

**Tanzid, Rishad power Bangladesh to series win against Sri Lanka**  
 Bangladesh chase down Sri Lanka's target of 235 with four wickets in hand | P12

# THE DAILY tribune

**Alcaraz tops Medvedev to repeat as Indian Wells champion** **11 SPORTS**

**BUSINESS 5** NBB announces exclusive sponsorship of 'The Latry' Radio programme

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**Support for national youth workforce**



In commemoration of Bahrain Youth Day, held annually on March 25, the Cabinet affirmed the Kingdom's commitment to supporting the national workforce to continue contributing to the comprehensive development, led by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa. This came as His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, yesterday chaired the weekly Cabinet Meeting at Gudaibiya Palace. (Full report on Page 2)

**HM King receives French President's written message on bilateral ties**  
 TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa received a written message from French President Emmanuel Macron regarding close bilateral relations, enhancing cooperation, in addition to regional and international developments. French Ambassador to Bahrain, His Excellency Eric Giraud-Telme, delivered the message to HM the King at Al Safriya Palace yesterday. His Majesty commended the strong and historic strategic partnership relations between Bahrain and France, emphasising mutual support and keenness to achieve common interests.

**Legal institute's 'fake' account**  
 TDT | Manama

The Judicial & Legal Studies Institute has issued a cautionary notice concerning the emergence of a fraudulent account impersonating the institute on the Instagram platform. This imposter account has been engaging with individuals, soliciting personal information, or inviting them to join a WhatsApp "group." The institute emphasised that it never solicits personal data from users. Legal actions are underway to address this fraudulent account.

# Feed Gaza now

**Urgent global call to action as UN warns of 'imminent famine' threatening Palestine's northern territory**  
 AFP | Rome

Half of Gazans are experiencing "catastrophic" hunger, with famine projected to hit the north of the territory by May unless there is urgent intervention, a United Nations-backed food security assessment warned yesterday. "People in Gaza are starving to death right now. The speed at which this man-made hunger and malnutrition crisis has ripped through Gaza is terrifying," said Cindy McCain, head of the UN's World Food Programme (WFP). The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) partnership yesterday estimated that 1.1 million people - half the population of Gaza, on UN estimates - were facing catastrophic conditions. "To have 50 percent of an entire population in catastrophic, near-famine levels, is unprecedented," Beth Bechdol, deputy director general of the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), told AFP. The WFP confirmed this was the "highest number of people ever



Palestinians flee the area after Israeli bombardment in central Gaza City. (AFP) recorded as facing catastrophic hunger" under the IPC system, originally developed in 2004. The situation is particularly dire in the north of the besieged Palestinian territory, where the UN says there are about 300,000 people, with aid agencies reporting huge difficulties in gaining access. "Famine is imminent in the northern governorates and projected to occur anytime between mid-March and May 2024," said

the IPC, made up of UN agencies, NGOs and regional bodies. Martin Griffiths, the UN's humanitarian chief, said there was "no time to lose", calling for Israel to allow unfettered access for aid. "The international community should hang its head in shame for failing to stop this," he said. The bloodiest-ever Gaza war broke out after Hamas launched an unprecedented attack on Israel on October 7, to which Israel re-

**A famine is declared when 20 percent of households face an extreme food shortage - which is the case in Gaza, the UN says. Other criteria are that one in three children are acutely malnourished, and that at least two in every 10,000 people die every day of starvation or malnutrition.**

sponded with a relentless bombing campaign and ground offensive in the Palestinian territory. The UN has warned for weeks of the risk of famine in Gaza. The IPC said yesterday that while the technical criteria for famine had not yet been met, "all evidence points towards a major acceleration of deaths and malnutrition". "Waiting for a retrospective famine classification before act-

ing is indefensible," it said. "Hunger is a slow and painful death," said Hiba Tibi, country director for the CARE international aid group, who reported aid workers seeing children "who can barely talk and walk" for lack of food.



## 'We Feel Your Emotions,' Says US Envoy on Regional Crisis

**Ashen Tharaka**  
 TDT | Manama

Amid continuing talks of a temporary ceasefire in Gaza during Ramadan, the US Ambassador to Bahrain yesterday acknowledged the emotional response to regional tensions and hinted that a resolution is being worked upon. "Smart, creative people are spending days and nights trying to resolve the situation, and we

will get there," H.E. Steven C. Bondy said while talking about the efforts to address the situation. The US Ambassador mentioned the regional tensions and emotional response while talking at a Ramadan Iftar for the alumni of a student exchange programme that was held at the InterContinental Bahrain hotel. "We recognize there are multiple crises happening around the region," Ambassador Bondy



H.E. US Ambassador Steven C. Bondy

stated. "This is a time of high tensions and emotions. I want you to know truly, we understand and we are very empathetic. We feel the same emotions that you feel as well," he said while explaining that efforts are going on to resolve the situation. The Ambassador also highlighted a recent meeting between His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and

Prime Minister, and the U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken that specifically focused on these regional circumstances. "We would really seek to work closely with our Arab partners," the Ambassador said, underlining the importance of collaboration. "We need to do more listening. We're also speaking. We want to learn, and we want to integrate the thoughts of our partners," he added.

# Bahrain greets Putin on winning elections



HM the King  
TDT | Manama



HRH Prince Salman



President Putin

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, sent cables of congratulations to His

Excellency President Vladimir Putin of Russia, on winning the presidential elections.

HM the King and HRH Prince Salman wished Putin success in carrying out his presidential duties, leading Russia and its people to further progress, de-

velopment and prosperity. His Majesty and His Royal Highness praised the close Bahraini-Russian relations and their development at all levels, affirming the keenness to further strengthen ties for mutual interests.

## NBR conducts 2,115 inspection visits in 2023

TDT | Manama

The National Bureau for Revenue (NBR) conducted 2,115 inspection visits within the local markets of the governorates of the Kingdom of Bahrain during 2023 as part of the continuous oversight efforts to protect consumers' rights and

enhance control over commercial establishments.

Inspection was conducted over various sectors, such as, education, construction, manufacturing, real estate, retail, plumbing, heat and air-conditioning installation, travel agencies, healthcare activities

and many others.

The campaigns resulted in reporting 244 violations that required the imposition of fines in accordance with the VAT & Excise Law, where most violations were related to the failure to comply with the conditions for issuing VAT invoices.

