

Maharaj spins South Africa victory

Markram's 82 and Maharaj's 5-33 lead South Africa to dominant series-opening win against Australia | **P16**

Russia says peace deal must ensure its 'security'

Selena Gomez: Wizards of Waverly Place changed my life

Google agrees to US\$36m fine over Android search deals

Historic Crackdown

Sweeping decrees toughen traffic and justice laws, building on HRH CP's push for safer roads

● His Majesty's decrees seal tough penalties

● HRH Crown Prince's initiative sparks reforms

● Zero tolerance enforced

Mahir Haneef
TDT | Manama



HM the King

suspension and vehicle confiscation.

The harshest provisions apply to drivers whose negligence results in fatalities, with penalties of two to ten years' imprisonment and fines between BD2,000 and BD10,000, rising further where intoxication, professional negligence, multiple casualties, or permanent disability are involved.

The decree also targets driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, with penalties that include imprisonment, licence suspension, and vehicle confiscation. Reckless or unsafe driving, such as running red lights or overtaking dangerously, now carries jail terms, heavy fines, or licence withdrawal, with punishments increasing sharply if injury or damage results.

Exceeding speed limits and failing to slow in populated areas or near schools, hospitals, mosques, or pedestrian crossings

Know the Penalties

Negligence causing death: 2 to 10 years' imprisonment, BD2,000–BD10,000 fine, harsher if intoxicated, professionally negligent, or multiple deaths.

Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs: imprisonment, licence suspension, possible vehicle confiscation.

Reckless or unsafe driving / running red lights: imprisonment, heavy fines, licence suspension, or confiscation of vehicles; tougher if injury or damage occurs.

Exceeding speed limits: fines, jail terms, licence suspension, escalating for repeat offences or accidents.

Improper overtaking: imprisonment or fines, stiffer penalties if repeated or

resulting in harm.

Failure to slow near schools, hospitals, mosques, or pedestrian crossings: fines, licence suspension, escalating if injury or damage occurs.

Displaying prohibited signs or advertisements on vehicles: fines and potential licence suspension.



HRH Prince Salman

the government's zero-tolerance approach.

Decree-Law (31) of 2025, which was also issued by His Majesty on Tuesday, reinforces the crackdown by revising Articles 342 and 343 of the Penal Code. Acts of negligence causing death now attract long prison terms and heavy fines, while negligent acts resulting in bodily harm are also penalised. The provisions apply more severe consequences where aggravating factors exist, such as intoxication, occupational negligence, or the failure to assist

a victim when possible. Cases brought under these articles will be heard by the High Criminal Court, with appeals before the Higher Criminal Court of Appeal.

Gulf funds keep Bahrain FDI above BD17bln

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Foreign direct investment stocks in Bahrain reached BD17.068 billion in the first quarter of 2025, a shade lower than the BD17.101 billion recorded in the same period a year earlier, according to newly released data.

The total is equal to around \$45.3 billion.

Gulf states remain the largest source of investment, with BD12.05 billion channelled into Bahrain during the quarter.

Asian countries came next with BD1.78 billion, followed by other Arab countries at BD1.38 billion and the Americas at BD969 million.

VAT evasion case for businessman

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A businessman will stand trial at the First High Criminal Court accused of evading value-added tax amounting to BD65,000.

The National Bureau for Revenue lodged the complaint, saying the company owner had registered for VAT, collected the tax from customers and filed returns, but failed to pass on the money.

Monitoring work by the bureau confirmed the company had withheld the payments in breach of the law.

The Public Prosecution opened an inquiry and issued a travel ban while the case was examined.

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Royal Reforms

HM King's Reforms Boost Energy, Disability, Transport

His Majesty's decrees expand energy, disability services and GCC transport

● Gas production deal sealed

● Disability committee restructured

● GCC land law ratified

Mahir Haneef
TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa has issued a set of royal decrees that broaden Bahrain's economic, social, and regional partnerships, underscoring a forward-looking national agenda.

Energy partnership sealed

Decree-Law (33) of 2025 approves the Production Sharing Agreement for the Jaubah and Pre-Tawil gas assets in the

Bahrain Field. The agreement, signed on August 6 between the Government of Bahrain, BAPCO Energies, and EOG Resources, marks a major step in boosting domestic output and energy security.

Disability governance revamped

Decree-Law (34) of 2025 restructures oversight of disability care, rehabilitation, and

At a Glance

Gas Production Deal

Decree-Law (33) approves the Production Sharing Agreement for Jaubah and Pre-Tawil gas assets, signed with BAPCO Energies and EOG Resources.

Disability Committee Revamp

Decree-Law (34) creates a Cabinet-appointed Committee under the Ministry of Social Development to oversee rehabilitation and employment of persons with disabilities.

GCC Transport Law

Decree-Law (35) ratifies the Unified GCC Law on International Land Transport, fixing 1 dinar = 10 Saudi riyals for implementation and setting complaint procedures.

Regional integration

Decree-Law (35) of 2025 ratifies the Unified GCC Law on International Land Transport. It designates a competent national authority, sets Bahrain's exchange rate at one dinar = ten Saudi riyals for application purposes, and defines procedures for handling complaints and appeals.

Together, the decrees highlight Bahrain's twin drive for



Bahrain is among the first GCC states to ratify the Unified Law on International Land Transport, aimed at harmonising cross-border freight and passenger movement across the region.

economic diversification and stronger regional partnerships, while also advancing inclusion and social development at home.

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Judicial systems, housing priority projects reviewed

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His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Minister of the Prime Minister's Court, yesterday visited the Ministry of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments, and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning.

These visits reflect the vision of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the directives of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

The visits are part of the continued follow-up on the fourth edition of the Government Priorities Framework, approved by the Cabinet and overseen by the Government Executive Committee, chaired by HRH Prince Salman.



HH Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa presides over a meeting, in the presence of H.E. Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa and key officials

His Highness was accompanied by His Excellency Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Minister of Finance and National Economy, and H.E. Hamad bin

Faisal Al Malki, the Minister of Cabinet Affairs.

Efforts

During the visit to the Minis-

try of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments, HH Shaikh Isa bin Salman reviewed the ongoing efforts to expedite the completion of transaction and litigation

procedures.

His Highness affirmed that such efforts contribute to strengthening the justice system and achieving the highest levels of efficiency.

He also reviewed plans to develop mosques across all governorates of the Kingdom.

Initiatives

While on the visit to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning, HH Shaikh Isa bin Salman followed up on the progress of initiatives and housing programmes implemented under the Government Priorities Framework.

This reflects the government's commitment to enhancing the quality of vital services provided to citizens.

The Minister of Justice and Islamic Affairs and Endowments

and the Minister of Housing and Urban Planning reaffirmed their commitment to advancing the visions of HM the King and implementing the directives of HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

Dedication

They emphasised their dedication to enhancing judicial systems, further developing mosques and continuing to advance housing projects, services, and programmes that respond to the needs of citizens.

They also expressed their sincere thanks and appreciation to His Highness the Minister of the Prime Minister's Court for his visits, and for His Highness's steadfast commitment to monitoring the progress of projects aimed at realising the Kingdom's national goals.

Strategic concession agreement



His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, His Majesty the King's Representative for Humanitarian Work and Youth Affairs, the Chairman of Bapco Energies, witnessed the signing of a strategic concession agreement between the Ministry of Oil & Environment and Bapco Energies, with EOG Resources Bahrain Awali W.L.L., a subsidiary of the United States independent oil and gas exploration and production company, EOG Resources, Inc. (EOG). The signing ceremony was held in the presence of Dr. Mohamed bin Mubarak Bin Dainah, Minister of Oil and Environment and Special Envoy for Climate Affairs; Mr. Mark Thomas, Group CEO of Bapco Energies; and Mr. Joseph Korenek, President of EOG Resources International, Inc., alongside others from both organizations. The partnership underscores Bapco Energies' role in fostering strategic alliances that enable the development of the Kingdom of Bahrain's natural resources.

LMRA Board of Directors restructured

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His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa issued Decree (54) of 2025 restructuring the Board of Directors of the Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA), based on the proposal of the Prime Minister and following Cabinet approval.

The Board shall be restructured under the chairmanship of the Minister of Labour, and

its members include: Sahar Rashid Abdulrahman Al Mannai, Fatima Abdulghani Ismail, Adnan Abdulwahab Ishaq, Brigadier Abdulaziz Abdulrahman Al Doseri, Mohammed Abduljabbar Mahmood Al Kooheji, Sonia Mohammed Janahi, Yousif Ahmed Hassan Ahmed, and Alaa Hassan Abdulrahman.

Membership on the Board shall be for a term of four years, renewable.

Worker's appeal rejected

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

A worker's bid to overturn a deportation order was rejected by the High Administrative Court because he lodged his case after the 30-day legal limit.

The court said the challenge was out of time and therefore inadmissible.

The dispute began when he

applied to renew his residency in Bahrain and was instead served with a decision ordering his permanent removal.

He challenged that decision by filing a grievance with the Ombudsman and Protection Centre, asking for the deportation to be cancelled.

The grievance was refused and the administrative notice of deportation remained in place.

Employment security

Proposal calls for permanent job support scheme for workers with disabilities

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

A proposal to create a fixed employment support scheme for people with disabilities in Bahrain's public and private sectors has been placed before Parliament.

The plan sets out full salary coverage for the first two years, followed by permanent state funding of 75 per cent of wages, even if the employee changes jobs.

It is intended to counter reluctance among some employers to hire people with disabilities and to ensure steady access to work.

Dignity

"This proposal is about giving people with disabilities a fair chance to work, to contribute, and to live with dignity," said MP Jalal Kadhem. "The state has a duty to create equal opportunities and this scheme is a step towards that."

The proposal would bring together the Ministry of Labour, the Civil Service Bureau, the Ministry of Social Development and Tamkeen, the Labour Fund.



Image used for illustrative purposes only

It also includes training programmes geared to the abilities of disabled jobseekers and the demands of the market, with the aim of securing their long-term place in the workforce.

Stability

"This is about ensuring lasting support," Kadhem said. "We are proposing a fixed system that guarantees stability and sends a clear message to employers that disabled citizens must be included in Bahrain's development."

The memorandum attached to the proposal cites Article 4 of the Constitution, which affirms justice, equality and equal

opportunity as pillars of society, and Article 13, which requires the state to provide work for citizens.

It also points to the principles of Bahrain's Economic Vision 2030.

Masure

Kadhem added that the measure would encourage recruitment in both state bodies and private companies while giving disabled workers a stronger role in economic and social life.

"By supporting wages and offering proper training, we give people with disabilities the tools to succeed. They deserve to be seen as equals in the workplace



“By supporting wages and offering proper training, we give people with disabilities the tools to succeed. They deserve to be seen as equals in the workplace and in society.”

- MP JALAL KADHEM

and in society," he said.

The proposal has been referred to Parliament for study by the relevant committee.

AI workshop launched by French Embassy as part of Youth City 2030

TDT | Manama

The French Embassy to Bahrain, in partnership with the Ministry of Youth Affairs, has launched a workshop on artificial intelligence as part of the Youth City 2030 initiative, empowering young innovators to shape the AI-driven future.

Titled "The Transformative Power of Artificial Intelligence in Entrepreneurship" and running from August 17 to 20, the program is designed to equip young Bahrainis with strategic skills to harness AI for business growth and innovation.

Twenty young Bahraini tech enthusiasts are participating in this hands-on, hackathon-style



Bahraini tech enthusiasts take part in workshop

workshop.

Applications

Under the guidance of a French AI expert, participants will build a real AI-powered start-up project while exploring

practical, future-focused applications of AI across business, healthcare, finance, and other strategic industries.

France, a leading force in AI, recently hosted the Artificial Intelligence Action Summit, a

global forum bringing together government officials, researchers, civil society, and entrepreneurs.

The summit secured significant investments in AI infrastructure and innovation, while establishing a roadmap for inclusive and trustworthy AI.

This workshop builds on that momentum, promoting international expertise-sharing and supporting the economic transformation AI can bring.

Trustworthy AI

President Macron said: "We believe in innovation, acceleration, and investment, but also in trustworthy AI that strengthens international unity."

Decree protects public safety and reduce accidents

TDT | Manama

His Excellency Interior Minister General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, Chairman of the Traffic Council, affirmed that the issuance of the decree amending certain provisions of the Traffic Law, including stricter penalties, embodies the royal vision of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, in safeguarding lives and property and advancing the legislative system.

He highlighted that the decree is in line with the government's policies, led by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, to protect public safety and reduce traffic accidents.

H.E. Interior Minister noted that the introduction of stricter penalties under the Traffic Law will help regulate road users' behaviour, deter violations, and reduce dangerous practices that cause serious accidents.

He stressed that updating and reinforcing traffic legislation is a continuous process to keep pace with developments in road use and safety standards, thereby promoting a traffic culture that preserves lives and protects property.

Caring for the needy

State monthly stipends and allowances reach 6,500 widows and 4,500 orphans

TDT | Manama

Around 6,518 widows in Bahrain are receiving monthly stipends and allowances from the Ministry of Social Development, new government data has shown.

The figures also confirm that 4,550 orphans are supported through the same programme, split between 2,058 boys and 2,492 girls.

The number of children under state care has more than doubled in the past 25 years.

In 2001, about 2,825 orphans were covered. By last year, that figure had risen above 4,500.

