

At least 172 vessels have passed through the Strait of Hormuz since the US-Iran deal, but traffic remains below normal levels as oil prices continue to decline. | P8-9



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New substations boost Al Ramli power network

Two new 220kV and 66kV substations launched

Project worth BD 19 million

Improves load distribution across the network

TDT | Manama

Deputy Prime Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa inaugurated two major electricity transmission substations serving Al Ramli District, operating at 220kV and 66kV levels, as part of Bahrain's ongoing infrastructure development drive.

Shaikh Khalid emphasized Bahrain's continued commitment to advancing essential infrastructure projects that en-



Members representing relevant entities attended the meeting, which was held at the centre's headquarters in Awali.

hance the efficiency and sustainability of key public services, particularly in the electricity and water sectors. He noted that such developments align with the Kingdom's comprehensive development vision under the leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, and in accordance with the directives of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

During the inauguration, Minister of Electricity and Water Affairs Yasser bin Ibrahim

Humaidan provided a detailed briefing on the project, which cost approximately BD 19 million. The project includes two high-capacity transmission substations equipped with modern transformers and advanced control systems, integrated into the national grid through high-voltage cables to enhance load distribution, improve operational efficiency, and strengthen network reliability.

The Deputy Prime Minister praised the Saudi Fund for Development for financing the project, highlighting its role

in supporting strategic infrastructure initiatives in Bahrain under the Gulf Development Programme.

Bandar bin Abdullah Al Obaid, Director General of Arab Countries Operations at the Saudi Fund for Development, stated that the project reflects the long-standing partnership between the Fund and Bahrain, spanning over 49 years. He added that such initiatives aim to support development priorities and improve access to essential services for beneficiaries across the Kingdom.

Civil Service Appointments



His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, issued Edict (22) of 2026 appointing new directors at the Civil Service Bureau, based on the recommendation of the Bureau's President.

Under the edict, Hamad Mohammed Abdulrahman Al Mulla hbeen appointed as Director of the Shared Human Resources Services Control Directorate, while Rehab Ebrahim Ahmed Al Fadhel has been named Director of the Shared Human Resources Services Operations Directorate. The Civil Service Bureau President will implement the edict, and it comes into effect the day after its publication in the Official Gazette.

Faster Certificates

The Ministry of Education introduced an upgraded digital service that allows private school graduates to have their certificates attested and equalised in significantly less time. The process has been reduced from 10 working days to five, with documentation requirements cut by 50 percent and the procedure simplified to four steps or fewer as part of broader government digital transformation efforts.

The service enables private schools to complete attestation and equivalency procedures entirely online through the ministry's system, including uploading graduation data and receiving QR-coded official statements for verification.

Foreign ministers of Bahrain and Jordan, along with the Arab League Secretary-General, addressed a press conference in Amman following the 165th Arab League Ministerial Council meeting, highlighting regional cooperation, sovereignty concerns, and the importance of continued dialogue on key regional issues.



P13

Salmaniya Medical Complex boosts critical care capacity

New facility includes isolation beds, triage room and upgraded medical systems

TDT | Manama

The Minister of Health, Dr. Jaleela bint Al Sayed Jawad Hasan, inaugurated the expanded resuscitation room at the Accident and Emergency Unit of Salmaniya Medical Complex, in the presence of Dr. Mariam Athbi Al Jalahma, Chief Executive Officer of Government Hospitals, along with senior officials and medical staff.

The Minister said the expansion reflects ongoing national efforts to strengthen the healthcare system and further enhance



services provided by emergency and accident units, which play a vital role in managing critical and life-threatening cases.

She added that increasing the resuscitation room's capacity will improve response times and overall efficiency in handling emergencies. She also stressed

that continuously developing healthcare infrastructure and medical equipment remains a key priority to ensure safe, high-quality, and sustainable healthcare services in line with international standards and best practices.

Dr. Mariam Athbi Al Jalahma

said the upgraded facility significantly enhances emergency services at Salmaniya Medical Complex. She noted that the design and equipment were tailored to meet operational needs and support medical and nursing teams in managing critical cases more effectively.

The expansion increased the resuscitation room capacity from eight to 15 beds, allowing the unit to handle a larger number of critical cases simultaneously. Two of the beds have been designated as isolation units equipped for patients requiring infection control measures.

Rubio lands in UAE on first leg of Gulf tour



US Secretary of State Marco Rubio has begun a Gulf tour to reassure regional allies amid recent Middle East developments, while Hezbollah has renewed calls for a full Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon under a set timetable.

Speaking in Abu Dhabi, Rubio also stressed that no country can impose tolls or fees on the Strait of Hormuz, saying it remains governed by international law amid reports that Iran may seek revenue from the strategic waterway. **Read more on page 11**

First meeting held for resilience documentation panel

The Committee for Documenting the National Resilience Epic held its first meeting, chaired by His Excellency Dr. Shaikh Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Bahrain Center for Strategic, International and Energy Studies (Derasat), who also heads the



committee.

At the beginning of the meet-

ing, the Chairman and committee members expressed their deepest appreciation to His

Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, for issuing Royal Order No. (20) of 2026 establishing the Committee for Documenting the National Resilience Epic. The committee has been tasked with recording and documenting the hostile Iranian attacks faced by Bahrain.

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An initiative by “Skills Bahrain” under the Labour Fund “Tamkeen” “Career World” Launched to Help Students Shape their Career Paths

Platform provides reliable data on various professions in the labor market to support students in making well-informed decisions based on market needs

Skills Bahrain, an initiative under the umbrella of the Labour Fund “Tamkeen”, announced the launch of “Career World”, Bahrain’s first specialized platform dedicated to career guidance for secondary school students. The announcement was made during an event attended by ministers, senior officials and representatives from both the public and private sectors.

Designed to equip students with up-to-date labor market insights, the “Career World” platform supports informed educational and career choices that match their talents and align with the needs of Bahrain’s economic sectors. The platform is an initiative from Skills Bahrain under the umbrella of “Tamkeen”, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, the Higher Education Council, and is using data powered by the Information and eGovernment Authority (IGA).

The launch of “Career World” platform comes in line with Skills Bahrain’s ongoing efforts to provide data-driven tools



that support the labor market. It follows the launch of the Employability Skills Portal dedicated to labor market analysis and job creation.

The platform targets students, parents and career counselors by providing reliable labor market insights to foster informed and sustainable academic and career choices. It also provides career counselors with a comprehensive data resource to support their guidance efforts and help students align ambitions with market realities.

The platform provides comprehensive data on more than

160 professions, continuously updated to include related academic specializations, required skills and salary ranges. It equips students with a clearer, more practical view of career opportunities. In addition, the platform offers integrated content highlighting key economic sectors and the size of their workforce, along with simplified descriptions of each profession and its core responsibilities further enabling students to understand labor market requirements and prepare from an early stage.

To enhance engagement, the

platform features multimedia content, including introductory videos about professions and real-world career experience offering students a more interactive and relatable learning journey.

On this occasion, Her Excellency Ms. Maha Abdulhameed Mofeez, Chief Executive of the Labour Fund “Tamkeen”, affirmed that the launch of the platform reflects Tamkeen’s commitment to developing national talent and enhancing their readiness for the labor market. She said, “the Career World platform is a pioneer-

ing initiative built on real labor market data, helping students and youth make more informed educational and career decisions. By linking their skills with the needs of the labor market and economic sectors, the platform contributes to building a generation that is more prepared and competitive in the workforce.”

The platform is accessible at www.careerworld.bh where students and stakeholders can discover career pathways and make use of its interactive guidance resources.

The launch of the “Career

World” platform is aligned with Tamkeen’s strategic priorities for 2026, which focus on areas with the highest on the economy and Bahrainis. It also reflects Tamkeen’s role in shaping career pathways through programs that connect skills with opportunities in the labor market, adopting innovative approaches to stimulate private sector growth and financing, and implementing programs that enhance the Fund’s efficiency and effectiveness by developing internal mechanisms and continuously strengthening governance.

Water samples taken from East Riffa’s Buhair Valley

Tests aim to address public concern over possible contamination

TDI | Manama
Hasan Barakat

The Ministry of Health has begun testing water samples from Buhair Valley in East Riffa following growing public concern over the safety of the protected environmental site.

Samples were collected from three locations in the valley after a request from Southern Municipal Council member and Third Constituency representative Abdulla Ebrahim Abdullatif.

This action follows increased visitor activity, as some individuals entered the protected site for informal recreation, raising questions about the safety of the water and surrounding environment.

Abdullatif accompanied a Ministry of Health representative during the field inspection, where samples were collected and sent to accredited laboratories for analysis. The council is expected to receive the official findings once testing is completed.

He said the aim of the exercise was to rely on scientific assessment rather than speculation, particularly amid public concerns about possible contamination.

Previous reports submitted by the Ministry of Oil and Environment had indicated that the water in the valley was



Officials are testing the water for safety, aiming to balance nature protection with public interest in visiting the area.

free from harmful substances or pollutants. However, the Ministry of Health requested additional testing to reinforce

transparency and provide updated assurances to the public.

Buhair Valley is regarded as one of Bahrain’s significant environmental sites and is among the last remaining wet habitats in the Kingdom, supporting reeds, tall grasses and a wide range of birdlife, including migratory species such as flamingos, herons, ducks and rare sightings like the black heron and black-necked stork.

The ecological importance of the site led to directives to designate its sensitive zones as a nature reserve, aimed at preserving biodiversity and protecting its natural features

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Animal Abuse May Lead to Jail, BD1,000 Fine in Bahrain

Up to One Month Jail for Animal Abuse Offences

TDT | Manama
Hasan Barakat

Animal abuse in Bahrain may be punishable by up to one month in jail and a fine of up to BD1,000, as authorities and campaigners warn against the growing trend of turning animal suffering into online content for attention.

The warning follows a recent case in which the Public Prosecution arrested an individual for



Lawyer Zuhoor Al Sayed

filming and publishing acts involving animal mistreatment on

social media.

According to prosecutors, the suspect admitted to creating and sharing the content to gain more views and online popularity. He has been ordered to remain in custody for seven days pending investigation before being referred to criminal trial.

Legal penalties

Lawyer Zuhoor Al Sayed told The Daily Tribune that Bahrain's animal welfare regulations include clear penalties for viola-

tions under the GCC Animal Welfare Law framework.

She explained that, without prejudice to harsher penalties under the Penal Code or other applicable laws, offenders may face imprisonment of up to one month and a fine of up to BD1,000, or either penalty.

She also noted that courts may order the confiscation or destruction of animals or materials involved in such violations, depending on the circumstances of each case.

Low road level leaves new Budaiya home without power and water

TDT | Manama
Hasan Barakat



Mohammed Saad Al Doseri, Northern Municipal Council member

A newly completed home in Budaiya remains unoccupied after a low road level prevented the connection of essential utilities, including electricity and water.

The property, located on Plot 3218 on Road 5769 in Block 557, is fully constructed but cannot be occupied due to technical issues affecting service installation.

Northern Municipal Council member Mohammed Saad Al Doseri, who represents the Third Constituency, has called for urgent action, stressing that the homeowner cannot move into a ready property because of infrastructure constraints.

According to Al Doseri, the issue emerged when the homeowner approached the Electricity and Water Authority to com-

plete service connections. It was then discovered that the adjacent road level is too low, preventing the required technical work.

Consequently, electricity and water connections are delayed until the road is raised and aligned with required engineering standards.

He added that the municipal council had previously submitted requests to address these gaps, and recommendations were already issued, but residents are still awaiting implementation of the necessary works.

BD8,200 Prize for Outstanding Employee

TDT | Manama
Rehab Mohammad



Maryam Jassim, an employee of the General Secretariat of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, won the grand prize of BD8,200 under the Employee Loyalty Rewards Program, in recognition of her outstanding professional performance, dedication, and valuable contributions to the workplace.

The announcement was made during a ceremony held at the General Secretariat's headquarters in Seef District, attended by Shaikh Hamad bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, Assistant

Secretary-General of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, along with a number of officials and employees. Jassim was honored as a distinguished example of national talent and excellence within the government sector.

Her selection was based on the program's approved criteria, which include performance indicators, job commitment, and positive contributions to the work environment. The initiative forms part of national efforts aimed at promoting a culture of appreciation and encouraging employees to continue achieving excellence and delivering high-quality performance.

ICRF Launches Summer Campaign



ICRF Bahrain has launched its 11th annual "Thirst Quenchers 2026" summer awareness campaign, in line with the Ministry of Labour's summer work safety initiative aimed at protecting outdoor workers during peak heat conditions. The campaign involves weekly visits to worksites across the Kingdom, where workers are provided with water, fresh juices, fruits, and other refreshments to help them stay hydrated and healthy. The initiative is supported by the Ministry of Labour, the Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA), and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), with around 500 workers taking part in its inaugural event at a Cebarco worksite in Zallaq.

