



Flights cancelled, roads flooded as rare storm soaks UAE



People wade through floodwaters after heavy rains



A vehicle drives through flood waters following heavy rains, in Dubai

Roads were  
flooded; Dubai's  
Emirates airline  
axed 13 flights

AFP | Dubai, UAE

UAE airport authorities cancelled or delayed dozens of flights and roads were flooded in major cities as the heaviest rainstorm in months lashed the desert nation yesterday.

Dubai's Emirates airline axed 13 flights yesterday and there were also delays and cancellations at neighbouring Sharjah's airport after the overnight downpour, which woke residents with lightning flashes and loud cracks of thunder.

Sharjah's main street was completely flooded early yesterday, with residents seen wading through it in bare feet. One man rode his bicycle through the water, which reached the top of its wheels.

The scenes evoked memories of April 2024, when record rains caused widespread flooding and forced the cancellation of more than 2,000 flights at Dubai's major international air hub.

Early yesterday, water-pumping trucks were seen around Dubai clearing blocked roads and large puddles in the streets.

The Dubai Airports website showed dozens of flights had been delayed on Friday, and some cancelled.

"Some flights... are cancelled or delayed due to adverse weather," a Dubai Airports spokesperson said.

Other Gulf states also experienced heavy rain, including Qatar where the Arab Cup football's third-place play-off between Saudi Arabia and UAE was cancelled on Thursday.

# No leasing No transfer

MPs want fishing licences to be personal

● Amendments overhaul marine laws, farms oversight, licence inheritance.

● Government warns rules overlap, budget strain risks.

Mohammed Darwish  
TDT | Manama

There is something fishy in the current fishing laws — and lawmakers want it fixed fast.

Under the scanner is the long-criticised practice of leasing fishing licences, which MPs say must be banned. If the proposed changes go through, licences will be strictly tied to an individual's name and can no longer be leased or transferred. The issue will be put to a vote in Parliament this Tuesday.

Lawmakers are also weighing a ban on foreign vessels fishing in Bahraini waters, while keeping separate provisions for citizens of the Gulf Cooperation Council. The move is part of a wider effort to amend Decree-Law No. 20 of 2002, which governs the regulation, exploitation and protection of marine resources.

Quarantine

If approved, the amendments would introduce mandatory veterinary quarantine for marine products before import or export, and sharply restrict entry into no-fishing zones, allowing access only in emergencies. These recommendations have already received in-principle backing from the Public Utilities and Environment Committee.

Foreign vessels

The draft further proposes barring foreign fishing vessels from selling or marketing marine products without a permit. Such vessels would also

be prohibited from anchoring in, or even passing through, restricted fishing areas except in emergencies related to weather, security threats, mechanical failure, or rescue operations to protect lives or property.

MPs are also calling on the ministry to step up technical support for operators of fish and marine-life farms. Land designated for such farms would not be allowed to be dried out or filled in, except in cases of public interest and only with ministerial approval.

For heirs

Another key change concerns the fate of a fishing vessel licence after the licence holder's death. While the original law allowed transfer to the wife and minor children — provided fishing was their sole income and the activity was carried out on their behalf by a Bahraini fisher — the committee has recommended expanding this to all

first-degree heirs, while retaining the same conditions on who may operate the licence.

Government opposes

The government, however, has urged Parliament to reconsider. It argues that many of the proposed objectives are already covered under existing legislations.

In a memorandum, the government warned that new grants and financial support for fishers could strain the public budget and require constitutional approval, noting existing aid such as diesel subsidies, Bahrain Development Bank loans, and aquaculture training programmes already in place.

The committee report added that the Ministry of Oil and Environment supports the legal observations outlined in the government's memorandum.

UN declares  
famine over in  
Gaza 'situation  
remains  
critical' P6

A famine declared in Gaza in August is now over thanks to improved access for humanitarian aid, the United Nations said on Friday, but warned the food situation in the Palestinian territory remained dire.

More than 70 percent of the population are living in makeshift shelters, it said, with hunger exacerbated by winter floods and an increasing risk of hypothermia as temperatures plummet.

Alba contains an  
industrial fire  
Manama

Aluminium Bahrain (Alba) swiftly contained an industrial fire that broke out at a power rectifier yesterday morning.

Thanks to the immediate response of Alba's dedicated teams supported by the General Directorate of Civil Defence and guided by strict adherence to rigorous safety protocols, no personnel were injured or harmed.

Operations remain uninterrupted and continue to be closely monitored as a precautionary measure, reflecting Alba's ongoing commitment to the highest safety standards.





# Bahrain's International Book Fair still on hold after seven years



Eman Shuwaiter, MP

**Mohammed Darwish**  
TDT | Manama

Seven years after its last edition in 2018, Bahrain's International Book Fair remains

on hold, the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities (BACA) told Parliament, citing Covid-19 disruptions and delays in preparation. In a written reply to MP Eman Shuwaiter, the authority said the fair is biennial, with the 18th edition held in 2018 alongside Muharraq's Capital of Islamic Culture events. The 19th edition, scheduled for 2020, was canceled due to Covid-19, and the 2022 cycle was also unable to proceed. BACA said it has been working to revive the fair, preparing organisational studies covering technical plans, budgets, logistics, and funding, while contacting regional and international publishers. Electronic booking tools and private sector collaborations have also been developed to reduce costs.

# Verify before hiring

Parliament moves to tighten expat work permits

- **MPs seek qualification checks before issuing expat work permits**
- **Committee backs coordinated vetting over internal LMRA process**
- **Unions support move, businesses say checks already exist**

**Mohammed Darwish**  
TDT | Manama

Lawmakers say work permits for expatriate workers should be issued only after verifying their qualifications. Parliament will debate a proposal this Tuesday

linking the Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) more closely with the bodies that verify academic credentials. The Services Committee has recommended backing the amended wording, which replaces an earlier idea for an internal LMRA



committee with coordinated checks of academic qualifications across professional fields before permits are granted. MP Jalal Kadhem, who submitted the original proposal, said the large number of expat workers in public and private sectors requires stricter screening. "All professional qualifications must be thoroughly checked to prevent forgery," he said. "This is a preventive step to ensure credentials are genuine, as some forge papers to work in the Kingdom." In its reply, the LMRA said specialist roles already meet this objective, as such jobs require professional licences issued by relevant authorities, which verify credentials under their rules. "We do not grant a work permit for a role requiring a professional licence without that licence," the authority said. It added that checking academic certificates falls outside its legal remit. The proposal has drawn mixed

reactions. The Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry opposed it, noting that specialised bodies already assess qualifications. Trade unions supported the move, with the General Federation of Bahrain Trade Unions citing certificate forgery as a criminal act, and the Bahrain Free Labor Unions Federation saying the change would boost employment for Bahrainis and strengthen national talent. The Services Committee recommended approval of the amended proposal, citing public-interest grounds linked to the scale of expat employment and the risk of forged qualifications in sensitive roles.

**This is a preventive step to uncover whether qualifications are genuine or not, especially as some forge qualifications and papers with the intention of working in the Kingdom**

JALAL KADHEM, MP

**SILVER PACKAGE**

**149 BHD**

**20 KIDS**

**INCLUDES**

- ✦ Ninja Park, Roller Skating
- ✦ Kids Meal
- ✦ Party Hall With Basic Decoration

**JUFFAIR MALL (LULU)**

## Bangladesh Embassy commemorates International Migrants' Day & National Expatriates' Day

Manama

The Bangladesh Embassy commemorated the International Migrants' Day and National Expatriates' Day in a joyous atmosphere on Thursday. The programme was chaired by the Ambassador of Bangladesh to Bahrain, H.E. Mr. Md. Rais Hasan Sarower, ndc. It witnessed the participation of a good number of foreign dignitaries, guests, and journalists, most notably, the IOM Chief of Mission to the Kingdom of Bahrain, H.E. Ms. Aishath Ihma Shareef, Chief of Organizations Sector at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bahrain, H.E. Mr. Hatem Abdulhameed Hatem, and the LMRA Director of Partnership & Outreach, Mr. Fahad AbdulAziz Al Binali. Over a hundred members of the Bangladeshi community in Bahrain were also present during the program. In his speech, H.E. Ambassador Mr. Rais Hasan highlighted the significance of the day and outlined the endeavours of the Embassy to ensure the rights and well-being of the Bangladeshi community in Bahrain. He thanked the community for playing an important role in the economies of Bangladesh and Bahrain through hard work and determination. He then stressed the importance of



adhering to the rules and regulations of Bahrain for upholding the image of Bangladesh. In the spirit of the International Migrants' Day and National Expatriates' Day, the Ambassador reaffirmed the Embassy's commitment towards serving the Bangladeshi community in Bahrain by providing timely consular and welfare services; organising mobile consular camps, monthly open house sessions, and awareness programs; and fostering strong relationships with Bahraini government entities and international organisations to ensure the welfare of Bangladeshis in Bahrain. While delivering her remarks, the IOM Bahrain Chief expressed her appreciation to the Embassy for making a positive impact on the lives of Bangladeshi migrants in Bah-

rain. Similarly, the LMRA Director of Partnership & Outreach highlighted the importance of collaborative efforts for the continued protection and well-being of the Bangladeshis in Bahrain. Following a short cultural dance segment by the students of Bangladesh School in Bahrain, the programme concluded with an award presentation ceremony, where few distinguished Bangladeshis were honoured with crests for their contributions to the community and their homeland. Students of Bangladesh School were also presented with certificates of appreciation by H.E. Ambassador for their outstanding results in board examinations. The programme was hosted by First Secretary (Labour) of the Embassy, Mr. Md. Mahfujur Rahman.





**779 inspections, 103 violations recorded at tourist venues in Capital constituency**



Hassan Eid Bukhammas, MP  
TDT | Manama

Tourism inspectors carried out 779 visits to hotels, furnished flats and tourist restaurants in the Capital Governorate's fourth constituency this year, issuing 103 violations, the Ministry of Tourism has told Parliament.

The figures were given in a written reply to MP Hassan Eid Bukhammas, who asked what the ministry was doing about clubs, restaurants and furnished accommodation operating among residential streets and near places of worship in Juffair and Adliya, and what plan it had to avoid such siting in future.

In its response, the ministry said activity linked to tourist furnished flats is subject, from the outset, to planning rules and zoning conditions set by the relevant public bodies. It said the commercial licensing system, Sijilat, does not grant licences for tourist furnished-flat activity in areas classed as residential under the laws and zoning decisions in force.

Action against breaches can range from a warning to fix matters within a set period, to a fine. Where breaches recur, the authority can suspend the activity, or close an establishment for a period if it fails to correct its position.

For the fourth constituency of the Capital Governorate, the ministry listed 106 tourist restaurants, 39 hotels and 45 furnished flats. Over the year, it said inspectors made 779 visits and recorded 103 violations.

