

Shared growth

HM King emphasises expanding constructive relations and business partnerships with Cyprus

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, sent cables of congratulations to Her Excellency Droupadi Murmu, President of the Republic of India, on the occasion of India's Republic Day.

HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister sent two similar congratulatory cables to H.E. C.P. Radhakrishnan, Vice President of India, and H.E. Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India.

BTEA and Unesco boost cooperation

Paris

A delegation from the Bahrain Tourism & Exhibitions Authority (BTEA) met with members of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco) to expand cooperation in cultural tourism, heritage preservation, and the promotion of Bahrain's tourism assets.

The meeting reviewed areas of collaboration and explored new opportunities to strengthen cooperation, particularly in cultural tourism, heritage conservation, and the promotion of Bahrain's tourism assets.

The meeting also addressed initiatives aimed at raising international awareness of Bahrain and showcasing the Kingdom's diverse tourism offerings.

Push for peace

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The Kingdom of Bahrain welcomed the UAE's hosting of trilateral talks between the US, Russia, and Ukraine in Abu Dhabi.

Bahrain described the initiative as a positive and constructive step within ongoing diplomatic and humanitarian efforts to achieve a peaceful resolution to the Ukrainian crisis, in line with international law and the Charter of the United Nations.

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We reaffirm our commitment to further developing our constructive relations, and to opening broader horizons for bilateral cooperation in the economic, commercial, developmental, and social fields

HIS MAJESTY KING HAMAD BIN ISA AL KHALIFA

in investment, innovation, and entrepreneurship will increase the volume of trade between our two countries.”



H.E. Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani, Minister of Foreign Affairs, welcomes H.E. President Christodoulides upon arrival at the airport



HM the King welcomes H.E. Cyprus President Christodoulides, in the presence of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister

Cooperation

During the official talks, the two leaders reviewed the long-standing bilateral ties between their countries, which span more than four decades, and discussed opportunities to enhance cooperation across key sectors.

The visit coincided with significant milestones for both nations, with Cyprus holding the Presidency of the Council of the European Union and Bahrain presiding over the GCC, creating avenues for closer regional and international coordination.

The visit also witnessed the signing of a series of agreements and memoranda of understanding aimed at strengthening cooperation in education, culture, tourism, technology, military and search-and-rescue operations, and maritime and air freight services.

Agreements

Among the agreements signed were mutual recognition of higher education qualifications, a partnership between diplomatic academies, cultural cooperation in antiquities and handicrafts, military collaboration, and a data sovereignty initiative to advance technology and communications.

His Majesty and H.E. President Christodoulides expressed appreciation for the warm reception and highlighted the depth of bilateral cooperation: “This visit reflects our shared determination to further strengthen Bahrain-Cyprus relations across all levels, political, strategic, and economic.”

He noted that the partnership spans defence and security, trade and investment, culture, higher education, youth, maritime affairs, and tourism.

His Majesty and H.E. President Christodoulides commended these agreements as crucial steps to support and further develop bilateral cooperation, enhance joint work between the two nations, and open new avenues for investment and innovation.

His Majesty hosted a luncheon in honour of the Cypriot President and his delegation, cementing the warm ties and goodwill between the two friendly countries.

Bill blocked

Shura rejects age-based work hour and leave amendments

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

The Shura Council yesterday unanimously rejected, in principle, draft changes to the Civil Service Law that would have reduced daily working hours and increased annual leave for government employees aged 50 and above, with the bill returned to Parliament for reconsideration.

The draft, built on a proposal from Parliament, sought to amend Decree-Law No. 48 of 2010 by cutting the official working day on an age scale and adding extra leave.

Under the proposal, em-

ployees who had reached 50 would have worked one hour less each day and received 35 working days of annual leave.

Those aged 55 would have seen a two-hour daily reduction and 40 days' leave.

Those aged 60 would have worked three hours less and received 45 working days of annual leave.

The Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee recommended that members refuse the measure, saying it did not fit with the rules governing public service work, and warning of effects on staffing, service delivery and the state budget.

Presenting the committee's findings, rapporteur Dr Ahmed Al Arrayed said the proposal “creates discrimination between employees on the basis of age, even where their legal positions are the same”.

He said it would also move detailed rules on attendance, departure times and annual leave into primary legislation, rather than leaving such matters to the executive regulations, decisions and instructions used to run the system.

He also warned that it would widen the gap with private-sector rules.

The measure, he said, “cre-

ates a core inconsistency between the Civil Service Law and the Private Sector Labour Law, producing unequal benefits between government and private-sector employees”.

He added that Bahrain's legal benchmark for older persons entitled to special care uses the age of 60, not 50.

Al Arrayed said the draft would confer benefits by age alone.

“Employment advantages are built on competence,” he said, “yet an employee could gain the privileges created by this draft purely by reaching a certain age, without meeting any competence requirement”.



Dr Ahmed Al Arrayed

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HM King affirms commitment to develop Bahrain-Azerbaijan ties

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His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa commended the close bilateral relations and longstanding ties between the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Republic of Azerbaijan, and emphasised the continued commitment to further developing them in all domains.

HM the King was speaking as he received Dr. Sahiba Gafarova, Speaker of the National Assembly of Azerbaijan, at Gudaibiya Palace on the occasion of her visit to the Kingdom of Bahrain to participate in the 16th Plenary Session of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA).

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, in support of mutual goals and

the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

Welcome

HHM King Hamad welcomed the Azerbaijani Speaker and relayed greetings to Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev, and wished the Azerbaijani people further progress and prosperity.

His Majesty also expressed appreciation for President Aliyev's efforts and commitment to enhancing the close relations between the two countries.

He highlighted the importance of such visits in enhancing and expanding cooperation between the legislative authorities of both countries, and in benefiting from shared experiences and expertise in legislative work in support of mutual goals and

aspirations.

Achievements

His Majesty also commended the significant achievements of Bahrain's legislative authority across various areas, in support of the Kingdom's progress and the prosperity of its people.

On her part, Dr. Gafarova conveyed to HM the King the greetings of President Aliyev and his wishes for continued progress and prosperity for Bahrain and its people.

The Azerbaijani Speaker expressed gratitude to HM the King for the warm welcome and hospitality, praising His Majesty's role in the development and growth of cooperation between the two countries at all levels, to the benefit of both peoples.



HM the King receives Dr. Sahiba Gafarova in the presence of HRH Prince Salman

Trusted partners

HRH Prince Salman hails Kanoo Family as 'national model' of responsibility and community partnership



HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister with Fawzi Ahmed Kanoo

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development, noting Bahrain's commitment to fostering a conducive environment that supports the private sector, in line with the vision of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

He expressed his pride in the role of Bahraini family businesses across various sectors, noting their contributions to advancing the Kingdom's progress, creating quality opportunities for Bahrainis.

For his part, Fawzi Ahmed expressed his gratitude for His Royal Highness's commitment to strengthening the public-private partnership to meet the Kingdom's far-reaching aspirations.

His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Minister of the Prime Minister's Court, His Highness Shaikh Mohammed bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, and His Excellency Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Minister of Finance and National Economy, also attending the meeting.

Stage set for Bahrain Open Tennis Challenger

Hasan Barakat
TDT | Manama

The fifth edition of the Bahrain Open Tennis Challenger tournament will run from January 26 to February 1.

What unfolds this year goes beyond a crowded draw or rising rankings.

The latest edition of the Bahrain Open Tennis Challenger arrives as a measured declaration of intent, signalling a shift towards higher standards, sharper organisation and deeper international relevance.

H.E. Shaikh Khalid bin Rashid Al Khalifa, Chairman of the Supreme Committee, extended his appreciation to

organisers, partners and supporters whose collective efforts have driven the tournament to this stage..

Special recognition was given to cooperating entities for their role in ensuring operational readiness and continuity.

He stressed that the tournament's growth has been guided by long term planning and steady progress, rather than comparisons with earlier editions. This edition introduces electronic line calling technology for the first time.

While not a mandatory requirement, the move reflects a commitment to integrity and player confidence, aligning the tournament more closely with



H.E. Shaikh Khalid bin Rashid Al Khalifa

elite international standards.

For the first time in Bahrain, an international referee will oversee matches, reinforcing professionalism and competitive credibility.

Customs efforts strengthen Kingdom port security and protect society

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His Excellency General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, Minister of Interior, affirmed that Customs Affairs continues to play a central role in enhancing the security of Bahrain's ports and protecting society by combating smuggling and confronting prohibited materials.

He noted that, alongside

these security efforts, Customs Affairs also works to facilitate trade and travel, while strengthening the Kingdom's business and investment environment.

He stressed that accelerating procedures, implementing facilitation programmes and developing electronic systems have contributed to consolidating investor confidence and

oconomy. Speaking on the occasion of International Customs Day, observed annually on January 26, General Shaikh Rashid said: "Customs Affairs works continuously to enhance the security of ports and protect society by controlling smuggling attempts and confronting prohibited materials, within the framework of facilitating trade and travel and improving the business and investment environment."