Income

Support is provided under the Social Security Law, which sets out the terms of eligibility for families without adequate income.

Those entitled include wid-



Image used for illustrative purposes only

ows, divorcees, abandoned women, the elderly, families of prisoners, people unable to work, those with disabilities, unmarried daughters and dependent sons, alongside orphans.

Applications are handled through the Registration and Social Services Department in community centres across Bah-

rain's governorates.

Recipients

The ministry also directs aid to people with disabilities, with the latest count showing 14,762 recipients.

Separate figures put the number of families benefiting from low-income assistance at 133,988 during the past year.

Madinat Salman health centre work set to start



Mohammed Saad Al Doseri, Northern Municipal Council member



MP Jalal Kadhem

Contractor wins BD8.2mln tender

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Work on the Hussain Ali Yateem Health Centre in Madinat Salman will start shortly, after Ahmed Omer Trading & Contracting won the Ministry of Works tender for the BD8.2 million scheme.

The three-storey facility will stand on a 24,811-square-metre plot with 12,303 square metres of built space.

Plans cover reception and records, consultations and medical services, 15 doctors' clinics, a pharmacy, radiology, a laboratory, emergency, an oral and dental health unit with 10 clinics, and mother-and-child services, plus administration and supporting

buildings. It is designed to serve about 31,000 residents.

The foundation stone was laid in December 2023 in the presence of Supreme Council of Health chairman Lt-Gen Dr Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Khalifa.

Cooperation

MP Jalal Kadhem said cooperation between the legislative and executive branches had translated the new budget into projects on the ground in Madinat Salman and across the Northern Governorate.

He added that the budget carries the largest housing allocation in Bahrain's history.

In the coming months, 1,362 apartments are due to be handed over in Madinat Salman, with a further 131 units delivered through the private sector and another scheme run by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning.

Pinay Ikaw Na honours outgoing Filipino ambassador

TDT | Manama

A heartfelt Thanksgiving Dinner was held at the residence of PINAY Ikaw Na! (PIN) president Dinah Sta. Ana, in Jidhafs in honour of Her Excellency Anne Jalando-on Louis, Philippine Ambassador to Bahrain, as she concludes her tour of duty.

Ambassador Louis has been a steadfast source of support and inspiration, particularly to PINAY Ikaw Na, and countless Filipino women in the kingdom whose lives she has helped uplift and empower.

Ms. Sta. Ana expressed gratitude, saying, "Ambassador Louis has always been more than a dip-

lomat — she has been a friend, a mentor, and a champion for every Filipina in Bahrain.

"Her leadership and compassion created safe spaces for women to grow, thrive, and be empowered."

Gratitude

Ambassador Louis, along with her husband Dr. Gerard Joseph Louis, expressed their gratitude during the Thanksgiving Dinner held in her honor.

Officers and members of Pinay Ikaw Na! (PIN) attended the event, joined by representatives from the Philippine Embassy, including Labor Attache, Dr. Orville A. Ballitoc, Overseas Workers Welfare Administra-



H.E. Ambassador Anne Jalando-on Louis and husband Dr. Gerard Joseph Louis with PINAY Ikaw Na! (PIN) president Dinah Sta. Ana and other officials

tion (OWWA) Welfare Officer, Ms. Juvilyn Anns Gumabay and Ms. Celia V. Cabadonga, Super-

vising Administrative Officer of the Migrant Workers Office (MWO) Bahrain.

Moreover, the event gained additional importance due to the attendance of Mr. Yusuf Lori,

the Director of Information and Follow-Up at the Capital Governorate of Bahrain.

Arrival

Ambassador Louis first arrived in Manama on April 2022, assuming the role of Chargée d'Affaires ad interim at the Philippine Embassy.

She was officially appointed as Ambassador and formally assumed her ambassadorial duties on January, 2023.

During her tenure, Ambassador Louis was known for her strong engagement with the Filipino community in Bahrain and her commitment to advancing the health and welfare of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs).

Sewerage project on track



Thirty per cent of work on the new sewerage network serving Block 1016 in Al Lawzi and Block 1203 in Hamad Town has been completed, the Ministry of Works has confirmed. The project forms part of the ministry's wider programme to expand Bahrain's sanitation capacity in step with ongoing construction across the kingdom. Assistant Undersecretary for Sanitary Engineering Fathi Abdullah Al Farea said the scheme involves trench digging and horizontal drilling to lay a system serving 968 properties in both areas.

An evening of knowledge and celebration

TDT | Manama

The Indian Ladies Association (ILA), Bahrain, successfully hosted its much-anticipated event, India78 Unplugged – The ILA Quiz 2025 at Epix Cinema Dana Mall, marking an evening of intellect, culture, and community spirit.

The quiz brought together corporate teams, community participants, and quiz enthusiasts, creating an engaging platform that highlighted India's heritage, history, and achievements.

The evening witnessed an atmosphere of enthusiasm, camaraderie, and healthy competition, making it a truly memorable occasion.

ILA President, Smitha Jensen,



Winners receive their prizes

extended her gratitude to all those who contributed to the success of the event.

"The ILA Quiz 2025 was not only a celebration of knowledge but also of unity and shared ex-

periences. We are deeply grateful to our participants, sponsors, ILA members, and the executive committee for their unwavering support and dedication in making this event outstanding," she said.

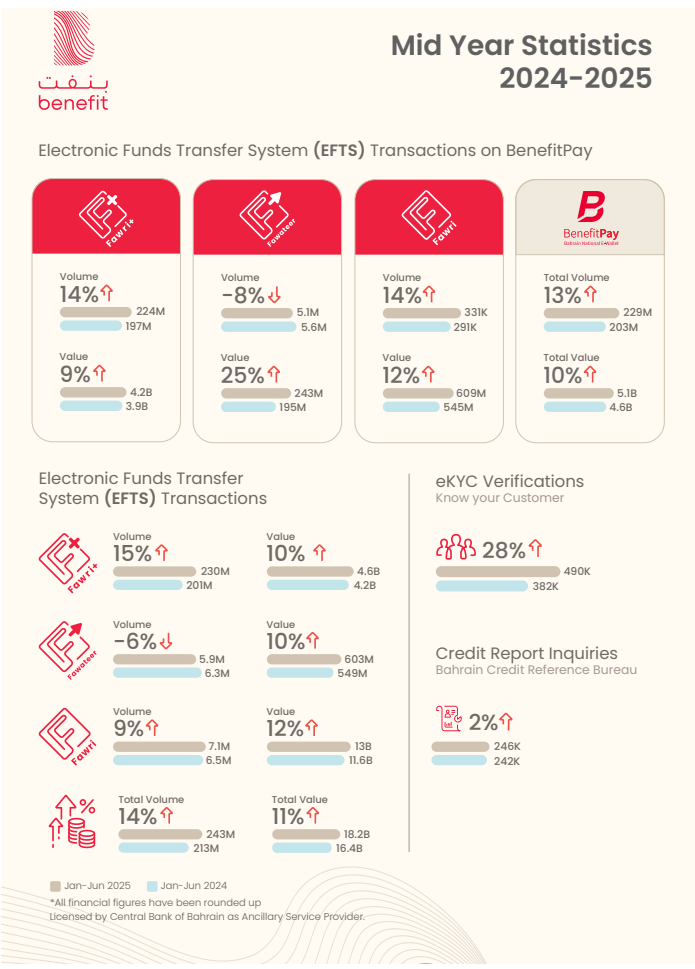
Winners were felicitated with attractive prizes, as first prize \$1,000, second prize \$500, third prize \$250, respectively, and participants were applauded for their spirited involvement.

BENEFIT records 242.7 million transactions, 18.2 Billion Dinar worth of electronic financial transactions in first half of 2025

Manama

BENEFIT, the Kingdom's innovator and leading company in Fintech and electronic financial transactions service, announced that it has reached a total volume of 229.4 million for all electronic fund transfer transactions (Fawri, Fawri+, and Fawateer) through BenefitPay during the first half of 2025. This marks a 13% increase in transaction volume and a 10% increase in transaction value compared to the same period in 2024, with the total transaction value reaching BD5.1 billion.

The company further noted that electronic payments made through the Electronic Fund Transfer System (EFTS) across all channels, including banks and BenefitPay which encompass Fawri, Fawri+, and Fawateer services, experienced significant growth. The total value of transactions reached BD18.2 billion in the first half of 2025, up from BD16.4 billion during the same period in the previous year, representing an 11% year-on-year increase.



Fawri+

Fawri+ transactions across all channels amounted to 229.7 million in volume, valued at BD4.6 billion, representing a 15% increase in volume and a 10% increase in value compared to the 200.6 million transactions valued at BD4.2 billion recorded in 2024. Additionally, Fawri+ Transactions conducted through BenefitPay alone surged by 13.7%, reaching 224.0 million in volume.

Cross-channel Fawri transactions

Cross-channel Fawri transactions rose by 9% to 7.1 million, with a corresponding transaction value of BD13.0 billion, up from 6.5 million transactions worth BD11.6 billion in the previous year. Additionally, Fawri transactions carried out through BenefitPay increased by 14%, reaching more than 331,000 transactions valued at BD609 million.

Despite a slight decline in Fawateer transaction volumes from 6.3 million to 5.9 million, the total value of these transactions grew by 10%, exceeding

BD603.4 million, compared to BD548.5 million in 2024.

eKYC platform

The company also reported a substantial increase in usage of its eKYC platform, with the total number of verifications exceeding 490,000 in the first half of 2025, a 28% rise from nearly 382,000 verifications conducted during the same period last year.

The Bahrain Credit Reference Bureau, operated by BENEFIT, issued approximately 246,000 credit reports during the first half of 2025, reflecting a 2% increase compared to the approximately 242,000 reports issued during the same period in 2024.

These achievements underscore BENEFIT's continued efforts to lead and excel in the financial services and FinTech space. The company's performance reflects the dedication of its team, the company's drive for innovation, and its ongoing commitment to delivering solutions, services, and products tailored to the evolving needs of users. BENEFIT's dynamic work environment and effective in-

tegration of advanced technologies into its operations and administration have been instrumental in this success.

Milestones

During the first half of 2025, BENEFIT also celebrated several strategic milestones. These include receiving the ISO 37301:2021 Certification for Compliance Management Systems, launching the "Hadeya" feature within BenefitPay, and rolling out the second cohort of Ruwaad Leadership Programme. The company also launched the fourth edition of its flagship FinTech training programme "Masaar," was recognised as part of the national initiative the 50 Most Powerful Bahraini Companies and received the Bahrain digital Content Award. BENEFIT additionally signed multiple impactful partnerships, sponsorships, and cooperation agreements with a range of entities.

These accomplishments reflect BENEFIT's role as a key enabler of Bahrain's digital economy and its growing influence across the FinTech landscape.



The Second Vice Chairman of the Bahrain Chamber, Mohammed Al-Kooheji, affirmed the strength of trade relations between Bahrain and Thailand. He noted that the trade volume exceeded \$384 million in 2024, a 14% increase from 2023, which underscores the resilience of economic partnerships and provides strong opportunities for enhanced cooperation. This came during his opening speech at a networking event organized by the Chamber in collaboration with the Royal Thai Embassy. The event was held in the presence of the Thai Ambassador to Bahrain, H.E Sumate Cgulajata alongside Thai and Bahraini business owners from vital sectors such as food, manufacturing, technology, healthcare, and real estate.



Al Baraka Islamic Bank joins IFC's Global Trade Finance Programme as Confirming Bank

● **Al Baraka Islamic Bank will join a network of banks operating in more than 100 countries.**

Manama

Al Baraka Islamic Bank, one of the leading Islamic banks in the Kingdom of Bahrain, has signed an agreement with the International Finance Corporation (IFC), a member of the World Bank Group, to participate in the Global Trade Finance Program (GTFP) as a confirming bank.

This partnership will strengthen Al Baraka Islamic Bank's ability to deliver efficient and flexible trade finance solutions to its corporate, importer, and exporter clients across the region, and offer guarantee coverage for cross-border trade transactions through a broad network of international banking partners.

Dr. Adel Abdullah Salem, CEO of Al Baraka Islamic Bank

Under the programme, Al Baraka Islamic Bank will join a network of banks operating in more than 100 countries. This will expand the bank's capacity to confirm letters of credit issued by other banks, reduce processing times for

trade transactions, and provide innovative, competitive trade finance solutions to meet market needs.

Commenting on this occasion, Dr. Adel Abdullah Salem, CEO of Al Baraka Islamic Bank, stated, "We are proud to sign this agreement with IFC, marking a milestone in our efforts to enhance our global presence and expand our Shari'a-compliant trade finance capabilities. This partnership reflects our strong position in Bahrain and the region and our commitment to supporting our clients' regional and international growth."

On his part, Mr. Husain Yusuf Ateyah, Chief Corporate and Institutional Banking Officer at Al Baraka Islamic Bank, stated: "Joining the Global Trade Finance Programme will further strengthen our capacity to facilitate cross-border trade and support companies, including SMEs, with enhanced risk coverage and optimized liquidity solutions."

