partnership with Wild About Art Studio, invited women to explore new painting techniques, design personalized tote bags, and share their voices in an inclusive, creative environment. Darunee, Founder of Milk Chic, highlighted the vision behind the event: "Milk Chic is about more than fashion—it's about giving women the confidence to express their strength and style. This workshop shows how creativity can be a powerful



Participants show their personalized tote bags

path to empowerment." The event was guided by the leadership of Georgi Jose, CEO of XwhyZ, and the program was guided by the leadership of Milk Chic and XwhyZ, with advisory support from Roshan George, ensuring the program carried both cultural depth and strategic vision.

"XwhyZ is an AI-first technology company, but our mission extends to shaping futures where innovation and inclusion coexist. Supporting women through creativity is one way we connect technology's promise with real social impact," said Georgi Jose. Wild About Art, known for its nurturing creative spaces, provided the perfect setting for women to pause, recharge, and connect. Many participants expressed how meaningful it was to walk away not only with a custom tote but with a renewed sense of confidence and sisterhood. The collaboration underscored a shared commitment: to champion women's empowerment in Bahrain and beyond by blending creativity, technology, and community into lasting impact.

# Seminar organised on Christian archaeological sites in Eastern Arabia

TDT | Manama

The Bahrain National Museum hosted a two-day seminar on Saturday and Sunday, 13-14 September 2025, titled "Christian Archaeological Sites in Eastern Arabia: Towards A Shared Heritage". It was organised in cooperation with the King Hamad Global Centre for Coexistence and Tolerance. The event was attended by Dr. Salman Al Mahari, Director General of Archaeology at the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities (BACA), Abdulla Isa Al Mannai, Executive Director of the King Hamad Global Centre for Coexistence and Tolerance, along with a number of officials and archaeology specialists, as well as a group of



Distinguished guests speak at the event

academics, researchers, and experts from Bahrain and abroad. E Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, President of BACA, affirmed that the continued discovery of Christian archaeological sites in Eastern Arabia reflects the region's rich cultural diversity, which stands as a positive force in its historical heritage. He noted that these sites

shed light on the civilisational richness of Bahrain across the ages, making it a meeting point for civilisations and religions, while the Nestorian Christian heritage represents an added value to the cultural diversity of the region. The first day of the seminar provided a general historical overview of Nestorian Christian heritage in Eastern Arabia.

# Promoting youth participation actively

TDT | Manama

The Ministry of Youth Affairs is committed to supporting purposeful youth initiatives and strengthening the role of youth organisations and associations in promoting national identity and expanding avenues for active participation in cultural and social affairs. This was emphasised by Her Excellency Rawan bint Najeeb Tawfiqi, Minister of Youth Affairs as she noted that this reflects the national approach to empowering young people and reinforcing their role as partners in sustainable development. The Minister highlighted Ministerial Decision (33) of 2025 concerning the registration of the Articles of Association of the Beyt Al Oud Society on the register of youth associations under the supervision of

“the society aims to instil loyalty and national belonging, and to promote Bahraini identity through educational and interactive programmes that raise awareness and reinforce responsible citizenship, discipline, and community participation.”  
- H.E. RAWAN BINT NAJEEB TAWFIQI, MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS

the Ministry of Youth Affairs. She emphasised that the decision comes as part of the ministry's efforts to continue supporting initiatives aimed

at safeguarding cultural heritage and instilling values of belonging and citizenship among young people. Tawfiqi added that the Beyt Al Oud Society will represent a significant addition to youth activity in the Kingdom through its programmes and initiatives that promote Bahraini identity and contribute to building an aware and creative generation. The Minister highlighted that the establishment of the Beyt Al Oud Society aligns with the ministry's strategy to support cultural and social activities and create national platforms for young people's talents and energy. She noted that the society will promote national values, increase youth participation in cultural and community events, and support the Kingdom's efforts to strengthen social cohesion and unity.



# Strategic Alliance: **Alba and Hydro** strengthen Alumina-Supply partnership

● Partnership on the sidelines of the Fastmarkets International Aluminium 2025 Conference in Barcelona

● The agreement was signed in the presence of senior leadership from both companies

**Manama**

Aluminium Bahrain (Alba), the world's largest aluminium smelter on one site, has successfully renewed the alumina supply agreement with Hydro, reaffirming their strategic partnership on the sidelines of the Fastmarkets International Aluminium 2025 Conference in Barcelona.

Commenting on the agree-



ment, Alba's CEO, Ali Al Baqali, stated: "Our partnership with Hydro is built on trust, transparency, and a mutual drive for sustainability. Renewing this agreement ensures a reliable supply of high-quality alumina for our operations and reinforces our position as a responsible and forward-looking aluminium producer."

Hydro's Senior Vice President Commercial - Bauxite & Alumina, Jonathan Hadley added: "We are delighted to continue supporting Alba's operations through this extended agreement. It reflects our shared values and also the vision of Hydro to be the supplier of choice to strategic customers like Alba."

The agreement was signed in the presence of senior leadership from both companies, underscoring the strategic importance of this collaboration in securing consistent raw material supply for Alba's smelting operations.

# US Fed opens key meeting after Trump aide sworn in as governor

AFP | Washington, United States

The US Federal Reserve started a key interest rate meeting Tuesday, hours after Donald Trump's new appointee narrowly won confirmation to join the central bank -- while another top official fights her removal by the president.

Stephen Miran, the chair of Trump's Council of Economic Advisers, took the oath of office as a Fed governor early Tuesday, the bank said, as its rate-setting Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) began a two-day policy gathering.

Miran narrowly won a Senate vote on Monday night, making him one of the FOMC's 12 voting members. Economists expect he will not radically shift this week's outcome.

There is little doubt that the Fed will make its first interest



Stephen Miran and Donald Trump

rate cut of 2025 after the latest gathering, as policymakers pivot towards shoring up a deteriorating jobs market.

But concerns about political influence targeting the independent central bank will loom over the gathering, as Trump

repeatedly bashes Fed Chair Jerome Powell over his rate decisions, and after he moved to fire governor Lisa Cook, sparking a legal battle.

On Tuesday, Trump told reporters that the Fed should "listen to smart people like me."

The last-minute addition of Miran is unlikely to drastically alter the meeting's result, said Oxford Economics' chief US economist Ryan Sweet.

Sweet also cast doubt on whether Miran would have joined in time to submit an economic projection and path for monetary policy.

Miran has come under fire from Democratic lawmakers over his plan to take only a leave of absence from his White House role, rather than resign.

He is serving out a Fed term

which expires in just over four months, filling governor Adriana Kugler's term after she stepped down.

**Court appeal**

Trump has separately sought to oust Fed Governor Cook, claiming that mortgage fraud allegations are sufficient "cause" for her removal.

So far, Cook, who was appointed by former president Joe Biden, has managed to remain in place for the FOMC meeting.

Trump announced in August that he was removing her, and she has been in a legal battle with the president since -- a fight that could have broader implications for the Fed moving forward.

While a federal appeals court ruled late Monday that she could remain in position while her

legal challenge proceeds, the Trump administration is likely to take the case to the Supreme Court.

"The administration will appeal this decision and looks forward to ultimate victory on the issue," White House spokesman Kush Desai told AFP.

Although Trump pointed to a criminal referral in announcing Cook's removal, she has not been charged with a crime and the alleged incidents took place before she was a Fed governor.

Since its last cut in December, the Fed has held the benchmark lending rate at a range between 4.25 percent and 4.50 percent as policymakers monitor the effects of Trump's tariffs on the economy.

But markets widely expect a 25 basis points cut at the end of discussions on Wednesday.

# Batelco by Beyon becomes **first in Bahrain** to launch Eco-SIM cards

All new SIM cards will be made from recycled plastic, reinforcing the Company's sustainability commitments

**Manama**

Batelco by Beyon has announced the launch of Eco-SIM cards made from 100% recycled plastic, becoming the first operator in the Kingdom of Bahrain to introduce this environmentally friendly innovation.

This milestone reflects Batelco's ongoing commitment to reducing its environmental footprint and supports Beyon



Group's wider sustainability goals.

Going forward, all new SIM cards will be Eco SIM's with the card bodies manufactured using recycled polystyrene sourced mainly from discarded refrigerators and other appliances. At the end of their lifecycle, the Eco-SIMs can be recycled to produce new SIM cards, creating a circular economy model that reduces the need for virgin plastic and helps cut

CO2 emissions. By shifting to Eco-SIMs, Batelco will play a tangible role in decreasing plastic waste and supporting Bahrain's environmental protection efforts.

Batelco General Manager Aseel Mattar said, "We are delighted to introduce Bahrain's first Eco-SIM cards in support of Beyon's drive to embed sustainability across its companies. While we continue to expand eSIM services for the growing

number of compatible devices available on the market, the majority of mobile customers still require physical SIM cards. The Eco-SIM launch is therefore a key step in Batelco's broader sustainability journey, complementing initiatives already underway across Beyon. It underscores our proactive role in addressing environmental challenges and driving innovative solutions for a greener future."



# CAMPUS

## campus

# Bhavans-Bahrain Indian School Ignites Cultural Spirit with Hindi Diwas Celebrations



**Manama**

In a vibrant display of linguistic pride and cultural celebration, Bhavans- Bahrain Indian School (BIS) marked Hindi Diwas with an engaging and memorable event that brought together students, staff, and management. The programme commenced on a cheerful note with the school prayer in Hindi, instilling a sense of unity and reverence among all present. This was followed by a heartfelt Quran recitation and the stirring Bahrain National Anthem, setting the tone for an inspiring day.

The celebration further gained depth with addresses from the esteemed directors, Mr. Himanshu Verma and Mrs. Ritu Verma, who elaborated on the critical role of language in the cognitive development of a child, inspiring students and educators alike to cherish linguistic skills as a tool for holistic learning.

Principal Mr. Saji Jacob captivated the audience with an intriguing speech, emphasising the importance of nurturing a love for language and highlighting Hindi as a medium to connect with heritage and culture.

The cultural segment of the programme enthralled everyone with poem recitations, speeches in Hindi, a one-act play, and craft activities, which showcased the creativity, talent, and enthusiasm of the students. The auditorium reverberated with energy, laughter, and applause, making the event both educational and entertaining.

The celebration concluded on a patriotic and harmonious note reminding the power of language to inspire, educate, and unite, fostering both cultural appreciation and cognitive growth among students.

# Bhavans BIS honours Kindergarten Olympiad winners



**Manama**

Bhavans Bahrain Indian School (BIS) hosted the Kindergarten National Olympiad Foundation Level 2 medal distribution in a vibrant and exciting event.

It was a momentous occasion that brought together students and educators to celebrate the accomplishments of our young learners. The much-anticipated National Olympiad Foundation Junior (NOF ) medals and certificates for level 2 were proudly awarded to the children, marking a significant milestone in their educational journey.