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'No better partner than Bahrain'

US Ambassador: Kingdom key to regional security, peace efforts, and economic cooperation

● Untapped economic potential still ahead for US and Bahrain relations

● 20 years of US, Bahrain FTA with more growth ahead

● More scholarships, exchanges planned for Bahrainis

Ashen Tharaka
TDT | Manama

The United States has described Bahrain as one of its most trusted and important partners in the Middle East, highlighting its key role in regional security, peace efforts, and economic cooperation.

Speaking at a press conference held at her residence, Her Excellency Stephanie Hallett, the US Ambassador to the Kingdom Bahrain, said there is "no better

partner than Bahrain" to help the US achieve its goals of peace, stability, and prosperity in the region.

The Ambassador said Bahrain's decision to become a founding member of the US-led Board of Peace reflects its long-standing commitment to dialogue, tolerance, and regional stability.

She noted that the image of His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa sitting beside US President Donald Trump during the signing of the Board of Peace Charter was a powerful symbol of the strong relationship between the two countries.

H.E. Ambassador Hallett described the new initiative as a "Board of Action" focused on delivering real outcomes, particularly in Gaza and potentially beyond.

Security

Addressing regional tensions, including Iran, the Ambassador said Bahrain remains a critical



H.E. US Ambassador to Bahrain Stephanie Hallett

security partner for the US.

She highlighted Bahrain's role as host of the US Fifth Fleet, US Naval Central Command, and Combined Maritime Forces, as well as its participation in the F-16 fighter jet programme.

She said the US will continue close coordination with Bahrain to deter threats and maintain regional security.

Cooperation

H.E. Ambassador Hallett also spoke about the memorandum of understanding on nuclear cooperation, signed in July, calling it a historic agreement that opens new opportunities in energy security and economic growth.

She added that several areas

tential for growth in the coming decades.

Bahrain's decision to become a founding member of the US-led Board of Peace reflects its long-standing commitment to dialogue, tolerance, and regional stability

H.E. STEPHANIE HALLETT, THE US AMBASSADOR TO THE KINGDOM BAHRAIN

of cooperation remain untapped and US companies are ready to work with Bahraini partners.

She also highlighted the importance of the US-Bahrain Free Trade Agreement, noting that 2026 marks 20 years since it came into force, with more po-

These include the International Visitor Leadership Program, Fulbright exchanges, and scholarship initiatives supported by His Royal Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, allowing Bahraini students to study in the United States.

She expressed hope that these programmes will expand further, strengthening people-to-people ties between the two nations.

H.E. Ambassador Hallett said the annual US-Bahrain Strategic Dialogue will reaffirm cooperation in security, trade, education, and culture.

She added that 2026 will also see celebrations linked to the 250th anniversary of the US, with several cultural and sporting events planned in partnership with Bahrain.

Asian couple on trial over drug importation

Rehab Mohammad
TDT | Manama

Bahrain's High Criminal Court has heard the case of an Asian couple accused of importing illegal drugs through postal parcels sent from two European countries.

During the hearing, both defendants denied the charge of drug importation.

The wife told the court she has a six-month-old baby who is currently staying at her country's embassy and asked to be released to care for her child.

She said she had no knowledge of the parcels sent in her name.

Her husband supported her statement but admitted to using drugs.

Prosecutors charged the couple, both in their forties, with importing cannabis and marijuana with intent to traffic during 2025, outside the cases permitted by law. The woman works at a women's salon, while the man is a salesman.

The second defendant was also charged with possessing psychotropic substances for personal use without legal authorisation.

According to testimony from a senior customs officer at Bahrain International Airport, a suspicious parcel arriving from a European country on 29 May at around 4:00pm was flagged during inspection.

A sniffer dog alerted officers, and the package was found to contain a plastic bottle holding liquid suspected to be CBD oil, weighing about 1.138 kilograms.

Another parcel arriving from Europe on 26 August at around 6:00am was found to contain 900 grams of marijuana.

Parliamentary simulation session for young parliamentarians

● In presence of Second Deputy Chairman of Shura Council

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The Youth Pioneer Society organized a parliamentary simulation session as part of the Young Parliamentarian Program, attended by Dr. Jihad Al-Fadhel, Second Deputy Speaker of the Shura Council, in an initiative aimed at strengthening legislative awareness and parliamentary engagement among youth.

Participants took part in a structured simulation reflecting official parliamentary procedures, during which they debated 10 legislative proposals addressing key youth-related issues.

The session highlighted participants' competencies in policy formulation, structured dialogue, and parliamentary debate management.

Five committees were formed to mirror parliamentary functions, including Education, Environment, Public



Young parliamentarians with Shura Council members

Utilities, Finance, and Youth and Sports.

Dr. Al-Fadhel praised the outcomes of the program's eighth edition, noting that the quality of participation reflects the effectiveness of the initiative in preparing a knowledgeable

and skilled generation capable of contributing to national development.

She also commended the Youth Pioneer Society for its role in advancing youth-focused capacity-building programs.

Conclusion

Meanwhile, Chairwoman of the Society's Board, Ameera Mahmood, welcomed the Shura Council's hosting of the session, stating that the exercise marked the conclusion of the

program's third phase involving 47 participants.

She added that the simulation provided hands-on parliamentary experience and enhanced participants' readiness for public and institutional engagement."

Bahrain Thevar Peravai holds mass blood donation drive

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Bahrain Thevar Peravai, an organization named in honor of the great freedom fighter and national leader Pasumpon Muthuramalinga Thevar, organized a mass blood donation drive

at the King Hamad University Hospital Blood Bank in connection with India's Republic Day. The event was graced by the presence of businessman Mr. Raja of KG Construction Company, prominent social worker

overwhelming response, with over 110 voluntary blood donors participating in the noble cause.

The camp was officially inaugurated by Mr. Aneesh Sreedharan, General Secretary of the Indian Community Relief Fund (ICRF).

The event was graced by the presence of businessman Mr. Raja of KG Construction Company, prominent social worker



Bahrain Thevar Peravai officials and members with blood donors

Mr. Sayed Haneef, Mr. Panju Rajkumar, and Thevar Peravai President Mr. N. Thirumani.

The program was successfully coordinated under the leadership of General Secretary Mr. K. Sankar Raj, with excellent organization and strong support from the Executive Committee Members, whose dedicated efforts contributed significantly to the success of the event.



My dear fellow citizens,
Namaskar!
We, the people of India, at home and overseas, are going to celebrate Republic Day with fervour. I extend my heartfelt greetings to all of you on this National Festival.

The auspicious occasion of Republic Day gives us an opportunity to reflect on the status and direction of our country in the past, present, and future. The force of our freedom movement changed the status of our country on 15th August, 1947. India became Independent. We became the architects of our own national destiny.

Since 26th January, 1950, we have been propelling our Republic towards our constitutional ideals. On that day, our Constitution was fully enforced. Bharat, the birthplace of democracy, was unshackled from the dominion system, and our democratic republic came into existence.

Our Constitution is the foundational document of the largest republic in world

history. The ideals of justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity enshrined in our Constitution define our Republic. The framers of the Constitution provided a strong bedrock for the spirit of nationalism and the unity of the country through constitutional provisions.

Laoh Purush, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, unified our nation. Last year, on 31st October, a grateful nation enthusiastically celebrated his 150th birth anniversary. Commemorative events related to his 150th Jayanti are being celebrated. These celebrations strengthen the spirit of national unity and pride among the people. From north to south and from east to west, the fabric of our ancient cultural unity was woven by our ancestors. Every effort to promote this spirit of oneness is highly commendable.

Two days ago, on 23rd January, the nation paid its respectful tributes to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on his birth anniversary. Since 2021, Netaji's Jayanti is celebrated as 'Parakram Diwas' so

that the people, especially the youth, can draw inspiration from his indomitable patriotism. Netaji's slogan 'Jai Hind' is the declaration of our national pride.

Dear fellow citizens, Since ancient times, humanity has benefited from our civilization, culture, and spiritual traditions. Ayurveda, Yoga, and Pranayama have been appreciated and adopted by the global community. Many great personalities have continuously enriched the stream of our spiritual and social unity.

It is a matter of pride that today's India is moving forward with new self-confidence, conscious of its glorious traditions. In recent years, sacred sites related to our spiritual tradition have been re-connected with the peoples' consciousness.

It has been resolved to eradicate the vestiges of colonial mindset in a time-bound manner. The tradition of Indian knowledge has a great legacy in the fields of philosophy, medicine, astronomy, mathematics, literature, and art. It is a matter

of pride that efforts like the 'Gyan Bharatam Mission' are preserving and disseminating the creativity available in the Indian tradition. By giving emphasis to Indian languages and the tradition of Indian knowledge, we are providing a cultural foundation to our pursuit of self-reliance.

The Constitution of India is now available in all the Indian languages included in the Eighth Schedule. Reading and understanding the Constitution in Indian languages will spread constitutional nationalism among the people and strengthen their sense of pride.