# Cabinet reviews plans for mosque makeover



HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister chairs the weekly Cabinet meeting

TDT | Manama

The Cabinet discussed the implementation of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister's directives on the opening, restoration, and development of 32 mosques belonging to the Sunni and Ja'fari Endowments across the Kingdom's governorates.

The Cabinet noted the efforts of the relevant authorities following HRH Prince Salman's directives to them to carry on with the mosque development plans throughout the year.

HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister yesterday chaired the weekly Cabinet meeting at Gudaibiya Palace.

The Cabinet affirmed the Kingdom's commitment to supporting the national workforce to continue contributing to the comprehensive development, led by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, in commemoration of Bahrain Youth Day, held annually on March 25.

It followed up on the availability of consumer goods in

the market and the stability of prices and highlighted legislative efforts to protect competitiveness.

In this regard, the Cabinet highlighted the efforts of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) and the commercial sector to ensure price stability and the abundance of consumer goods during the Holy Month of Ramadan.

The Cabinet followed up on the events, programmes, and tourism packages that will be announced as part of Manama's selection as the Gulf Tourism Capital for 2024. In this regard, the Cabinet highlighted the importance of the tourism sector and its role as a priority sector in economic development.

### Arab cooperation

Marking the 79th anniversary of the League of Arab States (LAS), the Cabinet highlighted the prominent role of the LAS in enhancing cooperation between Arab countries.

The Cabinet welcomed the adoption of a resolution by the United Nations General Assem-

bly on "Measures to Combat Islamophobia," affirming the Kingdom's firm stance towards international efforts that promote tolerance and dialogue between religions, cultures, and civilisations and safeguard global peace.

The Cabinet discussed several memorandums during the meeting, approving the following: a memorandum submitted by the Ministerial Committee for Development and Infrastructure Projects regarding the development of regulatory procedures for infrastructure projects; a memorandum submitted by the Minister of Interior on the achievements of the Information and eGovernment Authority for the year 2023, including in digitisation with government e-services reaching 680 services across all channels; and a memorandum submitted by the Ministerial Committee for Legal and Legislative Affairs on a draft agreement amending the framework agreement to finance the second phase of the project to improve water transmission and distribution from Al-Dur station.

## BTEA launches comprehensive Ramadhan Tourism Guide

TDT | Manama

As part of the festivities in Manama, the Gulf tourism capital for 2024, the Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority (BTEA) has launched the Ramadhan Tourism Guide "Ramadhan in Bahrain," which brings together an exciting range of tourist events, Iftar and Suhoor offerings, and luxurious accommodation packages to give tourists an unforgettable experience during the Holy Month of Ramadhan.

The "Ramadhan in Bahrain" festivities will kick off at the Bahrain National Theatre on March 18, allowing visitors and tourists to immerse themselves in the vibrant culture of the season through live performances, bazaar, seating areas, food and beverage vendors, and more.

Sara Ahmed Buhiji, CEO of BTEA, emphasised the authority's desire to boost tourism momentum year-round by launching innovative initiatives during Ramadhan in partnership with the private sector.

Buhiji outlined the significance of the "Ramadhan in Bahrain" guide in serving BTEA's promotional goals to highlight Bahrain's intriguing attractions and diverse tourist landmarks.

She pointed out that the Ramadhan guide is jam-packed with numerous offerings in tourism, entertainment, and hospitality that welcome all tourists,



Your ultimate gateway to the Kingdom's festive tourism

whether families or individuals. A multitude of venues and locations across the Kingdom will host numerous entertaining events during Ramadhan, including Marassi Galleria, Al Liwan, the Avenues, Souq Al Baraha, and Seef Mall-Seef district. The audience will immerse themselves in a vibrant cultural spectacle with Gergaon events at all municipalities, as Ramadhan nights will be filled with joy and glamorous festivities.

More events of "Ramadhan

in Bahrain" include "Manama Nights" which will be held at Bab Al Bahrain at various dates with an array of entertaining activations, the "Emirates Arabian Horse Global Cup (Bahrain Breeders Show)" at Bahrain Royal Equestrian and Endurance Federation, "Musagaf Evenings" in Manama Souq, "Roast Camp" at Budaiya Botanical Gardens, "Layali Chill" at Bahrain Bay, and "Ramadhan Nights" at District 1 with Gergaon and traditional performances.

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## High Court reviews mental assessment of nurse's attacker

TDI | Manama

The High Criminal Court examined the psychological evaluation of a defendant accused of assaulting a nurse at the psychiatric hospital.

The report found the suspect responsible for his actions at the time of the incident, as the court adjourned the next hearing to March 31 for pleading arguments.

The case dates back to when the victim - on duty as a nurse at the psychiatric facility - was confronted and attacked without provocation by the defendant running in the corridor at around 1pm.

The nurse said he was punched in the right eye before being struck repeatedly, causing him to fall to the ground, and beating continued until staff intervened. Forensic findings indicated body in-



juries consistent with a solid impact that could result from a blow, leaving a 20% disability.

The 30-year-old was charged with unlawfully attacking the nurse's physical integrity during work duties and inflicting the described wounds as per the medical records, unintentionally leading to the disability.

While the mental assessment concluded criminal liability, judges will weigh all evidence to adjudicate responsibility for the serious workplace violence incident affecting the hospital staff's security.

## Travel ban on foreigner ordered within 24 hours over debt case

TDI | Manama

The Court of Urgent Matters ordered a travel ban for a foreign national within less than 24 hours of a debt lawsuit being raised against him.

The plaintiff's lawyer said his client held a BD25,000 promissory note against the foreign defendant that was legally notarised. It stipulated installment payments starting within 15 days of the document date.

Upon learning the debtor intended to flee the country to evade these obligations, the lawyer immediately filed a request to the Court of Emergen-

cy Matters seeking a precautionary travel ban due to the foreign national's status and upcoming payment deadline.

Submitted with the case were copies of the promissory note and defendant's ID card proving his nationality. Within eight hours, the court upheld the travel restriction until a guarantor is presented.

The judge explained such bans can be issued if serious grounds exist that a defendant may abscond, or the claim relies on an established written debt - both conditions applicable in this case. As the debtor did not prove payment, urgency was deemed justified to prevent his departure.