National Olympiad Foundation is a gamified assessment platform where questions are asked with voice support assistance which makes this assessment entertaining and engaging.

Students ranging from Pre-Kg to Kg-II participated in this International level Olympiad. Students secured gold medals in English, Math, Science and phonics as subjects. Aditi Anoop from Pre-Kg, Disha Arun from Kg-I, Mohammed Ayaan, Surohi Shringrishi and Inaaya Ann Rafi secured topper mementos as a reward for securing international rank 1 in various subjects.

School Directors Mr. Himanshu Verma and Mrs. Ritu Verma expressed their admiration for the students, noting their boundless curiosity and remarkable growth. "Today, we celebrate not just the awards but the spirit of exploration and learning that these children embody. Their enthusiasm inspires us all," remarked Mr. Himanshu Verma.

School Principal Mr. Saji Jacob also extended his heartfelt congratulations to all the winners, emphasizing the importance of fostering a supportive and encouraging environment for young learners. "Each child's achievement is a reflection of their unique journey, and we are proud to guide them as they discover their passions and potential," stated Mr. Jacob.



# India’s AI-Driven Climate Adaptation: A New Dawn for Monsoon Resilience

**TDT | agencies**

The monsoon has always been more than a season for India: it is a lifeline. Yet, as climate change disrupts rainfall patterns, what was once predictable has become precarious. This year’s unusual monsoon, with its early arrival and a rare midseason hiatus, illustrates just how fragile agricultural rhythms have become. But this year was also different for another reason: millions of Indian farmers had artificial intelligence on their side.

From Supercomputers to Smartphones

For decades, accurate weather forecasting was a privilege afforded only to governments and well-funded institutions, reliant on hundred-million-dollar supercomputers and massive datasets. But AI has begun to dismantle that exclusivity. With open-source models like Google’s NeuralGCM and the European Center for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts’s AI systems, highly granular predictions are now possible on devices as modest as a farmer’s smartphone.

This democratization of forecasting is not just technological innovation—it is a political and social breakthrough. In India, where smallholder farmers make up the bulk of the agricultural workforce, the government sent AI-driven forecasts to 38 million farmers this monsoon season. That number is staggering, not just because of its scale but because of its precision. Rather than offering broad weather summaries, forecasts were tailored to the needs of individual farmers: whether to plant early, buy more seed, or prepare for drought-like pauses.

“Up until very recently, to run a weather model, you needed a 100 million-dollar supercomputer,” Google Research’s Olivia Graham explained. Today, Parasnath Tiwari, a farmer in Madhya Pradesh, can receive predictive rainfall alerts on his phone. This shift represents more than efficiency—it is empowerment.

The Promise of Democratized Forecasting

What makes India’s experi-



ment remarkable is not merely its technological sophistication but its accessibility. Weather forecasting, once dominated by elite institutions, is now being reframed as a public good. Researchers at the University of Chicago, working with the Indian government, helped bridge the gap between machine learning outputs and actionable advice. As Amir Jina, an assistant professor involved in the project, observed: “What dots hadn’t been connected before was this tailoring of forecast to purpose.”

That tailoring matters. A generic national forecast might warn of heavy rains, but a farmer in Bihar needs to know whether to delay planting rice seedlings, while a sugarcane grower in Maharashtra must decide whether to irrigate fields ahead of schedule. By delivering locally relevant insights, AI makes forecasting meaningful.

This democratization also creates a template for global adaptation. If India can deploy AI-driven forecasts at scale for some of the world’s poorest farmers, then other developing

nations may follow suit. In the face of climate change, information is not just power—it is survival.

**The High Stakes of Climate Volatility**

The urgency could not be greater. Climate change threatens to destabilize India’s agriculture sector, which supports nearly half of the country’s population. Irregular monsoons disrupt sowing schedules, reduce yields, and imperil livelihoods. Michael Kremer, a Nobel laureate economist who studies agriculture in developing countries, underscores the stakes: “Climate change is really threatening their livelihoods in many cases.”

This year’s monsoon provided a live stress test. The early onset suggested abundant rains ahead, but the 20-day midseason stall left crops vulnerable. The AI forecast’s accuracy in predicting this hiatus allowed farmers to adapt, buying time and avoiding catastrophic losses. That precision may well have saved lives and incomes.

Such resilience is vital for In-

dia’s food security. Crops like rice, wheat, and sugar cane form not just the backbone of rural economies but also the diet of hundreds of millions. When weather falters, hunger looms. AI, then, is not merely a convenience—it is an instrument of national security.

Private Sector Innovation and Public Sector Reach

India’s initiative also signals a broader shift: climate adaptation is no longer solely the realm of governments. Technology companies and startups are accelerating innovation. Microsoft’s Aurora model, for instance, joins a growing commercial industry focused on AI weather forecasting. Meanwhile, corporations across sectors are installing mini weather stations to protect operations and supply chains from climate volatility.

Yet India’s program stands apart because of its emphasis on equity. By leveraging open-source AI and government networks, forecasts reached farmers who would otherwise be excluded from private sector tools. The lesson is clear: when

innovation is paired with public infrastructure, it amplifies resilience at scale.

This is not to say private enterprise lacks a role. Startups can refine hyperlocal forecasts, companies can build complementary data-gathering hardware, and multinationals can deploy AI expertise. But the Indian case shows that governments must ensure that access to life-saving forecasts is universal, not market-driven.

Global Lessons from India

India’s AI-powered adaptation offers lessons for the world, especially for countries grappling with agricultural vulnerabilities. First, open-source technology is essential. By removing barriers to entry, it enables broader participation in climate adaptation. Second, localization matters. Forecasts must be translated into actionable insights relevant to specific crops and geographies. Third, collaboration is key. Governments, universities, and technology companies each bring unique strengths, but only together can they deliver at scale.

These lessons are particu-

larly urgent given the fragility of weather data infrastructure elsewhere. In the United States, cuts to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration under the Trump administration raised alarms about data availability. If even wealthy nations face gaps, the case for collaborative, open-source, AI-driven forecasting grows stronger.

**Risks and Responsibilities**

Of course, AI is not a panacea. Its models are only as good as the data that trains them. Historical rainfall data may not always capture the novel extremes of a warming climate. Moreover, over-reliance on AI could create new vulnerabilities if forecasts fail. A missed prediction in the midst of climate chaos could have devastating consequences.

There are also ethical questions. Who owns the data collected from farmers? How is it used, and who profits from it? Ensuring that AI remains a tool for empowerment, rather than exploitation, will require transparent governance and safeguards.

Yet, these risks should not obscure the promise. The alternative—leaving millions of farmers to navigate increasingly erratic weather armed only with intuition and tradition—is untenable.

A Future of Climate Adaptation Powered by AI

India’s AI-driven monsoon forecasting initiative embodies a broader truth: climate adaptation requires innovation at scale, grounded in inclusivity. By bringing cutting-edge technology to the fingertips of the world’s most vulnerable farmers, India has shown how artificial intelligence can serve as a bridge between global scientific advances and local survival strategies.

The monsoon will remain fickle, and climate change will continue to amplify uncertainty. But with AI as an ally, India’s farmers have gained not just forecasts, but foresight. And in the struggle against climate change, foresight may be the most precious resource of all.

# Trump says US has ‘knocked off’ three boats off Venezuela

Washington, United States

US President Donald Trump on Tuesday said his country had “knocked off” three boats in total from Venezuela, a day after he confirmed a second deadly US strike on alleged drug traffickers in the Caribbean.

“We knocked off actually three boats not two, but you saw two,” he told reporters at the White House before heading to the United Kingdom for a state visit.

He did not elaborate on what had happened with the third boat, or if any more people had been killed.

On Monday



evening, he announced that US forces had struck a second boat in international waters, killing three people he described as “narco-terrorists.”

Trump’s administration has faced questions over the legality of such strikes since its first attack earlier this month, which killed 11 people.

The US government has released videos of the two previously known strikes and claims it has irrefutable evidence the people killed were traffickers seeking to ship deadly drugs to the United States.

It has not, however, provided details to back up those claims, while drug trafficking itself is not a capital offense under US law.

The attacks also comes amid spiraling tensions in



Picture for representation only

the Caribbean as a large US naval build-up sparks speculation that Washington may be seeking regime change in Caracas.

The United States accuses Venezuelan leader Nicolas Maduro of heading a cocaine

trafficking cartel and recently doubled its bounty for his capture to \$50 million.

Much of the international community rejected Maduro’s July 2024 re-election, with the opposition claiming widespread

fraud.

“Stop sending drugs into the United States,” Trump said, in response to a reporter who asked him what message he wanted to send to Venezuelan President Maduro.



News in brief

◆ **China urged Tokyo and Washington yesterday** to withdraw the US-developed Typhon missile system, after it was unveiled in Japan for the first time during joint military exercises. Japan and the United States began the “Resolute Dragon” military drills on Thursday, and they will last until September 25. Tokyo’s defence ministry said on X. Japan’s Self-Defense Forces confirmed to AFP that the missile system had been showcased for the first time in the country over the course of the exercises, though it said the weapon would not be fired. Beijing’s foreign ministry on Tuesday called on the United States and Japan to “promptly withdraw” the missile system. “The United States and Japan, disregarding China’s solemn concerns, have insisted on deploying the Typhon mid-range missile system in Japan under the pretext of joint exercises,” spokesman Lin Jian told reporters at a regular briefing. “China expresses strong dissatisfaction and firm opposition to this,” he added.



**China urges US, Japan to withdraw Typhon missile system**

◆ **Colombia yesterday** halted arms purchases from the United States after Washington decertified the South American country as an ally in the fight against drugs. Colombian Interior Minister Armando Benedetti told Blu Radio that “from this moment on... weapons will not be purchased from the United States.” On Monday, President Donald Trump denounced his leftist Colombian counterpart Gustavo Petro for not only failing to curb cocaine production, but overseeing its surge to “all-time records.” “Colombia has been a great partner historically. Unfortunately, they have a president now that, in addition to being erratic, has not been a very good partner when it comes to taking on the drug cartels,” Secretary of State Marco Rubio, a harsh critic of leftist leaders in Latin America, said on a visit to Israel. A defiant Petro, who has crossed swords with Trump on the deportation of migrants, hit back, saying that the Colombian military would end its dependence on “handouts” from the United States.

◆ **Donald Trump** filed a \$15 billion defamation lawsuit against The New York Times on Monday, adding to the US president’s growing list of legal attacks on news organizations. Trump, 79, has intensified his long-established hostility toward the media since his return to the White House, repeatedly badmouthing journalists critical of his administration, restricting access and bringing lawsuits demanding huge amounts of compensation. In his suit filed Monday in federal court in Florida, Trump accuses The New York Times of a “decades-long pattern” of smears driven by feelings of “actual malice.”