Efforts have been made to achieve national goals through public participation over the past decade. Important national campaigns have been transformed into mass movements. Local institutions in every village and city have been made instruments of ushering in progressive change. Building Viksit Bharat is the shared responsibility of all citizens.

Dear fellow citizens, Protection of the environment is a high priority today.

I am proud that India has steered the global community in many areas related to the environment. A lifestyle in harmony with nature has been a part of India's cultural tradition. This lifestyle is the basis of our message to the global community: 'Lifestyle for Environment', or 'LiFE'.

In our tradition, we have been offering prayers for peace to prevail in the entire universe. The future of humanity can remain secure only if there is peace in the whole world. In an atmosphere marked by conflicts in many parts of the world, India is spreading the message of world peace.

Dear fellow citizens, I believe that Republic Day is an opportunity to further strengthen this strong feeling of patriotism. Let us all work together with the spirit of 'Nation First' and make our Republic even more glorious.

Once again, I extend my hearty greetings to all of you on Republic Day. I firmly believe that your life will be filled with happiness, peace, security, and harmony. I wish you all a very bright future.

Celebrating India's 77th Republic Day

H.E. Smt. Droupadi Murmu, President of India

'Vande Mataram'

I sincerely thank His Majesty, King Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa, His Royal Highness Prince Salman Bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister, the entire Royal Family, the Ministries and Departments of the Government of Bahrain and the friendly Bahraini society for their protection and support to the nearly 315000 Indian nationals living in the Kingdom.

I want to wish the readers of The Daily Tribune on the occasion of the Republic Day of India, 2026. On this day in 1950, India, the new Constitution came into force commemorating the transition of the country into a Republic. The theme for this year's Republic Day celebration centres on the national song 'Vande Mataram' and the national initiative, 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' or self-reliance. It may be recalled that Vande Mataram was written by Bankim Chandra Chatterjee in 1875 and captured the national mood and yearning for unity and self respect among all Indians in the fight against colonialism.

President of the European Council Mr Antonio Costa and President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen will be the Chief Guests for the Republic Day Parade 2026. Around 10,000 people from different walks of life are expected to witness the parade as Special Guests and 2,500 artists are scheduled to perform as part of the cultural performance. A Battle Array Format will be showcased by the Indian Army for the first time. Further, a total of 30 Tab-

leaux will roll down Kartavya Path as part of the parade.

This year's Republic Day is happening in the immediate aftermath of the International Monetary Fund raising its forecast for India's economic growth in fiscal 2026 by 0.7 percentage points to 7.3%, citing strong momentum. In its World Economic Outlook report released on 19 January 2026, the IMF said the upward revision for fiscal 2026 reflected "better-than-expected outturn in the third quarter of the year and strong momentum in the fourth quarter." A senior IMF official earlier told a press briefing that "India is a key growth engine for the world." In contrast, the Fund projected global growth at 3.3% in 2026.

Let me take this opportunity to convey heartfelt congratulations on the declaration of 2026 as the "Year of Isa Al Kaabir" by His Majesty King Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa, celebrating the visionary founder of the modern Bahraini state and his enduring legacy of stability and institutional development. I sincerely thank His Majesty, King Hamad Bin

Isa Al Khalifa, His Royal Highness Prince Salman Bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister, the entire Royal Family, the Ministries and Departments of the Government of Bahrain and the friendly Bahraini society for their protection and support to the nearly 315000 Indian nationals living in the Kingdom. In 2025, we introduced electronic visa system in 14 categories for ease of travel for Bahraini nationals. This

His Excellency Mr. Vinod K Jacob, Ambassador of India to Bahrain





BFC celebrates Republic Day with Indian diaspora

Honouring a relationship built on trust, continuity, and shared progress

● **Founded in 1917**, BFC's journey has evolved alongside generations of Indians who made Bahrain their home

Manama

As India marks its Republic Day, a celebration of democracy, resilience and nation-building, Bahrain Financing Company (BFC) joins the Indian diaspora in Bahrain in honouring a relationship built on trust, continuity, and shared progress.

Founded in 1917, BFC's journey has evolved alongside generations of Indians who made Bahrain their home. From its beginnings as a gold bullion trader to becoming one of the Kingdom's most respected names in foreign exchange and international remittances, BFC has

always remained people centric. For decades, Indian expatriates have relied on BFC not just to send money, but to stay connected to families, aspirations and futures back home.

BFC branches have long been familiar touchpoints within the

Indian community, supporting first salaries, education goals, home building dreams and life's milestones across borders. The enduring trust and contribution of the Indian diaspora have been central to shaping BFC's values and customer focused approach.

Reflecting on the occasion, Deepak Nair, Chief Executive Officer of BFC, said, "Republic Day is not only a celebration of India's Constitution, but a tribute to the spirit, resilience and values of the Indian people. For decades, the

Indian community has placed its trust in BFC; trust that has shaped our journey and defined who we are today. As India continues to progress, we remain committed to supporting the aspirations of the Indian diaspora and strengthening the enduring ties between Bahrain and India."

Today, BFC operates 55 branches across Bahrain and facilitates remittances to over 200 countries

worldwide, with India remaining one of its most significant corridors. A pioneer in online money transfers, BFC continues to enhance convenience through the BFC Pay App, enabling fast and secure transactions supported by a global payout network of over 400,000 locations.

As India celebrates Republic Day, BFC honours not only the values enshrined in the Constitution, but also the people who carry those values across borders, reaffirming a lasting partnership that continues to connect Bahrain and India.

For more information, please visit <https://www.bfc.com.bh/>

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Republic Day is not only a celebration of India's Constitution, but a tribute to the spirit, resilience and values of the Indian people. For decades, the Indian community has placed its trust in BFC; trust that has shaped our journey and defined who we are today. As India continues to progress, we remain committed to supporting the aspirations of the Indian diaspora and strengthening the enduring ties between Bahrain and India.

DEEPAK NAIR, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF BFC





Bahrain India Society: Strengthening the Eternal Bridge of Friendship



Mr. Abdul Rahman Juma, Chairman of the Bahrain India Society
Manama

On the auspicious occasion of India's 77th Republic Day, the Bahrain India Society (BIS) reaffirms its commitment to fostering the deep-rooted bilateral ties that have united the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Republic of India for generations. As a premier non-profit organization, BIS continues to serve as a vital bridge, encouraging high-level collaboration across business, trade, education, and culture.

Mr. Abdul Rahman Juma, Chairman of the Bahrain India Society, extends his warmest



greetings to the Indian community in Bahrain and worldwide.

"This occasion reflects India's constitutional strength and its growing global role," says Mr. Juma. "For our community in

Bahrain, these values hold a special meaning. While preserving our cultural roots, we remain dedicated to strengthening the friendship between our two nations. Inspiring the future

means creating opportunities for the next generation to excel and promoting initiatives that bring Bahrain and India even closer."

Echoing these sentiments,

CA Balasubramanyam PS, Vice Chairman of the Bahrain India Society, highlights the significance of this national milestone.

"On this 77th Republic Day, let



Balasubramanyam PS, Vice Chairman of the Bahrain India Society

of the Indian Constitution and the enduring cultural bonding we share with the Kingdom," notes Mr. Balasubramanyam. "Let us carry forward the spirit of the Republic not just as a memory, but as a living promise to shape a brighter, collaborative future together."

Through its networking forums, community activities, and cultural programs, the Bahrain India Society remains a cornerstone of mutual understanding, ensuring that the partnership between these two great nations continues to thrive in an era of unprecedented growth and shared prosperity.



Congratulate and extend warmest greetings to the Indian Community in the Kingdom of Bahrain, on the occasion of India's Republic Day



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On the occasion of Republic Day of India, the Management, Principal, Staff, Students and Parents of New Millennium School, extend their warmest greetings to the Indian Community in the Kingdom of Bahrain.



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India's Tourism Story in 2025: A Year of Growth, Innovation, and Global Appeal

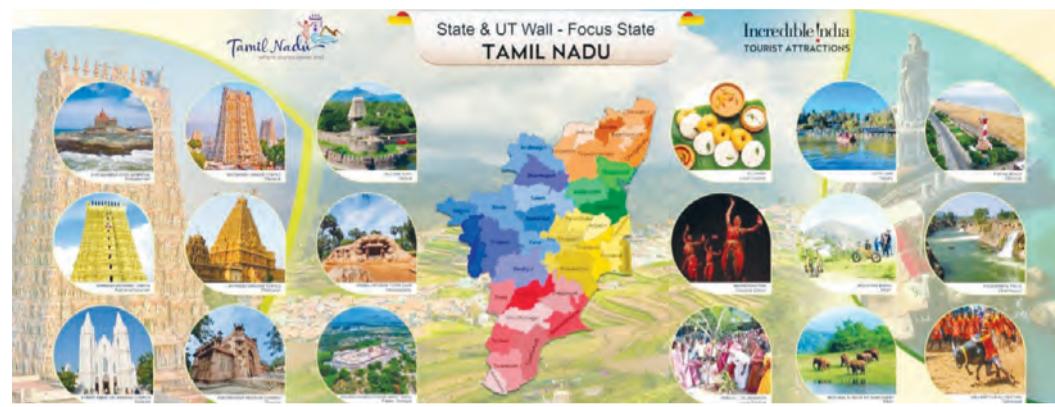
India's Tourism in 2025: A National Snapshot

Manama

India entered 2025 with a tourism sector experiencing a remarkable revival, supported by a blend of heritage conservation, modern infrastructure expansion and forward-looking policymaking. By August 2025, India recorded a combined total of over 3 billion tourist visits—domestic and foreign together—reflecting both strong internal demand and steadily rising international interest.

