



HM King thanked by India president



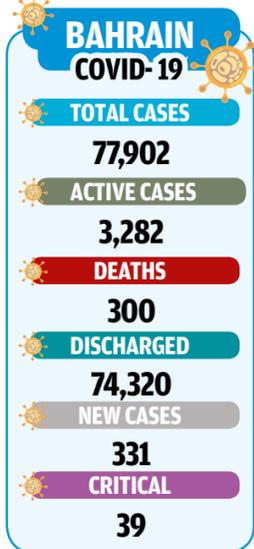
HM the King
 TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa received a cable of thanks from Indian President Ram Nath Kovind in reply to HM's congratulations on his country's Independence Day.
 HM the King also received a cable of thanks from Chile President Sebastián Piñera, in reply to HM's congratulations on his country's Independence Day.

Seven die from COVID

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The Health Ministry yesterday announced seven deaths from coronavirus (COVID-19), including a 96-year-old female citizen, bringing the death toll in the Kingdom to 300.
 The Ministry offered condolences to the family of the deceased.
 As of yesterday, there were 77 active cases in the Kingdom receiving treatment at various facilities, of which 39 people were in a critical condition and 3,243 stable.
 Health authorities conducted a total of 9,940 tests yesterday to detect 331 new cases and report 479 additional recoveries, increasing total survivors to 74,320.
 The fresh infections included 112 expatriate workers, 213 contacts, and six travellers.



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Promising beginning

Bahrain, Israel sign co-operation deals in major step towards full peace agreement



A combo of pictures showing Israeli and Bahraini officials signing co-operation agreements to establish diplomatic ties

A "historic visit on a historic day."

TDT | Manama

Bahrain and Israel yesterday signed a host of co-operation agreements to establish full diplomatic relations and peace between the two countries.
 A joint Israeli-US delegation arrived in Manama which Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs Spokesperson Lior Haiat described as a "historic visit on a historic day."
 "This is the first time that an official Israeli delegation is coming to Bahrain on the first direct commercial flight from Israel to

Bahrain," Haiat said. "This is a historic day for which we have been waiting for many years."
 Yesterday's visit cleared the way for the countries to open embassies and exchange ambassadors in the coming months.
 "It was indeed an historic visit, to start opening relations between both countries, to have fruitful bilateral relations in both fields," said Foreign Minister Abdullatif Al Zayani at the signing ceremony.
 The US delegation was led by US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin while the Israeli delegation was led by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's national security adviser, Meir Ben-Shabbat.
 "Today we made the first formal step in bringing closer

ties between the countries," Ben-Shabbat said. "We were accepted with open arms, with warmth and cordiality."
 "This is an important step in stability in the region, in bring prosperity to all the people in the region and in the countries," said Mnuchin.
Joint communique
 Bahrain and Israel signed a historic Joint Communique on the Establishment of Diplomatic, Peaceful and Friendly Relations, marking a new and promising era in their relationship.
 Also signed were Memorandums of Understanding regarding economic and trade relations, telecommunications, commerce, air services, movement of people, banking and

financial services, and co-operation between Ministries of Foreign Affairs, as well as other areas of mutual benefit.
 In addition, working groups met to discuss a wide range of additional areas for potential co-operation, including aviation, healthcare, technology, tourism and agriculture.
 The parties will also continue their efforts to achieve a just, comprehensive, and enduring resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
 Bahrain and Israel express their deep appreciation to the US in securing a more stable, secure, and prosperous Middle East.
 This historic diplomatic breakthrough has been facilitated by the Abraham Accords

initiative of US President Donald Trump. It follows the 11 September 2020 agreement between Bahrain and Israel to open an era of co-operation between the two nations.
 This diplomatic step was followed by the signing of the Peace Declaration between both countries in Washington on 15 September 2020, to endorse the principles of the Abraham Accords and to open a new chapter of peace.
 This chapter is a continuation of determined regional and international efforts to advance peace in the Middle East and is testament to the bold vision and leadership exhibited by the three countries to innovate in diplomacy for sustainable peace and prosperity.



This is a new reality, and we only have two groups right now. The one who believes in peace and other supporting war.

LIOR HAIAT

2021

Israel and Bahrain plan to open their first embassies next year in both countries to further boost bilateral ties



September 15
 Bahrain became the fourth Arab state to recognise Israel and the second within a month on this day at the White House in Washington

\$500 million
 Israel said it expects to seal deals worth about \$500m after historic agreements to normalise ties with the UAE and Bahrain come into force

Interview with Lior Haiat

Israel hopeful of normalising Saudi ties



P Unnikrishnan
 TDT | Manama

Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs Spokesperson Lior Haiat has expressed hopes of normalising relations with Saudi Arabia following the breakthrough diplomatic agreements with Bahrain yesterday.
 "We are trying our best to normalise our relationship with all countries. We started with Egypt, then UAE, and now Bahrain," said Haiat.

"This is a new reality, and we only have two groups right now. The one who believes in peace and other supporting war."
 Haiat noted that Israel is ready to talk with Palestinians to achieve genuine and lasting peace, saying: "We have been doing it for so many years. We are the first country to look for such talks because it is very important for us to reach a peace agreement with Palestine more than any other countries."

"We are trying our best to normalise our relationship with all countries. We started with Egypt, then UAE, and now Bahrain."

ISRAEL MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS SPOKESPERSON LIOR HAIAT

COVID vaccine

The new agreements with Bahrain are expected to bring economic benefits for both countries especially in tourism, finance, agriculture and science and technology, among other important sectors.
 "Today we are signing an agreement with Bahrain Chamber of Commerce which clearly shows this agreement is not only with two governments but also with the people of both countries which will improve and benefit each other," Haiat

pointed out. Israel is also ready to share with Bahrain a vaccine that it says will be effective against the coronavirus (COVID-19) after the successful trial.
 "Naturally such gestures will improve our relationship in the future," he added.
 Israel and Bahrain are planning to establish their respective embassies by 2021.
 "Today we are giving a message to the entire world including Iran that we are standing against violence, war and hatred," Haiat concluded.