Violations include failing to hand over hotel service charges or failing to submit an audited financial report, and licensing breaches, including subletting, changing management without the authority's approval, or altering how parts of a venue are used against the terms of its licence. Other cases related to tourist restaurants not sticking to approved opening hours.

Violators are summoned by judicial enforcement officers. A recommendation is then made, which can include referral to the Public Prosecution, an administrative penalty, or both.

In closing, the authority said work is under way to increase tourism areas and sites in a way that reduces pressure on residential districts and supports investment.

# MPS push to demolish temporary flats in Muharraq

Plan aims to replace old buildings with modern housing units to reduce waiting lists

● **Focus on Block 207 (Fourth Constituency) and Block 221 (Second Constituency), with most flats already cleared.**

● **Services and Environment Committee says each site can accommodate over 100 new homes.**

● **MPs argue existing flats no longer meet family needs and propose housing for eligible applicants.**

Mohammed Darwish  
TDT | Manama

Demolition of disused temporary flats in Muharraq will be on the agenda when parliamentarians meet this Tuesday. The proposals aim to

clear old buildings in Block 207 and Block 221 to make way for new housing units, helping to reduce the housing waiting lists in the governorate.

The sites, largely cleared already, have the backing of the Services and Environment Committee, which says each location

could accommodate more than 100 units. Speaker Ahmed Al Musallam referred the proposals to the committee in letters dated 20 and 26 January 2025, and the committee combined both into a single report under Article 99 of Parliament's rules.

MPs Hisham Alawadhi, Hamad Al Doy, Abdulwahid Qarata, Second Deputy Speaker Ahmed Qarata and Dr Hisham Al Asheeri recommended the plan for Block 207, while Block 221 was proposed by MPs Hamad Al Doy, Abdulwahid Qarata, Hisham Alawadhi, Mohammed Mousa Mohammed and Dr

Hisham Al Asheeri.

## Needs of families

The committee noted that the land occupied by temporary flats could now be used for housing projects, helping to reduce waiting lists under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning. It also highlighted that the existing flats no longer meet the needs of families.

MP Hisham Alawadhi said the buildings had stood for years and should be demolished to make room for modern homes for families. "These flats no longer suit Bahraini citizens who need housing for their families," he said, adding that each plot could host more than 100 new units.

MP Hamad Al Doy said most flats in Block 221 had already been emptied, with only a few residents remaining. He said those residents also wished to move into proper housing, and the plan would replace the temporary flats with new homes for eligible applicants from the constituency.

Hamad Al Doy, MP

Hisham Al Awadhi, MP



# No more free rides

Parliamentarians target unpaid service charges

● **Proposal aims to empower associations and the Ministry to enforce payments for shared building services**

Mohammed Darwish  
TDT | Manama

Lawmakers are issuing a stern warning to residents who avoid paying service charges. Those who fail to pay fees for shared corridors, lifts, and building upkeep, MPs say, should be held accountable.

A new proposal, set for discussion this Tuesday, focuses on beneficiaries' associations that manage common areas in these buildings. Lawmakers note that there are currently no clear, practical steps to address breaches, particularly non-payment

of association subscriptions.

The motion was submitted by MPs Hassan Ebrahim, Bader Al Tamimi, Hamad Al Doy, Abdulwahid Qarata, and Maryam Al Sayegh.

"The Constitution guarantees decent housing for citizens on low incomes," Hassan Ebrahim said. "To make that right work in practice, shared parts of these buildings must be managed, maintained, and paid for fairly. The time has come for real amendments that give the Ministry and associations clear tools to deal with breaches, especially when some residents refuse or delay paying

what they owe."

## 'Etihadat' scheme

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning said it has worked in recent years to improve beneficiaries' association systems for managing shared areas in vertical housing projects. In 2018, it introduced the 'Etihadat' scheme, bringing Easkan Properties Company into the management and maintenance system for shared areas to improve performance. Participation was optional and trial-based, with more than 100 buildings joining the scheme.

## Eskan Bank

The Ministry added that it and Eskan Bank regularly review shared-area management. Since the second half of 2023, they have been reviewing all rules and standards linked to beneficiaries' associations to identify areas for change and improvement. Newer tower projects, including a residential building in Madinat Salman, will be used to test parts of the planned changes before an updated regulatory decision is issued.

The Council's Public Utilities and Environment Committee, which studied the motion, recommended approval, citing the public-interest grounds presented.



# Nowhere to run when it rains cats and dogs



Strays brave the elements, but still need human help

Ghadeer Alkumaish  
TDT | Manama

Yesterday morning, heavy rain swept through the city, leaving streets soaked and highlighting the plight of stray animals.

Small, thin cats huddled on sidewalks, their fur wet and bodies shivering, while some squeezed under parked cars or hid in building corners. Others had no choice but to sit in puddles, struggling to find shelter.

The contrast was striking, with humans taking cover under awnings or umbrellas while the cats searched for even a dry spot. Some pedestrians offered scraps of food or pieces of cardboard to give the animals temporary warmth.

The scene served as a reminder of the daily challenges faced by stray cats and how small acts of care can make a significant difference during harsh weather.



# Nine in ten civil servants are Bahraini, bureau tells Parliament

Outlines workforce makeup, hiring rules and reliance on temporary foreign specialists

● **Bahrainis make up 87% of civil servants, with nearly all on permanent contracts.**

● **All non-Bahrainis are hired on temporary terms, mainly in health and education.**

● **Recruitment prioritises Bahrainis, with limited exceptions for specialist roles**

**Mohammed Darwish**  
TDT | Manama

Nearly nine in ten civil service employees are Bah-

raini, the Civil Service Bureau has told Parliament, putting the national workforce

at 36,292.

In a written reply to MP Abdulwahid Qarata, the bureau said Bahrainis make up 87% of staff across ministries, authorities and government institutions covered by the Civil Service Law. Almost all are on permanent

contracts, with 36,180 employees, or 99.7% of Bahraini civil servants, holding permanent posts.

## 112 Bahrainis

Only 112 Bahrainis are employed on temporary terms, representing 0.3% of Bahraini civil service staff. These roles span several sectors, with the highest number at the Ministry of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture, which has 34 temporary employees linked to the term of municipal councils. The bureau said temporary staff are covered by the pensions and retirement law for government employees.

Non-Bahrainis account for 5,361 employees, or 13% of the civil service workforce, and are all employed on temporary contracts. Hiring is done at the request of the relevant entity, subject to approved staffing lev-

els and budget allocations. Contracts typically run for one to two years and may be renewed to ensure continuity of services.

The bureau said most non-Bahraini employees work in specialised fields, including health, education and higher education, which together account for 91% of non-Bahraini staff. Their number stood at 5,180 at the start of the current legislative term.

## 241 advisers

There are 241 advisers across government bodies covered by the law, all appointed during the current session. Of these, 203 are Bahrainis (84%) and 38 are non-Bahrainis (16 per cent), with expertise spanning law, planning, management, health, media, finance, education and culture.

The bureau said recruitment

is governed by Civil Service Instructions No. 3 of 2014, which aim to ensure fairness and equal opportunity. Entities must notify the bureau of vacancies and conduct interviews under its supervision. An internal job advertising system, Shawaghir, was also launched to allow civil servants to apply for higher posts through an online portal.c

## non-Bahrainis

Recruitment is restricted to Bahrainis, with temporary appointments of non-Bahrainis allowed only when no qualified Bahraini is available, in line with the Civil Service Law. During such contracts, Bahrainis must be trained. Examples include specialist medical roles, engineering, environmental studies, surveying, groundwater work and major infrastructure projects.



Abdulwahid Qarata, MP

## Training @ sea sparks dispute

**Mohammed Darwish**  
TDT | Manama

MPs will vote on Tuesday on proposed changes to fishing laws that centre on how trainees are allowed aboard commercial fishing vessels, following amendments introduced by the Shura Council.

The Public Utilities and Environment Committee has urged Parliament to retain its original wording, with the disagreement limited to Article One of the bill, which amends Article 3 of Decree-Law No. 20 of 2002 regulating marine resources.

Both chambers agree on the bill's title, preamble and implementing clause, as well as a technical update replacing the term "State of Bahrain" with "Kingdom of Bahrain" throughout the law.

Under Parliament's version, the ban on non-Bahrainis practising commercial fishing would remain, with an exception for



Mohammed Moosa, Chairman of Parliament's Public Utilities and Environment Committee

citizens of the Gulf Cooperation Council. Existing licensing

vessel specifications, fishing methods, crew size, permitted areas and seasons, types of catch, and the requirement for a Bahraini captain.

Parliament's draft allows vessel owners or Bahraini fishermen to take relatives or other Bahrainis aboard commercial fishing vessels for training, under conditions to be set by ministerial decision.

The Shura Council proposed removing this provision from Article 3 and introducing it as a separate clause. Under its version, a Bahraini captain could take any Bahraini trainee on board, subject to employer consent and approval from the competent authority, provided the trainee does not exceed the vessel's approved crew limit.

The bill aims to preserve the fishing profession, pass skills to future generations, encourage Bahraini participation in the sector, and provide a legal framework for training at sea.

## Eight Bahrainis take early retirement at Information Ministry

**Mohammed Darwish**  
TDT | Manama

Eight Bahraini employees at the Ministry of Information have taken early retirement since the start of the current legislative term, after submitting requests to do so, the ministry has told Parliament.

In a written reply to MP Jameel Mulla Hassan, the ministry said each case was processed at the employee's request to allow them to benefit from the state pension scheme. The decisions were handled in line with civil service and pension laws applied across government bodies.

The MP had asked for details on the number of Bahrainis placed on early retirement, their academic qualifications, the reasons behind the move, and the measures in place to ensure fair treatment. He also sought clarification on whether the vacated posts had been filled and whether the ministry had a restructuring plan.

The ministry did not disclose the academic qualifications of



Jameel Mulla Hassan, MP

the eight employees and said no replacement appointments had been named so far. It added that it is coordinating with the Civil Service Bureau to fill vacancies based on operational needs and available budgets, prioritising candidates whose skills and qualifications align with the ministry's objectives.

On restructuring, the ministry said it is reviewing its organisational structure following Decree No. 9 of 2024, which reorganised the Ministry of Information. The review is still under way.

The ministry said it applies all laws and regulations in force and aims to improve performance in line with the Government Programme.

## Salon job promise led to forced prostitution, court told

**Mohammed Darwish**  
TDT | Manama

Two people accused of trafficking an Asian woman into prostitution have been referred to the High Criminal Court, with the case set for 21 December.

Prosecutors say the pair brought the woman to Bahrain after promising her work in a

women's salon, then seized her passport and phone, controlled her movements and exploited her by forcing her into prostitution. She was moved between flats and entertainment venues, including nightclubs, to find clients.