This momentum was reinforced by major initiatives such as Swadesh Darshan and Swadesh Darshan 2.0, which completed more than 100 projects across cultural, spiritual, coastal and tribal tourism circuits. Spiritual tourism also saw significant enhancement under the PRASHAD Scheme, which upgraded pilgrimage centres and improved accessibility for millions of visitors.

Domestic tourism remained a powerful driver of growth, encouraged by campaigns such as Dekho Apna Desh, which promoted lesser-known destinations through digital outreach, events and public engagement. India's global appeal continued to be shaped by its 44 UNESCO



World Heritage Sites from architectural icons like the Taj Mahal and Sun Temple of Konark to natural treasures such as the Western Ghats and Kaziranga National Park. As India's tourism sector strengthened its global standing, tourism diplomacy emerged as a crucial pillar of international engagement, and in this larger context, the Embassy of India in Bahrain played a pivotal role in deepening cultural and travel ties throughout the year.

Deepening Tourism Ties Through Cultural Diplomacy

The year 2025 was especially significant for the Embassy of India in Bahrain, which undertook a series of impactful initiatives to promote India's tourism

potential and bring the cultural richness of its States and Union Territories directly to Bahraini audiences. These efforts reflected a broader national strategy to strengthen people-to-people connections and expand the presence of Indian cultural and travel opportunities in the Gulf region.

A central pillar of the Embassy's outreach was the Focus State/Union Territory Initiative, through which different Indian States and Union Territories were promoted across the year. The initiative also showcased the tourism attractions and One District One Product (ODOP) offerings of States and UTs such as Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Delhi, Uttarakhand and Hary-

ana. Through the inauguration of tourism and ODOP walls, the display of artisanal products, cultural programmes, digital campaigns and widespread public engagement, the Embassy transformed into a vibrant platform presenting India's diverse traditions, landscapes, craftsmanship and cuisines.

A major milestone in 2025 was India's decision to extend the electronic Visa (e-Visa) facility to Bahraini nationals across 14 categories. This policy shift significantly simplified travel for Bahraini visitors, whether for leisure, medical treatment, business engagements, cultural exploration or participation in conferences and events. The Embassy played a vital role in effectively communicating the expanded options, ensuring

public awareness and easy access to the enhanced visa system. The programme sparked curiosity among young Bahrainis and expatriate students alike, strengthening cultural understanding and encouraging long-term engagement with India.

Together, these efforts made 2025 a year of meaningful, people-centred tourism diplomacy for the Embassy of India in Bahrain. Through cultural showcases, industry partnerships, youth outreach, and visa facilitation, the Embassy worked tirelessly to bring India closer to Bahrain and deepen bonds of friendship and mutual appreciation.

A Shared Road Ahead

As India celebrates its 77th Republic Day in January 2026, the achievements of the previous year offer ample reason for pride. The growth of India's tourism sector and the Embassy's dynamic outreach in Bahrain reflect a shared spirit of cooperation, cultural exchange and openness. With strengthened partnerships, expanded travel opportunities and continued engagement, India looks forward to welcoming even more visitors from Bahrain to experience its extraordinary diversity where ancient heritage, modern innovation and heartfelt hospitality await.



On the occasion of Republic Day of India, the Management, Principal, Staff, Students and Parents of Al Noor International School, extend warmest greetings to the Indian Community in the Kingdom of Bahrain.



On the occasion of Republic Day of India, the Management, Principal, Staff, Students and Parents of Bhavan's Bahrain Indian School, extend warmest greetings to the Indian Community in the Kingdom of Bahrain.



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India and the Global South

Manama

India's relations with countries of the Global South have deep roots in shared histories, common struggles, and mutual aspirations for development and self-reliance. Over the years India's role has evolved from being a leader in the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) to becoming a pivotal player in contemporary South-South cooperation.

India's partnership with the Global South was propelled to a new level by Prime Minister Narendra Modi when he organized the first Voice of the Global South Summit (VOGSS) on 12-13th January, 2023 within a few weeks of India taking over the Presidency of the G20. This Summit was followed by another later during the year and a third one in 2024.

In addition to articulating the interests, priorities and aspirations of the Global South through several VOGSSs and raising these issues at all relevant fora, India also "Walks the Talk" and extends all possible assistance to countries of the Global South.

India's role within the Global South is pivotal, leveraging its growing economic power, democratic framework, and strategic geopolitical positioning to advocate for equitable global governance.

India's development assis-



Ambassador Ashok Sajanhar

tance programs to members of the Global South underscore its role as a partner in progress. Through the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) program, India has provided training, capacity building, and technical assistance to over 160 countries. This program covers a wide range of areas, including healthcare, education, agriculture, and information technology, thereby contributing to human resource development in the Global South.

The Policy of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" (The World is One Family)

The spirit of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" has served as the guiding philosophy of India's foreign policy for the last more than a decade. This policy witnessed its fullest expression dur-

ing India's Chairmanship of the G20 in 2023 when it adopted the motto of "One Earth, One Family, One Future" for its Presidency, and made sure that all decisions emanating from the deliberations fully reflected this commitment.

Current Status

In recent years, India's "Global South" partnership has matured into a core pillar of its foreign policy. One of the most consequential achievements of India in its G20 Presidency was the inclusion of African Union, a body comprising 54 African countries, as a full-fledged member of the G20. This issue had been hanging fire for many years and it fell to India, with its commitment to the interests of the Global South, to bring it to fruition by evolving the requisite consensus on this important subject.

India has been able to significantly enhance its engagement with the Global South because its economy has grown significantly in recent years. When PM Modi assumed power in 2014, India's economy was the 10th largest in the world. Today it is the 4th largest with prognosis to emerge as the third largest by 2027. Today India is the fastest growing major economy with its GDP growth registering an impressive 8.2% in the last quarter. India is expected to grow from a US\$4 trillion economy today to more than US\$10 trillion by 2035.

India's increased economic strength has inter alia enhanced

its capacity to play a much more active role in global affairs and lend a helping hand in times of need to those in difficulty. During the Covid-19 pandemic, India supplied medicines and vaccines, most of them gratis, to several partners, particularly from the Global South. India provided medicines to more than 150 countries, and more than 300 million vaccine doses under its Vaccine Maitri (Vaccine Friendship) initiative to more than 100 countries. Because of its economic heft, India could come to the assistance of Sri Lanka to the tune of US\$4.5 billion when the latter's coffers were empty in 2022 and to the support of Afghanistan, Maldives etc. with financial support, food supplies and medicines when these countries had their backs to the wall. This has also enabled India to emerge as the First Responder in times of need and when calamities like earthquakes, floods etc. have struck in its neighbourhood and beyond.

Key Pillars of Engagement

India's "Global South Partnership" today is defined by four distinct areas of cooperation:

A. Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) & "The India Stack"

India has moved from domestic achievements to global outreach.

B. Fintech Diplomacy: UPI (Unified Payments Interface) is now operational or in pilot stages across several Global South nations, including Namib-

ia, Sri Lanka, and parts of Southeast Asia.

- Social Impact Fund:** India's \$25 million commitment to a Social Impact Fund helps smaller nations build their own digital identity (Aadhaar-like) and payment systems to promote financial inclusion.

B. Health & Pharmaceutical Leadership

Reaffirming its title as the "Pharmacy of the World," India has evolved from providing medicines and vaccines in the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic to building Health Resilience.

- Generic Medicines:** Providing affordable, high-quality generic drugs to nations in Africa and the Caribbean.

- Regulatory Capacity:** India is now actively training drug regulators in Global South countries to help them establish their own pharmaceutical safety standards.

C. The Global Development Compact

Proposed by Prime Minister Modi in late 2024, this compact focuses on:

- Trade for Development:** Reducing barriers for Least Developed Countries (LDCs).

- Concessional Finance:** Offering project-specific grants rather than the "debt-trap" loans often associated with some other major powers.

- D. Climate Justice & Energy Transition**

India champions the principle of "Common but Differentiated

Responsibilities" (CBDR).

- International Solar Alliance (ISA):** With 121 member countries, many of which are from the Global South, the ISA underscores India's commitment to addressing climate change and promoting renewable energy.

- Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment):** India encourages a shift toward sustainable consumption, a narrative that resonates with developing nations that are not the primary cause of climate change but have to endure its worst effects.