Capital Governor reviews Ashura preparations in Manama



TDT | Manama
Hasan Barakat

Capital Governor Shaikh Khalid bin Humood Al Khalifa reviewed preparations at several ma'atams in Manama ahead of the Ashura season, highlighting Bahrain's commitment to religious freedom, tolerance and peaceful coexistence.

During an inspection visit, Shaikh Khalid reviewed the arrangements in place and followed up on field requirements to ensure necessary preparations are completed for the religious occasion.

He said the royal care extended

by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa towards the Ashura season reflects Bahrain's approach to protecting religious freedoms and respecting diversity.

The governor also praised the support and follow-up of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister, in ensuring smooth organisational and service arrangements.

Shaikh Khalid stressed the Capital Governorate's commitment to supporting ma'atams in coordination with relevant authorities, while praising the cooperation between ma'atam officials and government bodies.

Garden Club Winners Honoured

Ceremony Celebrates Excellence in Gardening, Sustainability, and Environmental Innovation



Fareeda Juma won first place in the His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa Home Gardens Cup, with participants also honoured across photography and gardening categories.

TDT | Manama
Rehab Mohammad

Shaikha Maraam bint Isa Al Khalifa, Secretary-General of the National Initiative for Agricultural Development, honored the winners of the Bahrain Garden Club's annual competitions during an awards ceremony attended by Engineer Zahra Abdulmalek, President of the Bahrain Garden Club, along with officials and individuals interested in agriculture and

environmental affairs.

Shaikha Maraam praised the high standard of entries submitted across the various categories, emphasizing that the club's annual competitions serve as an important platform for promoting gardening and tree-planting culture, encouraging creativity and innovation, and raising awareness of sustainability and environmental conservation.

The ceremony recognized winners across a wide range of categories. Fareeda Juma

secured first place in the His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa Home Gardens Cup, while numerous participants were honored in photography competitions, specialized gardening categories, and horticultural displays.

Awards were also presented in categories including sustainable gardens, rare plants, water gardens, and rock gardens. In the environmental garden category for commercial institutions, The Ritz-Carlton Bahrain

and Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay shared first place for their outstanding environmental landscaping efforts.

The event also celebrated schools that excelled in garden production, educational gardens, and garden art competitions, recognizing their contribution to fostering environmental awareness and agricultural knowledge among students and encouraging engagement with sustainability concepts.

Bahrain Through Women's Eyes

TDT | Manama

The Indian Ladies Association (ILA) celebrated Bahrain's beauty and culture through the lens of women photographers at the IMAGEin Bahrain Women's Photography Competition, held as part of its 70th anniversary celebrations.

The competition attracted strong community participation, with 150 women photographers submitting more than 200 pho-

tographs capturing their unique perspectives of the Kingdom. The winning entries were announced during an award ceremony held at the ILA clubhouse, attended by chief guest and Bahraini filmmaker Bassam Al Thawadi.

Kavya Sarin won first place, receiving a \$500 cash prize and a Canon vlogging camera, while Najeeba T secured second place with a \$300 prize and Canon



photo printer. Manahil Sohail won third place, receiving \$200 and a Canon colour printer.

The competition invited women to showcase Bahrain through their own viewpoint, highlighting the country's culture, landscapes, landmarks, and commu-



nity spirit under the theme "I Love Bahrain."

The entries went through a multi-stage judging process involving photographers and creative professionals, including cinematographer and director Ajith Nair, Summer Ameen, founder



of Verano Creatives Photography & Film Production, and Fatima R. AlShaikh, marketing and corporate communications strategist.

ILA President Smitha Jensen said the initiative was a tribute to Bahrain's beauty and the

strong connection residents share with the Kingdom.

Chief guest Bassam Al Thawadi praised the initiative, highlighting its role in empowering women to document their appreciation for Bahrain's peaceful and diverse society.

Bahraini Women Essential Partners in Foreign Policy Success

Foreign Minister highlights women's contributions to peace, dialogue and international cooperation on International Day of Women in Diplomacy

TDT | Manama

Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani, Minister of Foreign Affairs, praised the prominent role of Bahraini women in diplomacy, describing them as key partners in promoting peace, dialogue, mutual understanding, and multilateral international cooperation in support of Bahrain's foreign policy priorities and values.

Speaking on the occasion of the International Day of Women in Diplomacy, observed this year under the theme "Women in Diplomacy: Shaping the Future of Global Cooperation," Al Zayani extended congratulations to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister, and Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeqa bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, Consort of His Majesty the King and President of the Supreme Council for Women.

The Foreign Minister ex-



Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani, Minister of Foreign Affairs

pressed pride in the achievements of Bahraini women throughout the Kingdom's development journey and diplomatic service, attributing their success to the leadership's vision, government support, and the initiatives of the Supreme Council for Women. He noted that these efforts have strengthened women's participation in leadership and decision-making positions across various sectors, particularly in diplomacy.

Al Zayani highlighted the strong presence of women within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Bahrain's diplomatic and consular missions abroad, noting that women represent approximately 37% of the ministry's workforce and 38% of the diplomatic corps. He added that Bahraini women continue to assume senior diplomatic, executive, and administrative responsibilities, while accounting for half of the graduates of the Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa Academy for Diplomatic Studies.

He also emphasized the contributions of Bahraini women to the Kingdom's achievements in multilateral diplomacy, preventive diplomacy, and mediation efforts. Their role extends to Bahrain's participation as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council for the 2026-2027 term and its membership on the Executive Board of UN Women for the 2026-2028 term.

The Minister further praised



the role of Bahraini women in advancing the Kingdom's humanitarian and civilizational initiatives aimed at promoting peace, coexistence, justice, and human values. He noted their contributions across the legislative, executive, and judicial branches, as well as in human rights institutions, civil society organizations, and international initiatives that have strengthened Bahrain's global standing.

Shura Secretariat Hosts Human Rights Fellows

Programme Supports Youth Awareness of Parliamentary Processes



TDT | Manama
Rehab Mohammad

The General Secretariat of the Shura Council welcomed members of the 14th cohort of the Human Rights Research Fellowship Programme, organised by the National Institution for Human Rights, as part of efforts to strengthen collaboration with national and civil institutions. The visit aimed to enhance community engagement and promote greater awareness of the legislative and oversight functions of Bahrain's parliamentary system, while also fostering parliamentary knowledge among young participants and emerging professionals.

As part of the programme,

the fellows attended an introductory session outlining the structure and responsibilities of the Shura Council. The presentation was delivered by legal researcher Issa Sabt, who explained the Council's role in developing Bahrain's legislative framework within its ongoing democratic development process, as well as its coordination with the Council of Representatives in shaping national legislation.

The briefing also highlighted the Council's contributions to drafting and enacting laws across various sectors, including human rights-related legislation, underscoring its role in supporting national development and legislative advancement in the Kingdom.

From The Court

TDT | Manama
Rehab Mohammad

Drugs hidden in handbags used for smuggling, court hears

A 30-year-old Bahraini man faces charges after allegedly importing drugs hidden inside women's handbags upon arrival from Thailand via Sharjah.

Customs officers at Bahrain International Airport became suspicious during X-ray screening, leading to a detailed inspection that uncovered 185.8 grams of suspected marijuana and drug-use tools.

Authorities said further

investigations linked the defendant to trafficking and personal drug use, supported by forensic evidence from his phone, financial transactions, and DNA analysis.

Lab results confirmed cannabis and methamphetamine in the seized substances, and the suspect also tested positive for drug use.

The court adjourned the case for sentencing on July 14, with the defendant remaining in custody.

Drug trafficking operation dismantled in Juffair

Authorities in Bahrain dismantled a drug trafficking operation involving a 37-year-old Nigerian national and a 27-year-old African investor, following an arrest in the Juffair district.

Security forces detained the two suspects in a building reception area while executing an arrest warrant. The second suspect was found in an abnormal condition, prompting a detailed search that uncovered drugs and cash in multiple currencies.

Police said the first suspect was carrying cash believed to be drug proceeds, along with a mobile phone. The second suspect was found in possession of marijuana and addi-

tional cash.

A search of the first suspect's residence led to the discovery of Lyrica tablets, marijuana, hashish, precision scales, a grinder, and packaging materials used for drug distribution.

Investigations revealed that the first suspect admitted to drug use, while the second suspect allegedly assisted in deliveries in exchange for narcotics. Phone analysis reportedly showed evidence of drug sales, including images of narcotics and delivery coordination.

Forensic reports confirmed the presence of cocaine, hashish, marijuana, and pregabalin. The case is scheduled for a court verdict on June 30.

Attempted theft at commercial complex

The First High Criminal Court reviewed a case involving a 24-year-old repeat offender accused of attempting to steal items from a commercial complex using force against a worker.

Prosecutors said the defendant

attacked an employee with an iron scissor after being discovered inside an office area, before fleeing with stolen items.

Witnesses testified that the suspect assaulted staff, attempted to escape through multiple buildings,

and abandoned some stolen goods during the chase. Security personnel later recovered part of the stolen items.

Court records showed the defendant had a prior theft conviction. Medical reports confirmed

injuries to a victim's ear consistent with a sharp object.

Security footage supported witness accounts, showing the suspect moving through the complex and committing the theft. The case remains under judicial review.

Bahrain youth showcase leadership projects at YLP closing ceremony



The 11th Youth Leadership Programme (YLP) concluded with a ceremony attended by Youth Affairs Minister Rawan bint Najeeb Tawfiqi, highlighting Bahrain's efforts to empower young people and develop future leaders.

Organised by the Ministry of Youth Affairs in partnership

with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the programme provided participants with training and skills to support innovation, sustainable development and social impact.

UNDP Resident Representative in Bahrain Asmaa Shalabi said 27 participants were selected from more than 100

applicants for the six-week programme, which focused on leadership development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Challenge.

The ceremony featured projects created by participants and concluded with the recognition of partners, supporters and graduates for their contributions to the initiative.

MPs Join Cairo Arab Parliament Talks

Talks aim to shape unified positions on key regional issues

TDT | Manama
Mohammed Darwish

Two MPs will take part in talks in Cairo this week before a meeting of Arab parliament heads on attacks on Arab state sovereignty, the Palestinian issue and digital privacy.

Dr Hisham Al Ashiri, a member of the Arab Parliament, and MP Mohsin Al Asbool will represent Bahrain's Council of Representatives at the preparatory committee for the eighth conference of the Arab Parliament and heads of Arab councils and parliaments.

The committee meets in the Egyptian capital on June 24 and 25 to review draft outcomes ahead of the conference, which



MP Mohsen Al Asbool and MP Dr Hisham Al Ashiri

will be held on Saturday, June 27, at the Arab League headquarters.

Bahrain's delegation to the conference will be led by Speaker Ahmed bin Salman Al Musallam, with heads and speakers of Arab councils and parliaments due to attend.

The conference is being held

by the Arab Parliament and the Arab Inter-Parliamentary Union.

Delegates are due to discuss a draft resolution on forging a single Arab parliamentary stance towards attacks on the sovereignty, security and stability of Arab states.

They will also consider a draft resolution on Israeli policies aimed at ending the Palestinian cause, and on strengthening Arab parliamentary support for the lawful rights of the Palestinian people.

A parliamentary vision on 'Arab digital sovereignty and the protection of national privacy in the age of digital change' will also be launched.

Bahrain Condolences Qatar Over Factory Blast

TDT | Manama
Rehab Mohammad

Shura Council Speaker Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh has expressed his condolences to Qatar following a factory explosion in Ras Laffan Industrial City that resulted in deaths and injuries among workers.

In a cable sent to Hassan bin Abdullah Al Ghanim, Al Saleh conveyed sympathy on behalf of the Shura Council of the Kingdom of Bahrain, extending condolences to the Qatari leadership, the Shura Council, and the people of Qatar.

"With deep sorrow, we received the news of the explosion at a factory in Ras Laffan Industrial City and the resulting deaths and injuries," he said in the message.



"We express deep sorrow over the explosion in Ras Laffan Industrial City and the unfortunate deaths and injuries it caused."

H. E. ALI BIN SALEH AL SALEH

He also expressed confidence in Qatar's ability to manage the aftermath of the incident, while praying for mercy for the deceased, a swift recovery for the injured, and continued safety and stability for the country.

NBB and INJAZ Bahrain Conclude Third Edition of Entaliq

TDI | Manama

The National Bank of Bahrain (NBB), in collaboration with INJAZ Bahrain, hosted the closing event of the third edition of Entaliq with INJAZ Powered by NBB, bringing together aspiring entrepreneurs, mentors, and representatives from both organisations to celebrate the achievements of this year's participants.

