

# नवलबइते



THE **tribune**  
DAILY



P. UNNIKISHNAN

**T**oday is simply auspicious. A day to record, remember and cherish the historical ties between India and Bahrain as we witness the first visit of an Indian Prime Minister to the Kingdom.

Being an Indian, it is the proudest moment in my life as I join my com-

munity members to welcome Shri Narendra Modi to the land of pearls, which hosts more than 400,000 Indians, who enjoy the warmth of Bahrain government and the guardianship of the Royal Family.

Modiji has become a unique brand not only in India, but also across the world. As a brand that stands for modernisation, originality, dedication and innovation, he is being admired by millions of people around the world.

His work approach always carries values and principles that have roots in the Indian civilisation, which is the oldest of all. The one which has

contributed gifted leaders like Vardhamana Mahavira, Gautama Buddha, Adi Shankara, Swami Vivekananda and Mahatma Gandhi.

It is not the eminent structures, be it grand Chola temples, Taj Mahal, Qutb Minar, or the vital landscapes such as Himalayas that make India a different country.

The country has its soul well rooted in the 5,000 year old civilisation, whose guiding principle was 'Lokah Samastah Sukhino Bhavantu'.

The Sanskrit mantra means: "May all beings everywhere be happy and free, and may the thoughts, words, and actions of my own life contribute

in some way to that happiness and to that freedom for all."

As of today, Vikram Lander of Chandrayaan 2 Mission orbits the Moon and India is heading towards a \$ five trillion economy under the wise leadership of Prime Minister Modiji.

His welfare schemes like Jan Dhan Yojana, Swacch Bharath, Ayushman Bharath and initiatives like Digital India, Skill India and surgical strike on black money network are taking the country to new levels of inclusive growth and prosperity.

We should acknowledge that despite tough global factors and do-

mestic corrective measures, the economy has been achieving an average growth rate consistently in the neighbourhood of seven per cent.

India, being the second largest-populated country, has always had trade and cultural relations with the Middle East. I am sure Modiji will play a pivotal role to boost these historic ties with the larger Arab world including Bahrain.

Today on behalf of our readers, I bow to the divine in you. Namaste Modiji.

(P Unnikrishnan is the Chairman of the Management Board as well as Managing Director of The Daily Tribune)



A very warm welcome to  
The Honorable Prime Minister of India  
**Shri. Narendra Modi**

— *to the* —  
Kingdom of Bahrain



LuLu  
International  
Exchange



لولو  
العالمية  
للصرافة

[www.luluexchange.com](http://www.luluexchange.com)



LuLuExchangeBH

BANK TRANSFER | CURRENCY EXCHANGE | INSTANT CASH PICK UP



**Wolves clinch famous victory at Torino**

Wolves moved to the brink of the Europa League group stages on Thursday with an impressive 3-2 play-off, first leg win at Torino.

**P18**

The Amazon is in flames, but Brazil's past can show the path forward

# THE DAILY tribune

Hailey and Justin Bieber finally set wedding date

Erdogan to continue gas search off Cyprus



# Bahrain echoes NaMo mantra

The Kingdom all set to welcome Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi

● **Mr Modi arrived in Abu Dhabi yesterday evening on an official visit.**

**TDI | Manama**

The Kingdom is all set to roll out a red carpet welcome to Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is scheduled to arrive here today.

A world-renowned leader who has enchanted his admirers with an effective track record of developmental and welfare schemes in the billion plus country, Modi will become the first Indian Premier to visit the Kingdom.

He will hold talks with His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, His Royal Highness



Mr Modi being welcomed by Khaldoon Khalifa Al Mubarak, Chairman of Abu Dhabi Executive Affairs Authority at Abu Dhabi International Airport.

ing signed between the Kingdom and India, mainly in space and information technology sector.

Mr Modi arrived in Abu Dhabi yesterday evening on an official visit. Mr Modi is on a tri-nation tour that started in France on August 22 where he held bilateral meetings including a summit interaction with President Macron and a meeting with Prime Minister Philippe.

Mr Modi will receive the Order of Zayed - the UAE's highest civilian honour His Highness Shaikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces at a special ceremony at the Presidential Palace today.

Mr Modi is the first Indian leader to receive the honour. Both the leaders will hold bilateral talks and also discuss issues of regional and international importance.

A commemorative stamp of Mahatma Gandhi would also be jointly released by the two leaders on the occasion of Gandhi's 150th birth anniversary.

**210 fils (includes VAT)**



Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime

Minister, senior government officials and members of Indian community.

Today, at 5pm, Mr Modi will address a public gathering of Indian expatriates at Bahrain

National Stadium in Isa Town. Close to 20,000 community members are expected to attend the event.

Mr Modi will also visit the 200-year-old Shree Krishna

Temple in Manama and will launch its rebuilding project in the presence of a large number of devotees.

The visit will also witness many agreements and deals be-



OYSTER PERPETUAL AIR-KING

*Modern Art Studio*

Rolex Boutique - Bahrain City Centre







A heartfelt welcome to  
**Prime Minister**  
**NARENDRA MODI**  
from Dadabhai Group





# WELCOME

TO THE KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN



INDIAN PRIME MINISTER  
**Shri. NARENDRA MODI**



## AL NAMAL & VKL GROUP

P O Box: 1713, Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain  
T: 1725 1444 | F: 1724 2332 | E: [namalco@batelco.com.bh](mailto:namalco@batelco.com.bh)



[www.al-namal.com](http://www.al-namal.com)



# India has a bigger role to play in Bahrain: Al Shola



Bahrain had a very long relationship with India, and we are doing extremely good when it comes to Cultural trade and commercial relationships, but it is high time for us to make vital relationship by cooperating in areas related to security and defence

ABDUL NABI AL SHOLA  
FORMER MINISTER FOR LABOUR

TDT | Manama

Bahrain attributes prime importance to the visit of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi mainly because of the existing economic and political situations in the Middle East, said Abdul Nabi Al Shola, the former Minister for Labour.

“Bahrain had a very long relationship with India, and we are doing extremely good when it comes to Cultural

trade and commercial relationships,” the former minister added.

Al Shola, however, pointed out that “it is high time for us to make vital relationship by cooperating in areas related to security and defence.”

The trust India gained during the last 200 years of relationship with us is “much beyond than what we have with other countries,” Al Shola said.

“India for sure is a reliable partner, whom we can trust

100pc.”

The recent investment of Saudi Aramco in an Indian firm, Al Shola said, “is a true example of the trust we have in the development of India.”

The former minister also expressed his appreciation of India’s remarkable achievements in space technology.

Bahrain, he said, can surely explore the possibilities of using such feasible economical research centres with a strategic tie-up with India.



Representative picture (Courtesy of albawaba)

## Tender board holds weekly meeting, opens 15 tenders

TDT | Manama

The weekly Tender Board Council meeting, chaired by Housing Minister, Bassim bin Yacub Al-Hamar, yesterday opened bidding for 15 tenders launched by 10 parties. Tender Board Council is the independent regulator of government procurement practices in the Kingdom.

The tenders were for general construction services for Tatweer Petroleum W.L.L, engineering services for Bahrain Petroleum Company (Bapco), Lawzi PPP Housing Access Roads (issued by the Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning and funded by the Saudi Fund for Development), support and maintenance of Airport Modernisation Programme ICT Package Sys-



The weekly meeting was chaired by Housing Minister, Bassim bin Yacub Al-Hamar

tems at Bahrain International Airport, financing the construction of Salmaniya multi-storey car park for Bahrain Real Estate Investment (Edamah) and the construction of Tubli Educational Garden.

The meeting also opened bids for air conditioning of the main Muharraq Municipality’s building, rental of two advertis-

ing sites, the supply of skilled manpower for Hawar Power and Water Station at Hawar Island, in addition to those of four tenders issued by EWA’s Central Stores Directorate and two by Gulf Air.

Representatives of the entities that issued the tenders of those of the bidding companies attended.



BFC welcomes the Honourable Prime Minister of India  
**Shri. Narendra Modi**  
to The Kingdom of Bahrain

/BFCBahrain  
 /BFCBahrain  
Tel: 1722 8888  
www.bfc.com.bh





# India-Bahrain in new era of bilateral ties

Dr Shaikh Abdulla praises the role of the Indian community in the Kingdom's development march

● His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa's visit to India in February 2014 enhanced long-standing ties

TDT | Manama

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Bahrain will add a new momentum to the solid relationship and co-operation between the two friendly countries, said Dr Shaikh Abdulla bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, the Undersecretary for International Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

"The visit is of exceptional importance" to the Kingdom, Dr Shaikh Abdulla said explaining the historical ties and strategic relations between the two countries.

Recalling the historic visit of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa to India in February 2014, the Undersecretary stressed that this laid the strong foundation for a close



**India has made remarkable development in many economic and technological fields and it's time to enhance the prospects of fruitful and constructive co-operation**

DR SHAIKH ABDULLA BIN AHMED AL KHALIFA  
UNDERSECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS OF  
THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

and long-standing partnership between the two countries.

India, the Undersecretary said, has made remarkable achievements in many economic and technological fields, while pointing out the need for enhancing the prospects of fruitful and constructive co-operation.

In this regard, Dr Shaikh Abdulla highlighted the role

played by Bahraini-Indian Joint Committee in boosting bilateral ties.

"Kingdom under the leadership of His Majesty the King is moving forward steadily to establish strong and diverse partnerships with friendly countries," said Dr Shaikh Abdulla.

Modi's visit, the Undersecretary said, underlines the vital

status of Bahrain in the international arena, thanks to the wisdom of its leaders and stability of its positions and economy in line with Bahrain's Economic Vision 2030.

Dr Shaikh Abdulla praised the role of the Indian community and its contribution to the development of Bahrain while taking pride in the efforts exerted in the field of expatriate care.

## Bahrain aims 50pc jump in Indian tourists: official

PTI | Kolkata

Bahrain is aiming a 50 per cent jump in tourist arrival from India, with the Kingdom fast rising as a wedding spot for Indians, a top Bahraini official has said.

During a roadshow held in the India state of Kolkata, Country Manager of Bahrain Tourism & Exhibitions Authority Sunil Mathapati said the Kingdom is expecting to host tourists from West Bengal during the Durga Puja, the biggest festival of the state.

"We have witnessed a growth of 43 per cent in tourist arrivals from India in 2018 and we are aiming to increase it by 50-56 per cent by this year-end," Mathapati said.

While the travel time between Kolkata and Bahrain is now six hours, with two airlines having stop-overs, efforts are on to cut down the travel time, the tourism official from Bahrain said.

"We have proposed a direct flight from here by Gulf Air which will reduce the air time to four hours and improve connectivity," Mathapati said.

Asked if it would not be too late to hard sell Bahrain to Bengalis planning vacations during the Durga Puja festival this year, Mathapati said, "I think people are still open for a new place, to try new destinations even at this hour."

"We would like to call people in Bahrain from Kolkata



**We have witnessed a growth of 43 per cent in tourist arrivals from India in 2018 and we are aiming to increase it by 50-56 per cent by this year-end**



SUNIL MATHAPATI  
COUNTRY MANAGER OF BAHRAIN TOURISM & EXHIBITIONS AUTHORITY

for involvement in some activity, dance, food festival and likewise. That should be starting from October," he said. Bahrain has various tourist offerings such as Bahrain Fort, Al Fateh Grand Mosque, Riffa Fort, Old Houses of Muharrarq, Gravity skydiving and lots of water sports.

Bahrain is also becoming a wedding destination for Indians, he said adding that 18 weddings from the country had been hosted in the Gulf nation between September and March this year.

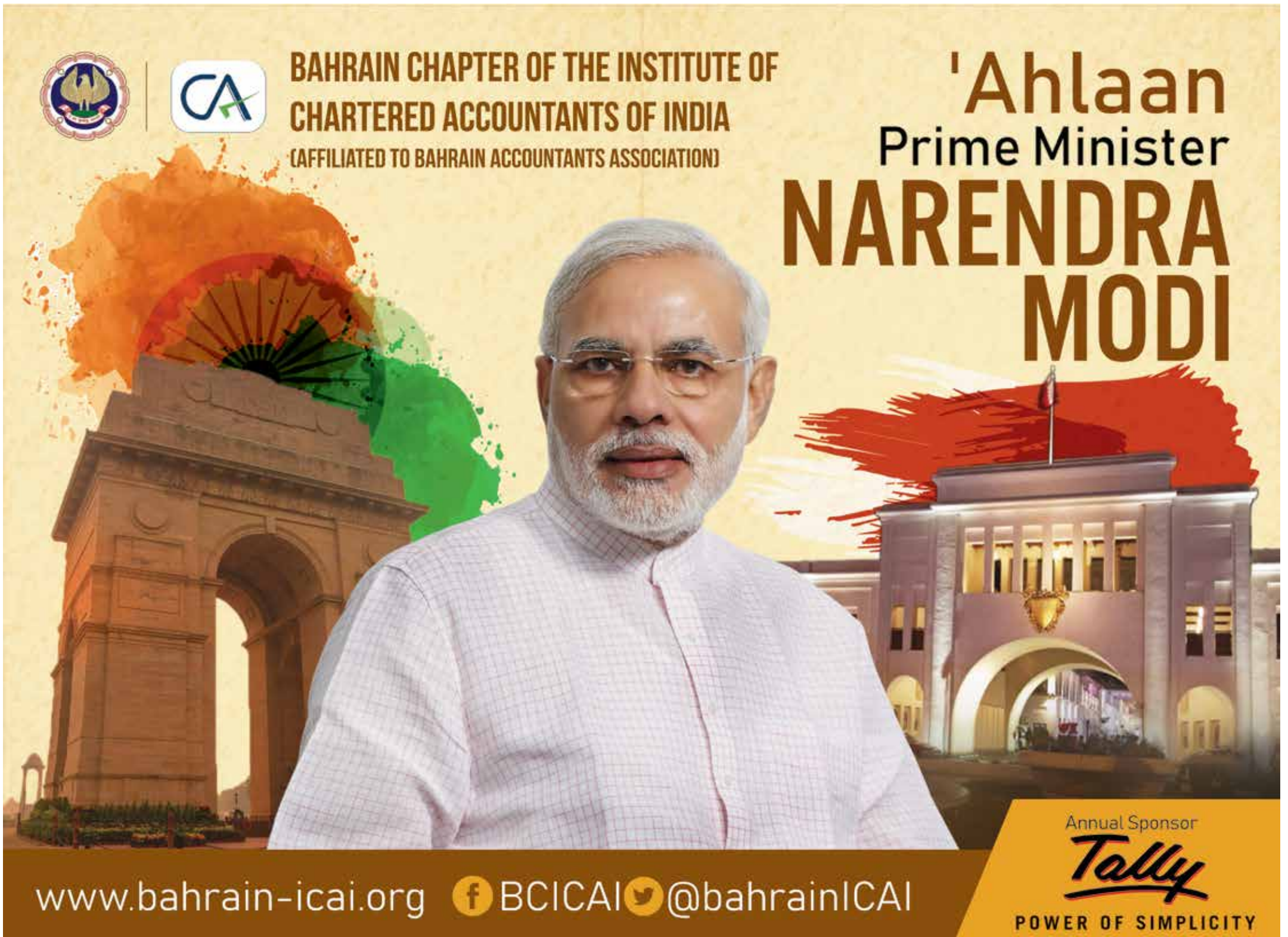
Ten more, including one from Kolkata, are also lined up from September till January, he said.

Though the tourist season in Bahrain is throughout the year, the peak time is from September to May, Mathapati said.






**BAHRAIN CHAPTER OF THE INSTITUTE OF  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF INDIA**  
(AFFILIATED TO BAHRAIN ACCOUNTANTS ASSOCIATION)


# 'Ahlaan Prime Minister NARENDRA MODI



[www.bahrain-icai.org](http://www.bahrain-icai.org)

 BCICAI
  @bahrainICAI

Annual Sponsor



**POWER OF SIMPLICITY**



# Metro on the right track

● **Total length :**  
109 kilometres

● **Project**  
Deadline: 2025

● **No of corridors :** 4

● **Designed to carry**  
43,000 passengers  
per hour

● **Ministry approves**  
Preliminary design

● **IDOM has been**  
working with ministry  
for Phase 1

● **Red and blue lines**  
make Phase 1 of Metro

● **Metro will be**  
a full-automated,  
driverless system

● **Would cost between**  
\$1 billion and \$2 billion

● **Phase 1 : 20**  
kilometer in length  
with 20 stations

TDI | Manama

If asked what would be the most important change Bahrain would witness in the next five years, the answer will be 'Metro'.

And what better way, other than having an efficient transport infrastructure, to boost the progress of a country which registers over 40,000 cars per year.

Challenges are there, but they can be overcome, as experts say, with energy-efficient technologies and customer-focused approach.

In fact, there are so many proven instances around the globe to know how a good transport infrastructure has added speed and efficiency to a country's progress.

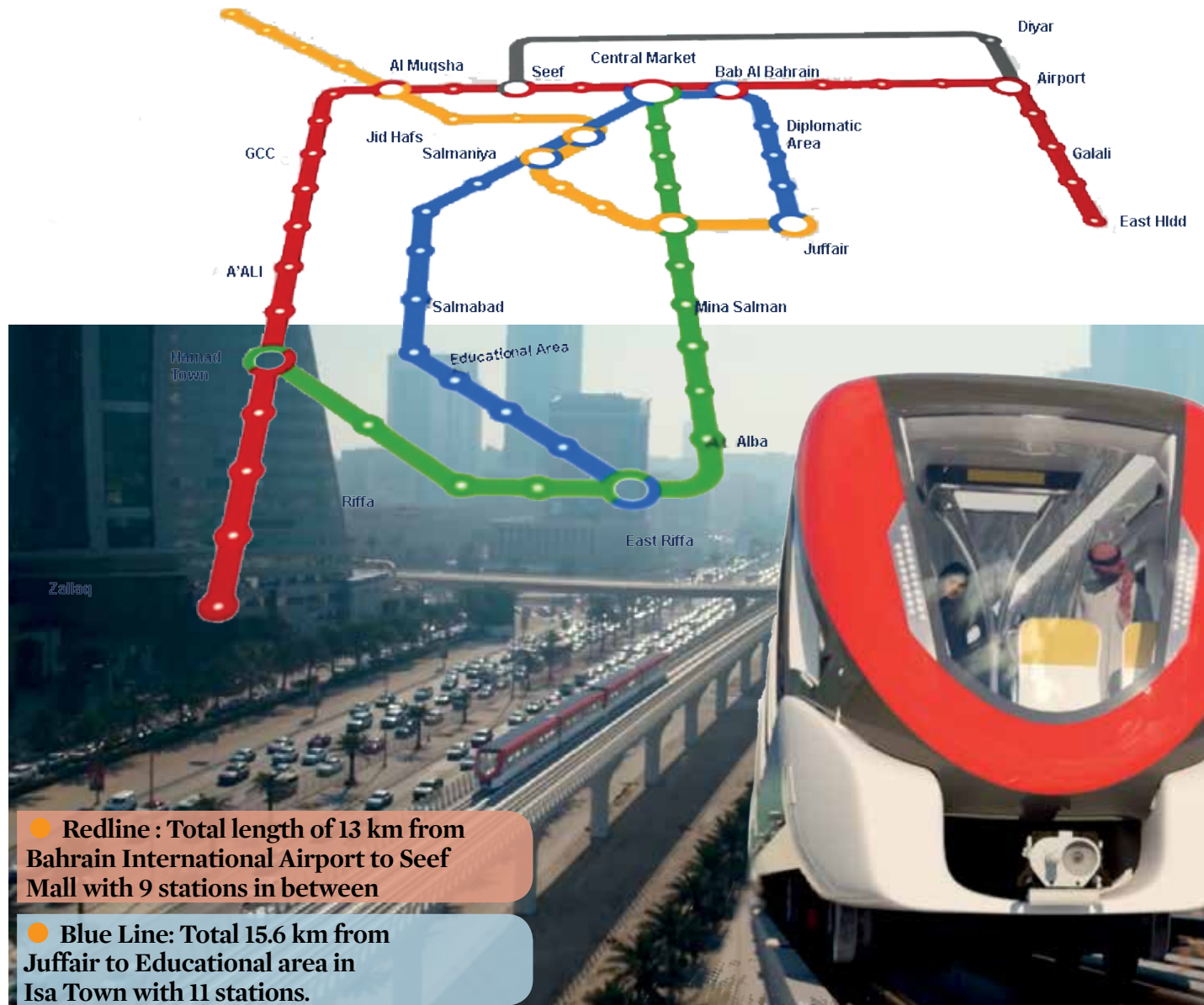
In Bahrain, as said, the project offers equal number of challenges and opportunities.

Now, this has become realistic more than ever with the Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications showing a green light to the Preliminary design of Bahrain Urban Transit Network (Bahrain Metro).

It has also shortlisted three firms, Al Zayani Engineering, KPMG, and Pricewaterhouse Coopers (PwC) the Middle East for Phase 1 of Bahrain Metro.

Being developed under a public-private partnership (PPP) scheme by the MTT, the metro will have 20 stations (2 interchange) and a depot/stabling

The 109km fully integrated network



● **Redline :** Total length of 13 km from Bahrain International Airport to Seef Mall with 9 stations in between

● **Blue Line:** Total 15.6 km from Juffair to Educational area in Isa Town with 11 stations.

Picture courtesy of MTT, IDOM

facility in its first Phase 1, which is the starting point for the implementation of the Bahrain Urban Transit Network Project (BUTN) which will have 4 lines and 109 km.

Upon realisation, Bahrain will be the fourth country in the region to modernise its public transportation services after Dubai, Saudi Arabia and Qatar.

The project, according to reports, is expected to launch in the fourth quarter of 2019.

Al-Ayam in a report published earlier, citing a transport ministry official, has said that the tendering process of the project would start in the fourth quarter of 2019 and "likely take some time to close because the Kingdom wanted to recruit private investors to help fund the project."

## Fully automated, driverless system

According to Bilbao based consultancy firm IDOM, which designed Phase 1 of the project, Bahrain's metro will be a fully automated, driverless system through the main residential, business, administration and leisure spots in the Kingdom.

It is also

the second large-scale transport project to be developed by IDOM in the Gulf area after the Detail Design of Line 3 of the Riyadh Metro.

The design of Bahrain metro, which has a 30 km elevated path, also resulted in IDOM winning Bahrain Project of the Year Award from Institution of Civil Engineers ICE.

The Kingdom, ministry report says, needs 109km of the metro network and should be executed in phases.

## Phase 1: 28.6km

The network, as IDOM said, will be fully automated with phase 1 running for a total of 28.6 kilometres.

Red lines and Blue lines will make up phase 1, which at the peak time will be capable of transporting up to 43,000 passengers.

## 20 stations

The network will include 20 stations operating through two lines. The first line, according to MTT, will connect Airport to Seef Mall through Airport Avenue and King

Faisal Highway, the Avenues Mall, Bab Al Bahrain, and Bahrain City Center Mall through 9 stations.

The other line will connect Juffair to Educational area in Isa Town through Al Fateh Highway, Diplomatic area, Bab Al Bahrain, Al Farooq Junction, Salmaniya, Zinj, Tubli, Salmabad, and finally to the Educational Area in Isa Town.

The passengers can transfer between the two lines in both interchange stations and these are Bab al Bahrain and al Farooq Junction stations.

The phase will be launched soon along with issuing a tender for Transaction Adviser services which will be responsible for preparing the tender document for the consortium of the project, according to MTT.

## GCC link - Salmabad Terminal

But what makes Bahrain's Light Rail network project more attractive will be its link to the proposed Bahrain passenger terminal at Salmabad which will connect

of Transportation in KSA and King Fahad Causeway Authority and procured through a form of Public-Private Partnership procurement model.

## Advisor in Q3, 2019

A statement on the ministry website says preparations have been finalised with King Fahd Causeway Authority releasing a tender in November 2018. The advisor is expected to be appointed in the third quarter of 2019.

Once realised, the GCC Railway will link all six Gulf States and will serve as an alternative to air and sea travel for both cargo and passengers in the region.

The project is also expected to contribute significantly to the region's economic growth by reducing overall transportation costs and providing an efficient, environmentally-sound and cost-effective transport alternative.

The project will also serve in enhancing and facilitating regional trade and in promoting GCC national supporting industries in the neighbouring economies.

It will also generate employment for GCC nationals as well as build and strengthen institutional capacity and skills required for sustainable railway developments.

In a nutshell, the GCC and particularly Bahrain is going to witness a deluge of development in the coming period, which would, in fact, alter the economic landscape of the kingdom by bringing in new and vibrant players thereby boosting Bahrain's diversification efforts.

The Bahrain Rail Congress 2019 which will be held under the theme "Designing & Developing a Well Connected World Class National Rail Network in the Kingdom of Bahrain" on 2nd and 3rd October 2019 in Hotel Sofitel, Zallaq- Bahrain is expected to provide further momentum to the project.

through a 70 km rail line to the existing railway line in KSA between Dammam and Al Houfuf. The rail connection will form Bahrain's link to the GCC railway project and wider KSA rail network.

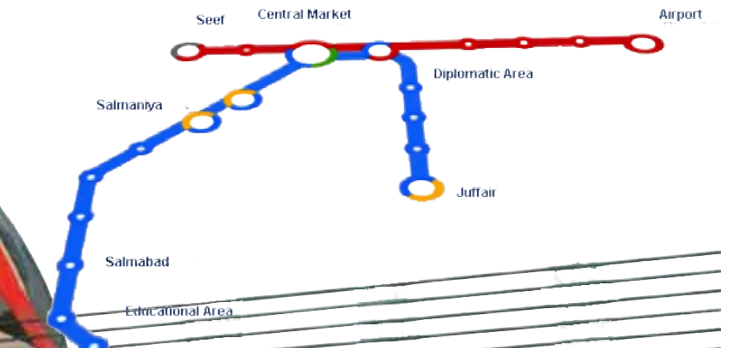
The realisation of the King Hamad Causeway Project is thus a vital part of the project, which is estimated to carry around 8 million passengers by 2030.