India's geopolitical dynamics with the Global South have evolved significantly over the years, reflecting its growing economic power, strategic interests, and aspirations to be a major player on the global stage. India's proactive engagement with the Global South underscores its commitment to a multipolar world where developing nations have a significant voice in global affairs. Through sustained efforts in diplomacy, economic cooperation, and strategic partnerships, India is poised to play a pivotal role in the evolving dynamics of the Global South.

As both a leader and a partner, India continues to play a crucial role in shaping the future of the Global South. Through sustained cooperation, mutual respect, and shared aspirations, India and the Global South can collectively navigate the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century.

Empowering NRIs to achieve their financial goals with LIC International

Manama



Debasish Prasad Pattanaik, CEO & Executive Director of LIC International BSC

sible and transparent. In 2025, LIC International enhanced digital onboarding, online policy servicing, fund performance tracking, and customer communication, allowing policyholders to manage their policies from anywhere. Looking ahead, the company plans to leverage AI to further simplify access to products and services. "Technology strengthens relationships by improving clarity, speed, and reliability," Mr. Pattanaik notes.

Social Media as an Engagement Tool

Social media has become a powerful platform for education and engagement. LIC International uses structured social media initiatives to reach the right audience, promote financial literacy, and connect with younger NRIs who prefer digital-first communication.

Trust: The Cornerstone of LIC International

NRIs plan their finances across countries, regulations, and currencies. They look for institutions that will honour commitments decades into the future. LIC International's 36-year overseas legacy provides that confidence. Trust is earned through consistency, transparency, and dependable service—it cannot be built overnight.

Republic Day Message

On this proud occasion, Mr. Pattanaik extends warm Republic Day greetings to all Indians living in Bahrain, GCC and across the world. "Let us reaffirm our commitment to our motherland by contributing positively wherever we are, preserving India's rich heritage, and working towards a stronger future for generations to come. Jai Hind!"

Why Bahrain is a Key Market within the GCC

Bahrain is home to a vibrant Indian expatriate community and is recognised as a regional financial hub with strong regulation, transparency, and increasing digital adoption. For LIC International, Bahrain represents trust, scale, and long-term potential. All policies are denominated in US Dollars, enabling customers to

make financial planning more accessible and transparent.

The Role of Digital Innovation

Digital innovation has made

financial planning more accessible and transparent.



Congratulate and extend warmest greetings to the Indian Community in the Kingdom of Bahrain, on the occasion of India's Republic Day



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From many hearts, one Republic

James John, Hon. President, Kerala Catholic Association

Let us renew our commitment to unity, patriotism, and shared progress

Republic Day is a moment to reflect on the values enshrined in our Constitution—justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity—which continue to guide India as a vibrant and inclusive democracy. This year's celebrations are particularly meaningful as we commemorate 150 years of "Vande Mataram," a song that embodies the spirit of India's freedom struggle and continues to inspire unity, patriotism, and national pride across generations.

This year, we also mark 55 years of diplomatic relations between India and the Kingdom of Bahrain, a

relationship founded on mutual respect, friendship, and cooperation. Over the decades, these ties have grown stronger through robust people-to-people connections, cultural exchanges, and economic collaboration. The Indian community in Bahrain has played a significant role in strengthening this bond by upholding Indian values while contributing positively to the social and economic development of the Kingdom.

Indian social and cultural associations have been central to this journey, fostering unity, preserving heritage, and nurturing a strong sense of belonging among the diaspora. In

this context, the Kerala Catholic Association, which has been serving the community since 1970, has consistently been at the forefront, steadfastly committed to promoting cultural harmony, social service, and unity in diversity—values that resonate deeply with the spirit of our Republic.

As we celebrate this Republic Day, let us renew our commitment to unity, patriotism, and shared progress.

On the proud occasion of the Republic Day of India, I extend my warm greetings and heartfelt wishes to all Indians, and especially to the esteemed readers of The Daily Tribune & News of Bahrain. Jai Hind.



Mahendra A. Bhatia, Hon. Secretary, Thattai Hindu Community (THC), Manages Shrinathji Shri Krishna Temple



This Republic Day, as we reflect on the values enshrined in our Constitution and celebrate 150 years of the composition of Vande Mataram, our hearts are filled with myriad emotions - pride in our heritage, joy in our cultural tapestry and quiet confidence in our future.

Our heartfelt gratitude to Shri Bankim Chandra Chatterji for creating Vande Mataram, which is more than a poetry; it is a heartfelt salutation to

our Motherland, symbolizing India's natural beauty and cultural richness, the unity and collective resolve of the people to face any challenges and reverence for our Dharti Maa that has nurtured diverse cultures and traditions.

As members of the Indian diaspora in the Kingdom of Bahrain, these values travel with us across generations. The Indian community has consistently contributed positively to the Kingdom, which is their 'second home' in vari-

ous fields. On a personal note, our Shrinathji Shri Krishna Temple is not just a place of worship, but also a place of service, where compassion, mutual respect and community upliftment form the core values.

On this patriotic occasion, may the essence of Vande Mataram guide us to deepen our unity and serve humanity with selfless dedication. We wish all our Indian brothers and sisters a Happy Republic Day. Jai Hind, Vande Mataram!

Vande Mataram - What it means for the Indian Diaspora in Bahrain

Nirmala V Rajan, President, Indian Fine Arts Society

Tiranga in Our Hearts, Progress in Our Actions



As we celebrate Republic Day in 2026, a fitting slogan celebrating unity, progress, and heritage is: One Nation, One Dream: Rising Together for a Stronger India. This theme reflects the ongoing journey towards a developed, self-reliant nation while honoring the sacrifices that secured its freedom. It also is a reminder of the values of justice, equality and liberty that define the country.

United We Stand, Developed We Rise: India's cultural heritage is un-

derpinned by righteous way of life and treating the world as one large family. This allows us not only to look at ways to grow and develop in a friendly and conducive manner, but also allows for fostering friendly relationship and cooperation with a multitude of countries.

One of India's famous legacy is its rich fine arts, music and culture. Indian Fine Arts Society, established in 1974, is one of the oldest associations promoting India's fine arts, music, and culture in Bahrain for more than 50 years by bringing several

world-renowned and distinguished artists from India. This has allowed both the Indian diaspora and other nationals (including Bahrainis) to appreciate and partner with IFAS in promoting the same. As we enter 2026, we pledge to continue bringing We request Indians to continue supporting such activities in the future also.

Our Freedom is not a historical event, it is Honouring the Past, Building the Future, is about passing this legacy forward — giving young people opportunities to learn,

perform, and grow through music, dance, and the arts. Each performance, workshop, and cultural exchange becomes a bridge between generations, deepening roots while broadening horizons.

As India marks its Republic Day, we reaffirm our mission: to keep our culture vibrant, make it accessible to all, and ensure the freedom we enjoy today becomes the foundation for the artistic dreams of tomorrow — in Bahrain, and beyond.

Jai Hind!!!Vande Mataram!

Smitha Jensen, President, Indian Ladies Association (ILA)

Homage to the sacrifices made by our forebearers

On this historic day, let us pay homage to the sacrifices made by our forebears and honor the dreams they envisioned for a free and thriving India. As we celebrate 150 years of Vande Mataram, let it echo as a reminder of our duty to contribute to our nation's growth wherever we may reside.

Each one of us plays a crucial

role in shaping the future, and together, we can uphold the dignity and glory of our Country.

As we celebrate our diversity, let us stand united in our commitment to work towards a nation where every citizen can flourish.

Wishing everyone a proud and joyous Republic Day!
JAI HIND!



Yatin Shingare, President, Maharashtra Cultural Society



It is a moment of profound pride as we mark the historic 150th anniversary of our national song, 'Vande Mataram'. Penned by Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay, this hymn was not merely a song but a mantra that ignited the flame of independence and united millions under a single vision of freedom.

Today, as we reflect on this year's theme, we are reminded

that 'Vande Mataram' is more than lyrics; it is an enduring spirit of unity and selfless love for the motherland. It teaches us that our identity is rooted in our shared heritage and our collective strength.

Here in the Kingdom of Bahrain, thousands of miles from our motherland, this spirit remains vibrant. The Indian community, and particularly our Maharashtra family, continues to uphold

these values by serving as ambassadors of peace and hard work. By contributing to the growth of this beautiful Kingdom while preserving our rich culture, we honor the true essence of patriotism—respect for the land we come from and the land that sustains us.

Let us renew our pledge to serve both our nations with dedication and harmony.

Vande Mataram! Jai Hind.

Let us renew our pledge to serve both our nations with dedication and harmony



Indian Embassy expands focus state initiative

Over the past year, the Embassy has rotated monthly state showcases featuring cultural displays, tourism highlights and 'One District One Product' items, drawing strong community participation in Bahrain



May the Spirit of Unity, Integrity, and Progress
Continue to Guide Our Nation.