Mr. Husain Yusuf Ateyah, Chief Corporate and Institutional Banking



Al Manaratain Company supports *career progression* of 30% of Bahraini employees through Tamkeen

The company leveraged Tamkeen’s Employment Support and Career Development Support Programs including: The National Employment Program, Enterprise Training Support Program and the Wage Increment Support Program

Manama

Al Manaratain has successfully utilized a range of support programs offered by the Labour Fund (Tamkeen), contributing to the career growth of approximately 30% of its Bahraini employees. Al Manaratain is one of Bahrain’s leading companies in concrete block manufacturing, with a legacy spanning over 60 years. This support for Al Manaratain is aligned with Tamkeen’s strategic priorities for 2025, which focus on enhancing the position and competitiveness of Bahrainis in the private sector, equipping Bahrainis



with suitable skills for career development in the private sector, and prioritizing enterprise growth, digitization, and sustainability, and supporting the development of the ecosystem surrounding the labor market and private sector. This support also contributes to the ongoing development of

Bahrain’s construction sector, which employs over 160,000 individuals across various roles and specialties. Al Manaratain benefited from different programs offered by Tamkeen to support employment and career progression, including the Wage Increment Support Program, Enterprise Training Support

Program and the National Employment Program. Through its various programs and offerings, Tamkeen supports enterprises across all sec-

tors and reinforces the private sector’s pivotal role in driving Bahrain’s economic growth. These efforts include initiatives focused on employment and

career progression to position Bahrainis as the first choice of employment in the labor market. Founded in 1959 by Mr. Ali Yousif Hassan Al Khameeri, Al Manaratain is considered a dynamic, visionary, and leading company in manufacturing concrete blocks and concrete products. It is one of the main contributors to the local market in the Kingdom of Bahrain as well as the Gulf market in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The company aims to drive innovation and continuously enhance its industry to deliver distinguished products.

Google agrees to **US\$36m** fine over Android search deals

Sydney, Australia

Google has agreed to pay a Aus\$55 million (US\$36 million) penalty for striking “anti-competitive” deals to pre-install only its own search engine on Android mobile phones sold by two leading Australian telecoms firms.

Australia’s competition authority said it had launched proceedings in the Federal Court and jointly submitted with Google Asia Pacific that it should pay the fine. The court would now decide whether the agreed penalty and other orders were “appropriate”, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission said in a statement released on Monday.

“Conduct that restricts competition is illegal in Australia because it usually means less choice, higher costs or worse service for consumers,” said the commission’s chair, Gina-Cass Gottlieb. Google had cooperated with the competition commission and admitted reaching the deals with telecoms firms Telstra and

Optus, which were in place from December 2019 to March 2021, the body said. In return for only installing Google’s search engine, Telstra and Optus had received a share of the resulting advertising revenue, the commission said. “Google has admitted in reaching those understandings with each of Telstra and Optus it

was likely to have had the effect of substantially lessening competition,” it said. Google said it was pleased to have resolved the regulator’s concerns over the provisions, adding that they had not been in its commercial agreements for “some time”. “We are committed to providing Android device

makers more flexibility to preload browsers and search apps,” a Google spokesperson said. Telstra and Optus entered court-enforceable agreements last year not to make new agreements to pre-install Google search as the default on Android devices, the competition watchdog said.

AUBH students participate in *AFS Youth Assembly 2025, New York*

Manama



Three students from the American University of Bahrain (AUBH), sponsored by the University, represented the Kingdom of Bahrain at the 13th edition of the AFS Youth Assembly. The event took place from 8 to 10 August at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, United States of America, under the theme “Defying Adversity: Empowering Young Global Citizens to Lead” and was attended by senior international leaders and youth changemakers from across the world. The AUBH student delegation comprised Muneera Alhamar, Mariam Madan, and Maria Alawadhi. Their journey began with a visit to the United Nations Headquarters in observance of International Youth Day, which is commemorated annually on 12 August. The students actively engaged in a series of panels and workshops addressing themes such as mental health, peacebuilding, green skills, and women’s leadership, all packed with interactive activities, great energy, and diverse inspiration. In addition to their participation in the sessions, the students took part in the Opportunities Fair, which enabled them to explore pathways for advancing their academic and professional



careers. They also contributed to the Culture Festival on the final day of the event, where they showcased Bahrain’s rich heritage by wearing the traditional Bahraini Thob Nashel, thereby sharing an integral aspect of the nation’s cultural identity with international participants. Dr. Amal Al Awadhi, Dean of

Student Affairs at The American University of Bahrain (AUBH), commended the students who represented the Kingdom of Bahrain at this prestigious international platform, and noted the significance of their participation in fostering dialogue and engagement with cultures from across the globe, while also enhancing Bahrain’s presence in

international forums. Dr. Al Awadhi commented, “By engaging in such international forums, AUBH continues to realize its vision of cultivating a generation of leaders who embody Bahrain’s cultural and intellectual presence on the global stage, demonstrating the capacity for meaningful dialogue, constructive collabora-

tion, and the pursuit of a future shaped by knowledge, ambition, and shared progress.” Dr. Al Awadhi added that the University’s sponsorship of its students’ participation for the fourth consecutive year reflects its support for national efforts to enhance the global standing of Bahraini youth and affirms the quality of education offered at the American University of Bahrain, which is focused on promoting global awareness and leadership skills, and stated, “The participating students returned with new friendships and networks formed with delegations from around the world, along with fresh insights and inspiration to share with their peers, thereby reinforcing the University’s role as an incubator of academic, professional, and leadership excellence.” For their part, the participating students expressed their pride in representing the Kingdom of Bahrain and the American University of Bahrain at the 30th AFS Youth Assembly. They reflected on the value of the experience, noting that it enabled them to enhance their academic and personal growth, broaden their knowledge, enrich their perspectives, build an international network of connections, and engage meaningfully with diverse cultures.



The British School of Bahrain celebrates outstanding A-level results, cementing its place as a global leader in education

Manama

The British School of Bahrain (BSB) is proud to announce another year of exceptional A-Level results, reinforcing its position as one of the Top 15 Private Schools in the Middle East and a globally recognised leader in education. For the sixth consecutive year, BSB students have achieved results that not only exceed international averages but also demonstrate continuous year-on-year improvement.

This year, 134 students sat their A-Levels with remarkable success:

- A* grades: 21%
- A-A*: 47%
- A-B*: 71%
- A-C*: 90%
- Pass rate: 99%

These results reflect BSB's unwavering commitment to academic excellence, outstanding teaching, and personalised support, ensuring that every student is well prepared to pursue their ambitions.

Liz Stanley, Executive Headteacher, commented:

"I am beyond proud of every single BSB student and what they have achieved. Behind these remarkable headline results there are so many wonderful stories of individual success, resilience and ambition. The outstanding progress our students make from the moment they join the BSB Family is built on the highest quality of teaching and learning, positive and nurturing relationships, and our relentless focus on ensuring that each student receives truly personalised and tailored support. My greatest pleasure is knowing that BSB graduates have once again secured places at the world's best universities and all are well equipped to go out into the world, pursue their dreams and shape their reality. Congratulations Class of 2025, we are all excited to see what the future holds!"



A-Level-students-2025

Wayne Ridgway, Head of Senior School, added:

"Congratulations to our graduating cohort for their wonderful results. We are so very proud of all that they achieved throughout their time at BSB, which goes far beyond the grades awarded at the end of their journey. They leave us as well-rounded, widely experienced and highly qualified global citizens, ready to succeed in their next steps and beyond. We are delighted to see so many students gaining access to some of the most prestigious Universities worldwide, including Imperial College London, University College Dublin, Brown University, King's College London, New York University, McGill University and Utrecht University."

Among the many individual achievements, several students have shone brightly, exemplifying BSB's ethos of ambition and excellence:

- Feras Hasan, recipient of the prestigious Crown Prince International Scholarship, achieved 3 A* and 2 A grades, and will pursue Medicine at University College Dublin. His favourite subject at BSB was Biology, which fuelled his passion for medical sciences.
- Vivaan Nair achieved a perfect score of 4* grades and has secured a place at Imperial College London to study Computing. Reflecting on his journey, Vivaan shared:

"I think that my results were very good and indicated the level of dedication that was required to complete my A-level course. All of this would not be possible without my family and friends, who I would like to show appreciation to for providing me the support I needed during challenging times. Additionally, I wish to show gratitude to all of my teachers for providing me the ability to comprehend content and to be able to grow my curiosity in all of my subjects."

These success stories, along with the overall cohort's results, underline BSB's continued reputation for producing ambitious, resilient, and globally minded graduates who go on to thrive at the world's leading universities.

The British School of Bahrain, which offers Outstanding education, is part of the Inspired Education Group, the world leading global

group of premium schools that educates 95,000+ students in over 120+ of the very best schools in the world, across 6 continents.

nents. Inspired's Three Pillars approach to educational philosophy, equally focused on academic excellence, performing and creative arts and sports, is proven to provide a holistic, world-class education. Over 90% of Inspired graduates go on to their first-choice university, with alumni attending leading universities worldwide, including Harvard, University of Oxford, University of Cambridge and University College London.



Liz Stanley
- BSB
Headteacher

Stock markets cautious with eyes on Ukraine talks, US rates

● Wall Street opened mixed, as the broad-based S&P 500 and the tech-heavy Nasdaq indexes retreated while the Dow rose.

AFP | London, United Kingdom

European stock markets rose while Wall Street diverged yesterday as investors warily eyed signs of progress in talks to end Russia's war in Ukraine. Markets were also waiting

Key figures at around 1540 GMT

New York - Dow:	▲ 0.2% at 44,984.14 points
New York - S&P 500:	▼ 0.3% at 6,429.26
New York - Nasdaq:	▼ 0.1% at 21,411.14
London - FTSE 100:	▲ 0.3% at 9,189.22 (close)
Paris - CAC 40:	▲ 1.2% at 7,979.08 (close)
Frankfurt - DAX:	▲ 0.5 percent at 24,423.07 (close)
Tokyo - Nikkei 225:	▼ 0.4% at 43,546.29 (close)
Hang Seng Index:	▼ 0.2% at 25,122.90 (close)
Shanghai - Composite:	■ at 3,727.29 (close)
Euro/dollar:	■ at \$1.1667 from \$1.1666 on Monday
Pound/dollar:	■ at \$1.3501 from \$1.3503
Dollar/yen:	▼ at 147.75 yen from 147.89 yen
Euro/pound:	■ at 86.41 pence from 86.40 pence
West Texas Intermediate:	▼ 0.9% at \$62.11 per barrel
Brent North Sea Crude:	▼ 0.8% at \$66.07 per barrel

for a key speech by the US Federal Reserve chief this week for clues on interest rate cuts that could bolster the world's biggest economy.

Hopes for a Ukraine breakthrough rose after US President Donald Trump said he spoke by phone with Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin, following a meeting with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky and European leaders at the White House.

Zelensky said he was ready for what would be his first face-to-face talks with Putin since Russia's invasion nearly three and a half years ago.

Wall Street opened mixed, as

the broad-based S&P 500 and the tech-heavy Nasdaq indexes retreated while the Dow rose.

London, Paris and Frankfurt stocks all closed higher following a lacklustre session for Asian stock markets.

Defence stocks fell sharply as chances grew for a breakthrough in Ukraine peace talks, with Germany's Rheinmetall dropping 4.7 percent and France's Thales down 4.1 percent.

Investors were also eagerly awaiting a speech on Friday by US Federal Reserve chief Jerome Powell at the annual retreat of global central bankers in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

Traders hope Powell will provide more clues about a widely expected interest-rate cut at the Fed's September meeting, after data last week provided a mixed picture about inflation.

"Markets seem to be exercising some caution ahead of the Jackson Hole meeting later this week and as talks over a peace agreement between Russia and Ukraine remain inconclusive," said AJ Bell head of financial analysis Danni Hewson.

Oil prices, which have been volatile for several days -- Russia is a major crude producer -- retreated by around one% after gains on Monday.

"Oil prices have dropped a little as a deal edges closer, given that it's likely to lead to an easing of sanctions on Russia energy imports, increasing supplies on global markets," said Susannah Streeter, head of money and markets at Hargreaves Lansdown.

Japan's Nikkei briefly hit a record before retreating to close down 0.4%.

Shanghai ended flat while Hong Kong, Sydney and Seoul fell, and Singapore, Bangkok and Mumbai edged up.

Among individual companies, Intel shares advanced 6.9 percent in New York after Japan-based tech investment giant SoftBank said it would invest \$2 billion in the troubled US chip giant.

UK drops demand for access to Apple user data



London, United Kingdom

Britain has dropped its request for access to Apple users' encrypted data, which had created friction between London and Washington, US intelligence chief Tulsi Gabbard said yesterday.

The UK government wanted the tech giant to create a "back door" to let authorities snoop on data uploaded by Apple users if required, for example by law enforcement agencies.

Gabbard said the request "would have enabled access to the protected encrypted data of American citizens and encroached on our civil liberties".

Many tech platforms pride themselves on being able to guarantee privacy through encryption of messages and other content, and providing access to law enforcement has long been seen as off-limits.

The UK "agreed to drop its mandate" after months of work with US President Don-

ald Trump and Vice President JD Vance, Gabbard posted on X.

The UK interior ministry declined to comment, telling AFP that "We do not comment on operational matters."

Apple stopped offering its most advanced encryption feature -- known as Advanced Data Protection -- for British users in February.

ADP ensures that only account holders can view content such as photos and documents stored in the cloud through end-to-end encryption.

Police officials worldwide say encryption can shield criminals, terrorists and pornographers from prosecution even when authorities have a legal warrant for an investigation.

