

Passenger Dies  
Mid-Flight



Abdul Salam  
Pradeep Puravankara  
TDT | Manama

A 65-year-old man from Kerala died yesterday after suffering a medical emergency on board a Kuwait-bound flight that was diverted to Bahrain.

Flight Interrupted

The passenger, Abdul Salam, a businessman based in Kuwait, was travelling on Air India Express flight IX 493 from Kannur to Kuwait when he began experiencing severe chest pain mid-air. The crew promptly alerted authorities, and the flight was diverted to Bahrain International Airport for urgent medical assistance.

Upon landing, he was immediately transferred to King Hamad University Hospital.

Despite efforts by medical personnel, Abdul Salam was pronounced dead shortly after arrival. A relative travelling with him also disembarked in Bahrain and remained by his side through the ordeal. Salam was a native of Nileshwaram in Kerala's Kasaragod district.

Community Mourns

News of his passing has resonated within Bahrain's Malayali expatriate community, many of whom routinely travel the same Gulf routes for work or family reunions. Community members are reportedly assisting with repatriation arrangements.

Funeral and repatriation details are being coordinated by relatives with the support of volunteers.

Bahrain  
Salutes Egypt

Mahir Haneef  
TDT | Manama

Bahrain has extended warm congratulations to Egypt on the occasion of its National Day and the 73rd anniversary of the July 23rd Revolution, praising the country's historic achievements and its evolving partnership with the Kingdom.

Her Excellency Fawzia bint Abdullah Zainal, Bahrain's Ambassador to Egypt and Permanent Representative to the League of Arab States, conveyed her message of solidarity to the Egyptian leadership and people, wishing the country continued progress and prosperity.

H.E. Zainal described the 1952 revolution as a historic milestone in Egypt's modern development.

She commended the strides Egypt has made in stability and growth.

Youth Lens on Tourism

Competition ties into Youth City 2030

● Contest open till August 3rd

● Ages 15–35 can apply

● Winning works to be exhibited

Mahir Haneef  
TDT | Manama

Young Bahrainis are being invited to capture the Kingdom's story through a sustainability lens, as the Ministry of Sustainable Development launches a nationwide photography and videography competition under the theme "Sustainable Tourism in Bahrain through the Eyes of Youth."

Organised in partnership with the Ministry of Tourism, the Nikon Youth Program, and Ashrafs W.L.L., the competition is a key highlight of this year's Youth City 2030 programme and



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aims to channel youth creativity in support of national development goals.

Creative call

Open to citizens aged 15 to 35, the contest invites participants to visually interpret Bahrain's sustainable tourism landscape. Submissions may include depictions of historical landmarks,

Bahrain welcomed over 11 million visitors in 2023, with sustainable tourism now central to its Vision 2030 roadmap.

environmental events, recrea-

tional or sporting activities, and traditional cuisine, reflecting the cultural, social, and environmental elements of sustainable tourism.

Shortlisted finalists will receive expert training to enhance both their visual storytelling techniques and their understanding of sustainability, before applying their skills to

field-based creative assignments across the country.

Training and recognition

The initiative is designed to nurture technical and artistic growth while encouraging youth to engage more deeply with national priorities. According to the organisers, the programme will also align participants with professional production standards.

The competition will conclude with a ceremony during the final week of Youth City 2030, featuring an exhibition of finalists' work and an awards presentation. A panel of experts in youth development, tourism, and visual arts will judge the entries.

National showcase

Winners will receive prizes, gain access to the Nikon Youth Program, and have their work featured on national platforms, positioning their contributions as part of Bahrain's broader sustainable development narrative.

Tourism Promotes Coexistence

● Minister hosts 'Taa'ayosh' team

● Bahrain's soft power focus

● Book gift marks occasion

Mahir Haneef  
TDT | Manama

Bahrain's tourism authorities are deepening ties with civil society to strengthen the Kingdom's image as a model of peaceful coexistence, as part of a broader national narrative on tolerance and diversity.



H.E. Fatima bint Jaffer Al Sairafi with 'Taa'ayosh' chairman and board members

This came as Her Excellency Fatima bint Jaffer Al Sairafi, Minister of Tourism, received the chairman and board members of 'Taa'ayosh' - the Bahrain Association for Tolerance and Coexistence of Religions. H.E. the minister described the Kingdom, under the leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the guidance of His Royal Highness Prince

Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, as a unique example of coexistence rooted in cultural heritage and collective national identity.

H.E. added that these values have helped Bahrain become a global destination for major events across sports, culture, economy, fintech, and innovation. The meeting with 'Taa'ayosh'

chairman Yousif Buzaboon and fellow board members included a presentation on the organisation's history, mission, and evolving role. The association shared details of its work with expatriate communities, its presence at national and religious events, and its cooperation with both official and grassroots bodies to promote peaceful coexistence.

H.E. the minister praised these efforts, describing them as reflective of Bahrain's character and essential to amplifying the country's image on the global stage.

To mark the occasion, the delegation presented the minister with a copy of the association's latest bilingual publication, In the Hospitality of the King of Peace, recently released in Arabic and English.

Labour Crackdown Intensifies

Mahir Haneef  
TDT | Manama

Bahrain has intensified its nationwide crackdown on illegal workers and businesses, with the Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) confirming 1,132 inspection campaigns and visits conducted between July 13th and 19th. The week-long operation led to the detention of 12 irregular workers and the deportation of 89 others, according to an LMRA statement.

The LMRA said that 1,117 inspection visits targeted commercial outlets across all governorates, while 15 joint campaigns were conducted in coordination with several ministries and security authorities.

Among these were one campaign in the Capital Governorate, six in Muharraq, four in the Northern Governorate, and four in the Southern Governorate.

Participating agencies included the Ministry of Interior, represented by the Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs (NPRA), the Coast Guard Headquarters, the General Directorate of Civil Defense, and various municipal and economic departments. These included the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture, and the Social Insurance Organisation.

The coordinated inspections uncovered multiple violations related to Bahrain's Labour Market Regulatory and Residency Laws, prompting legal action in each case.

The LMRA reaffirmed that such campaigns are part of an ongoing strategy to maintain labour market stability and competitiveness, while protecting Bahrain's economic and social security.

Chinese Embassy Celebrates 98th Anniversary of the People's Liberation Army in Bahrain



Cake-cutting ceremony is one of the highlights of the event

Ashen Tharaka  
TDT | Manama

The 98th anniversary of the founding of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) was celebrated at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Bahrain last night.

The event was hosted by H.E. Mr. Ni Ruchi, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the Kingdom of Bahrain, and Colonel Wang Tao, Defense At-

taché of the Chinese Embassy in Bahrain.

Strong ties

In his welcome speech, Colonel Wang Tao, highlighted the strong ties between China and Bahrain, including the recent visit of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa to China and the discussions held between the two countries' leaders.

Colonel Wang Tao spoke

about China's commitment to peace and global cooperation. He said, "China has been a builder of world peace, a contributor to global development, and a defender of the international order."

He also noted that China is the largest contributor of troops to UN peacekeeping missions among the permanent members of the UN Security Council and the second largest financial contributor.