

Al Salam Bank resumes **full** operations across all branches

Starting tomorrow

Manama

Al Salam Bank has announced that full operations will resume across all its branches, effective Wednesday, following improved conditions. This step reflects the Bank's continued focus on providing seamless and dependable banking experience across all its channels.

All branches will operate during regular working hours, with teams fully prepared to welcome clients and provide support tailored to their financial needs with efficiency and flexibility. This reinforces the Bank's focus on maintaining uninterrupted services while ensuring accessibility and high standards of delivery service.



As part of its ongoing digital transformation, the Bank continues to enhance its digital capabilities, enabling clients to

complete their banking transactions at any time through the Al Salam Bank App or via the Virtual Branch. These channels



offer a convenient and secure way to manage their banking needs without visiting a physical branch.

On this occasion, Mr. Mohamed Buhijji – Chief Executive Officer of Retail Banking at Al Salam Bank, commented:

“At Al Salam Bank, the safety of our clients and employees remains a priority, alongside ensuring uninterrupted access to our banking services.

The return to full operations across all our branches reflects our readiness to serve clients through an integrated banking experience that combines physical presence with advanced digital capabilities, delivering a high-quality and flexible experience aligned with their evolving financial requirements.”

The Bank invites clients to visit its branches or benefit from its digital services available around the clock via the mobile application. For inquiries, clients may contact the Bank via WhatsApp at 17005500.

Two more India-bound tankers **cross** Strait of Hormuz: shipping ministry

AFP | New Delhi, India

Two more Indian-flagged tankers carrying liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) passed through the Strait of Hormuz yesterday, India's shipping ministry said, marking a fresh set of exceptions in the chokepoint disrupted by the Middle East war.

Tehran, following US-Israel military strikes, has all but halted maritime traffic in the Strait of Hormuz, through which about a fifth of global crude oil and liquefied natural gas (LNG) normally pass.

Jag Vasant and Pine Gas, carrying LPG about 92,000 metric tonnes combined, are likely to reach Indian ports between March 26 and 28, the ministry said in a statement.

Two other Indian LPG tankers had earlier transited through



Picture for representation only

the strait.

India is the world's

fourth-largest buyer of LNG and second-largest buyer of LPG,

which is used for cooking and predominantly sourced from the

Middle East.

As supplies dwindle, New

Delhi has ordered tighter controls over natural and cooking gas following import disruptions.

Earlier Monday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said New Delhi was in close contact with allies to safeguard supply chains hit by the war.

India maintains strong relations with Tehran but has steadily expanded cooperation with Israel across the defence, agriculture, technology and cybersecurity sectors.

“Our effort is to ensure that ships carrying oil, gas, fertilisers and other essential supplies reach India safely,” Modi told parliament.

“India has opposed attacks on civilian energy transport infrastructure. Attacks on commercial ships and waterways like the Strait of Hormuz are unacceptable.”

Russia, Vietnam advance plans for first nuclear power plant

● Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh was visiting energy-rich Russia as Vietnam seeks to shore up its fuel reserves

AFP | Moscow, Russia

Russia and Vietnam yesterday signed a cooperation agreement on the construction of Vietnam's first nuclear power plant, Russia's Rosatom nuclear agency said on Monday.

Prime Minister Pham Minh



A single nuclear fuel pellet—about the size of a fingertip—can produce as much energy as roughly one tonne of coal, 150 gallons of oil, or 17,000 cubic feet of natural gas, thanks to the process of nuclear fission.

Chinh was visiting energy-rich Russia as Vietnam seeks to shore up its fuel reserves at a time of disruption to energy supplies caused by the war in the Middle East, sparking fears of fuel shortages around the world.

Since the US-Israeli war

against Iran began in late February, the cost of 95-octane petrol and diesel in Vietnam, a manufacturing hub, has soared by 50 percent and 70 percent respectively.

The agreement lays out the legal framework for the construc-

tion of two reactors with a total output of 2400 MW at Vietnam's proposed Ninh Thuan nuclear power plant, Rostam said.

Rosatom head Alexey Likhachev said the agreement would be the “foundation for a long-term industrial partner-

ship, which will strengthen Vietnam's energy independence and open up new opportunities for economic growth”.

No timeline was given for when construction would start or when the plant might come online. Moscow and Hanoi had initially agreed to build the Ninh Thuan 1 atomic power station back in 2010, but later decided to suspend construction.

Another agreement between Russia's top liquefied natural gas (LNG) producer Novatek and a Vietnamese buyer was also signed recently, Novatek's CEO Leonid Mikhelson said on Mon-

day.

“We have been in negotiations with potential buyers for over five years, and have very recently signed a preliminary supply agreement with one of them. We are ready to commence deliveries at the earliest opportunity,” he told state broadcaster Rossiya 24, without naming the customer.

Russia and Vietnam have also signed a deal on oil and gas production in both countries, the TASS state news agency reported, citing Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin, without giving details.