But civil rights and privacy advocates, along with many cybersecurity professionals, praise data encryption as a way to protect against wrongful snooping by authorities as well as hackers.

YOU
KNOW WHAT

The oldest stock exchange in the world is the Amsterdam Stock Exchange, founded in 1602 by the Dutch East India Company. It allowed people to buy and sell shares of the company, essentially inventing the modern concept of the stock market over 400 years ago.

News in brief

◆ **A record 383 aid workers** were killed in 2024, the United Nations said yesterday, branding the figures and lack of accountability a “shameful indictment” of international apathy -- and warning this year’s toll was equally disturbing. The 2024 figure was up 31 percent on the year before, the UN said on World Humanitarian Day, “driven by the relentless conflicts in Gaza, where 181 humanitarian workers were killed, and in Sudan, where 60 lost their lives”. It said state actors were the most common perpetrators of the killings in 2024. The UN said most of those killed were local staff attacked in the line of duty or in their homes. Besides those killed, 308 aid workers were wounded, 125 kidnapped and 45 detained last year.



**Record number
of aid workers killed
in 2024, UN says**

◆ **A MP from Finland’s** Social Democratic Party, Eemeli Peltonen, died in Finland’s parliament building yesterday at the age of 30, the assembly’s communications office said. “The person who passed away in the Parliament Building on the morning of August 19 is Eemeli Peltonen, a member of parliament in his first term,” the statement said, expressing condolences to his relatives. Peltonen died around 11 am local time (8 am GMT), Finnish police said. The police said it “was investigating the causes of death, but do not suspect crime at this stage”. Chair of the social democratic parliamentary group, Tytti Tuppurainen, said the “passing of Eemeli Peltonen deeply shocks me and all of us” in a statement.

**Finnish MP,
30, dies inside
parliament
building**

SPOTLIGHT

300-year-old violin to star
at UK music festival



Berlin-based South Korean violinist Inmo Yang plays the “Carrodus violin” in Berlin, Germany

London, United Kingdom

One of the most valuable violins in the world, crafted three centuries ago and once owned by composer Niccolò Paganini, is to be played at a top UK classical music festival.

The violin, known as the Carrodus, is one of only around 150 made by Giuseppe Guarneri del Gesù known to have survived down the centuries, and was acquired by a philanthropic group for \$20 million in June.

It was crafted in 1743 in Cremona, northern Italy, and will be played for the first time as part of the BBC Proms by South Korean violinist Inmo Yang.

The violin once owned by Italian virtuoso Paganini will be seen on August 28 at London’s Royal Albert Hall.

“I can’t believe how lucky I am to have this instrument. This is easily one of the greatest instruments ever made,” Yang, who is also making his debut at the Proms, told AFP.

“I feel a duty to take good care of the instrument and make a beautiful sound, so that people know that it’s worth playing these instruments rather than having them in a vault in a museum.”

The Stretton Society, a network of philanthropists, patrons and sponsors that has loaned the violin to Yang, seeks to acquire rare and valuable instruments to lend to the world’s leading musicians.

Guarneri was one of the most important violin makers of all time, alongside Italian luthier Antonio Stradivari, said the society’s co-founder Stephan Jansen.

Whereas Stradivari made instruments for the Church and the nobility, Guarneri’s violins were made for musicians, and they became renowned for their deep and sonorous tones, Jansen said.

“Inmo is one of the finest musicians of his generation,” Jansen told AFP.

“When he came to my house and I showed him the fiddle, it was clear from the very first second that this is a match,” he said. “Because in the end, it’s also about chemistry, you know?”

Yang will perform Pablo de Sarasate’s “Carmen Fantasy”, which he described as “a virtuoso piece for the violin”.

The broad palette of the violin adds the “strong, at times flirty character of the Carmen character,” said Yang.

The instrument’s sound is also “quite unpredictable,” he said, and “this kind of capricious nature really gives more liveliness to the piece”.

“Thinking that Paganini used this instrument is kind of spiritual, and I think people also want to hear Paganini’s music played on his own violin,” Yang added.



Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky (R) gather with British Prime Minister Keir Starmer, US President Donald Trump, Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, German Chancellor Friedrich Merz, and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen in the East Room of the White House in Washington, DC,

Russia says peace deal
must ensure its ‘security’

AFP | Paris, France

Russia said yesterday that any deal on Ukraine should ensure its own security and that of Russians in Ukraine, as Kyiv’s allies met to discuss possible peace talks, after suggestions that Volodymyr Zelensky could sit down with Vladimir Putin.

Hopes of a breakthrough rose when the Ukrainian president and European leaders met in Washington on Monday with US President Donald Trump, who said he had also spoken by phone with his Russian counterpart.

But Russia warned that any solution of the war in Ukraine must respect “Russia’s security interests”, with its Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov adding that any meeting between the leaders “must be prepared very thoroughly”.

Face-to-face talks between Zelensky and Putin would be their first since Russia’s brutal invasion three-and-a-half years ago.

The Ukraine war, which has killed tens of thousands of people, has ground to a virtual stalemate despite a few recent Russian advances, defying Trump’s push to end it.

Lavrov told state TV channel Rossiya 24 that any deal to end the conflict must ensure the rights of “Russian-speaking people who live in Ukraine”.

His comments came as France and Britain were co-hosting a virtual meeting of about 30 of Kyiv’s allies known as the “coalition of the willing” to “keep them up to date on what was decided”, President Emmanuel Macron told French news channel LCI.

“I said same thing”



TDI | agencies

During critical discussions over the Russia-Ukraine war, which has lasted over three years, a US reporter once again commented on Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky’s attire during his meeting with President Donald Trump.

“You look fabulous in that suit,” said Brian Glenn, a conservative reporter, complimenting Zelensky, whom he had previously criticised for his clothing choices during a February visit to the Oval Office. “I said the same thing,” Trump interjected into the conversation between Zelensky and Glenn.

“That’s the one who attacked you last time,” Trump reminded his Ukrainian counterpart, as laughter rippled through the room.

“I remember that,” Zelensky replied to President Trump.

“You’re wearing the same suit,” Zelensky continued, prompting laughter from US officials and journalists in the room. During their last meeting in February in the Oval Office, Glenn had asked Zelensky, “Why don’t you wear a suit? You’re in the highest office in this country, and you refuse to wear one. Do you even own a suit? Many Americans feel you’re not respecting the dignity of this office.”

In response to Glenn’s question, Zelensky explained that he had decided to wear his military garb until peace is achieved in Ukraine.

He added that work on setting the peace talks will start after that, hinting at Geneva as a possible location.

Macron also voiced wider European concern about Moscow’s territorial ambitions, after suggestions Ukraine could be forced to concede parts of the embattled Donbas region still under its control.

On the streets of Kyiv, there was scepticism about whether the latest talks can

Trump paused
meeting with
Europeans to call
Putin: source

Washington, United States

US President Donald Trump interrupted a meeting with European leaders at the White House Monday to call Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin on efforts to reach a Ukraine deal, a source close to the talks said.

The call came as Trump hosted Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky and the leaders of Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Finland, the European Commission and NATO, the source told AFP on condition of anonymity.

end the grinding conflict.

“The main problem is Putin himself doesn’t want it,” Anton, 32, who works in a warehouse, told AFP.

“They can meet as many times as they want but Putin doesn’t need it and Donald Trump doesn’t really know what to do.”

But in Moscow, some people were more hopeful. “I hope we can agree on mutually beneficial terms,” said Vyacheslav, 23, who works for the government.

He added that it would have been better if the meeting between the presidents happened “at the very beginning.”





Russia returns bodies of 1,000 Ukrainian troops

Kyiv, Ukraine

Russia on Tuesday re-returned the bodies of what it said were 1,000 Ukrainian soldiers, five of whom died while in captivity, a Ukrainian government agency said.

Ukraine returned the bodies of 19 Russian soldiers in exchange, a Russian official said.

Tens of thousands of soldiers have been killed on both sides since Russia invaded its neighbour in February 2022, though neither side regularly publishes data on their own casualties.

The exchange of prisoners of war and repatriation of war dead has been one of the few areas of cooperation between the two countries since the war began.

The two sides have intensified these efforts in recent months during talks in Istanbul.

"According to the Russian side, 1,000 bodies belonging to Ukrainian military personnel have been returned to Ukraine," Ukraine's Coordination Headquarters for the Treatment of Prisoners of War said in a statement on Telegram.

"Unfortunately, among those repatriated are the bodies of five Ukrainian servicemen who died in captivity," it added.

It said law enforcement would begin the process of identifying the soldiers.

The exchange was carried out in accordance with agreements reached between the two sides in Istanbul, Russian negotiator Vladimir Medinsky said.

Kyiv initially said the two had agreed to "exchange" the bodies of 6,000 Ukrainian soldiers for as many Russians.

Putin suggested Moscow for Zelensky summit: sources close to talks

Kyiv, Ukraine

Vladimir Putin proposed holding a peace summit with Ukraine's Volodymyr Zelensky in Moscow, according to three sources familiar with a phone call between US President Donald Trump and Russia's leader.

The discussion between Trump and Putin came during high-stakes talks in Washington between Trump, Zelensky and several European leaders that back Ukraine in its fighting against Russia's invasion.

"Putin mentioned Moscow" during their call on Monday, one of the sources told AFP, adding that Zelensky had said "no" in response.

A diplomatic source close to the discussions said that European leaders had told Trump that Putin's proposal "did not seem like a good idea."

Netanyahu slams Macron for fuelling 'antisemitic fire'

AFP | Jerusalem, Undefined

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu upbraided President Emmanuel Macron in a letter seen by AFP Tuesday, blaming the French leader's move to recognise a Palestinian state for fuelling anti-semitism.

Late last month, Macron said France would formally recognise a Palestinian state during a UN meeting in September, drawing a swift rebuke from Israel.

By announcing the move, France was set to join a growing list of nations to recognise statehood for the Palestinians since Israel launched a bombardment of Gaza nearly two years ago



Israeli troops deployed in the bordering area of the besieged Palestinian territory

in response to Hamas's shock

In the letter sent to Macron, Netanyahu said antisemitism

had "surged" in France following the announcement.

"Your call for a Palestinian state pours fuel on this antisemitic fire. It is not diplomacy, it is appeasement. It rewards Hamas terror, hardens Hamas's refusal to free the hostages, emboldens those who menace French Jews and encourages the Jew-hatred now stalking your streets," Netanyahu wrote in the letter.

The Israeli premier went on to call on Macron to confront antisemitism in France, saying he must "replace weakness with action, appeasement with resolve, and to do so by a clear date: the Jewish New Year, September 23".

Indian PM to visit China

Modi will attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit

● Wang said China "attaches great importance" to Modi's visit

● Indian premier said he was "glad to meet" Wang

● India raised concerns with Wang about the construction of a mega-dam

AFP | New Delhi, India



India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi shaking hands with Beijing's Foreign Minister Wang Yi during a bilateral meeting in New Delhi

Doval said, speaking of "new energy" in diplomatic ties.

Wang said China "attaches great importance" to Modi's visit to the SCO summit, according to an official translator.

"History and reality prove once again that a healthy and stable China-India relationship serves the fundamental and long-term interests of both of our countries," Wang added.

The Indian premier said late on Tuesday he was "glad to meet" Wang in New Delhi.

"Since my meeting with President Xi (Jinping) in Kazan last

year, India-China relations have made steady progress guided by respect for each other's interests and sensitivities," Modi said in a post on social media platform X.

"I look forward to our next meeting in Tianjin on the sidelines of the SCO Summit," he said.

"Stable, predictable, constructive ties between India and China will contribute significantly to regional as well as global peace and prosperity."

India also raised concerns with Wang about the construc-

tion of a mega-dam on a river that runs through Tibet and India and the effect it could have on downstream states, Delhi's foreign ministry said in a statement.

"The need for utmost transparency in this regard was strongly underlined," it said.

Beijing approved the project in December on the river -- known as Yarlung Tsangpo in Tibet and Brahmaputra in India -- linking it to China's carbon neutrality targets and economic goals in the Tibet region.

Wang said during talks on Monday with Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, India's foreign minister, the two countries should "view each other as partners and opportunities, rather than adversaries or threats".



India and China share one of the longest international borders in the world, stretching about 3,488 kilometres.

UN slams Israel's block on bringing tents into Gaza

AFP | Geneva, Switzerland

The United Nations took aim yesterday at Israel's months-long block on bringing tents into the Gaza Strip, despite continual displacement orders being issued to civilians in the devastated territory.

Jens Laerke, spokesman for the UN humanitarian agency OCHA, said shelter items had been banned from entering Gaza for about five months --



Tents housing displaced Palestinians in Gaza City

a period in which more than 700,000 people had been displaced or re-displaced.

"They may have been provided with a tent, and then they are displaced again and they have no possibility of taking the tent with them," he told a press briefing in Geneva.

He said Israel had classified tents as "dual use" because they considered tent poles could potentially be used for a military purpose.



TOP
4
TWEETS

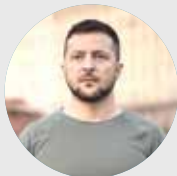
01



Last year, at least 390 laid workers - a record high - were killed across the world. International law is clear: Humanitarians can never be targeted. This World Humanitarian Day, let's #ActForHumanity & say in one voice: An attack on humanitarians is an attack on humanity..