Designed to support the next generation of Bahraini business leaders, Entaliq provides the youth with structured mentorship, practical guidance, seed funding, and incubation support to help transform promising ideas into viable ventures.

Participants benefit from hands-on learning opportunities and direct engagement with industry experts, enabling them to refine their ideas and strengthen their entrepreneurial capabilities.

The programme's latest season concluded with the 2026 Young Entrepreneurs Competition where participating teams presented their ventures and shared the progress achieved throughout their entrepreneurial journey. The event also included a certificate recognition ceremony honouring both participants and mentors in acknowledgement of their collaboration and contributions to the initiative's success.



Commenting on the occasion, Her Highness Sheikha Hessa bint Khalifa Al Khalifa, Chairperson at INJAZ Bahrain, stated,

“We are proud to see Entaliq grow over three years and proving its value as a vital bridge between education and entrepreneurship in Bahrain. This accelerator programme allows us to invest in young founders at a critical stage, helping them build operational startups that are ready to compete in the local market. By providing the structural support necessary for these businesses to thrive, our partnership with NBB helps secure a more resilient economic future for the Kingdom.”

Usman Ahmed, Group Chief Executive Officer of NBB, added, “Entaliq continues to

demonstrate the value of providing young entrepreneurs with the right environment to test their unique concepts and build confidence in their capabilities. Through our partnership with INJAZ Bahrain, we are helping participants develop the practical skills, resilience and strategic thinking required to navigate today's business landscape. We are encouraged by the calibre of ideas presented and look forward to seeing how they evolve.”

Through its partnership with INJAZ Bahrain, NBB remains committed to supporting initiatives that empower Bahraini youth, encourage innovation, and foster the development of entrepreneurial talent.

Al Hilal Healthcare Group Launches Ashura Medical Clinic in Manama for the Fourth Consecutive Year Supporting the Community and Serving Mourners During Ashura

As part of its ongoing commitment to community service and social responsibility during the Ashura season, Al Hilal Healthcare Group officially launched its Ashura Medical Clinic in Manama in conjunction with the opening of Imam Hussain Clinic.

The inauguration was attended by Her Excellency Dr. Jaleela bint Al Sayyed Jawad Hassan, Minister of Health, and Dr. Ejlal Faisal Al Alawi, CEO of Primary Healthcare Centers, along with a number of officials, community leaders, and representatives of the organizing committees.

The clinic's launch for the fourth consecutive year reflects Al Hilal Healthcare Group's continued dedication to supporting the community during Ashura and providing essential healthcare services to mourners and



participants attending the religious gatherings. The initiative embodies the values of sacrifice, patience, solidarity, and community cohesion associated with this important occasion.

The Ashura Medical Clinic will provide medical services daily from the 6th night until the 10th night of Muharram, operating from 7:00 PM until 2:00 AM. Services will be delivered by a dedicated

team of doctors, nurses, and qualified healthcare professionals. The clinic offers primary medical consultations, first aid services, emergency case management, and necessary healthcare support to ensure the safety and well-being of mourners throughout the commemorative period.

Commenting on the initiative, Dr. Sharath Chandran, CEO of Al Hilal Healthcare Group, stated:

“The continuation of this initiative for the fourth consecutive year reflects our strong commitment to the Bahraini community. Serving mourners during the Ashura season is an important part of our humanitarian mission and our responsibility to provide accessible healthcare services while supporting meaningful community initiatives.”

Mr. Asif Mohammed, Vice

President - Business & Strategy at Al Hilal Healthcare Group, said:

“Ashura represents a remarkable example of unity and cooperation among various institutions and community organizations. We are proud to contribute to these collective efforts by providing healthcare services and medical professionals who help ensure the safety and well-being of participants throughout the season.”

Mr. Franco Francis, Branch Head Muharraq & Group Quality Manager added:

“Our annual participation during Ashura has become one of the group's most established community initiatives. Every year, our teams work diligently to deliver quality healthcare services that reflect Al Hilal Healthcare Group's values of compassion, service, and social responsibility.

The opening was also attended by members of the executive management team and employees of Al Hilal Healthcare Group, including representatives from the marketing and digital marketing departments, who continue to support and promote the group's community initiatives and strengthen engagement with the public during the Ashura season.

Al Hilal Healthcare Group reaffirmed that the continuation of this initiative for the fourth consecutive year stems from its belief in the importance of community partnership and its role in supporting national efforts to provide a safe and healthy environment for all. The group looks forward to continuing this initiative in the years ahead as part of its ongoing commitment to humanitarian values and community service in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Parliament Panel Studies Instalment Sales Bill

TDI | Manama

Mohammed Darwish

A bill to govern instalment sales in Bahrain is being studied by Parliament's Financial and Economic Affairs Committee, with sellers facing licensing rules, clearer contract duties and penalties for unlicensed trade.

The draft law, put forward by MP Hamad Al Doy, would cover goods and services named by the minister in charge of commerce. Property sales would be excluded.

Under the bill, any seller offering instalment sales would need a ministry licence and would have to keep a register of all such deals.

Each sale would require a written contract, with at least two original copies, though electronic contracts would be allowed. The contract would have to list the seller's trade name, address, commercial registration number and contact details, as well as the buyer's name, nationality, job, address and contact details.

It would also have to state the product, the cash price, the

instalment price, the down payment, the deferred sum, the annual interest rate, how interest is counted, the number and value of instalments, due dates, late-payment penalties, warranty terms and ownership rights during the payment period.

Sellers could ask for guarantees, such as a mortgage or surety, until the full price is paid. They could also take an advance payment when the item is handed over.

Buyers would have the right to settle early and receive a cut equal to the interest due for the remaining period. Any clause denying that right would be void.

The bill would also limit action against buyers who fall behind. A court could not cancel a sale over a missed instalment if the buyer had already met 75 pc of his obligations.

If a sale is cancelled, the seller would have to return the instalments paid, after deducting a sum for use of the item and any damage caused by abnormal use.

A clause making the whole price due after one missed payment would only take effect if



The growth of instalment sales and the disputes arising from them highlight the need for a clear, standalone legal framework that protects both consumers and businesses while ensuring transparency in contracts.

HAMAD AL DOY, MP

the buyer missed at least two instalments in a row.

A seller who breaches the law could face a warning, licence suspension for up to one year, licence cancellation or a fine of up to BD1,000.

Anyone carrying out instalment sales without a licence could face up to one year in jail, a fine of between BD1,000 and BD5,000, or either penalty.

Bahrain draws \$5.4bn from tourism in 2025

TDI | Manama

Mohammed Darwish

Bahrain drew \$5.4 billion in tourism receipts in 2025, up seven per cent on the year, placing it among the Arab world's top tourism earners, according to UN Tourism figures.

The kingdom ranked fifth among the Arab countries listed, ahead of Qatar and Kuwait, as visitor numbers, hotel stays and leisure spending all rose.

The accommodation and food sector grew by 6.4 pc in 2025. Overnight visitors climbed 10.9 pc to 7.3 million, while tourist nights rose 5.2 pc to 20.2 million.

Average daily spending by each visitor also rose five pc to \$192.

Saudi Arabia topped the Arab list, with tourism receipts of \$42.6bn, up four pc.

Egypt came second on \$18.2bn, a 19 pc rise, followed by Morocco, where receipts reached \$14.8bn after a 29 pc increase.

Jordan ranked fourth with \$7.8bn.

Bahrain came next, ahead of Qatar, which recorded \$5.3bn after a 38 pc fall, Lebanon on



Bahrain has expanded its annual calendar to include more sports, leisure, exhibition, and conference events.

Tourism bodies, hotels and travel firms have been working on summer offers that link stays with leisure, shopping and events.

Much of that work is aimed at Gulf Co-operation Council visitors, who remain one of Bahrain's main sources of tourism traffic.

Hotels are also working with malls, event firms and tourism companies on family offers for Gulf visitors and other short-break travellers.

The kingdom has added sports, leisure, exhibition and conference events to its annual calendar, in a bid to lift hotel occupancy and support businesses tied to tourism.

\$4.6bn and Kuwait on \$2.1bn.

The figures come as Bahrain widens its hotel and resort market and adds new places to stay across several price bands.

Bilfinger inaugurates new Bahrain office in Riffa and celebrates 30 Years of Engineering Excellence

TDI | Manama

Bilfinger, a leading international industrial services provider, marked a milestone in the Kingdom of Bahrain with the inauguration of its new Consulting & Engineering office at MKF Central, Bukuwarah, in Riffa area and a celebration of 30 years of engineering excellence in the country.

The event brought together Bilfinger leadership, employees, and valued clients for a ribbon-cutting ceremony followed by a guided tour of the new state-of-the-art office facilities. Prominent and highly valued industry partners attended, highlighting the strong and long-lasting relationships Bilfinger has cultivated within Bahrain's top industrial companies.

A legacy of growth and partnership

Bilfinger started its journey in Bahrain in 1997 with just five employees and two founding clients whose early trust laid the solid foundation upon which the company built its reputation for engineering excellence. Over the past three decades, the oper-



From left to right during ribbon-cutting ceremony: Tanweer Asad, Bilfinger, Vivek Gupta, Arla Foods, Fardeen Fakhrawi, BAPCO Energies, Wouter Naaijkens, Khaled Mersal, ALBA, Abdulrahman Alkhalidi, BAPCO Energies Ahmed Allengawi, BAPCO Energies, John Tuck, BAPCO, Anton Brouwer, BAPCO, Marco van der Linden, Bilfinger Shakeel Ahmed, Bilfinger, Kerry Rutherford, BAPCO Air Fueling, Majid Karbelkar, Samuel Adewale, Bilfinger, Zahra Sanad, Bilfinger.

ations have grown from a small engineering team to a major engineering hub in the Kingdom, of nearly 100 professionals, representing 10 nationalities, with around 26% of Bahraini nationals in the local workforce.

Today, the Bahrain Consulting & Engineering office is a proof of commitment, teamwork and continuous dedication, with a portfolio covering more than 750 projects for 96 clients, ac-

cumulating over 12 million safe manhours. The team comprises engineers, project managers, sales professionals, and corporate support functions including HR, finance, and procurement.

A significant chapter in Bilfinger's Bahrain history was the 2012 acquisition of former Tebodin, which accelerated the company's growth and broadened its client portfolio to include major names such

as ARLA, BAPCO, Mondelez, and Kraft.

Leadership perspectives

Marco van der Linden, President Business Unit Consulting & Engineering, Segment International, Bilfinger, highlighted the significance of the occasion: "This new office is a reflection of the hard work, dedication, and professionalism of our team in Bahrain over the past 30 years. Moving



From left to right during ribbon-cutting ceremony: Marco van der Linden, Business Unit President Consulting & Engineering, Segment International, Bilfinger; Shakeel Ahmed, Operations Director Business Unit Consulting & Engineering Bahrain, Bilfinger.

into these modern, brand-new facilities marks the beginning of an ambitious new chapter for Bilfinger in Bahrain."

Shakeel Ahmed, Operations Director of Business Unit Consulting & Engineering Bahrain, recognized the hard work, dedication, and continuous commitment of the Consulting & Engineering Bahrain team. He extended his congratulations to the team and expressed sincere

gratitude to the clients whose presence made the celebration memorable.

Clients' appreciation

Representatives from key clients shared their appreciation during the celebration, praising Bilfinger's strong technical and execution capabilities, highlighting the collaborative spirit that has driven mutual success.

Looking ahead – Vision 2030

As Bilfinger celebrates this milestone, the Operations Director of Bahrain also shared the company's ambitious vision for 2030, with growth targets for the Bahrain operations. Supported with values of resilience, innovation, and a commitment to operational excellence, Bilfinger in Bahrain aims to further expand its footprint in the industry – reinforcing its position as a strong and trusted partner of choice for clients. With values of resilience, innovation, and a commitment to operational excellence, Bilfinger in Bahrain aims to further expand its footprint in the industry – reinforcing its position as a strong and trusted partner of choice for clients.

The Art Hotel & Resort Hosts Bahrain's First Dedicated World Food Safety Day Forum

TDI | Manama

The Art Hotel & Resort marked World Food Safety Day by hosting what is believed to be Bahrain's first dedicated forum bringing together food safety professionals, industry experts, and government representatives to discuss the latest developments, challenges, and best practices in food safety.

The event featured Mr. Fahad Algharib, Head of the Local Food Safety Group at the Public Health Directorate, Ministry of Health, as a keynote speaker. During his presentation, titled "Food Safety: From Burden to Solution – Safe Food Everywhere," he highlighted the importance of strengthening



food safety systems, enhancing collaboration between regulatory authorities and businesses, and promoting a culture of food safety across all sectors.