King Hamad Causeway Project includes provision for a new 4 lane road causeway parallel to the existing one to prevent future capacity issues.

The rail connection, according to MTT, is expected to boost the port business and help in achieving Bahrain's aspiration to become a major logistics hub.

The project will be delivered in partnership with the Ministry

## Phase 1 network





## world

## US man with gun cache charged for threatening to shoot up hotel



Weapons and ammunition allegedly seized from Rodolfo Montoya (AP)

Los Angeles, United States

A US man with a large home arsenal was charged Thursday for allegedly threatening to open fire at a Los Angeles hotel, as the United States reels from recent mass shootings.

The suspect, 37-year-old Long Beach Marriott employee Rodolfo Montoya, allegedly told a co-worker that he was angry and planned to open fire at work on anyone who crossed his path.

Police found an assortment of weapons, including an AR-15 rifle, which Montoya was not authorized to have in the state of California. The weapon has been commonly used to commit a number of US gun massacres.

Authorities additionally found other firearms, hun-

dreds of rounds of ammunition and tactical gear.

"Suspect Montoya had clear plans, intent and the means to carry out an act of violence that may have resulted in a mass casualty incident," Long Beach Police Chief Robert Luna told reporters at a news conference after the arrest.

According to an initial investigation, Montoya, who was a cook, was upset over recent workplace activity having to do with human resources.

His colleague took the threat seriously and told a manager who alerted the police.

Montoya was arrested Tuesday at his home.

Luna told the hotel manager that he "saved many lives, not only of your employees but any customers that may have been at the Marriott when this guy decided to show up."

## Syrian forces surround Turkish post: monitor



Turkish military vehicles passing through Maaret al-Numan in Syria's northern province of Idlib, heading back to Turkey after a reported two day mission into Syria.

Beirut, Lebanon

Syrian government forces surrounded a Turkish military observation post yesterday after overrunning nearby villages following their capture of a key northwestern town from jihadists, a war monitor said.

The town of Morek, where the Turkish troops have been cut off, lies in the north of Hama province, part of a jihadist-ruled region centred on neighbouring Idlib province that has been under government assault since late April.

"Regime forces have surrounded the Turkish observation post in Morek after capturing other towns and villages in this pocket," the Syr-

**The Idlib region, which sits on the Turkish border, is now the last major stronghold of opposition to the Russia-backed government of President Bashar al-Assad**

ian Observatory for Human Rights said.

The rebels had withdrawn from the area ahead of the army's entry into the strategic Idlib province town of Khan Sheikun on Wednesday.

Government forces overran the rest of the pocket, including the town of Kafr Zita without resistance.

The observation post in

Morek is one of 12 the Turkish army set up along the front line between government forces and the jihadists and their rebel allies last year.

Ankara vowed on Tuesday that it would not abandon any of the posts and warned Damascus "not to play with fire".

"We will do whatever is necessary to ensure the security of our soldiers and observation posts," Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu told reporters in Ankara.

The troops' mission was to oversee the establishment of a buffer zone agreed by Ankara and Moscow in September.

But the jihadists failed to pull back from the zone as agreed and in April, government and Russian forces resumed intense bombardment of the region.

## 22 missing after Indonesia ferry fire

Jakarta, Indonesia

Nearly two dozen people are missing from the carcass of a ferry that went up in flames off Indonesia's Java island, a port official said yesterday.

The boat was en route from Indonesia's second-biggest city Surabaya to Balikpapan on Borneo island with some 277 people aboard when it caught fire Thursday evening, according to the official.

Television images showed plumes of black smoke coming out of the boat, as search teams hunted for at least 22 missing passengers.

"There were 277 people on board and so far 255 have been rescued alive," Syachrul Nugroho, a spokesman for Surabaya's Tanjung Perak port, said.

"Twenty-two people are still unaccounted for... but we don't know if they're still on the boat."

The cause of the accident was not immediately clear.

Nugroho said it appeared that a fire broke out and the ferry's power went down, cutting off water pumps.

"The crew couldn't extinguish the fire because the water pumps weren't working so passengers started to abandon the ship," he added.

Passenger ferries are a common means of transport in Indonesia, an archipelago of some 17,000 islands, despite poor safety standards.

## Russia launches floating nuclear reactor in Arctic

Moscow, Russia

Russia will launch the world's first floating nuclear reactor and send it on an epic journey across the Arctic, despite environmentalists warning of serious risks to the region.

Loaded with nuclear fuel, the Akademik Lomonosov will leave the Arctic port of Murmansk to begin its 5,000 kilometre (3,000-mile) voyage to northeastern Siberia.

Nuclear agency Rosatom says the reactor is a simpler alternative to building a conventional plant on ground that is frozen all year round, and it intends to

sell such reactors abroad.

But environmental groups have long warned of the dangers of the project, dubbing it a potential "Chernobyl on ice" and a "nuclear Titanic."

A deadly explosion this month at a military testing site in Russia's far north, causing a radioactive surge, has prompted further concerns.

The reactor's trip is expected to last between four and six weeks, depending on the weather conditions and the amount of ice on the way.

Work began on the 144-metre (472-foot) Akademik Lomonosov in Saint Petersburg in 2006.

When it arrives in Pevek, a town of 5,000 in the Siberian region of Chukotka, it will replace a local nuclear plant and a closed coal plant.

It is due to go into operation by the end of year, mainly serving the region's oil platforms as Russia develops the exploitation of hydrocarbons in the Arctic.

### Radioactive waste

Rashid Alimov, the head of the energy sector of Greenpeace Russia, said environmental groups had been critical of the idea of a floating reactor since the 1990s.

"Any nuclear power plant produces radioactive waste and can have an accident, but Akademik Lomonosov is additionally vulnerable to storms," he said.

The float is towed by other vessels, making a collision during a storm more likely, he said.

Because Rosatom plans to store spent fuel onboard, Alimov said "any accident involving this fuel might have a serious impact on the fragile environment of the Arctic."

He added that there is "no in-

frastructure for a nuclear clean up" in the region.

Global warming and melting ice has made the Northeast Passage -- which connects the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific along Russia's northern coast -- more accessible.

When AFP visited the Akademik Lomonosov in May 2018, it was a shabby brown colour. It has since been repainted in the red, white and blue of the Russian flag.

The vessel weighs 21,000 tons and has two reactors with a capacity of 35 megawatts each,

close to that of those used by nuclear icebreakers.

It has a crew of 69 and travels at a speed of 3.5 to 4.5 knots.

Alimov said the project was a missed opportunity as Chukotka, a region larger than Texas populated by only 50,000 people, "has a huge potential for the development of wind energy."

"A floating nuclear power plant is a too risky and too expensive way of producing electricity," he said.

The nuclear industry, seeking to reinvent itself in a gloomy market, is developing smaller, cheaper reactors to attract new customers.

They follow the examples of submarines, icebreakers and aircraft carriers, which have long used nuclear power, and are intended for isolated areas with little infrastructure.

Floating power unit (FPU) Akademik Lomonosov is being towed to Atomflot moorage of the Russian northern port city of Murmansk





# Microplastics in drinking water not a health risk for now: WHO

● WHO said that microplastics larger than 150 micrometres are not likely to be absorbed by the human body

Geneva, Switzerland

The World Health Organization (WHO) said the level of microplastics in drinking-water is not yet dangerous for humans but called for more research into potential future risk.

In its first report into the effects of microplastics on human health, WHO looked into the specific impact of microplastics in tap and bottled water.

“The headline messages to reassure drinking water consumers around the world, that based on this assessment, our assessment of the risk is that it’s low,” said Bruce Gordon, WHO coordinator of water and sanitation.

WHO said that data on the presence of microplastics in drinking water is currently limited, with few reliable studies, making it difficult to analyse the results.

WHO has called on researchers to conduct a more in-depth evaluation into microplastics and the potential impact on human health.

## Arctic ice loaded with microplastic

Ice extracted from a drifting block by scientists on an 18-day expedition



**“We urgently need to know more about the health impact of microplastics because they are everywhere -- including in our drinking water”**

MARIA NEIRA, DIRECTOR OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT AT WHO

The organisation has also urged a crackdown in plastic pollution to benefit the environment and reduce human exposure to microplastics.

The report said that irrespective of human health risks caused by microplastics in drinking-water “measures should be taken by policymakers and the public to better manage plastics and reduce the use

of plastics where possible”.

WHO said that microplastics larger than 150 micrometres are not likely to be absorbed by the human body but said the chance of absorbing very small microplastic particles, including nano-sized plastics, could be higher, although it said data is limited.

“We urgently need to know more about the health impact of microplastics because they are everywhere -- including in our drinking water,” said Maria Neira, director of the Public Health Department at WHO, in a statement.

“We also need to stop the rise in plastic pollution worldwide.”

The report warns of other dangers ahead: if plastic emissions in the environment continue at the current rate, microplastics could present widespread risks for aquatic ecosystems in a century, which could in turn increase human exposure.

Experts recommend wastewater treatment, which can remove more than 90 per cent of microplastics in water by using treatments such as filtration.

WHO said those measures would have a double advantage as it would also address the problem of faecally contaminated water by removing microbial pathogens and chemicals that can cause deadly diarrhoeal diseases.

## Putin vows ‘symmetric response’ to missile test

Moscow, Russia

Russian President Vladimir Putin said yesterday he has ordered the military to prepare a “symmetric response” after Washington tested a formerly banned missile.

Putin said he had ordered an analysis of “the level of threat for our country created by the actions of the US and to take comprehensive measures to prepare a symmetric response”.

The US Department of Defense said Monday it had tested a type of ground-launched missile that was banned under the 1987 INF agreement, which limited the use of nuclear and conventional medium-range weapons.

Moscow and Washington ripped up the pact early this month after several months of accusing one another of breaching its conditions.

Russia and China have both warned that Sunday’s launch of the nuclear-capable Tomahawk cruise missile with a MK-41 launcher had heightened military tensions and risked sparking a new arms race.

### ‘Violation is clear’

Putin said at a government meeting that the test confirmed prior suspicions that the United States had planned to place banned weapons in Europe.

He said Moscow was against placement of the launchers in Poland in Romania as part of a missile defence system,



Russian President Vladimir Putin

but the US denied they could be used offensively to launch Tomahawks.

“Now the fact of the violation is clear, and it’s useless to deny it,” Putin said. “The question is, how do we know what will be placed in Romania and Poland?”

Washington’s “true intentions”, he said, are to “deploy formerly banned weapons in various regions of the world”.

But placing them in Europe as well as in Asia “touches upon our basic interests, since it is close to Russian borders”.

The INF agreement, signed by Ronald Reagan and the last Soviet Union leader Mikhail Gorbachev, limited the use of conventional and nuclear missiles with ranges of 500 to 5,500 kilometres (310 to 3,420 miles).

# G7 leaders vow ‘concrete measures’ over Amazon fires

Berlin, Germany

G7 leaders gathering in France this weekend plan to hammer out “concrete measures” in response to the wildfires raging in the Amazon rainforest, putting them on a collision course with Brazil’s rightwing leader.

French President Emmanuel Macron, who is hosting the G7 summit in the resort town of Biarritz, went so far on Friday as to accuse his Brazilian counterpart of lying on pledges in June to help fight global warming June.

“Given the attitude of Brazil over the last weeks, the president can only conclude that President Bolsonaro lied to him at the Osaka (G20) summit,” a French presidential official said.

France said it will oppose an ambitious trade deal between the EU and South America’s Mercosur nations, which would effectively kill any chance of ratification.

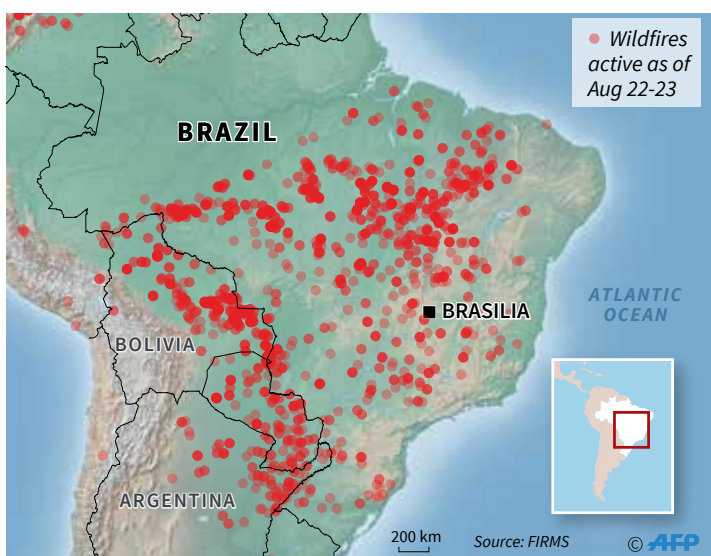
Macron had already drawn Bolsonaro’s ire by saying the Amazon fires would be a priority on the G7 agenda, a stance that was backed Friday by German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

Britain’s new Prime Minister Boris Johnson is also “extremely concerned by the fires,” a spokeswoman said, as demonstrations were held across Europe calling for Brazil to step up actions to quench the blazes.

Bolsonaro blasted the move to make the fires as topic for G7 leaders without any participation by Brazil, saying it reflected a “colonialist mentality.”

The latest official figures show 76,720 forest fires were recorded in Brazil so far this year.

## The Amazon ablaze



This handout picture collected by a satellite of '2019 Planet Labs, Inc shows smoke and fires in Brazil's state Para

## Things to know about the Amazon

### Sanctuary of biodiversity

The Amazon basin, spanning 7.4 million square kilometers, covers nearly 40 per cent of Latin America and is spread across nine countries: Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, French Guiana, Guyana, Peru, Suriname and Venezuela. About 60pc of it is in Brazil.

The Amazon forest, of which 2.1 million sq km are protected zones, is home to a biodiversity sanctuary that is unique in the world.

A quarter of the Earth’s species are found there, namely 30,000 types of plants, 2,500 fish, 1,500 birds, 500 mammals, 550 reptiles and 2.5 million insects, according to the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO).

In the past 20 years, 2,200 new species of plants and vertebrates have been discovered there.



### ‘Lungs of the earth’

The Amazon contains a third of the world’s primary forests and, via the Amazon River and its tributaries, provides 20pc of the Earth’s unfrozen fresh water. The Amazon is the world’s largest river and -- by some accounts since new research was carried out in 2007 -- the longest, running for up to 6,900 kilometers (4,287 miles). The forest acts as a carbon sink, absorbing more CO2 than it emits while releasing oxygen, and stocking 90 to 140 billion tonnes of CO2, which helps regulate worldwide global warming, according to the World Wildlife Fund (WWF). But deforestation is reducing this capacity for absorbing CO2.



### 420 tribes

The Amazon has been inhabited for at least 11,000 years and today counts 34 million people, of whom two-thirds live in cities.

Nearly three million are Indians who are members of some 420 different tribes, around 60 of which live in total isolation, according to ACTO. The Amazon’s Indians speak 86 languages and 650 dialects. The largest Amazon tribe is the Tikuna, counting some 40,000 members who live in Brazil, Peru and Colombia, according to Survival International.



### Massive deforestation

Almost 20pc of the Amazon forest has disappeared in the last half-century, according to the WWF, and this is accelerating.

Since Brazil’s President Jair Bolsonaro took power in at the start of 2019, the rate of deforestation by July was nearly four times higher than a year earlier, according to a satellite system known as DETER, which is used by the National Institute for Space Research (INPE). According to the INPE, which tracks clear-cutting of the rainforest, around 2,254 km2 of the Amazon forest were cleared in July, a spike of 278pc from a year ago.



Putin opponent Navalny freed after 30 days in jail



Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny leaves the detention centre in Moscow

Moscow, Russia

Kremlin critic Alexei Navalny was released yesterday after serving 30 days in jail for planning opposition protests, which have grown into a movement that has shaken Moscow since last month. Police were present outside the prison on his release but made no move to re-arrest him, as they have when other opposition figures were freed recently. But he has continued to urge his supporters to take to the streets, which could lead authorities to detain him once again. Navalny emerged from jail smiling, wearing a sweatshirt and sports trousers and with a bag slung over his shoulder.

The opposition leader and anti-corruption campaigner immediately condemned “acts of terror” by Russian authorities in putting down protests in Moscow in recent weeks. “The movement will continue to grow and the regime will strongly regret what it has done,” he told journalists. Navalny was arrested in Moscow on July 24 as he left his home to go jogging and buy flowers for his wife’s birthday. The 43-year-old Yale-educated lawyer was sentenced to 30 days in jail for violating laws on the organisation of demonstrations. During his incarceration, he was treated in hospital for what doctors called a “severe allergic reaction”, while Navalny said he might have been “poisoned”.

Erdogan to continue gas search off Cyprus

- The discovery of huge gas reserves in the eastern Mediterranean has triggered a race
- Cyprus is divided between Republic of Cyprus and a breakaway state set up after the 1974 Turkish invasion

Istanbul, Turkey

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Thursday hit out at EU measures to punish Ankara for drilling activities in the eastern Mediterranean and vowed to press ahead with gas search in the region. Brussels unveiled last month measures including cutting 145.8 million euros (\$164 million) in pre-accession financial funds to Turkey allocated for 2020. The move came after Turkey defied warnings from the European Union and the United States to stop its drilling activities off Cyprus. “The EU which has announced so-called measures



Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan

... is not harming us but itself,” Erdogan told a televised press conference in the capital Ankara. “We are continuing right now the exploration activities and will continue to do so with the same determination,” he said. The discovery of huge gas reserves in the eastern Mediterranean has triggered a race to tap the region’s underwater resources and sparked a dispute between Turkey and Cyprus. Ankara has sent two drilling ships, as well as two seismic exploration ships to the region, whose security is ensured by the Turkish naval and air forces elements, the Turkish leader said. Cyprus is divided between the internationally recognised Republic of Cyprus and a breakaway state set up after the 1974 Turkish invasion, following a coup sponsored by the military junta then ruling Greece. Turkey says the island’s resources should be equally shared between both communities. EU member Cyprus in July rejected as “unacceptable” a Turkish Cypriot proposal to share offshore energy resources aimed at easing tensions. Erdogan on Thursday said no project that excludes Turkey or northern Cyprus in the eastern Mediterranean could be put into practice.

Sri Lanka ends emergency Colombo, Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka has ended a four-month state of emergency declared after Easter suicide bombings by Islamist extremists that killed 258 people, officials said Friday. President Maithripala Sirisena has been extending the emergency on the 22nd of each month since the April 21 attacks on three hotels and three churches.

Six EU nations agree to take 356 Ocean Viking migrants On board the Ocean Viking, Undefined

Six EU countries Friday agreed to take in 356 migrants stranded on a rescue ship in the Mediterranean after a two-week standoff again exposed the failure of European leaders to quickly deal with desperate people fleeing conflict and poverty in Africa. The Norwegian-flagged Ocean Viking, run by charities MSF and SOS Mediterranee, had been seeking a port after rescuing four boats of migrants off the Libyan coast between August 9 and 12. The migrants screamed with joy as the news broke.

15 YEARS  
OF DEDICATED CARE

Welcome  
HONOURABLE PRIME MINISTER  
**SHRI NARENDRA MODI**  
to the Kingdom of Bahrain

**KIMS**  
Bahrain Healthcare

CORPORATE OFFICE: P.O.BOX: 75829 | ADLIYA, MANAMA, KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN  
TEL: +973 1724 1550 | FAX: +973 1774 9615 | WWW.KIMSGLOBAL.COM

**BBK**  
بنك البحرين والكويت

Always with you on your  
brighter journeys!

BBK is proud of its longstanding relationship with India that dates back to the 1980s, nurtured with the vision of helping clients realize their goals and dreams. It's with that heritage in mind that the Bank continues to provide a wide range of financial services for the community in India as well as in Bahrain through its:

- Operational presence in Mumbai, Hyderabad, Aluva (Kerala) and New Delhi
- NRI Services in Bahrain and Kuwait offering NRI Accounts/Deposits, Online Share Trading & Mutual Funds, Wealth Management, Retirement/Education Planning, Home Loans
- The recently launched BBK Lite branches for the unbanked in Bahrain which offers exclusively catered solutions such as Remittance, Savings, Micro Loans, Online Banking and Salary Transfer

BBK... The Brighter Way!

**17 20 7777 | www.bbkonline.com**  
Licensed by the Central Bank of Bahrain as a conventional retail bank



# The Amazon is in flames, but Brazil's past can show the path forward

*With the seemingly pervasive shift in political winds, the shining model of Brazil's success is losing its sheen*



RUTH DEFRIES AND DOUG MORTON



A satellite image shows smoke rising from Amazon forest fires in Rondonia state, Brazil

Just over 16 years ago, on a sweltering day along the southeastern fringe of the Amazon forest, we sat down to catch our breath on a half-burnt log. Plumes of smoke on the horizon wafted to the sky, and the sound of chainsaws whirled in the distance. We couldn't have known that we were sitting in a time and place that was rapidly approaching peak deforestation this century in the Amazon. It was July 2003 in the Brazilian state of Mato Grosso.

That moment comes to mind this week, with reports that Brazil's Amazon has experienced a record number of fires this year — the result of both drier conditions and intentional burning to clear the forest. As smoke from deforestation fires blankets the Amazon once more, those in power have responded by attacking government scientists and attempting to bury factsthat the satellite record makes clear. But lessons from Brazil's own past highlight the importance of these data — and could show the path forward.

In 2003, we were on a mission with our colleagues from the Brazilian space agency, INPE, as part of a collaboration between U.S. and Brazilian scientists. The goal was to understand how the Amazon forest stores massive amounts

of carbon that would otherwise trap heat in the atmosphere and how trees recycle water into clouds that sustain forests and water crops far away.

Before we headed into the field, we had huddled with our Brazilian colleagues around computers to analyze data from a recently launched satellite that sent images of the forest every day. The new data were full of promise, suggesting it might be possible to shrink the time between a chainsaw crew cutting a forest tract and INPE's ability to map where that deforestation occurred. With older satellites, the gap between the event and the information could be weeks or months.

Could we trust the algorithms? The only way to find out was to see for ourselves. So we marked on a map the places to check. After crossing rivers on shaky wooden bridges, changing numerous flat tires and pushing vehicles out of the sand, we arrived at one of the spots marked on the map. Sure enough, a thick chain dragged between two tractors had ripped out the trees by their roots. At a second spot, piles of dead trees still smoldered. A third spot also had telltale signs of recent deforestation. And a fourth, fifth and sixth. Each clearing was as big as an Iowa cornfield. The algorithm was spot

Thousands of fires are burning in Brazil, many of them in the world's biggest rainforest, which is sending clouds of smoke across the region and pumping alarming quantities of carbon into the world's atmosphere



on. As we sat on the log, we looked at each other in dismay. We were thrilled with the accuracy of the algorithm, but distraught at what it meant. Pasture for cattle and fields for soy to ship to Europe and Asia were replacing towering trees. Satellite images provided the big picture. The Amazon forest was disappearing before our eyes.

Our Brazilian colleagues put their technical skill and dedication to their mandate into action. For decades, the Brazilian government has had the best system in the world to track its forests. INPE's estimates are the gold standard to officially document changes in the forest. The key has been transparency: Satellite images, methods and results



A natural-colour satellite image shows smoke and fires in several states within Brazil including Amazonas, Mato Grosso, and Rondonia

are all shared with the world. And their work made a difference. Data alone cannot keep the forest standing, but without data, even the best policies cannot go into action.

In the following years, deforestation rates plunged with government policies that combined carrots and sticks for ranchers and farmers. The tired rationale that standing forests get in the way of progress toppled. With better-managed pastures and fields, ranchers and farmers produced even more beef and soy despite restrictions on new clearings. Brazil became the shining example for other countries blessed with vast remaining tracts of lush tropical forest. Tracking deforestation from satellites became nearly as routine as an annual checkup.

With the seemingly pervasive shift in political winds, the shining model of Brazil's success is losing its sheen. Deforestation is inching upward, an observable fact known from INPE's own system and other sources. Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro — who has made opposition to environmental policies a pillar of his platform — doesn't like these facts. Because the reality

gets in the way of unearthing valuable minerals, satisfying the clamor for cash crops and building massive infrastructure, he is using the all-too-familiar tactic of claiming truth is a lie and cutting off the fact-checkers. Yet this comes at great cost.

In the years since we sat on the log at the edge of the deforestation frontier, Brazil demonstrated to the world that effective policies can curb the damage. But our planet's most vital assets can never be completely safe from political upheavals that reverse course on earlier gains. Successes take years of hard work and technical expertise from many talented people, such as our INPE colleagues. As the chainsaws buzz once again, we stand in solidarity with the truth — the satellite record of forest loss for the world to see.

**(Ruth DeFries is the Denning university professor of sustainable development at Columbia University, a MacArthur fellow and the author of "The Big Ratchet: How Humanity Thrives in the Face of Natural Crisis." Doug Morton is chief of the Biospheric Sciences Laboratory at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Centre)**



Smoke billows during a fire in an area of the Amazon rainforest near Humaita, Amazonas state, Brazil





# Trump's idea of buying Greenland is far from absurd



Donald Trump



MARC THIESSEN

U.S. President Donald Trump is upset that Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen called his interest in purchasing Greenland “absurd.” Her dismissive response should have come as no surprise. In 1946, when President Harry S. Truman tried to purchase Greenland, Secretary of State James Byrnes wrote that the proposal “seemed to come as a shock” and an insult to Danish officials, who turned it down.

That was a big mistake. As part of his deal, Truman had offered to trade parts of the Point Barrow district of Alaska, including the rights to any oil discovered there, to Denmark, in exchange for parts of Greenland. The Danes dismissed the idea just as they did

Trump's proposal. In 1967, the richest oil strike in U.S. history was made in the Point Barrow area. Bad move, Denmark! Sad!