@antoniogetterres

02



Yesterday, important talks took place in Washington with the President of the United States and European leaders. This was truly a significant step toward ending the war and ensuring the security of Ukraine and our people.

@ZelenskyyUa

03



Glad to meet Foreign Minister Wang Yi. Since my meeting with President Xi in Kazan last year, India-China relations have made steady progress guided by respect for each other's interests and sensitivities. I look forward to our next meeting in Tianjin on the sidelines of the SCO Summit. Stable, predictable, constructive ties between India and China will contribute significantly to regional as well as global peace and prosperity.

@narendramodi

04



A historic day at the White House as European leaders joined President Trump in the Oval Office.

@WhiteHouse

Disclaimer: (Views expressed by columnists are personal and need not necessarily reflect our editorial stance)

Israel demands release of **all hostages** after Hamas backs new truce offer

Mediators are awaiting an official Israeli response to the plan

● Qatar expressed guarded optimism for the new proposal

● The latest deal proposes an initial 60-day truce

● Netanyahu faces increasing pressure at home to end the war

AFP | Jerusalem, Undefined

A senior Israeli official yesterday said the government stood firm on its call for the release of all hostages in any future Gaza deal, after Hamas accepted a new truce proposal.

Mediators are awaiting an official Israeli response to the plan, a day after Hamas signalled its readiness for a fresh round of talks aimed at ending nearly two years of war.

Mediator Qatar expressed guarded optimism for the new proposal, noting that it was “almost identical” to an earlier version agreed to by Israel.

Speaking on the condition of anonymity, a senior Israeli official told AFP the government’s stance had not changed and demanded the release of all hostages in any deal.

The two foes have held on-and-off indirect negotiations throughout the war, resulting in two short truces during which Israeli hostages were released in exchange for Palestinian prisoners, but they have ultimately failed to broker a lasting ceasefire.

Qatar and Egypt, backed by the United States, have mediated the frequent rounds of shuttle diplomacy.

Egypt said Monday that it and Qatar had sent the new proposal to Israel, adding “the ball is now



Palestinians gather to receive cooked meals from a food distribution center in the Nuseirat refugee camp in the central Gaza Strip



A Palestinian boy pulls a wheelchair past destroyed buildings in the al-Tuffah neighbourhood of Gaza City

in its court”.

Qatari foreign ministry spokesman Majed al-Ansari said

on Tuesday that Hamas had given a “very positive response, and it truly was almost identical to

what the Israeli side had previously agreed to”.

“We cannot make any claims

Australia chides Israel after diplomats’ visas revoked

Sydney, Australia

Australia’s foreign minister on Tuesday criticised Israel for revoking visas held by Canberra’s diplomatic representatives to the Palestinian Authority.

Israel’s tit-for-tat move followed Australia’s decision on Monday evening to block a far-right Israeli politician from the country ahead of a speaking tour.

Australia and Israel have been increasingly at odds since Canberra declared it would recognise a Palestinian state at the UN General Assembly in September.

Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong said revoking the diplomats’ visas was an “unjustified reaction” by Israel.

“At a time when dialogue and diplomacy are needed more than ever, the Netanyahu Government is isolating Israel and undermining international efforts towards peace and a two-state solution,” she said in a statement.

Israeli Prime Minister Ben-

jamin Netanyahu hit back on Tuesday, slamming his Australian counterpart Anthony Albanese as “a weak politician who betrayed Israel and abandoned Australia’s Jews”.

The Australian government on Monday cancelled the visa of far-right Israeli politician Simcha Rothman, whose ultranationalist party is in Netanyahu’s governing coalition.

Rothman had been scheduled to speak at events organised by the Australian Jewish Association.

Hours later, Israel’s Foreign Minister Gideon Saar said he had revoked the visas of Australia’s representatives to the Palestinian Authority.

“I also instructed the Israeli Embassy in Canberra to carefully examine any official Australian visa application for entry to Israel,” he said.

“This follows Australia’s decisions to recognise a ‘Palestinian state’ and against the backdrop of Australia’s unjustified refusal to grant visas to a number of Israeli figures.”

that a breakthrough has been made. But we do believe it is a positive point,” he added.

Mounting pressure

According to a report in Egyptian state-linked outlet Al-Qahera News, the latest deal proposes an initial 60-day truce, a partial hostage release, the freeing of some Palestinian prisoners and provisions allowing for the entry of aid.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has yet to publicly comment on the plan, but said last week that his country would accept “an agreement in which all the hostages are released at once and according to our con-

ditions for ending the war”.

Senior Hamas official Mahmoud Mardawi said on social media that his group had “opened the door wide to the possibility of reaching an agreement, but the question remains whether Netanyahu will once again close it, as he has done in the past”.

Hamas’s acceptance of the proposal comes as Netanyahu faces increasing pressure at home and abroad to end the war.

On Sunday, tens of thousands took to the streets in the Israeli city of Tel Aviv to call for the end of the war and a deal to free the remaining hostages still being held captive.

Ex-owner of world’s largest rhino farm arrested for **trafficking**

AFP | Johannesburg, South Africa

South African police said they arrested Tuesday the former owner of the world’s largest rhino conservation farm on charges of smuggling the horns of the endangered animals.

John Hume was arrested with five other people following a “complex investigation into transnational trafficking of rhino horns” that began in 2017, the police’s specialised Hawks unit said.

Trading in rhino horns is legal in South Africa among citizens however local laws do not allow for their export due to an international ban.

Hume, in his mid 80s, owned the largest rhino farm in the world until 2023 when it was bought by the African Parks NGO.

The 7,800-hectare (19,270-acre) “Platinum Rhino” site in the North West province is home to around 2,000 animals, 15 per-



A ranger measures a rhino’s horn to be trimmed at John Hume’s Rhino Ranch in Klerksdorp, in the North Western Province of South Africa

cent of the world’s remaining wild population of southern

white rhino.

Investigators said they had

discovered allegations of fraud involving government officials

who issued permits for about 964 rhino horns to be sold locally but which were instead shipped to illegal markets in Southeast Asia.

Hume and the five others appeared in a magistrate’s court in the capital Pretoria and were granted bail, Hawks spokesman Christopher Singo told AFP.

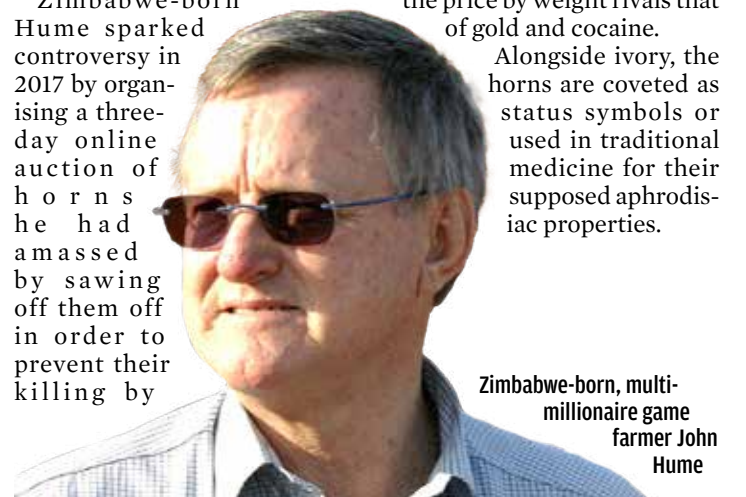
Zimbabwe-born Hume sparked

controversy in 2017 by organising a three-day online auction of horns he had amassed by sawing off them off in order to prevent their killing by

poachers, though the sale attracted fewer buyers than anticipated.

Once abundant across sub-Saharan Africa, rhino numbers fell dramatically due to hunting by European colonisers and large-scale poaching, with their horns highly sought after on black markets, particularly in Asia, where the price by weight rivals that of gold and cocaine.

Alongside ivory, the horns are coveted as status symbols or used in traditional medicine for their supposed aphrodisiac properties.



Zimbabwe-born, multi-millionaire game farmer John Hume

celebs



Bang showbiz | Los Angeles

Selena Gomez: Wizards of Waverly Place changed my life

Selena Gomez's "whole life changed" when she joined *Wizards of Waverly Place*. The 33-year-old actress auditioned for a series of TV shows, including the spin-off of Lizzie McGuire, before she joined the cast of *Wizards of Waverly Place*, the hit Disney Channel sitcom. Selena - who starred on the TV show between 2007 and 2012 - said on the *Therapuss* with Jake Shane podcast: "It was actually a weird thing because I was on three pilots for the Disney channel. One was the spin-off of Lizzie McGuire. One was the spin-off of the *Suite Life of Zach and Cody* and the last one was *Wizards*. "So by then all of them didn't get picked up and I was just kind of at my wits end, but not in a bad way just kind of thought 'okay,

well this is not going to work out' and *Wizards* got picked up and my whole life changed after that." Selena still feels proud to be part of the "Disney high school experience". The brunette beauty - who has also enjoyed huge success with her music - reflected: "It was an immediate feeling of oh I achieved my dream at that point in time. "I was such a huge fan of the channel. I was a huge fan of what they did for our generation, and it was an honor. I wear it proudly. I definitely am not ashamed of being part of the Disney high school experience ... It was all of us, all from the Jonas Brothers, to Miley [Cyrus] and Demi [Lovato], and then it was Zendaya. It was just so cool to see all the people you so 'went to school with' if you will. It's good to see them all do their thing." Despite her success, Selena's family tried to ensure that she remained grounded. The actress - who is now engaged to record producer Benny Blanco - said: "I just remember my mom being on my a** all the time about making sure that any sort of sudden exaggerated fan moment is meant to be treated with respect."



Selena Gomez

Emma Stone's daughter is her 'greatest gift'

Bang showbiz | Los Angeles

Emma Stone has described her daughter as the "greatest gift" of her life. The Oscar-winning actress welcomed Louise Jean, four, with her husband Dave McCary in 2021 and says that parenthood tops any acting role. Emma, 36, told *Vogue*: "There's nothing I feel luckier about. She's the great-

est gift of my life, for sure." The *Poor Things* star explained that her daughter has "simplified" her acting career as she weighs up whether to accept parts depending on how long she will be separated from her child for. Stone said: "It's streamlined everything. It's a cliched thing to say, but it changes everything. And simplifies everything." The *La La Land* star also discussed how becoming a parent has impacted her performances in front of the camera.

She explained: "I do think it unlocks things. I don't know if it's specifically that, but I feel everything I could possibly feel, because everything has exploded." Emma shaved off all her hair for her role in Yorgos Lanthimos' picture *Bugonia* and said that there is "no better feeling in the world" than cutting off your locks. She said: "The first shower when you've shaved your head? Oh my God, it's amazing."



Emma Stone

Jessica Alba is learning to 'let life happen' after Cash Warren breakup

Bang showbiz | Los Angeles

Jessica Alba has learned to "let life happen" after her split from Cash Warren. The 44-year-old actress announced her breakup in January after 16 years of marriage to her ex - with whom she has Honor, 17, Haven, 13, and seven-year-old Hayes - and filed for divorce a month later, listing their date of separation as December 27, 2024. Reflecting on her life since the split, she told *Extra*: "I think everybody can relate to, you try to plan so much, especially as a mom, you're always trying to plan, plan, and control things. "And I think you just realize, especially as time goes by, that what's meant for you is actually what's going to show up and what's going to happen. "Sometimes, you just have to let life happen and enjoy yourself and things will fall into place. Trust the process."

Around six months after confirming her breakup from the 46-year-old film producer, she was seen on vacation with Marvel star Danny Ramirez, 32, in Cancun, Mexico, and they've since been spotted packing on the PDA. Cash is pleased for his ex, and recently told *TMZ*: "I'm happy for her. I don't know him, but he seems like a good guy." Asked whether he is see-

ing anyone, he replied: "No, not yet. Let me know if you got anybody." On July 29, Jessica and Danny were seen kissing outside Beverly Glen Deli in Beverly Hills. The Honey actress announced her split from Cash via a social media post in January. She wrote: "I've been on a journey of self realization and transformation for years - both as an individual and in partnership with Cash."



Jessica Alba

Pamela Anderson has 'cracked the code' for social media

Bang showbiz | Los Angeles

Pamela Anderson believes she has "cracked the code" for living with social media without getting "depressed". The former *Baywatch* star, 57, fears many people get stressed out by platforms such as Instagram because they have the ability to create the perfect version of themselves through editing tricks - but Pamela is adamant she looks exactly the same as her pictures in real life and

means she doesn't have to "fret". She told *Glamour* magazine: "We're going through a time when people are taking a lot of pictures of themselves, there's a lot of social media, but they don't really look like their social media. "I've cracked the code: I actually look in the mirror like I do on social media. Then you don't have to get so depressed. Or [if] I see a bad picture of myself, I don't fret over anything like that anymore." She went on to add her new state of mind is linked to her decision to scale back her use of

make-up, adding: "'Maybe it's accentuated or maybe it's not relatable because I've been in this business, but I think people can relate a little bit. "They're always doing selfies and putting them on their [feeds], and then they're like: 'Oh, I don't look like that', or 'I look bad right now', when really you just look like you! "I didn't plan on not wearing make-up as a political statement, but I'm glad it's resonating. I really just did it for me so I could - I had to - get off the crazy train."