The forum also welcomed a distinguished lineup of speak-

ers from leading organizations in the food, quality, and certification industries. Topics covered included food safety excellence in food distribution, emerging trends in food safety, international food safety standards, integrated pest

management, and successful food safety management system implementation and certification practices.

As part of the program, Mr. Muhammad Nadeem, Quality, Health, Safety & Compliance



guest satisfaction.

The event provided a valuable platform for knowledge sharing and professional dialogue, reinforcing the critical role of food safety in protecting public health and maintaining consumer confidence. It also highlighted the importance of continuous improvement, industry collaboration, and adherence to international standards throughout the food supply chain.

Through this initiative, The Art Hotel & Resort reaffirmed its commitment to supporting professional development, raising awareness of food safety best practices, and contributing to the advancement of food safety culture in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Amad Group Reaffirms Loyalty and Allegiance to HM King Hamad



TDI | Manama

Amad Group International recently held a formal ceremony to pledge its loyalty and allegiance to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, marking a significant moment of unity and national pride for the organization.

The event took place at the group's manufacturing facility, Ascon Control W.L.L., located in the Al Mazra Industrial Area. Led by Group Managing Director

Mr. Pambavasan Nair, the ceremony was attended by senior officials, management staff, and employees, signaling a collective commitment to the Kingdom of Bahrain and its leadership.

The milestone event also coincided with the 26th anniversary of Amad Group's operations in the Kingdom. Addressing the gathering, Mr. Nair expressed deep gratitude for the enduring support and strategic vision provided by Bahrain's leadership.

"Bahrain has provided us not only a place to grow our business, but a welcoming home that fosters innovation, stability, and opportunity," Mr. Nair said. "Under the visionary leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, and with the forward-looking guidance of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, the Kingdom has achieved remarkable progress and remains a

beacon of economic growth and harmony in the region."

Reaffirming the group's dedication to Bahrain's future, Mr. Nair emphasized that Amad Group remains firmly aligned with the strategic direction set by the country's leadership. He noted that the signed pledge represents both a symbol of deep loyalty and a renewed commitment to contributing actively to the Kingdom's ongoing success and economic prosperity.



Standard Chartered explores sale of Retail business in Bahrain

TDI | Manama

Standard Chartered PLC has announced its intention to explore the sale of its Wealth & Retail Banking (WRB) business in Bahrain as part of a broader strategy to focus on areas where it has greater scale and a more differentiated client proposition.

The bank confirmed that its Corporate and Investment Banking (CIB) business in Bahrain will continue to operate normally, maintaining its role in supporting clients through international connectivity, cross-border capabilities and sector expertise.

The move aligns with the Group's strategic priorities outlined in its FY2025 results, which emphasize serving cross-border and affluent clients. Any potential transaction remains subject to regulatory approvals.



Bongiwe Gangeni, Head of Wealth & Retail Banking for Europe, the Middle East and Africa, said the bank will continue investing in the Middle East, citing strong client demand and significant long-term growth opportunities across the region.

She noted that the transition is expected to take place over 18 to 24 months and will be implemented gradually, subject to regulatory approval. During this period, the business will continue operating as usual while the bank works closely with employees, clients, regulators and other stakeholders to ensure a smooth transition.

Europe must be ready to replace key US weaponry 'soon': EU defence chief

AFP | Brussels, Belgium

Europe faces an "urgent challenge" to replace US weaponry, as Washington weighs scaling back its military presence on the continent, the EU's defence commissioner said yesterday.

Pentagon chief Pete Hegseth last week announced a six-month review of the US force posture in Europe after anger with NATO allies over their response to the Iran war.

EU defence commissioner Andrius Kubilius said the move could see Washington shift key assets elsewhere in the world.

"We have to be prepared. This could not be at some distant time in the future. It could be soon," he told a defence conference in Brussels.

"We are now faced

with an urgent challenge to replace American strategic enablers and heavy weaponry."

Kubilius warned that failing to plug the gaps in areas such as space-based intelligence would be an "open invitation" for Russian President Vladimir Putin to test Europe.

Kubilius warned that filling the "strategic gaps" could cost around 500 billion euros (\$570 billion), citing an estimation from Germany's Kiel Institute.

But the commissioner, who oversees efforts to bolster the EU's defence industry, said the issue was not just the eye-watering sums of money needed.

"We still need to learn how to spend them in an effective way in order to outproduce, out-innovate, outgun Russia."



Iranian walks between sculptures of workers in Tehran

Iran says UN watchdog will not be allowed to inspect bombed nuclear sites



A satellite shows an overview of Fordow underground complex on June 22 in the aftermath of an overnight U.S. strike on the nuclear facility.

AFP | Tehran, Iran

Iran said yesterday that inspectors from the United Nations nuclear watchdog would not be given access to its nuclear sites that were bombed during the war with Israel and the United States last year.

"We have not had a meeting with the director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency, nor do we have any plans for the agency to inspect Iran's nuclear facilities damaged by the US and Zionist mil-

itary aggression," said foreign ministry spokesman Esmail Baqaei at a press conference in Tehran attended by AFP.

Iran said Natanz was again hit in the most recent war with the US and Israel, but Israel said it was "not aware of a strike".

US President Donald Trump claimed last year to have "obliterated" Iran's nuclear programme, but the extent of the damage is not known. Iran has so far denied access to the sites, citing security concerns.

Israel's 'deliberate targeting' of children part of ongoing Gaza 'genocide': UN probe

AFP | Geneva, Switzerland

Israel is deliberately targeting Palestinian children in what has become a key factor in an ongoing "genocide" in Gaza, United Nations investigators charged yesterday.

The UN Independent International Commission of Inquiry said it had found evi-



dence that "Palestinian children have been deliberately targeted and killed by Israeli security forces", which it called a key factor in establishing "the genocidal intent of the Israeli authorities and security forces to destroy the larger Palestinian group in Gaza".

Iran has 'fully and completely agreed'

Trump says Iran agrees to 'highest level' nuclear inspections

AFP | Washington, United States



US President Donald Trump said yesterday that Iran has "fully and completely agreed" to allow nuclear inspectors to return to the country, and that US Navy forces would no longer blockade the Strait of Hor-

muz. Trump said the negotiations -- technical talks between Iran and the United States taking place in recent days in Switzerland -- were "going well."

"Iran has fully and completely agreed to highest level Nuclear inspections long into the future (Infinity!!!). This will insure 'Nuclear Honesty,'" Trump posted on his Truth Social platform.

"Based on this and other major concessions being made by Iran, I have agreed to allow the

Hormuz Strait to remain OPEN, with no further Naval Blockade," he added. "However, all ships are remaining in place should it be necessary to reinstitute the Blockade, which seems, at this point, highly unlikely."

While the Hormuz talks are a critical component, the broader nuclear issue looms large, and Trump's claim of Iran "fully" agreeing to nuclear inspections appeared to jibe with recent comments from Tehran.

Iran, US at odds over control of \$12 billion unfrozen assets

TDT | agencies

Iran and the United States have offered conflicting accounts over who will control billions of dollars in Iranian assets set to be released under a proposed deal aimed at ending the Middle East war.

Iranian Ambassador to the

United Nations in Geneva, Ali Bahreini, said yesterday that Tehran alone would decide how to use any assets unfrozen under the agreement, rejecting suggestions that other countries would oversee the funds.

"Iran is the only country who will decide what to do with its assets, which are going to be defrosted," Bahreini told reporters in Geneva. "I reject any claim that there would be any role for any other country to have an influence on those decisions or on the process."

His comments came after Iranian state media reported that Washington had agreed to release \$12 billion in frozen Iranian funds and temporarily ease sanctions on Iranian oil exports as part of negotiations.

However, US President Donald Trump said any funds released by the US Treasury would be placed in a Washington-controlled escrow account and could only be used to buy food and medical supplies from the United States.

"The money and/or sanctions that the US Treasury is releasing goes into escrow, controlled by the USA, and will be used for the purchase of food and medical supplies, exclusively from the United States, including corn, wheat and soybeans from our great American farmers," Trump said on his Truth Social platform.

Trump said the arrangement was necessary to provide immediate assistance while ensuring oversight of the funds.

1497

John Cabot claims parts of North America for England in what is now Eastern Canada, believing he has found Asia in Newfoundland

1509

Henry VIII is crowned King of England in Westminster Abbey, London



1812

Napoleon Bonaparte's Grand Armée numbering half a million begin their invasion of Russia by crossing the Nieman River

1930

First detection of an airplane using reflected radio waves, a precursor to radar, by US Naval Research Laboratory engineers in Anacostia, Washington, D.C.

Denmark to join mission to reopen Strait of Hormuz

At least 37 commodity carriers transited the Strait of Hormuz on Monday

AFP | Copenhagen, Denmark

Denmark will take part in the international maritime mission set up by France and Britain to help re-open the Strait of Hormuz, the Danish government said yesterday.

"This will involve a contribution including a group of interpreters, drone capabilities, staff officers as well as the possibility of mobilising expertise in the cyber domain," Defence Minister Jeppe Bruus told reporters, declining to provide further details on the size of the contribution.

The aim is "to strengthen maritime security and guarantee freedom of navigation in and around the Strait of Hormuz and the Red Sea," according to a bill submitted to the Danish parliament which is expected to pass before the end of the week.

At least 37 commodity carriers transited the Strait of Hormuz on Monday, a record volume of maritime traffic since the start of the Middle East war, according to data from the maritime tracking firm Kpler, near-



India hopes Hormuz traffic will provide energy relief

AFP | New Delhi, India

Resumed shipping flows through the Strait of Hormuz would ease energy and fertiliser supply bottlenecks, India's security chief said during a BRICS security meeting in New Delhi on Tuesday.

Indian National Security Advisor Ajit Doval said its reopening would be a "highly welcome development," as security chiefs of the BRICS bloc of nations met.

"It will help ease supply

chain bottlenecks, and many of the shortages in fertilisers, chemicals, and other essential commodities may be alleviated," Doval said.

Doval on Monday met with Iranian official Ghadir Nezamipour, a senior member of Tehran's Supreme National Security Council, as well as China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi. Other BRICS representatives, including Russia, South Africa, and Brazil, are also in New Delhi.

ly a week after the conclusion of a memorandum of understanding between the United States and Iran.

Israel seeks to 'break free' of US military aid

U.S. MILITARY AID TO ISRAEL

A STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

The United States has been Israel's strongest ally, providing military assistance for decades to ensure Israel's security and maintain stability in the region.

US MILITARY AID TO ISRAEL

\$3.8 BILLION

ANNUALLY

Israel receives \$3.8 billion in annual U.S. military assistance under a 10-year Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

10-YEAR COMMITMENT: 2019-2028

\$3.3 BILLION

MILITARY FINANCING

For U.S. defense equipment, training and services.

\$500 MILLION

MISSILE DEFENSE PROGRAMS

For joint development and procurement of systems like Iron Dome, David's Sling, and Arrow.

STRENGTHEN ISRAEL'S DEFENSE

Helps Israel maintain its qualitative military edge in the region.

COUNTER REGIONAL THREATS

Supports Israel in addressing missile and security threats.

DEEPEN BILATERAL PARTNERSHIP

Enhances cooperation and strategic ties between the U.S. and Israel.

PROMOTE STABILITY & PEACE

Contributes to a more stable and secure Middle East.

KEY PURPOSE OF U.S. AID

WHERE THE AID GOES

U.S. aid helps Israel purchase and maintain advanced military equipment and defense systems, including:

F-35 FIGHTER JETS

Advanced stealth aircraft for air superiority.

IRON DOME

Short-range missile defense system.

DAVID'S SLING

Intercepts medium to long-range threats.

ARROW SYSTEM

Defends against long-range ballistic missiles.

ARMORED VEHICLES & TANKS

Including advanced protection systems.

PRECISION-GUIDED MUNITIONS

For accuracy and operational advantage.

REFUELING AIRCRAFT & SUPPORT

Enabling extended range and missions.

TRAINING & JOINT EXERCISES

Enhancing interoperability and readiness.

QUICK FACTS

- \$38 BILLION OVER 10 YEARS: Total U.S. military assistance to Israel under the 2019-2028 MOU.
- LARGEST U.S. AID PACKAGE TO ANY COUNTRY: The \$3.8 billion annual package is the largest of its kind in U.S. history.
- BIPARTISAN SUPPORT: U.S. support for Israel's security has strong backing in both Republican and Democratic administrations.
- LONG-STANDING COMMITMENT: U.S. military aid to Israel has been a cornerstone of the bilateral relationship for more than 70 years.