The Public Prosecution alleges the defendants used threats, coercion and deception, including forcing her to

repay an alleged debt, unlawfully deprived her of her freedom, lived off her earnings and kept her passport.

In her statement, the woman said she agreed to travel believing she would continue salon work, but was instead confined, stripped of her documents and forced to service multiple clients. She said she was beaten when she refused

and later managed to escape and report the case.

Investigators said evidence supported her account, including monitoring of her movements, repeated assaults and the defendants collecting payments. During questioning, the first defendant admitted bringing her to Bahrain for prostitution and receiving money on her behalf.

## Bahrain hails US lifting of Syria sanctions

TDT | Manama

Bahrain yesterday welcomed the United States' decision to lift sanctions on Syria under the Caesar Act.

In a statement, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs expressed appreciation for the move and commended the efforts of US President Donald Trump.

The ministry also congratulated the Syrian leadership,

noting that the decision is expected to support stability, recovery, reconstruction, and development in the country.

Bahrain reaffirmed its solidarity with the Syrian people and reiterated support for efforts to maintain Syria's security and stability, safeguard its sovereignty and territorial integrity, and advance the aspirations of its citizens for peace and prosperity.



# Parliament to vote on national leadership training for young Bahrainis

Proposal aims to prepare youth for senior roles in public and private sectors

- **MPs say structured training will widen the pool of future leaders**
- **Existing programmes like Lamea, Bader, and NLDP already provide leadership skills**
- **Initiative targets both government employees and private-sector youth through accredited courses and workplace training**

**Mohammed Darwish**  
TDT | Manama

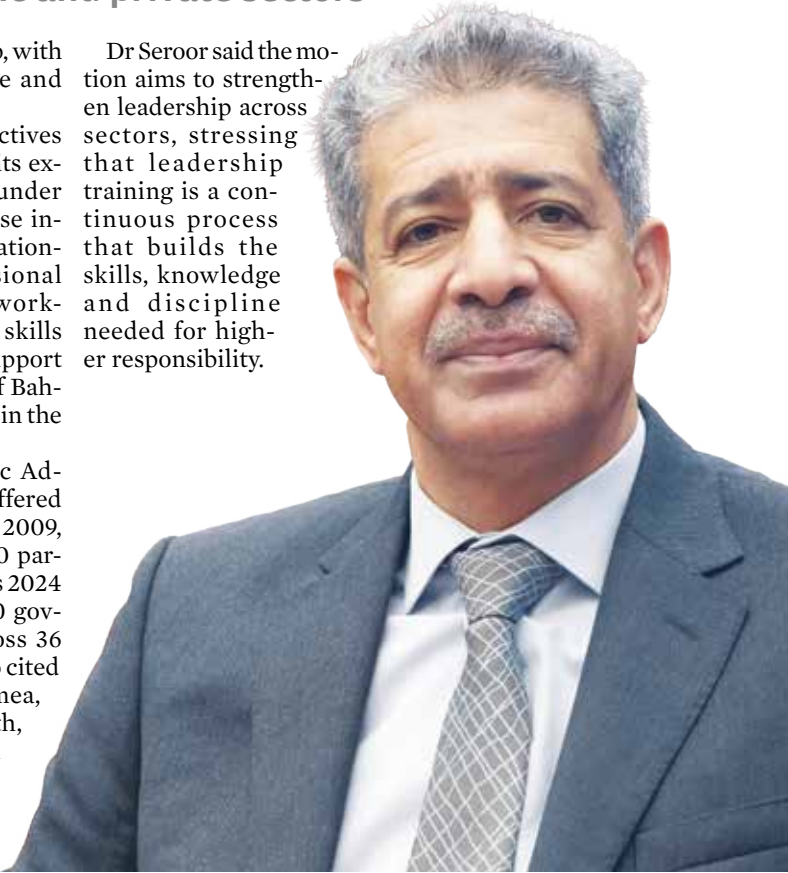
A proposal to create a national leadership training track for young Bahrainis will be debated and voted on in Parliament on Tuesday, with MPs arguing it would broaden

”  
The motion aims to prepare young people for leadership posts and strengthen leadership roles across both sectors  
DR MUNIR SEROOR, MP

the pool of candidates ready for senior roles in both the public and private sectors. The motion calls for stronger, more structured preparation to build leadership capacity and equip young people to carry forward future state plans. It was submitted by MPs Dr Munir Seroor, Mohammed Jannahi and Mohammed Al Ahmed, and has been backed by Parliament’s Services Committee on public-interest grounds. In responses to Parliament,

government bodies said many of the proposal’s goals are already being met through existing programmes. The ministry pointed to initiatives such as Lamea, Youth City and the Bader programme, which offer leadership training, accredited courses and specialist workshops aimed at preparing young Bahrainis for responsibility in both sectors. The Civil Service Bureau said leadership training in government is already anchored in law. It cited the Civil Service Law and its executive rules, which require government bodies to identify training needs linked to career paths, performance reviews and budgets, and to work with the bureau on leadership preparation plans. It also highlighted the National Leadership Development Programme (NLDP), delivered with the Institute of Public Administration, which is built around the idea that leadership exists at every job level. The programme runs through five tracks, from foundation to senior leadership, with entry based on job grade and available funding. Tamkeen said the objectives of the motion align with its existing support schemes under Law No. 57 of 2006. These include funding for internationally recognised professional certificates, overseas workplace training, specialist skills programmes and wage support to encourage the hiring of Bahrainis into executive roles in the private sector. The Institute of Public Administration said it has offered leadership training since 2009, training more than 10,500 participants over the years. Its 2024 plan targets at least 1,130 government employees across 36 cohorts. The Institute also cited programmes such as Lamea, Kheberat and Hypo Youth, alongside newer youth leadership courses for the private sector introduced after its mandate was expanded in 2022.

Dr Seroor said the motion aims to strengthen leadership across sectors, stressing that leadership training is a continuous process that builds the skills, knowledge and discipline needed for higher responsibility.



## MPs push for higher social support for widows and divorcees



**Dr Ali Al Nuaimi, MP**  
**Mohammed Darwish**  
TDT | Manama

MPs will debate on Tuesday a proposal to increase support for widows, orphans and divorcees, building on the existing BD110 monthly cost-of-living allowance provided under social security. The amended motion was submitted by MP Dr Ali Al Nuaimi and has received backing from the Services Committee. The Financial and Economic Affairs Committee said additional support would particularly benefit low-income women and noted that the motion aligns with ongoing discussions between Parliament and the government on state welfare policies. Currently, social security provides BD77 for a single

person, BD132 for a two-person household, and BD28 for each additional family member. The Ministry of Social Development said these measures already cover the groups mentioned in the motion, including widows and divorcees with no other income sources. Beneficiaries also receive monthly discounts on electricity and water bills, and an extra payment during Ramadan. The ministry highlighted a 10 per cent increase in social assistance from January 2022, which raised monthly support to BD110, BD77 and BD55 for three eligibility categories, up from BD100, BD70 and BD50. The Services Committee has recommended approval of the amended motion when it is presented to Parliament.

# Bahrain Tourism lists 17 major festivals from 2023 to 2025

Events range from food and cultural festivals to New Year’s Eve fireworks

- **Festivals include Bahrain Food Festival, Manama Nights, Summer Toy Festival, and Celebrate Bahrain events**
- **Authority also supported exhibitions such as Jewellery Arabia, Bahrain Coffee Festival, and World Travel Awards**
- **Organising firms are chosen based on experience, past performance, technical scoring, and expected audience turnout**

**Mohammed Darwish**  
TDT | Manama

Seven-teen festivals and events, from the Bahrain Food Festival to New Year’s Eve fireworks, have been held be-

tween January 2023 and December 2025, the Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority told Parliament in response to MP Basema Mubarak’s questions. The ministry provided details on the number of festivals, budgets, total funds, and the process for selecting organisers. In 2023, highlights included Festival City in January, the Bahrain Food Festival in February, Manama Gold in April, and December’s Celebrate Bahrain events ending with New Year’s Eve fireworks. For 2024, key events included the Bahrain Food Festival, Manama Nights during Ramadan, the Bahrain Summer Toy Festival, Manama Retro, and December Celebrate Bahrain festivities. In 2025, the schedule featured the Bahrain Food Festival, Manama Nights, Eid celebrations, the Summer Toy Festival, Royal Bahrain Concours in November, Hawa Al Manama, and year-end Celebrate Bahrain events with fireworks. The ministry said the Authority also supported other events and exhibitions with financial backing and practical assistance, including media promotion. Examples included Jewellery Arabia, the Autumn Fair, FIBA 3x3 World Tour, Rashid Equestrian Club season, Bahrain Coffee Festival, World Travel Awards, and the Bahrain International Golf Championship. Event funding is linked to yearly objectives and reviewed based on each event’s value and expected visitor turnout from Bahrain, the Gulf, and beyond. Organising firms are selected under Decree-Law No. 36 of 2002 on tenders and government procurement, along with executive rules and related circulars. Selection considers the organiser’s sector, legal and



financial status, permissions, technical and financial scoring, reputation, experience, past events, planned media work, and expected crowd size. Cost calculations factor in the event’s duration and audience.

*The ministry said the Authority also supported other events and exhibitions with financial backing and practical assistance, including media promotion. Examples included Jewellery Arabia, the Autumn Fair, FIBA 3x3 World Tour, Rashid Equestrian Club season, Bahrain Coffee Festival, World Travel Awards, and the Bahrain International Golf Championship.*



News in brief

Three killed in Taipei metro attacks, suspect dead: officials



◆ Attacks at metro stations in Taipei yesterday involving smoke bombs and stabbing killed at least three people, the fire department official said, adding that the suspect was also dead. Taiwan's Premier Cho Jung-tai said the attacks at Taipei Main Station and Zhongshan station were "a deliberate act", although the motive was not immediately clear. Cho said in a statement that the suspect wore a mask and threw "five or six gasoline bombs or smoke grenades" at Taipei Main Station. According to the Taipei City Fire Department, a total of four people were confirmed dead including the suspect, and five others were injured.

◆ Pakistan has captured a leader from an offshoot of the Islamic State jihadist group, a senior intelligence official said yesterday, after the arrest was reported by a UN sanctions monitoring group.

Pakistan arrests senior official from Islamic State offshoot



Trump govt calls on white men to file discrimination claims



◆ US President Donald Trump's administration is encouraging white men to file workplace discrimination claims - the latest salvo in its campaign to mothball diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) initiatives. "Are you a white male who's experienced discrimination at work based on your race or sex?" the acting chair of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Ms Andrea Lucas, wrote on X this week. "You may have a claim to recover money under federal civil rights laws," she wrote..

CURIOSER & CURIOSER

Trump shifts priority to Moon mission, not Mars



A so-called 'supermoon' is seen behind the Capitol and in Washington (file photo)

AFP | Washington

US President Donald Trump on Thursday confirmed that he wants to send astronauts back to the Moon as soon as possible, putting eventual Mars missions on the back burner.