**SPOTLIGHT**  
**Trump heads for landmark state visit with ‘friend’ King Charles**



US President Donald Trump and First Lady Melania Trump (L) walk to board Air Force One at Joint Base Andrews, Maryland

**London, United Kingdom**  
US President Donald Trump left for a historic second state visit to Britain Tuesday -- but political controversies, wars and tariffs threatened to cloud the pomp and pageantry.  
Britain is rolling out its royal family in a bid to woo the mercurial Trump, with security tight as protesters gear up to make their voices heard against the 79-year-old.  
Trump, whose mother was Scottish and who has long been fascinated by the British monarchy, was full of praise for his “friend” King Charles III as he left Washington.  
The Republican is the first US president to be invited for two state visits, after previously being hosted by Queen Eliz-

abeth II during his last term in office in 2019.  
“Charles, as you know, who’s now king, is my friend,” Trump told reporters at the White House before leaving hand-in-hand with First Lady Melania Trump. “He’s such an elegant gentleman and he represents the country so well.”  
But Trump indicated that embattled Prime Minister Keir Starmer will still have his work cut out as Britain seeks to put the finishing touches on a deal to avoid the US president’s sweeping global tariffs.  
“They want to see if they can refine the trade deal a little bit,” Trump said.  
Controversies over sex offender Jeffrey Epstein and free-speech culture wars, and Starmer’s political troubles at home could also make for some awkward moments.

A convoy of Israeli tanks is deployed at Israel’s border with the Gaza Strip



**‘Assault’**

**Israel launches ground assault on Gaza City**

- **Rubio on Monday offered robust backing for the offensive**
- **Military estimated there were 2,000-3,000 Hamas fighters operating**
- **A United Nations probe meanwhile charged Israel with committing “genocide”**

AFP | Gaza City, Palestinian Territories

Israel launched its long anticipated ground assault on Gaza City before dawn yesterday, shortly after visiting US Secretary of State Marco Rubio backed its goal of eradicating Hamas in Gaza.  
A United Nations probe meanwhile charged Israel with committing “genocide” in the Palestinian territory and accused Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and other top officials of incitement.  
The assault drew widespread condemnation, with the UN rights chief demanding an end to the “carnage”.

**UN investigators say Israel committing genocide in Gaza**

Geneva, Switzerland

United Nations investigators yesterday accused Israel of committing genocide in Gaza in a bid to “destroy the Palestinians”, accusing Israel’s prime minister and other top officials of incitement.  
The UN Independent International Commission of Inquiry (COI), which does not speak on behalf of the world body, found that “genocide is occurring in Gaza”, commission chief Navi Pillay told AFP.  
“The responsibility lies with the State of Israel.”  
The bombshell report, immediately slammed by Israel, marks the first time a UN-mandated investigative body has concluded the country is committing genocide.  
The UN itself has not labelled the situation in Gaza a genocide,

but Pillay said she believed the facts presented by the commission should prompt “high-level leaders at the United Nations also to call this what it is, the genocide”.  
After the report was published, UN rights chief Volker Turk said it was up to the courts to determine whether genocide was taking place, but warned: “We see the evidence mounting.”  
Israel “categorically” rejected Tuesday’s report, with the foreign ministry describing it as “distorted and false” and calling “for the immediate abolition of this Commission of Inquiry”.



During the night, the military unleashed a massive bombardment of Gaza City as Israeli troops moved deeper into the

territory’s largest urban hub.  
“Last night, we transitioned into the next phase, the main phase of the plan for Gaza City... Forces have expanded ground activity into Hamas’s main stronghold in Gaza, which is Gaza City,” a military official told journalists.  
“We are moving towards the centre” of Gaza City, he said.  
The military estimated there were 2,000-3,000 Hamas fighters operating in the area, he added.  
Defence Minister Israel Katz earlier said Gaza City was “on fire”. “The IDF (Israeli military) is striking terrorist infrastructure with an iron fist,” he said.  
The military estimated that about “40 percent” of Gaza City residents had left and moved to the territory’s south, the military official said.  
Witnesses told AFP of relentless bombing in Gaza City, much of which is already in ruins after nearly two years of Israeli strikes.  
Only huge piles of rubble remained of a residential block in the north of the city hit by overnight bombing.  
“Why kill children sleeping safely like that, turning them into body parts?” said Abu Abd Zaqout.  
“We pulled the children out in pieces.”



Smoke billowing amid Israeli bombardment of the besieged Palestinian territory





Displaced Palestinians move with their belongings southwards on a road in the Nuseirat refugee camp area in the central Gaza Strip



# ‘Carnage’

UN rights chief demands end to ‘carnage’

AFP | Geneva, Switzerland

The UN rights chief yesterday condemned Israel’s ground assault on Gaza City as “utterly unacceptable”, demanding an end to the “carnage” and warning of growing evidence of genocide in the Palestinian territory.

“It is absolutely clear that this carnage must stop,” United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk told AFP and Reuters when asked about the launch of Israel’s long-anticipated ground assault on Gaza’s largest city.

“The whole world screams for peace. Palestinians, Israelis scream for peace. Everyone wants an end to this, and what we see is a further escalation which is totally and utterly unacceptable,” he said.

Turk highlighted that in recent days “we have seen expanding attacks in the north-western parts of Gaza, where the population had sought shelter from previous attacks.” Israeli military vehicles by the border fence in the besieged Palestinian territory

“The whole world screams for peace. Palestinians, Israelis scream for peace. Everyone wants an end to this, and what we see is a further escalation which is totally and utterly unacceptable

UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS VOLKER TURK

Trump warns Hamas of ‘big trouble’ if they use hostages as human shields

Washington, United States

US President Donald Trump said yesterday that Hamas would be in “big trouble” if they use hostages in Gaza as human shields during a new offensive launched by Israel.

He decried in particular “the ongoing bombardment of residential buildings, buildings that have served as shelters for people who have been displaced multiple times”.

“We’ll wait to hear what happens, because I hear Hamas is trying to use the old human shield deal, and if they do that they’re going to be in big trouble,” Trump told reporters when asked about Israel’s offensive.

“These attacks need to stop.” He pointed out that the Israeli military “repeatedly claimed that it is targeting so-called terrorist infrastructure”.

“So far, we haven’t seen any evidence of this,” he stressed, emphasising that “under the

rules of war, an attack may never be targeted at civilians who are not taking part in hostilities.”

The UN rights chief stressed that “the people of Gaza cannot sustain yet another intensification of violence and destruction and killings and lack of humanitarian assistance that needs to come.”

“I can only think of what it means for women, malnourished children, for people with disabilities, if they are again attacked in this way,” he said.

Turk’s comments came after an independent team of UN investigators published a report concluding that Israel was committing genocide in its war in Gaza, which erupted following Hamas’s October 7, 2023, attack inside Israel.

“We see the piling up of war crime after war crime after war crime, of crime against humanity, and potentially even more,” Turk said said.

“It’s for the court to decide whether it’s genocide or not, and we see the evidence mounting.”

YOU  
KNOW WHAT

The October 2023 attack by Hamas resulted in the deaths of 1,219 people, most of them civilians, according to an AFP tally of official figures. Israel’s retaliatory campaign in Gaza has killed at least 64,964 people, also mostly civilians, according to figures from the territory’s health ministry that the United Nations considers reliable.

EU says Israel’s  
Gaza City assault  
spells ‘death’,  
‘destruction’

Brussels, Belgium

The European Union warned yesterday that Israel’s ground assault on Gaza City will add to the toll of death and destruction, and worsen an already “catastrophic” humanitarian situation in the territory.

“The EU has consistently urged Israel not to intensify its operation in Gaza City,” EU spokesman Anouar El Anouni said.

“A military intervention will lead to more destruction, more death and more displacement, and we have been clear that this will also aggravate the already catastrophic humanitarian situation and also endangers the lives of hostages,” he said.

Brussels is expected Wednesday to put forward proposals for a raft of measures against Israel over the war in Gaza.

EU chief Ursula von der Leyen said last week they would include suspending the trade parts of a cooperation agreement and sanctioning “extremist” Israeli ministers.

But it will be very difficult to get the measures through given deep divisions between the European Union’s 27 countries over Israel’s war in Gaza.

Israel’s Gaza City  
assault ‘reckless  
and appalling’: UK  
FM

London, United Kingdom

British foreign minister Yvette Cooper yesterday condemned Israel’s ground assault on Gaza City as “utterly reckless and appalling”, calling instead for an immediate ceasefire.

“It will only bring more bloodshed, kill more innocent civilians and endanger the remaining hostages,” she said in a post on X.

Israel strikes rebel-  
held Yemeni port  
after evacuation  
warnings

Hodeida, Yemen

Israel struck Yemen’s Huthi-held Hodeida port yesterday, saying it targeted infrastructure used by the Iran-backed rebels, who reported a dozen strikes on the area.

Israel has stepped up attacks on the Huthis, killing their prime minister and nearly half of his cabinet last month and leaving dozens dead in strikes last week mainly targeting the rebels’ military media operation.

The rebels’ Al-Masirah television said “12 Israeli enemy air strikes targeted the port of Hodeida”.



TOP  
4  
TWEETS

01



The healing of the ozone layer reminds us when we heed the warnings of science, progress is possible. Yet, we are hurtling towards pushing global temperature rise above 1.5°C. This #OzoneDay, let’s recommit to preserving our ozone layer & to protecting people & planet.

@antonioguterres

02



Had a very good conversation with Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen of Denmark today. We reaffirmed our strong commitment to strengthening our Green Strategic Partnership and to an early conclusion of the India-EU Free Trade Agreement.

@narendramodi

03



I made a promise that as Prime Minister, I would bring in the Hillsborough Law, making sure the state can never hide from the people they are supposed to serve. Today, I make good on that promise.

@10DowningStreet

04



My son Eric’s just Mout book, “UNDER SIEGE,” immediately went to NUMBER ONE on Amazon. Great going Eric, you deserve it!!!

@realDonaldTrump

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



# Rubio vows ‘strong support’ for Qatar after Israel strike

closed door talks that lasted just under an hour

- Rubio had earlier said the United States would work with Qatar to finalise a defence agreement soon
- Trump told reporters in Washington that Netanyahu “won’t be hitting” Qatar again
- In 2012, Qatar agreed to host the Hamas political bureau with US blessing

AFP | Doha, Qatar



Qatar's Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani and Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani meet with US Secretary of State Marco Rubio and US Charge d'Affaires in Doha Stefanie Altman-Winan at the Amiri Diwan in Doha

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio pledged strong support for Qatar's security on a lightning visit yesterday, as anger boils in the Gulf ally over last week's Israeli attack on Hamas negotiators.