AFP | Jerusalem, Undefined

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called again for his country to increase its military autonomy and reduce its reliance on support from the United States, according to a statement released yesterday by his office.

"I deeply appreciate the support we have received from our American friends, but we need to break free from dependency and build our own independent armaments network," the premier told reserve officers on a training course in the occupied West Bank. Netanyahu

was speaking on June 18, a day after the US and Iran agreed an initial deal to end the Middle East war, which has been fiercely opposed in Israel.

"Today I say: We need our own independent armaments network. We must manufacture our own armaments," Netanyahu said. Under an agreement signed in 2016 and in force since 2019, it receives financial assistance for the purchase of around \$3.8 billion of weapons a year, accounting for around 15% of the defence budget. That deal runs until 2028. The Israeli premier has previously said he wanted to end Israel's reliance on US support.

YOU

KNOW WHAT

Since its founding in 1948, Israel has received more than \$300 billion, adjusted for inflation, in US economic and military assistance, according to figures from the Council on Foreign Relations, far more than any other country has received since 1946.

X

TOP 4 TWEETS

01

AI data centres are hungry for land, water & power. I'm calling on every major AI company to publicly disclose the full environmental impact of its systems - as a matter of transparency. No more hidden costs. No more shifting the burden onto those least able to bear it. It is time to come clean.

@antonioguterres

02

Pleased to meet National Security Advisors and senior security officials of BRICS countries. In a changing global landscape, BRICS has a vital role in deepening security cooperation and addressing shared challenges, from terrorism and cyber security to emerging technologies. India's Chairmanship will seek to advance practical cooperation, support the priorities of the Global South and contribute to a safer, more secure and inclusive world.

@narendramodi

03

Today we signed 4 major agreements on connectivity, innovation and economic ties. Horizontal Aviation Agreement on alignment of air traffic rights A €150 million framework loan to upgrade key road links along the Trans-Caspian Agreement between Air Astana and Airbus for up to 50 aircraft MoU on an internationally accredited research lab for critical raw materials in Astana

@vonderleyen

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

BY INVITATION

Britain's Revolving Door at No. 10

JOEL INDRUPATI

If the United Kingdom is trying to find its seventh prime minister in just 10 years, what does it tell us?

Simple. That the kingdom is not united.

The current state of the country's politics, and its socio-economic outlook, indicates systemic institutional instability, a fractured electorate, and a profound crisis of confidence in the political class.

This nation, a global powerhouse until just 70 years ago, has been caught up in a prolonged struggle to balance low economic growth, the fallout of Brexit, and the escalating public demand for stability. Hamstrung by high debts and a growing welfare bill, unable to manoeuvre around its own internal struggles—from anti-immigration riots to digital fraud—and its response to external demands, such as playing its role in volatile global geopolitics, its leadership situation now seems grim and unlikely to brighten anytime soon.

Though he may remain in office until September 2026, Prime Minister Keir Starmer's decision to step down as leader of the Labour Party has triggered a new leadership contest. The governing Labour Party is expected to elect his successor before Parliament resumes in September.

The bets are now on Andy Burnham, the former Mayor of Greater Manchester, who has emerged as the frontrunner to become Labour leader and, perhaps, the next prime minister.

But even if he succeeds, his term could be short unless he secures victory in the next general election, which must be held before August 2029.

Two years ago, after winning a landslide election, Keir Starmer told supporters: "We said we would end the chaos, and we will."

Yet a BBC article published soon after his resignation, titled "Sir Keir Starmer: Top lawyer whose 'Mr Rules' approach failed to connect with the public," argued that his support eroded rapidly in just two years and that he will be now remembered as Labour's shortest-serving prime minister.

Starmer's downfall appears to have stemmed from unmet expectations, an unclear political identity, loss of support within Labour, and mounting electoral pressure from Reform UK, rather than from any single catastrophic mistake.

With great power at No. 10 Downing Street comes great responsibility. For generations, reaching that office was the ultimate prize in British politics. Yet the rapid turnover of recent years suggests the position has become less a destination and more a temporary assignment.

I am reminded of Jeffrey Archer's political novel *First Among Equals*, in which four ambitious Members of Parliament spend three decades competing to become prime minister.

Archer was clever enough to produce two endings. In the British edition, Labour politician Raymond Gould reaches No. 10. In the American edition, Conservative Simon Kerslake triumphs instead.

Archer himself understood the uncertainties of political life. Elected as a Conservative MP at the age of 29, he served from 1969 to 1974 before financial troubles forced him into bankruptcy. He later rebuilt his career and drew heavily on those experiences in shaping Kerslake's character.

When I asked an AI tool whether there were parallels between Archer's fictional politicians and Britain's current contenders, it offered an intriguing observation: "Like the fictional US-edition winner Simon Kerslake, Andy Burnham has positioned himself as the ultimate resilient underdog fighting the Westminster elite." This assessment contains some truth. Nicknamed the "King of the North," Burnham has used his years as Mayor of Greater Manchester to cultivate a relatable and resilient political identity, largely distinct from Westminster politics.

Whether that image translates into success at the national level remains to be seen. Britain's problem today is bigger than any individual politician. Six prime ministers have come and gone in a decade because voters are searching not merely for a leader, but for a sense of direction.

The next occupant of No. 10 will inherit a country wrestling with economic stagnation, political fragmentation, and declining public trust. The challenge is no longer winning office. It is convincing the British public that stable and effective government is still possible.

Only time will tell whether Andy Burnham—or whoever succeeds Starmer—can finally break Britain's cycle of political churn.

(The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Daily Tribune)



US Secretary of State Marco Rubio disembarks his aircraft upon arrival at al-Bateen Executive Airport in Abu Dhabi, on the first stop of a tour of Gulf states aimed at showing solidarity with key allies hit hard by the Middle East war.

US will not accept tolls on Hormuz, says Rubio

AFP | Tehran, Iran

Washington's top diplomat insisted yesterday that the US would not accept any attempt to impose tolls or fees on Strait of Hormuz.

Iran has repeatedly maintained it will retain control over the waterway. But US Secretary of State Marco Rubio, kicking off a regional tour, reiterated

Washington's position that such an arrangement would be unacceptable.

"It's an international waterway. No country is allowed to charge tolls or fees on an international waterway," he said, adding that he believed "all the countries in this region would agree".

Rubio is to meet Emirati leaders today, before heading to Ku-

wait, following by Bahrain for a meeting of the Gulf Cooperation Council, as he seeks to reassure US allies after the signing of an initial US-Iran deal last week.

Tehran's top negotiator, Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf, had earlier insisted the Strait of Hormuz "will



never return" to the pre-war status quo, despite the foes agreeing to set up communication lines to keep it open.

Before the war, a fifth of global oil and liquefied natural gas travelled through the strait without charge.

Iran, Oman to study charging service costs for Hormuz

AFP | Muscat, Oman

Iran and Oman will study the costs to be charged for services provided in administering the Strait of Hormuz, the two countries said Tuesday, insisting they held sovereignty over the waterway.

In a joint statement on Tues-

day, Iran and Oman emphasised their "sovereign rights over their territorial waters", but Muscat's foreign minister said on X that both sides were committed to "toll-free safe passage".

They "agreed to maintain their dialogue on this issue through a joint working group

between the two foreign ministries", the statement said.

The working group was aimed at reaching "agreement on the future administration of navigation in the Strait of Hormuz and the services that will be provided in this regard and the costs associated with them in accordance with inter-

national standards", they said.

The statement followed meetings in Muscat between top officials from the two nations. Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi and chief negotiator Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf met Oman's Sultan Haitham bin Tariq and Foreign Minister Badr Albusaidi.

EUROPE: THE WORLD'S FASTEST-WARMING CONTINENT

A sweeping heatwave across Europe is a stark reminder that it is the world's fastest-warming continent, stretching into an Arctic that is heating at an even greater pace.

Britain, France, Italy and Spain have issued red alerts and health warnings for much of their territory this week as the region endures its second heat episode since May.

HERE IS A LOOK AT WHY EUROPE IS WARMING FASTER THAN ELSEWHERE:

1 A HIGHER DEGREE

Europe is warming faster than the global average.

GLOBAL AVERAGE	EUROPE AVERAGE
+1.4°C warmer than in preindustrial times (1850-1900)	+2.4°C warmer than in preindustrial times (1850-1900)

The long-term rise in global average temperatures is mainly due to greenhouse gas emissions from burning oil, gas and coal, but it varies by regions due to a combination of factors.

Land warms faster than the ocean as water can absorb more heat and cool through evaporation.

2 CHANGING WEATHER PATTERNS

Shifts in atmospheric circulation have driven more frequent and more intense heatwaves in the European summer.

High-pressure systems, which bring settled weather and higher temperatures, have become more common in Europe, Copernicus director Carlo Buontempo said.

"If you look over the last 20, 30 years, there has been a prevalence, especially in summer, of those sort of anticyclonic conditions that are making heatwaves more likely."

— Carlo Buontempo, Director, Copernicus

The heatwave that hit Europe in May was due to a "heat dome", a large high-pressure system that stalls over a region and acts like a lid trapping hot air.

This week's heat episode is due to an "omega" pattern, whose name comes from its shape similar to the Greek letter.

The massive front of hot air from North Africa is similar to a heat dome but "more dynamic".

— Sebastien Leas, Forecaster, Météo-France

3 OTHER MAJOR REASONS

RAPIDLY WARMING ARCTIC

- Europe is connected to the Arctic, which is 3.2°C warmer than in preindustrial times.
- The region's rising temperatures are partly due to a process known as the albedo feedback.
- As bright snow and ice melt, they reveal darker, heat-absorbing surfaces such as land and the ocean.
- In other parts of Europe, areas where snow was very frequent in winter have seen this coverage shrink, exposing dark land.

FALLING AIR POLLUTION

- Stricter air quality regulations have reduced aerosol emissions since the 1980s.
- But tackling the pollutant had the side effect of contributing to global warming, as these tiny airborne particles have a cooling effect by reflecting sunlight and making clouds more reflective.

4 VARYING DEGREES

The rate of temperature change varies across Europe.

Eastern & Southeastern Europe, and parts of Central Europe including the Alps	0.5°C - 1°C per decade over the last 30 years
Western & Southwestern Europe, and sub-Arctic Finland, Norway & Sweden	0.2°C - 0.5°C per decade over the last 30 years
Svalbard (Norwegian Arctic archipelago)	1.5°C - 2°C per decade

One of the fastest-warming places on Earth, Svalbard had record high summer temperatures from 2022 to 2024. Last year it saw its fourth warmest summer on record.

Europe is warming faster than anywhere else on Earth—driven by human emissions, changing weather patterns, a warming Arctic, cleaner air and unique geography.

The urgency to act has never been greater.

Israel army says fired at 4 Hezbollah fighters in Lebanon 'security zone'

Jerusalem, Undefined

The Israeli military said yesterday its forces opened fire on four alleged Hezbollah militants who entered the so-called "security zone" it has established in southern Lebanon, the second such incident within hours.

The army said the men entered the zone on a bulldozer and a motorcycle and that the soldiers initially fired warn-

ing shots as they approached troops deployed there.

"After the t*****s continued to approach and failed to comply with the soldiers' calls, additional fire was conducted in order to remove the threat. Hits were identified," the military said -- the second incident of the day in the zone, which extends roughly 10 kilometres (six miles) into Lebanese territory.

India monsoon sweeps north but brings less rain than usual

Mumbai, India

Long-awaited monsoon rains arrived in India's financial capital Mumbai yesterday, cooling weeks of blazing heat despite persistent fears of water shortages with total rainfall so far staying below the long-term average.

India had received 60.6 millimetres (2.4 inches) of rainfall by Monday, 43% less than the normal amount for this point in the season, according to weather department figures.

There was some relief for Mumbai on Tuesday when the first downpours finally swept in, delighting many of the city's 22 million inhabitants even as some suburbs had to make do with light

drizzle.

"The Southwest Monsoon has further advanced into remaining parts of central Arabian Sea, (and) some more parts of Maharashtra including Mumbai," the weather department said.

Warnings of a potentially insufficient monsoon have raised alarm among farmers and policymakers.

The monsoon is a colossal sea breeze that brings South Asia 70 to 80 percent of its annual rainfall between June and September.

It sweeps north over several weeks, providing rain for farmers to plant their crops -- a crucial lifeline for a sector that supports 45 percent of people in the world's most populous country.

UN to begin evacuating stranded Mideast sailors after US-Iran talks

Tehran, Iran

The UN announced Tuesday that it would begin evacuating thousands of sailors stranded in the Strait of Hormuz by the Middle East war, as the first round of US-Iran talks on ending the conflict wrapped up in Switzerland.

