

Hezbollah has denied any involvement in a deadly attack on UNIFIL peacekeepers in southern Lebanon, following accusations from France that the group was responsible. | P6



Bahrain Hajj Mission Checks

Committees from the Bahrain Hajj Mission conducted field visits to Mecca and the holy sites as part of preparations for the upcoming 2026/1447 Hajj season.

The visits focused on inspecting accommodations and camps designated for Bahraini pilgrims and assessing their full readiness.

Specialized teams reviewed the quality of housing facilities, while the evaluation and follow-up committee examined buildings and ensured all amenities are fully prepared. Meanwhile, the security committee verified that accommodations meet safety and civil defense requirements.

● **India Summons Iranian Envoy**

● **Maritime Security Alert After Hormuz Clash**

A serious maritime security incident in the Strait of Hormuz has triggered diplomatic concern after reports that two Indian-flagged merchant vessels came under fire during a passage through the strategic waterway. According to a reported radio exchange from one of the tank-



er captains, the vessel was first given clearance before coming under sudden attack from Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) boats, leading to a frantic distress call.

The captain is reported to have said over radio communications: "You gave me clearance to pass! My name is listed as number 2 in your papers! Now you're firing on me?! Give me

a chance to turn around and go back!"

The incident has been described as a dangerous escalation in one of the world's most critical shipping lanes, which handles a significant portion of global energy trade.

India Raises Concerns

In response, India's Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) summoned the Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran in New Delhi for a formal meeting with the Foreign Secretary on Thursday evening.

During the meeting, the For-

eign Secretary conveyed India's "deep concern" over the reported firing incident involving Indian-flagged vessels in the Strait of Hormuz.

He emphasised the importance India places on the safety and security of merchant shipping and seafarers, and also recalled that Iran had previously assisted in ensuring safe passage for vessels bound for Indian ports.

According to the statement, the Iranian Ambassador assured that the concerns would be relayed to the relevant authorities in Tehran. **(Related report on Page 6 and 7)**



Ambassador Jamal Faris attends the event alongside world leaders, including King Willem-Alexander and UN Secretary-General António Guterres

Rule of Law

Ambassador Jamal Faris Alrowaiee, Bahrain's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York, attended the official ceremony marking the 80th anniversary of the International Court of Justice's (ICJ) first sitting, held at the Peace Palace in The Hague.

World leaders and senior officials attended the event, including King Willem-Alexander of the Netherlands and UN Secretary-General António Guterres.

Speaking as the President of the UN Security Council for April, Alrowaiee praised the ICJ for its continued contribution

to peaceful dispute settlement and the strengthening of international law.

"The International Court of Justice remains a cornerstone in upholding the rule of law and supporting the peaceful resolution of disputes between states," he said.

Building a Fairer World

Calls for Stronger Global Cooperation

The Asian Parliamentary Assembly called for enhanced global cooperation to address rising international tensions and build a more just and stable future for coming generations, during discussions at the 152nd General Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) in Istanbul.

Speaking on behalf of the Assembly, Vice President of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly, H.E. MP Ahmed Sabah Al Salloom, stressed that growing global challenges require greater responsibility from parliaments worldwide.

He said the theme of "promot-

● **Peace, justice, and future generations**

● **Bahrain showcases marine conservation initiatives**

ing hope, safeguarding peace, and ensuring justice for future generations" reflects both a moral and political obligation, linking present decisions with long-term global consequences.

Drawing attention to global instability, he warned that the world faces overlapping challenges, including conflicts, climate change, development gaps, and rapid technological transformation.

Climate Action and Blue Economy

During a workshop held on



“Respecting international law is essential to building trust and safeguarding global stability”
MP AHMED SABAH AL SALLOOM

the sidelines of the IPU General Assembly, the Parliamentary delegation of the Kingdom of Bahrain reaffirmed the country's commitment to global efforts to protect oceans, address climate change, and advance the blue



“Bahrain remains committed to advancing the blue economy through sustainable policies”
DR. MAHDI ABDULAZIZ AL SHUWAIKH

economy. The statement was delivered by Member of Parliament Dr. Mahdi Abdulaziz Al Shuwaikh during a session titled "Oceans and Climate Change: Parliamentary Leadership in Protecting



“The right to nationality is a fundamental human right that ensures access to education, healthcare, and dignity”
DALAL JASSIM AL ZAYED

Our Blue Planet." Dr. Al Shuwaikh said Bahrain places strong importance on marine environmental protection and climate action as part of its national and international environmental priorities.

Nationality Rights and Legal Identity

Dalal Jassim Al Zayed, Member of the Shura Council, reaffirmed Bahrain's commitment to protecting the right to nationality within a rule-of-law framework aligned with international standards.

Al Zayed highlighted that Bahrain's constitutional framework ensures strong protection of legal identity and equal citizenship rights, citing Article 18, which guarantees equality among citizens and prohibits discrimination.

She noted that cases of statelessness are extremely rare in Bahrain, pointing out that national laws grant citizenship to individuals born in the country to unknown parents or foundlings, reflecting the Kingdom's commitment to safeguarding identity.

220 fils (includes VAT)



A PREMIER ADDITION TO AL HILAL
Al Hilal Premier Hospital
 The 10th Branch Of Al Hilal Healthcare Group
 Trusted Care & Premier Experience

alhilalpremier
 alhilalpremierhospital
 +973 80408080
 www.alhilalhealthcare.com