On a hastily arranged stop in Doha after a visit to Israel, Rubio shook hands with Qatar's emir, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, in his office before entering closed door talks that lasted just under an hour.

He flew out straight after the meeting.

In Israel, he had pledged “unwavering support” even after it angered US allies in the Gulf by

targeting Hamas negotiators in Doha.

“Secretary Rubio reaffirmed the strong bilateral relationship between the United States and Qatar, and thanked Qatar for its efforts to end the war in Gaza and bring all hostages home,” said State Department spokesman Tommy Pigott.

Rubio “reiterated America's strong support for Qatar's security and sovereignty,” he added.

Rubio had earlier said the United States would work with Qatar to finalise a defence agree-

ment soon despite the Israeli military action.

Speaking to reporters on Tuesday, Qatar's foreign ministry spokesman, Majed al-Ansari said his country appreciated US support for its mediation efforts, adding that “this attack, of course, expedited the need for renewed strategic defence agreements between us and the US”.

Rubio had earlier said he would “ask Qatar to continue to do what they've done” adding that “if there's any country in

the world that could help end this through a negotiation, it's Qatar”.

But Israel's launch of its long anticipated ground assault on Gaza City early Tuesday left little scope for any new mediation bid. Rubio's visit also sought to reassure Qatar after the Israeli strikes undermined security pledges to the Gulf emirate from its key ally.

Rubio landed in Qatar a day after an Arab-Islamic summit in Doha condemned Israel for the strikes, with the head of the

six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council urging Washington to “use its leverage and influence” to rein in Israel.

President Donald Trump told reporters in Washington that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu “won't be hitting” Qatar again.

Rubio made no such comments in Israel.

Netanyahu said his government assumes “full responsibility” for the attack on Doha “because we believe that terrorists should not be given a haven”.

## Duelling US relationships

The tiny gas-rich emirate is classified by Washington as a major non-NATO ally, and has assiduously courted Trump, gifting him a luxury plane.

Before the October 2023 attack, Israel and the United States had reportedly quietly encouraged Doha's role, including its transfer of millions of dollars to Hamas in hopes of maintaining stability in Gaza.

In 2012, Qatar agreed to host the Hamas political bureau with US blessing.

Both the United States and Israel viewed Qatar, with its close relationship with Washington, as a better place to keep an eye on Hamas.



Qatar is home to the largest US air base in the Middle East and is the forward base of Central Command, the US military command responsible for the region.

## 'We pulled the children out in pieces': Israel pummels Gaza City

AFP | Gaza City, Palestinian Territories

As drones buzzed overhead in the morning sun, Palestinians gently lifted from the rubble a blanket holding a body, the latest casualty of Israel's relentless bombardment of Gaza City.

The devastating scene is a familiar one in the Gaza Strip's main urban hub, where Israel has carried out intensifying strikes in the runup to the ground assault it launched on Tuesday.

Overnight bombing reduced a residential block in the north of the city to mounds of rubble. One man squeezed his head and hand beneath a concrete slab in a desperate search for survivors.

“There were about 50 people inside, including women and children. I don't know why they bombed it,” said Abu Abd Zaqout, adding it had housed his uncle's family.

“Why kill children sleeping safely like that, turning them into body parts?” he added.

“We pulled the children out in pieces.”

In a statement, the Zaqout family said 23 of its members were killed in the strike on their home.

A sea of destruction sur-



Palestinian men carry the shrouded bodies of children killed in Israeli strikes on Gaza City at dawn,

rounded the site of the strike, with those aiding the rescue effort dwarfed by mounds of crushed concrete and metal.

One family attempted to load belongings into a car parked on a barely usable debris-strewn road nearby.

“At night they bombed an entire quarter, three houses and the neighbouring houses,” said Gaza City resident Mohammed al-Bardawil.

“All of (the dead) are children, elderly people and women. They are all under the rubble.”

Gaza's civil defence agency -- a rescue force operating under Hamas authority -- said at least 12 bodies had been recovered

after more than eight hours of search operations at the site.

When contacted by AFP, the Israeli military said it would try to look into the report.

Media restrictions in the territory and difficulties in accessing many areas mean AFP is unable to independently verify the details and tolls provided by the civil defence agency or the Israeli military.

**'No humanity left'**

Israel on Tuesday said it had launched its long-anticipated ground assault on Gaza City, where it said its troops were moving deeper into the centre.

The United Nations recently

estimated nearly one million people lived in Gaza City and its surroundings, from where Israel has repeatedly warned people to evacuate southwards.

An Israeli military official estimated more than 350,000 people had fled the city ahead of the ground offensive.

Ibrahim Al-Besheiti, a 35-year-old resident of Gaza City's Al-Sabra neighbourhood told AFP the situation was “already catastrophic”.

“The sound of aircraft never stops -- quadcopters and warplanes constantly fill the sky. We're extremely afraid, and many people around us have already fled. We don't know what will happen to us,” he said.

Besheiti said the overnight bombing near his house was so intense that the pressure shattered its windows and blew doors off their frames.

“We heard screaming from under the rubble,” he said.

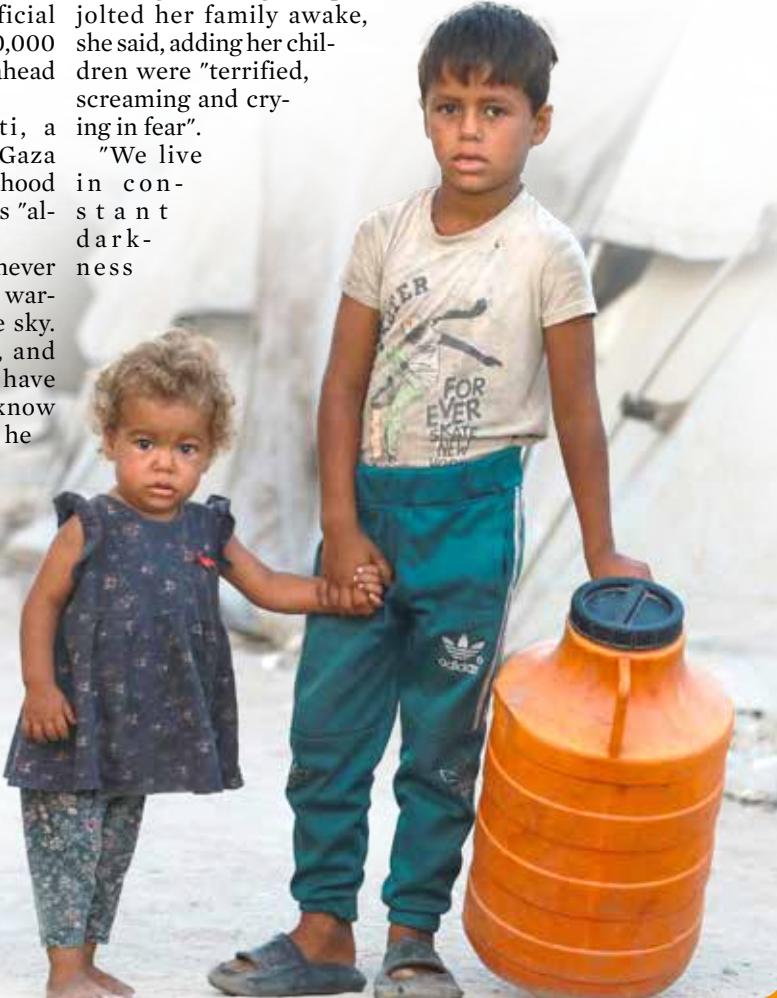
“This repeated scene terrifies us and proves to us that there's no humanity left in this world.”

In the northern Sheikh Radwan neighbourhood, 38-year-old

Maysa Abu Jamaa said gunfire from military vehicles, drone fire and artillery shelling were constant.

A huge overnight explosion jolted her family awake, she said, adding her children were “terrified, screaming and crying in fear”.

“We live in constant darkness and see no way out.”





# celebs

## Benedict Cumberbatch likes to ‘disguise himself’ when out in public

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Benedict Cumberbatch likes to “disguise” himself when he’s out in public with his family so they can have their “privacy”.

The Sherlock star is married to actress/director Sophie Hunter and they are parents to three sons and Benedict, 49, admits he doesn’t want to draw attention to them when they are out

and about admitting he loves Halloween because he can wear a mask without looking strange.

During an appearance on the Dish podcast, he explained: “My favourite is Halloween. I went as [Star Wars character] Chewbacca last year and it was just great.

“I was dancing along to the music that a Michael Jackson impersonator was playing, but I couldn’t really see where I was. “The Michael Jackson im-

personator was getting really angry ‘cause I was sort of coming towards his cardboard, and people were turning from focusing on him to dancing Chewbacca there.

“And, and he was apparently going: ‘Hee hee! Hee hee!’ Somewhere someone might have that on-the, the t’interweb.”

The actor went on to add: “But you know, I think, to be honest, when it comes to this sort of thing, or a premiere or

just, you know, being in a theatre or something, you’re in a theatre, that’s the natural habitat of an actor, even if you’re the other side of it-and in the audience, and I don’t bother disguising myself.

“With my family, I try to [disguise myself] because I do not want the attention drawn on them. I want them to have the right to their privacy-and their time.

“But apart from that, I just have to own it. It takes an effort

though.

“It’s very weird walking into a room and everyone - well, a lot of people might recognise you, you don’t know anyone.”

Benedict was joined on the podcast by his The Roses co-star Olivia Colman, and she revealed fans often approach her and ask for pictures even when she’s in the bathroom.

She said: “[They do it

Benedict Cumberbatch



## Jennifer Lopez recalls missing out on Evita role to Madonna

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Jennifer Lopez spent “weeks” preparing to play Evita - before Madonna landed the part.

The 56-year-old singer was desperate to play Eva Peron, the Argentine politician and activist, in the 1996 biographical musical drama film, and Jennifer felt devastated when the role was awarded to Madonna instead.

Speaking during a question-and-answer session, Jennifer shared: “I went to audition for Evita for [director] Alan Parker.

“I had been practising

for weeks and I sing my heart out and he goes, ‘You’re amazing. You know Madonna has the part, right?’

“I said, ‘OK, bye-bye. Nice to meet you.’”

Jennifer is currently starring in the big screen adaptation of Kiss of the Spider Woman, the new musical drama film.

The actress is fulfilling a long-held ambition by starring in a musical film, but she still felt a little overwhelmed when director Bill Condon asked her to perform one of the movie’s more elaborate songs in one take.

Jennifer shared: “I was like, ‘We’ll do some coverage?’ He was like, ‘Nope, no coverage.’

“I was like, ‘I better get it right then.’ Like halfway

through the take it’s going perfectly and then you trip on your dress or whatever so it’s like, maybe we start over.