The head of the UN's International Maritime Organization said it would begin evacuating more than 11,000 sailors stranded in the waterway "in close cooperation with Iran, Oman, all other coastal States in the region, the United States and the maritime industry".

"We have secured the necessary safety guarantees and have thoroughly verified the conditions for safe navigation to support these operations," secretary-general Arsenio Dominguez said.

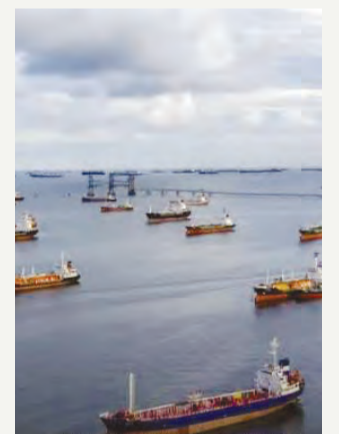
Traffic through the strait has reached the highest level since the start of the war, according to two maritime tracking platforms, representing just over 40 percent of the normal peacetime level of about 120 vessels per day.

But Tehran's top negotiator Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf insisted the Strait of Hormuz "will never return" to the days of free passage before the war, despite the foes agreeing to set up communication lines to keep it open.

Pezeshtkian in Pakistan

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshtkian was visiting key mediator Pakistan yesterday with Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi.

Araghchi and Ghalibaf also held talks in Oman with Sul-



tan Haitham bin Tariq, who expressed hope for "a peaceful, definitive settlement", Omani state media said.

Mediators Pakistan and Qatar said both sides had agreed on a "roadmap" to reach a final agreement within the 60-day timeframe.

They agreed that four negotiating groups be set up on nuclear issues, sanctions and other matters, Iranian state media said.

Lebanon war

On the Lebanon front, a fifth round of negotiations between Lebanese and Israeli officials began in Washington on Tuesday in a bid to end the Israel-Hezbollah conflict there.

The goal of the Washington talks will be "to end the cycle of violence for good", a US State Department official told AFP.

Despite a reduction in hostilities in Lebanon, Israeli soldiers shot and killed two people in the south yesterday, state media reported.

Israel said it had fired on Hezbollah operatives infiltrating its self-declared security zone.

CAMPUS

RCSI Medical University of Bahrain and the Sultanate of Oman

Reaffirm Commitment to Developing Future Healthcare Professionals

TDI | Manama

The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) - Medical University of Bahrain was honoured to welcome a high-level delegation from the Ministry of Education of the Sultanate of Oman last week, reaffirming the strong and growing partnership between the University and the Sultanate in advancing health sciences education and healthcare leadership.

The distinguished delegation included His Excellency Dr Abdullah bin Ali Al-Shibli, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Education for Higher Education of the Sultanate of Oman, alongside Mr Fahd bin Saeed Al-Qasabi, Director General of Scholarships, Mr Salem bin Saeed Al-Shaqsi, Head of the Coordination Department at the Office of the Undersecretary for Higher Education and Mr Abdulaziz bin Saeed AlWahaibi, Academic

and Financial Officer, Embassy of the Sultanate of Oman in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

During the visit, the delegation met with Professor Sameer Ootom, President of RCSI Medical University of Bahrain, and members of the University's senior management team to review the progress of the partnership and explore opportunities for further collaboration in higher education and healthcare workforce development. The visit also included the viewing of the New Academic Building, currently under construction.

The discussions, built upon the momentum established by the cooperation agreement in higher education and scholarships, which supports the sponsorship of Omani students pursuing medical studies at RCSI Medical University of Bahrain, reflect a shared commitment to developing the next generation of healthcare professionals and leaders for the Sultanate of



Oman.

As part of ongoing discussions regarding the future expansion of the partnership, both parties explored extending scholarship opportunities to additional health-related disciplines at RCSI Medical University of Bahrain. The proposed expansion would further support Oman's healthcare priorities by strengthening the pipeline of highly skilled healthcare professionals equipped to meet evolving healthcare needs.

The meeting also highlight-

ed the outstanding academic achievements and professionalism demonstrated by Omani students enrolled at the University, as well as the accomplishments of alumni, many of whom are contributing to healthcare systems within Oman and across the region.

Professor Sameer Ootom, President of RCSI Medical University of Bahrain, said: "We are delighted to welcome His Excellency Dr Abdullah bin Ali Al-Shibli and the esteemed delegation from the Sultanate of

Oman to our campus. Our partnership is founded on a shared vision of advanced development in education, healthcare and human capital development. We are particularly proud of the achievements of our Omani students and graduates, whose dedication and success continue to exemplify the strength of this collaboration. We look forward to further expand-

ing our partnership and supporting Oman's future healthcare workforce through high-quality education across medicine and other health-related disciplines."

His Excellency Dr Abdullah bin Ali Al-Shibli, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Education for Higher Education of the Sultanate of Oman, commented: "The partnership between the Ministry of Education of the Sultanate of Oman and RCSI Medical University of Bahrain represents an important investment in the

future of healthcare and higher education. We value the University's commitment to education, research and community service, as well as the support provided to our students. The success of Omani students studying at RCSI Medical University of Bahrain reflects our strategic partnership, and we look forward to exploring additional opportunities for collaboration that will contribute to the continued development of Oman's healthcare sector."

The visit concluded with a reaffirmation of the shared commitment of RCSI Medical University of Bahrain and the Ministry of Education of the Sultanate of Oman to fostering academic excellence, advancing healthcare education, and creating meaningful opportunities for future generations of healthcare professionals in the Sultanate of Oman, while further strengthening the strategic partnership between the two institutions.

ICAI Veteran Inspires BIS Aspirants



TDI | Manama

Bhavans Bahrain Indian School successfully organized an insightful Chartered Accountancy Guidance Session for students of Grades 9 to 12, offering valuable exposure to one of the most prestigious professions in commerce and finance.

The session was graced by CA Charanjot Singh Nanda, Immediate Past President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), who served as the resource person for the event. He was accompanied by CA Vinod Rathi, Chairperson-elect and present Vice Chairperson of the ICAI Bahrain Chapter, along with a team of Chartered Accountants and C A Exam Coordinators. The programme commenced with an introduction by CA Vinod Rathi, followed by inspiring addresses by C A Harpreet Singh and C A Prabhav Agarwalla, who highlighted the significant role of ICAI in shaping the accounting profession globally. They encouraged students to dream big, pursue their aspirations with determination, and believe that with hard work and perseverance, their dreams can become a reality.

Addressing the students, C A



Nanda shared his professional journey and provided valuable insights into the Chartered Accountancy profession. He emphasized the importance of dedication, perseverance, ethical practices, and continuous learning while highlighting emerging opportunities in forensic accounting, auditing, taxation, financial consulting, risk management, and entrepreneurship.

The interactive session proved to be an eye-opener for aspiring commerce students. Through practical examples and real-life experiences, C A Nanda explained the academic pathway, challenges, and vast opportunities available to Chartered Accountants in India and abroad. Students actively engaged in the discussion, raising questions about the C A course, career prospects, and industry trends, all of which were ad-

ressed with clarity and enthusiasm.

Speaking on the occasion, School Director CA Himanshu Verma encouraged students to explore the diverse opportunities offered by the profession and to research the many career pathways available to qualified Chartered Accountants. Principal Mr. Saji Jacob expressed his gratitude to the ICAI Bahrain Chapter and the distinguished speakers for inspiring students through their guidance and expertise.

The session proved to be an enriching learning experience, motivating students to consider Chartered Accountancy as a rewarding career option. The event reaffirmed BIS's commitment to equipping students with meaningful career exposure and opportunities to learn from accomplished industry leaders.

NMS Bahrain Celebrates Investiture Ceremony 2026-27



TDI | Manama

New Millennium School Bahrain solemnly celebrated its Annual Investiture Ceremony on 17 June, 2026, formally entrusting leadership responsibilities to the newly elected Student Council for the 2026-27 academic year. The event marked a significant milestone in the school calendar, recognizing students who demonstrated exemplary character, leadership potential, and commitment to the institution's values.

The newly elected student leaders from Classes VII to XII were formally invested with badges of office, symbolizing the trust and confidence the school community placed in them. As they assumed their leadership roles, the office-bearers pledged

to uphold the school's core values of Honesty, Integrity, and Sensitivity while serving as role models for their peers. The Student Council also took an oath to discharge their duties with dedication, responsibility, and sincerity.

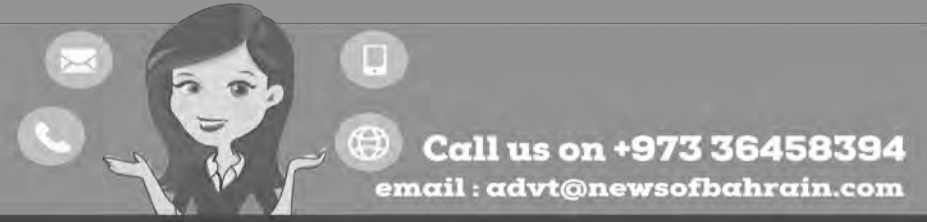
Addressing the gathering, School Principal Dr. Arun Kumar Sharma congratulated the newly elected council members and emphasized that true leadership is reflected not in authority, but in service, compassion, and the ability to inspire others through positive actions. He encouraged the young leaders to lead with vision, courage, and humility, while striving for excellence in all their endeavours. He expressed confidence that the newly appointed council would uphold the school's rich traditions and values and make

meaningful contributions to the school community.

Chairman Dr. Ravi Pillai and Managing Director Mrs. Geetha Pillai conveyed their heartfelt blessings and best wishes to the Student Council. They encouraged the student leaders to carry out their responsibilities with integrity, fairness, and a strong sense of purpose, reminding them that responsible leadership requires wisdom, accountability, and a clear moral compass.

The ceremony concluded on a note of pride and optimism, as the newly invested leaders embraced their responsibilities with enthusiasm and determination. The occasion served as an inspiring reminder of the school's commitment to nurturing confident, responsible, and future-ready leaders.

Classifieds



VACANCIES AVAILABLE

REZIA KHATUN RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36046889 or ARIZONASERVICES33@GMAIL.COM

KAYZEE BEAUTY SALOON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66678951 or caferougefinance@gmail.com

ABDULLA MAHMOOD AHMED CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER(FURNITURE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17874665 or ABDULLA-MAHMOOD.AM.CO@GMAIL.COM

VIBRANT SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY MAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17008217 or JALALEBRAHIM@GMAIL.COM

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FOOD INNOVATION CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of STOREKEEPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33771107 or HR.FOODINNOVATION@FAKHRO.COM

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ZAM ZAM AUTO SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (CAR MECHANICAL WORKSHOP), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33880820 or unarkhan2001@gmail.com

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KOKBANI FOOD STUFF has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33080006 or JASSIMAL65@GMAIL.COM

5 AXIS MILLING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MACHINE OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36121215 or Johann.stangl@5axismillingme.com

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AMMA ESTATES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34142611 or RAN.SREE@CLOUD.COM

GREEN VISTA DECORS CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38713310 or MS2366908@GMAIL.COM

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36675632 or MRMJANNATUL@GMAIL.COM

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SIGNATURE HOMES. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33981084 or kaddershaik23@gmail.com

KASHKHAT AMIRA SHOP has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33301016 or HANIAYYED@HOTMAIL.COM

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TERRY PIONEER SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33949677 or WAMBANI73@GMAIL.COM

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MOHAMMED ABU AL QASSIM TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36845715 or MAQTRADING2255@GMAIL.COM

MALHAMAT BU UMAR LILHUM ALTAZAJA has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can con-

tact 36063963 or

HINTERLAND COLDSTORE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38229737 or ibrahimohd1975@gmail.com

SWISS BUTTER W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39935311 or ED-DY@I-MANAGE.ME

ALJAZI REF AND A C REPAIRAIR WORKSHOP has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC (AIR-CONDITIONING), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39812388 or ALENEZI101@HOTMAIL.COM

Alkouthar Furniture has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37313030 or alkouthar.furniture@gmail.com

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AlFateh Group W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(HEAVY VEHICLE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17222222 or agm@alfateh.bh

AL MARU STAR FOR BUSINESS SUPPORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36427977 or ALMARUGROUP@GMAIL.COM

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ZAKEESH INTERNATIONAL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37566335 or FRHANMHMOD126@GMAIL.COM

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region

Arab League ministers meet in Amman

Ministers call for enhanced Arab coordination to address regional challenges



Bahrain's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Abdullah bin Rashid Al Zayani, chaired the 165th Ordinary Session of the Council of the League of Arab States at the ministerial level in Amman, Jordan. Arab foreign ministers and the Secretary-General of the Arab League, Ahmed Aboul Gheit, participated.