With that blunder in their rearview mirror, you would think Danish leaders would at least hear Trump out. The president's idea of buying Greenland is far from absurd. Today we have a military base in Greenland, so there is no need to buy it for that purpose. But Greenland has enormous unexplored stores of natural resources, including zinc, lead, gold, iron ore, diamonds, copper and uranium, that Denmark has been unable or unwilling to exploit.

It also has large, untapped stores of rare-earth elements, such as praseodymium or dysprosium, that are critical to the production of everything from electric cars to smartphones and lasers. Today, the United States gets many of these rare-earth elements from China, which makes Americans dependent on Beijing. The Wall Street Journal reports that Beijing may cut off access to those minerals in its trade dispute with Washington, and China is also trying to corner the market for rare-earth elements in Greenland. Buying Greenland would put those strategically valuable minerals in U.S. hands.

But what makes Greenland particularly valuable to the United States is global warming. The unavoidable



Icebergs float behind the town of Kulusuk in Greenland

receding of Arctic sea ice will open a new sea route in the Arctic that can be used for both commercial and military vessels. In May, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo delivered an address at the Arctic Council Ministerial Meeting in Finland in which he pointed out that “steady reductions in sea ice are opening new passageways and new opportunities for trade. This could potentially slash the time it takes to travel between Asia and the West by as much as 20 days.” He added that the emerging “Arctic sea lanes could become the 21st-century Suez and Panama canals.”

He's right. A recent report in the New York Times notes that as sea ice melts and “Arctic routes become more direct, voyage times could fall to less than three weeks in some cases, making Arctic shipping potentially more attractive than the southern routes in coming decades.”

The United States and its allies have a major interest in not allowing these Arctic sea lanes to fall under Russian or Chinese control. “Do we want the Arctic Ocean to transform into a New South China Sea, fraught with militarization and competing territorial claims?” Pompeo asked in Finland. Purchasing Greenland would help the United States to better secure these emerging strategic passageways.

In 1946, the Joint Chiefs of Staff told Truman that Greenland was “completely worthless to Denmark.” Today, Denmark may not feel that way. But rather than getting offended, Copenhagen should entertain Trump's offer. After all, it would not be the first time

Denmark sold the United States one of its overseas possessions. In 1916, it sold the Danish West Indies (now the U.S. Virgin Islands) to President Woodrow Wilson. So, we've long ago established that parts of Denmark are for sale; there's no harm haggling over the price.

Indeed, a Greenland purchase would be in keeping with a long history of presidential land acquisitions. In 1803, Thomas Jefferson bought the Louisiana territory from France. In 1819, President James Monroe bought Florida from Spain. In 1854, President Franklin Pierce, in the Gadsden Purchase, bought part of New Mexico and Arizona from Mexico. In 1867, President Andrew Johnson bought Alaska from Russia. In 1898, President William McKinley bought the Philippines from Spain. And in 1903, President Theodore Roosevelt rented the Panama Canal Zone from Panama and Guantanamo Bay from Cuba. If Denmark won't sell Greenland, maybe we can rent it!

On Monday, Trump tweeted a picture of a gleaming Trump high-rise amid small huts on the Greenland coast and declared, “I promise not to do this to Greenland!” But the idea of buying Greenland is no joke. It actually makes a lot of strategic and economic sense.

**(Marc Thiessen is a columnist for The Washington Post on foreign and domestic policy. He is a fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, and the former chief speechwriter for President George W. Bush)**

*Greenland  
didn't just  
bubble into  
Trump's  
mind  
randomly  
– it's very  
much on  
Russia's  
radar for its  
unknown  
supply of oil,  
gas and rare  
metals*



A view overlooking the Helheim Glacier in Greenland



## business

# China to impose new tariffs on \$75 billion of US imports: govt

Beijing, China

China announced yesterday it will hit US imports worth \$75 billion with new tariffs starting September 1 and December 15, as retaliation for Washington's planned tariff hikes in a bruising trade war.

The punitive tariffs will range from 5 per cent to 10pc on 5,078 items from the US, China's state council tariff office said.

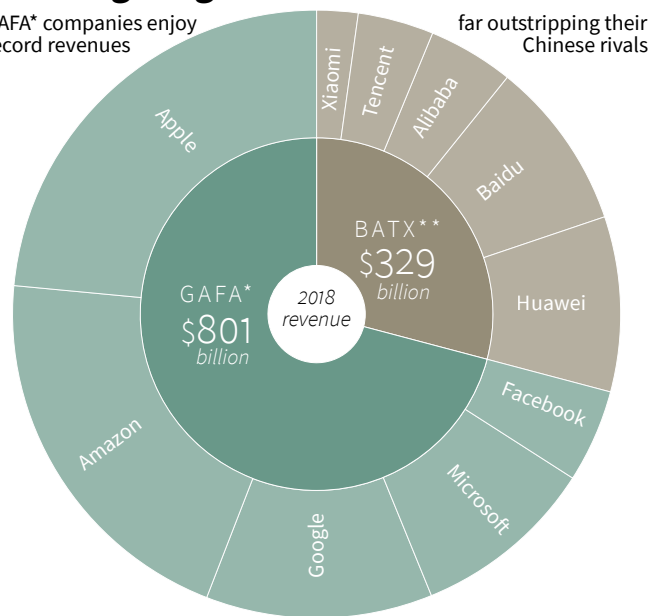
Beijing also announced it will impose a 25pc tariff on US autos and a 5pc tariff on auto parts starting December 15.

China had lifted punitive tariffs on American cars and auto parts earlier this year as a goodwill measure while trade talks were underway.

The tariff hikes by the US "have led to the continuous escalation of China-US economic and trade frictions, violating the consensus reached by the

## GAFA digital giants

GAFA\* companies enjoy record revenues



\*\*BATX = Baidu, Alibaba, Tencent, Xiaomi  
Sources: Alphabet, Apple, Amazon, Microsoft, Facebook, Baidu, Alibaba, Tencent, Xiaomi, Huawei, Statista

\*GAFA = Google, Apple, Facebook and Amazon

© AFP

## Trump vows quick response

Washington, United States

US President Donald Trump yesterday pledged a quick response to China's decision to slap a new round of tariffs on US goods, and told American firms to find an "alternative" to making their products in China.

In a series of bilstering tweets, Trump did not hint at what his response to Beijing would be. He "ordered" US companies to change their production strategies, but did not say how he would enforce

such an order.

"I will be responding to China's Tariffs this afternoon," Trump said.

"The vast amounts of money made and stolen by China from the United States, year after year, for decades, will and must STOP," he added.

"Our great American companies are hereby ordered to immediately start looking for an alternative to China, including bringing your companies HOME and making your products in the USA."

two heads of state in Argentina and the consensus reached in Osaka," China's State Council Tariff Commission Office said in a statement.

US President Donald Trump

has imposed steep tariffs on \$250 billion in Chinese goods, with a further \$300 billion in imports targeted for new duties in two more rounds, September 1 and December 15.

## Mexican economy registers zero growth in Q2

Mexico City, Mexico

Mexico registered zero economic growth in the second quarter, according to revised data released Friday, meaning that Latin America's second-biggest economy dodged a recession even more narrowly than previously thought.

"Gross domestic product (GDP)... registered no change in real terms in the second quarter of 2019," Mexico's official statistics institute, INEGI, said in a statement. INEGI had initially said in July that GDP expanded by 0.1 percent in the period from April to June.

That puny-but-positive figure at least indicated the economy had returned to growth, after shrinking in the first quarter of the year.

Friday's revised figure is a fresh bit of bad news for Mexico and President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, an anti-establishment leftist who took office in December promising to kick-start the economy, among other things.

**SBI Rupee Remittance**  
Rupee ₹ remittance faster than ever before

- Transfer to any bank in India
- Charges of BD 2/-per remittance only
- Competitive rate of exchange
- Remit money for free online at [www.onlinesbiglobal.com](http://www.onlinesbiglobal.com)

**FREE REMITTANCE**  
Remit money online to India using internet banking of State Bank of India, Bahrain  
Free of any Charges 24 x 7

*Hurry !! Contact your nearest sbi branch*

**Retail Branch**, Kingdom of Bahrain ,P.O box : 10763 , Diplomat City Tower II, Diplomat Area  
Phone : 17548033 Fax: 17531029, Email : [rbbh@statebank.com](mailto:rbbh@statebank.com)  
**Bab-al-Bahrain** , Shop No 38 , Phone : 17009420, Fax: 17009430, Email : [lsc1.rbbh@statebank.com](mailto:lsc1.rbbh@statebank.com)

State Bank of India is licensed as a Conventional Retail Bank by the Central Bank of Bahrain

## Fed will act 'as appropriate' to sustain US expansion: Powell

Washington, United States

Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell stressed yesterday that the central bank will act to ensure the US economic expansion continues, even in the face of "significant risks" posed by slowing global growth.

But as Beijing stepped up retaliation in the US-China trade war, Powell warned that trade tensions are exacerbating the global slowdown and the Fed doesn't have a "rulebook" for dealing with the uncertainties.

Powell at the same time played down concerns that further stimulus could spark a surge in inflation, saying, "Low inflation seems to be the problem of this era, not high inflation."

President Donald Trump's trade war with China has escalated for months, undercutting business confidence and curtailing investment, while causing wild swings on global stock markets.

The Fed cut the benchmark interest rate last month for the first time in more than a decade, partly due to the anticipated impact of trade uncertainties on the growth.

But in his hotly-anticipated speech, Powell made clear the central bank has limited tools to respond to a trade war.

"The three weeks since our July FOMC meeting have been eventful, beginning with the announcement of new tariffs on imports from China," he said in a speech prepared for delivery to an annual central banking conference in Jackson Hole,



US President Donald Trump walks with Jerome Powell, Federal Reserve chairman, at the White House in Washington, DC.

**Low inflation seems to be the problem of this era, not high inflation**

JEROME POWELL  
FEDERAL RESERVE CHAIR

Wyoming.

"The global growth outlook has been deteriorating since the middle of last year. Trade policy uncertainty seems to be playing a role in the global slowdown and in weak manufacturing and capital spending in the United States," Powell said.

The US economy "is now in a favourable place," but given the "significant risks we have been

monitoring," the Fed "will act as appropriate to sustain the expansion," he said.

He warned, however, that there is no "settled rulebook for international trade ... no recent precedents to guide any policy response to the current situation."

Several Fed officials at the conference repeated their opposition to further rate cuts to boost the economy, in part due to the potential to spark an upsurge in prices.

But Powell said, "Low inflation seems to be the problem of this era, not high inflation."

And he said, "in the unlikely event that signs of too-high inflation return, we have proven tools to address such a situation."



# India to pump 10 billion dollars into govt banks

● **Announces agreement by lenders to pass onto borrowers interest rate cuts by the central bank**

New Delhi, India

India said yesterday it would pump in nearly 10 billion dollars into government banks to ease liquidity crunch in Asia's third-largest economy.

"We are releasing 70,000 crore (\$9.7 billion) upfront into public sector banks.... This will benefit all corporate and retail borrowers," Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said at a news conference in New Delhi.

She also said she would roll back an extra fee that had been introduced in the July budget on profits from equity sales.

Sitharaman announced a slew of other steps, including an agreement by lenders to pass onto borrowers interest rate cuts by the central bank.

"People were saying that the benefit of rate reductions don't reach them at all, or reaches in trickle. There was an across the



Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman speaks as she attends a press conference along with Member of Parliament (MP) Anurag Thakur and Finance Secretary Rajiv Kumar in New Delhi



**People were saying that the benefit of rate reductions don't reach them at all, or reaches in trickle. There was an across the board grievance**

NIRMALA SITHARAMAN  
FINANCE MINISTER

board grievance," Sitharaman said.

"This will result in reduced EMI (equated monthly installments) for housing, vehicle, retail and other loans."

Earlier this month, India's central bank cut interest rates for the fourth time this year to a nine-year low in an attempt to boost growth, but credit has remained tight for firms and

consumers.

In an effort to boost car sales Sitharaman said the ban on purchasing new vehicles by government departments would be lifted.

Gross domestic product (GDP) for the world's sixth-biggest economy grew 5.8 per cent in the final quarter of 2018, down from 6.6pc in the previous quarter.

## Stock markets reverse gains as China targets US imports

London, United Kingdom

Global stock markets fell yesterday as trade war worries returned with a vengeance when China said it would target US imports worth \$75 billion with new tariffs.

The new round in the bruising trade war between Washington and Beijing caused a sudden trend reversal in European markets which had been showing solid gains in the morning.

Wall Street, which had been expected to open higher, also came off to a weaker start.

US stocks were "decisively lower", said analysts at Charles Schwab, "with the threat of new tariffs on \$75 billion of US goods by China causing trade fears to ramp up".

Trade blues even over-

shadowed excited anticipation ahead of a key speech by Federal Reserve boss Jerome Powell, which will be parsed for clues about the US central bank's plans for monetary policy. Traders were also digesting another inversion of the US yield curve Thursday, when the return on 10-year notes fell below that of two-year notes, which is seen as a sign of a possible recession.

In foreign exchange, the pound retreated against the dollar one day after spiking on hopes that Britain would exit the European Union with a deal. "As investors start to eye the central bank shindig in Jackson Hole, the pound decided to rein in the enthusiasm it displayed on Thursday," said Connor Campbell, analyst at Spreadex.

### Key figures around 1335 GMT

London - FTSE 100:	▲ 0.2 pc at 7,144.75 points
Frankfurt - DAX 30:	■ at 11,742.05
Paris - CAC 40:	▼ 0.1 pc at 5,384.94
EURO STOXX 50:	■ at 3,372.42
New York - Dow:	▼ 0.4 pc at 26,137.05
Tokyo - Nikkei 225:	▲ 0.4 pc at 20,710.91 (close)
Hong Kong - Hang Seng:	▲ 0.5 pc at 26,179.33 (close)
Shanghai - Composite:	▲ 0.5 pc at 2,897.43 (close)
Pound/dollar:	▼ at \$1.2205 from \$1.2253 at 2040 GMT
Euro/dollar:	▼ at \$1.1070 from \$1.1086
Euro/pound:	▼ at 90.40 pence from 90.44 pence
Dollar/yen:	▲ at 106.43 yen from 106.42 yen
Brent North Sea crude:	▼ 99 cents at \$58.93 per barrel
West Texas Intermediate:	▼ \$1.40 at \$53.95 per barrel

## Hearty welcome to the land of pearls

### Indian Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi



The Management and Staff of Mega Mart and Macro Mart welcomes Prime Minister of India to Bahrain



ميغا مارت  
**MEGA MART**

Lulu Centre Tel: 17 250 334 • Juffair: 17 826 884 • Muharraq: 17 343 266 • Hamad Town: 17 412 563  
Salmaniya: 17 252 624 • Galali: 17 32 00 25 • Segayya (Al Hayat Shopping Centre): 17 00 30 61  
MegaMart Express: 17 382 511 • Lagoon, Amwaj Island: 16 030 106

MOIC/PC/5009/2017



/megamartbahrain



/megamartbahrain



ماكرو مارت  
**Macro Mart**

West Riffa Mall : 17 650 075  
Saar: 17 225 818



Get Megamart Offers in Your Mobile  
Search (BHS) Online - Also Available on Google Play & Apple App Store

MOIC/PC/5010/2017



## celebs

# Miley denies cheating rumours

ANI | Los Angeles

Miley Cyrus on cleared the air around rumours that her split from husband Liam Hemsworth was because of cheating.

"I can accept that the life I've chosen means I must live completely open and transparent with my fans who I love, and the public, 100% of the time," she wrote on Instagram.

The 26-year old continued, "What I can't accept is being told I'm lying to cover up a crime I haven't committed. I have nothing to hide."

The 'Hannah Montana' star also spoke openly about her teens and said that its "no secret" that she was "into partying".

In addition, she wrote about how she "experimented with drugs" and admitted "I f--ked up and cheated in relationships" when young.

And what's more, Cyrus was even thrown out of "Hotel Transylvania" for "buying Liam a penis cake for

his birthday and licking it."

"I swung on a wrecking ball naked" and guessed there were more nude photos of her on the internet than "maybe any woman in history," she added in her post.

After all her dark revelations, Cyrus pointed out to the fact that "once Liam and I reconciled, I meant it, and I was committed."

"There are NO secrets to uncover here. I've learned from every experience in my life. I'm not perfect, I don't want to be, it's boring. I've grown up in front of you, but the bottom line is, I HAVE GROWN UP," she wrote further.

She then admitted to doing "a lot of things but I refuse to admit that my marriage ended because of cheating. Liam and I have been together for a decade. I've said it before & it remains true, I love Liam and always will."

The split with Hemsworth for her was about making "a healthy decision".

**I can accept that the life I've chosen means I must live completely open and transparent with my fans who I love, and the public, 100% of the time. What I can't accept is being told I'm lying to cover up a crime I haven't committed. I have nothing to hide**

MILEY CYRUS

"I am the healthiest and happiest I have been in a long time. You can say I am a twerking, pot-smoking, foul-mouthed hillbilly but I am not a liar," she added.

Cyrus' brave disclosure received a thumbs up from scores of celebrities including Madonna who said, "Thank GOD!! You are human! A woman who has lived. No need to apologize!!"

This long detailed post came just a day after Hemsworth filed for divorce with the singer.



Miley Cyrus

# Taylor Swift's latest album 'Lover' is out!

ANI | Los Angeles

Months of waiting has come to an end for Taylor Swift fans as she has finally dropped her latest album 'Lover'.

The 29-year-old organised a YouTube live on her channel for the same and opened up about the inspiration behind her latest release.

"This album felt aesthetically to me, very daytime, very sunlit fields," she explained while comparing 'Lover's' theme to those of her previous releases.

She continued, "I wrote this from a perspective of a much more open, free, romantic, whimsical place, and I'm so happy to share that with you soon."

Not only this, but the 'Blank Space' singer also dropped the music video of her last released track carrying the same name as the album.

The single which Swift released a week ago had romantic melodies and made

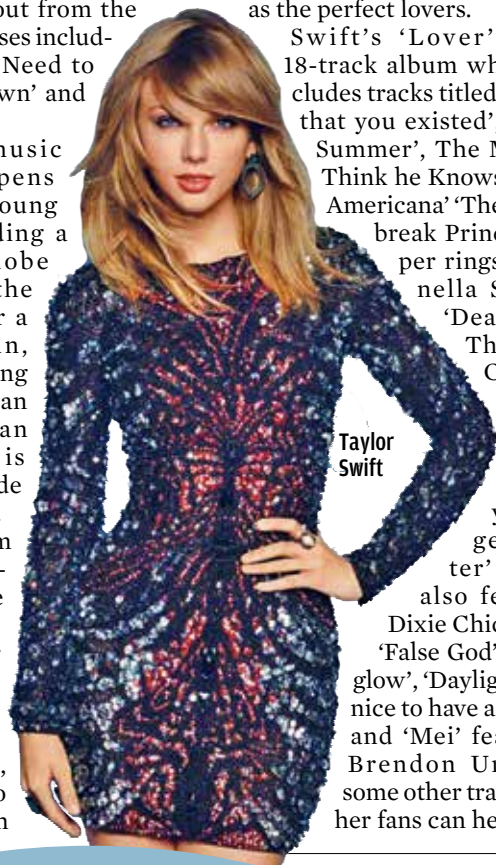
it stand out from the past releases including 'You Need to Calm Down' and 'ME!'.

The music video opens with a young girl holding a snow globe and as the camera zooms in, Swift along with a man (Christian Owens) is seen inside the globe.

From decorating the walls of their home, to playing word scramble, the two are seen

as the perfect lovers.

Swift's 'Lover' is an 18-track album which includes tracks titled 'Forgot that you existed', 'Cruel Summer', 'The Man', 'I Think he Knows', 'Miss Americana' 'The Heartbreak Prince', 'Paper rings', 'Cornelia Street', 'Death by a Thousand Cuts', 'London Boy', 'Soon you'll get Better' which also features Dixie Chicks. 'False God', 'Afterglow', 'Daylight', 'It's nice to have a Friend' and 'Mei' featuring Brendon Urie are some other tracks that her fans can hear.



Taylor Swift

## Angelina Jolie tries 'not to cry' as she drops son to college

ANI | Los Angeles

No matter how flawless and larger than life they seem, even celebrities have a hard time sending their kids to college and that's what makes them relatable. Angelina Jolie may be a superstar but she became just a regular mother while dropping her eldest son, Maddox Jolie-Pitt, off to college.

Jolie was visibly emotional

as she dropped her son to college in South Korea, reported Us Weekly.

In a video which soon went viral on social media, the Oscar-winning actor revealed that she was "trying not to cry" as she spoke to Maddox's new classmates at Yonsei University.

Jolie happily answered questions from star-struck students while standing next to her son.

However, one question did put a frown on her face, "How long are you staying in Korea?" a student asked.

"I leave today. Today is the day that I drop him off," said an emotional Jolie. She continued, "I'm trying not to cry."

The 44-year-old star then posed for a group picture with students.

Us Weekly confirmed earlier this month that the 18-year-old was enrolled at Yonsei and is set to study biochemistry.



Angelina Jolie

## Hailey and Justin Bieber finally set wedding date



Hailey and Justin Bieber

ANI | Los Angeles

Save the date! Singer Justin Bieber and supermodel Hailey Bieber, who tied the knot in a secret courthouse ceremony in September 2018, are planning a second wedding this fall and the details are finally out.

The much-in-love couple, who will soon be celebrating their first wedding anniversary, are planning to walk down the aisle in a traditional ceremony next month, reported TMZ.

And while all details have been kept under tight wraps, TMZ has revealed that Justin and Hailey have finally sent out their 'Save the Date' cards.

The outlet also shared a glimpse of the card which is inspired from comic-book style, with Justin and Hailey's names on top and little hearts all over. While the card does not reveal a lot of details, it does give two very important pieces of information about the upcoming wedding - the date and the venue.

Going by the card, the 25-year-old singer and the 22-year-old supermodel will be walking down the aisle on September 30, this year in South Carolina.

South Carolina, which is known for its expansive shoreline, is a wedding destination for many and the duo's choice does not come as a complete surprise.

## Katy Perry, Orlando Bloom give major couple goals at 'Carnival Row' premiere

ANI | Los Angeles

Ever since singer Katy Perry and actor Orlando Bloom got engaged, the duo has been attending all the events together dressed to the nines.

The power couple never misses a chance to grab eyeballs at events, be it a movie premiere, song launch or a fashion show. The two recently attended the Los Angeles premiere of Bloom's Amazon Prime Video series 'Carnival Row' and couldn't keep their hands off each other, reported E! News.

The 'Swish Swish' songstress arrived at the TCL Chinese Theatre in a lovely lavender dress and a blonde



Katy Perry and Orlando Bloom

bob. She rounded off her look with her flower-shaped engagement ring, which features a pink centre stone surrounded by diamonds. While Bloom looked dapper in a regal blue suit with black shoes. The pair adorably locked lips while posing for the cameras at the star-studded premiere.

The 34-year-old singer and the 42-year-old actor wrapped their arms around each other and shared a sweet kiss while posing for the camera on the red carpet.

The 'Never Really Over' songstress even joked that she'd let her beau pick which side to stand on so photographers could capture his best angles.



SPORTS  
**sports**

Ravindra Jadeja plays a shot

## Jadeja leads India to 297

AFP | Antigua and Barbuda

Ravindra Jadeja played a key role in extending India's first innings as they were eventually dismissed for 297 on the stroke of lunch on the second day of the first Test against the West Indies at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in Antigua.

Jadeja was last out for 58, top-edging an attempted pull off home captain Jason Holder to give wicketkeeper Shai Hope his fifth catch of the innings.

Kemar Roach finished the innings as the best of the West Indies bowlers with figures of four for 66 while fellow fast bowler Shannon Gabriel claimed three for 71.

It was Roach who gave the West Indies an ideal start to the day when he removed Rishabh Pant for 24, the attacking wicketkeeper-batsman offering a straightforward catch to Holder at second slip as India slipped from the overnight position of 203 for six to 207 for seven.

However, any hopes the hosts entertained of quickly polishing off the tourists' in-

**58**  
runs were scored by  
Ravindra Jadeja before  
losing his wicket

nings were frustrated by Ishant Sharma, who defied the West Indies for over an hour in contributing 19 to a 60-run eighth-wicket partnership with Jadeja.

Sharma's admirable defiance was eventually ended though by a slower delivery from Gabriel and Mohammed Shami lasted just one delivery, being caught and bowled by off-spinner Roston Chase.

However, Jadeja was still able to get to the half-century mark, his 11th in Test cricket, before one attacking shot too many with last man Jasprit Bumrah at the other end ended his contribution and the team's innings.

His three-hour innings spanned 112 deliveries and was highlighted by six fours and one six.

# Kiwis rattle Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka was tottering at 144 for six when rain came down and no further play was possible

● **Trent Boult and Tim Southee claimed two wickets each**

AFP | Colombo

Trent Boult and Tim Southee led New Zealand's charge against Sri Lanka on day two of the rain-hit second Test in Colombo yesterday.

The pacemen claimed two wickets each as Sri Lanka reached 144 for six at lunch when rain came down and no further play was possible.

Skipper Dimuth Karunaratne moved from his overnight 49 to score 65 and provided the only bit of resistance in the morning session, which saw 29.3 overs bowled.

Boult took two early wickets in one over after Sri Lanka resumed the day at 85 for two.

Dhananjaya de Silva on 32 and Dilruwan Perera on five were at the crease.

Southee, like Boult, also delivered a double-wicket maiden as the duo put on a superb display of seam bowling under overcast conditions.

Boult got overnight batsman Angelo Mathews caught behind for two to reach a landmark of 250 Test wickets -- only the third Kiwi bowler to achieve the feat.

Boult trapped Kusal Perera lbw for nought after just three balls as Sri Lanka slipped to



Trent Boult celebrates the wicket of Angelo Mathews

“Today's a special day for Trent. He's become the third highest wicket-taker for New Zealand”

SHANE JURGENSEN

93-4 and would have been in further trouble had Boult held on to a simple catch from de Silva off his own bowling a few overs later.