In an executive order on his space policy, Trump said he wanted to get Americans to the Moon by 2028, under NASA's Artemis program launched during his first White House term.

Such a lunar landing would "assert American leadership in space, lay the foundations for lunar economic development, prepare for the journey to Mars, and inspire the next generation of American explorers," the order says.

It also says the US space agency NASA hopes to set up "initial elements of a permanent lunar outpost by 2030" and confirms plans to deploy nuclear reactors "on the Moon and in orbit."

Americans are currently

scheduled to return to the Moon's surface in mid-2027 on the Artemis 3 mission, but the timeline has been repeatedly pushed back.

And industry experts say it likely will be delayed again because the lunar lander in development at Elon Musk's SpaceX is not yet ready.

Trump's executive order puts increased pressure on both NASA and the private space sector to reach the administration's objectives.

The United States is keen to bypass China, which also intends to send a crew to the Moon by 2030 and set up a base there.

Putting the priority on a lunar mission represents a policy shift from what Trump had said earlier this year.

When he returned to the White House in January, the Republican said he wanted to put the American flag on Mars before the end of his four-year term, without mentioning any such plans for the Moon.

UN lifts Gaza famine label

Despite improved aid access, over 1.6 million people face critical food insecurity

● Entire population still in "Emergency" food phase

● Risk of famine returns if conflict resumes

AFP | Washington

A famine declared in Gaza in August is now over thanks to improved access for humanitarian aid, the United Nations said yesterday, but warned the food situation in the Palestinian territory remained dire.

More than 70 percent of the population are living in makeshift shelters, it said, with hunger exacerbated by winter floods and an increasing risk of hypothermia as temperatures plummet.

Although a ceasefire between Israel and militant group Hamas that took effect in October has partially eased restrictions on goods and aid, delivery fluctuates daily and is limited and uneven across the territory, it said.

"No areas are classified in Famine," said the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification Initiative (IPC), a coalition of monitors tasked by the UN to warn of impending crises.

But it stressed that "the situation remains critical: the entire Gaza Strip is classified in Emergency".

The US-sponsored ceasefire halted two years of fighting, sparked by Hamas's attack on Israel on October 7, 2023.

Yet the deal remains fragile as Israel and Hamas accuse each other almost daily of violations.

"Following the ceasefire... the latest IPC analysis indicates notable improvements in food security and nutrition compared to the August 2025 analysis, which detected famine," the IPC said.



Displaced Palestinians gather to receive donated food portions at a charity kitchen in Khan Yunis

However, around 1.6 million people are still forecast to face "crisis" levels of food insecurity in the period running to April 15, it said.

And under a worst-case scenario involving renewed hostilities and a halt in humanitarian aid and commercial goods, the territories of North Gaza, Gaza Governorate, Deir al-Balah and Khan Younis risk famine, it said.

'Appalling and preventable'

The UN's declaration of famine in August -- the first time it has done so in the Middle East -- infuriated Israel, with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu slamming the IPC report as "an outright lie".

Yesterday, foreign ministry spokesman Oren Marmorstein said on X that faced with "overwhelming and unequivocal evidence, even the IPC had to admit that there is no famine in Gaza".



Oxfam accused Israel of blocking aid, stating it has \$2.5 million worth of food parcels, including 4,000 packages, stuck in warehouses just across the border, unable to enter Gaza

But he also accused the IPC of continuing to present a "distorted" picture by relying "primarily on data related to UN trucks, which account for only 20 percent of all aid trucks".

Oxfam said that despite the

end of the famine, the levels of hunger in Gaza remain "appalling and preventable", and accused Israel of blocking aid requests from dozens of well-established humanitarian agencies.

"Oxfam alone has \$2.5m worth of aid including 4,000 food parcels, sitting in warehouses just across the border. Israeli authorities refuse it all," Nicolas Vercken, Campaigns and Advocacy Director at Oxfam France, said in a statement.

The IPC said hunger was not the only challenge to those in the Palestinian territory.

Access to water, sanitation and hygiene are severely limited, it said, with open defecation and overcrowded living conditions increasing the risk of disease outbreaks.

Over 96 percent of cropland in the Gaza Strip is either damaged, inaccessible, or both, it said, while livestock has been decimated.

US suspends green card lottery after Brown, MIT professor shootings

AFP | Washington

The Trump administration announced on Thursday it will suspend a green card lottery that allowed a man believed to be behind both a mass shooting at Brown University and the killing of an MIT professor into the United States.

Claudio Neves Valente, a 48-year-old Portuguese national, is accused of bursting into a building at the Ivy League school on Saturday and opening fire on students, killing two and wounding nine.

He is also accused of killing a professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) two days later.

Homeland security chief Kristi Noem wrote on social media on Thursday that Neves Valente "entered the United States through the diversity lottery immigrant visa program (DV1) in 2017 and was granted a green card."

The US green card lottery grants up to 55,000 permanent resident visas annually to people "from countries with low rates of immigration to the United



Brown University students and community members take a moment at a makeshift memorial for the victims of a December 13 mass shooting at the Van Winkle Gates outside Brown's college campus in Providence, Rhode Island

States," according to the State Department.

Noem described Neves Valente, who police said Thursday was found dead by suicide after a days-long manhunt, was a "heinous individual" who "should never have been allowed in our country."

"At President Trump's direc-

tion, I am immediately directing USCIS (United States Citizenship and Immigration Services) to pause the DV1 program to ensure no more Americans are harmed by this disastrous program," Noem said.

In 2017, during US President Donald Trump's first term, the Republican leader vowed a bat-

ttery of tough measures to curb immigration, including terminating the green card lottery, after a deadly terror attack in New York.

Noem pointed to this incident in her post on Thursday saying: "President Trump fought to end this program, following the devastating NYC truck ramming by an ISIS terrorist, who entered under the DV1 program, and murdered eight people."

US attorney Leah Foley said at a press briefing on Thursday that Neves Valente studied at Brown University "on an F1 (student) visa around 2000 to 2021" and that "he eventually obtained legal permanent resident status," but did not go into further detail.

Foley added that Neves Valente had also attended the "same academic program... in Portugal between 1995 and 2000" as the MIT professor, Nuno Loureiro, who was shot down in his home in Brookline, in the greater Boston metro area.

There is no immediate indication of a motive in the shootings, that rattled the elite New England campuses.



1522

Suleiman the Magnificent accepts surrender of the surviving Knights of Rhodes, who are allowed to evacuate. They eventually settle in Malta and become known as the Knights of Malta



1803

French flag lowered in New Orleans to mark the formal transfer of the Louisiana Purchase from France to USA, purchased for \$15M

1812

"Grimm's Fairy Tales" or "Children's and Household Tales" by Jacob Grimm and Wilhelm Grimm is first published

1917

Soviet state security force and forerunner to the KGB, the Cheka forms, under Felix Dzerzhinsky after decree by Vladimir Lenin

# Putin claims upper hand

Russian leader says Kyiv and Western backers must move first on peace talks

● Putin addresses annual press conference

● Claims battlefield momentum in Ukraine

● Threatens further territorial seizures

AFP | Moscow

Russia's Vladimir Putin yesterday said the ball was in the court of the West and Kyiv in talks to end the war in Ukraine, while hailing Moscow's recent battlefield gains and threatening more.

Speaking during his annual end-of-year news conference -- a staple of his 25-year rule -- Putin told Russians that Moscow was intent on pressing on in Ukraine, striking a confident tone.

The 73-year-old repeatedly says that Moscow will seize the rest of Ukrainian land he has proclaimed as Russian by force if talks fail.

Putin said yesterday he did not feel personally responsible for the tens of thousands of people killed since Moscow launched its offensive, which has become Europe's worst conflict since World War II.

"We did not start this war," he said, repeating a frequent narrative pushed by Moscow throughout the conflict.

"We do not consider ourselves responsible for the loss of life," Putin ordered the all-out assault in Ukraine in February 2022, sending troops and tanks towards Kyiv.

He also denied dragging out settlement talks and turning down proposals -- claiming Moscow had agreed to "some compromises" -- without elaborating.

"The ball is now fully and completely on the side of our Western opponents... first of all the head of the Kyiv regime and their European sponsors," Putin said.

The United States, Ukraine and Europeans have been refining a proposal first put forward by Washington last month that many saw as heeding most of



Russian President Vladimir Putin arrives to hold his annual end-of-year press conference

“Our troops are advancing along the entire line of contact... the enemy is retreating in all directions

VLADIMIR PUTIN

Moscow's core demands for how the conflict should end.

‘Our troops advancing’

Putin said that Russia's recent advances in Ukraine should force Kyiv to agree to a deal -- that original version of which included Ukraine ceding land to Moscow.

Russia and Washington are also pushing Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky to hold a presidential election, with Putin saying Russia could halt long-range strikes on voting day.

Listing a string of cities and towns in eastern Ukraine now eyed by the Russian army, the Kremlin chief said he was certain Moscow would soon capture more settlements.

"Our troops are advancing along the entire line of contact," Putin said.

"I'm sure that before the end

of this year we will still witness new success," he added.

The Russian army made its biggest advance in Ukraine in a year in November, AFP analysis of data from the US-based Institute for the Study of War showed.

Speaking at the same time from an event in Cairo, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov condemned a European proposal to send a multinational force to police any potential peace deal in Ukraine as a "brazen" threat to Russia.

And Putin also warned of "severe" consequences if the EU used Russia's frozen assets to fund Ukraine's recovery and defence, after Brussels failed to approve a plan to tap the funds.

In another message to the West, Putin said that Russia would not attack other countries -- as long as it was treated "with respect" -- without clarifying what he meant.

As he spoke, Zelensky said on a visit to Warsaw that Russia would come for Poland if Ukraine fell.

Downplays economy woes

The four-and-a-half-hour long televised event -- a mix of questions from the press and call-ins from Russia's 12 time zones -- is

a fixture of the Russian political calendar, generating frenzied media coverage in the weeks leading up to it.

The Kremlin said almost three million people had sent questions to Putin and security was heavy in Moscow during the event.

Putin mused on everything from geopolitics to regional de-

## Russian journalist proposes to girlfriend during Putin's TV marathon

Under the glittering lights of the Eiffel Tower, during a romantic walk on a tropical beach, or nestled in a quiet corner of your favourite restaurant? Planning the perfect proposal is a struggle familiar to would-be newlyweds the world over.

Halfway through Vladimir Putin's end-of-year press conference -- televised across Russia and coming after the Russian leader threatened to level Ukrainian cities and not back down in his nearly four-year military offensive in the country -- is not high on many lovers' list.

For regional journalist Kirill Bazhanov, it was just the mo-

velopment issues to his views on love and family life, at times pledging to intervene to fix the problems of citizens caught up in local bureaucracy.