# Faith or Fitness?

Can fasting be combined with workouts for weight loss? Enthusiasts say yes!

Zainab Zaman  
TDI | Manama

Ramadan is the time when people often pause their workout routines to focus on prayers and good deeds. But can the fasting be combined with workouts to boost one's weight-loss goals? Some fitness enthusiasts in the Kingdom are doing just that!

Rayan Abdulfattah, who is continuing his workout routine during Ramadan, says he is enjoying his workouts before Iftar as he can burn more calories on an empty stomach. "It is my personal preference to work out before Iftar. For me, Ramadan is also a time to utilize the fasting to hit my weight-reduction and muscle-building goal, by using what I eat during non-fasting hours," he said.

Duaa Alaamer, who is a level four fitness instructor at Xenon Cycling, says she prefers working out whenever she feels like it during Ramadan.

"I say this to my clients also. Working out in Ramadan should happen whenever you feel strong enough to do it based on personal preference," she said.

"It's all about intentions. I think of Ramadan as an opportunity to get into a healthy lifestyle. I believe Ramadan is also a time to reflect on our health and wellness by practicing determination to reach a fitness goal or to feel better by working out," Alaamer said.

She encourages people to choose the right workout during Ramadan. This could be daily walks, light weights, or easier workouts with less intensity, as working out on an empty stomach can help you reach your



Duaa Alaamer

weight loss goal faster, she said.

### Best time for a 'fast workout'

A study done by Nottingham Trent University on exercising on an empty stomach for seven hours, when compared to workouts two hours after a meal, said the former burned 70 percent more fat and that working out only for 30 minutes would shed as much as 4.5 kilogrammes.

### Foods for a 'fast workout'

In order to make up for the workout while fasting, Rayan consumes foods high in protein and drinks plenty of water during the non-fasting hours. "I was not consuming as much protein as I'm doing now during Ramadan. I choose high-protein foods such as boiled eggs and tuna in between Iftar and Suhoor. It helps in keeping me energized during the workout," he stated.

Alaamer also chooses healthier alternatives like brown rice and baked appetizers instead of fried food.

"At the end of the day, losing



Karwan Mohammed

weight is all about being calorie deficit. Whether its increasing your workout or controlling the food, the most important thing is to not starve yourself after Iftar and eat high-protein and high-fibre foods in a balance," she added. "Ramadan is a great time to lose weight while eating less because you might gain the weight back after Ramadan," Alaamer said.

Alaamer has as many hydrating drinks after Iftar such as coconut water, electrolytes, and a lot of water after the fast so as to be hydrated for the next day.

"Efficiency is important. Low-intensity workouts before Iftar is the best way to target fat burn," she said.

"Any sort of movement is great during Ramadan, including prayers," she added.

### Post-iftar Workout

Karwan Mohammed, who is a fitness and education director, likes to work out after Iftar and focuses on compound exercises like squats, deadlifts, and bench



Rayan Abdulfattah

press.

Mohammed says he prefers to work out after Iftar as he would have more energy and have had enough food as a source of energy. "I believe that Ramadan is the time to reflect on one's religious activities and not just losing weight. You cannot rely on Ramadan alone to lose weight. I make sure each of my meals are high in protein, while containing adequate carbohydrate and healthy fats, including salmon, lean meats, and vegetables," he said.

"Working out before Iftar puts your body at high risk of dehydration if you are not getting enough fluids. Being able to drink water is what makes me chose to work out after Iftar," he added.

Whether you chose to work out during fasting or after Iftar, Ramadan can be a good time to lose those extra kilos. But make sure to follow an appropriate diet and stay hydrated while both your mind and body get a fast makeover.

# Bahrain a 'regional model in respecting human rights'

Ashen Tharaka

TDI | Manama

The Kingdom of Bahrain stands as an exemplary and pioneering model in respecting human rights in the region.

It is evident to everyone living in Bahrain, whether citizens or foreigners, where values of tolerance, civility, coexistence, and social peace prevail.

This was affirmed by Ghada Hameed Habib, Ombudsman and Chairperson of the Prisoners and Detainees Rights Commission, in an interview with The Daily Tribune.

"We affirm that there are no violations of human rights in Bahrain," Ghada Hameed said.

This progress is particularly evident following the launch of the reform project by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa at the beginning of the new millennium. It has resulted in qualitative leaps, including advancing the democratic process, framing political participation, and revitalising parliamentary life.

Additionally, comprehensive development plans and programs aim to provide many services considered people's rights, elevating and continuously de-



Chris Field visits the open prison and rehabilitation center in Hamala

veloping their standards.

### Focus on Community Awareness

In response to a question about the effectiveness of collaborating with grievance institutions to strengthen their work and ensure accessibility and responsiveness to complaints, Ghada Hameed said they are focusing on community awareness.

As part of this effort, they are conducting numerous seminars, meetings, and introductory lectures at various universities, foreign communities' clubs, and civil society organisations.

This aimed to familiarise people with their role within the criminal justice system, considering the Independent Ombudsman Office as the first of its kind in the region in terms of specialised expertise, falling under the globally recognised Ombudsman offices.

### Ombudsman Role

Regarding handling complaints, the Independent Ombudsman Office categorises them into two types.

The first type is 'complaints,' related to allegations of criminal acts, requiring investigation

results leading to legal action against the accused.

The second type is 'requests for assistance,' related to fulfilling individual or collective needs or inquiries about specific information, such as education, visits, communications, and medical services for pretrial detainees.

The majority of requests for assistance are resolved through settlement, accounting for approximately 69% of total complaints. On average, the settlement rate for assistance requests exceeds 94% of the total requests.

"The mechanisms of the Independent Ombudsman Office align with international standards in dealing with complaints, consistent with practices in similar institutions in other countries," Ghada Hameed said.

### IOI Praised

During an official visit to Bahrain's Open Prison and Rehabilitation Center last year, Chris Field, President of the International Ombudsman Institute (IOI), commended the progress made in human rights and grievance handling mechanisms within the Kingdom.



"We affirm that there are no violations of human rights in Bahrain."

- GHADA HAMEED HABIB, OMBUDSWOMAN AND CHAIRPERSON OF THE PRISONERS AND DETAINEES RIGHTS COMMISSION

In a follow-up interview with The Daily Tribune, Mr. Field highlighted Bahrain's role model status for other countries, particularly in maintaining high standards for human rights programs and grievance handling procedures.