Opening the session, Dr. Al Zayani expressed gratitude to Jordan for hosting the meeting and welcomed the participation of Arab foreign ministers. He stressed that the current regional situation requires intensified consultation and coordination to strengthen Arab solidarity and support regional security, stability, and development.

The Minister highlighted recent regional developments, referring to attacks attributed to Iran against several Gulf Cooperation Council countries and Jordan involving missiles and drones targeting civilian infrastructure and residential areas. He described these incidents as violations of international law and the United Nations Charter. He also pointed to disruptions in maritime navigation caused by tensions in the Strait of Hormuz, noting their impact on global trade and the stranding of thousands of seafarers away from their families.

Dr. Al Zayani welcomed the memorandum of understanding between the United States and Iran aimed at ending hostilities, describing it as a positive step toward de-escalation and a broader comprehensive agreement. He emphasised the importance of respecting the sovereignty of regional states and ensuring freedom of navigation in the Strait of Hormuz in line with relevant UN Security Council resolutions.

He further underscored the need to address threats to Arab security collectively, praising international diplomatic efforts, including mediation initiatives by Pakistan and Qatar, aimed at promoting dialogue and peaceful solutions. He also commended efforts led by U.S. President Donald Trump in coordination with regional partners to support stability in the region.

Following the meeting, Dr. Al Zayani, Jordan's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ayman Safadi, and Arab League Secretary-General Ahmed Aboul Gheit held a joint press conference outlining the key outcomes of the session. Minister Safadi said discussions reflected a shared Arab understanding of the serious challenges facing the region and the need to strengthen collective action. He welcomed the US-Iran understanding and expressed support for continued negotiations toward a comprehensive settlement addressing the root causes of regional tensions.



GCC lawmakers discuss joint cooperation at PUIC

Bahrain calls for unified Gulf parliamentary positions

● GCC agrees on committee representation mechanism

● APA moves to ensure continuity of its secretariat work

Bahrain's parliamentary delegation took part in a Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) coordination meeting held on the sidelines of the 20th session of the Parliamentary Union of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (PUIC) conference in Baku, Azerbaijan.

The delegation, led by MP Ahmed Sabah Al Salloom, head of Bahrain's parliamentary division, stressed the importance of continued coordination and consultation among GCC parliaments to strengthen joint action and unify positions on issues of common concern.

He said regular Gulf meetings at regional and international parliamentary forums provide an important platform to enhance cooperation among GCC legislative councils and exchange views on agenda topics, reinforcing the bloc's parliamentary presence internationally.

The meeting discussed mechanisms for selecting GCC representatives to the Executive



Committee, agreeing to retain Saudi Arabia's seat while rotating the second seat among member states based on alphabetical order. Participants also reviewed coordination procedures for nominations to standing committees and broader parliamentary bodies.

On the same sidelines, the Executive Council of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) appointed Mohammed Ibrahim Al Sisi Al Buainain, Secretary-General of Bahrain's Council of Representatives, as Acting Secretary-General of the APA Interim Secretariat.

The decision was taken during the APA Executive Council meeting in Azerbaijan, where Bahrain is currently holding the presidency of the assembly.

MP Ahmed Al Salloom said Bahrain, in its capacity as APA President, had activated relevant charter provisions to support the continuity of the organisation's work and strengthen communication among member parliaments.

The council also commended the efforts of the Speaker of the Council of Representatives, Ahmed bin Salman Al Musallam, for supporting the role of the Asian parliamentary bloc and ensuring continuity of APA operations.

Officials said the measures aim to maintain the stability of APA activities and prevent disruption to its programmes amid ongoing regional developments, while reinforcing coordination and consultation among member states.



Mbappe scores twice as France beat Iraq after two-hour storm delay

● **Mbappe marks 100th cap with brace**

● **France defeats Iraq 3-0**

AFP | Philadelphia

Kylilan Mbappe marked his 100th cap by scoring two more World Cup goals on Monday as France eased to a 3-0 win over Iraq in a game delayed by two hours by a severe storm.

Mbappe opened the scoring in the 14th minute and added another nine minutes into the second half, with last year's Ballon d'Or winner Ousmane Dembele getting the other goal for the tournament favourites in Philadelphia.

Mbappe moved to 16 World Cup goals in his career, two behind Lionel Messi who set a new record of 18 goals by netting twice for Argentina against Austria earlier on Monday.

The match in Philadelphia kicked off at 5:00 pm

local time (2100 GMT) and had to be halted at half-time as a huge storm passed over the city.

Having started in dry conditions, torrential rain began to fall late in the first half, and supporters were told as soon as the half-time whistle was blown to "exit the open seating area and seek shelter in covered areas".

The vast majority of the 68,324-capacity Lincoln Financial Field is uncovered -- leaving most of the capacity crowd to pack into the concourses.

The second half eventually got under way more than two hours behind schedule, in what was the first match at this World Cup to be held up by bad weather.

There are strict protocols in place in the United States that mean a game must be halted if a storm is detected in the area.

It is also raining goals at this World Cup for Mbappe, whose brace here followed two in France's opening 3-1 win over Senegal last Tuesday.

The 27-year-old Real Madrid superstar and France captain became his country's all-time top scorer with his goals against Senegal, overtaking the previous best tally of 57 for Olivier Giroud.

He now has 60 goals for Les Bleus in a century of appearances, and 16 of them have come at the World Cup in just 16 matches at the tournament.

Shoot-out with Messi

Mbappe is now level on the all-time list of World Cup goals with Germany's Miroslav Klose, who started the tournament as the all-time leading scorer.

He has overtaken the 15 goals scored by the Brazilian Ronaldo and seems set for a shoot-out at this year's World Cup with Messi.

Next up for Mbappe and France is a meeting with Erling Haaland's Norway in Boston on Friday, but the 2022 beaten

16
World Cup goals have now been scored by Kylian Mbappe in just 16 matches

before the quarter-hour mark when he controlled a pass with his right foot and sent in a shot from 20 metres which was too powerful for Iraq goalkeeper Ahmed Basil.

Graham Arnold's side were then dealt a blow as captain and striker Aymen Hussein had to come off with just 26 minutes gone.

The weather delay made for a surreal atmosphere as the storm passed overhead, leaving supporters drenched, and forced the players to sit it out in the dressing room.

When play resumed, Iraq caved in, with a calamitous passage of play gifting Mbappe and France their second goal on 54 minutes.

A goal-kick was taken by defender Zaid Tahseen who tried to give it goalkeeper Basil, but he hit it too hard and wide, and Dembele was able to set up Mbappe for a simple finish.

Michael Olise then hit the bar with a delicate chip before the Bayern Munich man set up Dembele to fire in on 66 minutes for 3-0.

finalists are already certain of reaching the last 32 after notching two wins from two games in Group I.

Iraq, meanwhile, are staring at the prospect of early elimination after this defeat followed a 4-1 loss to Norway in their opening game -- they have now lost five games out of five across two World Cups, 40 years apart.

France made three changes from their opening game, with Bradley Barcola replacing Desire Doue on the left wing, Manu Kone stepping in for Aurelien Tchouameni in midfield, and Lucas Digne preferred to Theo Hernandez at left-back.

Mbappe opened the scoring



France's forward #10 Kylian Mbappe kicks the ball

Two-goal Haaland fires Norway into last 32

AFP | East Rutherford

Erling Haaland scored his second World Cup brace in a row as Norway beat Senegal 3-2 on Monday to punch their ticket to the last 32.

Norway substitute Marcus Holmgren Pedersen struck late in the first half in New Jersey before Haaland doubled the lead shortly after the break.

Ismaila Sarr cut the deficit for Senegal, only for Haaland to punish more slack defending as Norway moved through to the knockout rounds with a game to spare despite a late consolation from Sarr.

Manchester City forward Haaland now has four goals in two games at the tournament, hot on the heels of Lionel Messi's double earlier in the day which carried him to a record 18 World Cup goals. Not to be outdone, Kylian Mbappe scored another brace too as France beat Iraq 3-0.

Norway have lost only

once in their last 18 matches and will take on France in a compelling battle for top spot in the group in Boston on Friday.

Senegal must beat Iraq, who are also without a point, in their final game to stand a chance of avoiding an early exit.

Led by the unstoppable Haaland, who increased his astonishing international goals tally to 59 in 52 games, Norway recorded back-to-back wins at the World Cup for the first time.

They added weight to the belief they can do serious damage at these finals with a dominant display against a Senegal side that paid heavily for their errors.

Norway quickly set the tone as Kristoffer Ajer's header forced

59
international goals in just 52 matches is Erling Haaland's remarkable tally after another World Cup brace

Senegal goalkeeper Edouard Mendy into a terrific save with his legs at a corner, but they lost full-back Julian Ryerson to injury early on.

Captain Martin Odegaard skied over an inviting cut-back from the right for Norway, as Nicolas Jackson looked Senegal's most dangerous threat.

Mendy again came to Senegal's rescue with a superb block to deny Ode-

gaard after Haaland cushioned down Antonio Nusa's chipped cross into the box.

But Mendy allowed Pedersen's low drive to creep under him after a dreadful mistake from skipper Kalidou Koulibaly gave the ball to the replacement right-back on the edge of the box.

Haaland rolled against the post from a tight angle after Mendy got in a tangle, but he made amends three minutes into the second half as Norway sliced Senegal apart on the counter-attack.

Odegaard surged upfield and slid a pass through to Haaland, who buried an emphatic finish past Mendy to add to the two goals he scored in Norway's opening 4-1 victory over Iraq.

Senegal clawed their way back as Sarr showed great composure to poke home after tumbling to the ground following a clever flick into the area by Sadio Mane.

However, Koulibaly was at fault once more, failing to clear as Haaland steered a volley in off the crossbar from Patrick Berg's cross, delighting Norwegian fans who provided a colourful backdrop with their viral rowing chant.

Mory Diaw came on for the injured Mendy in goal, but only a headed goalline clearance from Pathe Ciss prevented Oscar Bobb from netting Norway's fourth.

Sarr's second of the night set up a tense finish, but Norway held on to join France in the next round and leave Senegal's hopes hanging by a thread.



Erling Haaland #9 of Norway and Ismaila Sarr #18 of Senegal compete for a header

Trump to attend World Cup final and present trophy



US President Donald Trump with the World Cup trophy

TDT | Manama

United States President Donald Trump will attend the World Cup final and assist in presenting the trophy, according to FIFA president Gianni Infantino.

The final is scheduled for 19 July at MetLife Stadium in New Jersey, capping a tournament co-hosted by the United States, Mexico and Canada. Trump, 80, has yet to attend a match during the competition, which began on 11 June, but is expected to appear at the showcase event.

Infantino confirmed the president's involvement in the ceremony, saying: "We will be together with the president enjoying the final and handing the trophy to the winner, of course." When asked whether they would jointly present the trophy, he added: "Of course, we are together all the time."

The United States is hosting 78 of the 104 matches at the expanded World Cup, underlining its central role in the tournament's organisation and staging.

Andrew Giuliani, executive director of the White House World Cup task force, said that Trump enjoys "leaving people watching" and has not yet attended a match due to a busy schedule.

Trump has maintained a high-profile presence at major sporting events in recent months. He attended a UFC event at the White House last week and also became the first sitting US president to attend an NBA Finals game, where he was booed by sections of the crowd in New York.

At last year's Club World Cup final at MetLife Stadium, Trump presented the trophy to Chelsea captain Reece James but remained on the podium during celebrations, creating some confusion among players. James later said he had expected the president to exit the stage after the presentation but noted that Trump chose to stay.

The upcoming World Cup final appearance will add another high-profile moment to Trump's growing involvement in major global sporting events.

EXCLUSIVE

Bahrain rolls out new football regulations



ALI AL SAMAHJI, CHAIRMAN OF THE REFEREES COMMITTEE AT THE BAHRAIN FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Bahraini football will implement major Law of the Game amendments across domestic competitions, including the Nasser Bin Hamad Premier League. The aim is to develop refereeing standards, improve discipline, and align with international football regulations.

Key changes include:

- Faster substitutions and medical delays: Substituted players must leave within 10 seconds; otherwise, the incoming substitute must wait until the next stoppage after one minute of play. Similar rules apply to players receiving treatment, who must also leave the pitch and stay off for one minute after play resumes (with exceptions under the Laws of the Game).

- Stricter restart timing: A five-second limit will be applied to throw-ins and goal kicks. Exceeding the time results in possession being

are positive. Clubs are likely to cooperate since the changes come from international authorities and align with efforts to improve fairness, discipline, and professionalism in the game.

Q: Do you expect difficulties or objections in implementing the changes?

A: Some initial adaptation challenges are expected due to changes in player behavior and match routines. However, no major objections are anticipated as the amendments are internationally approved, and clubs are accustomed to following updated laws of the game.