“It was challenging. It was challenging in that way, time wise, as independent films can be, right? It’s the time, it’s the prep, it’s the, you know, budget. All of it were constraints for us.”

Meanwhile, Jennifer admitted earlier this year that she feels “proud” of her career.

The chart-topping star - who has enjoyed huge success in the music and film industries - reflected on her career arc ahead of hosting the American Music Awards in May.

Jennifer told People: “Everything feels like I just did it.

## Taylor Swift won’t be deposed in Lively / Baldoni trial, judge rules

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Taylor Swift has agreed to be deposed in the Justin Baldoni / Blake Lively legal battle.

The 35-year-old popstar - who got engaged to NFL star Travis Kelce last month - has reportedly “agreed to appear for deposition” but is unable to do so until October 20 due to “Ms. Swift’s preexisting professional obligations,” according to Baldoni’s attorney Bryan Freedman.

In a letter to Lewis J. Liman, the U.S. District Judge overseeing the case, which was filed by Freedman and obtained by PEOPLE, he claimed a requested extension was solely to take Swift’s deposition.

He wrote: “Ms. Lively misleadingly implies the Wayfarer Parties seek a blanket thirty-day extension of the discovery cut-off date.

“In fact, the Wayfarer Parties requested an agreement solely to take the deposition of Taylor Swift during the week of October 20-25.”

The case, Blake Lively v. Wayfarer Studios LLC, et al, is scheduled to go to trial in March 2026,



A judge has ruled Taylor Swift will not have to sit for a deposition in Blake Lively and Justin Baldoni’s ongoing legal case

with all depositions due to be completed by September 30.

This came after it was ruled in June that Baldoni’s legal team could have access to messages between Lively and Swift.

The 37-year-old actress is suing her It Ends With Us co-star and director for harassment and accusing him of creating a hostile work environment on set, which he has denied, while his countersuit accusing Lively and her husband Ryan Reynolds of defamation was dismissed by Judge Liman.

And, E! News previously reported that judge ruled texts between Lively and Swift are “relevant” to the case.



## Pierce Brosnan regrets quitting theatre after landing James Bond role

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Pierce Brosnan regrets turning his back on the theatre after landing his role as James Bond.

The 72-year-old actor started his career onstage before winning a part in TV show Remington Steele in the 1980s and then being signed up to play 007 in the mid-1990s - and Brosnan has now revealed he wishes he went back to his theatre roots after ending his career-defining turn as the superspy like his successor Daniel Craig did.

Brosnan told The Guardian newspaper: “[My acting teacher Chris-

topher Fettes] wanted me doing obscure 19th-century plays, but my dream was always movies ...

“I was impressed that Daniel had the bottle to go back out there. I thought: ‘Why the heck didn’t I?’ You have to really want it, and I didn’t.”

He added: “It’s essential to be creative outside of Bond.”

Craig - who took over the role of Bond from Brosnan - continued working in theatre during his breaks from making the 007 movies taking on roles on Broadway including star turns in productions of A Steady Rain in 2009, Harold Pinter’s Betrayal in 2013 and an off-Broadway version of

Othello in 2016.

After releasing his final Bond movie - No Time To Die - in 2021 Craig then went back to the stage for another Shakespearean role playing the lead in a production of Macbeth in 2022.

Brosnan’s first major acting role after leaving drama school was in the London premiere of Tennessee Williams’ The Red Devil Battery Sign in 1977 after initially being hired as an understudy and then promoted to the main cast by the playwright himself - and the actor reveals Williams sent him a special message after opening night.

Pierce Brosnan



### SUDOKU

			7	9	3			
7		3	5		4			1
	6					7		
	7					3		
	5	4	2		9	6	7	
		2					5	
		7					3	
8			6		2	4		5
			3	4	1			

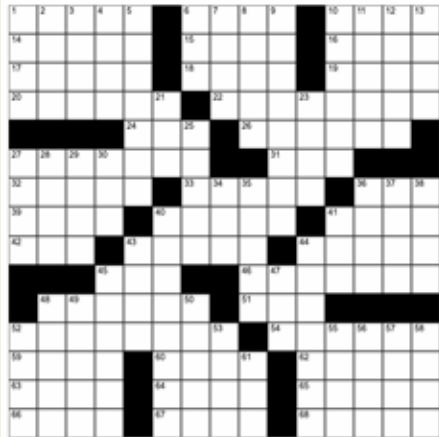
Yesterday’s solution

8	7	5	4	6	3	9	2	1
3	2	6	9	1	7	4	5	8
1	9	4	5	2	8	3	7	6
9	6	3	8	4	2	5	1	7
7	4	2	1	5	6	8	9	3
5	1	8	7	3	9	6	4	2
6	5	9	3	7	1	2	8	4
4	3	7	2	8	5	1	6	9
2	8	1	6	9	4	7	3	5

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.

### CROSSWORD



Across

1- Foil maker; 6- Reverberate; 10- Tortoise racer; 14- Existence; 15- Baseball’s Felipe; 16- Three Lives; 17- Boredom; 18- Tirade; 19- Exultation; 20- Midday nap; 22- Military cafeteria; 24- Cooling units, for short; 26- Refines, as ore; 27- Add sugar; 31- takers; 32- Croatian; 33- Scrub (a mission); 36- Ad committee; 39- Thick slice; 40- Foremost part; 41- Grandma; 42- Ave. crossers; 43- Later!; 44- Batman’s hilarious nemesis, with “the”; 45- Are you a man mouse?; 46- Noisiest; 48- Capital of Zimbabwe; 51- Once around the track; 52- Cabbage salad; 54- Washed lightly; 59- Indigo source; 60- French summers; 62- Name; 63- Legumes; 64- Hang-up; 65- Gay; 66- Wall St. institution; 67- Put in order; 68- Marry again;

Down

1- Burrows and Vigoda; 2- Director Riefenstahl; 3- Movie theater; 4- Burden of proof; 5- Restless (music); 6- Auditory apparatus; 7- Edible mollusk; 8- Sharpens; 9- Baffle; 10- Extremely; 11- once; 12- Country dances; 13- Pulitzer-winning biographer Leon; 21- “Ventura” was played by Jim Carrey; 23- Transmitted; 25- Animal trap; 27- Flat sound; 28- Lash mark; 29- Historic periods; 30- Backward tidal movement; 34- Son; 35- fours (crawling); 36- Codlike fish; 37- Individuals; 38- Wagon; 40- Intrepid; 41- Silent assent; 43- Ladies of Spain; Abbr.; 44- Fifth planet; 45- Ultimatum words; 47- Sculler’s need; 48- Bee stuff; 49- AKA; 50- Jack Sprat could fat; 52- Crunch; 53- Don; 55- Baseball team; 56- Put away; 57- Popular fashion magazine; 58- Six feet under; 61- Cpl.’s superior;

Yesterday’s solution





# Classifieds

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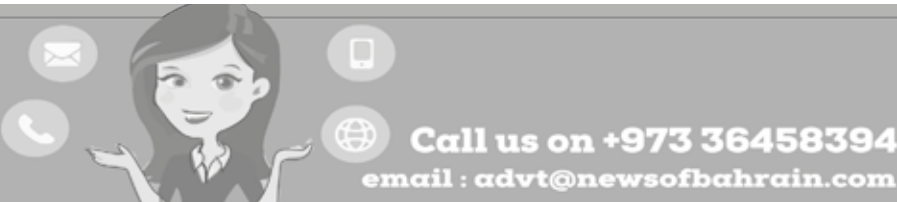
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SYED LAREB CLEANING AND PEST CONTROL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35039322 or SYEDCLEANING2022@GMAIL.COM



# Classifieds



## VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

SHARYAR INTERNATIONAL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36806463 or SHARYARKHANSHARYAR064@GMAIL.COM

D S D CARGO BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER-PACKER-(BOXES-HAND-), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33728455 or DAILI55161@GMAIL.COM

POWER TECH DEVELOPMENT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39279042 or gm@powertechdevelopment.com

BABRI BANDA FOR WATER AND ICE STATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36900125 or HAMZA460908ABA@GMAIL.COM

ABSHER PROPRTEY SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 37344481 or ABSHER.BH@GMAIL.COM

ALMADINA GOLD SMITH has a vacancy for the occupation of JEWELRY GOLDSMITH (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36299953 or abdulaziz-ahmed@live.com

SPEEDY ADVICE SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER-CLEANING-(HAND & CHEMICAL SOLUTIONS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33422370 or AWAISCH3333@HOTMAIL.COM

SUPER SEVEN CARS ACCESSORIES has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34175700 or ALTAJCLEARANCE@GMAIL.COM

CHAUDHARY COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34649636 or CHB1702@GMAIL.COM

Royal Tower Construction has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17262118 or JAFFAR.BAGARD@GMAIL.COM

BRICK SMART HOSPITALITY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE WORKER HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37772467 or MDBARI2005@GMAIL.COM

LUCKY COLLECTION BOUTIQUE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33410020 or ALNAHEA.BOUTIQUE@GMAIL.COM

SKYBLUE CLEANING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39283004 or SANANSOHAIB953@GMAIL.COM

AL HAFIZ ELECTRONICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICAL WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35913202 or MUHAMMADRIAZASHRAF23@GMAIL.COM

SUNDARBAN SALES AND TRADING CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER-EDGE SAWYER-(WOOD), suitably qualified applicants can contact 66366340 or ARAH18577@GMAIL.COM

MANDARIN CHINESE RESTAURANT CO has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17259775 or ARAMANA7RTS@GMAIL.COM  
AL KOOHEJI ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS & CONSTRUCTION WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17701711 or lmra@kecc.me

GULF WEALTH TRADERS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39688377 or ALKHALDI.SAAD66@GMAIL.COM

DREAM PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or HRD@DREAMGROUP.BH

DREAM PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or HRD@DREAMGROUP.BH

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

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

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

DREAM PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or HRD@DREAMGROUP.BH

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

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

MURAD PROFIX W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34447555 or MURAD-PROFIX@GMAIL.COM

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

FLEXIS BUSSIXIS CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66613536 or ABUA-ZLAN@YAHOO.COM

MULTIFORM TRADING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37000786 or SAIFEE@MULTIFORMCO.COM  
ALTADHAMON CONSTRUCTION ESTABLISHMENT has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17677211 or ATCE1977@OUT-LOOK.COM

Abdulaal Cleaning & Maintenance Company W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17404101 or SMALACME@GMAIL.COM

NEW DIMENSION CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77999360 or FISHERMANSENSE@GMAIL.COM

GILLES & GARDIN CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (FINANCIAL AFFAIRS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 66767073 or JOCELYN.KOAY03@GMAIL.COM

GESIS QUALITY FOR TECHNICAL TESTING AND ANALYSIS SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39864040 or EYMANAC2012@GMAIL.COM