## Five arrested for fishing violations

TDT | Manama

The Coast Guard patrols successfully apprehended five individuals and confiscated a boat and a vehicle along the Damastan coast in a move to enforce fishing regulations and combat violations.

The arrests were made in connection with the possession of 210 kilograms of shrimp, a prohibited catch during the current period as per ministerial directives.

The Coast Guard Command disclosed that the apprehended vessel was found equipped with bottom trawl nets (carafes), highlighting additional violations related to public safety, residency laws, and labour market regulations. Legal proceedings are underway for referral to the Public Prosecution.

## Apartment fire in Busaiteen contained

TDT | Manama

The Civil Defense swiftly responded to reports of a fire that erupted in an apartment within a building located in the Busaiteen area.

As a precautionary measure, residents were immediately evacuated from the building by firefighters.

# Cool blessings

Gloomy weather brings relief for individuals who are fasting

Zahra Ayaz  
TDT | Manama

The ongoing gloomy weather in Bahrain during the holy month of Ramadan has brought much-needed relief to those observing the fast.

The combination of wind, rain, and cold temperatures has provided respite to individuals who are fasting and working outdoors.

Since the start of Ramadan, Bahrain has experienced a series of rainy days with thunderstorms and chilly winds.

These weather conditions have proven advantageous for fasting individuals, particularly those engaged in physically demanding tasks under the sun.

According to the Ministry of Transport and Telecom (MTT), Bahrain is expected to see more rainy days throughout the entire week, extending from Tuesday to Saturday.

### Excitement online

The news has generated excitement on social media, with many expressing gratitude for the respite provided by the rain.

Several citizens have taken to social media to share posts from the MTT, expressing enthusiasm about what could



Overcast weather delights people who are fasting and working outdoors

potentially be the rainiest year in a long time. They are grateful for the ease and comfort that the gloomy weather has brought to their fasting routine.

Fahima Suman, one social media user, stated, "For the past few years, we have endured fasting during the summer, and I distinctly recall feeling thirsty all day due to the scorching heat, particularly while attending school. However, this year, the weather has been exceptionally pleasant."

### Extremely grateful

Seher Ali, another social media user, expressed relief, saying, "I am extremely grateful

for the weather, and it seems that this year we have experienced significantly more rainfall compared to previous years. We plan to celebrate iftar with our family at the park."

Kainat Raza, echoing the sentiments of many, exclaimed, "This weather during Ramadan is truly a blessing. I now have two advantages: shorter working hours and the rainy weather."

Farheen, yet another social media user, shared her optimism, stating, "This is just the beginning. In the coming years, the weather during Ramadan will continue to improve, and soon we will experience Ramadan in December."

## Ministers inspect key infrastructure projects in Capital Governorate areas



H.E. Wael bin Nasser Al Mubarak and H.E. Ibrahim bin Hassan Al Hawaj are being briefed about the projects

TDT | Manama

The Minister of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture, His Excellency Wael bin Nasser Al Mubarak, and H.E. Ibrahim bin Hassan Al Hawaj, Minister of Works, paid an inspection visit to a number of infrastructure development projects in the Capital Governorate's eight constituency.

Al Mubarak affirmed the Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture Ministry's efforts to implement the village park project in Block 604 of Sitra, which involves planting green areas on a 300-square-meter area, restoring the irrigation system, adding new games for children, as well as installing solar-powered lighting poles.

He emphasised the ministry's commitment to providing

citizens and residents with integrated parks, gardens, walkways, and playgrounds that meet the latest specifications and standards.

Al Mubarak underlined the ministry's plans to develop parks and gardens that will accommodate the needs of different society categories, including the elderly and people of determination.

Al Hawaj inspected the infrastructure projects in the eighth constituency, including the establishment of a sewage network in Blocks 381 and 382 in Nabih Saleh that will provide service to 141 properties.

The project includes establishing a sewage network that will serve 280 properties in Block 604 in Sitra, and the project intends to pave roads 659 and 608 in Block 606 of Sitra.

# Derasat delegation concludes fruitful Japan visit

TDT | Manama

The Bahrain Center for Strategic, International and Energy Studies (Derasat) has concluded its delegation's visit to Japan from March 2 to 7.

The visit aimed to advance bilateral cooperation and knowledge exchange in various fields of mutual interest, with a focus on research initiatives.

The Derasat delegation comprising Executive Director Dr. Hamad Ebrahim Al-Abdulla, and Dr. Abdulla Isa Al-Abbasi, Director of the Energy and Environment Program at the Studies and Research Directorate, actively

The visit marks a significant milestone in fostering cooperation and exchanging expertise between Derasat and its counterparts in Japan. All parties expressed commitment to enhancing strategic research areas of mutual interest.



Dr. Hamad Ebrahim Al-Abdulla and Dr. Abdulla Isa Al-Abbasi with Japanese officials

engaged in a series of meetings with Japanese think tanks, organisations, and institutions.

On the first day, Derasat's delegation held meetings with key Japanese counterparts to

explore collaborative opportunities and discuss regional dynamics.

The delegation held discussions with Dr. Haruhiko Obara, Executive Officer at the National

Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology, on joint research and development initiatives in this field, with emphasis on energy and sustainability. The delegation also met with

Mr. Ryuichi Funatsu, Director of the Second Middle East Division at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to discuss enhanced cooperation in various research fields between the Kingdom of Bahrain and Japan. They exchanged insights on media initiatives with Mr. Kazuo Kodama, President of the Foreign Press Center in Japan.

Day two of the visit saw the delegation meet H.E. Mr. Tatsuya Terazawa, Chairman and CEO of the Japanese Energy Economics Institute, to discuss energy economics and explore research cooperation and joint projects in renewable energy.

## Notice

GFH Financial Group would like to advise the shareholders that the Annual General Meeting scheduled for Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> March 2024, was unable to meet the required quorum. Accordingly, the second meeting will be held on **Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 9:30 pm** at GFH House, Bahrain Financial Harbour, Sea View.



## Proposed amendments to fishing regulations discussed

TDT | Manama

The Public Utilities and Environment Committee of the Shura Council yesterday convened to discuss amendments to Decree Law No. (20) of 2002 concerning fishing regulations.

