

Private Sector Key to Economic Growth: Finance Minister



Minister of Finance and National Economy Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa received Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) Chairman Nabeel Khalid Kanoo, stressing the private sector's key role in supporting economic growth.

The minister highlighted the importance of strengthening cooperation with the business community to diversify the economy, enhance competitiveness and create new opportunities for citizens.

Leadership Extends Wishes to Egypt



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, sent congratulatory cables to Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi on the anniversary of Egypt's Revolution Day.

Shura Council Speaker Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh and Council of Representatives Speaker Ahmed bin Salman Al Musallam also extended greetings to their Egyptian counterparts, highlighting the strong historic ties and close cooperation between Bahrain and Egypt.

220 fils (includes VAT)



A Nation in Motion

Bahrain Approves Electric Buses, New Berth and Highway Tender in Busy Development Session



The Isa Town Interchange Bridge, captured during the final stages of construction, is set to open to traffic within days as part of Bahrain's ongoing road network development.



Isa Town Interchange Bridge to open soon

King Faisal Highway project tender launched

Electric bus pilot approved

TDT | Manama

Bahrain is accelerating its push to modernise public transport after a high-level government committee approved a pilot programme to introduce electric buses onto the Kingdom's roads—part of a broader infrastructure agenda that stretches from new interchanges to a dedicated marine cargo berth.

The Ministerial Committee on Development Projects and Infrastructure, chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa at its 312th meeting, renewed the operating concession



Deputy Prime Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa

of the Bahrain Public Transport Company until 2030, while simultaneously approving the phased introduction of electric buses—two vehicles initially this year, scaling to 35 by the decade's end.

In a separate directive, the Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications was tasked with establishing a new marine berth designed to receive construction material shipments, a move expected to ease pressure on existing port facilities as major development projects continue to ramp up across the island.

On the roads, the committee

instructed the Ministry of Works to open the northern Isa Town Interchange Bridge to traffic within days. The 840-metre dual bridge is now structurally complete, though wider project works remain ongoing on schedule.

A public tender has been launched for the King Faisal Highway Development Project—a 4.1-kilometre corridor stretching from Al Farooq Junction to Al Fateh Junction. The scheme involves road widening and constructing multi-level interchanges aimed at relieving chronic congestion along one of the capital's key arterial routes.

Approved Proposals

- Electric bus pilot approved (2 buses in 2025, 35 by 2030); public transport concession renewed to 2030
- New marine berth to be established for construction material shipments
- Traditional fish traps (hadhrah) to be regulated and offered via public auction
- Engineering Guide for Landscaping and Tree Planting adopted; the Ministry of Municipalities will implement it.

Development Committee Outcomes

- Property registrations up 12% in first half of 2026
- Mortgage transactions rose 14% year-on-year
- 91% of land registry transactions are now electronic
- Digital title deeds processed in 5 working days
- New Engineering Guide adopted for landscaping across all public spaces
- Three government agencies united to launch new digital services platform

Nine Satellites Launched



The Gravity-1 commercial rocket launches from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center carrying nine satellites to their designated orbits, at sea off the coast of Shanghai in eastern China on July 22, 2026.

900 ships, 450m barrels moved since May, says CENTCOM

The US Central Command (CENTCOM) has carried out its 11th consecutive evening of strikes against Iran, targeting facilities linked to Tehran's military operations and maritime capabilities.

CENTCOM said its forces struck Iranian military operations centres, maritime infrastructure, aircraft hangars, drone storage facilities and military logistics sites as part of efforts to reduce Iran's ability to threaten commercial shipping in the strategic Strait of Hormuz.

The command said Iran has attacked more than 30 commercial vessels travelling through the vital international waterway over the past three months, putting hundreds of mariners



USS Donald Cook (DDG 75) transits the Arabian Sea while an MH-60S Sea Hawk flies nearby. American forces continue to strictly enforce the ongoing naval blockade against Iran.

at risk and affecting freedom of navigation.

Despite the reported attacks, CENTCOM stated that the Strait of Hormuz remains open to commercial shipping, with its forces supporting the safe passage of around 900 commercial vessels and the transit of approximately 450 million barrels of crude oil since early May.

Officer praised for foiling drug smuggling



Bahrain Customs President Shaikh Ahmed bin Hamad Al Khalifa honoured an Air Customs Directorate officer for his role in preventing a drug smuggling attempt at Bahrain International Airport.

Shaikh Ahmed praised the officer's vigilance, professionalism and quick action, saying his efforts reflected the readiness and commitment of customs personnel in protecting society and national security.

Bahraini Cadet Leads the Way



Bahraini Officer Cadet Dr Najla has been awarded the title of Best International Cadet following the successful completion of the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst (RMAS) Short Course in the United Kingdom.

The prestigious honour recognises her outstanding leadership skills, professionalism, dedication and commitment to excellence throughout the programme.

Kingdom Expresses Solidarity With India



Bahrain expressed condolences to India following the collapse of an under-construction tunnel in the northeastern state of Sikkim, which resulted in several deaths.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs conveyed the Kingdom's sympathy to the Indian government and people, as well as the victims' families, while wishing a speedy recovery to the injured and a safe rescue for those trapped.

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