**HAPPY
REPUBLIC DAY
INDIA**
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occupation of LAUNDERER/PRESSER(GEN-ERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33172227 or B13AL199@GMAIL.COM

MIG HOLDING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TRAINING CO-ORDINATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17562722 or NALRUMAIHI@DAMANA.COM

PATRICK YORK IRELAND INSURANCE AND REINSURANCE BROKERS CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (IN- SURANCE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17587031 or finance@pybahrain.com

CREATIVE METAL WORKS W.L.L has a vacan- cy for the occupation of STEEL FABRICATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34178093 or FBENSAN@YAHOO.COM

NOSHAI COMBINED FACILITIES SUPPORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE WORKER HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34498050 or UMAIR- GULZAR581@GMAIL.COM

MAEALIM ALDIYRA REAL ESTATE AND TRANSACTION CLEARANCE EST has a vacan- cy for the occupation of DATA ENTRY OPERA- TOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35520034 or BOGSAN992@GMAIL.COM

BEN EID TOWERS CLEANING W.L.L has a vacan- cy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34498050 or UMAIR- GULZAR581@GMAIL.COM

STAR GROUP COMPANY W.L.L has a vacan- cy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 1730013 or ahmed@stargroupbh.com

ECO FIBRE BAHRAIN W.L.L has a vacan- cy for the occupation of MACHINE OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17715992 or hicpac@gmail.com

INTERIOR SOLUTIONS COMPANY has a vacan- cy for the occupation of MACHINE OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17832022 or KEHF-2011@HOTMAIL.COM

BEN EID TOWERS CLEANING W.L.L has a vacan- cy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17250078 or KEHF-2011@HOTMAIL.COM

BEN EID TOWERS CLEANING W.L.L has a vacan- cy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17250078 or KEHF-2011@HOTMAIL.COM

BEN EID TOWERS CLEANING W.L.L has a vacan- cy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 1725007

Classifieds

VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

MESH BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of CUSTOMER SERVICES COORDINATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36121619 or mazameq@gmail.com

MARSHAL MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17225664 or MARSHALL@BATELCO.COM.BH

VAL TECH CAR PARKING COMPANY - FOREIGN BRANCH COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33320115 or abdullah@valtech.com.kw

RANA IKHLAQ CONSTRUCTION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33424410 or AHMRAZA134@GMAIL.COM

PANTIP IT SOLUTIONS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COMPUTER TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17213045 or SUJITH.BAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

MASAHE SPA & SALON LOUNGE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66355569 or A.H.BH.1141@GMAIL.COM

111 GRILLS & RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33557572 or 111GRILLS.RESTAURANT@GMAIL.COM

YALLA MUTABAQ has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33633360 or YALLA-MUTABAQ@GMAIL.COM

BAHRAIN SERVICES & MAINTENANCE COMPANY B.S.C. (CLOSED) has a vacancy for the occupation of SERVICEMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17727676 or aqeel@basma.com.bh

DAR KHADRA SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34660064 or A7LAM-WARDIYA@HOTMAIL.COM

Master Mind Construction & Workshop has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33349008 or ANAMNASIR.91@GMAIL.COM

SECURE SERVICES LIMITED W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of STOREKEEPER ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36046021 or carl@SECURESERVICES.BH

WADI SHINKIARI FACILITIES SUPPORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36484758 or ATTAU3421@GMAIL.COM

ABU MUNEER MANPOWER has a vacancy for the occupation of SECRETARY, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33997750 or abu-muneer.manpower@gmail.com

DREAMLOOM SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37050560 or ZAHEERIM2@GMAIL.COM

MOHAMMED JAKIR EVENTS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33037484 or MOHAMMEDJAKIR979@GMAIL.COM

ZAINAB JAAFAR ABDULNABI AHMED YUSUF has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33178630 or AWAK908@GMAIL.COM

ALSHENOW DECOR has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39909908 or FTHEWHAT@HOTMAIL.COM

SAUDI GEOPHYSICAL CONSULTING OFFICE COMPANY BRANCH OF A FOREIGN COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of TRADE / VOCATIONAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33326575 or PUBLICRELATION@SAUDIGEOPHYSICAL.COM

SAFINA FACILITIES SUPPORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17674319 or DUAJMALKHALIFA@ASRY.NET

SAFINA FACILITIES SUPPORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of RIGGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17674319 or DUAJMALKHALIFA@ASRY.NET

PRIMEBRIGHT TRADING & FACILITY CARE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33171793 or SAMMISIAL97@GMAIL.COM

AIN ALJAZEERA BUILDING CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of CLERK(EMPLOYEES' RECORDS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34092612 or BHOLAG@YAHOO.COM

SAFINA FACILITIES SUPPORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of FITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17674319 or DUAJMALKHALIFA@ASRY.NET

Dalin Star Garage has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified

applicants can contact 33323381 or AHMADMOHD0200@GMAIL.COM

INTERIOR SOLUTIONS COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17832022 or hamida.alhubail@havelockone.com

SITRA PRINTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OPERATOR (PRINTING MACHINE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33369222 or DESIGN.CONCORD@GMAIL.COM

KULDEEP LAUNDRY has a vacancy for the occupation of LAUNDERER/PRESSER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39874874 or MAIDOOSRI95@GMAIL.COM

ZYLISH CONSTRUCTION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCE)GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36296424 or SALAM.ABEER@GMAIL.COM

ARAB Union Contracting Co W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17533125 or GOLDENGROUPBAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

ALMAHOOD COMPANY LTD.W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ENGINEER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400484 or AHMED@ALMAHOOD.CO

AL ZAFARAN RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17255420 or RAJA_YASEEN@YMAIL.COM

DENIM LAND FASHION has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32121090 or friends-realestate4@gmail.com

RAJPOT BAKERY has a vacancy for the occupation of BAKER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39888023 or CHSHAFI0581@GMAIL.COM

ASKA CONSTRUCTION COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34203410 or bmcc.bh@gmail.com

MOHAMMED AHMADI CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER-CLEANING(HAND & CHEMICAL SOLUTIONS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17268111 or hrd1@macb.com

D C C CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39887610 or ABDULLA@Micosab.com

CITY CORNER CAFETERIA has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(JUICE & SANDWICHES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33549579 or CRS68882@HOTMAIL.COM

AHMED OMAR TRADING & CONTRACTING EST W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of FOREMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17258545 or admin@ahmedomer.com

DAWABA MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33990445 or SANGHAMANINDER7@GMAIL.COM

CRAVE COMPUTER PROGRAMMING CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE BOY / FARRASH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33249430 or KIANIBRAZILIAN@GMAIL.COM

Jassim Kowaitan Services has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36969484 or KOWAITAN@OUTLOOK.COM

MUSCLE MECHANIC MEN MASSAGE THERAPY has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35533000 or ALKAABI_99@HOTMAIL.COM

AL RASHID GROUP B.S.C. (CLOSED) has a vacancy for the occupation of WAREHOUSE KEEPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17116280 or info@rih.com.bh

SHANAB HAPPY MENS SALON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33608189 or ST-RIND@HOTMAIL.COM

SAFIRI MOTORS SHOWROOM BAHRAIN PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17644899 or GULFSANDCON@GMAIL.COM

MAHIN STAR SALOON BAHANI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39266601 or ABDULLAH33821112@GMAIL.COM

INSPIRE INTERIOR DECORE SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38890864 or SALOUCHINA.DAWOOD@GMAIL.COM

AL MAWATEEN GARAGE AND SPARE PARTS has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39248620 or EVERGREENDOCUMENT@GMAIL.COM

HOME PROMISES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34549042 or MOON62476@GMAIL.COM

FUTURE CREATIVITY CENTER ADVERTISING has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33903636 or ITC.WLL786@GMAIL.COM

ABU NABEEL GADOON BAKERY has a vacancy for the occupation of BREAD BAKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36099940 or

suitably qualified applicants can contact 39064201 or BABARAMDHANCONTRACTING@GMAIL.COM

RED HANIWALA COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37617271 or HAMMID77MP@GMAIL.COM

EDGE TO EDGE SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE WORKER HELP-ER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33330326 or AWAISCH3333@HOTMAIL.COM

ALMRSAL SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17111245 or HWADAEI@MOIC.GOV.BH

KAWKAB BUSINESS SUPPORT SERVICES EST has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCE)GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34111343 or KAWKAB.914@HOTMAIL.COM

MOHAMED ALI IDREES ALGHANEMI has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33374488 or M-ALGANEIMI@HOTMAIL.COM

SHEILA MALATE ADAN FACILITIES SUPPORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33399694 or KHALOO0093@GMAIL.COM

FRIENDS DECORATION S P C has a vacancy for the occupation of DECORATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35163636 or ralistradetech@gmail.com

2012electrical workshop has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36297475 or 2010electrical.works@gmail.com

NEW ABS EXPRESS CARGO SERVICES AND GENERAL TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE REPRESENTATIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17274955 or ABSEXPRES@GMAIL.COM