In its session, chaired by MP Dr. Muhammad Ali Hassan Ali, representatives from marine authorities at the Supreme Council for the Environment, including Mr. Muhammad Yousef Al-Assam and Mr. Hussein Jaafar Ali Makki, were present.

The proposed amendments aim to bolster fish production

The proposed amendments seek to strengthen fish production by providing assistance to fish farms, improving regulatory supervision, and defining fishing zones in Bahrain.

by supporting fish farms, enhancing regulatory oversight, and delineating Bahraini fishing zones.

Dr. Ali commended the col-

laborative efforts between legislative and executive bodies, emphasising the importance of marine legislation.

Additionally, the committee addressed Decree Law No. (15) of 2023, focusing on maritime safety regulations for small vessels.

The amendments seek to enhance oversight mechanisms and impose stricter penalties for violations, in response to observed accidents and infractions.

The committee reviewed a proposal to amend Article (20) of the Building Regulation Law, inviting relevant stakeholders for further deliberation.

# NBB announces exclusive sponsorship of 'The Latry' Radio programme

TDT | Manama

The National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) announced its exclusive sponsorship of the popular radio programme "The Latry" broadcasted on Bahrain FM 93.3.

This collaboration brings NBB's Thara'a Prize Account to a highly engaged audience. Listeners can tune in every evening from Saturday to Thursday at 9:00 pm for a chance to win one of the exciting cash prizes.

NBB actively fosters strategic partnerships to extend the reach of its rewarding saving solutions to a wider audience, empowering more customers to achieve their financial goals.



## China regulator to ban Evergrande chair from securities market for life

AFP | Beijing, China

Chinese regulators will ban the chairman of property giant Evergrande from the securities market for life, a subsidiary of the company said Monday, adding the troubled firm would be slapped with a hefty fine.

The China Securities Regulatory Commission (CSRC) "plans to rule in favour of issuing a lifelong ban from entering the securities market to (chairman) Xu Jiayin", the company's flagship unit Hengda Real Estate said in a filing to the Shenzhen stock exchange.

The company itself will "be ordered to make corrections and be issued with a warning as well as a fine of 4.175 billion yuan (\$580 million)".

## Experience the Joy of Ramadan: Buy a Nissan Car and win a Nissan Kicks!



The Nissan Ramadan campaign will run from March 1st to April 30th, giving customers ample time to take advantage of this incredible opportunity.

TDT Manama

Y.K. Almoayed & Sons, the sole distributor of Nissan vehicles in Bahrain, is excited to announce its special Ramadan campaign that offers an opportunity to win a brand-new Nissan KICKS with every purchase of any Nissan vehicle. For every

BD 100 spent, customers will receive one entry into the grand prize draw.

This Ramadan, Nissan aims to enhance the joy and excitement of car ownership by giving customers an incredible chance to drive away in a stylish and dynamic Nissan Kicks. Known for its sleek design, advanced

technology, and exceptional performance, the Nissan Kicks is the perfect companion for every adventure.

Nissan's Ramadan campaign not only offers a chance to win an exciting prize but also provides customers offers on their wide range of vehicles to choose from. Offers include

Nissan Sunny starting from BD 6,795; Altima starting from BD 9,995; Maxima starting from BD 13,995; Kicks Starting from BD 7,495; X-trail starting from BD 10,495; X-terra starting from BD 11,195; Patrol Starting from BD 20,995. All models come with 5 years road side assistance and 5 years warranty.

## Invita's 'Nasmaakum' wins two prestigious Stevie awards



TDT | Manama

Invita Company, a leading provider of Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) and Customer eXperience (CX) services in the region, has won both Gold and Silver Stevie Awards in recognition of its Nasmaakum Sign Language App. At the 2024 Middle East & North Africa Stevie Awards, Nasmaakum took center stage, securing the Gold Stevie Award in the category of "Innovative Use of Technology in Customer Service" for pioneering advancements in enhancing sign language accessibility and earned the Silver Stevie Award in the category of "Innovative Achievement in Diversity & Inclusion."

Through the integration

of artificial intelligence and augmented reality, Nasmaakum has successfully crafted a platform facilitating seamless sign language communication, effectively breaking down barriers in various social and professional settings.

"We are elated and humbled to receive such prestigious recognition from the Stevie Awards," expressed Rahul Bhalla, Founder of Nasmaakum. "Our mission has always been to make a meaningful impact on the lives of individuals with hearing impairments by creating innovative tools that empower their ability to communicate. These awards validate our commitment and inspire us to continue pushing the boundaries of technology for social good."

## Export Bahrain, HKTC partner for Bahraini jewellery at Hong Kong International Jewellery Show 2024



HE Abdullah bin Adel Fakhro



Export Bahrain at Hong Kong Jewellery Show



Safa Sharif Abdulkhaliq

TDT | Manama

Export Bahrain supported the participation of six Bahraini businesses from the Jewellery sector in the 40th edition of the Hong Kong International Jewellery Show 2024.

This collaboration was facilitated by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTC).

The event, held at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Center, showcased the

talents of over 4,000 exhibitors from more than 40 countries.

Export Bahrain managed to facilitate more than 500 business engagements with an average of 15 B2B meetings per day. These interactions resulted in connections with businesses spanning from across the globe including Hong Kong, India, China, Thailand, Singapore, the UAE, the United Kingdom, and Italy. An impactful aspect of the event was that 50% of the participants began their entrepre-

neurial journey in Hong Kong, indicating significant opportunities for Bahraini jewelry enterprises to expand their reach.

Under the leadership of His Excellency Abdullah bin Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry and Commerce and Chairman of Export Bahrain, Bahrain's participation in this significant international exhibition is recognized as a pivotal investment in the jewellery sector. Bahraini entrepreneurs to take the bold step towards developing their

ideas and projects.

Safa Sharif Abdulkhaliq, Chief Executive Officer at Export Bahrain, highlights the profound impact of Export Bahrain's unwavering commitment to identifying international opportunities for Bahraini businesses.

Ali Hasan Rabee, Owner and General Manager of Al Huda Jewellery, stated: "We eagerly anticipate future collaboration opportunities with Export Bahrain."

## World Bank plans \$6 billion support for Egypt

Washington, United States

The World Bank is planning to give Egypt more than \$6 billion in financial assistance over the next three years to help it meet its development priorities, the Washington-based lender announced yesterday.