He downplayed the economic costs of the war for Moscow, even as the Central Bank trimmed interest rates amid slowing growth.

Russia has lived under massive Western sanctions for almost four years, while ramped up military spending has strained the public finances and caused prices to surge.

ment.

Dressed in a red bow tie and holding a poster reading "I want to get married", Bazhanov caught the eye of the longtime ruler and got his chance.

"I know that my girlfriend is watching the press conference now. Olechka, marry me!" he said, drawing applause from the audience of mostly pro-government regional journalists.

Putin uses his hours-long TV marathon both as a forum for fiery foreign policy statements and to offer up all sorts of advice on love and family matters, recite poetry or promise to fix potholes.



Nearly three million questions were submitted by citizens ahead of Putin's tightly controlled televised event, which was broadcast live across Russia's 12 time zones under heavy security in central Moscow



TOP  
4  
TWEETS

01



I welcome the election by the General Assembly of @BarhamSalih of Iraq, as the next @UN High Commissioner for @Refugees. My utmost gratitude to @FilippoGrandi for his leadership & tireless efforts in protecting refugees, displaced persons & stateless people.

@antonioverterres

02



Congratulations to @BarhamSalih on being elected High Commissioner for Refugees. All of us at UNICEF are looking forward to continuing the strong partnership between UNICEF and UNHCR to protect the rights of children and families who have been forced to flee.

@unicefchief

03



We committed, we delivered. The decisions taken by European leaders are a crucial contribution to achieve a just and lasting peace in Ukraine. Because the only way to bring Russia to the negotiation table is to strengthen Ukraine.

@eucopresident

04



We reserve our right to use the cash balances from Russian assets immobilised in the EU to finance the loan. This is the solution we found together. And financing Ukraine beyond 2027 will be part of the next long-term EU budget discussion.

@vonderleyen

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

## Bangladesh protesters demand arrest of student leader's killers

AFP | Dhaka

Protesters rallied across Bangladesh yesterday for a second straight day calling for the arrest of the gunmen who shot and killed a key figure in last year's pro-democracy uprising.

As news spread that 32-year-old student leader Sharif Osman Hadi died in hospital in Singapore on Thursday, crowds took to the streets in an outpouring of mourning and anger.

Several buildings were vandalised, including the offices of media outlets.

Hadi was shot by masked gun-



An aerial view shows protesters at Shahbagh intersection in Dhaka

men while leaving a mosque in the capital Dhaka last week. He

was initially wounded and flown to Singapore for treatment, but eventually succumbed to his wounds.

In Dhaka yesterday, protester Sajid Al Adeeb said that "people have gathered here demanding the swift arrest of those who killed Hadi."

"I urge the government to take immediate and appropriate steps to arrest those responsible," the protester added.

"Above all, I want Hadi's ideals to live on."

Al Adeeb was among thousands of protesters, some carrying national flags and placards, chanting slogans and demanding the capture of those behind the

killing of Hadi, who was due to run in elections planned for next year.

Protests were also held in the cities of Gazipur, Sylhet and Chattogram yesterday.

Late Thursday, people set fire to several buildings in Dhaka including the offices of leading newspapers Prothom Alo and the Daily Star.

Staff trapped in the Daily Star newsroom said the building filled with smoke.

"I can't breathe anymore... You are killing me," reporter Zyma Islam wrote on Facebook, before firefighters managed to bring the blaze under control and rescue the employees.



# CELEBS

## Harrison Ford to get lifetime acting award

AFP | Los Angeles

Harrison Ford is to be given a lifetime achievement award from the main union representing Hollywood actors, the organization announced Thursday.

Ford, whose decades on the big and small screen have included some of the most famous roles in cinema, will be given the SAG-AFTRA Life Achievement Award as part of the rebranded Actor Awards -- formerly the Screen Actors Guild Awards -- in March.

The prize, which SAG-AFTRA gives annually to a performer who embodies "finest ideals of the acting profession," is the latest recognition for a man whose characters -- from Indiana Jones to Han Solo -- are part of the cultural fabric of the 20th and 21st century.

"Harrison Ford is a singular presence in American life; an actor whose iconic characters have shaped world culture," SAG-AFTRA President Sean Astin said.

"His career has been endless-



Harrison Ford

ly exciting, always returning to his love of acting. We are honored to celebrate a legend whose impact on our craft is indelible."

Ford, who worked as a carpenter before hitting the big time as Bob Falfa in George Lucas's 1973 film "American Graffiti," said he was "deeply

honored" to be chosen as the recipient of the prestigious prize.

"To be acknowledged by my fellow actors means a great deal to me," he said.

"I've spent most of my life on film sets, working alongside incredible actors and crews, and I've always felt grateful to be part of this community."

As well as his recurring roles in the "Star Wars" and "Indiana Jones" franchises, Ford is perhaps best known for his portrayal of replicant hunter Rick Deckard in 1982's "Blade Runner," a role he reprised 35 years later in "Blade Runner 2049."

Television audiences have come to know him in recent years from his work alongside Oscar-winner Helen Mirren in the Western drama "1923," as well as the comedy-drama "Shrinking."

Previous recipients of the award include Robert De Niro, Jane Fonda, Morgan Freeman and Elizabeth Taylor.

The 32nd Annual Actor Awards Presented by SAG-AFTRA will be held on March 1, and will be streamed live on Netflix.

## Kim Kardashian suffered mental breakdown before failing bar exam

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Kim Kardashian had a "mental breakdown" days before her bar exam.

The 45-year-old reality star - who spent six years preparing to become a lawyer before taking the test over the summer - admitted last month she had failed the exam, and she has revealed how much she was struggling in the build up to the assessment.

In the latest episode of The Kardashians - which including footage filming just nine days before the test - she said: "I'm absolutely gonna cry, cause it's exhausting."

Kim admitted she had "hit a wall" with her preparation the test.

She added: "I threw my back out, and it's like, every time I think I get to another step something pulls me."

"There's all these roadblocks, I'm not a pity par-

ty kind of girl, but last night, I was like, why the f\*\*\* is this happening?"

Kim revealed she was also dealing with a back injury, which meant she could "hardly walk" or even sit down.

She was "shocked" by how tired she was, and revealed she had been warned that "everyone, before, they take the bar, has a mental breakdown".

She said: "I just knew that wasn't me, 'cause I'm not that person, but I get it. It's really a lot. Now I really, really get it."

"I had no clue it was gonna be this emotional," she continued. "I don't know how I can get any more information into my brain."



Kim Kardashian

## Selena Gomez explains why her voice has changed

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Selena Gomez's voice changes when her throat "swells".

Fans of the 33-year-old beauty have speculated as to why her voice has noticeably changed during the course of her career, and Selena has now addressed the situation directly, explaining that her "throat kind of swells inside sometimes".

Speaking to her fans on Instagram, Selena - who has previously been diagnosed with lupus and bipolar disorder - said: "Yeah

I've gotten this question a few times. The voice thing. So, sometimes when I'm on -- nevermind ... There's no excuse. I don't really care."

"I think my point is, is that sometimes things happen. I get weird. My throat kind of swells inside sometimes. That's all."

Meanwhile, Selena revealed earlier this year that she wants to "keep evolving".

The movie star has already achieved significant success as a singer and as an actress - but Selena has no intention of slowing down in the coming years, and she remains as ambitious as she ever has been.

The brunette beauty - who has been open about her mental health struggles in the past - told Allure: "I want to keep evolving and getting better in every area of my life. And I want to experience everything, so it's important for me to keep myself in check."

"I'm so stoked that when an emotion pops up, I'm able to acknowledge it and be a part of it, then let it go."

I think my point is, is that sometimes things happen. I get weird. My throat kind of swells inside sometimes. That's all

SELENA GOMEZ



Selena Gomez

## Kate Winslet reveals 'totally nuts' superstition to protect herself from 'tricky individuals'

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Kate Winslet puts salt in her shoes and pockets to protect herself from "tricky individuals".

The Titanic actress said the "totally nuts" superstitious hack helps to block toxic energy from going near her.

Appearing on The Capital

Evening Show with Jimmy Hill on Wednesday night, Kate, 50, discussed her 53-year-old Goodbye June co-star Toni Collette's character, Helen, who is "journeying and very holistic" at a time when her alter ego's mum June (Dame Helen Mirren) is dying over the Christmas period.

Jimmy, 36, asked Kate - who



Kate Winslet

also directed the movie: "Have

you done crystal healing or sound baths because that feels like quite a Hollywood thing, these very spiritual, sometimes weird..."

She replied: "I haven't actually done a sound bath, no. And I do have a slight allergic reaction to anything that is described as Hollywoody. I do know what you mean."

## Jennifer Lawrence 'hallucinated' following medication mix-up

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Jennifer Lawrence "hallucinated" on the set of The Hunger Games: Catching Fire after accidentally taking a sleeping pill.

The 35-year-old actress admitted she is "obsessive" about getting enough sleep when she is working and it led to an unfortunate mix-up one day that left her co-star Elizabeth Banks "really annoyed".

Speaking to her Don't Look Up co-star Leonardo DiCaprio for Variety's Actors on Actors series, she said: "You and I are both obsessive about sleep when we're working, like counting the hours..."

"I also once took an Ambien in the morning, thinking it was something else."

"It was a dance scene with Philip Seymour Hoffman on the second 'Hunger Games' movie. I was hallucinating. Elizabeth Banks got really annoyed with me. Maybe she didn't know that I was on an Ambien."

And another medication mix-up meant Jennifer

failed to sleep one night before filming her scenes for Red Sparrow, in which she played a Russian spy.

She said: "When I did Red Sparrow, I took an Adderall instead of a sleeping pill, and then I didn't sleep all night. I was taking hot showers in a panic. I am not somebody who can function without sleep. And then I had to say the phrase 'Senate Armed Services Committee' in a Russian accent. That sucked."

Leonardo noted: "Those are key screw-ups."

The Oscar-winning actress also confessed to a "bad habit" of completely switching off from her work at the end of the day, which prevents her from going "crazy" but can cause issues before filming.