“Today's a special day for Trent. He's become the third

highest wicket-taker for New Zealand,” New Zealand bowling coach Shane Jurgensen told reporters.

“He's got great passion and energy which he brings to our team. I think the skill and execution and the way he's contributed to the team has been amazing.”

Karunaratne also got a lifeline on 61 when Kane Williamson could not grab a tough chance at short mid-wicket off Ajaz Patel.

But the left-hander, who completed his 23rd Test fifty after resuming the day on 49, soon fell, caught behind off Southee

for 65.

Southee struck again in the same over to send Niroshan Dickwella trudging back to the pavilion for nought.

“Tim and Trent have been doing it for a while. They've been creating wickets and they're very accurate, and they've got the ability to swing the ball,” said Jurgensen.

“Today there might have been a little bit of swing with the overhead conditions, and it just seemed to be doing a little bit. They both work really hard on their fitness, and that's a big factor in their resilience.

## Hazlewood takes five as England slump to 67 all out in third Test

AFP | Leeds

Australia's Josh Hazlewood took five wickets as England collapsed to just 67 all out on the second day of the third Ashes Test at Headingley yesterday.

In a match they had to win to square the five-Test series at 1-1, England arrived at Yorkshire's headquarters having dismissed Australia for a seemingly modest 179, with fast bowler Jofra Archer taking 6-45, on Thursday.

But with Hazlewood returning figures of 5-30, England were bowled out inside 28 overs to leave Australia with a first-innings lead of 112.

Joe Denly, with 12, was the only England batsman to reach double figures, with their total seven fewer than the 74 scored by Australia's Marnus Labuschagne, in for concussed star batsman Steve Smith, on Thursday.

But whereas Labuschagne and David Warner (61) fought hard during their partnership of 111, few England batsmen showed anything like the same willingness to sell their wickets



Josh Hazlewood celebrates after getting the wicket of Jonny Bairstow

dearly, with several playing key roles in their own dismissal for all Australia's good bowling.

England's slump was no great surprise, however, but rather the latest in a line of recent Test



Joe Denly, with 12, was the only England batsman to reach double figures

collapses that have seen them dismissed for 58 by New Zealand (Auckland 2018), 77 by the West Indies (Bridgetown 2019) and 85 by Ireland at Lord's last month.

But what made this collapse all the more troubling was that the blue and sunny skies above Headingley yesterday ought to have made conditions for batting easier than the gloom of Thursday, when England captain Joe Root won the toss.

World Cup-winning opener Jason Roy took guard having made just 40 runs in four innings this series.

## Weather, power outage halt Winston-Salem Open

AFP | Washington

Severe weather and a power outage halted play on Thursday at the ATP Winston-Salem Open, where none of the scheduled quarter-final matches was completed.

Top seed Benoit Paire of France was leading Spain's Pablo Carreno-Busta 4-3 when

their match was halted.

Organizers had hoped to resume play in the evening once the storms moved through and power was restored.

But after revisions to the schedule they finally suspended play for the day.

In the remaining quarter-finals, Australian John Millman will take on American Steve

Johnson, American Frances Tiafoe will take on third-seeded Hubert Hurkacz of Poland and second-seeded Canadian Denis Shapovalov will face Russian Andrey Rublev.

The delay will make for a hectic schedule in a tournament due to end on Saturday, allowing a Sunday travel day to players headed to the US Open.

## Mexican forward Lozano completes Napoli move

AFP | Milan

Mexican international Hirving Lozano on Thursday completed his move to Serie A runners-up Napoli on a deal reported to be worth 42 million euros (\$46 million).

The 24-year-old winger arrives from PSV Eindhoven where he won the Dutch title in 2018. “Welcome Hirving,” Napoli club owner Aurelio De Laurentiis wrote on Twitter without revealing details of the transfer.

Lozano, nicknamed

‘Chucky’, joined PSV from Pachuca in 2017 for 12.5 million euros and scored 45 goals in 83 games over two seasons.

“I leave PSV as a happy man,” Lozano told the Dutch club's website.

“Winning the Dutch title was one of the highlights in my career so far and I also achieved my dream of playing UEFA Champions League.”

Lozano has reportedly agreed a five-year deal worth 42 million euros which will earn him up to 4.5 million euros a year.

The contract includes a 130 million euro buy-out clause, Sky Sports Italia reported.

Lozano will not play in Napoli's Serie A opener Saturday at Fiorentina, but is expected to make his debut against champions Juventus in Turin on August 31.





# Wolves clinch famous victory at Torino

Wolves close in on Europa League place with hard-fought win over Torino

● Jimenez and Jota score in the Europa League thriller

AFP | Paris

Wolves moved to the brink of the Europa League group stages on Thursday with an impressive 3-2 play-off, first leg win at Torino.

The English Premier League side, playing in their first European campaign since 1981, went ahead through an own-goal from Gleison Bremer just before half-time.

Diogo Jota made it 2-0 on the hour mark but Lorenzo de Silvestri pulled one back for the Italians two minutes later.

Raul Jimenez restored Wolves' two-goal lead after 72 minutes before Andrea Belotti's penalty for Torino in the dying moments kept the Serie A side in the tie ahead of the return leg at Molineux next Thursday.

"It's a close tie. It's not over, far from being over. We have



Raul Jimenez of Wolverhampton Wanderers shoots to score

to take on a very tough team," Wolves coach Nuno Espirito Santo told the Express and Star newspaper.

"We played good. We were organised, we stayed in shape. We produced some goals but like I say, one game to go."

Celtic, dumped out of the Champions League last week by Cluj of Romania, saw off AIK of Sweden 2-0 at home.

James Forrest scored in his fifth consecutive game early in the second half with Frenchman Odsonne Edouard's curling

”  
It's a close tie. It's not over, far from being over. We have to take on a very tough team. We played good. We were organised, we stayed in shape. We produced some goals but like I say, one game to go

NUNO ESPIRITO  
WOLVES COACH

free-kick making it 2-0 in the 73rd minute.

"It was a great team performance," said Celtic manager Neil Lennon.

"We played well in the first-half but I thought we were magnificent in the second.

"Some of the football we played was great and we scored fantastic goals."

Glasgow rivals Rangers are also well-placed for a spot in the group stages thanks to a 0-0 draw at Legia Warsaw.

## Guardiola surprised by Silva's success in England

AFP | Manchester

David Silva is in line to make the 400th appearance of his extraordinary Manchester City career with manager Pep Guardiola admitting he never expected his star playmaker to survive in the English game.

The 33-year-old will reach the landmark should he play in City's visit to Bournemouth on Sunday at the start of what will be his last season in the Premier League.

Silva will leave City with an array of honours which already includes four league titles, four League Cups and two FA Cups.

The Spaniard is guaranteed a permanent place in the club's folklore, but Guardiola admitted he could not have foreseen such a career when Silva left Valencia for the Etihad in 2010 for what now seems a bargain £24 million (\$29 million) move.

"You can play a good season but he's done it for 10 seasons, it is almost incredible. Big congratulations. For all the City fans - me included - it is a

privilege," said Guardiola.

"Hopefully in his last season, he can be here and be who he is, play the way he wants to play and we will try to make him happy."

'I was wrong'

Guardiola was a big admirer of Silva during his time in Spain, but admitted that even he has been surprised by his success in England.

"He's one of the most intelligent players I've ever seen," he said.

"Moving in these small spaces he's really good, one of the best.

"But he's tiny, a little player, not a box-to-box player and my image of England from the outside, I thought 'maybe he's going to suffer'. Happily, I was wrong.

"That was my first impression. But obviously from the beginning, it is not just a fact that David played well this season or two seasons ago. He's played well with all the managers, Roberto (Mancini), Manuel (Pellegrini) and with us.



David Silva

TOGETHER  
WE ARE

COMBAT FEDERATION  
**3RAVE**

Welcome  
TO THE  
KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN

SHRI  
**NARENDRA  
MODI**

PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA

Ph: +973 1700 0038, www.khk-sports.com, Ajayad Bldg - 2304, Off- 71, Rd 2830, Block 428, Seef, Bahrain

bravemmatf www.BRAVECF.COM





# THE TRUE KARMA YOGI

*Prime Minister Narendra Modi is pioneering a new Indian renaissance*

## NaMo: Interesting facts

- As a child, Narendra Modi dreamt of serving the Indian Army
- Narendra Modi's father had a tea-stall at Vadnagar in Gujarat
- Modi's first job was to mop the floor at the RSS Headquarters
- Modi is the world's most followed leader on Twitter after Obama
- Modi is the first ever PM to be born in an Independent India
- Modi is considered as India's most techno-savvy leader



*The boy who once sold tea at a railway station in Gujarat has become the most influential Indian leader in generations. The incumbent Indian Prime Minister is one of the most influential people on the planet, ranking sixth on Business Insider's list of the 50 most powerful people in the world. Now in his second year as leader of the world's largest democracy, Modi has extensive plans to reform both business and government agencies in India, and is implementing a uniform federal government sales tax as early as next year. The 65-year-old is also a champion of technology, enthusiastically working with Western companies to help spur India's technological progress.*



# A champion of reforms

*India still needs change, and Modi remains the person ready to deliver*

● **The Swachh Bharat programme has built tens of millions of toilets for hundreds of millions of people. Modi's commitment to renewable energy is part of his plan to make India a leader on climate change.**

● **Healthcare reform could help half a billion poor people afford treatment for cancer and heart disease.**

In his roles as the Prime Minister of India and Chief Minister of Gujarat, Narendra Modi has championed reforms.

Under his stewardship, the state of Gujarat witnessed an unprecedented economic growth.

Born to a Gujarati family in Vadnagar, Modi was introduced to the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh at the age of eight, beginning a long association with the organisation.

Modi travelled around India for two years and visited a number of religious centres before returning to Gujarat.

In 1971 he became a full-time worker for the RSS. During the state of emergency imposed across the country in 1975, Modi was forced to go into hiding.

The RSS assigned him to the BJP in 1985, and he held several positions within the party hierarchy until 2001, rising to the rank of general secretary. Modi was appointed Chief Minister of Gujarat in 2001, due to the then chief

minister Keshubhai Patel's failing health and poor public image following the earthquake in Bhuj.

Modi was elected to the legislative assembly soon after.

In his first term as chief minister between 2002 and 2007, Gujarat's economy grew at a nearly 12 per cent pace annually, the fastest ever recorded in any major Indian state, under any chief minister.

Gujarat is now richer, enjoys faster GDP growth and a greater intensity of jobs and industry than India as a whole. Mr Modi's reputation for clean government and economic competence rests on his record here. When Indians voted for him in great numbers last May, it was in large part because they wanted the country run as Gujarat is.

India still needs change, and Modi remains the person ready to deliver. He has improved relations with China, the US and Japan, but it's his domestic development agenda that has done the most to improve the lives and prospects of hundreds of millions of people. Modi has directed unprecedented amounts of money towards the country's seemingly endless need for new infrastructure.

Construction of roads, highways, public transport and airports have sharply increased the country's long-term economic potential.

Although the process remains unfinished, the government has also brought electricity to remote villages that have never had it, a boon for economic potential, public safety and basic quality of life.

The BJP-led government has also expanded a biometric identification system, begun under the previous Congress Party-led government, that has already taken iris scans and fingerprints from well over a

billion people to help citizens prove who they are so they can receive services.

It has provided bank accounts for 300 million people who have never had them, creating new opportunities for these people to access credit and state subsidies.

It also brings them into the formal economy to potentially make the government more responsive to their needs.

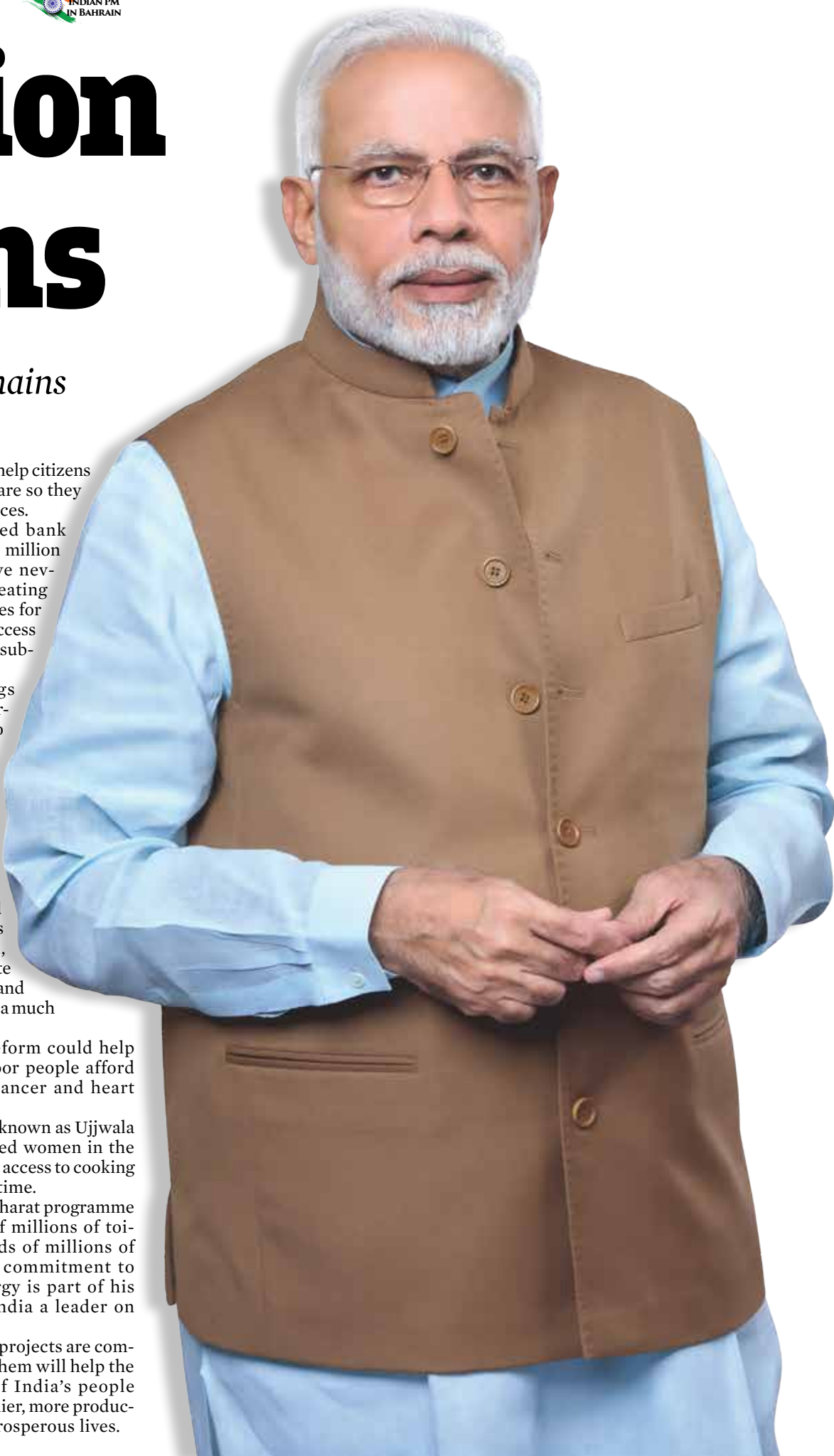
The government says these measures have cut sharply into waste and fraud within India's welfare system, allowing the state to provide more and better services at a much lower cost.

Healthcare reform could help half a billion poor people afford treatment for cancer and heart disease.

A programme known as Ujjwala Yojana has helped women in the countryside gain access to cooking gas for the first time.

The Swachh Bharat programme has built tens of millions of toilets for hundreds of millions of people. Modi's commitment to renewable energy is part of his plan to make India a leader on climate change.

None of these projects are complete, but all of them will help the vast majority of India's people lead safer, healthier, more productive and more prosperous lives.



## Demonetisation: A master stroke

*World Bank has praised the Modi govt for implementing the move*

The overwhelming victory of Narendra Modi and his Bharatiya Janata Party in the 2019 general elections reflected the support the Modi government had garnered over the demonetisation of old currency notes of Rs 1,000 and Rs 500.

On November 2016, the Government of India announced the demonetisation of all ₹500 and ₹1,000 banknotes of the Mahatma Gandhi Series. It also announced the issuance of new ₹500 and ₹2,000 banknotes in exchange for the demonetised banknotes.

Modi claimed that the action would curtail the shadow economy and reduce the use of illicit and counterfeit cash to fund illegal activity and terrorism, which later proved out to be true.

According to Indian financial experts like S Gurumurthy, the decision was long overdue. "The new currency will eliminate counterfeit currency. The denomination in which counterfeit currency operates is in Rs 500s and Rs 1,000s.



"The Naxalite funding is through normal currency. According to one estimate, about Rs 50,000 to Rs 60,000 crores of the extremist funding is in the form cash. It will be very difficult for them to deposit – their funding is designed for cash economy. Left extremism will receive a very, very serious setback because of this," he

observed.

"If Rs 5 lakh crores is in cash economy, it just stays as Rs 5 lakh crores. But if Rs 5 lakh cores comes into the banking system, because of the fractional reserves basis, this Rs 5 lakh crores can become Rs 20 lakh crores.

"Let us assume Rs 100 is deposited in a bank. About one quarter of the

### Five outcomes

- Move towards a digital economy
- Boost to financial inclusion initiative
- Clamp down on black money
- The shift in investment habits

amount will be invested in government bonds and reserves. The remaining 75 per cent will be available for lending. This 75 per cent gets into the banking system. My estimate is, that at a minimum, the banking system multiplies the money in the system by three or four times. Money creation by banks will increase prosperity. The black or the cash economy therefore is inefficient in using money this way.

"Once these kinds of deposits come into the system, there will be an all-round reduction in interest rates. Big industries in India have access to foreign funds and are able to draw money

at international rates. It is the small and medium industries that are paying very high rate of interests. The reduction in interest rates will be very good for our economy."

Experts also opine that the move has had a positive impact on the realty sector. "Because of the withdrawal of cash from real estate economy, land prices will moderate and moderate. This will increase the affordability of housing, most people are not able to afford houses because of high land prices. Construction prices are dependent on commodities, land prices are dependent on the amount of money that chases land."

The World Bank has also praised the Modi government for implementing the move. In a report titled 'South Asia Economic Focus - Globalisation Backlash', it said eliminating tax evasion and corruption -- the most talked objectives of junking old 500 and 1000 rupee notes -- is "typically a demanding process involving multiple measures overtime."



# Glimpses from the past

*Modi's emergence as a national leader tells the story of grit, determination and hard work*

**N**arendra Modi's evolution from quintessential Organisation Man of the BJP to one of India's best known leaders recognised for his Good Governance over a span of a decade tells a story of grit, determination and Strong Leadership in the face of grave adversity.

Narendra Modi's transition from the world of Political Organising to the realm of Administration and Governance neither had the luxury of time nor the benefit of training.

Shri Modi had to learn the ropes of Administration while on the job right from Day One.

Narendra Modi's first 100 days in office offer a glimpse of not just how Shri Modi made that personal transition but these 100 days also offer a glimpse of how Shri Modi brought unconventional thinking and out of the box ideas to shake status-quo and reform Governance.

Narendra Modi's path to creating a Vibrant Gujarat as a shining example of Development and Governance did not come easy. It was a path littered with adversities and challenges.



A combination of pictures show glimpses of Mr Modi's life from the past.

Through the last decade if there is one constant trait of Narendra Modi that has stood out it is his Strong Leadership in the face of grave adversity.

Shri Narendra Modi's approach to governance has always been viewed as being above politics. Shri Modi never let political differences get in the way of pursuing solutions to developmental challenges.

As Shri Narendra Modi prepares to assume Office as India's next Prime Minister, his approach to Administration and Governance stands out for its convergent thinking.

The finest manifestation of Shri Modi's philosophy of "Minimum Government, Maximum Governance" is his Pancha-Amrut construct for convergent Governance.

His performance is reflected in the many Awards his government received from both National and International media.

Shri Narendra Modi as India's Prime Minister brings with him a rich and hands-on experience as one of India's most successful Chief Ministers and one of its finest of Administrators.

## Rajasthanis in Bahrain welcomes

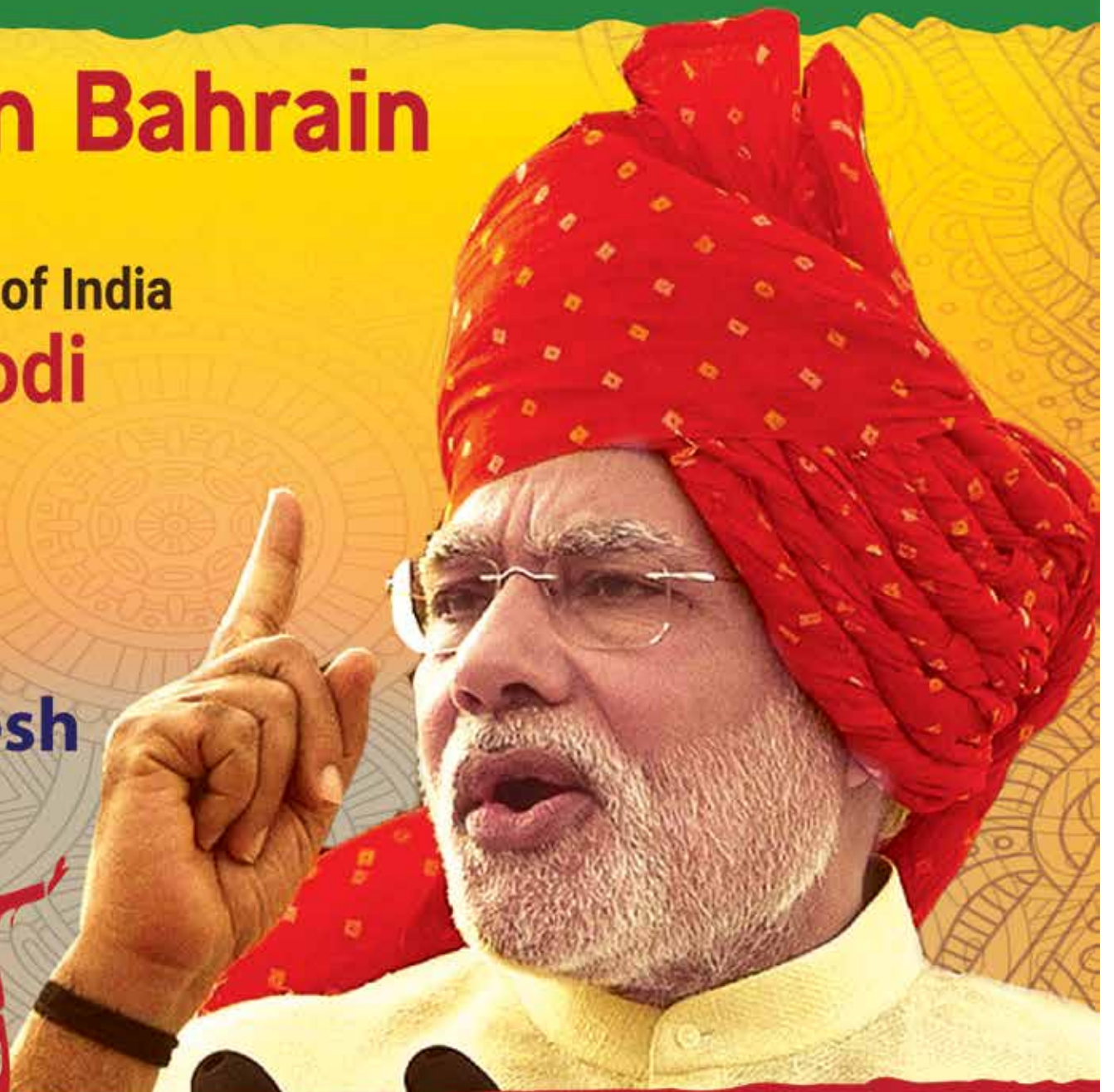
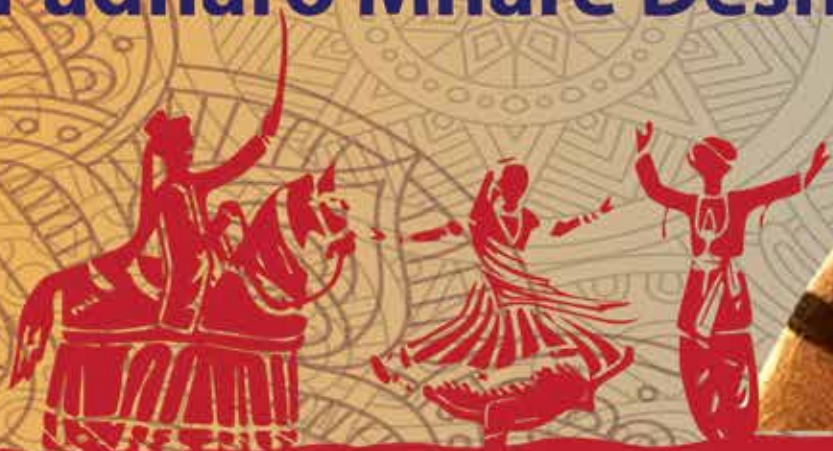
Honourable Prime Minister of India

## Shri Narendra Modi

to the Kingdom of Bahrain



## Padharo Mhare Desh







Mr Modi with his mother Hiraben Modi.



Mr Modi with former US President Barack Obama.

**Continued from previous page**

Narendra Modi's inspiring life journey to the Office of Prime Minister began in the by-lanes of Vadnagar, a small town in North Gujarat's Mehsana district. He was born on the 17th of September 1950; three years after India had gained its Independence. This makes him the first Prime Minister to be born in independent India. Mr Modi is the third child born to Damodardas Modi and Hiraba Modi. Mr Modi comes from a family of humble origins and modest means. The entire family lived in a small single storey house which was approximately 40 feet by 12 feet.