"Over the coming three years, the World Bank Group intends to provide more than US\$6 billion of support to

Egypt," the development lender said in a statement.

This includes "US\$3 billion for financial support to Government's programs and US\$3 billion for the private sector (including mobilization) - subject to Board approval," it added. Egypt, the Arab world's most populous nation, is in dire need of financial help as it weathers a severe economic crisis marked by rapid inflation.



# Ramadan

## Beyon celebrates with Local Media at Ghabga



Beyon hosted members of the local press for a fun-filled Ghabga at the Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay on Sunday. The event featured a friendly digital game, a raffle draw with exciting prizes, and warm appreciation for the media's year-long support in highlighting Beyon's news and achievements (By Ashen Tharaka)

## Le Meridien City Centre Bahrian hosts Iftar for the elderly

In celebration of the Holy Month of Ramadan, Le Meridien City Centre Bahrian hosted an Iftar at Baharat Restaurant, for the elderly from UCO Care Centre. Present at the event were representatives from UCO Care Center and the team of Le Meridien City Centre Bahrian



## Reunited for Ramadan! US exchange programme alumni gather for Iftar



US Ambassador Steven C. Bondy hosted a festive Iftar dinner at the Intercontinental Bahrain yesterday for alumni of the US exchange program. The event fostered connections and celebrated the spirit of Ramadan. (By Ashen Tharaka)

## Ritz-Carlton Bahrain unveils exclusive Ramadan offer in newly refurbished villas



The Ritz-Carlton Bahrain, renowned for its unrivalled luxury experience, introduced a special Ramadan offer in its newly refurbished villas. Exuding elegance and charm, the newly revamped villas offer guests a luxurious retreat and a sophisticated ambiance to celebrate the holy month of Ramadan. As part of this exclusive offer, guests can indulge in a sumptuous Iftar experience in the exquisite surroundings of the Ritz-Carlton Bahrain villas. The Iftar menu has been thoughtfully crafted by a talented culinary team to showcase a delightful array of traditional Ramadan delicacies and international gourmet dishes, promising a feast for the senses that will leave a lasting impression. "Our newly refurbished villas epitomize luxury and sophistication, providing the perfect backdrop for a memorable Ramadan celebration," said Bernard de Villele, General Manager of The Ritz-Carlton Bahrain. In addition to the exceptional Iftar experience, guests availing of the Ramadan offer will have access to an array of premium amenities and bespoke services, including a dedicated villa butler, and luxury transportation options. Whether for a special family reunion, a corporate event, or a social soir e, the Ritz-Carlton Bahrain villas provide an unparalleled setting for an extraordinary Ramadan experience. Family Package: Includes iftar at Masaya Pavilion for 6 guests -BHD 890 net; Corporate Package: Includes in-villa iftar for 30 guests -BHD 1,600 net







# Alcaraz tops Medvedev to repeat as Indian Wells champion

Carlos Alcaraz claims second consecutive Indian Wells ATP title with convincing win

● **Alcaraz captures his first title since Wimbledon last July**

TDT | Manama

World number two Carlos Alcaraz cruised home in a 7-6 (7/5), 6-1 victory over Daniil Medvedev on Sunday to win a second straight Indian Wells ATP title, both coming at the Russian's expense.

Alcaraz captured his first title since Wimbledon last July and became the first repeat winner at Indian Wells since Novak Djokovic won three straight titles from 2014-16.

For the 20-year-old Spaniard, 12 days in the California desert proved just what he needed after a stuttering start to the season, which included a quarter-final exit at the Australian Open and an ankle injury that forced him out of his opening match at Rio de Janeiro in February.

"A lot of doubts for me," he said of his mindset coming in amidst his longest title drought



Carlos Alcaraz reacts after beating Russian Daniil Medvedev

since he burst through for his first Grand Slam title at the 2022 US Open.

For Alcaraz, however, it wasn't just about ending the drought, it was about rediscovering his joy in the game.

"It means a lot to me, lifting this trophy, winning this tournament, because I overcome a lot of problems in my head, a lot of problems physically," he said.

"Not that I didn't win a tournament since Wimbledon. For

me, it doesn't matter, it's about the feelings ... It's about enjoying playing tennis, once I step on the court, putting my game. It's what only matters.

"That's why I'm really, really happy to lift this trophy, because I found myself at this tournament."

As he did last year, Alcaraz denied Medvedev's bid to capture the only one of the ATP's six hardcourt Masters 1000 titles he has yet to win.

More importantly, after a

“It means a lot to me, lifting this trophy, winning this tournament, because I overcome a lot of problems in my head, a lot of problems physically

CARLOS ALCARAZ

week in which he ended Australian Open champion Jannik Sinner's 19-match winning streak, Alcaraz was looking forward with renewed confidence to next week's hardcourt tournament in Miami and beyond.

"Obviously winning tournaments helps a lot coming to the next ones," said Alcaraz, whose tournament included not only a semi-final victory over red-hot Sinner but also a brush with a swarm of bees in his quarter-final win over Alexander Zverev -- the man who ousted him in Melbourne.

"Obviously winning a Masters 1000 again -- it is a really difficult tournament to win -- gives

**YOU KNOW WHAT**

As he did last year, Alcaraz denied Medvedev's bid to capture the only one of the ATP's six hardcourt Masters 1000 titles he has yet to win

you extra motivation to keep going, extra, extra confidence for Miami right now and for what's next," said Alcaraz, who joined compatriot Rafael Nadal as the only players to win five Masters 1000 titles before turning 21.

## Extra motivation

World number four Medvedev, who was hindered by an ankle injury in their 2023 title clash, got off to a hot start in this one, parlaying a service break into a 3-0 first-set lead.

But Alcaraz produced a blazing forehand passing shot to break Medvedev in the fifth

game and from there they duelled to the tie-breaker with entertaining rallies spiced by drop shots, volleys and lobs.

Alcaraz had fans out of their seats in one rally, when he started to let a lob go by but, seeing it was heading in, managed to reach it and salvage the point.

"I'm trying to do that kind of points," Alcaraz said. "It gives me extra motivation."

Trailing 5-2 in the tie-breaker, Australian Open runner-up Medvedev battled back to 5-5, but Alcaraz claimed the set when the Russian sent a forehand wide and from there he was in complete control.

