

Huawei leads Bahrain's 5G-AI transformation

Regional tech edge deepens

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STEVEN YI, HUAWEI SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

● Huawei inks Bahrain pact

● AI networks to expand

● National digital shift boosted

Mahir Haneef
TDT | Manama

Huawei has deepened its role in shaping the region's digital future by signing a strategic partnership in Bahrain that will spearhead the deployment of next-generation 5G-Advanced and AI-powered technologies. The agreement with stc Bahrain reinforces Huawei's position as a global leader in driving smart connectivity and intelligent infrastructure across the GCC.

The partnership, signed on Sunday, aims to transform Bah-



rain into a regional benchmark for 5G-A and AI integration. Huawei will lead efforts to deliver personalised digital services, smarter private networks and real-time enterprise tools that redefine industry standards.

Accelerating digital innovation

At the core of the agreement is Huawei's commitment to

pushing the boundaries of what next-generation networks can deliver. The collaboration covers joint R&D, product innovation and the deployment of AI-driven Mobile Private Networks across key sectors such as logistics, manufacturing and critical infrastructure.

"This partnership reflects our shared vision for innova-

tion through 5G-Advanced and AI," said Steven Yi, Huawei Senior Vice President. "Together, we will deliver transformative technologies that empower industries, enable new services and support Bahrain's national ambitions."

Smart networks and enterprise tools

Huawei's technology will drive network optimisation, cloud-edge integration and intelligent automation, enabling faster service delivery and advanced connectivity for businesses. The deployment of AI-powered private networks is expected to bring mission-critical reliability, lower latency and improved efficiency to a wide

range of industries.

stc Bahrain, acting as a local partner, will contribute market insights and implementation capacity. Its leadership welcomed the opportunity to collaborate with Huawei on building future-ready services for the Kingdom.

Investing in Bahrain's future

In addition to infrastructure, the agreement prioritises talent development and ecosystem growth. Huawei plans to support local innovation by offering AI training programmes and collaborative research, helping to cultivate a new generation of Bahraini tech professionals.

For Huawei, this milestone reaffirms its regional leadership in emerging technologies. For Bahrain, it marks a major leap toward building a resilient, AI-driven digital economy that is ready to lead in the Gulf and beyond.



Huawei invested over USD 22 billion in research and development in 2023, making it one of the top global spenders in next-generation technologies.

Indian PM visits Croatia with EU trade on agenda

AFP | Zagreb, Croatia

Narendra Modi will visit Croatia today, the first time an Indian prime minister has toured the Balkan nation, in a sign of increasing ties with the European Union.

Modi will visit the EU member on his way back from the G7 Summit in Canada, following an earlier stop in Cyprus.

Croatian newspaper Vecernji List reported on Tuesday that a key focus of discussions will be a proposed trade route between Europe, the Middle East and India -- an investment touted to rival Beijing's Belt and Road Initiative.

"As the first visit by an Indian prime minister to Croatia, it will open new avenues for bilateral cooperation," Modi said in a statement ahead of the trip.

He will meet Croatian counterpart Andrej Plenkovic and President Zoran Milanovic in Zagreb during a visit that was initially scheduled for mid-May, but got pushed back because



Modi said he held wide-ranging talks with President Nikos Christodoulides, covering the full range of India-Cyprus relations in a tweet. "It's widely known that bilateral ties between our nations are time-tested. Today, we talked about cooperation in areas like defence, security, trade, technology, healthcare, renewable energy and climate justice."

of an escalation in tensions between India and Pakistan.

European leaders are increasingly looking to other trading partners in response to US President Donald Trump's imposition of tariffs on the bloc, which are

now flagged to increase in July.

The EU is India's second-largest trading partner, accounting for 120 billion euros (US\$138 billion) worth of trade in goods in 2024 -- more than 11 percent of total Indian trade, according



Landed in Calgary, Canada, to take part in the G7 Summit. Will be meeting various leaders at the Summit and sharing my thoughts on important global issues. Will also be emphasising the priorities of the Global South, Modi wrote in a tweet to the EU.

First proposed in 2023, the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor would be a railway and maritime route linking the regions and is seen

as a potential counter to growing Chinese investment.

Although trade between India and Croatia remains relatively small, Croatia, suffering from a chronic workforce shortage,

has been attracting more Indian workers.

China has pumped billions of dollars into the Balkans in recent years to expand its economic footprint in central Europe.