Narendra Modi's formative years taught him early tough lessons as he balanced his studies, non-academic life to spare time to work at the family owned Tea Stall as the family struggled to

make ends meet. His school friends remember that as a child also he was very industrious and had an affinity for debates and a curiosity to read books. Schoolmates recollect how Mr. Modi used to spend many hours reading in the local Library. As a child he was also fond of swimming.

Mr. Modi's thoughts and dreams as a child were quite removed from how most children of his age thought. Perhaps it was the influence of Vadnagar which once used to be a vibrant center of Buddhist learning and spirituality many centuries ago. As a child also he always felt a strong urge to make a difference to society. He was highly influenced by the works of Swami Vivekananda which laid the foundation of his journey towards spiritualism and which inspired him to pursue the mission to fulfil Swamiji's dream of making India a Jagat Guru. w



Mr Modi enjoys a bike during his visit to the US in the early nineties.

*Welcome to  
the Kingdom of Bahrain*

**Indian Prime Minister  
Shri Narendra Modi**



Licensed by the Central Bank of Bahrain  
as branch of a foreign insurance  
and re-insurance company



Insuring lives. Ensuring happiness.

A company incorporated in the Kingdom of Bahrain (C.R. No. - 21606) and licensed by the Central Bank of Bahrain as a Life Insurance Company with paid-up capital of BD 20,000,000.



# BRAVE offering a global platform for Indian MMA

*BRAVE CF prides itself in sending athletes from all regions to fight internationally*



HH Shaikh Khalid

BRAVE Combat Federation has been known for its desire to develop mixed martial arts and combat sports in all corners of the world, including scenes that have been passed over by other international promotions. And India is one of the regions in which MMA has room to grow.

BRAVE CF and president Mohammed Shahid have taken a special interest in developing the combat sports scene in the country and have continued to heat up the region with events in the last years.

As the promotion continues to extend its reach around the world, India remains one of the homes of BRAVE CF. From its initial days, the promotion has transformed into the fastest-growing MMA organisation in the globe by going to six countries in 2017, and doubling it up in 2018 by going to 12 different na-

**India has immense potential in mixed martial arts and combat sports. We are looking to help these athletes realise that potential and make India one of the centres for MMA all over the world.**

MOHAMMED SHAHID



tions. In 2019, the goal is to keep up the momentum.

The aggressive strategy led by Mohammed Shahid, under the vision of His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, has put BRAVE CF at the forefront of mixed martial arts evolution, and Shahid wants to make sure that

India is an integral part of that expansion.

In 2017, the organisation hosted a special show in Mumbai. Several local athletes were given an international platform to showcase their talents while giving the country's MMA scene a level of global exposure never

seen before.

The success of that event led to BRAVE CF extending its ties with India by signing a deal with MTV to host MTV BRAVE 20, in Hyderabad, at the end of 2018. The show was headlined by one of the promotion's biggest rising stars in Khamzat Chimaev.

BRAVE CF also prides itself in sending athletes from all regions to fight internationally, extending their reach and making sure that they have different platforms to show their work. The same has been applied consistently for fighters in India, who have fought in Bahrain, Indonesia, and the Philippines in the last couple of years.

BRAVE Combat Federation is now a household name with combat sports lovers in India and Mohammed Shahid has guaranteed continued effort to extend that special relationship as the promotion gears up for a much-anticipated return.

The comeback will once again put Indian fighters at the forefront of mixed martial arts around the world and will transform the country into one of the preferred destinations for combat sports enthusiasts from around the globe.

# 45



## YEARS of GROWTH & PROSPERITY

ARC

مجموعة الراشد  
AL RASHID GROUP  
A Division of Landmark Retail Ltd


**LANDMARK**  
GROUP


**shukran**  
Endless Possibilities


**centrepunkt**

**Mothercare**

**Splash**

**SHOEMART**

**Lifestyle**

**max**

**homecentre**

**KOTON**

**LIPSY**  
LONDON


**sarah**

**CARPISA**

**ecco**

**shoexpress**  
express yourself for less


**STEVE MADDEN**  
SHOES • ACCESSORIES


**bossini**

**Fitness First**

**FUN CITY**  
COMA PLAY!


**Lee Cooper**  
SINCE 1905


**HOME BOX**

**FOOD COURT**

**OASIS MALLS**



# Pride of



**MA Yusuffali**

- Chairman and Managing Director of LuLu Group International
- Popularly known as the 'retail king' of the Middle East
- Prominent personality among 'Forbes' Mideast billionaires'
- LuLu Group's interests include healthcare, software and infrastructure
- First businessman in the UAE to receive Residency Golden Card
- Recipient of Indian civilian award Padma Shri



**Dr B R Shetty**

- Founder and Chairman of UAE Exchange, NMC Healthcare
- Revolutionised the money remittance sector
- Is a Forbes-listed billionaire employing over 40,000
- Received the highest civilian distinction in the UAE
- Was awarded with Padma Shree in the year 2009



**Mohammed Dadabhai**

- Kingdom's leading construction baron with many projects to credit
- Chairman of Dadabhai Group, whose assets include Bahrain's best known hotels and resorts
- Received state medal from His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa
- Formerly appointed as a member of the Kingdom's Shura Council
- Also runs many educational, philanthropic and sports ventures



Estd. 1950

ISO 9001: 2015 Certified Institution

## THE INDIAN SCHOOL BAHRAIN (ISB)

### WELCOMES NARENDRA MODI

THE HONOURABLE PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA

**70** years of  
meaningful  
existence...

Established in 1950, The Indian School Bahrain (ISB), one of the largest expatriate schools in the Arabian Gulf, is delighted to extend their warmest greetings to Honourable Prime Minister Narendra Modi who is on his first prime ministerial visit to the Kingdom of Bahrain.



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



Member of  
UNESCO  
Associated  
Schools





# f India



**Dr Varghese Kurian**

- Chairman of VKL Holdings and Al Namal Group
- One of the main Indian investors in the Kingdom
- Realty tycoon who completed over 200 projects
- Winner of Pravasi Bharatiya Samman
- forayed into healthcare sector with Middle East Medical Centre



**Dr Ravi Pillai**

- Chairman and Managing Director of RP Group
- Employs over 100,000 people across the world
- Group operates over 20 companies under its umbrella
- With over \$4bn in assets, Forbes lists him as a billionaire
- Received Indian civilian honour of Padma Shri in 2010



**Mukesh Kavalani**

- Prominent member of Thattai Hindu Community in the Kingdom
- Kavalani and Sons represents over 150 global brands in Bahrain
- Company offers over 60,000 industrial products encompassing construction and marine sector
- One of the key promoters of Shree Krishna Temple in Manama



WELCOMING HONOURABLE PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA

SHRI NARENDRA MODI

**SHAKEEL GROUP OF COMPANIES**



شركة تشكيل التجارية ذ.م.م.  
SHAKEEL TRADING CO. W.L.L.

هوم برايد  
HOME PRIDE



بحرين برايد  
Bahzain Pride  
shop with pride

تكنو جرافيكس  
TECHNO  
GRAPHICS



# Indian success saga

**T**he Kingdom of Bahrain has had a long tradition of warm hospitality and tolerance towards other faiths. The multi-faith expatriate community taking part in the Kingdom's development has always been granted religious freedom to follow their individual rites of worship. The people of Bahrain are warm, hospitable and respect relationships. This country makes everyone feel at home instantly.

Kingdom of Bahrain enjoys cordial relations with India rooted in ancient trade and cultural links underpinned by regular exchange of high level visits. India-Bahrain bilateral trade has been on the rise for the last few years, reaching about US\$ 1.3 billion in 2018-19. Further about 3,50,000 Indian nationals, the largest expatriate community in Bahrain has been contributing to the development of Bahrain.

Prominent businessmen and community leaders in the Kingdom consider the visit of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Bahrain a milestone that would help to further cement the excellent ties between the two countries. They believe that the visit will provide an opportunity to further cement the mutually beneficial bilateral ties with Bahrain.

Bahrain possesses the components and the expertise necessary to understand the needs of national or international investors. The presence of over 3000 Indian-owned/Joint Ventures in Bahrain indicates the intense economic engagement between the two countries.



His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, paid a visit to the Maljimal, Bhatia, Asarpota, Kewalram, Vaidya, and Kavalani families to mark Diwali.

Mohammed Dadabhai is one of the prominent businessmen in the Kingdom. The Dadabhai Group was established in the Kingdom of Bahrain in the early 1950's. Starting off as a modest trading house in the earlier days, the group is now engaged in multiple businesses comprising construction, real estate, hospitality, travel and tourism, manufacturing, communication and advertising.

Another businessman who is known for his philanthropy is Dr Varghese Kurian who received in 2014 the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman (Overseas

Indian Honour/Award) on the merit of "business for enhancing India's image and for promoting better understanding of India abroad". He is the founder and Chairman of the VKL Holdings and Al Namal Group of Companies.


ism, manufacturing, communication and advertising.

Another businessman who is known for his philanthropy is Dr Varghese Kurian who received in 2014 the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman (Overseas

Indian Honour/Award) on the merit of "business for enhancing India's image and for promoting better understanding of India abroad". He is the founder and Chairman of the VKL Holdings and Al Namal Group of Companies.


## Namaste Namu

Two Great Nations  
One Delightful Future




WELCOMING HONOURABLE  
PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA

### SHRI NARENDRA MODI








**Uniglobal Education Centre & Coral Training Center**


Building 80, Street-2802, Manama/Alsuqayyah, Block 328  
info@ugecbahrain.com  
17344971/2 and 32332709,46 / 38395676



**coral training**

CENTRE WLL



**THE BAHRAIN  
KERALEEYA SAMAJAM**



WELCOMING  
HONOURABLE  
PRIME MINISTER  
OF INDIA

## SHRI NARENDRA MODI

**P. V. Radhakrishna Pillai**  
(President)

**M.P. Raghu**  
(General Secretary)

**Executive Committee Members**



# in the Kingdom



On behalf of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa paid a visit to the Kewalram, Asarpota, Haridas, Gajria, Thaker, and Muljimal families to mark Diwali.

RP Group of Companies has played a major role in the economic development of the Middle East and India for four decades. Dr Ravi Pillai who spearheads the RP Group of companies is one of the top Non Residential Indian (NRI) leaders in the Kingdom of Bahrain. Pillai received was awarded the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman in 2008. In 2010, the Government of In-

dia included him in the Republic Day honours list for the civilian honour of Padma Shri.

There could hardly be anyone more competent to chronicle the recent history of Bahrain than Soman Baby, who has watched the kingdom evolve into its modern status. With his ringside view of the development of Bahrain as a journalist for over three decades,

Soman is acknowledged for his social commitment as much as for breaking news. Soman Baby received Pravasi Bharatiya Samman in acknowledgement of outstanding achievement in the field of community service and in recognition of his valuable contribution in promoting and fostering the interests of overseas Indians.

It's a well-known fact that Bahrain is



Bahrain-based Indian businessman Varghese Kurian, chairman and managing director of Al Namal & VKL Group, was honoured by the Government of India with the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman, the highest civilian honour for non-resident Indians.

committed to enshrining moderation, tolerance and pluralism within the Kingdom. The country celebrates its diversity as a source of strength, and this diversity is embodied in citizens' and residents' commitment developing Bahrain together.

The Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam (BKS), established in the year 1947 by a group of visionaries, is today one

of the oldest and largest leading socio-cultural organizations on the island. The BKS proudly represents the Malayalee community which numbers over 300,000 living in Bahrain. BKS President PV.Radhakrishna Pillai was awarded the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman by President Pratibha Patil in January 2012 for his contributions to the Indian community welfare in Bahrain.



**Welcome to the Kingdom of Bahrain**

**Indian Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi**



*Best wishes from -*

**BOBAN THOMAS**  
FOUNDER & CHAIRMAN

**BOBY THOMAS**  
MANAGING DIRECTOR

**Our Divisions**

- Oil & Gas Support Services
- Piping & Insulation
- Marine Diving Services
- Industrial Support & Trading Services
- Electro Mechanical Services
- Steel Fabrication & Erection
- Corrosion Control Engineering
- Operation and Maintenance Services


**Bobsco Trading & Contracting A Division of Bobsco Holding Co. W.L.L.**

Room:11, Dream Tower1, Road: 2701, Adliya Kingdom of Bahrain  
tel and fax 00973 17345950  
Email : marketing@topserveintl.com  
Website: www.bobscoholding.com





*Hearty welcome to the land of pearls*

**Indian Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi**



**Palace Electronics**  
Building Automation & ELV System Integrators

Group of companies



☎ 17261131/32, Fax: 17262796 ✉ P.O. Box: 11190, Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain  
@ rakesh@palaceelectronics.com | palace.electronics@gmail.com





VK Rajasekharan Pillai



MP Raghu



PV Radhakrishna Pillai



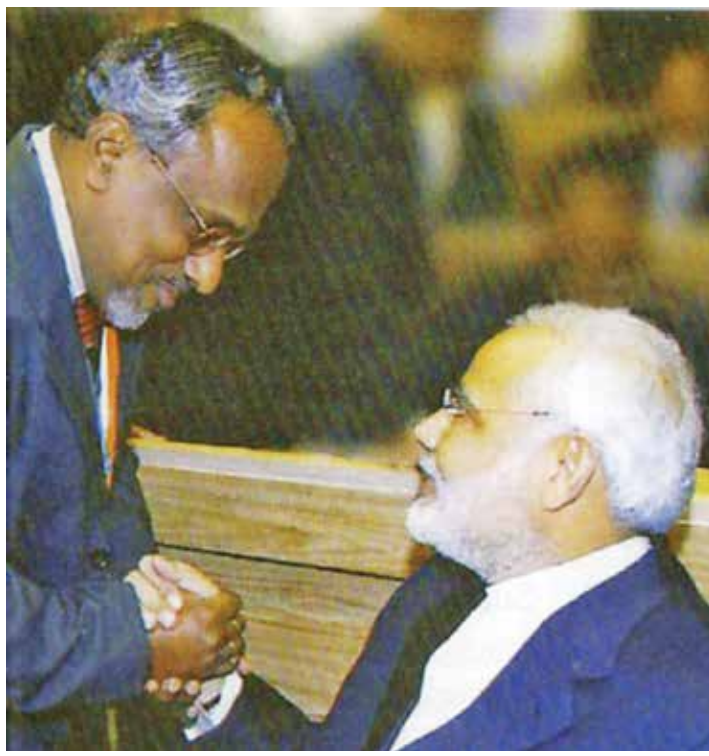
KN Padmanabhan



KG Baburajan



Asarpota



Sunny with Modi

(Continued from previous page)

Known in Bahrain more as a philanthropist, VK Rajasekharan Pillai has been the silent force behind many welfare initiatives involving the weaker sections of Bahrain. This includes meeting the repatriation expenses of stranded workers, assisting in marriage expenses and building houses for those below the poverty line. Has ha also provided free air tickets to poor amnesty workers returning to India. He is the Chairman of Bahrain headquartered National group of companies and has been awarded the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award 2017.

With the discovery and refinement

of oil in Bahrain in 1932-1945, there was a demand for manpower in the oil sector, which led to greater number of Indian workers to immigrate to the country. Indian business families like Kewalram, Asarpota, Haridas, Gajria, Thaker, and Muljimal enrich the cordial relationship with the ruling family in the Kingdom which is a shining example of Bahrain's increasing global role in advancing peace and compassion amongst different cultures. Bhagwan Asarpota who is the Managing Director of P.Haridas Sons Co WLL is a leading figure in the Indian community relief works.

Bahrain-based businessman and BKG Holding Company Chairman KG Baburajan is committed to philan-



**On behalf of Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam, I would like to extend a warm welcome to Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is visiting the Kingdom. It is a proud moment for every Indian here. The visit will certainly enhance bilateral ties while paving the way for more engagements between both nations.**

MR RAGHU

throphy. He had contributed INR 25lakh to the Kerala Chief Minister's Distress Relief Fund. He is a leading expert in Geotechnical Site Investigation and foundation engineering with considerable experience in Bahrain and other Middle East Countries.

K.N. Padmanabhan, Managing Director of Al Tawfeeq Co. founded his company in 1980 with a vision to become one of the leading firms in Bahrain which can cater to various services. Even more than earning money, his biggest satisfaction after starting his company was the fact that he was able to provide work for many families and could watch them grow.

MP Raghu who is the General Secretary of the Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam (BKS) is actively involved in noble social causes for the expatriate diaspora in the kingdom. He is the General Manger of Modern Art Studio which runs the Rolex boutique in Bahrain.

## Memorandum to Indian PM

Global Organization Of People Of Indian Origin (GOPIO) is planning to give a memorandum to Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit.

*Welcome to the Kingdom of Bahrain*

**Indian Prime Minister  
Shri Narendra Modi**

The Management, Staff and the students of Bahrain Indian School welcome Prime Minister of India to Bahrain

**BIS**

**Bahrain Indian School**

[Managed by  
Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan]

P.O Box 31595, Budaiya, Kingdom of Bahrain Ph :- +973 17598000 Fax :- +973 17598080  
Email : info@bhavansbahrain.com/ www.bhavansbahrain.com

*Welcome to the Kingdom of Bahrain*

**Indian Prime Minister  
Shri Narendra Modi**

**Syro Malabar Society**

*Kingdom of Bahrain*

**Syro Malabar Society**  
Kingdom of Bahrain Reg No. 6/GAG



# Fostering cultural openness

The Kingdom of Bahrain which is home to many religious communities, has always maintained its long-standing support to fostering religious and cultural tolerance. The clubs and associations in the Kingdom welcome Bahrain's cultural openness and long-standing support for religious freedom. There are many social and sports clubs in Bahrain that expats use in order to meet new friends, socialize and sharing experiences. Most of the clubs involve themselves in various social activities, charity fairs and a variety of popular sporting events, which attract huge crowds to their premises. The Indian club is the oldest, largest and the most active club in this island, situated in the heart of Manama.



**BKS**  
The Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam (BKS), established in the year 1947 by a group of visionaries, is today one of the largest leading socio-cultural organizations on the island. The BKS proudly represents the Malayalee community which numbers over 300,000 living in Bahrain. As the torch bearer of Kerala culture, the BKS proudly conducts well structured Malayalam classes for over 1000 children who are then evaluated according to Kerala government criteria. BKS meets its financial obligations through generous donations and contributions from members, donors and sponsors. Well-known business houses, banks, hypermarkets, educational institutions on the Island have been greatly instrumental in helping BKS serve society. Renowned and Accomplished Entrepreneurs like Padmashri Dr. Ravi Pillai, Padmashri Mr. Yusuf-fali M.A., Padmashri Adv.C.K. Menon, Dr. Mohamed Ali, Padmashri Dr. B.R. Shetty, Dr.Varghese Kurian to name a few continue to support BKS in undertaking various community projects and charity works.



**BCICAI**  
The Bahrain Chapter of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (BCICAI) was conceived in 1985 and held its first official program in April 1986. Over the years the BCICAI has grown from strength to strength and now has a membership of over 450 members and is now the largest organized professional body of Indians in Bahrain. According to BCICAI Chairperson Maheshkumar Narayan Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Bahrain has been a long outstanding request from the large Indian diaspora in Bahrain. Ever since Mr. Modi was elected as PM, he has emphasized the importance of strengthening ties with the Gulf countries who have been for several decades' important strategic partners with India. With his visit to Bahrain, Mr. Modi will have covered all the GCC countries. The Indian Chartered Accountants who have made Bahrain their second home are elated to witness this first ever historic visit of an Indian Prime Minister to the Kingdom and are looking forward to attending the public event in large numbers. We are confident that this visit will reinforce the bilateral ties between the two nations who share a long history of mutual cooperation and friendship, Maheshkumar says.



# WELCOMES

TO THE KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN



INDIAN PRIME MINISTER  
Shri. **NARENDRA MODI**



**Mohammad Mansoor**  
Founder & Chairman

[www.saaragroup.com](http://www.saaragroup.com)



**BIS**

Bahrain India Society was formed in 2008 by a group of leading Bahrain and Indian businessmen with a view to contributing to the development and strengthening of the centuries-old friendly relationship between the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Republic of India in a non-discriminatory, non-political and non-profit making manner. The Society seeks to take advantage of the development in civil society to actively work to strengthen ties between the two countries, not only business links, but in politics, social affairs, science and culture.



Indian Institute for Performing Arts Kingdom of Bahrain





## Bahrain Odia Samaj

Odia people originating from the eastern Indian state of Odisha residing in the kingdom of Bahrain are gathering under the umbrella of Bahrain Odia Samaj. Bahrain Odia Samaj is proud to welcome Prime Minister Narendra Modi on his historic visit to the Kingdom. This visit assumes significance as it is the first ever Prime Ministerial visit from India to the Kingdom of Bahrain. Bahrain Odia Samaj is confident that this visit will provide strong impetus to the long standing friendly relationship between the two countries and bolstering bilateral cooperation at various levels. For the nearly 400,000 strong Indian diaspora in the kingdom which has contributed so richly to the growth of modern Bahrain, this is a crowning moment. This visit is a celebration of ties between India and the most harmonious, peaceful, prosperous and tolerant countries in the world, Odia Samaj officials say.

## ILA

From its humble beginnings in 1956, when it was started by late Leela Jashanmal and her group of enterprising Indian ladies, the Indian Ladies Association (ILA) has withstood the test of time to emerge today as one of the leading social and charitable organizations in the Kingdom of Bahrain. Whether it was through shows or showcasing the best of India and the world's multi-cultural heritage, ILA's impeccable style and efficiency and number of good causes that it has supported has made this organization a well-respected milestone in Bahrain's cultural and social scene.

Indian Ladies Association is under the Patronage of the Embassy of India and the wife of His Ex-


cellency the Ambassador of India is the patron of this prestigious Association.

The Association provides its 200 plus members with a platform for addressing their many concerns and interests. Members are involved in a number of projects through a series of sub-committees. Visits to old age home, child care home and other rehabilitation centers, form the core of our community activities as does the provision of home-cooked meals & entertainment to expatriate laborers, organizing free medical camps and the running of adult literacy classes. The flagship activity of ILA is the running of Sneha, a center for children with special needs of all nationalities and which is free of charge.




Sneha, is a flagship and dream project of ILA, started in 1987, aimed at providing a safe haven for children with special needs.





## BAHRAIN ODIA SAMAJ WELCOMES INDIAN PRIME MINISTER Shri NARENDRA MODI TO THE KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN

  
Mahesh Prasad Dash  
President

  
Bishnu Prasad Mohanty  
General Secretary

  
Abhyudaya Senapati  
Vice-President

  
Santrupta Padhi  
Joint Gen. Secretary

  
Bhabani Prasad Mishra  
Treasurer






# Modiji taking India to a new peak of glory



SOMAN BABY

**M**y first meeting with Modiji was at his office in Ahmedabad, when he was Gujarat's Chief Minister.

He gave a reception to six of us who were recipients of the Vision Foundation's award. He spent more than one hour with us.

When he started speaking about his vision for Gujarat and India, I became his instant fan.

When I asked him about his greatest achievement as Chief Minister, he said he was happy to see more girls getting enrolled in schools.

He visited villages and asked mothers why they do not send their girls to schools.

All of them said they would send them to schools only when there are separate toilets for girls in schools.

Modiji said 12,000 toilets for girls were constructed in schools in three months. The result was an increase in girls' enrolment in all schools.

Modiji was full of praise for NRIs' contribution for the development of their motherland.



Mr Baby with UAE Exchange Chairman and Founder B R Shetty and dignitaries during a meeting with Mr Modi in Ahmedabad.

I also had the privilege of interacting with Modiji when he held exclusive meetings with Pravasi Bharathiya Samman recipients during two Pravasi Bharathiya Divas global meetings.

I feel sorry that I will miss our beloved Prime Minister's first visit to Bahrain as I am away on family holiday. Wishing Modiji's visit all success.

While interacting with some of the Pravasi Bharathiya Samman recipients in Delhi, we found him as a great leader of five Cs—

Courage, Commitment, Conviction, Competence and Character.

By finding time to visit the most friendly Kingdom of Bahrain, Modiji has brought smiles of great pride on the faces of 400,000 Indians, whose long cherished dream has come true.

Our dynamic Prime Minister will take the time - honoured relationship between India and Bahrain to a new peak of glory.

*(Soman Baby is a veteran journalist in the Kingdom.)*

# BBK, serving the NRIs for more than 27 years

## BBK India offers RuPay Card to its NRI customers

**B**ank of Bahrain and Kuwait (BBK) has been catering to the financial and investment needs of Non-resident Indians (NRIs) for more than 27 years.

They have been offered NRE/NRO Account and Fixed deposits, FCNR in USD/Pounds and Home Loans for Indian Properties through BBK India branches in Mumbai /Hyderabad / Aluva/Delhi.

BBK India offers RuPay Card to its NRI customers, which is widely accepted all over world.

With a team of dedicated RMS, the bank offers robust platforms for share trading, derivatives and Online Mutual Fund in Indian equity market assisting the clients to create an effective portfolio in line with their financial goals.

BBK NRI also offers USD denominated Bonds, Off-shore Funds, SIP retirement / Education /Insurance Plans.

BBK's presence in India spans more than a quarter century. In the last 30 years,



it has grown from being a single branch to a now expanding network covering major cities and regions in this country, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Aluva (Kerala) and New Delhi.

During this period, BBK has had the privilege of being associated with a cross-section of Indian businesses and industries and will continue to strengthen its Indian presence by providing a variety of banking services and solutions to its clients.

In 2018, BBK launched BBK Lite, an innovative retail franchise targeted to the unbanked and offering a wide range of banking products and services.

BBK Lite aims to be the perfect match for employees and Bahrain corporates who employ a large number of

expatriates in many sectors like construction, hospitality, medical industries and general services.

To the employers, BBK Lite means a state of the art processing of salaries that will simplify smooth transfers of salaries to the employees bank accounts through automated and cost effective solutions.