# Classifieds



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THE K - HOTEL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of GUEST ARRANGEMENT SPECIALIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17360000 or [abbas.fardan@thek-hotel.com](mailto:abbas.fardan@thek-hotel.com)

ABACUS DESIGN SOLUTIONS CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MARKETING SPECIALIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17271724 or [sibirajn@gmail.com](mailto:sibirajn@gmail.com)

ATLAS ALUMINUM W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34130996 or [S.HUSSAIN.ISMAIL@ATLAS-ALUMINUM.COM](mailto:S.HUSSAIN.ISMAIL@ATLAS-ALUMINUM.COM)

MOSA RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39454342 or [SHA-KEELG8607@YAHOO.COM](mailto:SHA-KEELG8607@YAHOO.COM)

GUDAIBIYA BUILDING CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17535434 or [GBCONSTN@BATELCO.COM.BH](mailto:GBCONSTN@BATELCO.COM.BH)

FLAVOURS OF KERALA SWEETS&MATHAI has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES-

MAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17310199 or [EXP.SEV4DOC@GMAIL.COM](mailto:EXP.SEV4DOC@GMAIL.COM)

KUDASSERI KARAK W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SANDWICHES MAKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17275494 or [TURKI48878@GMAIL.COM](mailto:TURKI48878@GMAIL.COM)

Zezo CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33684888 or [info@tryzezo.com](mailto:info@tryzezo.com)

Bayanco Contracting Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39329326 or [BAYANCOGM@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BAYANCOGM@GMAIL.COM)

Asdal Gulf Inn W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ROOM ATTENDANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17564033 or [Zahraa.dakheel@asdalgulfinn.com](mailto:Zahraa.dakheel@asdalgulfinn.com)

AYYAN COMPUTER SERVICES CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32080463 or [ISRAR3964@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ISRAR3964@GMAIL.COM)

ASHTel W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39977316 or [joseph@ashtelgroup.com](mailto:joseph@ashtelgroup.com)

AL HAMZ DESIGN CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of GYPSUM CARVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36213700 or [RAAJRIF@GMAIL.COM](mailto:RAAJRIF@GMAIL.COM)

IF SHAYAN CARGO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17756061 or [AYANKHAN359496@GMAIL.COM](mailto:AYANKHAN359496@GMAIL.COM)

synergic facility services has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(FOOD DISTRIBUTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 66637663 or [HESSAHESSAHESSA@YAHOO.COM](mailto:HESSAHESSAHESSA@YAHOO.COM)

CORNERSTONE CONSTRUCTION AND CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33152346 or [LAZURD.SERVICES@GMAIL.COM](mailto:LAZURD.SERVICES@GMAIL.COM)

HOMES FIXERON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77900474 or [SAMEERMESSAGE4U@YAHOO.COM](mailto:SAMEERMESSAGE4U@YAHOO.COM)

JJM&T CONSULTANCY has a vacancy for the occupation of ADMINISTRATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33952147 or [JOHNNIE.THOMPSON@JJMTLLCLOGISTICS.COM](mailto:JOHNNIE.THOMPSON@JJMTLLCLOGISTICS.COM)LOVEPREET SINGH COMBINE SERVICE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE WORKER HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32130946 or [BALDEKUMAR119@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BALDEKUMAR119@GMAIL.COM)

ADAS SWAMI AUTO SPARE PARTS has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39228801 or [AEA\\_76@OUTLOOK.COM](mailto:AEA_76@OUTLOOK.COM)

MATCO BAHRAIN W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 13300035 or [RAJANSANTHOSH71@GMAIL.COM](mailto:RAJANSANTHOSH71@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 [choicefirst82@gmail.com](mailto:choicefirst82@gmail.com)

SUPER GLOBAL CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32118800 or [samialmajeedbh@gmail.com](mailto:samialmajeedbh@gmail.com)

AL - KARAMA SANDWICHES CO WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(JUICE & SANDWICHES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39929669 or [HHAS-SANALASSY@GMAIL.COM](mailto:HHAS-SANALASSY@GMAIL.COM)

JADS RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36663334 or [MAADHSALEH87@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MAADHSALEH87@GMAIL.COM)

KHODMOONI BAKERIES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39921197 or [FOZIEHPAYMOZD@GMAIL.COM](mailto:FOZIEHPAYMOZD@GMAIL.COM)

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or [MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM](mailto:MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM)

AL DANISH BAKERY BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33316810 or [ABDUL-REHMAN93@ICLOUD.COM](mailto:ABDUL-REHMAN93@ICLOUD.COM)

SOLAS MARINE SERVICES (FOREIGN BRANCH) has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17466859 or [gshetty@solasma-rine.com](mailto:gshetty@solasma-rine.com)

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or [MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM](mailto:MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM)

Real Value Contracting WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36767312 or [INFO@REALVALUECONTRACTING.COM](mailto:INFO@REALVALUECONTRACTING.COM)

AL SHEHABI Baekery has a vacancy for the occupation of BAKER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39335513 or [HZ.MOSAWI@GMAIL.COM](mailto:HZ.MOSAWI@GMAIL.COM)

ABNAA ALWATAN TAILORING has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32073500 or [AB-NAALWATTANTAILORING@GMAIL.COM](mailto:AB-NAALWATTANTAILORING@GMAIL.COM)

panjur partha cafteria has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33378446 or [UAGB@OUTLOOK.COM](mailto:UAGB@OUTLOOK.COM)

City Rose Cafe has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33334227 or [SAAD.IN.BAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SAAD.IN.BAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM)

PENO SCRAP has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17500210 or [ZUHAIR\\_MAJEED@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:ZUHAIR_MAJEED@HOTMAIL.COM)

AL GHURAYBAH CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36711633 or [MONTHER.ASHOOR260@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MONTHER.ASHOOR260@GMAIL.COM)

Dose Cafe Food & Beverage Service Activities Company w.l.l has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER/BARTENDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17000990 or [BESHARA.ABDU@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BESHARA.ABDU@GMAIL.COM)

YAQOOB MOHAMMED ABDULRAHMAN NEZAR ESTABLISHMENT has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36669484 or [ANWARMANDI@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ANWARMANDI@GMAIL.COM)

wood line carpentry workshop has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36922339 or [BURASHED20@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BURASHED20@GMAIL.COM)

AL AUJAN REAL ESTATE WLL CO has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17226021 or [alaujan-realestate@gmail.com](mailto:alaujan-realestate@gmail.com)

ABUL 3COLDSTORE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN (GROCERY OR COLD-STORE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33050051 or [alalah18@gmail.com](mailto:alalah18@gmail.com)

ROWENA COMBINED SERVICES' W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33243932 or [Y373@GMAIL.COM](mailto:Y373@GMAIL.COM)

WOODCO TRADING AND CARPENTRY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of FABRICATOR(FIBERGLASS PRODUCTS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 32211318 or [woodcointeriorsbh@gmail.com](mailto:woodcointeriorsbh@gmail.com)

EXCELLENCE INDUSTRIAL MAINTENANCE COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17532010 or [a.jawahery@exibah.com](mailto:a.jawahery@exibah.com)

SMART CONTRACTING CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17870023 or [ECHOSHINEBAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ECHOSHINEBAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM)

ALAWADHI CAR SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of AUTOMOBILES MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17273114 or [alawadhicarservices@gmail.com](mailto:alawadhicarservices@gmail.com)

SWASTON MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE BOY / FARRASH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34129693 or [ZIDIMAHAR441@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ZIDIMAHAR441@GMAIL.COM)

ULFAT CONSTRUCTION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38708038 or [JUNAIDMAHSUD3385@GMAIL.COM](mailto:JUNAIDMAHSUD3385@GMAIL.COM)

lazwal building construction w.l.l has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33605821 or [nasiraslam81@gmail.com](mailto:nasiraslam81@gmail.com)

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orinka restaurant Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN AIDE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33334824 or [SAEEDREES@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:SAEEDREES@HOTMAIL.COM)

SHAMS ALSHOMOOS MANPOWER W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECRETARY, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36090116 or [shamsalshomoos.bh@gmail.com](mailto:shamsalshomoos.bh@gmail.com)

NIRALA RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34582008 or [RIZWAN@shaheenfoodstuff.com](mailto:RIZWAN@shaheenfoodstuff.com)

NOUR CARGO HANDLING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33243624 or [safehullah@gmail.com](mailto:safehullah@gmail.com)

WHITE LION CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33251733 or [ismaeel10@icloud.com](mailto:ismaeel10@icloud.com)

MOJA CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17244026 or [MOHAMMED.J551@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MOHAMMED.J551@GMAIL.COM)

CLAY MASTER SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39598959 or [CLAYMASTER.BH@GMAIL.COM](mailto:CLAYMASTER.BH@GMAIL.COM)

BEN EID TOWERS CLEANING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE BOY / FARRASH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17250078 or [KEHF-2011@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:KEHF-2011@HOTMAIL.COM)

PROTECTS SECURITY SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or [hrd@dreamgroup.bh](mailto:hrd@dreamgroup.bh)

PROTECTS SECURITY SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or [hrd@dreamgroup.bh](mailto:hrd@dreamgroup.bh)

GULF MARKETS INTERNATIONAL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of FITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17490040 or [MISHAL@ALFANARINVESTMENT.COM](mailto:MISHAL@ALFANARINVESTMENT.COM)

DURRAT AL KHALEJ MARINE SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANICAL TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17674316 or [durat-khaleej@hotmail.com](mailto:durat-khaleej@hotmail.com)

GONE VIBE SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(PRESS MACHINE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33179673 or [MR2037645@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MR2037645@GMAIL.COM)

ABU ASHIQ REPAIRING WORKSHOP W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN(MAINTENANCE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33253901 or [CHASHIQ6WB@GMAIL.COM](mailto:CHASHIQ6WB@GMAIL.COM)

ESSENCE BLOOM DECOR W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE BOY / FARRASH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33667196 or [AADILCH222@GMAIL.COM](mailto:AADILCH222@GMAIL.COM)

DRIVER AUTO SERVICE has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17770525 or [INFO@DRIVER-BH.COM](mailto:INFO@DRIVER-BH.COM)

Stiller Agency for the Supply Workers w. l. l has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17717730 or [rsuresh@alaz-zamgroup.com](mailto:rsuresh@alaz-zamgroup.com)

MODERN MECHANICAL ELECTRICAL & TRANSPORT CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17708888 or [lmra@mmetc.com](mailto:lmra@mmetc.com)

ALSHROOQ SERVICES STATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of FUEL STATION ATTENDANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17625552 or [AHMED.ALKAABI@BANAGAS.COM.BH](mailto:AHMED.ALKAABI@BANAGAS.COM.BH)

RANCY SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of HAIR DRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33715026 or [RANTE-SALON@GMAIL.COM](mailto:RANTE-SALON@GMAIL.COM)

EYE LINE CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34585803 or [WABDULLA979@GMAIL.COM](mailto:WABDULLA979@GMAIL.COM)

LASH DOLLS SALON has a vacancy for the

occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34114798 or [SAMI999AMR@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SAMI999AMR@GMAIL.COM)

NEW FRIEND CAFE has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(JUICE & SANDWICHES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 3332678 or [BASSANTGAFAR@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:BASSANTGAFAR@HOTMAIL.COM)

ROMANTIC DEECOR has a vacancy for the occupation of PLASTERER(ORNAMENTAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39640812 or [MOH\\_ORIBI@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:MOH_ORIBI@HOTMAIL.COM)

