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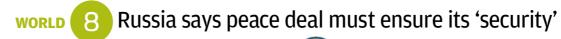
FACEBOOK

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SPORTS

Maharaj spins South Africa victory

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





Selena Gomez: Wizards of Waverly Place changed my life

BUSINESS

WEDNESDAY

220 FILS **ISSUE NO.10387**

AUGUST, 2025

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



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

TDT | Manama

Abusinessman 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

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.

220 fils (includes VAT)



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

is Majesty King Hamad HM the King Lordered sweeping new cation. penalties and legal reforms in Bahrain, marking one of the ply to drivers whose negligence most significant crackdowns on results in fatalities, with penreckless driving and negligence alties of two to ten years' imin recent years.

after recent government-level further where intoxication, prodirectives by His Royal High- fessional negligence, multiple ness Prince Salman bin Hamad casualties, or permanent disa-Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince bility are involved. and Prime Minister, who had instructed on May 31st this year ing under the influence of alcothat stronger penalties be draft- hol or drugs, with penalties that ed for reckless driving and fatal include imprisonment, licence accidents. The royal decrees suspension, and vehicle confisnow bring finality to the action cation. Reckless or unsafe drivinitiated earlier by HRH the ing, such as running red lights Crown Prince, imposing stiffer or overtaking dangerously, now punishments and streamlining carries jail terms, heavy fines, or justice procedures to protect licence withdrawal, with punlives and property.

Decree-Law (30) of 2025 is- injury or damage results. sued by His Majesty on Tues-



bin Isa Al Khalifa has suspension and vehicle confis-

The harshest provisions apprisonment and fines between HM the King's orders came BD2,000 and BD10,000, rising

The decree also targets drivishments increasing sharply if

Exceeding speed limits and have been placed un-

Know the Penalties

Megligence causing death: resulting in harm. 2 to 10 years' imprison-

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

Reckless or unsafe driving / running red lights: im-

prisonment, heavy fines, licence suspension, or confiscation of vehicles; tougher if injury or damage occurs.

licence suspension, escalating for repeat offences or accidents. Improper overtaking: imprisonment or

Exceeding

speed limits:

fines, jail terms,

day amends the Traffic Law to failing to slow in populated ar- strict sanctions, ranging from signs or advertisements on ve- nal Court, with appeals before impose punishments ranging eas or near schools, hospitals, fines and licence suspension to hicles now attracts fines and the Higher Criminal Court of

Failure to slow near ment, BD2,000-BD10,000 fine, schools, hospitals, mosques, harsher if intoxicated, profes- or pedestrian crossings: sionally negligent, or multiple fines, licence suspension, escalating if injury or damage

Displaying prohibited signs or advertisements on vehicles: fines and potential

licence suspension.



d e r ers. Even displaying prohibited be heard by the High Crimifrom imprisonment to licence mosques, or pedestrian crossings imprisonment for repeat offend-potential suspension, reflecting Appeal.

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

HM King's Reforms Boost Energy, Disability, Transport

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

At a Glance



- Disability committee restructured
- GCC land law ratified

Mahir Haneef TDT | Manama

set of royal decrees that broad- Government of Bahrain, BAPCO national agenda.

Energy partnership sealed

Decree-Law (33) of 2025 approves the Production Shar-

Gas Production Deal

Decree-Law (33) approves the Production Sharing Agreement for Jaubah and Pre-Tawil Energies and EOG Resources.

Disability governance revamped

ing Agreement for the Jaubah restructures oversight of disaand Pre-Tawil gas assets in the bility care, rehabilitation, and

Decree-Law (34) creates a Cabinet-appointed Committee Unified GCC Law on Internaunder the Ministry of Social tional Land Transport, fixing gas assets, signed with BAPCO Development to oversee reha- 1 dinar = 10 Saudi rivals for

persons with disabilities.

His Majesty King Hamad bin Bahrain Field. The agreement, employment. It establishes a signed on August 6 between the Cabinet-appointed Committee under the Ministry of Social Decree-Law (34) of 2025 proach to services for persons and appeals. with disabilities.

Disability Committee Revamp GCC Transport Law

Decree-Law (35) ratifies the bilitation and employment of implementation and setting complaint procedures.

Regional integration

Decree-Law (35) of 2025 ratifies the Unified GCC Law on en Bahrain's economic, social, Energies, and EOG Resources, Development, chaired by the International Land Transport. and regional partnerships, un- marks a major step in boosting minister and including senior It designates a competent naderscoring a forward-looking domestic output and energy se- representatives from govern- tional authority, sets Bahrain's ment and civil society. The new exchange rate at one dinar = committee will draft internal ten Saudi riyals for application regulations to manage its work purposes, and defines proceand ensure a coordinated ap- dures for handling complaints economic diversification and

light Bahrain's twin drive for and social development at home.



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.

stronger regional partnerships, Together, the decrees high- while also advancing inclusion