INTERNATIONAL MARKETING COMPANY W.L.L CLEANTECH has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36636640 or HANANKHALAF84@GMAIL.COM

MEHBOOB INTERIOR DECORATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE BOY / FARRASH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36923607 or WAHABAMIR2001@GMAIL.COM

IRON ROOTS FABRICATIONS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32210430 or IRONROOTSFABRICATIONBH@GMAIL.COM

Al Helli Supermarket B.S.C Closed has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17877209 or hanan@ALHELLI.COM

Al Helli Supermarket B.S.C Closed has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17877209 or hanan@ALHELLI.COM

Al Helli Supermarket B.S.C Closed has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17877209 or hanan@ALHELLI.COM

LIBERAL CONSTRUCTION, LLC BRANCH OF A FOREIGN COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of ADMINISTRATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17000574 or BAHRAIN@LIBERALCO.COM

cafeateria alu naseeb has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37778494 or AHMEDFASIH555@GMAIL.COM

CYPRUS CYBARCO TABET JV W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (PROJECT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17224545 or cct@cct-bh.com

ESTECHNIQUE SOLUTIONS WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICAL SERVICE ADVISER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17252868 or HARI@ESTECME.COM

INTEGRATED WATER SYSTEMS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE REPRESENTATIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17730701 or INFO@IWS-E.NET

International Medical Centre WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39461743 or MKSADMN@GMAIL.COM

Dyna Contracting has a vacancy for the occupation of GARDENER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33713871 or dyna.bh@gmail.com

OPINION DOOR REAL ESTATE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37981800 or MF2814567@GMAIL.COM

GULF FENCING & SPECIALIST SURFACING EST. has a vacancy for the occupation of AGRICULTURE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17591197 or rasha@gfss.com.bh

BU SAUSAGE SANDWICHES has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36631919 or MAHDI@CHEFTAHERI.COM

BAHRAIN ASPHALT ESTABLISHMENT B.S.C CLOSED has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17551111 or MOHAMED.ABUALI@HAJIHASSAN.COM

ARROW EXPRESS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36819991 or ARROWEXPRESS.BH@GMAIL.COM

WADI ALSAIL GATE CONSTRUCTION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33367000 or wadibahrain@gmail.com

ALLAQ RESORT COMPANY BSC CLOSED SOFITEL BAHRAIN ZALLAQ THALA has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17631660 or ahmed@jazayani.com

EMAN KEFAH Line Contracting Bahraini Partnership Company has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17382277 or alialmdob2@gmail.com

ALLAQ RESORT COMPANY BSC CLOSED SOFITEL BAHRAIN ZALLAQ THALA has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17631660 or ahmed@jazayani.com

SAVOY GRANDE HOTEL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32250282 or HIREN@BRUPCO.COM

Ansar Gallery W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of STORE LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17140000 or PR@AG-BH.COM

Nidukki Trading Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17456218 or OPERATIONS@NIDUKKI.BH

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

FARQAN CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE BOY / FARRASH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33239564 or USMANNASIR449@GMAIL.COM

SEL MIDDLE EAST W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICAL ENGINEER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17587077 or JASSIM\_ALHAMAD@SELINC.COM

FIELDCORE SERVICE SOLUTIONS INTERNATIONAL LLC - Branch of a Foreign Company has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICAL SERVICE ADVISER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17291195 or FAHED.FAQIH@GE.COM

MAGIC SHINE CLEANING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17345051 or info@magicshinebh.com

ABU NOORA MARKETING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 35327272 or ISCOOLGUY93@GMAIL.COM

MANIK ABDUS SATTAR INETRIOR DECOR W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33236468 or MANIKMDM28@GMAIL.COM

ISA TOWERS CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36633480 or essatowers@gmail.com

NASHWA INTERIOR DECORATION has a vacancy for the occupation of DECORATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39554198 or HABOOB\_1991@HOTMAIL.COM

MUBASHIR RAFIQ CONSTRUCTION OF FLOATING STRUCTURES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE BOY / FARRASH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33568806 or IMADSHEIK087@GMAIL.COM

PARBAT JEWELLERY DESIGN has a vacancy for the occupation of JEWELRY GOLDSMITH

(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33229242 or AWAIS.BASHIR94@HOTMAIL.COM

ORPI CONTRACTING AND CLEANING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36861658 or MDAZADMAHAMUD8@GMAIL.COM

AL HIWRI FISHING EQUIPMENT CENTRE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33225661 or BARISTACAFE.BH@GMAIL.COM

CREOMOD SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DECORATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33148296 or am969903@gmail.com

CHAPY ENGRAVERS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ADMINISTRATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77903299 or RONALD@CHAPYSOCIAL.COM

NEON BURGER W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33733123 or AZIZ\_GH2011@HOTMAIL.COM

LIKE BAJWA CONTRACTING CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37356898 or FZ.BAJWA786@GMAIL.COM

Fasteners For Repairing Air Conditioners has a vacancy for the occupation of AIR-CONDITIONING TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36634333 or hameedthabet30@gmail.com

DESI HUB BAHRAIN RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33595836 or WSAEED214@GMAIL.COM

Sage And Sirloin - The Deli Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17611242 or TARIQ@SAGEANDSIRLOIN.COM

AL SHARIF GENTS SALON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35495060 or SAJIDAMJAD786@GMAIL.COM

RAJPOT BAKERY has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39888023 or CHSHAFIQ581@GMAIL.COM

Rocky Road Contracting CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34336752 or EHSANMASOOD500@GMAIL.COM

WEJDAN TURKISH HAIR DRESSING SALON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39559392 or WEJDANSALONTA-HIR@GMAIL.COM

NIDHAS CAFETERIA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CASHIER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33248553 or NIDHASCATETIEA@GMAIL.COM

NEW LOOK CONSTRUCTION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33800568 or venkatabi138@gmail.com

JERRY YING TRADING CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39755899 or Z.GERRY88@GMAIL.COM

RADHAWI ICE CRAM has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(JUICE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39916618 or AG-DCLMRA@GMAIL.COM

SCOOP CARS TO BUY AND SELL CARS has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36778778 or HERR.ALGHATAM@GMAIL.COM

MJD CLEANING AND FACILITY SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of LIGHT VEHICLE DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77087232 or info@mjdgroupbh.com

FALAFEL SHABAN RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CASHIER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36114202 or ALKHABBAZBH@GMAIL.COM

MJD CLEANING AND FACILITY SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77087232 or info@mjdgroupbh.com

BRIGHT STAR DECOR W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MACHINE OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36767307 or FAYAZ171@GMAIL.COM

Rizana Restaurant has a vacancy for the occupation of BAKER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39111800 or RIZANATRADING786@GMAIL.COM

ALTAITON CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact

17234225 or TAITOON1@BATELCO.COM.BH

AZLAN BLUE STREAM LAUNDRY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKERS(LAUNDRY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33221189 or AMINASHAH9412@GMAIL.COM

AL HEJARAH RESTURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of FOOD SERVICE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39672580 or alharamppm@gmail.com

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

SAMARA TOUCHES FASHION has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39893138 or QAS1971SIM@OUTLOOK.COM

MASHAREQ DESGIN LINE FOR PRINTING AND STATIONARY has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39290088 or ALMAD-HAIF@GMAIL.COM

VG APPAREL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66606040 or BAHRAINHOPE22@GMAIL.COM

BAHRAIN TOURISM COMPANY - CROWNE PLAZA BAHRAIN W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17746318 or Hassan.Ali@crowneplazabahrain.com

PINK SADAF CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33879006 or PINKSADAF91@GMAIL.COM

SUITING PARK FASHION DESIGN CO - BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP CO has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33443481 or NURMOHAMMED1988@GMAIL.COM

Evershine Jewellery W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17005949 or SHINEJEWEL@HOTMAIL.COM

ABN AL NAFIS PALACE TAILORING - BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66664123 or DEEPUMLAN4123@GMAIL.COM

FOOD WORLD W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66677333 or FOOD-WORLD.WLL@GMAIL.COM

SKY GATE MOBILES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35456756 or YACHU541@GMAIL.COM

FOOD WORLD W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66677333 or FOOD-WORLD.WLL@GMAIL.COM

FOOD WORLD W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66677333 or FOOD-WORLD.WLL@GMAIL.COM

mashaer market 4 has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17776486 or MASHAER-MARKET4@GMAIL.COM

FORCE POINT SECURITY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66767587 or Forceps17@gmail.com

MODERN VILLAGE GATE DECOR has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39779098 or ALQARYAFURNITURE@GMAIL.COM

SPEED LINE INTERIOR W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DECORATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39120650 or ABUZDAAN786@GMAIL.COM

ANNA CAFE & BAKERY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17716316 or AL-WALIOFC@HOTMAIL.COM

MJ CLASSIC SHAWARMA has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36933330 or JAFFAR.BUHUSSAIN@GMAIL.COM

UAAZ DECOR W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33007661 or DEXOOM.BH@GMAIL.COM

WHITE BIRD FOR CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34571338 or KHALIL-RAEES@YAHOO.COM

Seven Energy W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SERVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17500791 or hr@seven-energy.com

MANSOOR JASIM MHMD SHOWAITER SWEETS TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for

the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33102646 or ANARATHBASITH@GMAIL.COM

ALQAYSARIYA SWEETS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39025069 or MUNAWARADC@GMAIL.COM

BAHRAIN CONTRACTING & ELECTRONIC SERVICE has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39650990 or Bcesbahrain@yahoo.com

LIFE LINE STEEL AND ALUMINIUM FABRICATION WORKSHOP BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35004589 or LITONHANNAN@GMAIL.COM

QSMART MOBILE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17240128 or ALZAEEM.Z@HOTMAIL.COM

REGAL MAINTENANCE & SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17448936 or regal@rmswll.com

M N M REAL ESTATE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33667324 or ABDULMALIKFIAZ1@GMAIL.COM

AKKAWI AND ZAATAR has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(JUICE & SANDWICHES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39937414 or BSAM3248@GMAIL.COM

ACQRATE SOLUTIONS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANT(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 35538897 or vbhask@gmail.com

GLOBAL DC SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17008891 or HR@DC.BH

AFAAQ ALKALIJ EXCAVATION & BUILDING EQUIPMENTS RENNATL W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(HEAVY VEHICLE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 13644244 or m.anan@afaaghb.com

Triple seven repair of machinery W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39869701 or triple7.bh@gmail.com

B. TO CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (PROJECT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17727676 or ageel@basma.com.bh

PARKERS RESTAURANT BRANCH OF A FOREIGN COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER (RESTURANTS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39550408 or GRM@NDPT.COM

Azal gate for car accessories and tires has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33072010 or AL\_OMADAH13@HOTMAIL.COM