Q: Which rule change is expected to cause the most debate?

A: The expanded VAR authority to review second yellow cards leading to red cards is expected to generate the most discussion, as such situations are often subjective and open to different interpretations by referees, players, and fans.

Q: Will these changes reduce pressure on referees?

A: Yes. The amendments are designed to improve fairness, reduce clear refereeing errors, and provide more structured decision-making tools, which should help referees manage matches with greater clarity and less pressure.

Q: How significant is the issue of time-wasting in Bahrain?

A: Time-wasting is a global issue, but it is more noticeable in some Bahraini matches due to frequent stoppages that

disrupt match rhythm and reduce effective playing time. Addressing it requires cooperation from all stakeholders, including players, coaches, and officials.

awarded to the opposing team, aiming to reduce time-wasting and increase effective playing time.

- Expanded VAR authority: VAR can now intervene in clearly incorrect second yellow cards leading to red cards, cases of mistaken identity, and wrongly awarded corner kicks, reducing decisive refereeing errors.

- Anti-abuse protocol: Players are prohibited from covering their mouths to conceal offensive or discriminatory remarks, with potential disciplinary action including red cards.

The Daily Tribune caught up with Ali Al Samahiji, Chairman of the Referees Committee at the Bahrain Football Association, to discuss the matter.

Q: What was the reaction of clubs and coaches to the amendments?

A: No formal meetings have been held yet, but expectations

are ensuring smooth adaptation by players and coaching staff while maintaining strict and consistent enforcement of the new rules. Referees will also need to clearly communicate decisions and standardize application across matches until the new system becomes fully familiar.

U18 team named for Arab youth championship

TDT | Manama

Bahrain have announced their 14-man squad for the national Under-18 team ahead of the Arab Youth Basketball Championship, which will take place in Sfax, Tunisia from June 27 to July 6.

The tournament will bring together six Arab nations, including Bahrain, Egypt, hosts Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria, and Libya.

The Bahraini squad includes Somto Patrick Onoduanyi, Mohammad Farhan, Yousif Al Samahiji, Mohammed Adel, Mujtaba Rayyan, Ali Al Haddad, Ali Ferdousi, Hassan Abdulqader, Ali Khalil, Mahdi Habib, Hussain Fuad, Jock James, Hussain Madan, and Ali Aymen.

They will open their campaign against Algeria next Saturday, before facing hosts Tunisia on Sunday and Libya on Monday in their third group match. After a rest day for all teams on Tuesday, Bahrain resume action on Wednesday



Onoduanyi in action during Bahrain youth team training at the BBA Arena

against Morocco, before concluding their preliminary round on Thursday against Egypt.

The Arab Championship forms part of Bahrain's wider preparations for the Gulf Basketball Association U18 Championship, scheduled to be held in Doha from July 17 to 22.

That tournament will act as a qualifier for the FIBA U18 Asia Cup 2026 in Ahmedabad, India from August 13 to 23, with the top three teams earning qualification to the 16-team continental event.

The national youth team will be targeting a return to the Asian stage for the first time since 2018. The competition in India also serves as a pathway to the FIBA U19 Basketball World Cup 2027 in Pardubice, Czechia, where the top four Asian teams will secure qualification.

The team are currently training at the Bahrain Basketball Association (BBA) Arena under head coach Salman Ramadhan as they step up preparations for the busy summer schedule.

Time-wasting is a global issue, but it is more noticeable in some Bahraini matches due to frequent stoppages that disrupt match rhythm and reduce effective playing time. Addressing it requires cooperation from all stakeholders, including players, coaches, and officials



Bahrain handball youngsters gear up for busy summer

TDT | Manama

Bahrain are gearing up for a demanding summer schedule after being drawn in two highly competitive Asian age-group championships, with the under-21 junior team set to compete first, followed later by the under-19 youth squad.

The matchups for both tournaments were confirmed last month by the Asian Handball Federation (AHF), setting the stage for two crucial continental campaigns across July and August.

Juniors set for China challenge

Bahrain's under-21 national team were placed in Group A of the 19th Asian Men's Junior Championship, scheduled to take place from 15 to 26 July in Chuzhou, China.

They will face Saudi Arabia, Oman, Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong China, and hosts China in the preliminary round of a tournament featuring 13 participating nations.

The junior championship also doubles as the qualification pathway for the 26th IHF Men's U21 World Championship, set to be held in North Macedonia from 23 June to 4 July next year, adding further importance to every group-stage fixture.

Bahrain's junior side will be aiming to continue their strong regional record, having reached the podium in each of the last three editions — winning silver in 2022 and securing bronze in both 2018 and 2024.

Preparation for the tournament is already underway, with head coach Hussam Madan and his technical staff, including for-



Bahrain junior handball team during a training session



Bahrain youth handball team during a training session

mer senior national team player Jaafar Abdulqader, overseeing training sessions at the Bahrain Handball Federation (BHF) Arena in Um Al Hassam.

Youth set for Uzbekistan test

Following the junior competition, attention will shift to Bahrain's under-19 national team, who were drawn in Group B of the 11th Asian Men's Youth Championship.

That tournament will be held

in Andijan, Uzbekistan, from 10 to 21 August, with Bahrain facing a tough group featuring defending champions Japan, Kuwait, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, and Hong Kong China.

Group A consists of Saudi Arabia, Iran, Chinese Taipei, China, and hosts Uzbekistan, forming a competitive 11-team field across the continent.

The youth championship will

also serve as qualification for the 12th IHF Men's U19 World Championship in 2027, scheduled for July 29 to August 7. The top four teams from Asia will secure direct qualification.

Bahrain's youth team previously enjoyed strong success in the competition, winning back-to-back Asian titles in 2016 and 2018, but narrowly missed out on top-four finishes in the 2022 and 2024 editions.

Ronaldo, 41, silences doubters in record-breaking World Cup display



Cristiano Ronaldo on target against Uzbekistan in Houston, Texas

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

Cristiano Ronaldo made World Cup history in Houston on Tuesday, scoring twice as Portugal swept aside Uzbekistan 5-0 to move within touching distance of the knockout stages in Group K. The Portugal captain became the first player ever to score in six separate World Cup tournaments, extending a record that now spans from his debut in 2006 to the present day. Ronaldo opened the scoring after just six minutes, reacting quickly to a João Cancelo cut-back inside the area and sliding the ball home at the near post to give his nation an early lead in front of 68,777 spectators. The milestone goal was followed by his trademark "Siu" celebration as he acknowledged the travel-

ling supporters. Portugal doubled their advantage through Nuno Mendes, who stepped up for a free-kick and curled a low, precise effort into the bottom corner, wrong-footing Uzbekistan's wall completely. Ronaldo struck again in the 39th minute to complete his brace, with Bruno Fernandes threading a perfectly weighted through ball into the right side of the area and the veteran forward calmly finishing into the bottom corner to make it 3-0 before the break. The brace took Ronaldo's World Cup tally to 10 goals, moving him clear as Portugal's all-time leading scorer in the tournament ahead of Eusébio, one of the nation's most iconic figures. Portugal went into the interval firmly in control, and the

second half carried the feel of a training exercise for Roberto Martínez's side. On the hour mark, a flowing move from a corner led to a chaotic sequence inside the box, with João Félix, Abdulkodir Khusanov, and goalkeeper Abduvohid Nematov all involved before the ball was eventually bundled in for an own goal, making it 4-0. Substitute Rafael Leão added the fifth in the 87th minute, latching onto a deflected pass intended for Ronaldo before hammering a powerful finish into the top corner to complete the rout. Ronaldo arrived at the match already holding the record for the most goals in men's international football, with 143 to his name, but recent performances had sparked debate over his role in the starting XI.

He had struggled to make an impact in Portugal's opening 1-1 draw with the Democratic Republic of the Congo, missing two clear chances and drawing criticism from sections of supporters and pundits. However, head coach Roberto Martínez retained faith in his captain, who received a strong reception from fans in Houston during the warm-up and again when shown on stadium screens. The result leaves Portugal on the brink of the knockout stages and firmly in control of Group K ahead of their final fixture. The Europeans will face Colombia on Sunday at 2:30am (Bahrain time) in Miami, United States, while Uzbekistan will meet the Democratic Republic of Congo at the same time in Atlanta, Georgia.

India sweep Bahrain in straight sets in AVC clash



Mahmood Abdulwahed rises at the net for Bahrain

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

Bahrain's men's national volleyball team suffered a 3-0 defeat to hosts India in their AVC Men's Championship Pool A encounter yesterday at the Veer Savarkar Sports Complex in Ahmedabad. India won 25-21, 25-16, 25-22 in a match played in front of around 2,500 spectators and lasting 1 hour and 37 minutes. The hosts extended their perfect run to four straight victories, maintaining top spot in Pool A on 12 points, while Bahrain remain on six points from two wins and one defeat. India's top scorers were Chirag Yadav with 15 points, Jerome Vinith with 10, John Joseph with 8, and Nihal Chatham Kulangara with 5, as the hosts distributed their attacking output effectively across multiple options at the net to maintain consistent pressure throughout the match. For Bahrain, Mahmood Abdullhussain led the scoring once again with 15 points, while Mahmood Abdulwahed contributed 9. Ali Ebrahim and Hasan Alwarqaa added 6 points each. Bahrain, coached by Ivan

Joksimovic, had entered the match aiming to build on two consecutive wins but were ultimately unable to overcome India's depth in attack and their home-court advantage. The national team will now turn its attention to tomorrow's fixture against Kazakhstan, scheduled for 3:30pm Bahrain time, before completing their Pool A schedule on Friday evening against Australia at 6:30pm. At the end of the single round-robin stage, the top two teams from each pool will advance to the semi-finals, scheduled for Saturday next week, with the gold and bronze medal matches to follow the next day. Classification matches will also take place to determine final standings from fifth to tenth place. Bahrain's historic title triumph in last year's AVC Men's Cup marked the kingdom's first-ever championship in any Asian Volleyball Confederation competition. That victory also secured their qualification for the AVC Volleyball Men's Continental Championship 2026, set to be held in Fukuoka, Japan, from September 4 to 13.

Switzerland, Canada set for Group B decider



Murat Yakin, head coach of Switzerland

TDT | Manama

Switzerland and co-hosts Canada meet in a winner-takes-control Group B showdown at the 2026 FIFA World Cup, with top spot in the group at stake at BC Place in Vancouver. Kick-off is at 10pm Bahrain time, with both sides aiming to take a significant step towards a more favourable knockout-stage path.

The teams enter the contest level on four points after impressive Matchday 2 victories, setting up a clash with major implications at the top of the standings. Canada currently lead the group on goal difference following a ruthless 6-0 demolition of Qatar, while Switzerland sit close behind after a commanding 4-1 victory over Bosnia-Herzegovina.



Jesse Marsch, head coach of Canada

The Swiss remain unbeaten in their last five matches across all competitions, but their World Cup campaign began with a surprise 1-1 draw against Qatar after conceding a stoppage-time equaliser. Murat Yakin's side responded emphatically with a commanding 4-1 victory over Bosnia-Herzegovina in their second outing. They have conceded only twice

in the tournament so far, with both goals arriving in the final stages. Canada, meanwhile, also opened their campaign with a 1-1 draw against Bosnia-Herzegovina before producing one of the tournament's standout attacking displays in their previous outing. Jonathan David's hat-trick inspired a historic 6-0 triumph over Qatar, making

World Cup Schedule			
Today			
Time	Match	Group	Venue
10:00 PM	Switzerland vs Canada	B	Vancouver Stadium
10:00 PM	Bosnia & Herzegovina vs Qatar	B	Seattle Stadium
Tomorrow			
1:00 AM	Scotland vs Brazil	C	Miami Stadium
1:00 AM	Morocco vs Haiti	C	Atlanta Stadium
4:00 AM	Czechia vs Mexico	A	Mexico City Stadium
4:00 AM	South Africa vs South Korea	A	Monterrey Stadium
11:00 PM	Curacao vs Ivory Coast	E	Philadelphia Stadium
11:00 PM	Ecuador vs Germany	E	New York New Jersey Stadium

(All games in Bahrain time)

Canada the first team from the country to score six goals in a World Cup match. The emphatic performance has further fuelled optimism among the home supporters. There are, however, selection concerns for the hosts. Alphonso Davies remains a doubt with a hamstring issue, a potential absence that could significantly

affect Canada's attacking threat. Switzerland also face disciplinary concerns, with Denis Zakaria and Nico Elvedi both one booking away from suspension. This will be only the second meeting between the two nations. Canada claimed a 3-1 victory in the previous encounter, a friendly played in St. Gallen in 2002.