"He managed in the first set at one moment to raise his level," Medvedev said. "I kind of managed to be there and to try to catch his level, but I was just a little bit down."

"In the end, this down was going down, down, down, and he was going up, up, up."

"So the result is a fair result for the match that it was. But I'm happy," Medvedev added. "Last time I managed to (reach the final in Indian Wells) I won Miami -- so that's what I'm going to try to do."

## World No. 1 Swiatek sweeps past Sakkari for second Indian Wells title

AFP | Indian Wells

World number one Iga Swiatek powered past Greece's Maria Sakkari 6-4, 6-0 on Sunday to claim her second Indian Wells WTA title two years after she beat Sakkari for her first.

The rematch of the 2022 championship showdown produced an almost identical outcome, as four-time Grand Slam champion Swiatek dominated the second set to seize her 19th career title and her second of 2024.

Sakkari, ranked ninth in the world, battled gamely through the opening set, erasing a break and saving two break points in the final game before Swiatek delivered a blistering forehand



Iga Swiatek hits a backhand

winner to pocket the set after 44 minutes.

It would take just 24 more minutes for the Polish star to wrap things up. She broke Sakkari at love for a 2-0 lead and

rolled to the finish.

Swiatek continued her strong comeback from a disappointing third-round exit at the Australian Open in January.

Since then, she has won the

title at Doha and reached the semi-finals at Dubai. On Sunday, she became the 10th woman to win the Indian Wells title twice -- no one has yet managed to lift the trophy three times.

"It's just amazing to be standing here again," Swiatek told the Stadium Court crowd after winning her eighth WTA 1000 level title.

Swiatek's run included a grudge match victory over Linda Noskova -- the Czech teen who stunned her in the third round at the Australian Open in January.

Swiatek, who lost just 21 games and didn't drop a set in the course of the tournament, seized the initiative early, breaking Sakkari for a 3-0 lead.

## Giannis-less Bucks stun the Suns behind Lillard's big game

AFP | Washington

Damian Lillard delivered with teammate Giannis Antetokounmpo out due to a hamstring injury, scoring 31 points and distributing 16 assists in Milwaukee's 140-129 NBA triumph over Phoenix on Sunday.

Reserve Bobby Portis added 31 points and 10 rebounds for the host Bucks, who improved to 44-24 and tightened their grip on second in the Eastern Conference.

Lillard, the first player in Bucks history with 30 points and 15 assists in the same game, praised Portis and others for stepping up with Greek superstar Antetokounmpo sidelined.

"It was huge," Lillard said.



Milwaukee's Damian Lillard, at right drives against Phoenix's Bradley Beal

"One of our biggest strengths is our depth. Bobby Portis is a starter on any other team but for our team he knows what his job is.

"Down a guy like Giannis, you know everybody is going to have to step their game up. We've been in this situation a couple of times this year and every time he has come through and delivered."

## BRAVE CF partners with leading martial arts brand Top Ten

TDT | Manama

BRAVE Combat Federation, the most global MMA organization in the world, born in the Kingdom of Bahrain, has a new apparel partner. The company has announced a monumental deal with leading martial arts brand TOP TEN as the exclusive provider of apparel for BRAVE CF events across the world.

A historic brand within martial arts, TOP TEN has been responsible for providing the equipment for some of the most legendary moments in combat sports, such as the boxing tournament of the Barcelona Olympics in 1992 and the Atlanta Olympics in 1996, which included the likes of Floyd Mayweather Jr, Oscar de la Hoya,



and Wladimir Klitschko. TOP TEN has also been heavily involved in some of the biggest tournaments in kickboxing and muay thai, and is now set to take over the world of MMA on a global scale with BRAVE CF.

Mohammed Shahid, BRAVE CF president, has praised the deal between both parties and the potential for a new era of MMA with the support of TOP TEN.

"As we embark in bringing a new era for the sport of mixed martial arts worldwide, it is key that we have the right partners

by our side. TOP TEN has been a historic brand for martial arts lovers worldwide, including myself. In my time as a fighter, I always rated TOP TEN products as some of the best in the industry and it is an honor that we now share the vision to bring change to the sport we love. Together BRAVE CF and TOP TEN will make a big difference in the MMA world and we cannot wait to bring to fruition the plans we have".

Peter Kruckenhauser, owner of TOP TEN, has praised the global reach of BRAVE CF ahead of their partnership, which kicks off at BRAVE CF 81, in Slovenia, on April 20.

"We are delighted that TOP TEN is supplying the world's leading MMA organization

BRAVE CF, ensuring that fighters have access to the best equipment in their pursuit of excellence."

Valeria Lang, BRAVE Combat Federation's Chief Operating Officer, has hailed the impact that this partnership will have on BRAVE CF athletes.

"This is a great moment for both BRAVE CF and TOP TEN. Together, we are ready to make a difference for the sport of MMA and for the fighters. We believe in the product and the expertise of TOP TEN, and we know that they will bring the highest level of quality to our athletes and I am confident that they will all be pleased when they come in for fight weeks, knowing that TOP TEN products will be waiting for them".

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# Tanzid, Rishad power Bangladesh to series win against Sri Lanka

Bangladesh chase down Sri Lanka's target of 235 with four wickets in hand

● **Tanzid Hasan Tamim's 84 and Rishad Hossain's unbeaten 48\* lead the charge**

AFP | Chattogram

Rishad Hossain played an attacking innings of 48 after substitute Tanzid Hasan Tamim hit 84 off 81 balls yesterday, steering Bangladesh to a four-wicket win and a 2-1 ODI series victory over Sri Lanka.

Set a modest target after Janith Liyanage's unbeaten 101 guided Sri Lanka to 235 all out in 50 overs, Bangladesh raced to 237-6 in 40.2 overs.

Rishad remained unbeaten on 48 off just 18 balls.

The hosts were in danger when Wanindu Hasaranga forced Mehdiy Hasan Miraz, the last recognised batsman, to give a catch to Pramod Madushan for 25, with Bangladesh still 58 runs



Bangladesh's Tanzid Hasan in action

away from victory.

But Rishad dispatched the first ball he faced over midwicket for six and did not look back.

He hit four sixes and five fours in his whirlwind innings before Mushfiqur Rahim, 37 not out, finished the game with a boundary off Maheesh Theekshana.