Weldz fabrication W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLERK, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39291730 or jaisonan-drew@hotmail.com

v.m. & bros WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of STORE LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39989907 or info@vmbros.com

PLATO UPHOLSTERY has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33898726 or ALBAA-SITCONTRACTING@GMAIL.COM

ALI HUSSAIN QAMBAR ABDULLA has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17230063 or habibalstores@gmail.com

HIJBANI CARGO HANDLING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE WORKER HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36485455 or ZAINSANA6018888@GMAIL.COM

ALHELAL AND GOLDEN STAR FACTORY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17253953 or alhelalbahrain@gmail.com

ALSHAJJAR AUTO SPARE PARTS has a vacancy for the occupation of GARAGE MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39456166 or KJIL@HOTMAIL.COM

BOMBAY SWEETS AND TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17274067 or AHMEDSWEETS92@GMAIL.COM

DOWNTOWN ROTANA HOTEL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of RECEPTIONIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17110196 or gro.majestic@rotana.com



## Classifieds

### VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

WOLAYAT ALI GRILLS AND RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(KEBAB), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17177777 or Ali.alqattan999@gmail.com

NASFAH FOR MEN SEWING AND ACCESSORIES has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37707719 or SADEQ9210@GMAIL.COM

CREOMOD SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(PAINT FINISHER), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33148296 or am969903@gmail.com

SABAZU MIDDLE EAST CO WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE REPRESENTATIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33539414 or BH@SABAZU.COM

A.M. YATEEM BROS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17225450 or utilities@amyateem.com

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

SAUDI GEOPHYSICAL CONSULTING OFFICE COMPANY BRANCH OF A FOREIGN COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33326575 or PUBLICRELATION@SAUDIGEOPHYSICAL.COM

NOVAR BUILDING CONSTRUCTION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37222150 or NOVARBH@YAHOO.COM

KAINAN SA MANAMA RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17233962 or KAINANSAMANAMA@GMAIL.COM

NOVAR BUILDING CONSTRUCTION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PLUMBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37222150 or NOVARBH@YAHOO.COM

SPORTCO JOY ACADEMY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of INSTRUCTOR(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 37772318 or sportco.bh@gmail.com

RAWO INTERIOR DECORATION BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35025016 or SAIDJUNED54@GMAIL.COM

ANDROMEDA SERVICES CO BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35350765 or SAQLAIN00723@GMAIL.COM

BELGRADE LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39441637 or DESIHANDRESAURANT@GMAIL.COM

AALOO GATE SHABIR CAFETERIA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36651705 or ASIM4022@GMAIL.COM

JAMILA AKHTAR CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17346157 or jac.servicesbh@gmail.com

ARABIAN NAKHLA AGRICULTURE GLOBAL SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(GARDENING), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36999938 or huhun888@yahoo.com

BREEZEE AUTO SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39445823 or NAHYANO000NASSER@GMAIL.COMV

Busaiten Optician Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36466383 or optiala@yahoo.com

First Choice Cleaning Services Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36491411 or MURTAZAWALI100@GMAIL.COM

BILAL ADVERTISING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35981541 or BILAAZFALBH01@GMAIL.COM

# Bahrain to host Wrestling Worlds

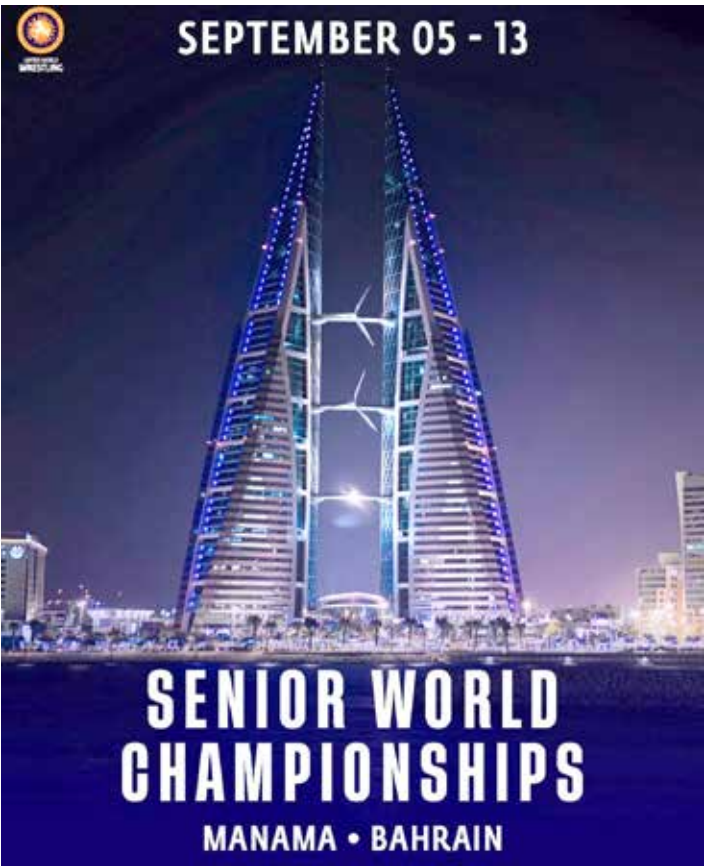
Manama to stage first Arab edition of the event in 2026

- 2026 World Championships set for Manama
- Wrestling development at grassroots central to plans
- Event follows Bahrain hosting Asian Youth Games

TDT | Manama

Bahrain will make history as the first Arab nation to host the World Wrestling Championships in 2026, United World Wrestling (UWW) announced yesterday. The event is scheduled to take place in Manama from 5 to 13 September.

The announcement was made during the ongoing World Championships in Zagreb by



**Tahzudinov won Paris Olympic gold for Bahrain**

UWW president Nenad Lalovic and Bahrain Olympic Committee secretary general Faris Al Kooheji, who signed the official hosting agreement.

Bahrain has emerged as a growing force in the sport, led by Olympic and world champion Akhmed Tahzudinov. The 97kg athlete claimed gold at the Paris 2024 Olympics and previously won the world title, as well as multiple Asian and Ranking Series events.

Speaking at the press conference, Lalovic said Bahrain's focus on developing local wres-

tlers, inspired by Tahzudinov, was a key factor in awarding the championships to the Gulf nation. "They have the experience and the facilities to stage a world-class event," he said.

Al Kooheji said the tournament would help expand wrestling at grassroots level. "Tahzudinov's success has inspired many young people locally," he said. "Hosting the World Championships will allow us to further develop the sport, including introducing wrestling into schools."

The championships are expected to attract international spectators from across Asia and beyond, providing a boost to tourism and giving the local community a chance to engage with the sport at the highest level.

Bahrain will also host the Asian Youth Games in October, which will feature wrestling events, giving organisers valuable experience ahead of next year's Worlds.

## Revamped Bayern face early test as Chelsea come to town

- Kane criticizes squad depth ahead of Champions League opener
- Four key forwards left in summer
- Diaz shines with strong start
- Musiala, Davies sidelined long-term

AFP | Munich

Bayern Munich's revamped line-up faces an early test in their Champions League opener at home against Club World Cup winners Chelsea today.

A rematch of the 2012 final at the same venue, won on penalties by the English club, Bayern have little time to settle after a summer of upheaval, particularly up front.

Forwards Leroy Sane, Kingsley Coman, Thomas Mueller and Mathys Tel all left in the summer. Only two replacements have been brought in: Luis Diaz, from Liverpool, and Nicolas Jackson, from Chelsea on loan.

With Jamal Musiala and Alphonso Davies out with long-term injuries, the lack of summer activity earned Bayern some rare criticism from talisman Harry Kane.

Not known for controversial statements, the 32-year-old Kane called Bayern's squad "thin", adding "maybe one of the smallest I've had in my career."

With four goals and two assists in his opening five games, Diaz has hit the ground running in Germany.

But Chelsea, crowned Cup World Cup winners after a dominant display against Paris Saint-Germain just two months ago, are likely to pose a sterner test.

Like Chelsea, Bayern are expected to make it out of the league phase but have their sights set on qualifying directly and avoiding another two-legged knockout tie.



Bayern Munich's players including Colombian forward #14 Luis Diaz (2nd R) and Bayern Munich's German defender #04 Jonathan Tah (R) take part in a training session

Last year, Bayern finished 12th and struggled to get past Celtic, winning 3-2 on aggregate.

Kane admitted on Saturday the extra burden cut their momentum later in the season.

"It's important to be in the top eight because that extra game can make a big difference.

"Last year, playing that Celtic game home and away in our busiest period, it made a big difference, and we ended up losing a few players after that period in March.

"It's important to start well."

Just over 13 years since Chelsea upset Bayern in their own backyard, both sides have since won another Champions League title.

Mueller's summer departure leaves Bayern captain Manuel Neuer as the only player from either team set to take part on Wednesday.

### Jackson's 'hard role to play'

Jackson came off the bench in his Bayern debut on Saturday and is unlikely to start against his parent club on Wednesday.

But moments after Jackson's debut, the England captain said the Senegal striker was more



**Bayern Munich captain Manuel Neuer is the only player from either side who is expected to play in the Champions League rematch after competing in the 2012 final**

than just a "back-up."

"I think a lot of people assume that, but he's someone who can play across the whole front four, and I think there'll be many times we'll play together.

"I don't see him as a back-up -- I see him as an attacking player who can help us."

With Kane, Diaz, Michael Olise and Serge Gnabry impressing for Bayern this season, Jackson will have limited opportunities at first -- a difficult task for a

player often criticised for missing crucial chances.

It is a role familiar to former Bayern striker Claudio Pizarro, who became a super-sub behind Mario Gomez, Mario Mandzukic and later Robert Lewandowski during a near 15-year association with the club.

Pizarro, who also had a stint at Chelsea, told AFP in Berlin on Saturday: "In my situation during my time at Bayern, I knew my job.

"I have to come in, score my goals, be ready to do my thing when I have the chance.

"It's a hard role to play. I hope (Jackson) will adapt like Luis (Diaz)."

A six-time German champion, Pizarro said Jackson's arrival could unleash healthy competition like that which drove Bayern to the treble in 2013, a year after the painful loss to Chelsea. Pizarro revealed how the rivalry between his former teammates Arjen Robben and Franck Ribery on each wing pushed Bayern to greater heights.

"One wanted to be the best, the other as well: Franck and Arjen. They were great for us, but they always wanted to be better than the other.

## Zandvoort, Singapore to host F1 sprints for first time in 2026



A general view of track action during the F1 Grand Prix of Netherlands at Circuit Zandvoort

AFP | London

Zandvoort, Singapore and Montreal will host sprint races for the first time in 2026, Formula One and the sport's governing body the FIA announced yesterday.

These three venues will join Shanghai and Miami, which have staged the Saturday dashes for the past two seasons, and Silverstone, which last hosted a sprint in 2021.