To the employees, BBK Lite means a number of great innovative banking services that includes low cost and highly secure ways to remit funds to loved ones anywhere in the world and at anytime, micro loans no matter how small, saving products through tailored bank accounts that will make every day banking enjoyable and easy with free debit cards and no minimum account balances obligation.

What makes BBK NRI different from others is its high quality and efficient customer services in the Kingdom making banking and investment convenient. In true sense, BBK NRI is together with you for your brighter tomorrow!



**Warm Welcome**  
**Shri Narendra Modi**  
Hon. Prime Minister of India

**أم دبعية للكهرباء ذ.م.م**  
**AMAD BAEED ELECTRICAL W.L.L.**

**أسكون كونترول ذ.م.م**  
**ASCON CONTROL W.L.L.**

**الجنوب الغربي للمقاولات**  
**J.A.G. EST.**

**التجديد الكهربائي والميكانيكية ذ.م.م**  
**BRIGHT STAR ELECTRICAL & MECHANICAL W.L.L.**

**AN ULTIMATE SOLUTION FOR YOUR ELECTRICAL & INDUSTRIAL NEEDS**

**AMAD GROUP**  
OF COMPANIES

AMAD BAEED ELECTRICAL W.L.L.  
JANOUB AL GHARBI EST.  
ASCON CONTROL W.L.L.  
BRIGHT STAR ELECTRICAL & MECH. W.L.L.  
AMAD AL BAEED TRADING EST.  
ASCON CONTROL CO. LTD.  
BEST WORLD TRADING EST.  
ASIA ARAB CONTRACTING EST.  
UNIQUE LIGHTING EST.  
CONVEX TRADING EST.

PO BOX: 70139, SITRA, KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN, TEL: +973 17456590 (6 LINES), FAX: +973 17456591  
EMAIL: info@amadbaeed.com, WEB: www.amadbaeed.com



**GREETINGS TO  
INDIAN PRIME MINISTER  
Shri NARENDRA MODI**

**sky world**  
TOURS AND TRAVELS



**Ashraf Mayanchery**  
Managing Director

**Opening a new chapter  
in Bahrain's tourism sector**  
**Manama, Near Adhari Hotel**  
**Tel. +973 33333234**  
**Email : ashraf@skyintlhb.com**



**Binu Kamattath**  
Founder & CEO





# A wonder monument

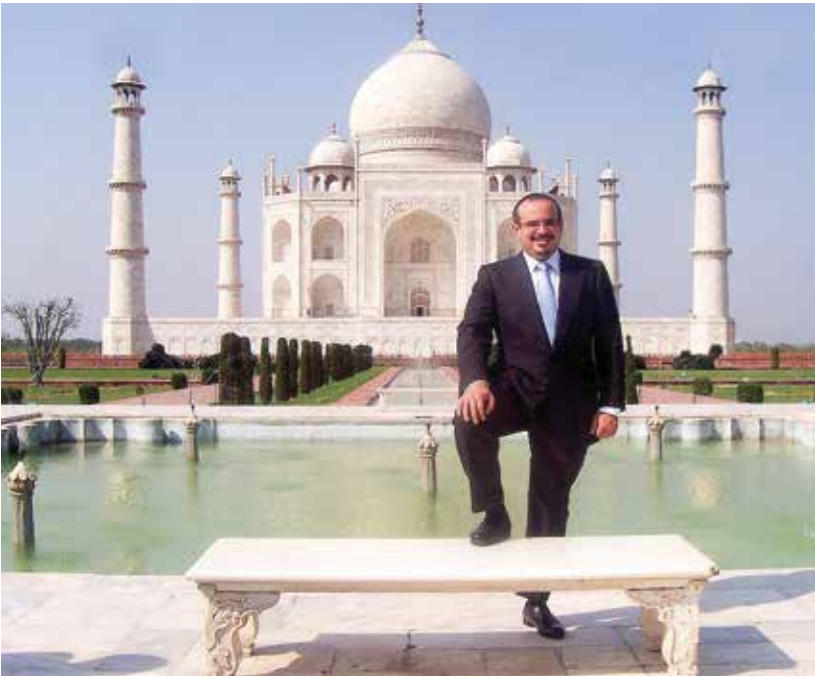
*Taj Mahal is considered to be the greatest architectural achievement*



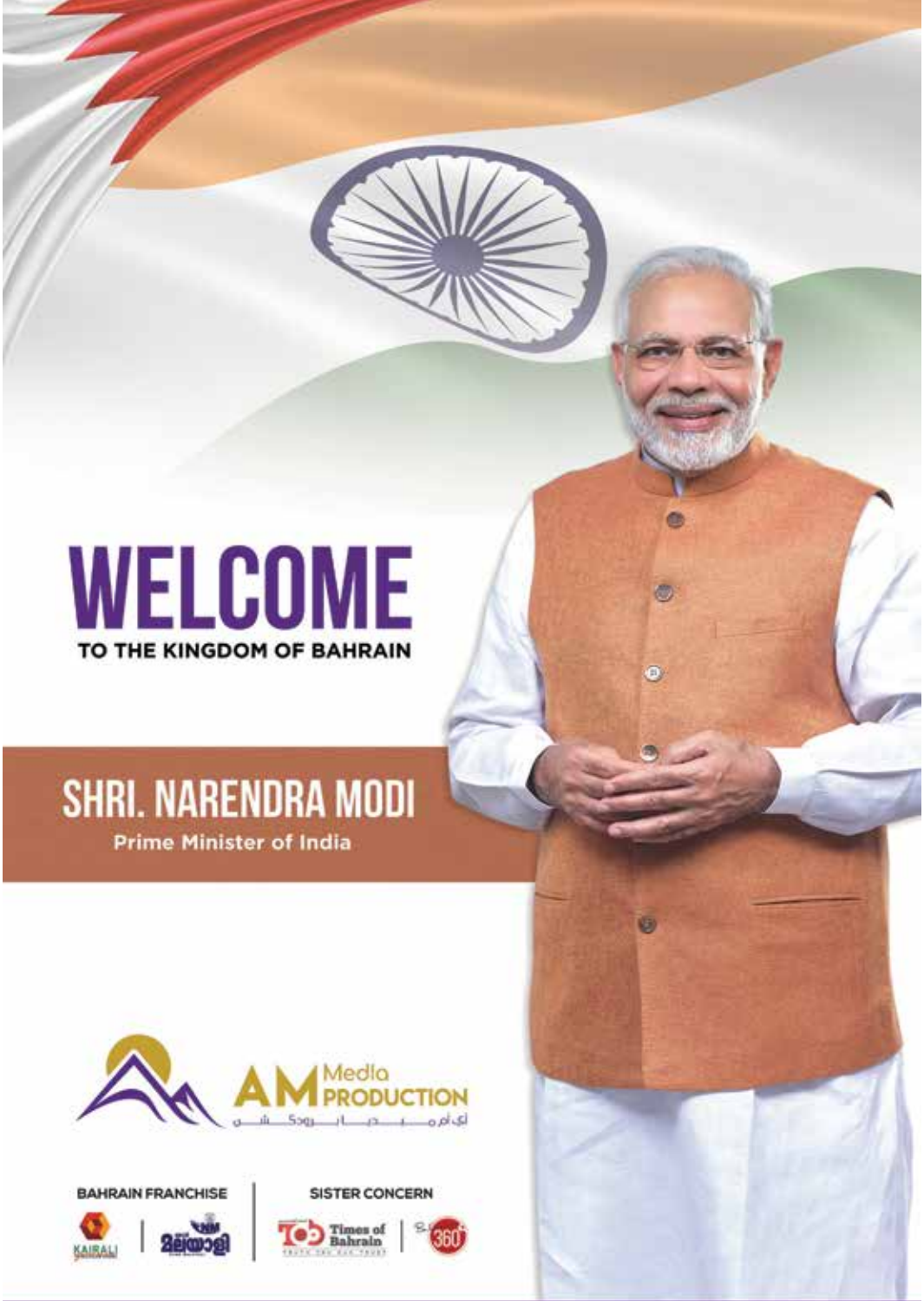
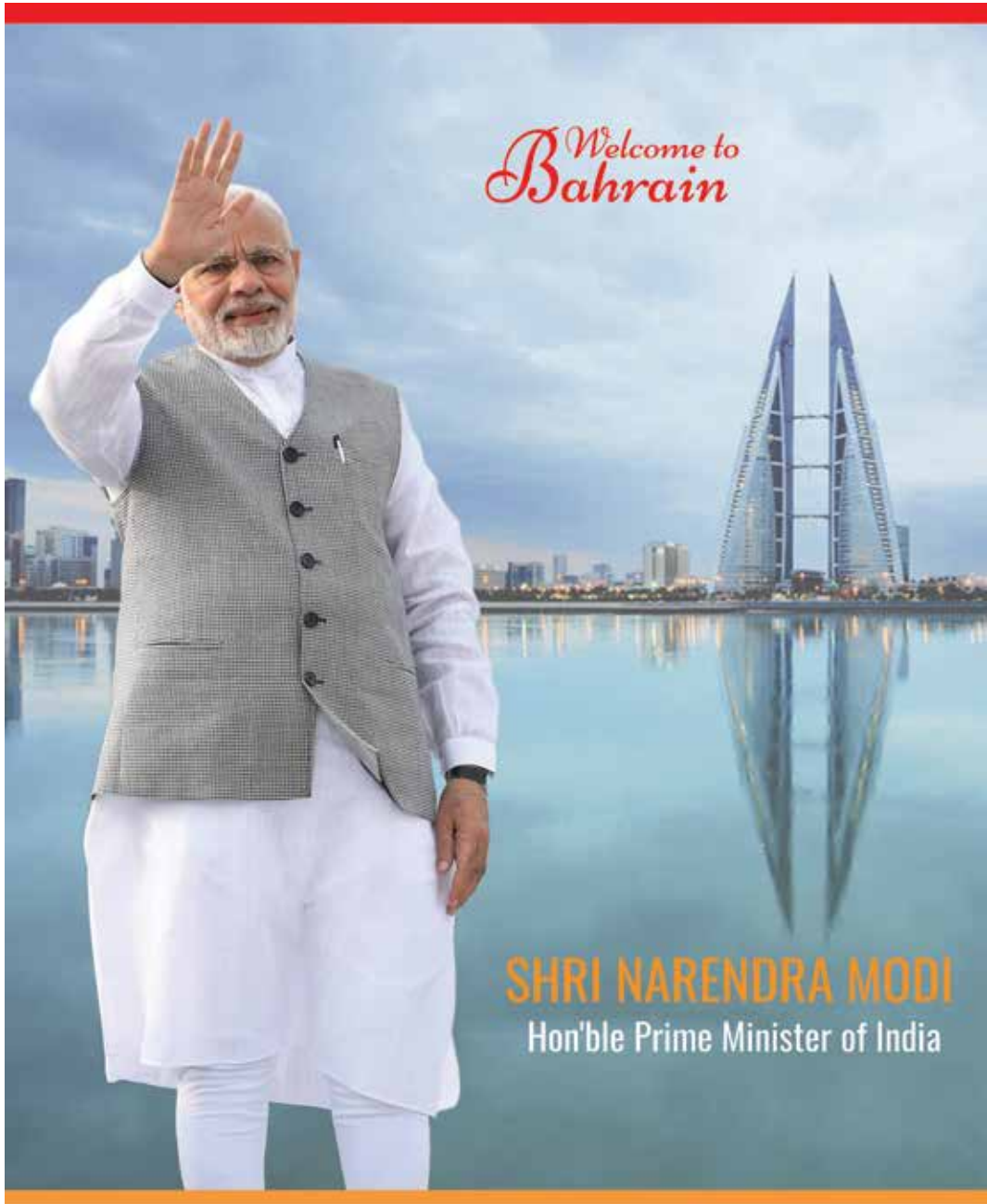
His Majesty during his visit to Taj Mahal.

The Taj Mahal is located on the right bank of the Yamuna River in a vast Mughal garden that encompasses nearly 17 hectares, in the Agra District in Uttar Pradesh. It was built by Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his wife Mumtaz Mahal with construction starting in 1632 AD and completed in 1648 AD, with the mosque, the guest house and the main gateway on the south, the outer courtyard and its cloisters were added subsequently and completed in 1653 AD. The existence of several historical and inscriptions have facilitated setting the chronology of Taj Mahal. For its construction, masons, stone-cutters, inlayers, carvers, painters, calligraphers, dome builders and other artisans were requisitioned from the whole of the empire and also from the Central Asia and Iran. Ustad-Ahmad Lahori was the main architect of the Taj Mahal. The Taj Mahal is considered to be the greatest architectural achievement in the

whole range of Indian architecture. Its recognised architectonic beauty has a rhythmic combination of solids and voids, concave and convex and light shadow; such as arches and domes further increases the aesthetic aspect. The colour combination of lush green scape reddish pathway and blue sky over it show cases the monument in ever changing tints and moods. The relief work in marble and inlay with precious and semi-precious stones make it a monument apart. His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, separately, visited the monument during their visit to India.



HRH the Crown Prince at Taj Mahal.



**BKG HOLDING WLL**

Kingdom of Bahrain  
Tel. 17 250233  
bkg@batelco.com.bh



BAHRAIN FRANCHISE



SISTER CONCERN



Tel: +973 391 888 16 | Post Box: 1713 | Office 129, Building 106, Road 20, Block 331, Al Ahli Club Complex, Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain



# Enhancing co-operation in outer space research

**C**handrayaan-2 has shot an image of the Moon from a height of over 2,000 kilometres as it flies around the satellite, preparing to land a rover on the lunar surface. The photo of the Moon was shot by Vikram, which is Chandrayaan-2's lander. The photo was released by Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) on Twitter. The image was shot on August 21 and was taken from a height of 2,650 kilometres, Isro said.

The Chandrayaan-2 mission's D-Day is September 2, when the lander Vikram will separate from the spacecraft and get into a lunar orbit of its own.

Chandrayaan 2 is on a mission unlike any before. Leveraging nearly a decade of scientific research and engineering development, India's second lunar expedition will shed light on a completely unexplored section of the Moon — its South Polar region. This mission will help us gain a better understanding of the origin and evolution of the Moon by conducting detailed topographical studies, comprehensive mineralogical analyses, and a host of other experiments on the lunar surface. While there, we will also explore discoveries made by Chandrayaan 1, such as the presence of water molecules on the Moon and new rock types with unique chemical composition.

Chandrayaan-2 has several science payloads to expand the lunar scientific knowledge



Modi watching the launch

through detailed study of topography, seismography, mineral identification and distribution, surface chemical composition, thermo-physical characteristics of top soil and composition of the tenuous lunar atmosphere, leading to a new understanding of the origin and evolution of the Moon.

The Orbiter payloads will conduct remote-sensing observations from a 100 km orbit while the Lander and Rover payloads will perform in-situ measurements near the landing site.

Referring to the launch of Chandrayan 2, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in a series of tweets: "Special moments that will be etched in the annals of our glorious history! The launch of Chandrayaan 2 illustrates the prowess of our

scientists and the determination of 130 crore Indians to scale new frontiers of science. Every Indian is immensely proud today! Indian at heart, Indian in spirit! What would make every Indian overjoyed is the fact that Chandrayaan 2 is a fully indigenous mission. It will have an Orbiter



for remote sensing the Moon and also a Lander-Rover module for analysis of lunar surface."

In March, Bahrain National Space Science Agency (NSSA) and the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) exchanged a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to enhance cooperation



Bahrain-India sign MoU for cooperation in space

in outer space research and its uses for development purposes. "The purpose of this MoU is to support the efforts of NSSA in the field of space and its technical applications, through the exchange of experiences and knowledge with ISRO to contribute to building national capacities in this field, in addition to supporting scientific research efforts and the implementation of joint projects," The Minister of Transportation and Communications Kamal bin Ahmed Mohammed, said.

He noted that the memo meets one of the most important articles and visions of the decree of the formation of the NSSA which is to encourage the accession of Bahrain to international treaties and conventions related to space science and the technical con-

cepts relating to it, establishing regional and international cooperation and joint ventures with space agencies, technical, industrial and research institutions active in space science, where the ISRO is one of the leading space organisations.

"This MoU on Cooperation in the Exploration and Uses of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes between India and Bahrain provides scope for cooperation in various areas of space technology viz. Remote Sensing, Space Science & Planetary exploration, application of space technology etc. A Joint Working Group would be set up for implementation of MoU soon which would implement arrangement on specific areas of cooperation," Indian Ambassador to the Kingdom Alok K Sinha said.





**McIndies**  
McIndies Holding Company WLL

Welcomes

**Shri. Narendra Modi Prime Minister of India**

**MODERNISATION  
ORIGINALITY  
DEDICATION  
INNOVATION**


GLOBAL INSTITUTE  
for Management Science  
المعهد العالمي للعلوم الإدارية


STRATEGIC PUBLICITY  
& ADVERTISING CO.WLL


beyond imagination


YOUR SMART IDENTITY



# Dynamic Indian education



Education in India is provided by public schools and private schools. Under various articles of the Indian Constitution, free and compulsory education is provided as a fundamental right to children between

the ages of 6 and 14. India's improved education system is often cited as one of the main contributors to its economic development. Much of the progress, especially in higher education and scientific research, has been credited to

various public institutions. Indian schools in Bahrain are mainly affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) which is a national level board of education in India for public and private schools, controlled and

managed by Union Government of India. The following schools are affiliated to the CBSE: The Indian School Bahrain (ISB), the New Indian School (NIS), Bahrain Indian School (BIS), the Asian School, the New Millennium

School (NMS), Ibn Al Hyatham Islamic School and Al Noor International School. The Indian School, Bahrain founded in the year 1950, was initiated by the efforts of the Indian community in the Kingdom of Bahrain. The school commenced its journey with a committed workforce - a Head Mistress and three staff members. 70 years of its successful existence, the school has made significant contribution towards education excellence. Today, the Indian School, Bahrain is one of the largest expatriate schools in the Arabian Gulf with strength of over 12,500 students and an enthusiastic workforce of 650 members. The school caters to the educational needs of not only the Indian expatriate community in the Kingdom but also to the students of 14 nationalities including 1000 Bahraini children. CBSE is a lot more student-friendly than State Boards. Its course structure is designed to ensure that students do not face a lot of pressure and books are made interactive and interesting. Also, lots of fun activities are included in between the chapters to help

”



India has been leading silicon valleys in the world and about 10% of its GDP accounts from this area. Moreover for the past two years it has established a major national program on Artificial Intelligence focusing on research, which makes it a great opportunity for Bahrain to benefit from its strong ties with India to establish the kingdom as another Artificial Intelligence centre, covering the middle east and replicating India's model for this region.

JASSIM HAJI

students learn in a playful way. It makes the whole process of conveying knowledge to the students efficient and healthy. The CBSE curriculum will definitely help students a lot if they are planning



**PALAKKAD ARTS AND CULTURAL THEATRE**  
Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain

**PAACT WELCOMES**  
OUR HONORABLE PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA  
**SHRI NARENDRA MODI**  
TO THE LAND OF PEARLS - KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN.

Let the friendly ties between Bahrain and India cherish, flourish and that will lead both Nations towards the path of peace and prosperity.

**THIRUVALLUVAR SOCIAL & CULTURAL ASSOCIATION**

திருவள்ளுவர் சமூக  
கலாச்சார மன்றம்  
புதுவரை

TISCA - KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN

முறைசெய்து காப்பாற்றும் மன்னவன் மக்கட்கு  
இறையென்று வைக்கப் படும்.

A righteous king who renders justice, and nurtures his people,  
will be hailed as an almighty leader.

A VERY HEARTY  
WELCOME TO  
BAHRAIN  
OUR HONORABLE  
PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA  
SHRI  
**Narendra Modi Ji**

THE MAN  
WHO HAS  
REFORMED,  
PERFORMED  
AND  
TRANSFORMED  
INDIA



# system that has many takers



to pursue future studies from a centralized institution like an IIT or AIIMS. The preliminary exams for these institutions are organised by CBSE only and therefore you all can get an edge over others if you have done your primary and secondary education in CBSE board.

Established in 1993, Global Institute is one of the largest, oldest

and reputed private educational organizations in Bahrain and other G.C.C Countries. From the time of inception, Global institute has been striving to provide up-to-date educational services to the society, identifying its fast changing requirements. Today the institute provides undergraduate and postgraduate university programs, IT programs, language

programs, accounting and management programs to mention a few. Amity University in tie-up with Uni Global Education Centre WLL in offering distance program to the dedicated students and working professionals who wants to pursue high-quality distance degree. Indian expatriates are keen in preparing their children to appear for the Na-

tional Eligibility cum Entrance Test-Under Graduate (NEET (UG)), which is an entrance examination in India for students who wish to study undergraduate medical courses (MBBS) and dental courses (BDS) in government or private medical colleges and dental colleges in India. The undergraduate NEET (UG), for MBBS and BDS courses, is cur-

rently conducted by the National Testing Agency (NTA), which provides the results to the Directorate General of Health Services at the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. BYJU'S is India's largest education company and the creator of India's largest learning app which offers highly adaptive, engaging and effective learning programs for students

in classes 4-12 and competitive exams like JEE, NEET, CAT, IAS, GRE and GMAT. Launched in 2015, BYJU'S has become the most loved and preferred education app for students across age groups. The BYJU'S learning app makes use of original content, rich animations, interactive simulations and engaging video lessons from India's best teachers.





WE WARMLY WELCOME  
HONOURABLE PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA  
**SHRI. NARENDRA MODI**  
TO THE KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN

**KENSHO**  
KNOWLEDGE SOLUTIONS W.L.L

**GUIDE & GROW**  
EDUCATIONAL  
BOOKS | MAGAZINES | EVENTS

**al nada**  
TRAINING CENTRE

**Tally** **BYJU'S**  
The Learning App  
**MANIPAL**

**QFACTORY**  
Acquiring Knowledge

**ACCA** **CMA** **LCCI**  
**Tally** **Pearson**



# Modi to launch rebuilding



HM the King receiving temple officials.

**WELCOME TO THE  
KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN**

**Indian Prime Minister  
Shri Narendra Modi**




**TECHMA4XX**  
PURSUING EXCELLENCE IN ALL DELIVERABLES...  
**Smart Solar Solution**

**شركة سانتى للحفريات والمقاولات ذ.م.م**  
**SANTY EXCAVATION & CONSTRUCTION COMPANY W.L.L.**




**WE ARE SPECIALISED IN THE FIELD OF**

- **Smart Solar Solution**
- Earthworks (All Type of Excavation and Backfilling Works)
- All Type of Infrastructure Works
- Roadwork, Asphalt Works, Landscaping & Interlock Paving
- Land Reclamation, Stone Pitching and Rock Armor (Slope Protection) Works
- Sheet Piling and Dewatering Works

TEL: +973 1740 1013, FAX: +973 1740 1014 .P.O. Box 38893, KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN  
E-mail: [santy@santyconstruction.com](mailto:santy@santyconstruction.com) Website: [www.santyconstruction.com](http://www.santyconstruction.com)



HRH the Crown Prince with Prince Charles and other dignitaries at the temple.

## RuPay, an Indian journey

*RuPay is India's indigenous card scheme created by*

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch RuPay during his visit to the Kingdom.

RuPay is India's indigenous card scheme created by the National Payments Corporation of India.

It was conceived to fulfil Reserve Bank of India's vision to offer a domestic, open-loop, multilateral system which will allow all Indian banks and financial institutions in India to participate in electronic payments.

It is made in India, for every Indian to take them towards a "less cash" society.

RuPay Debit Card comes with a special advantage for customers. It provides an accidental insurance cover up to rupees one lakh without any charge to the customer.

56

banks have been selected  
as core promoters  
of RuPay Debit Card  
scheme.

RuPay Debit Card is India's home-grown domestic debit card introduced by National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).

The card can be used at all bank ATMs for withdrawing cash and at most of the PoS machines for making cashless payment for purchases across the country.

RuPay Debit Card was dedi-

cated to the nation by the then President of India, Pranab Mukherjee, in May 2014 at a function in Rashtrapati Bhavan.

The NPCI had introduced it as "India's own card payment network".

RuPay Debit Card is issued free of cost to Jan Dhan Account holders under the Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana (PM-JDY) Scheme.

RuPay, being a domestic scheme, is committed towards development of customised product and service offerings for consumers.

Information related to consumers remains protected as transaction and customer data related to RuPay cards reside in India.

There are under-penetrated/untapped consumer segments in rural areas that do not have



# of Manama Temple

● The Shri Krishna Hindu Temple has welcomed guests from many nationalities and all strata of society within its hallowed portals.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi will attend the formal beginning of the re-development of the temple of Shreenathji-the oldest in the Gulf region-in the wake of the auspicious festival of Janmash-tami. The Shri Krishna Hindu Temple in Bahrain has a long and vibrant history. Established about 200 years ago by the That-tai (Bhatia) Hindu Community, the temple is located in the heart of Manama Souq near Bab Al Bahrain.

The Thattai Bhatias, originally from Sind (in undivided India, presently in Pakistan), were one of the earliest expatriate communities to settle in Bahrain and set up business interests. They made Bahrain their home even before oil was discovered and in course of time, were joined by their families too. Being deeply devout and religious, they felt that a venue was required to facilitate the spiritual growth of the community and keep in touch with their cultural roots. This was the impetus behind the setting up of the Shri Krishna Hindu Temple which grew from humble beginnings. Evolving in infrastructure over the years, today the temple caters to the needs of the larger Hindu expa-triate community for spiritual growth, social interactions, edu-cational and other constructive activities.

The temple functions on the spiritual path of Pushti Marg (service to the Lord Krishna). Pushti Marg is a stream of Hinduism which was founded by Jagatguru Shreemad Val-labhacharya (Mahaprabhu-ji). The basic premise of this stream involves the offering of whole-hearted service to the Lord Shree Govardhan Nathji and Lord Shree Balkrishnaji (in-



Shree Krishna Temple in Manama.

carnation of Lord Vishnu in the form of an infant) by serving the Lord from morning to night according to a fixed schedule. The rationale behind this is to serve and care for the Lord just as a mother looks after her own child with selfless love and affection. The temple also undertakes celebration of major Hindu festivals, namely Holi (festival of colours), Diwali (festival of lights), Jan-mashtami (birth anniversary of Lord Krishna) etc.