NASSER ABD MOHAMMED B.S.C(CLOSED) has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700888 or [admin@nasserco.net](mailto:admin@nasserco.net)

UMM ALSUBBAN MECHANICAL CONTRACTS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17491190 or [usmc@batelco.com.bh](mailto:usmc@batelco.com.bh)

COURIERX W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38870666 or [HAMAD@COURIERX.COM](mailto:HAMAD@COURIERX.COM)

UNIVERSAL READYMIX CONCRETE has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER/OPERATOR(SHOVEL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17620672 or [SHUBBAR60@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:SHUBBAR60@HOTMAIL.COM)

AREENA CONTRACTOR GROUP CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17245222 or [HR@ARE-ENAGROUP.COM](mailto:HR@ARE-ENAGROUP.COM)

EPSILON GENERAL TRADING AND COTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38888675 or [ABDUL-MUNEER@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:ABDUL-MUNEER@HOTMAIL.COM)

Bridge Industrial Services b s c closed has a vacancy for the occupation of MACHINE OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39995352 or [hr3@bis.com.bh](mailto:hr3@bis.com.bh)

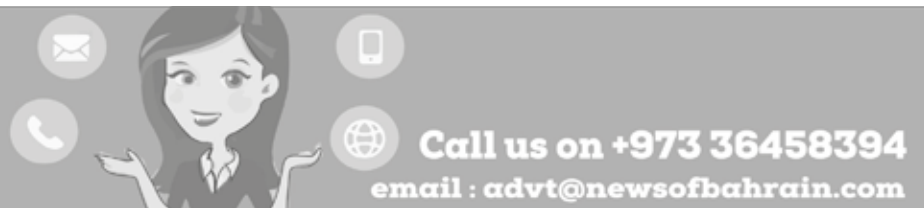
GOLDEN GROUP CONTRACTORS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17533125 or [GOLDENGROUP-BAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM](mailto:GOLDENGROUP-BAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM)

AL HAQ UNIFORTH INTERNATIONAL TRADING CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES REPRESENTATIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33733381 or [ATAUL030162@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ATAUL030162@GMAIL.COM)

BEN EID TOWERS CLEANING W.L.L



# Classifieds



## VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

Al fateh cleaning and Maintenance Company w.l.l has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17830078 or kanakaraj.pk@horizon-intlgroup.com

PAR-KY WOODEN LAND FURNITURE has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77588885 or ALSAYEGH78@GMAIL.COM

RUBIX CUBE TOYS GALLERY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CASHIER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33990020 or RUBIXCUBE.BH@GMAIL.COM

EBRAHIM HAMAD ALTHAWADI TRADING & CONT. has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17274404 or deepupatheepparampil@gmail.com

centre point colour has a vacancy for the occupation of INVENTORY SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17116280 or info@rih.com.bh

K N A PERFORMANCE AUTO MAINTENANCE & REPAIR has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33365990 or HOOD36615556@GMAIL.COM

Bayanco Contracting Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39329326 or BAYANCOGM@GMAIL.COM

AL HARMAIN CAFTERYA has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(MOTOR-CYCLE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17732276 or redahmattar@gmail.com

HOME HUB EVENT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35054890 or RANA-SANDHU2017@GMAIL.COM

MUHAMMAD AJMAL INTERIOR DECORATION CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33731245 or MIAN-QASIM2478@GMAIL.COM

LAILA MOHAMMED ALDOSSARY has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33656333 or HGOOD8908@GMAIL.COM

AL-FATIEM ALARABI CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33518888 or farukmiahsultan@gmail.com

LABBAIK CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33780786 or FZQ786@YAHOO.COM

FORCE POINT SECURITY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66767587 or Forcesp17@gmail.com

VILLAGE 8 CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33591795 or ALWA-HADCCR@GMAIL.COM

ROOFI FOR DECORATION SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE WORKER HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35948790 or BHATTI-AHMED0001@GAMIL.COM

NOSHAI INTERIOR DECORATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34489050 or UMAIRGULZAR581@GMAIL.COM

ALSALWA MEAT FACTORY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17596656 or hr@alzaeembh.com

..ZAIN BAGHDAD SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33241122 or SAEEDYAQOOB86@GMAIL.COM

ICG SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17623723 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

LUCKY ALNOOR CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33461761 or MAJADJAVED12@GMAIL.COM

ALIETHIUM CONSULTANCY COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33245063 or MEHROZMALIK38@GMAIL.COM

GULF AIR B.S.C. (C) has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR OF MAINTENANCE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17337804 or recruitment@gulfair.com

ALSALWA MEAT FACTORY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17596656 or hr@alzaeembh.com

ALSALWA MEAT FACTORY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17596656 or hr@alzaeembh.com

ALSALWA MEAT FACTORY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17596656 or hr@alzaeembh.com

ALMOAYYED CONTRACTING GROUP W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of AIR-CONDITIONING TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or proffice@almoayyedcg.com

ALJUFAIR SONS GENERAL TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of CAR WASHER/CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66617766 or YAMDIAUTO-PARTS2020@GMAIL.COM

UK CARE AUTO SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CAR WASHER/CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39966665 or ALAMEEDMOTORS@GMAIL.COM

ALMOAYYED CONTRACTING GROUP W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of FITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or proffice@almoayyedcg.com

ALMOAYYED CONTRACTING GROUP W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of AIR-CONDITIONING TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or proffice@almoayyedcg.com

ALMOAYYED CONTRACTING GROUP W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of AIR-CONDITIONING TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or proffice@almoayyedcg.com

GULF AIR B.S.C. (C) has a vacancy for the occupation of CABIN CREW / FLIGHT STEWARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17337804 or recruitment@gulfair.com

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

ASB SECURITY SOLUTIONS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35070603 or MAGICSHINE775@YAHOO.COM

BAHRAIN SPECIAL TECHNICAL SERVICES STS CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of FOREMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17622082 or info@BAHSTS.COM

ALMOAYYED CONTRACTING GROUP W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of AIR-CONDITIONING TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or proffice@almoayyedcg.com

EKRA METAL FABRICATION CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(METAL CASTING), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39392909 or EKRAMET-AL1969@GMAIL.COM

ALMOAYYED CONTRACTING GROUP W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY VEHICLE DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or proffice@almoayyedcg.com

CHEM REG CONSULTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (OPERATIONS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33051116 or LESLIE@M8SUSTAINABLECHEMISTRY.COM

TECH PAC W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MACHINE OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38931220 or sunny@techpacwll.com

SHAMS ALMADINA SUPERMARKET has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33330363 or fatimaea@yahoo.com

MANDALI KABAB RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34413413 or mandali.1930@gmail.com

CAPABLE MEN TAILORING has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33696932 or FADILA.ABD.87@ICLOUD.COM

DHA ELECTRONICS W.L.L has a vacancy for

the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34567895 or ABEERRAJPUT1@GMAIL.COM

URBASER BAHRAIN CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17534342 or sajjlnath@urbaser.com

ALTHAWADI ELECTRICAL & MECHANICAL CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700114 or althawadif-nance@batelco.com.bh

URBASER BAHRAIN CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17534342 or sajjlnath@urbaser.com

SAGHIR AHMED MOTOR VEHICLE SPARE PARTS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33212370 or SAGHIRAHMED4776@GMAIL.COM

ICG SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SCAFFOLDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17623723 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

ICG SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SCAFFOLDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17623723 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

ICG SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SCAFFOLDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17623723 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

ALBARZAKH CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17592120 or haifa@alrowishgroup.com

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# Chelsea’s Maresca says Man City link ‘100 percent’ speculation

Chelsea manager insists he will stay despite reports linking him with Pep Guardiola’s job

● Maresca’s current contract runs until 2029

AFP | London

Enzo Maresca said yesterday that reports linking him to the Manchester City manager’s job were “100 percent” speculation, promising that he would still be at Chelsea next season.

The Italian said last weekend that he had suffered his “worst 48 hours” since joining the club in July last year.

Maresca made the surprising comments after his side’s 2-0 win at home to Everton, hitting out at unnamed parties for failing to support him and his players, though he stressed that he was not referring to fans.

The remarks fuelled intense speculation he was taking aim at the club’s owners and sporting directors.

A report in the Athletic said the former Leicester boss was high on City’s list for a replacement for Pep Guardiola, should the Spaniard leave at the end of the season.



Chelsea’s Italian head coach Enzo Maresca (C) congratulates his players

But Maresca brushed that question aside at his press conference on the eve of Chelsea’s Premier League match at Newcastle.

“It doesn’t affect me at all because I know that is 100 percent speculation,” he said

“And in this moment, there is no time for these kinds of things.

First of all, because I have a contract here until 2029. And my focus, I said many times, that is just about this club and I’m very proud to be here.”

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Last weekend, Maresca said he endured his “worst 48 hours” at the club, criticizing unnamed parties for a lack of support, which had fueled speculation about his relationship with the board before he shut down exit rumours

“It doesn’t affect me at all because I know that is 100 percent speculation. And in this moment, there is no time for these kinds of things. First of all, because I have a contract here until 2029. And my focus, I said many times, that is just about this club and I’m very proud to be here

ENZO MARESCA

I’m paying attention to that.”

Maresca, who arrived at Chelsea in July 2024, won the UEFA Conference League and Club World Cup in his first season at Stamford Bridge.

His team are fourth in the Premier League table and can qualify automatically for the last 16 of the Champions League.

On Tuesday, they beat third-tier Cardiff to progress to the League Cup semi-finals, where they will face either Arsenal or Crystal Palace.

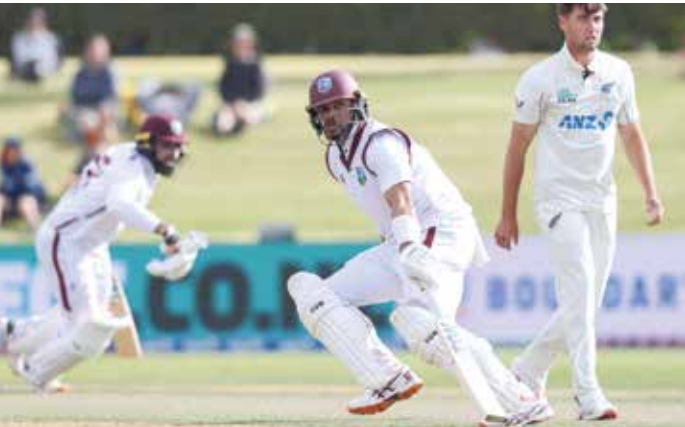
## West Indies 110-0, trail by 465, after Conway’s epic 227 for New Zealand

AFP | Mount Maunganui

Brandon King and John Campbell comfortably negotiated 23 overs in fading light before stumps to take the West Indies to 110-0 at the end of day two of the third Test after New Zealand declared on a mammoth 575-8 at Mount Maunganui.