ALNAHYA CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 3331643 or NAHI.CONTRACTING@HOTMAIL.COM

SMOOTH GATE AUTO SPARE PARTS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CAR CLEANER(WASHING & GREASING W.SHOP), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39755899 or Z.GERRY88@GMAIL.COM

JAHECON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17244111 or JAHECON@BATELCO.COM.BH

PRO PIZZA BH W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66668266 or sales@plus965trading.com

JAHECON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17244111 or JAHECON@BATELCO.COM.BH

ALHILAL MEDICAL CENTER MANAMA BSC CLOSED has a vacancy for the occupation of CUSTOMER SERVICES COORDINATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39338879 or HRD@ALHILALHEALTHCARE.COM

COMALHILAL MEDICAL CENTER MANAMA BSC CLOSED has a vacancy for the occupation of CUSTOMER SERVICES COORDINATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39338879 or HRD@ALHILALHEALTHCARE.COM

ALMULLA MECHANICAL WORKSHOP has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39717147 or ALMULLAMECHANIC@GMAIL.COM

Kingdom Security Protection Services W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17821593 or RASHEED@SECURICORE.BH

MASOOMA CLEANING has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36234070 or MUHAMMADAYYAN3440@GMAIL.COM

RED HANIWALA COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DECORATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37617271 or HAMMID77MP@GMAIL.COM

LULU BAHRAIN HYPERMARKET W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of RETAIL TRADE SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17558558 or careers@bh.lulumea.com

KOSHA EVENTS has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTRY WORKER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36771377 or AlikoshaAlikosha@gmail.com

ROYAL SARAY RESORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of RECEPTION CLERK, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77707070 or hrm@sevensholding.com

CHICKET W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35114403 or DPASIF@YAHOO.COM

ABU EHTESHAM CLEANING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33803636 or ITC.WLL786@GMAIL.COM

ABU NABEEL GADOON BAKERY has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES MAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39182718 or CONFIF

ane85501@gmail.com

AASHI RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DISH WASHER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33956025 or DIMENSIONALSTONES@GMAIL.COM

BAHRAIN COFFEE BREWERS COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SERVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17722171 or ANEESH@FOODVESTHOLDING.COM

QN DECORE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of EQUIPMENTS OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33323816 or ABBAS78@BATELCO.COM.BH

SARGANA CARGO HANDLING CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCE)GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33153139 or SAMIULAH58962@GMAIL.COM

DESI SHERAZ MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38307897 or AZIZKHANJEE85@GMAIL.COM

BS TAILORING has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33399694 or KHALOO0093@GMAIL.COM

TRAAGS GENRAL TRADING CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32299648 or PRINCEDOHA786@GMAIL.COM

UM RASHID CONSTRUCTION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34431885 or SARHARA931@GMAIL.COM

BAUSKA SUPPORT SERVICE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE WORKER HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36880843 or E.BRA5058@YAHOO.COM

BAUSKA SUPPORT SERVICE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE WORKER HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36880843 or E.BRA5058@YAHOO.COM

SPECTRUM HAIR SALON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36947146 or TARIQCRW786@GMAIL.COM

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY SERVICES CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38080801 or HR@issb.com

2000 Turnery Workshop has a vacancy for the occupation of ESTIMATOR(COST), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17784189 or INFO@2000WORKSHOP.COM

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VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

Aqua Technology Transfer W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCE),GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17233317 or aquatt.hr@gmail.com

ALLAQ RESORT COMPANY BSC CLOSED SOFTEL BAHRAIN ZALLAQ THALA has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17631660 or ahmed@jazayani.com

JW EVENTS AND DOCUMENT CLEARANCE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38888675 or ABDUL-MUNEER@HOTMAIL.COM

SOHEL MANAGEMENT CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 3905859 or BABUBH58@YAHOO.COM

KEBBE MEDIA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PHOTOGRAPHER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 38440036 or FIRASKEBEE@GMAIL.COM

AZAD FACILITIE SUPPORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39531010 or AZAD440908@GMAIL.COM

PAKWAN GHAR RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33981326 or AAMIR786BAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

Abbas Car Services has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (CAR MECHANICAL WORKSHOP), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39891694 or ALABAS81@HOTMAIL.COM

GURU 66 FOR ADVERTISING BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36549635 or DOCUMENTBHA9@GMAIL.COM

SHAHBAZ INTERIOR DECORE CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33909624 or SHAHBAZAHMED9624@GMAIL.COM

AL HADI TRAVELS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TRAVEL AGENT(TICKETING & RESERVATION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39176460 or AZEEZAP131@GMAIL.COM

ESHBAH ARAD CAFETERIA has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39050008 or INFO-BAHRAIN2@GMAIL.COM

YAMOLAKO SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33015010 or INFO28TRAVEL@GMAIL.COM

KURUMULAKH CAFETERIA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39839739 or SAYEDHELPLINE888@GMAIL.COM

SERIES COMBINED FACILITIES SUPPORT SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCE),GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33673786 or WASEEMYOUNISSK1122@GMAIL.COM

HAMZA ALASWAD TRADING CENTRE has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39333657 or HALASWAD2006@YAHOO.COM

BIZTACKLE INNOVATIONS CO WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (MARKETING), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33008393 or AGNELGR@GMAIL.COM

clean and green services has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39922434 or cleangreenbh@gmail.com

VITARO SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33015010 or INFO28TRAVEL@GMAIL.COM

JIO GADGET MOBILE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 3690706 or SALMANCHAUDHRY40@GMAIL.COM

ALNAISHAN CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION),GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17722155 or schain6@gmail.com

RIFFA WATCHES LAND MOBILE SERVICES AND PERFUME TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37203794 or WATCHESLAND.BH@GMAIL.COM

THE DIAMOND EYES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33668524 or SHAZADMALAK2014@GMAIL.COM

FIORI TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33194444 or FGROUP.BH@GMAIL.COM

SPICE ROUTE RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CASHIER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39223779 or SKY.MOON.CLEARING@GMAIL.COM

Trump's envoys press Israel to reopen key crossing into Gaza

AFP | Washington

US envoys Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner urged Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to reopen the Rafah crossing between Gaza and Egypt during talks in Jerusalem, Israeli media reported yesterday.

The reports came after a newly appointed administrator for Gaza said Thursday that the crossing would be operational in both directions next week.

Israeli news site Ynet reported, citing an unnamed Israeli official, that while the meeting between Netanyahu, Witkoff and Kushner was "positive", Witkoff pressed Israel to reopen Rafah even before Hamas returns the remains of the last Israeli hostage believed to be held in Gaza.

According to the official, Witkoff also raised the possibility of Turkey playing a role in Gaza's future.

"Witkoff pushed to bring our greatest rival, Turkey, to our border," the official was quoted as saying.

"The clock is ticking toward a confrontation with Turkey, which would pose a real threat to our security."

The official also accused Witkoff of acting on behalf of Doha, saying he had "become a lobby-



A Palestinian man walks amid destroyed buildings in Khan Yunis, in the southern Gaza Strip

ist for Qatari interests", according to Ynet.

When asked to confirm the Israeli media reports, Shosh Bedrosian, spokeswoman for Netanyahu's office, told AFP that she would look into the matter.

Netanyahu has repeatedly rejected any Turkish role in post-war Gaza, despite US President Donald Trump having invited President Recep Tayyip Erdogan to join his so-called "Board of

Peace".

Relations between Israel and Turkey have deteriorated since the war in Gaza broke out in October 2023 following the Hamas attack on Israel.

Reopening Rafah forms part of a Gaza truce framework announced by Trump in October, but the crossing has remained closed after Israeli forces took control of it during the war.

However, Ali Shaath, ap-

pointed to head a committee of 15 Palestinian technocrats tasked with overseeing Gaza's day-to-day administration, said at the World Economic Forum on Thursday that the gateway would reopen next week.

The crossing is a key entry point for humanitarian aid to Gaza's 2.2 million residents. "For Palestinians in Gaza, Rafah is more than a gate, it is a lifeline and a symbol of oppor-

tunity," Shaath said.

Israeli officials are under pressure from the family of the last hostage whose remains are still in Gaza. Of the 251 people seized during the Hamas attack of October 7, 2023 that triggered the war, only the body of Ran Gvili remains in the territory.

"We ask that the prime minister of Israel make clear to the respected American envoys that anyone who truly seeks to advance the rehabilitation of Gaza and peace in the Middle East must first and foremost bring Rani home," Gvili's family said in a statement ahead of Netanyahu's meeting with the US officials.

ISRAEL

American daredevil free-climbs Taiwan's tallest building



US rock climber Alex Honnold raises his arms from the top of the Taipei 101 building

AFP | Taipei

ite monolith.

It had always been a dream of Honnold's to add scaling Taipei 101 to his list of achievements he told reporters, adding that his first request had been rejected. He did not offer more details about why this was the case.

"For the project to come together more than a decade later... It's so great. What an opportunity, it is such a pleasure," he added.