The Shri Krishna Hindu Tem-ple has welcomed guests from many nationalities and all strata of society within its hallowed portals. Being an ancient estab-lishment, it has found its place

in the itinerary of the state's guests, spiritual leaders, celeb-rities, students, diplomats etc. 'We express our deep gratitude and salutations to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Deputy Supreme Commander, the Government and the people of Bahrain who have always en-couraged and extended their full support to our activities and allowing us to practice our reli-gion and faith freely', Shrinathji (Hindu-Krishna) Temple offi-cials said.



Former Singapore President S R Nathan during his visit to the temple.

## towards cashless society

the National Payments Corporation of India



access to banking and financial services.

Right pricing of RuPay prod-ucts makes the RuPay cards more economically feasible for

banks to offer to their customers.

In addition, relevant product variants ensure that banks can target the hitherto untapped consumer segments.

At present RuPay has collab-orated with almost 600 interna-tional, regional and local banks across the country.

Its 10 core promoter banks are

State Bank of India, Punjab Na-tional Bank, Canara Bank, Bank of Baroda, Union Bank of India, Bank of India, ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank, Citibank NA and HSBC.

It expanded its shareholding in 2016 to 56 banks to bring more banks across sectors under its umbrella.

All RuPay ATM-cum-debit cardholders are presently eli-gible for accidental death and permanent disability insurance cover.

RuPay Classic cardholders are eligible for cover of Rs 1 lakh, whereas RuPay Premium card-holders are eligible for cover of Rs 2 lakh.

Insurance premium is paid by the National Payments Corpo-ration of India. Eight-hundred and seventy two cardholders re-ceived insurance claims during the financial year 2016-17.



PIZZA GALLERIA  
**WELCOMES**  
THE GREATEST LEADER  
TO THE **KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN**



**NARENDRA MODI**  
PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA

Building 1942 A - Block 527 - Road 2730  
Saar - Kingdom of Bahrain  
Phone : +973 1741 0430 / 3830 1999



# A vibrant diaspora integral

*Indian nationals form the largest expatriate community in the Kingdom*

Indians are known to have come to Bahrain as early as 3,000 BC when ships plied between Harappan settlements, Oman and Bahrain en-route to Mesopotamia in pursuit of trade.

It is said that it was a group of Indians from Saurashtra that built the Anzac Temple in Dilmun (a cuneiform reference to Bahrain at the time). Indian scholar Romila Thapar interprets Dilmun as the 'sacred land'.

In more recent times, Indian merchants had established themselves in Bahrain towards the last quarter of the nineteenth century.

Others moved to Bahrain from Baghdad and Basra regions in today's Iraq. At the initial stages they traded dates but gradually shifted attention to purchase and exports of the famous Bahraini pearls.

These merchant families came from the province of Sindh and Kathiawad region of Gujarat. By around 1925, around 2500 Indian families had settled in Bahrain.

Most of them were involved in small time retailing.

The discovery of oil in 1932-45, led to immigrant manpower gravitating towards the oil industry and its off shoot development activities.



Indian Community celebrates Holi festival in the Kingdom.

With the subsequent expansion of the Bahraini economy, Indians started emigrating to Bahrain to start business or take up jobs as managers, salesman, assistants and workers.

Of the nearly 517,000 expatriates, nearly 290,000 Indian nationals form the largest expatriate community in Bahrain along with Bangladeshis, Sri Lankans, Pakistanis, Filipino, Indonesians and Arabs of different nationalities.

The Indian workforce is by far the largest of the expatriate workforce. Keralites constitute approximately 65 per cent of the Indian community. The other major groups are from Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Goa and Punjab.

Today 65-70pc of the Indian expatriate workforce is employed in the construction, contracting and maintenance sectors.

The Kingdom hosts many prominent Indian businessmen including Ravi Pillai and Mohammed Dadabhai.

The retail and other business activities include provisions, hardware, jewellery, electronics, etc. Some others have taken up jobs as storekeepers, chemists, carpenters, barbers, etc.

In addition to the predominant blue-collar labour force, there is a sizeable number of doctors, engineers, chartered accountants, bankers, managers and other professionals who play a vital role in Bahrain's socio-economic development. Professionals, such as doctors, engineers, accountants, etc. have also found grow-

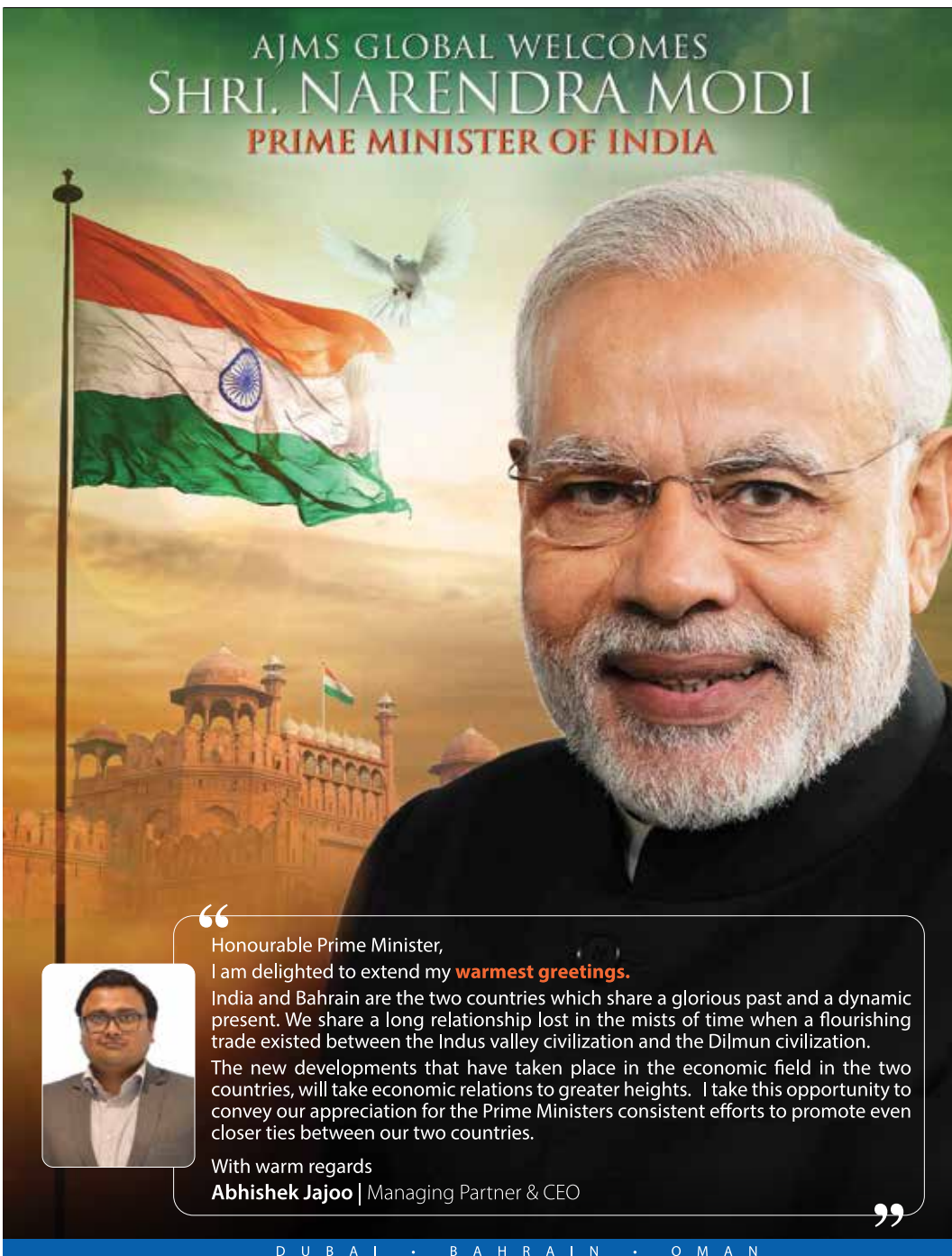
ing opportunities in Bahrain.

Today there is hardly any established Bahraini business organisation that does not have a senior or middle level Indian employee playing an important role in its operations. The top Bahraini business houses such as Al Zayani, Al Moayyad, Fakhro, Kanoo, Koohejis, Ahmed Mansour Al Ali, Abdullah Nass, Mohammed Jalal as well as companies like ALBA, BAPCO, GPIC, banks and finance companies etc. have Indians in their senior or middle management cadres.

Indian labour enjoys a good reputation in terms of their conduct, loyalty, higher productivity and non-involvement in local affairs. There is a preference amongst Bahrainis to employ Indians over others.

With the largest expatriate community in this country,

AJMS GLOBAL WELCOMES  
SHRI. NARENDRA MODI  
PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA



“

Honourable Prime Minister,

I am delighted to extend my **warmest greetings.**

India and Bahrain are the two countries which share a glorious past and a dynamic present. We share a long relationship lost in the mists of time when a flourishing trade existed between the Indus valley civilization and the Dilmun civilization.

The new developments that have taken place in the economic field in the two countries, will take economic relations to greater heights. I take this opportunity to convey our appreciation for the Prime Ministers consistent efforts to promote even closer ties between our two countries.

With warm regards

Abhishek Jajoo | Managing Partner & CEO

”

DUBAI • BAHRAIN • OMAN



**BAHRAIN**  
Office 31  
3rd Floor, Jeera 3  
Seef District  
Kingdom of Bahrain  
T +973 1726 6444

**UAE**  
206, Opal Tower  
Burj Khalifa Blvd  
Business Bay  
Dubai, UAE  
T +971 4554 2733

**OMAN**  
Office 118, 1st Floor, Al Assalah Towers  
P.O. Box 1436, P.C 133, Al Ghubra  
Muscat, Sultanate of Oman  
T +968 2411 7578

E abhishek.jajoo@ajmsbahrain.com

*We do it better!*

## ‘Little India’ celebrates

‘Little India’ in Bahrain is where the Indian community’s contribution to the history of Bah-

rain is documented and the relationship between the two countries is highlighted.

This project, which is give

back to the Indian community while being an attraction site to locals and cultural tourists, was inaugurated on December 19,



Shaikha Mai speaks after inaugurating the ‘Little India’ project.



# to the Kingdom's society

there are always ongoing labour and consular problems, which are attended to by the Mission. These mainly revolve around a variety of problems with local sponsors, premature cancellation of contracts, illegal stay, change of contractual obligations etc. A generally recurring problem relates to those who abandon their sponsors and work illegally or are staying illegally due to various compulsions and circumstances.

The Indian community has 32 registered and 68 unregistered socio-cultural organisations and clubs. There are seven schools with facility to study under CBSE system. There are a number of Hindu religious centres including a 60-year-old Hindu temple, five churches and six Gurudwaras.

The Indian Club was set up in 1915 and the Bahrain Kerala Samajam was set up in 1947. Most of the associations have been brought under the umbrella of the Co-ordination Committee of Indian Associations (CCIA) with a view to centralising efforts on key occasions such as Independence and Republic Day etc.

The CCIA has played an active and helpful role recently in emergency situations like Light Style Garment Factory issue, Al Dana boat tragedy, Gudaibiya fire incident etc.

It also hosts receptions for visiting VIPs and Indian Naval Ships.

The Indian Community Relief Fund (ICRF) is a non-government, non-profit organisation established in 1999, working under the patronage of the Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Bahrain for the general welfare of the Indian workers in Bahrain. Our mission is to give a helping hand to the economically weaker section of the Indian community in Bahrain. This includes Legal Aid, Emergency Help, Community Welfare Services, Medical assistance and Counselling.

The ICRF is managed by the Managing Council, nominated by the Ambassador of India from among leaders in the Indian Public Sectors, Indian curriculum schools and business



Former Indian External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj inaugurates the Indian Embassy complex in Seef in the presence of Shaikh Khalid and Ambassador Mr Sinha.

community.

The Emergency Help Team offers a 24 hour helpline for reporting any complaints of maltreatment, abuse or assault or assistance for those seeking any legitimate advice. With 16 regional sub-committees Emergency team is well prepared to assist Indian nationals in emergencies like natural calamity, flood, fire etc.

The ICRF- Community Welfare Services organises medical camps as a part of their outreach activity, where Indian workers can avail medical facilities free of cost. So far we have conducted 98 such medical camps that has benefited more than 24,000 needy persons. ICRF's Community Welfare services include, Salmaniya Mortuary visit, prison visit, Immigration detention centre visit, Immigration Directorate visit etc.

The Legal Aid Team provides legal assistance for sorting out labor problems and provides assistance in claiming salary/indemnity dues and GOSI entitlements, as well as assistance for claiming the compensation from Insurance agencies in the cases of work and traffic accidents.

The Medical Aid Team makes regular visits to Salmaniya Hospital to ascertain the health condition of Indian patients and to provide possible medical assistance in continuing treatment in Bahrain or in India. It also arranges for patients to travel back to India in worst case scenarios.

The Counselling Team is a group of highly trained individuals who counsel families, students and the general labor force. They also run outreach programs, seminars and training for community workers.

## cultural relations

2015.

The "Little India in Bahrain" project celebrates and documents the contribution of the Indian community to the history and progress of Bahrain, with almost 4,000 years of history shared between the two countries.

The vision behind the project is to beautify and showcase one of the richest of the historical areas in Bahrain, the Indian Part of Souk Manama, via this project.

Little India in Bahrain is tantamount to Bahrain's Cultural Tourism (and part of one of the "Seven Experiences" of the Island) and will feature a prominent project marked under the slogans "Our Year of Heritage" and 2016 "Bahrain, Your Destination".

The project will give back to the Indian community while promoting the area to tourists and locals through a series of site-specific interventions along Al Hadrani and Al Muatasim Avenues.

A large influx of tourists has been visiting Bahrain as a destination and in the coming years, Manama Souk and surrounding Little India area expected to flourish.

The project includes restoration and renovation works of some exterior buildings mainly located in Al Hamradi Avenue and Al Muatasim Avenue as well as the creation of a small public space in this area.

The public space also offers the possibility of a place for gatherings, relaxation and even trade (food, markets,

events, and Bollywood films).

This project gives an account of the arrival of the first Indians into the Kingdom of Bahrain, the role they played in its growth, and their continuing influence here.


The Indian community has contributed to Bahrain's economy, its infrastructure, as well as its social and cultural history. Vintage photographs of the area brings to life vital aspects of this historic account.

The project celebrates the great history and the enduring fruitful relationship between Bahrainis and Indians and show the continued commitment to strengthening these precious ties.

It also brings to light the plurality that Bahrain chooses to celebrate in the Kingdom.

## Welcome to the Kingdom of Bahrain

Indian Prime Minister  
Shri Narendra Modi



**AL TAWFEEK**  
التوفيق

- ♦ Tanker Services
- ♦ Skip Services
- ♦ High Pressure Jetting Services
- ♦ Air Conditioning Repair & Maintenance
- ♦ General Cleaning Services
- ♦ Furniture Removals
- ♦ Pest Control

**Toll Free: 8000 1130**  
[www.altawfeek.net](http://www.altawfeek.net)  
 Email Id: [inquiries@altawfeek.net](mailto:inquiries@altawfeek.net)





# Ever-expanding trade, commercial relations

*India is the fifth largest trading partner of Bahrain*

**T**he trade relations between the Kingdom and India have been on a growth track as revealed by the statistics.

The volume of trade between Bahrain and India reached \$1 billion in 2018, according to Deputy CEO of the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI), Dr Abdulla Bader Al Sada.

The volume of Bahraini exports to India reached \$313.8 million, while the volume of imports from India was BD768.5m.

Meanwhile, the volume of re-exports reached BD4.126m.

India-Bahrain bilateral trade and commercial exchanges go back to about 5,000 years ago tracing their origins to the period of Delmon Civilisation in Bahrain to the era of Indus valley civilisation in India.

Ancient Bahraini traders are believed to have carried out flourishing trade of Bahraini pearls with spices from India.

The Indian community in Bahrain is the largest expatriate community.

The vast majority of the community, almost 60 per cent, are in the category of blue collar workers.

In addition, there is a sizeable number of professionals and businessmen, who play an important role in the socio economic development of the country as well as in building influence.

The large Indian business in Bahrain provide soft infrastructure for promoting trade and investment ties between the two countries.

India is the fifth largest trading partner of Bahrain.

There are 23 branches of prominent Indian companies registered in Bahrain and 3,181 companies registered in Bahrain with Indian partnership.

India's total capital investment into Bahrain between January, 2003 to September, 2017 has been estimated at almost US \$1.5 billion; with over 45 projects and average project size of US\$ 37.50 million.

Bahrain's investment in India: Cumulative FDI equity inflows



from Bahrain into India from April 2000 onwards have registered marked increase from \$ 49.31m in March, 2015 to \$163.66m in December, 2017.

Bahrain is the most mature, well established business hub with the largest financial institutions in the Gulf, according to economic experts

With a track record of nearly 40 years and the highest number of licensed financial institutions, Bahrain is still the financial services leader in the entire region. Bahrain provides a free, open and transparent environment for businesses and has a globally competitive business en-

vironment, which focuses on sustainability, skills and good governance.

Bahrain's financial regulator is widely considered to be the best in the Middle East. Bahrain is uniquely located at the heart of the Gulf, which makes it the perfect hub to access the fast growing Gulf, Middle East and North Africa (MENA) markets.

Bahrain and India has undertaken a series of economic reforms towards opening up of the economy in the decade of the eighties and nineties respectively.

The India-Bahrain Joint Business Committee (JBC) was set up on 12th October, 1994. The first meeting was held in Bahrain

in 1996.

At the invitation of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Associated Chambers of Commerce of India, a 21-member high-level trade delegation organised by the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry visited India from 17-24 February, 2001 to attend the second meeting of the JBC.

On the sidelines of the visit of His Majesty to India during February 2014, six MoUs were signed including one between the Bahrain Development Bank (BDB) and the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) to enhance financial and non-financial services for SMEs in Bahrain.

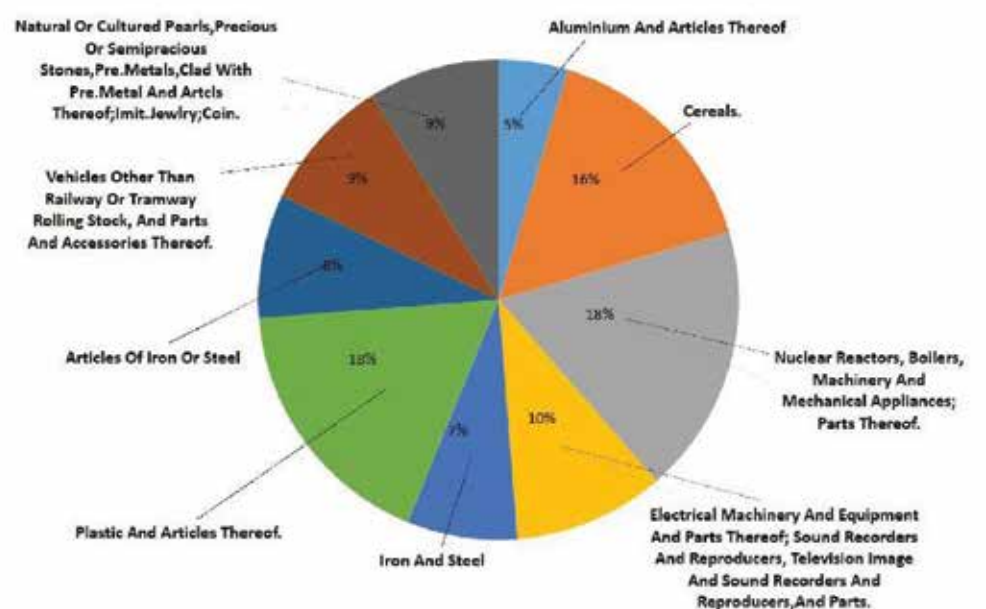
The other MoUs were between Bahrain Economic Development Board (EDB) and Nasscom; Bahrain Economic Development Board (EDB) and CII; Tamkeen and the National Skills Development Corporation (NSDC) of India; Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi and University of Bahrain; and National Authority for Qualifications and Quality Assurance of

Education and Training (QQA), Bahrain, and National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC).

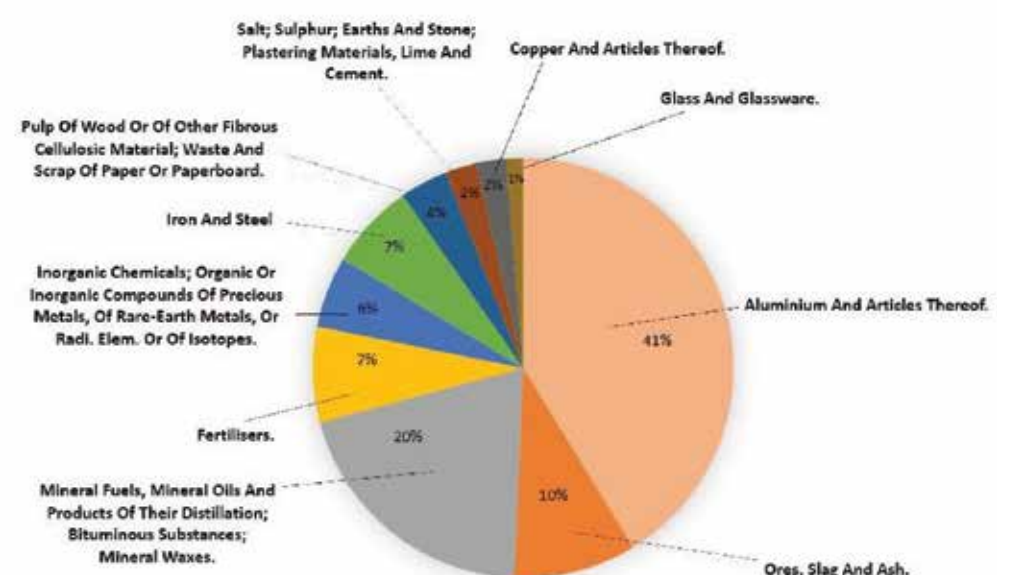
Twelve MoUs were signed at India Business Forum, in Mumbai. Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre (OIFC) OIFC organised its first 'Diaspora Engagement Meet' in Bahrain on September 6, 2014, during the visit of Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs and Overseas Indian Affairs of India Sushma Swaraj to Bahrain, with the objective to acquaint the Indians living in Bahrain as well as businesspersons of the Kingdom with the various trade and investment opportunities in India. This was attended by close to 500 delegates.

In order to promote bilateral economic relations between India and Bahrain, the CII has opened an office in Manama in co-operation with the Economic Development Board of Bahrain. OIFC now remains an integral part of CII office in Bahrain. Indian community in Bahrain can also contact the CII office in Bahrain to route their business queries to OIFC.

## Top Ten Items of India's Export to Bahrain (2016 - 2017)



## Top Ten Items of India's Import from Bahrain (2016 - 2017)



Al Hashimi Pearls Members & Staff Welcomes

**Shri Narendra Modi**  
Honorable Prime Minister Of India

Al Hashimi Pearls  **آل هاشمي**

Vijay Shah, Chairman  
Manama | Manama Souq | Al A'Ali Complex  
Tel: 17253377. E: ahpvijay@gmail.com





# Asian tiger surges ahead

India is now the 'most open economy' in the world for Foreign Direct Investment

**"L**et the whole world hear it loud and clear. India is now wide awake. We shall prevail. We shall overcome."

Those iconic words were spoken by the editorial of a prominent Indian newspaper, when the country embarked upon its most innovative economic reform yet.

Since then, India has experienced extraordinary financial growth, and is now the world's sixth-largest economy by nominal GDP.

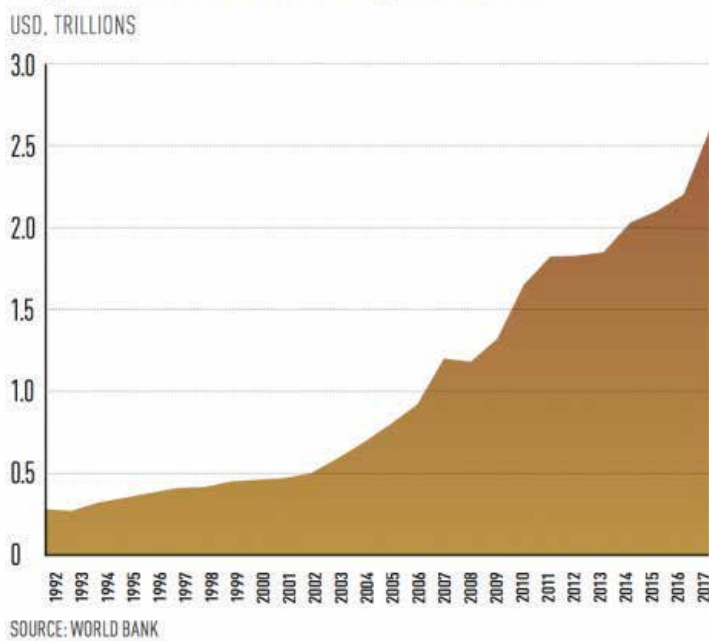
The IMF predicts that by the end of 2020, India will have moved into fourth place, knocking Germany from the position.

India's journey to economic ascendancy has been facilitated by a multitude of factors, including an influx of foreign investment and an end to the country's highly restrictive licensing regulations.

These changes have bolstered the country's international economic standing, allowing it to compete with developed nations like the UK and the US for market dominance in sectors such as technological infrastructure and e-commerce.

India's autonomous economic story began in 1947, after it was granted freedom from British

**Fig 1: Indian GDP growth**



rule. Prior to independence, the country's economy had been relatively stagnant, growing at around one percent per year.

It began to expand slowly in the late 1940s, but any significant growth was impeded by the country's centralised, socialism-inspired economic model.