I've cracked the code: I actually look in the mirror like I do on social media. Then you don't have to get so depressed. Or [if] I see a bad picture of myself, I don't fret over anything like that anymore

PAMELA ANDERSON

Pamela previously described her decision to ditch make-up as a "social experiment", telling *Times Radio*: "I've always known that beauty does come from within, and that physical beauty is perishable. "As much as my mom wants me to go out with an eye on, I'm experimenting. This is a social experiment. I'm doing what I think is right right now." She continued, "I'm not against make-up. I just feel like this is a chapter for me that I'm trying to figure out who I am."



Pamela Anderson

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How to play

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

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Across

1- Meat-grading org; 5- Chilean pianist Claudio; 10- Prepared to drive; 14- Retail store; 15- Door handles; 16- Gaelic language of Ireland or Scotland; 17- Monetary unit of Ireland; 18- ... who lived in ...; 19- Cape Canaveral org; 20- Kingdom; 22- Learned; 24- Turner of "Peyton Place"; 27- Heroic; 28- Horse with a golden coat; 32- Try to bite; 36- Jackie's second; 37- Imitating; 39- Old anesthetic; 40- Hang in the balance; 42- Gaze fixedly; 44- Hanna-Barbera bear; 45- Inquired; 47- Unescorted; 49- Never, to Nietzsche; 50- One in second, say; 51- Unfortunate; 53- Soccer legend; 56- This can be guilty or not guilty; 57- Directed toward one's residence; 61- Reptile; 65- Economist Greenspan; 66- It's a trap; 69- Soft drink choice; 70- Russo of "Get Shorty"; 71- Duck with soft down; 72- Cabinet dept.; 73- Old oath; 74- Pee Wee of the Dodgers; 75- Visualized;

Down

1- Manipulative one; 2- Elisabeth of "Leaving Las Vegas"; 3- "David Copperfield" wife; 4- Son of Zeus; 5- Alias; 6- Hosp. staffers; 7- Architect Mies van der ...; 8- Home; 9- Deplete; 10- Stick-to-it-iveness; 11- Part of QED; 12- " ... quam videri" (North Carolina's motto); 13- Six feet under; 21- Baby's cry; 23- Movie theater; 25- Bites; 26- Singer Baker; 28- Pertaining to Benedict XVI; 29- You ... right; 30- Rings of a chain; 31- ... fours (crawling); 33- Call; 34- Protection; 35- Attempts; 38- Small assemblage; 41- Intensified; 43- Business letter abbr.; 46- Sketched; 48- Squeezes (out); 52- Knights' weapons; 54- Modern surgical tool; 55- Tennessee ... Ford; 57- Fabled loser; 58- Couturier Cassini; 59- "Give that ... cigar!"; 60- Florida's Miami ... County; 62- First class; 63- Swiss artist; 64- Acquire through work; 67- Hi ...; 68- Bard's "before";

Yesterday's solution

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UNIQUE FACILITY SERVICES W.L.L has a va-

cancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33306469 or CHIRIVELLAHARIKZ@gmail.com

V K M INTERIOR DECORATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66306752 or MISHRARAJAN392@gmail.com

KVS WORLD CONSTRUCTION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37787445 or vvmari99@gmail.com

INVENIO BUSINESS SOLUTIONS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SENIOR PROGRAMMER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17786809 or yusuf.ashoor@invenio-solutions.com

MARKOR BUILDING SERVICE & MAINTENANCE COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66330299 or SAED.KHANBH@OUTLOOK.COM

HANKO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 32388017 or HARITHA310889@gmail.com

THE M SUITE has a vacancy for the occupation of ROOM ATTENDANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39444614 or IMAGINATION-WORLD@LIVE.COM

KHAISTA YOUSAF SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35306735 or KHAISTABH12@gmail.com

KAMROLI REAL ESTATE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33286823 or BUSINESSBAYY05@gmail.com

LAL HAWELI RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33006342 or NAIMASHAHID05@gmail.com

BALA CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33802366 or club88bah@yahoo.com

AL EMAD SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 38257556 or NIZARMAHEEN@gmail.com

POWER GRID GENERAL TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33540652 or SEEMABARSHAD6619@gmail.com

BILAL SAEED CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35969113 or JAC.SERVICESBH@gmail.com

BILAL SAEED CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35969113 or JAC.SERVICESBH@gmail.com

ALMAIMOUN CONSTRUCTION AND TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of RECEPTIONIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66346110 or HUSSAINALBANNA@gmail.com

AL-BARAQ ADVERTISING AND PUBLICITY BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of ADVERTISING SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33005774 or IMRANHAFEEZ455@gmail.com

NETWORK CONTENT COMMUNICATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37510512 or MAAZHASANKHEL@gmail.com

POWER TECH DEVELOPMENT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39279042 or gm@powertechdevelopment.com

EARLY WISH AUTO UPHOLSTERY CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CASHIER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33853414 or IZZHANADEEM2014@gmail.com

KAPPALAM STREET RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of SANDWICHES MAKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39755678 or Kappaalam@gmail.com

COMBITEC PROPERTIES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17731025 or COMBITECPROPERTIES2020@gmail.com

METRO TOWER CARGO HANDLING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66906887 or METROTOWERCARGO@gmail.com

RAMSIS ENGINEERING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SHEET METAL WORKERS (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17830801 or Abbas@ramsisc.com.bh

ALHAMAD CONSTRUCTION & DEVELOPMENT CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17226618 or ACKR007@gmail.com

ROYAL SARAY RESORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 77707070 or adam.mohamed@fairmont.com

ROYAL SARAY RESORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77707070 or adam.mohamed@fairmont.com

ALHANAFI CLEANING CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39904366 or hanafico@batelco.com.bh

AHMED MANSOOR ALAALI has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17265555 or adeel.hameed@al-aali.com

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

VIET SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PROMOTER(COMMERCIAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17870023 or VIETTOURISM.BH@gmail.com

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

THC FACILITY MANAGEMENT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17100190 or satish@cinco-me.com

SEAM MASTERS TAILORING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASTER CUTTER(GENTS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34584631 or GHULAMHUSSAIN2916@gmail.com

JOLLYWOOD CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33979843 or maherukhiqbal83@gmail.com

WILDFLOWER INTERIOR DECORATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33006141 or RAJAGLOBALSERVICE@gmail.com

ZAHRA AL HAYAT CLEANING CONTRACTING CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39149111 or ZAHRACLEANING@gmail.com

AHMED HAMAD JASSIM ALJOWDER CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of CIVIL ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17322482 or HAMAD691@HOTMAIL.COM

Al Amal Services Co W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39657600 or INFO@ALAMALSERVICES.COM

ABBAS ABDULJABBAR GHULOOM ZAINAL has a vacancy for the occupation of FARMER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17258686 or zainalproperty@gmail.com

AL JEMARAH SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35616128 or BHAMJAD97@gmail.com

ABO ALEZZ RESTAURANT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36236266 or NASSER.GHAZI94@gmail.com

AHMED MANSOOR ALAALI has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17265555 or adeel.hameed@al-aali.com

ALSAMAN FOR SAND AND BLOCK W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SEAMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17786818 or ZKALWANI@gmail.com

IN & OUT SUPERMARKET has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17530005 or KHALID@KBHGROUP.COM

NADEEN SCHOOL DILMUNIA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TEACHER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39206432 or shanee.puri@nadeenschool.com

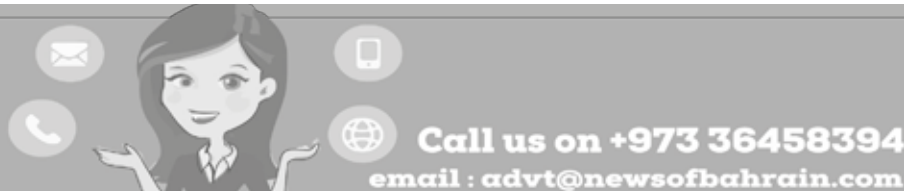
ALSAD WORKSHOP TO REPAIR AIR CONDITIONER, WASHING MACHINE AND REFRIGERATOR has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANICAL HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36080026 or ES.HAS-SAN92@gmail.com

PANTHER AUTO SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17242566 or MH2990M@gmail.com

BEYOND CATERING BOUTIQUE has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17774554 or beyondcatering.boutique@gmail.com

THE ELITE CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER(MACHINERY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 37074044 or HAMAD.A.ALMAJED@gmail.com

Classifieds



VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

ABU USAMA GENTS SALOON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HAIR DRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38702337 or THEUAMALASHARII@GMAIL.COM

MAGIC SHINE CLEANING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17345051 or info@magicshinebh.com

LOTUS HOTEL has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17251444 or NAMALCO@BATELCO.COM.BH

AL ZEABQ BOUTIQUE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17414011 or aleaba10@hotmail.com

LAZER AUTO SERVICES . W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CAR WASHER/CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17744999 or AAREFHEJRES66@GMAIL.COM

seoul resturant w.l.l has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33860121 or seouladliya@gmail.com

ANEES CARGO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38137429 or FAHAD.BH.PK@GMAIL.COM

UNIQUE FACILITY SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33306469 or CHIRIVELLAHARIKZ@GMAIL.COM

Evershine Jewellery W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17005949 or SHINEJEWEL@HOTMAIL.COM

Ramada Hotel and Suites Amwaj W. L. L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 13600111 or mannai.hr@mannaitrading.com

alamri Carpet has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPET REPAIRER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17716158 or salamri@live.com

PRESTIGE BEAUTY SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17666906 or S.baqermohd@gmail.com

: THE COMMERCIAL NAME IS DELETED W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(-JUICE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33341786 or KAHLONBAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

HAVANA GARAGE CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of GARAGE MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33470452 or HAVNAGARAGECO@GMAIL.COM

PEPPER CAFE - BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39690999 or HASH2H2@HOTMAIL.COM

RANIPUR PUBLICITY AND ADVERTISING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33286823 or RAMZANMUGHAL786055@GMAIL.COM

Riyada Solutions W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (CORPORATE RELATIONS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17531534 or info@riyadaconsulting.com

TURBAT CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE WORKER HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33286823 or BUSINESSBAY05@GMAIL.COM

RIBAS SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35466434 or USSJIL@GMAIL.COM

MUHAMMAD ASIF FOR REPAIR OF ELECTRICAL CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33158417 or ASFJUTT090@GMAIL.COM

BOKHWA CONTRACTING & TRADING GROUP W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17255980 or ADEEBALI@BOKHOWAGROUP.COM

BOKHWA CONTRACTING & TRADING GROUP W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17255980 or ADEEBALI@BOKHOWAGROUP.COM

PAKEEZA RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34228796 or pakeezagroup12@gmail.com

everest printing has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33650003 or BUSALMAN.555@GMAIL.COM

COURIERX W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38870666 or HAMAD@COURIERX.COM

KIDS CIRCLE GENERAL TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCE).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 13314464 or HALJAMRI6@GMAIL.COM

NANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 13314464 or HALJAMRI6@GMAIL.COM

VIBRANT SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17008217 or JALALEBRAHIM@GMAIL.COM

MASKATI BROTHERS & COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of SENIOR SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17464646 or jobs@maskatibros.com

JIBOO FOOD TRANSPORTATION SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ADMINISTRATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39057504 or TRNCKBS@GMAIL.COM

SALALAH GATE SHAWARMA SINCE 2020 has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(JUICE & SANDWICHES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17344787 or ALZUHOOR@HOTMAIL.COM

AL MOAYYED LANDSCAPES AND SWIMMING POOLS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(GARDENING), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or proffice@almoayyedcg.com

ALMOAYYED CLEANING & MAINTENANCE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or proffice@almoayyedcg.com

KING HAMAD AMERICAN MISSION HOSPITAL N.P.C has a vacancy for the occupation of NURSE(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39748885 or CATHERINE@AMH.ORG.BH

COMPREHENSIVE FLEET SOLUTIONS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35562421 or bizgardenbh@gmail.com

TEA TIME W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39867872 or HASH2H2@GMAIL.COM

ZEE COMBINED SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37077631 or AZSTARTUP.BH@GMAIL.COM

JET PRO CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33712072 or MILTONSERVICESBH@GMAIL.COM

HEALTHY CALORIE RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33358885 or FMUBARAK@HOTMAIL.COM

THE SINGER CAFE has a vacancy for the occupation of RECEPTIONIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33335319 or 4BROTHERSMEDIA@GMAIL.COM

AL-AHLIA CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17737000 or h.s.m1111@gmail.com

Voltech Services Co. WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33882097 or MEZMEZLINE@GMAIL.COM

SAMI ULLAH FOR PACKAGING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37092324 or SAMIULLAHSEALBADSHAH@GMAIL.COM

CHINESE SUPERMARKET CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39194790 or hr.adm@himart.bh

COSMOSA DECORATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DECORATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36717224 or LUQBH1233@GMAIL.COM

SHAHMEER SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33071415 or SHAHMEER3307@GMAIL.COM

DSV SOLUTIONS B.S.C CLOSED has a vacancy for the occupation of STOREKEEPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17461000 or bincy.varghese@dsv.com

DREAM PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or HRD@DREAMGROUP.BH

UM KHALID KITCHEN has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39199644 or GANSHY123@YAHOO.COM