The West Indies, with King unbeaten on 55 and Campbell not out 45, are still 465 runs behind.

New Zealand opener Devon Conway’s epic 227 and some late hitting from Rachin Ravindra, who had six fours and two sixes in his 72 not out, and Ajaz Patel (30 not out) allowed captain Tom Latham to give his bowlers



West Indies’ Brandon King (C) makes a run

more than an hour at the West Indies openers.

But King and Campbell were more than up to the task, seeing off the new ball and scoring

freely on a flat Bay Oval wicket as New Zealand’s bowlers struggled to find a good length.

King’s 50 came from just 62 balls, hitting nine fours and

Campbell’s 45 was made from 60 deliveries, and included seven fours.

Campbell was nursing a sore right-hand that was struck in the nets prior to the match.

If the injury-depleted West Indies had any other options, he may have sat out the Test such as the swelling and pain he was experiencing.

The visitors also have doubts over whether Kemar Roach, who is nursing a hamstring strain, will bat, while leading batsman Shai Hope was ill and stayed at the team hotel yesterday.

West Indies all-rounder Justin Greaves said it had been a good day for his side, particularly given the adversity they faced.

## Indian football club banned, fined for refusing to play in Iran

AFP | New Delhi

The Asian Football Confederation banned Indian club Mohun Bagan Super Giant from all its competitions and fined it more than \$100,000 for refusing to play a match in Iran.

Mohun Bagan did not travel for an Asian Champions League Two group match against Sepahan in Iran in September, citing lack of security assurances and medical insurance coverage.

The AFC disciplinary and ethics committee banned Mohun Bagan from the next edition of the continental second-tier tournament, up to the 2027-28 season, it said in a statement on Wednesday.

One of the oldest football clubs in Asia, Mohun Bagan



Mohun Bagan Super Giant players celebrate after a match (file photo)

were also handed a \$50,000 fine and told to pay \$50,729 for damages and losses incurred by the AFC and Sepahan.

Mohun Bagan were withdrawn from the competition after their no-show and their matches were declared null and void by the AFC.

The club had earlier asked the Court Arbitration for Sport to move the match to a neutral venue, but the request was rejected, AFP reported.

## Arsenal in the ‘right place’ as Arteta marks six years at club

AFP | London

Mikel Arteta believes his transformation of Arsenal has put the Gunners in a position to win major trophies as he celebrates six years as manager.

Victory at Arteta’s former club Everton on Saturday will guarantee Arsenal are top of the Premier League at Christmas as they aim to win the title for the first time since 2003/04.

An FA Cup success early in the Spaniard’s reign is the only major trophy Arteta has delivered, but he has turned Arsenal back into Premier League title contenders and Champions League regulars.

They failed to finish in the Premier League’s top four for six consecutive years between



Arsenal’s Spanish manager Mikel Arteta gestures on the touchline

2017 and 2022 but have come second in each of the past three seasons.

“The transformation has been around the club in terms of the

size, in terms of revenues, in terms of the squad that we built, the value of it, the sporting success that we had, even though we haven’t won any major tro-

phies yet,” Arteta said yesterday.

“I think it’s very, very consistent, so we’re in the right place.”

Arsenal lead Manchester City by two points at the top of the table but the gap has narrowed in recent weeks, with draws at Sunderland and Chelsea followed by just a second defeat of the season at Aston Villa.

Arteta’s men face a demanding festive season, with six games between December 20 and January 8.

And the 43-year-old is clear on what he wants for Christmas.

“Win, win, win, win, win all the games,” he said.

“I’ll say the rest will come naturally, but my mood, my energy is going to be much better (if we win), so that’s what I want.”

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# Muharraq Chase Leaders As NPL Returns

Spot-Kicks And Dismissals Decide Outcomes in Matchday 8

Hussain Almaskati  
TDT | Manama

The Nasser bin Hamad Premier League resumed yesterday after its mid-season pause, and the return immediately reshaped the title picture, with the leaders tightening their grip while the chasing pack stayed firmly in contention. At Bahrain National Stadium, Al Khaldiya underlined their championship credentials with a 2-1 win over Al Hidd to move top of the table on 18 points from eight matches. After a cagey first half, the breakthrough came in the 51st minute when Joel Beya converted from the spot following a handball by Adnan Fawaz. The pressure continued, and Al Khaldiya doubled their advantage in the 65th minute. Komail Al Aswad released Saifedinne



Hussain Abdulkarim celebrates Muharraq's match-winning goal

Bouhra down the wing, and as the Moroccan burst into the box, he was brought down by a late sliding challenge from Fawaz, conceding his second penalty of the night. Bouhra made no mistake from the spot to put the leaders firmly in control. Al Hidd, who remain seventh on nine points, pulled one back deep into stoppage time when Oussama Belatrech converted a penalty after Baraa Marai's header struck the arm of Gleison Moreira at close range. The goal, however, came too late to alter the result, as Al Khaldiya held on for three valuable points. At Khalifa Sports City Stadium, Sitra and A'ali shared a 0-0 draw in a match shaped more by discipline than attacking quality. The stalemate leaves Sitra eighth with seven points, while A'ali sit ninth on six. A'ali were reduced

to ten men in the 22nd minute when Ali Kamel was sent off following a VAR review for an accidental stamp. Numerical parity was restored in the 53rd minute when Sitra winger Othman Al Hajj was dismissed for catching a defender with an elbow while contesting a header. Later at Shaikh Ali Bin Mohammed Stadium, defending champions Muharraq kept the pressure on the leaders with a 1-0 win against Budaiya. The win lifts Muharraq to second on 17 points, just one behind Al Khaldiya, and with a game in hand still to play, while Budaiya remain sixth on nine. Hussain Abdulkarim struck the decisive goal in the 64th minute, reacting quickest after Juninho's header was saved from an Arthur Rezende free kick.

## Amorim unfazed by 'Free Mainoo' T-shirt ahead of Villa clash

AFP | London

Manchester United boss Ruben Amorim said a provocative T-shirt stunt by Kobbie Mainoo's half-brother would not influence his selection decisions as he prepares for a visit to high-flying Aston Villa. England international Mainoo is still waiting for his first Premier League start of the season, with his lack of game time a major talking point. The 20-year-old's half-brother Jordan Mainoo-Hames made headlines on Monday by wearing a "Free Kobbie Mainoo" shirt during United's 4-4 draw with Bournemouth. Mainoo, who received a hero's welcome from fans when he came on as a substitute, had a request to leave Old Trafford on loan rejected in August and speculation continues over a potential January switch. Amorim said at his press conference yesterday that the T-shirt would not affect his selection decisions, with Mainoo an option in midfield in the absence of the suspended Case-



Manchester United's Portuguese head coach Ruben Amorim watches the action from the touchline

miro. "It was not Kobbie who wore the T-shirt," said the United boss. "He is not going to start because of the T-shirt but he is not going to the bench because of the T-shirt. "He's going to play if we feel that he is the right guy. That is not an issue. I'm used to (this), I've been here for a year, it's not new so we have to deal with that. "But I am not going to do something to Kobbie because of someone in his family is doing something." Amorim also addressed recent comments from former manager Alex Ferguson, who said it could take another decade for United to win the Premier League. "He understands football

It was not Kobbie who wore the T-shirt. He is not going to start because of the T-shirt but he is not going to the bench because of the T-shirt

RUBEN AMORIM

more than me, especially English football," he said. "I think we will not take that long to win a league and I don't know which manager is going to be here. "But I truly believe we are going to fight for the title in the next years. I think it's not going to take so many years but you never know." United are sixth in the table ahead of Sunday's visit to third-placed Villa. Defenders Matthijs de Ligt and Harry Maguire are still injured while Noussair Mazraoui, Amad Diallo and Bryan Mbeumo are all on international duty at the Africa Cup of Nations.

## Guardiola 'excited' by Man City future, not pondering exit



Manchester City's Spanish manager Pep Guardiola speaks with his players

Pep Guardiola said yesterday that his departure from Manchester City is "not on the table" at the moment as he focuses on trying to wrest back the Premier League title. Guardiola, 54, is contracted at the Etihad until the end of the 2026/27 season but reports this week said City's hierarchy were eyeing up potential replacements should the former Barcelona and Bayern Munich coach step away at the end of the current campaign. Chelsea boss Enzo Maresca, a former assistant of Guardiola's, is reportedly among the leading candidates for the City job. However, Guardiola, speaking to reporters yesterday, gave no indication that his reign at City was coming to a close, with his side back in the mix for major trophies after a dismal campaign last season. City can go top of the Premier League, for a few hours at least, with victory at home to struggling West Ham on Saturday. They are also well set for a place in the Champions League last 16 after beating Real Madrid in the Spanish capital earlier this month and booked their place in the League Cup semi-finals on Wednesday.

The club has to be prepared, but that subject it is not on the table right now. I understand that question when I have an end of contract, but you have said perfectly (I have) 18 months, so I'm so delighted, happy. I am excited with the development of the team and being there

PEP GUARDIOLA

"The club has to be prepared, but that subject it is not on the table right now," said Guardiola, referring to his future. "I understand that question when I have an end of contract, but you have said perfectly (I have) 18 months, so I'm so delighted, happy. I am excited with the development of the team and being there." City trail Arsenal by just two points at the top of the table after a six-game winning run in all competitions. Guardiola, though, believes his young side must improve if they are to match his previous six title-winning teams during his time at City, which is nearing 10 years.

## Australia's Head slams unbeaten 142 to crush England's Ashes hopes

AFP | Adelaide

Danger man Travis Head crunched his fourth century in as many Tests at Adelaide Oval yesterday as Australia built a 356-run lead over England to stand on the brink of retaining the Ashes. The hosts were 271-4 at stumps on day three of the third Test with Head on 142 and first-innings century-maker Alex Carey not out 52, taking the five-match series out of England's reach. England must win after crashing inside two days at the first Test in Perth and inside four in Brisbane, both by eight wickets. But it appears to be an impossible task with the highest run chase at the ground 316 by Australia against England in 1902. Head said the job was not fin-



Australia's Travis Head celebrates scoring his century

ished yet and Australia had to "rock up again" on Saturday. "We've had another really, really good day today. "Tomorrow will be another huge day, the wicket is deteriorating and starting to spin. "The goal is to try and put on as many as we can in the morning and get to work and try to win the Test match." Head's crucial ton, his 11th,

came off a composed 146 balls although he almost didn't get there, dropped on 99 by Harry Brook as impatience got the better of him. He has now scored a century in four consecutive Tests on his home ground, following 140 against India last year and 119 and 175 against the West Indies. "It calls for heroes" "The way Head has batted is next level, and he has shown us how to go about it," conceded England spin coach Jeetan Patel. "Every game of Test cricket we play, especially out here in Australia, calls for heroes. "And we haven't had them just yet, but maybe we will have them tomorrow and the day after."