GDP growth in India remained

at around 3.5 percent per year up until 1991, with per capita growth struggling at around 1.3 per cent.

This was down to the extensive nationalisation process that took place during the 1950s, which consolidated economic power in the hands of the state. The process began in 1951 with the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, which gave

the government control over 38 key industries and 171 products, ranging from coal and precious metals to fans and sewing machines.

Economic freedom in the country was extremely constrained and regional disparity was common, given that the government had the power to determine the location and size of certain industries. It was handed even more power in 1953 with the Air Corporations Act, which effectively turned the market-driven, consumer-centric civil aviation industry into a nationalised money-making machine.

The state's power was cemented further in 1956 with the Industrial Policy Resolution, which classified industry into three categories. Innovation and development of 'category one' and 'category two' industries was entirely driven by the state, while 'category three' industries were left to the private sector, although operational licences had to be obtained by citizens.

India has embraced some emerging market characteristics more willingly than others. The country's operational framework, including elements such as political leadership,

**\$39bn**

Annual e-commerce sales in India in 2017

**\$200bn**

Expected annual e-commerce sales in India by 2026

**2nd**

Largest global start-up hub

**5,700+**

Number of start-ups across India

cities including Bangalore, Hyderabad and Ahmedabad, which had a knock-on effect on unemployment and quality of living within the surrounding areas.

The digital age has also greatly benefitted India, as it has given rise to a new generation of well-educated and highly skilled professionals across STEM industries. To further promote technological development, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched various campaigns, including Digital India and Startup India, to bolster digital adoption.

The country is also becoming more receptive to foreign ownership, with Modi introducing changes to regulation in 2016 and 2018 to make it easier for international firms to invest in Indian businesses.

Under these reforms, airlines, some defence industries and real estate brokerages may now be 100 percent foreign-owned, while investment rules in pharmaceuticals and food production have also been relaxed. The government claimed in a recent statement that India "is now the most open economy in the world for foreign direct investment".

**Welcome to the Kingdom of Bahrain**

**Indian Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi**



*Best wishes from-*



**President Suresh Babu**



**General Secretary Praveen Nair**



**Hearty welcome to**

**SHRI. NARENDRA MODI**

**the Honourable Prime Minister of India**



**NATIONAL GROUP OF COMPANIES**

**BAHRAIN | SAUDI | U.A.E. | SINGAPORE | U.K | INDIA**

**PO.BOX: 11645, MANAMA, KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN**

OFFICE- Tel: 17531277, Fax : 17531288, Email : nfsafety@batelco.com.bh, Website : www.nfsafety.com

OFFICE- Tel: 17280544, Fax : 17280590, Email : info@ncbahrain.com, Website : www.ncbahrain.com

SHOWROOM - Tel : 17246555, 17242217, Fax : 17231261





”

This is a proud moment for the members of Indian community. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit will certainly enhance the bilateral ties between both countries. I believe the trade as well as cultural relations are set to soar.

**R RAMESH, MANAGING DIRECTOR, SANTY EXCAVATION AND CONSTRUCTION WLL**



”

India and Bahrain enjoys excellent ties. This is the time to take this bond to new heights. There are many areas, where both countries can widen the horizons of co-operation. I think Modi-ji visit will offer a plethora of economic opportunities to both nations.

**RAMESH PATIDAR, DIRECTOR, SUN MIDDLE EAST**



”

On the occasion of visit of Honourable Prime Minister of India, Mr Narendra Modi, to the Kingdom of Bahrain, LIC (International) greets His Excellency and wishes all the success, prosperity and the continuation of strong ties between India and the Kingdom of Bahrain.

**SUNIL KUMAR THAKUR, MD AND CEO, LIC BAHRAIN INTERNATIONAL**



”

India's cultural and trading ties with Bahrain and the Arabian Peninsula goes back centuries. The diaspora of Indians have contributed in so many ways to the development of Bahrain and the regions around. Bahrain has always been a welcoming nation where the cross cultural seeds of peace and tolerance have flourished under the wise leadership of the rulers. We are pleased to welcome our PM Narendra Modi to Bahrain to have a glimpse of what makes Bahrain so unique and how our contribution both here and back home sets the stage for future progress through peace and prosperity for both nations and the region.

**DR GEORGE CHERIYAM, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF AMERICAN MISSION HOSPITAL**



”

The historic visit by Modi will see the bilateral relations and trade between the two countries growing to next level. It is a moment to cherish for Indians as well as Bahrainis.

**BOBAN IDICULLA, DIRECTOR, SPAC WLL**



”

The visit will certainly open a new era in bilateral relations between India and the Kingdom. There are many areas, where both nations can co-operate, taking the economies of two countries forward.

**BOBAN THOMAS, FOUNDER & MANAGING DIRECTOR, BOBSCO TRADING AND CONTRACTING**



”

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit will surely open up new opportunities for bi-lateral trade particularly in oil Sector and tourism.

**MUDIT MATHUR**



”

Thank you Mr Narendra Modi for visiting the Kingdom of Bahrain, which is one amongst the best countries in the world because of its culture, tolerance, business support and migrant friendly policies. We, members of Indian diaspora, stand beside you to thank Kingdom of Bahrain for giving 400,000 Indians jobs and business opportunity.

**CHERIAN VARGHESE, FOUNDER AND CEO, VIN TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS**



”

I am delighted to extend my warmest greetings

The commemorative visit by the Indian Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to the Kingdom ushers in a new era of cooperation in the financial services sector. The new economic developments that have taken place between two countries will take relations to greater heights. I take this opportunity to convey our appreciation for the Prime Minister's consistent efforts to promote even closer ties between our two countries.

**ABHISHEK JAJOO, MANAGING PARTNER & CEO, AIMS GLOBAL**

## Welcome to the Kingdom of Bahrain

**Indian Prime Minister  
Shri Narendra Modi**



شركة سن ميدل ايست للمقاولات (ش.م.ع.)  
**SUN MIDDLE EAST CONTRACTING Co. (S.P.C.)**

**FIRST GRADE BUILDING CONTRACTORS**

Specialized in Construction of Commercial & Residential Buildings, Ware Houses etc.

**Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain, Po Box 40347,  
Tel +973 17245435, Fax: +973 17245495, Email : Info@sunmiddleeast.com**





The Indian diaspora in Bahrain is upbeat about the visit of PM Narendra Modi. This will author a new chapter in the centuries old relationship between India and Bahrain. Bahrain, which has been a second home to thousands of Indians over the years, has always acknowledged the role of Indians in building the modern Bahrain. The maiden visit of Indian Prime Minister to Bahrain will further the bilateral relationship and will lead to greater co-operation in areas of trade, commerce, technology, education, IT, infrastructure, power etc. As India has already become an atomic space power and poised to become an economic super power in the immediate future, its strategic alliance with the Middle East, especially with Bahrain, will benefit this region. This historic visit has already created a euphoria among not only Indians but Bahrainis as well and this shows how eagerly this region is looking forward to greater engagement with India.

**P V RADHAKRISHNA PILLAI, PRESIDENT, BHRAIN KERALALEEYA SAMAJAM**



I am sure the historic visit will pave way for deeper bilateral ties, building strong economic relations providing ample investment opportunities between the two nations.

**S SRIDHAR, TRAFCO GROUP CHIEF EXECUTIVE**



This is a historic moment for any member of the Indian diaspora living in Bahrain. The deep rooted cultural bondage between Bahrain and India is getting a new impetus with PM Modi's august presence in the Kingdom. May this visit consolidate the efforts of both countries to work jointly for the well being of the whole humanity.

**AMBILI KUTTAN, MD AND PRINCIPAL, IIPA**



The visit by Indian Prime Minister will reinforce the important bilateral ties between both nations. I expect more ties between the Kingdom and India in the educational sector.

**RITU VERMA, DIRECTOR, BHRAIN INDIAN SCHOOL**



The historic visit of Honourable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi celebrates the enduring relations between India and Bahrain. There is a good opportunity for intensifying joint partnerships in various sectors across both the countries including healthcare. KIMS Healthcare Group is committed to invest and expand in healthcare with the objective of providing world-class quality care.

**DR M I SAHADULLA, GROUP CHAIRMAN AND MANAGING DIRECTOR, KIMS HEALTHCARE GROUP**



India and Bahrain share historic economic and cultural ties. The visit by Indian Prime Minister is a major milestone in India-Bahrain ties and will usher in a new era of peace and prosperity for both the nations.

**SHAKEEL AHMED SABRAHDI, CHAIRMAN, SHAKEEL TRADING**



Bahrain is on the throes of history as Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India, arrives in Manama, for a series of discussions with his counterpart HRH Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa on an entire spectrum of bilateral relationships as well of regional and international issues of mutual interest.

**MOHAMMED MANSOOR, FOUNDER AND MANAGING DIRECTOR, EXELON INDUSTRIAL SOLUTIONS**



India has been an important trade partner and ally of Bahrain for decades, with relations dating back to generations. The Kingdom offers a robust environment, which supports the ease of doing business in the country. The visit by Mr Modi will set a platform to explore new areas of co-operation, especially in the technological sector.

**RAKESH SHARMA, CHAIRMAN, PALACE ELECTRONICS**



India is Bahrain's fifth largest trading partner and this underlines the significance of further boosting the relations. Both countries have robust economies, which can contribute to each other's growth.

**R.V. WAGHANI, DIRECTOR, MEGAMART**



India and Bahrain enjoy excellent bilateral relations. Both the countries have supported each other through thick and thin. I have read that our Prime Minister will launch RuPay cards, which will strengthen India's relationship in digital payments, trade and tourism with its neighbours. I am confident that this visit will certainly open more doors for flourishing trade and investment flows, which will eventually help companies like us. In-fact for decades, millions of Indians immigrated to the GCC to make money, now many of them including us are investing back home because of the governments lucrative schemes. After Shri Narendra Modi's last visit in UAE, we launched our first Danube Home showroom in Hyderabad. Thanks to the government for their support and businesses friendly schemes, we definitely plan to open many more stores in coming years. Hence, I am sure that this visit will provide an opportunity to further cement the mutually beneficial bilateral ties. Honourable Prime Minister Narendra Modi is one of the most influential man in the history of politicians. He has proven himself to be the man of his words, through the transformation of his revolutionary ideas into a vivid reality. I would personally like to congratulate Shri Narendra Modi for the highest civilian award by the UAE government for boosting relations between the Emirates and India.

**RIZWAN SAJJAN, FOUNDER AND CHAIRMAN OF DANUBE GROUP**



Economics form the epicentre of diplomatic ties and we should expect trade ties between the Kingdom and India to flourish with the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. There are many avenues including space, IT and biotechnology where India and Bahrain could co-operate and this visit will offer a platform for co-operation.

**JAYAPRAKASH MENON, CHAIRMAN, UNIGLOBAL EDUCATION CENTRE**





HRH the Premier at Al Hashimi stall during the Jewellery Arabia exhibition.

# Al Hashimi, a name synonymous with luxurious jewellery



Al Hashimi pearls is synonymous with luxurious jewellery just as the history of Bahrain is with pearls. Besides the three renowned stores in Bahrain, Al Hashimi pearls is now a recognized name in the entire Middle East, US and Europe. To know how Al Hashimi came about we flip back the pages of history and begin in the early 1980's.

Vijay Shah our chairman, moved from India to Bah-

rain lured by the promise of salt-water natural pearls that Bahrain was famous for. A few years later, Vijay Shah opened the doors of the first store in Manama Souq. Vijay Shah describes his transition into Bahrain very smooth and comfortable. In no time Bahrain with its warmth and hospitable culture gave Vijay Shah and his family another base, a place they could call home. Since the 1980's Vijay Shah describes the trade relations between

the two countries not only exchanged goods but also its values and customs. Bahrain has always welcomed Indians with open arms and so has India. The relations between the two countries has only grown over the years and with the arrival of Mr Narendra Modi, Honorable Prime Minister of India, the ties only are only going to grow stronger and better.

Al Hashimi knows genuinely priceless, exquisite and magnificent pearl jewellery is only

created with passion. Pushing limits combined with creativity of expert artisans, Al Hashimi Pearls strives to mingle both these talents with a pinch of cultural inheritance. With the growing demand and the undying love for Natural Pearls, Al Hashimi is all set to open doors to another luxury fine jewellery boutique in Bahrain at Al A'ali shopping Complex by the end of next month.

## Be "Cool for School" with Mothercare

As the summer vacation comes to an end, prepping for the new school year takes center stage in all households. For this much awaited season, Mothercare the one-stop children's brand from Landmark, launches the latest "Back to School" Collection, featuring top-trends and best character merchandise for all children ensuring they have all they need to be "Cool for School".

This year's collection offers a brilliant range of products for all children, starting from toddlers to teenagers at amazing prices. This wide variety of backpacks and trolleys now also comes with a full one-year guarantee, adding more value to the purchase.

For toddlers, the collection is a blend of practical design with eye-catching motifs, perfect for little ones who are making that momentous move to nursery. Featuring fun characters, these colorful designs are sure to be a hit as the new term begins! The range for teens will help them make their mark this year with cleverly designed kits



from cool brands to choose from.

Get to choose from the widest range of licensed character products in the market for both boys and girls. This newest line features products from LOL, Pikmi Pops, Frozen, Ferrari, Real Madrid, Spiderman, Rocco and Pepe.

Stock up on the best school gear from any of the Mothercare and Mothercare at Centrepont stores across Bahrain. Customers can also shop from the comfort of your homes at [www.Mothercarestores.com](http://www.Mothercarestores.com).

This exceptional collection is now available across all Mothercare stores and Mothercare at Centrepont Stores located at Marina Mall, Se-gaya, City Centre Bahrain, Oasis Mall Juffair, Oasis Mall Muharraq and Oasis Mall Riffa.



Hearty welcome to  
**Indian Prime Minister  
Shri Narendra Modi**  
in the Kingdom of Bahrain



**GLOBAL INSTITUTE**  
for Management Science

المعهد العالي للعلوم الإدارية



Building- 1351, Road – 3329, Block- 333, Mahooz, Kingdom of Bahrain. Tel. 17740940, 17740150



# UAE Exchange: Giving wings to dreams

Remittances play a major catalyst role in the growth of a country as it is one of the economic lifelines for driving and strengthening economies. Remittances are also a major source of sustenance for many dependent families of expatriates, providing the financial support needed to fulfil their dreams.

Empowering various expatriate communities with innovative and customised financial solutions is UAE Exchange, a renowned financial services brand in the Kingdom of Bahrain since 2007.

Today, UAE Exchange offers a full suite of money transfer, foreign exchange and payments solutions that deliver exceptional customer experiences combining convenience, speed and value. The brand facilitates the seamless and secure movement of money through multiple customer touchpoints including retail stores, online and mobile apps, and self-service kiosks.

Customers can walk into any of the 13 branches across the country to transfer money, exchange foreign currency or make instant payments. UAE Exchange's interactive self-service kiosks also provide a wide range



UAE Exchange is a renowned financial services brand in the Kingdom.



Akash Nainwal, Country Head

of bill payment and money transfer services, adding more convenience for customers as they can skip queues and reduce the overall time taken to complete transactions.

On-the-move customers can use UAE Exchange's online mon-

ey transfer service to conveniently transfer money anytime anywhere at best exchange rates online. This convenient and secure channel provides customers with many benefits like value, speed, flexibility, slick user experience and the option of sending money from the comfort of their own space – be it home, office or anywhere else.

What sets UAE Exchange apart from its peers is its customer-centric ethos combined with a quality-driven approach, constant innovation in products and processes, and the deployment of latest technological advancements. The brand continues to bridge the gap between people and their dreams with a com-

prehensive portfolio of solutions that enable them to meet their financial requirements, maximise their potential and achieve their dreams.

UAE Exchange is part of Finabl, a global platform for Payments and Foreign Exchange solutions. With deep regulatory know-how, technology expertise and industry leading partnerships, Finabl companies provide a broad array of tailored and trusted financial solutions for consumers and businesses. With a global reach spanning 170+ countries, Finabl companies processed over 150 million transactions in 2018, managing nearly USD 115 billion for customers.

## Amad Group: 21 years of incredible journey

Amad Group has successfully completed 21 years of incredible journey in the gulf region of Bahrain and Saudi Arabia. Amad Group is a well-established and reputed international group specialized in supply of electrical, mechanical and telecommunication products since 1998 in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The company started its operations in Kingdom of Bahrain in 2001 by setting up a new venture Amad Baeed Electrical WLL, which has proven to be one of the leading and flourishing establishments in the region.

The company retains, professionally managed group with technically qualified and committed team having wide experience in the international marketing services and has successfully catered to various multinational companies on their various prestigious projects. The team has garnered goodwill with their acclaimed professionalism & excellent services.

Amad Group is in solidarity with leading manufacturers/suppliers based in USA, Europe, Japan and other Asian countries. Extremely popular and immensely trusted for their high quality standards and precise delivery remains their credibility at all times.

Amad Group has separate divisions such as cable management division, power and distribution division, oil and gas division, lighting



Pambavasan Nair, MD, Amad Group

division etc. to cater the requirement of the clients more professionally and effectively. They are the exclusive agents of Marshall-Tufflex-UK, OBO Bettermann-Germany, AN Wallis-UK, Scame-Italy, Peppers-UK, Riyadh Cables, IndoAsian, Dorman Smith, COT, Ellis Patents-UK, and authorized distributors of Emirates Transformers, Abahsain Cope, CMP-UK, SWE, Katko, Omni Tray, etc.

Their Lighting Division in Bahrain and Saudi Arabia are the agents of international brands such as GE Lighting (Tungsram), SECOM-Spain, ATM-Poland, Touchlite, Sol Inc.-USA, Carmanah Technologies-Canada, Saudi Lighting, National Lighting KSA, etc.

With impressive growth, this group broadened its sphere with Electricity Ministry Licensed Electric Panel Factories named Ascon Control WLL in Bahrain and Ascon Control Co. Ltd. in Saudi Arabia. Last year, these factories executed many prestigious projects in both the countries, once again proving their metal.

## ISB: 70 years of meaningful existence

Established in 1950, the Indian School Bahrain (ISB), a CBSE-affiliated school in the Kingdom of Bahrain, is one of the largest expatriate schools in the Arabian Gulf.

The ISB is celebrating its 70 years of meaningful existence in providing quality education to the aspiring children of the expatriates in the Kingdom.

Currently the Indian School has around 12,500 students and is one of the largest co-ed schools in the Arabian Gulf region.

The ISB is one of the oldest Indian schools in the Kingdom and was initiated by the efforts of the Indian community in Bahrain.

In its 70 years of fruitful existence, the school has made significant contribution towards educational excellence.

The ISB which has an enthusiastic workforce of 650 members is ranked among the premier centres of learning with an ISO



ISB board members led by chairman Prince Natarajan with dignitaries during induction ceremony.

9001:2015 accreditation.

The school caters to the educational needs of not only the Indian expatriate community in the Kingdom but also to the students of 14 nationalities including 1000 Bahraini children.

The Education and Training Quality Authority (BQA) has praised the multicultural harmony of the school in its report.

Every effort is being made to enable the students to reach their full potential and prepare them to think globally and use their knowledge and skills to make our world a better place.

The school provides our students with the very best environment and infrastructure to work in; to name a few, a multipurpose hall cum gymnasium,

swimming pool, well-stocked libraries, state-of-the-art laboratories, multimedia classrooms, resource centres with internet facilities, career guidance cell, etc.

The ISB is a school with a constant track record of academic brilliance and committed faculty with a strong sense of work ethics.

The school being the major community school in Bahrain is on its never ending growth process.

The school has two campuses located in Isa Town and West Riffa.

Our vision is to create a Brand ISB that makes the Indian School

the most preferred school for the students, teachers, parents and the community and our mission is to provide opportunities for all the students of the school to develop their potential and to prepare them to be Global Citizens capable of adapting to the future needs and collaborate with the parents and community to deploy innovative, versatile and dynamic measures that integrate excellence and ethics for the overall development of the school.

The ISB which is a UNESCO affiliated school also aims to provide Total Quality Education to the students at an affordable cost, so as to develop the competencies required to enable them to meet the future challenges and to provide value based education to inculcate humane qualities in all the students.

## A Shining Model of Indo-Bahraini Investment Partnership

For the past 15 years, KIMS Bahrain Healthcare (KBH) has emerged into a model institution for Indo-Bahraini investment partnership in the private healthcare space.

KIMS Bahrain Healthcare signifies a perfect synergy of Indo – Bahraini investment in the private healthcare space of Bahrain which has resulted in a paradigm shift in the provision of healthcare. This is more significant as this sector is witnessing rapid growth especially with the advent of compulsory insurance.

Dr. M. I. Sahadulla, Group Chairman & Managing Director, KIMS Healthcare Group, highlights that Bahrain's vision for healthcare and ease of doing business have been the deciding factors for the Group to establish its GCC headquarters out here.

Dr. Sahadulla further states that, "Over the years, KIMS has gained enormous popularity and goodwill in Bahrain and in the GCC region. This has encouraged us to take our



Dr. M I Sahadulla (Left) & Mr. Ahmed Jawahery (Right)

Indo-Bahraini investment partnership to the next level and invest in other GCC countries. Our present network of two hospitals and nine medical centers in the GCC region is undergoing expansion."

Since 2004, KBH has been spreading wellness through its institutions namely – Royal Bahrain Hospital in Salmaniya, KIMS Bahrain Medical Centre in Umm Al Hassam and RBH Medical Centre in Riffa. KBH's expert medical team has been focusing on compassionate

care, patient safety, quality and affordability.

Mr. Ahmed Jawahery, Chairman of KIMS Bahrain Medical Centre and President of Royal Bahrain Hospital informs that KIMS is the first Indo-Bahraini partnership in the private healthcare sector.

Mr. Jawahery says that: "A look at the Kingdom's social fabric and we evidently see the rich culture and heritage shared between India and Bahrain. Our partnership is a reflection of our commitment to provide world-class care and keep communities healthy."

In terms of expansion in Bahrain, the Group is living up to its objective of bringing quality healthcare closer, and has recently launched the KIMS Bahrain Medical Centre in Muharraq aimed at serving the areas of Muharraq, Busaiteen, Arad, Hidd, Galalii and beyond. The Group has ongoing projects in Askar, Saar and Umm Al Hassam, whereby it will be launching two medical centres and one hospital.



**Shri Narendra Modi**  
Prime Minister of India

*Hearty welcome to the land of pearls*



- Property Management
- Construction
- Maintenance
- Fabrication
- Landscape
- Interior
- Road Works
- Cleaning
- Own or Leased Property
- Publicity & Advertising Events



**Sajith Kumar**  
Managing Director

+973 38389735 / 17233742 17233743 @ www.cordialcobh.com



# Excitement fills the air as Bahrain chants Modi

*Mr Modi will address a gathering of Indian expatriates today*

Thrill and exuberance were very much visible in the faces of Indian expatriates in the Kingdom as they geared up yesterday to receive their Prime Minister. Narendra Modi is expected to reach the Kingdom by 3pm today after which he will address the Indian community at the National Stadium in Isa Town.

The Indian Embassy Complex in Seef witnessed huge rush by Indian expatriates to collect access cards for those registered

for the event. Gates at the venue in Isa Town will close for entry at 5pm today. The officials informed that the invitees should bring the invitation card/access card along with the original CPR card. Bahrain Public Transport company will arrange shuttle services from Isa Town to the National Stadium for the Indian Prime Minister's visit today. Buses will run from Isa Town every 10 minutes to the stadium and will return from the Stadium

back to Isa Town Terminal after the event. Attendees are requested not to bring electronic equipment except mobile phones. They have been advised not to bring eatables, bag, big purse, stroller, umbrella etc. Entry to the venue will be from 3pm onwards. Indian and Bahraini flags could be seen across the Kingdom, highlighting the deep bilateral ties shared between both nations.



Indian expatriates hold NaMo T-shirts outside the embassy complex in Seef.



Huge crowds could be seen queuing up to collect their access cards at the embassy complex in Seef yesterday.



**كافلاني**  
**Kavalani**

**Hearty welcome to  
Indian Prime Minister  
Shri Narendra Modi  
in the Kingdom of Bahrain**

Kavalani & Sons is a 200 year old, ISO 9001:2015 certified organisation committed to offering complete consumer satisfaction. Representing over 60,000 products and 160 global brands

CONSTRUCTION  
DIVISION

ELECTRICAL  
DIVISION

FIRE & SAFETY  
DIVISION

INDUSTRIAL  
DIVISION

HVAC &  
R DIVISION

INTERIOR  
DIVISION

PLUMBING  
DIVISION

WATER  
PROOFING  
DIVISION

**KAVALANI & SONS W.L.L.**



**كافلاني و اولاده ش.م.م**

**SUPPLIER OF INDUSTRIAL, CONSTRUCTION AND  
MARINE EQUIPMENT**



| [www.kavalani.com](http://www.kavalani.com) | [info@kavalani.com](mailto:info@kavalani.com) | [www.instagram.com/kavalani\\_bahrain](https://www.instagram.com/kavalani_bahrain) | P.O.Box 71





Hearty welcome to  
**Shri. Narendra Modi**  
the Honourable Prime Minister of India.

[www.uaeexchange.com/bhr](http://www.uaeexchange.com/bhr)





# Hearty welcome

**Shri. Narendra Modi**

Honourable Prime Minister of India

**The first-ever State Visit by India's Prime Minister to the Kingdom of Bahrain.**



**We salute the  
Great Visionary Leader of India and Great Visionary Leaders of Kingdom of Bahrain**

On behalf of more than 300,000 Indians residing and earning their livelihood with utmost respect and dignity, we wholeheartedly welcome this strategic visit of **Shri. Narendra Modi, the Hon. Prime Minister of India** to the harmonious and tolerant **Kingdom of Bahrain**.

May this visit further boost the long and historic relationship between the two great nations and bring in a new era of peace & prosperity to Bahrain, India and the whole region.

**Long live Indo-Bahrain friendship**



Kingdom of Bahrain