Next season will be the sixth year of the sprint format which has proved a popular addition to a race weekend.

Sprint qualifying takes place on Friday after the first practice session, with the sprint race and qualifying for Sunday's main grand prix on the Saturday.

Sprint race winners get eight points down to one point for the driver finishing eighth.

Shanghai will get the 2026 sprint season up and running at the March 13-15 Chinese Grand Prix, followed by Miami (May 1-3), Canada (May 22-24), Silverstone (July 3-5), Zandvoort (August 21-23) and Singapore (October 9-11).

F1 boss Stefano Domenicali said: "The F1 Sprint has continued to grow in positive impact and popularity since it was introduced in 2021.



# Muharraq, Khaldiya kick off ACL Two campaigns

Bahraini giants launch Asian group stage matches today

- Muharraq take on Al Wehdat
- Al Khaldiya face Qatar's Al Ahli
- ACL Two group stage runs till December

TDT | Manama

Bahrain's Muharraq and Al Khaldiya are set for their opening fixtures in the 2025-26 AFC Champions League (ACL) Two, Asia's second-tier club competition. Both clubs will play their first matches today in the group stage.

Muharraq, crowned champions of the 2024-25 Bahrain Premier League, return to continental action in the ACL Two's new format. Twice winners of the competition in its former AFC Cup form (2008 and 2021), they are drawn in Group A alongside Al Wehdat (Jordan), Al Wasl (UAE), and Esteghlal (Iran).

The Reds open against Al Wehdat at Shaikh Ali bin Mohammed bin Isa Al Khalifa Stadium in Arad, with kick-off set for 9:15 PM. Muharraq's squad includes Sanad, Jameel, Waleed, Benaddi, Morellato, Sheroqi, Alhardan, Tobares, Almaloed, Sofiane, Lazar, Hanan, Ra-beea, Hussain, Diarra, Jaafar, Lutfalla, Olivera, Albanna, Santos, Alkhukasi, Juninho, Rezende, and Simoes.

King's Cup holders Al Khaldiya return for a second straight ACL Two season. Drawn in Group B with



**BETTER YOU KNOW**

Muharraq twice lifted the AFC Cup in 2008, 2021



Muharraq players bond ahead of match at The Avenues, Bahrain

also includes Sepahan (Iran), Mohun Bagan (India), and Al Nassr (Saudi Arabia). East Asian groups feature teams from China, Japan, South Korea, and Australia. The group stage continues until December 24, with knock-outs early next year and the final on May 16, 2026.

# PSG fear impact of injuries as they put Champions League title on the line

Reigning champions host Atalanta amid concerns over squad fatigue and mounting injuries

- Title defence begins under injury cloud
- Heavy 65-game season taking toll
- Dembele, Doue sidelined with injuries
- Only minor squad reinforcements added

AFP | Paris

There is the sense that the new season gets up and running for real this week for Paris Saint-Germain as they begin their defence of the Champions League title amid doubts as to how much longer their squad can handle being pushed to the limit by a crowded calendar.

PSG host Atalanta on Wednesday for their first game in Europe, three and a half months after their stunning 5-0 destruction of Inter Milan in last season's final in Munich.

Luis Enrique's team will also entertain Bayern, Tottenham Hotspur and Newcastle United in the league phase, with trips to Barcelona, Bayer Leverkusen, Athletic Bilbao and to Lisbon to face Sporting on the horizon too.

Those are tough games, although PSG's poor start in last season's Champions League has shown that they might not need to be at their very best immediately.



Paris Saint-Germain's Moroccan defender #02 Achraf Hakimi lifts the trophy as Paris Saint-Germain celebrate winning the 2025 UEFA Super Cup final

The French champions lost three of eight league phase games last season, but still won Europe's elite club competition for the first time following a dazzling run of form from the turn of the year.

The concern now, however, is that last season's exertions could catch up with them and seriously jeopardise their chances of retaining the trophy.

The Parisians played 65 games during 2024/25, in a season spanning 11 months. That included 17 matches in the Champions League and seven in the Club World Cup, where their

**19**

PSG players played over 1,000 minutes last season, highlighting the heavy workload and potential risk of injuries and fatigue

marathon campaign concluded with a 3-0 loss to Chelsea in mid-July.

Three weeks later they were back for pre-season training, and

a week after that they started the new campaign against Tottenham in the UEFA Super Cup.

Fast forward a month and PSG -- who won the Super Cup on penalties -- have won their first four games in Ligue 1 but it looks like the recent efforts are beginning to catch up with them.

Ballon d'Or favourite Ousmane Dembele and Desire Doue are out for several weeks with muscle injuries suffered playing for France, while Khvicha Kvaratskhelia, Lee Kang-in and Lucas Beraldo came off hurt in Sunday's 2-0 victory over Lens.

"It happens to everyone. It

**BETTER YOU KNOW**

PSG played 65 matches across 11 months last season - including 17 Champions League games and 7 Club World Cup matches - before starting this campaign just three weeks later

is a bit of a difficult time for us because we have a lot of players injured," said Luis Enrique, the coach with his own arm in a sling after fracturing a collarbone in a cycling accident.

"I am calm about it and I hope we will manage to overcome it."

It is not solely luck that PSG avoided serious injuries last season, owing much to the coach's management of the squad.

**Hakimi in the red zone?**

Nineteen PSG players played more than 1,000 minutes in 2024/25, the same number as Real Madrid and Barcelona for example.

But the Club World Cup, often played in searing heat and involving numerous long journeys across the United States, had to take a toll.

PSG used 19 players in that competition, while Chelsea fielded 27 -- the French side looked rinsed in the final and

were torn apart.

If they do go to the latter stages of the Champions League again, PSG are looking at playing at least 55 games this season, including the FIFA Intercontinental Cup in December.

And there is a World Cup coming at the end of the season, where a large bulk of PSG's players will be present.

The year is set to be even more intense for Achraf Hakimi, who played more minutes than anyone else for PSG last season -- he will also feature heavily for Morocco as they host the Africa Cup of Nations in December and January.

Hakimi has no natural understudy at right-back at PSG, who surprisingly opted not to add significant depth to their squad in the transfer window, signing only one new centre-back in Illia Zabarnyi, while Lucas Chevalier replaced Gianluigi Donnarumma in goal.

"Injuries to high-profile players are only one visible part of the workload crisis facing professional football and are not surprising," said global players' union FIFPro last week.

"The impact is not felt just by the players but increasingly also by clubs, national teams, fans and national competitions."

Yet despite the concerns, there is huge excitement at PSG as they put their title on the line in Europe.

"It is a special moment. We know how difficult this competition is, but we are relaxed about it and we are hoping to put in a good performance in our first game," said Luis Enrique.



# Naser books Tokyo 400m final

Bahrain's sprint star targets gold at World Championships

- Salwa Eid Naser competes in 400m final tomorrow
- Winfred Yavi faces Cherotich in steeplechase today
- 400m final Thursday 4:24 PM, steeplechase 3:37 PM

TDI | Manama

Bahrain's Salwa Eid Naser comfortably secured her place in the women's 400 metres final at the World Athletics Championships 2025 in Tokyo after a fantastic semi-final performance. Across the three heats, the first two athletes in each heat (Q) plus the two fastest times (q) advanced to the final.

Naser's 49.47s in Heat 2 not only secured automatic qualification but also placed her among the fastest overall. The 400m final is scheduled for tomorrow at 4:24 PM Bahrain time.

**Yavi, Cherotich Renew Rivalry**

Meanwhile, Bahrain's Winfred Yavi, reigning world and Olympic champion, is set for the women's 3,000m steeplechase final today at 3:37 PM Bahrain time. She will face Kenya's Olympic bronze medalist Faith Cherotich, who has consistently



Naser explodes off the line at the start



Salwa Eid Naser (R) sprints past her rivals in yesterday's semis

BETTER  
YOU  
KNOW

Naser fastest across all semi-final heats

pushed Yavi in Diamond League contests and other international meets this season.

On Monday, Yavi, Cherotich,

Semi-finals result
Heat 1: Natalia Bukowiecka (POL) 49.67 Q, Marileidy Paulino (DOM) 49.82 Q
Heat 2: Salwa Eid Naser (BRN) 49.47 Q, Roxana Gómez (CUB) 49.78 Q
Heat 3: Sydney McLaughlin-Levrone (USA) 48.29 Q, Amber Anning (GBR) 49.38 Q

and Ugandan Olympic gold medallist Peruth Chemutai all won their heats to book spots in Tokyo's final. Cherotich, nicknamed "Small Faith" for her explosive racing style, won Heat 1 in 9:13.95, edging former world champion Norah Jeruto. Last month at the Oslo Diamond League, Cherotich out-kicked Yavi to a world-leading 9:02.60, with Yavi second in 9:02.76.

## Barca to stay at Johan Cruyff stadium for Getafe clash



Cranes surround Barcelona's Camp Nou Stadium

AFP | Barcelona

Barcelona will host Getafe in La Liga at their tiny Johan Cruyff training ground stadium on Sunday as they work to obtain permits to reopen their revamped Camp Nou home.

The Spanish champions thrashed Valencia 6-0 at the Johan Cruyff on Sunday in their first home match of the season after playing away for three consecutive games.

"The club continues to work intensely to obtain the administrative permits required for the opening of the Spotify Camp Nou in the coming weeks," said Barca in a statement yesterday.

The Catalan giants intend

to partially reopen Camp Nou with a reduced capacity as rebuilding work continues at the stadium, which is due to be completed in 2026.

The Johan Cruyff stadium, where Barca's women's team regularly plays, holds around 6,000 spectators.

Barcelona closed the Camp Nou for building work at the end of the 2022/23 season, saying they would partially reopen the stadium in November 2024.

They played their home matches at the Olympic stadium on the city's Montjuic hill until the end of last season, as the return date was repeatedly pushed back because of delays in construction and problems obtaining licenses.

# Bahrain off to flying start in Asian Handball Championship



Action from the match

● U17s crush Hong Kong 54-24, Mahmood Ali stars

TDI | Manama

The Bahrain U17 handball team opened their campaign at the Asian Men's U-17

Championship in Amman with a 54-24 win over Hong Kong yesterday.

The tournament, which runs until 25 September, features 13 teams and also serves as a qualifier for the 2025 IHF Men's U17 World Championship, to be held in Casablanca, Morocco from 24 October to 1 November. Only the top two teams, the finalists, will secure tickets to the world stage.



Action from the match

Bahrain U17s, drawn in Group A alongside Kuwait and Hong Kong, led 21-11 at half-time through strong defensive organization and extended their advantage in the second half, sealing their first three points.

Mahmood Ali was named Best Player of the Match after a standout performance.

Bahrain will face Kuwait at 1 PM today, with the top two teams in the group advancing to the main round of the competition.