ARAB ACADEMY FOR RESEARCH & STUDIES(AHLIA UNIVERSITY) B.S.C- CLO has a vacancy for the occupation of PROFESSOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17315533 or mmajed@ahlia.edu.bh

DREAM PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or HRD@DREAMGROUP.BH

ALREEF DAIRY has a vacancy for the occupation of PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35015666 or Drrazzaq82@yahoo.com

DREAM PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEAN-

ER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or HRD@DREAMGROUP.BH

DREAM PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or HRD@DREAMGROUP.BH

AHMED MANSOOR ALAALI has a vacancy for the occupation of STEEL FABRICATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17265555 or adeel.hameed@al-aali.com

INTERNATIONAL 360 SECURITY SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77999360 or FISHERMANSENSE@GMAIL.COM

HEALTHY CALORIE RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33358885 or FMUBARAK@HOTMAIL.COM

M A M G SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38206212 or MUGALZA@GMAIL.COM

ROHEN AL JANOOB CO. WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of FOREMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34229255 or SIBYVARGHESE19@GMAIL.COM

SIATEC M M A DECORATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(PAINT FINISHER), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36803644 or LUQMANARIF0405@GMAIL.COM

NURA NUHA TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17224944 or SHAFEERSMN@GMAIL.COM

AL HORAIN SUPPORT SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(-MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34233719 or ZUBAIRASLAM356356@GMAIL.COM

SAMOSA WORLD CAFETERIA. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33619998 or MUFAIZ0102@GMAIL.COM

ALSALAM SPECIALIST HOSPITAL W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLERK, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33336071 or hr@alsalam.care

I CABINETS has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33300023 or AL-WASEEMGROUP@GMAIL.COM

A J M KOHEJI GROUP BSC CLOSED has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66666564 or lmrar@AJMKOHEJI.COM

Celebrities marketing and promotion company has a vacancy for the occupation of PROMOTER(COMMERCIAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17256064 or CELEBRITIESPROMOTIONS@GMAIL.COM

HM MOTORS COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MARKETING SPECIALIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33991610 or HMMOTORS24@GMAIL.COM

ALGHANIM INTERNATIONAL GENERAL TRADING AND CONTRACTING CO. - For has a vacancy for the occupation of STEEL FABRICATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17300616 or karim.eissa@falghanim.com

NAPCO NATIONAL COMPANY FOR GENERAL TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CUSTOMER SERVICES COORDINATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17762222 or TONY.ABIRAMIA@NAPCOGROUP.COM

MUHAMMAD IRSHAD INTERIOR DECORATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33352031 or MARIKSHAD1333133@GMAIL.COM

Najdan auto spare parts has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33154152 or ZAMZAM-MOHAMED81@GMAIL.COM

TEAM CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39289289 or teamco98@gmail.com

BUDGET CARGO SERVICES BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39531396 or CKMANAGEMENT.BH@GMAIL.COM

MEEM ARK GRIFFIN STAR COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66665177 or NISARAMMIR878@GMAIL.COM

Shahrasti RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of CASHIER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34447865 or BOKANAAN@GMAIL.COM

PANKAJ CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY VEHICLE DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39672580 or ALHARAMPPM@GMAIL.COM

BILAJ EVENT MANAGEMENT SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(-SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34190122 or AHMADMK38866@GMAIL.COM

DREAMSCAPE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33442806 or WISECS007@GMAIL.COM

REEMA RO SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33694552 or USSJILJIL@GMAIL.COM

EVENT EDGE COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34490853 or KASHIFBH202@GMAIL.COM

LIAQAT SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36726854 or MIANHAROONAL1327@GMAIL.COM

OZGEN PASTRIES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17245111 or SABAYATRADINGEST@YAHOO.COM

1984 ASHRAF LAUNDRIES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKERS(LAUNDRY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 66661401 or ASHRAF234325@GAMIL.COM

AL AREESH SHADOW CAFE has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33478800 or ARADIT2@YAHOO.COM

BAHRAIN CITY CENTER TOWERS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ASSISTANT MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17811616 or BMFAQEEH@GMAIL.COM

KHALTY FAWZIA FOR POPULAR EGYPTIAN FOOD W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKERS(FOOD & BEVERAGES INDUSTRY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 32397527 or KHALTYFAWZIAS@GMAIL.COM

DAR AL SEEF SUITES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ROOM ATTENDANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34526144 or SOURAVANAND9745@GMAIL.COM

JAKARTA SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35137132 or MUHAMMADASIFBH12@GMAIL.COM

AQIB AIC AND REFRIGERATION WORK SHOP has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36297786 or 604.junaid@gmail.com

U M A M STAR COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33107591 or MA876055@GMAIL.COM

ALTURS ZAHBI MAINTENANCE & SPARE PARTS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (CAR MECHANICAL WORKSHOP), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33880820 or JM.SPAREPARTS@GMAIL.COM

DUPAHIYA SERVICE CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35137132 or HAQNAWAZCONTRACTING1@GMAIL.COM

ALHAJJAN CONTRACTING EST. has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39479980 or ASHFOQRAZA29@GMAIL.COM

D D A U I CARGO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33205896 or RSTM.BH.PK@GMAIL.COM

First Choice Cleaning Services Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36491411 or MURTAZAWALI100@GMAIL.COM

MR.RIGHT GENERAL CLEANING OF BUILDINGS has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32212919 or JAFFAR.BINASHOOR@GMAIL.COM

ALHARAM INSULATION SYSTEMS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33878334 or YAHY-AALHARAM@GMAIL.COM

AVH EVENTS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SPRAYER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33224643 or HAREESHUNIQUE@GMAIL.COM

TAWAKAL MOTORCYCLE GARAGE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANICAL HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35523820 or KHAN.SHAMEER.754@GMAIL.COM

KAPPYS TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34170035 or SHAHID-KAPPY1000@GMAIL.COM

RANA METAL SCRAP CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35009849 or USMAN37748740@GMAIL.COM

MUHAMMAD SIDDIQ SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33987819 or MRAFDKJN@GMAIL.COM

UNIVERSAL ELECTRO - ENGINEERING B.S.C.C has a vacancy for the occupation of SENIOR ACCOUNTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17826644 or ARJUMA@UNEEO.COM

GALGACHA RC JEWELLERY DESIGN W.L.L

has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(JEWELLERY & PRECIOUS METAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36812284 or KESTOGHOSH14@GMAIL.COM

EASY WASH LAUNDRY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(LAUNDRY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39686163 or ANILKUMAR48901@GMAIL.COM

S PLAZA SUITES HOTEL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ROOM ATTENDANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39992285 or SAEEDRADHI52@GMAIL.COM

IMSA CONSULTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSULTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39642395 or AIDROUS@MAIL.RU

AL RAAFEQ TOWER EXCAVATION WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39000116 or MOSAWI67@HOTMAIL.COM

RANA MUDASSAR CARGO HANDLING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37597960 or AHMED.MUDASARI1992@GMAIL.COM

FORCE POINT SECURITY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66767587 or Forceps17@gmail.com

WHITE HOUSE GATE LAUNDRY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(LAUNDRY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33023500 or HESHAM@WHITEHOUSELAUNDRY.COM

SWIFT MANPOWER W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36666427 or HAMADALKHALIFA23@GMAIL.COM

TREAT SPA has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36868918 or TREATSPA.BH@GMAIL.COM

ISMCO COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77787878 or ISMCOBH@GMAIL.COM

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Swiatek completes Cincy quest

Polish star claims first Cincinnati title and edges closer to Serena's WTA 1000 record

- **Swiatek defeats Paolini 7-5, 6-4**
- **11th WTA 1000 crown overall**
- **Boosts confidence for US Open**

AFP | Cincinnati

Iga Swiatek filled in a piece of her career tennis puzzle on Monday as she won the ATP-WTA Cincinnati Open for the first time with a 7-5, 6-4 defeat of Jasmine Paolini.

The final lasting for just under two hours featured 16 break-point chances, with the Polish winner converting on six of 10 while Paolini struggled to make the most of her break opportunities.

The six-time Grand Slam singles champion's 11th career

It's always tough in Cincy. This gives me a boost of confidence. I'm happy with the work we've been doing. (The team) had to convince me to play in a different way. I'm now happy with that process; it all feels even better after the match. I'm glad I finished in straight sets

IGA SWIATEK

win at the WTA 1000 level has left her within striking distance of the all-time record of 13 titles held by Serena Williams. Swiatek won the Cincinnati without dropping a set.

"It's always tough in Cincy," Swiatek told the Tennis Channel after her maiden win in Cincinnati.

"This gives me a boost of confidence. I'm happy with the work we've been doing. (The team) had to convince me to play in a different way. I'm now happy with that process; it all feels even better after match. I'm glad I finish straight sets."

The 24-year-old had her breakthrough Wimbledon trophy with the honours and now heads last Grand Slam of the season at the US Open

with a major confidence boost after the 24th title of her career. Swiatek is due to partner Norway's Casper

ing yesterday. The Pole said she is relishing that challenge on the slower courts of Flushing Meadows. "I'm a good player. I can play on any surface," she said.

"They are slowing down the courts every year, kind of, so I'm not sure how it is now there. But tennis is all about adjusting."

Swiatek also climbed to within 500 points of current WTA number one Aryna Sabalenka, with the lead at the top of the table likely to be in play at the Open when it begins on Sunday.

Swiatek had stalled twice at the last two editions at the semi-final stage and now has only the Canadian tournament where she has not reached the final at a 1000 event.

"Today was tough, we were both tight, but that happens in a final," Swiatek said. "I was glad to close it out the end. 'Not everything was perfect, but mentally I was there to lay my best tennis. We did a lot of mental work. I was really poised and consistent about

how I thought about my game." Swiatek began on the wrong foot as she lost serve to trail 0-3. But the situation was only temporary as the former number one immediately began her turnaround.

The Pole answered immediately with two breaks of serve and moved to a 5-3 lead

But Paolini earned another break in the 10th game, saving a Swiatek set point to square the final at five-all.

Paolini dropped serve for 5-6, giving her opponent the chance to produce a love game and claim the opener 7-5 after just under an hour on court.

The second set was a roller coaster, with the pair twice swapping breaks of serve before Swiatek salvaged a pair of break points to lead 5-3 and then serving out the winner two games later.

Doak joins Bournemouth as Liverpool exodus grows

AFP | London

Scotland international winger Ben Doak has joined Bournemouth in a deal worth up to £25 million (\$34 million), taking Liverpool's tally from player sales beyond £200 million during this transfer window.

The 19-year-old, who joined from Celtic for just £600,000 in 2022, made only 10 appearances for the Liverpool first team.

Doak impressed during a loan spell at second tier Middlesbrough and picked up six caps at international level last season.

The BBC reported that Bournemouth will pay an initial £20 million with a further £5 million in add-ons.

"I feel like it's the right time for me and it's a great opportunity to play regular football at the highest level. It feels like the perfect fit," said Doak.

"The team play very nice football. It's fast and it really suits my game, so I felt like I couldn't say no to the chance to play here."

Doak follows Luis Diaz, Darwin Nunez, Trent Alexander-Arnold, Caoimhin Kelleher, Jarell Quansah and Tyler Morton

in leaving the Premier League champions in recent months.

That has allowed the Reds to spend around £300 million on strengthening Arne Slot's squad with the signings of Florian Wirtz, Hugo Ekitike, Jeremie Frimpong, Milos Kerkez and Giovanni Leoni.

More arrivals are expected at Anfield before the close of the window in two weeks.

A £110 million bid for Newcastle's Alexander Isak has been reportedly rejected,

while Crystal Palace captain Marc Guehi is also closing in on a shift to the champions.

Azam, Rizwan demoted in contracts as Pakistan scrap A category

- **Test captain Masood dropped to D**
- **Reaction to poor recent results**
- **Pakistan struggled in all formats**

AFP | Karachi

Pakistan demoted former captains Babar Azam and Mohammad Rizwan yesterday in a contract review that scrapped the top category after a string of poor recent results.

There are now no players in the top category A for the first time since the system of central contracts was introduced 21 years ago.

Azam and Rizwan have both been demoted to category B contracts, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) said.

"We have awarded central contracts to 30 players with 10 each placed in B, C and D. Notably, no player has been selected in category A in this cycle," the PCB said in a media release, without giving any reason.

Azam and Rizwan are the biggest names in Pakistan cricket but poor performances in the past 12 months saw them lose their places in the Twenty20 international squads announced for a tri-series and the Asia Cup. Joining Rizwan and Azam



Pakistan's Babar Azam (L) and Mohammad Rizwan attend a practice session

BETTER YOU KNOW

For the first time since Pakistan's central contract system was introduced 21 years ago, no player has been selected in the top "Category A," reflecting a major shake-up after recent poor performances

in category B are T20I captain Salman Agha, Fakhar Zaman, Abrar Ahmed, Haris Rauf,

Hasan Ali, Saim Ayub, Shadab Khan and Shaheen Shah Afridi.

The national team's recent performances in all three formats of the game have fallen badly.

Pakistan beat England in a home Test series 2-1 last year but then lost 2-0 in South Africa and drew 1-1 at home against a lowly West Indies, finishing 10th and last in the World Test Championship.

The slump has also resulted in Pakistan Test captain Shan Masood being demoted from category B to D.

Pakistan won their first one-day international series in Australia for 22 years in November and routed South Africa 3-0 but then crashed out in the first round of the Champions trophy, an event they co-hosted with Dubai.