Tanzid led the initial charge, replacing Soumya Sarkar in the

second innings as a concussion sub, despite Lahiru Kumara wreaking havoc with 4-48.

**'A lot of character'**

"Tanzid batted really well at the start. The way Mushi (Mushfiqur) batted, I think it helped Rishad's innings," Bangladesh captain Najmul Hossain Shanto said.



**Tanzid batted really well at the start. The way Mushi (Mushfiqur) batted, I think it helped Rishad's innings**

BANGLADESH CAPTAIN NAJMUL HOSSAIN SHANTO

"On a wicket like this, the bowlers showed a lot of character."

Liyanage earlier staged a lone battle en route to his maiden century after Bangladesh made regular strikes, with Taskin Ahmed leading the way for the home side with 3-42.

Skipper Kusal Mendis (29) and Charith Asalanka (37) made a good start but lost their wickets before they could build bigger innings.

"I think we were 40-50 runs short but we bowled well in few overs," Mendis said.

"Janith (Liyanage) batted really well, a couple of wickets fell



**Tanzid Hasan Tamim was a concussion substitute for Soumya Sarkar in the second innings**

## Scorecard

**Bangladesh 237 for 6 (Tanzid 84, Rishad 48\*, Kumara 4-48) beat Sri Lanka 235 (Liyanage 101\*, Asalanka 37, Taskin 3-42) by four wickets**

Sri Lanka reeling at 41-3.

Leg-spinner Rishad made Mendis his first ODI wicket, also off his first ball of the game.

Mustafizur ended Asalanka's counter-attacking innings before Mehidy claimed two back-to-back wickets to expose the tail.

But Liyanage held one end firm to ensure Sri Lanka batted out 50 overs, hitting Taskin over the cover for a four in the final over to reach his century off 101 balls.

Mustafizur and Mehidy claimed 2-39 and 2-38, respectively.

Bangladesh won the opener by six wickets, with Sri Lanka taking the second by three wickets on Friday.

The two teams will now play a two-match Test series, beginning on Friday in Sylhet.

## Drag racing season-finale set

● **Bahrain International Circuit to bring curtain down on 2023/2024 Bahrain Drag Racing Championship this week**

TDT | Manama

Bahrain International Circuit (BIC), "The Home of Motorsport in the Middle East", will this week be crowning the 2023/2024 champions in the Bahrain Drag Racing Championship (BDRC).

The curtain is set to come down on yet another exciting season with the fifth and final round of the region's premier drag racing series taking place over four straight nights in Sakhir.

The stage is set for plenty of high-intensity action along BIC's world-class, quarter-mile drag strip, part of the National Hot



Action from a previous round this season

Rod Association (NHRA) Worldwide Network. The field of competitors coming from across the GCC and beyond will be fighting one last time for wins, podiums, and championship points for the right to take home a prestigious "Wally" trophy—awarded only to champions of NHRA-sanctioned events across the globe.

This week's programme is

scheduled to get underway today and tomorrow with back-to-back nights of Test and Tune, scheduled from 7pm to 1am. Qualifying will then be held on Thursday from 7pm onwards, setting up the pairings for the eliminations on Race Day Friday, also from 7pm onwards.

All are welcome to attend and enjoy the multiple nights

of thrilling drag racing. Tickets to Test and Tune cost BD2 per person for each night along BIC's Beyon Grandstand. Tickets for Qualifying and Race Day are BD3 each, also for the Beyon Grandstand.

The BDRC is organised and run by BIC in cooperation with the Bahrain Motor Federation, the Bahrain Drag Racing Commission, and the Bahrain Motorcycle Commission.

Also available to fans attending on each night of the BDRC is the Dragster Experience—BIC's most adrenaline-pumping passenger activity.

Known as "the Fastest Ride on Earth", this offers fans the chance to get a taste of pure speed as they are taken from zero to 100kph in just one second while in the cockpit of a 10,500cc Top Dragster.

The Dragster Experience is available at BD44 for a first passenger, while a second passenger can join for half the price.

## Fernandes urges Man Utd to use Liverpool win as fuel for late surge



Manchester United's Bruno Fernandes (L) and Erik ten Hag (R) celebrate

AFP | London

Bruno Fernandes has urged Manchester United to use the "spicy" FA Cup quarter-final win against Liverpool as fuel for a late surge in their troubled season.

Erik ten Hag's side came from 2-1 and 3-2 down to beat bitter rivals Liverpool 4-3 after extra-time at raucous Old Trafford on Sunday.

Amad Diallo's last-gasp winner eased the pressure on under-fire boss Ten Hag and kept United in contention to salvage silverware from their rocky campaign.

"The game got a little bit spicy, a little more special because it's an FA Cup game and if you lose, you're out," United captain Fernandes said.

"We know the rivalry between fans, we know how United fans wanted us to win the game to give us something to celebrate because it's not been great for us."

United will face Champion-

**We know the rivalry between fans, we know how United fans wanted us to win the game to give us something to celebrate because it's not been great for us**

BRUNO FERNANDES

ship club Coventry in the FA Cup semi-finals at Wembley in April.

Before then, Fernandes wants his team-mates to take the momentum from the victory over Liverpool and turn it into a sustained winning streak.

After Ten Hag began his United reign with defeats against Brighton and Brentford last season, it was a victory against Liverpool in the Premier League that kick-started a largely successful debut campaign for the Dutch coach.

## Man City's Rodri warns best is still to come

TDT | Manama

Rodri has warned Manchester City's rivals that the best is yet to come after they brushed Newcastle aside to stay in the hunt for a second consecutive treble.

Pep Guardiola's side cantered to a 2-0 win at the Etihad Stadium on Saturday to reach the FA Cup semi-finals for a sixth consecutive season.

City's dominance was not reflected in a scoreline that featured two deflected strikes from Bernardo Silva.

The FA Cup holders are unbeaten in 22 games in all competitions and Spain midfielder Rodri believes there is more to come after the current international break.

"It's going to be good for us, this break," Rodri said. "You will see the best version of this team

at the end of the season.

"Always it happens because of the manager, because of the standards of the club, because of ourselves and the ways we have learned over these years. This is what we want to do.

"We asked the lads to rest as much as possible. I know it's tough but we have friendly games (for our national teams).



Rodri