Honnold is the first person to free solo climb Taipei 101, without a rope, harness, or safety net, but not the first to reach its peak.

In 2004, Alain Robert, dubbed "the French Spiderman," was the first to take on the challenge, but used safety ropes because of the rainy conditions.

Yesterday's spectacle drew crowds of hundreds, with onlooker Richard Bode, 34, calling the event a "once-in-a-lifetime experience."

Benson, 24, told AFP that Honnold was "incredibly brave", while others, like Lin Chia-jou, 54, said it was "terrifying" to watch.

Second killing in Minneapolis by US federal agents sparks uproar



A photograph of 37-year-old Alex Patti can be seen at a makeshift memorial in the area where he was shot dead by federal immigration agents

AFP | Minneapolis

The killing of a US citizen by federal immigration agents on Saturday -- the second in Minneapolis this month -- sparked new protests and impassioned demands by local leaders for the Trump administration to end its operation in the city.

Federal agents shot dead Alex Patti, a 37-year-old ICU nurse, while scuffling with him on an icy roadway, less than three weeks after an Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officer shot and killed Renee Good, also 37, in her car.

The Trump administration quickly claimed, as it did after Good's death, that Patti had intended to harm the federal

agents, even as video of the incident appeared to contradict their account.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) pointed to a pistol and ammunition it said was discovered on Patti.

"He was there to perpetuate violence," Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem told a briefing, while White House deputy chief of staff Stephen Miller referred to Patti as an "assassin," in a post amplified on X by Vice President JD Vance.

However, as with Good's death, cell phone footage of the incident raised serious questions about the federal government's description of the incident.

Video aired widely by US media, which AFP has not verified,

shows Patti filming agents in the snow-lined street and directing traffic.

After an agent shoves a woman protester to the ground on the sidewalk, Patti steps in between them and is sprayed in the face by a chemical irritant.

The agent then pulls Patti to the ground and several officers struggle to detain him on the icy roadway.

Seconds later, as an officer apparently discovers and pulls a gun from Patti's pants, agents open fire, also shooting his motionless body several times from a distance.

Patti's parents in a statement circulated by US media called him a "kindhearted soul" and accused the Trump administration of telling "sickening lies" about their son.

Korneeva wins inaugural Manama Open title

TDT | Manama

Russia's Alina Korneeva captured the first Manama Open women's tennis title after defeating France's Fiona Ferro 6-4, 6-0 in a commanding final on the courts of the Officers Club at the Interior Ministry.

Korneeva edged a tightly contested first set marked by frequent service breaks, using her powerful serve and precise groundstrokes to secure a 6-4 lead before completely dominating the second set 6-0 to seal the victory.

The tournament was hosted by the Bahrain Tennis Federa-



Winner Alina Korneeva and runner-up Fiona Ferro with officials after the awarding ceremony

tion in highly competitive conditions, with both players showcasing a high level of play in the opening set before the Russian raised her intensity and physical presence to close out the match.

Following the final, Bahrain Tennis Federation president Sheikh Abdulaziz bin Mubarak Al Khalifa and vice-president Sheikh Khalid bin Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa presented the trophies to the players, in the presence of Sheikh Salman bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa and tournament referee Dr Ashraf Hammouda.

Sheikh Abdulaziz hailed the

technical standard of the inaugural event, saying that hosting such international tournaments strengthens Bahrain's position on the global tennis map and supports the federation's ambition to make the kingdom a regional destination for major tennis competitions.

Korneeva expressed her delight at lifting the title, describing the final as one of her toughest matches in recent competitions and praising Ferro as a distinguished opponent, while thanking the organisers for their warm hospitality and "excellent organisation" and hoping to return for future editions of the Manama Open.

Awali Golf Club retains Green Brown Trophy after dramatic draw



TDT | Manama

Awali Golf Club retained the Green Brown Challenge Trophy after a tense 5.5-5.5 draw with The Royal Golf Club in their annual matchplay contest, a unique event that pits sand browns against grass greens.

The competition, conceived in 2011 by Awali captain Ste-

ve Newall and former Royal captain Ed Daly, features pairs matches over 18 holes split between the two courses. Long dominated by The Royal, the rivalry shifted in recent years after Awali claimed victories in 2024 and 2025, making a win or draw sufficient to hold on to the trophy.

This year's encounter saw 22 players from both clubs in

a closely fought battle, with The Royal racing into a 4.5-2.5 lead before Awali mounted a late comeback to level the contest.

After The Royal edged a match on the final hole, the outcome hinged on the last pairing, where Newall and Darren Harris secured a decisive victory to seal the draw and ensure Awali's retention of the cup.

Bahrain's warriors march on despite defeat

National Team Books Place at 2027 Worlds Despite Saudi Victory

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

Bahrain's handball team showed poise under pressure in the final main-round match against Saudi Arabia yesterday in Kuwait City. Despite a 23-21 defeat, the national squad advanced to the semi-finals of the 22nd Asian Men's Handball Championship and secured qualification for the 2027 IHF Men's Handball World Championship in Germany, marking the Kingdom's eighth appearance in the global showpiece.

The match at Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salim Al Sabah Hall opened at a brisk pace, with Saudi Arabia striking first. Captain Hussain Al Sayyad, drawing on his experience in the Saudi league with Al Khaleej, quickly leveled the score and guided Bahrain's attacks. Qassim Qambar and Mohammed Habib combined effectively on fast breaks, while goalkeeper Mohammed Abdulkhassan made crucial saves to keep Bahrain in contention.

Momentum swung several times in the first half. Al Sayyad served a two-minute suspension, giving Saudi a brief edge, while Saudi's Mohab Khulaif was later sent off for injuring Bahrain's Salman Alshowai-



Bahrain's skipper Al Sayyad struggles to break free from Al Hassan

kh, leaving Saudi temporarily one player down. During this tense spell, coach Robert Hedin made key adjustments to stabilize Bahrain's defense, while Saudi coach Dimitrios Dimitroulias countered with aggressive transitions and accurate seven-metre shooting. Bahrain responded each time, equalizing repeatedly and carrying an 11-10 lead into halftime.

The second half remained intense. Al Sayyad orchestrated Bahrain's play, including a long-range assist to Jassim Khamis, who struck into an empty net to make it 19-17. The Saudis then

rallied in the closing minutes, with a decisive seven-metre strike from Mohammed Al Abbas, who was named man of the match and awarded by Ali Mohammed Isa Abdulla Eshraqi, President of the Bahrain Handball Federation and Vice President of the Asian Handball Federation.

Al Sayyad finished with six goals and four assists, while Abdulkhassan's saves were pivotal. For Saudi, Al Abbas scored seven goals, including a perfect 6/6 from seven metres, complemented by Furaj Hussian's fast-break strikes.

Bahrain's Mohammed Almoudweb elected to International Sport for All Federation board

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Mohammed Almoudweb has been elected to the Board of Directors of the International Sport for All Federation (FISPT) for the 2026-2030 term, marking a significant milestone for regional representation in the global sporting community. The election took place during the federation's general assembly in Civitanova Marche, Italy, which saw robust participation from international delegates and sports organizations.

In a dual achievement for the region, Almoudweb was also appointed as the Assistant Secretary-General and the official representative for Asia and the Middle East. This strategic appointment is expected to strengthen the bridge between the international body and sporting initiatives across the Asian continent, fostering greater collaboration in "sport for all" programs designed to increase physical activity and community engagement.

The International Sport for All Federation is a premier global body dedicated to promoting physical health and ac-



Mohammed Almoudweb
elected to the board director
for the 2026-2030 term.

International Sport for All Federation

cessible sports for people of all ages and backgrounds. With the new board now in place for the next four years, the organization aims to expand its grassroots reach and solidify its influence in emerging sporting hubs.

Djokovic, Alcaraz into Melbourne last eight as next gen roars

AFP | Melbourne

Carlos Alcaraz powered into the Australian Open quarter-finals yesterday and Novak Djokovic joined him without hitting a ball, as the next generation roared.

Aryna Sabalenka surged through but Coco Gauff was forced to fight at Melbourne Park, where temperatures eased to 22C after the brutal heat of a day earlier.

Top seed Alcaraz was in ominous touch at Rod Laver Arena, dismissing the American Tommy Paul 7-6 (8/6), 6-4, 7-5 in a masterclass.

The 22-year-old plays home



Spain's Carlos Alcaraz hits a return against USA's Tommy Paul

hope and sixth seed Alex de Minaur, who defeated 10th seed Alexander Bublik in straight sets.

Djokovic, chasing a record

25th Grand Slam crown, was scheduled to face Jakub Mensik in the last 16 on Monday but the Czech player pulled out injured.

Djokovic will face American ninth seed Taylor Fritz or fifth seed Lorenzo Musetti of Italy for a place in the semi-finals.

Alcaraz, who like Djokovic is yet to drop a set at this year's tournament, has never gone beyond the quarter-finals in Melbourne.

If he can finally break his Australian duck he will become the youngest man in history to win a career Grand Slam of all four majors.

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