Alcaraz claims Cincinnati title

Spaniard secures 22nd career title as Sinner retires ill in sweltering heat

- Sinner retires at 5-0 down
- Match lasted just 22 minutes
- Alcaraz won 17th consecutive Masters 1000 match
- Sinner focuses on US Open recovery

AFP | Cincinnati

Carlos Alcaraz won the ATP Cincinnati Open title on Monday after defending champion Jannik Sinner retired due to illness in the first set.

World number one Sinner came into the final feeling unwell and lost the first seven points of the match before throwing in the towel at 5-0 down in a game played in 30-degree Celsius heat.

Sinner will now focus on recovery with the US Open starting on Sunday. The Italian was due to take part in the US Open's revamped mixed doubles yesterday, but his participation

“I’m super-super sorry to disappoint you. I was not feeling great yesterday but I thought it would go away overnight. I tried to make it at least a small match but I could not handle more

JANNIK SINNER

pation in that draw is now in serious doubt.

“I’m disappointed, I didn’t feel great from yesterday,” Sinner said afterwards. “During the night, I thought I would recover a bit better, but it was not the case.

“I just tried to go out for the fans, trying to give (them) a match - that’s the reason why I went on the court.

“But it was not meant to be for me today. But I don’t want to take anything away from Carlos. He had a great week, great tournament again.”

Sinner said he is now pointing to the final Grand Slam of the season.

“The main focus, obviously, is for the US Open. Recovery

covery is the most important. And then we see,” he said.

Despite the temporary health setback, Sinner is pleased with his showings in 2025.

“I feel like it’s an incredible season,” he said. “We’ll keep going, keep pushing. I have some points to improve if I want to go far in US Open.

“It was a good test this week, trying to understand where my level is.”

Sinner lasted for just 22 minutes, calling for the doctor after losing the fifth game and shortly after going to shake hands with Alcaraz.

Alcaraz eyes New York

It was the second match in a row Alcaraz had won over an ailing opponent, following his win over Alexander Zverev in the semi-finals.

Alcaraz won his 22nd career title as he claimed his 17th victory in a row at the Masters 1000 level.

YOU
KNOW WHAT

Alcaraz’s win marked the second straight match he advanced after an ailing opponent retired, echoing his semifinal against Alexander

Carlos Alcaraz



since I just lost that final in 2023 (to Novak Djokovic) I just wanted really, really badly this, this trophy, so I just really proud and happy to be able to lift it.”

Former Open winner Alcaraz, who was upset in the second round a year ago, is looking forward to a more respectable showing in New York.

“I’m feeling a lot of confidence. New York is a place that I love playing...it is where I got my first Grand Slam.

“I appreciate the love and the support that I received there every every year... last year it was disappointing, the level that I played there.

“So this year, I really want to show my really good tennis, my best tennis, try to go as far as I can, enjoy as much as I can.”

Gill returns to India’s T20 squad for Asia Cup

- Shubman Gill named as vice-captain to Suryakumar Yadav
- Bumrah also makes T20 comeback
- Asia Cup starts September 9

AFP | New Delhi

Test skipper Shubman Gill was yesterday named in India’s T20 squad for next month’s Asia Cup cricket tournament after being left out of three previous series in the shortest format.

Gill, 25, returned to the 15-man squad as deputy to skipper Suryakumar Yadav, thanks to the stellar role he played with the bat in the recent Test series against England.

The top-order batsman scored 754 runs as India’s relatively young squad fought from behind to square the five-match series 2-2.

The eight-nation Asia Cup will be the first major event in the build-up to next year’s T20 World Cup in India in February and March.

“We obviously see some leadership



India’s Suryakumar Yadav (L) and Shubman Gill bump their fists during a match (file photo)

Squad

Suryakumar Yadav (capt), Shubman Gill (vice-capt), Abhishek Sharma, Tilak Varma, Hardik Pandya, Shivam Dube, Axar Patel, Jitesh Sharma (wk), Jasprit Bumrah, Arshdeep Singh, Varun Chakravarthy, Kuldeep Yadav, Sanju Samson (wk), Harshit Rana, Rinku Singh

qualities in him (Gill),” chairman of selectors Ajit Agarkar said in Mumbai.

“His form in England... exceeded our expectations which is a great sign when there’s so much pressure as captain.”

Suryakumar said he was happy to have Gill in the squad as he did not get too many opportunities in the past.

The Asia Cup will begin on September 9 with defending champions India set to face hosts United Arab Emirates a day later in Dubai in the eight-nation tournament.

India and arch-rivals Pakistan have been clubbed in Group A and clash on September 14.

“We obviously see some leadership qualities in him (Gill). His form in England... exceeded our expectations which is a great sign when there’s so much pressure as captain

CHAIRMAN OF SELECTORS AJIT AGARKAR

Gill, who was named Test skipper after the retirement of veterans Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli earlier this year, last played a T20 international in July 2024.

Pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah also made a comeback to the T20 ranks after opting out of two matches in England to manage his workload.

Bumrah’s last T20 outing was India’s World Cup title win over South Africa at Barbados in June 2024.

Kohli and Rohit quit T20 internationals after the triumph.

Bumrah will be part of the pace attack alongside left-arm quick Arshdeep Singh and Harshit Rana.

Axar Patel, Varun Chakravarthy and Kuldeep Yadav lead the spin charge.

Carapaz to skip Spanish Vuelta as he recovers from bug

AFP | Madrid

Former Olympic champion Richard Carapaz, who withdrew from the Tour de France with a stomach bug, is not fit to race in the Spanish Vuelta, his team said yesterday.

The Ecuadorian has had a difficult recovery and he not ready for the Vuelta which starts on Saturday.

“I couldn’t train for more than two or three days at a time,” he was quoted as saying in a statement by the EF Education team.

Carapaz said he was training in Ecuador and would concentrate on the late-season one-day classics and the world championships in September.

“I’m almost fully recovered now,” he said. “The next goals we’ve set are the Italian classics, especially Il Lombardia, and also the World Championships in Rwanda.”

Carapaz, a former Italian Giro winner, last summer became the first Ecuadorian to wear the yellow leader’s jersey on the Tour de France, where he led for a day. Yet he was not selected by his country to defend his Olympic title in Paris.

“It’s a very special World



Richard Carapaz

“I’m almost fully recovered now. The next goals we’ve set are the Italian classics, especially Il Lombardia, and also the World Championships in Rwanda

RICHARD CARAPAZ

Championship,” he wrote. “That’s why I came to Ecuador: to do some altitude training, regain motivation, and focus 100 per cent. Certain factors play in our favour, and we want to make the most of them.”

Maharaj spins South Africa victory

Markram's 82 and Maharaj's 5-33 lead South Africa to dominant series-opening win against Australia

- **Maharaj takes 5-33 (career-best)**
- **Markram scores 82 opening batting**
- **Australia collapse from 60-0 to 198 all out**

AFP | Cairns

Aiden Markram hit 82 before left-arm spinner Keshav Maharaj tore through Australia's new-look batting order as South Africa claimed the One-Day International series opener by 98 runs in Cairns yesterday.

Sent in to bat, Markram -- opening for the first time in ODIs since 2021 -- crunched nine boundaries in his 81-ball knock to power South Africa to a formidable 296-8.

Skipper Temba Bavuma (65) and Matthew Breetzke (57) also helped set the tone for the three-match ODI series.

In reply, openers Mitchell Marsh and Travis Head flattened South Africa's pacemen



South Africa's Keshav Maharaj (L) celebrates with a teammate after taking the wicket of Australia's Cameron Green as Australia raced to 60-0 after seven overs.

But the match flipped after the introduction of spin, with Maharaj conjuring rampant turn and he picked up four wickets in his first 15 balls.

He finished with career-best figures of 5-33 from 10 overs as Australia were dismissed for 198 in the 41st over.

It was a strong bounce back from South Africa after their 2-1 defeat in the Twenty20 series

Scorecard

South Africa 296 for 8 (Markram 82, Bavuma 65, Breetzke 57, Head 4-57) beat Australia 198 (Marsh 88, Maharaj 5-33) by 98 runs



Maharaj took 4 wickets in his first 15 deliveries, including Labuschagne, Green, Inglis and Carey in a devastating spell that turned the match

transitioning after the recent retirements of veterans Steve Smith and Glenn Maxwell from ODI cricket.

"He's (Maharaj) an outstanding bowler and there was certainly a little bit more spin than we expected," said Marsh, who is captaining Australia in this series in place of Pat Cummins.

South Africa had been rocked by the news that quick Kagiso Rabada would miss the series with an ankle injury.

An unruffled Markram appeared to be cruising to his fourth ODI century before he was caught behind off left-arm quick Ben Dwarshuis in the 24th over.

A sluggish Bavuma was overtaken by Breetzke, playing his third ODI.

But South Africa lost three wickets for just seven runs with the fall of Breetzke, Tristan Stubbs (duck) and Dewald Bre-

vis (six), before Bavuma kicked on.

After a breakout T20 series, ODI debutant Brevi hit a first-ball six -- but then holed out to Head, who finished with 4-57.

Head's excellent match continued with the bat until he was stumped for 27, providing debutant offspinner Prenelan Subrayen with his first ODI wicket.

Making his return since being axed from Australia's Test team, Marnus Labuschagne (one) fell on his sixth delivery after unsuccessfully reviewing an lbw decision off Maharaj.

Ronaldo gets Hong Kong hero's welcome, avoids Messi pitfall

- **Ronaldo provides assist in 2-1 Saudi Super Cup win over Al Ittihad**
- **Ronaldo emotional over local support**

AFP | Hong Kong

Cristiano Ronaldo was given a hero's welcome yesterday as he played a pivotal role for Saudi side Al Nassr in Hong Kong -- where great rival Lionel Messi became public enemy number one last year for failing to play.

The 40-year-old former Manchester United and Real Madrid ace Ronaldo got an assist in a 2-1 Saudi Super Cup win over Al Ittihad, who had French veteran Karim Benzema up front.

"Ronaldo, Ronaldo," rang out from the moment that he came out to warm up on a sweltering



A supporter of Al-Nassr's Cristiano Ronaldo poses before the Saudi Super Cup semi-final football match between Al-Nassr and Al-Ittihad at the Hong Kong Stadium

and damp evening in southern China, where several pitch invaders unsuccessfully tried to get to the superstar at the end.

Cheers went up every time that the Portuguese captain, wearing his trademark number seven shirt, touched the ball.

It was all a far cry from the

rabid reaction Messi sparked when he remained on the bench for an Inter Miami friendly at the same Hong Kong Stadium in February last year.

The Argentine wizard's no-show drew boos and calls for refunds from thousands of fans

BETTER YOU KNOW

Fans not only camped outside Cristiano Ronaldo's hotel, but some even booked rooms there, and a museum dedicated to him opened in Hong Kong, highlighting his immense popularity

who had paid large sums to see the World Cup-winning captain play.

The 38-year-old said he was injured but that failed to quell a spectacular fallout that saw China cancel two friendly matches featuring Argentina.

Home hero PIASTRI to have Australian F1 grandstand named after him



A general view of the Albert Park Circuit in Melbourne

AFP | Sydney

Oscar Piastr will have a grandstand named after him at the Australian Grand Prix from next year, an honour the McLaren driver said was "surreal".

The Piastr Grandstand will sit opposite the pit lane at the Albert Park circuit in Melbourne, the home race of

24-year-old Piastr.

"It is pretty surreal, it still feels weird racing at home -- it is very cool racing at home," the world championship leader said on social media.

Other notable drivers with stands at Albert Park include Jack Brabham, Arthur Waite, Alan Jones, Daniel Ricciardo and Mark Webber.

Piastr currently tops the drivers' standings with 284 points, narrowly ahead of McLaren team-mate Lando Norris, with 10 grands prix left in this campaign.

Australia hosts the first race of next season.

The naming of a grandstand is an honour typically reserved for sporting legends with a long line of achievements.

Former F1 driver Webber said it was a reflection of Piastr's promising results so far as he pursues a first world crown.



Oscar Piastr



Klopp 'decisive' in move to Leipzig, says Bakayoko

AFP | Berlin

Belgium winger Johan Bakayoko said a conversation with Jurgen Klopp was the decisive factor in his move to RB Leipzig from PSV Eindhoven this summer.

With links to Premier League sides Everton and Nottingham Forest as well as Borussia Dortmund, the in-de-

mand Bakayoko, 22, signed with Leipzig in July.

The winger was one of several young additions to Leipzig's squad in the first transfer window under Klopp, who took over as Red Bull's global head of football in January.

In an interview with AFP and other media yesterday, Bakayoko revealed Klopp's role in recruitment and said his chat with the former Liverpool coach was the "decision point" for the move.

"When I had the talk with Jurgen Klopp, for me I thought 'OK, I have to go'.

"That was the trigger point for me to say: OK.

"(Klopp said) we are here to make you better. We need you. And that's what I want.

"So it was a perfect match."

Red Bull own RB Leipzig as well as clubs in Austria, the United States, Brazil and Japan and hold minority stakes in Paris FC and Leeds United.

The winger said teammate Xavi Simons, who has been heavily linked with a move to Chelsea, was not distracted by the transfer speculation as the pre-season preparations have continued.

"When you're good, that's what happens. (Rumours) are just a part of it.