

Leave Iran, Iraq 'immediately'

Bahrain issues travel warning against Iraq, Iran citing regional tension



U.S. Navy, Aviation Ordnanceman 3rd Class Alexandrina Ross, right, and Aviation Ordnanceman Airman Hunter Musil, left, inspect a bomb on the USS Abraham Lincoln while it sails in the Arabian Sea. (Associated Press)

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Bahrain has ordered its citizens to "immediately" leave Iraq and Iran for their safety, amid rising tension in the region and the recent escalations and threats against security and stability.

Foreign Ministry made the announcement through BNA yesterday afternoon.

The statement cited "unstable situation in the region and the grave developments and threats that threaten security and stability" for the warning.

The Ministry stressed the need to take the utmost pre-

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Consulate General of Bahrain, Najaf: 009647728672227

Ministry of Foreign Affairs:
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cautions and care.

Washington on Wednesday pulled non-emergency staff members from its embassy in the Iraqi capital Baghdad out of apparent concern about perceived threats from neighbouring Iran, to which Iraqi Shia militias are allied. Earlier yesterday, Exxon evacuated its for-

eign staff from an Iraqi oilfield.

In another development, the Federal Aviation Administration of the US has warned US airlines flying over the Gulf to exercise caution "due to heightened military activities and increased political tensions in the region."

The advisory also covers airspace over the Gulf of Oman.

Increased tensions in the region "present an increasing inadvertent risk to US civil aviation operations due to the potential for miscalculation or misidentification, said the FAA advisory released late Thursday.

The regulator also warned that aircraft flying in the area

could encounter "inadvertent GPS interference and communications jamming, which could occur with little to no warning."

Washington has deployed an aircraft carrier group and B-52 bombers to the region against what it claims is an imminent threat from Tehran.

The Pentagon's deployment to the Gulf of a carrier group led by the USS Abraham Lincoln is accompanied by B-52 bombers.

President Donald Trump's administration has also ordered non-essential diplomatic staff out of Iraq, citing threats from Iranian-backed Iraqi armed groups.

Third phase ID Card distribution begins

Systems and programmes were updated to ensure smoothness and speed of delivery

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IGA has launched the third phase distribution of Bahrain's new look ID cards, which got underway earlier this year when it was handed over to newborn baby Sultan during its pilot phase.

In the first phase, which started in January, the ID cards, which includes a bundle of technically advanced features, were limited to Bahraini newborns.

The second phase covered Bahraini citizens who applied online or through fast track lounges in the Isa Town & Muharraq Service Centers. New cards were distributed when requests were made for renewing or replacing lost or damaged ID cards.

Identity Card is the Kingdom's official identification verification method used by citizens or residents to complete any form of service including governmental, health-related, banking, payment verification, and more.

It is issued for a legally approved fee of BD2 – meaning there are no additional charges.

Start of the third phase was announced by the Chief Executive of Information & eGovernment Authority (IGA) Mohamed Ali AlQaed, which covers all citizens who applied online or booking appointments or personal visits.

The third phase, AlQaed said, launched under the guidance of General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, the Minister of Interior in line with International Civil Aviation Organization standards (ICAO).

The authority also went



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MOHAMED ALI ALQAEED
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF INFORMATION & eGOVERNMENT AUTHORITY

through a series of preparations to overcome the challenges that might arise during the issuance process, AlQaed said.

Several updates were made to the printing management system, Population Registry Central system, the ID Card updating system and the electronic ID Card reader.

The card, authorities said, uses a material resistant to damages and includes finer quality fonts for visibility. It also replaces the Special Needs cards provided by the Ministry of Labour and Social Development.



The Sri Lanka Club was relocated to its new premises in Adliya on Thursday, after opening its office in Gudaibiya 35 years ago. The opening ceremony of the new building was held in the presence of Dr A. Saj U. Mendis, Ambassador for Sri Lanka to the Kingdom of Bahrain, over 150 members and other guests.




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Electricity and Water Affairs Minister Dr Abdulhussain Mirza with Japan Bank for International Co-operation (JBIC) Regional Director for Renewable Energy and Natural Resources in the Middle East Masaaki Yamada, who was accompanied by a number of senior officials at the bank. The minister praised the activities and programmes of the bank in promoting sustainable development in the developed countries. Yamada expressed his desire to activate further cooperation between the Center for Sustainable Energy of the Electricity and Water Authority and the bank in areas of mutual interest, especially the benefit of the new JBIC programmes.