

Bahrain thanked by Serbian leader



HM the King

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HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, received cables of thanks from Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic in reply to their congratulations on Serbia's Independence Day.

Cable for Tanzania

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Hassan on her country's Union Day.

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa sent a cable of congratulations to Tanzania President Samia Hassan on her country's Union Day.

HM King Hamad wished President Hassan abundant health and happiness on this national occasion.

Biban TV show preparations begin

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Al Moayyed held a meeting with the board members.

Youth and Sports Affairs Minister and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Hope Fund Ayman bin Tawfiq They discussed the ongoing preparations for the launch of Biban TV show's second season.

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Dust storm sweeps across the Kingdom

Horizontal visibility affected as dust-laden winds thickened the air

Staff Reporter
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Visibility was severely affected as a dust storm swept across the Kingdom yesterday.

The Meteorological Department within the Ministry of Transport and Telecommunication has alerted of fast gusts, reaching up to 30 knots.

The maximum temperature recorded yesterday was 34 degree Celsius while the minimum temperature stood at 23 degree Celsius.

The atmosphere yesterday was thickened by dust-laden winds, leading to a low level of horizontal visibility, even partially masking many buildings in Manama.

A recent international study found that sand storms remained one of the reasons behind poor air quality in the Kingdom.

The Kingdom is among the 10 nations having the worst air quality. Conducted by Swiss firm IQAir, the 2021 World



Low levels of horizontal visibility across all major highways in the Kingdom yesterday

Air Quality Report is based on measurements of particulate matter obtained by ground-level monitoring stations worldwide.

PM2.5, the size studied, consists of fine aerosol particles measuring 2.5 microns or smaller in diameter and is thought to be the most harmful to health of the air pollutants monitored by international bodies.

PM2.5 concentration in Manama yesterday was 20.2 times above the WHO annual air quality guideline value.

The Kingdom came in at eighth, with 49.8 10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.

Bangladesh was rated the worst at 76.9 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, followed by Chad, Pakistan, Tajikistan and India. The readings for Bahrain were higher than in 2020.

A score over 50 means the level of PM2.5 exceeds the World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines by at least 10 times. In September, the WHO updated the guidelines for the first time in 15 years to push countries to do more to combat the problem. The researchers behind the report used the new guidelines to return its results.

A much severe dust storm was reported in the eastern part of

Saudi Arabia and many areas across Jordan.

Jordanian Public Security Department (PSD) urged citizens, especially those living in the eastern, southern and central regions, to remain vigilant in light of the dust storm and the accompanying low-visibility conditions.

A large plume of Saharan Desert dust was reported to be blowing over Egypt and the Eastern Mediterranean, shrouding many parts of the region with a heavy sheet of grey and orange dust.

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Nine disciples of Guru Chitralekha Ajith will be performing their 'Bharathanatyam Arangetram' on Friday 6:30 pm at Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam Diamond Jubilee Hall. The event has been titled Nupur Dwani. Bharatanatyam is a major Indian form of classical dance that originated in the modern-day province of Tamil Nadu. It is one of the most popular performing art forms of India. Above from left, students Avani Sharma, Ananya Mahesh, Jyotsna Subash, Bhavani Menon Pullat, Guru Chitralekha, Rishika Ravikumar, Shreya Vinod, Ridhiya Govil, Anne Rebecca and Naishada Nair.

Gulf Air praises royal support



Captain AlAlawi with Gulf Air staff
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Gulf Air Captain Acting Chief Executive Officer Waleed AlAlawi has hailed His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, for constantly supporting all frontline workers in the Kingdom's fight against the coronavirus (COVID-19).

Captain AlAlawi also commended the healthcare professionals, Bahrain Defence Force, Ministry of Interior, and rele-

vant authorities who all support national efforts to cushion the impact of the pandemic.

He praised the airline's efforts to provide services without interruption or disruption.

Captain AlAlawi recently handed the "Prince Salman bin Hamad Medal for Medical Merit" to numerous batches of the national cadres of the airline's employees.

This was in line with the royal order and in the context of the directives of HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minis-

ter to all concerned authorities to hand the medal to frontline workers across various sectors.

Captain AlAlawi congratulated the recipients of the "Prince Salman bin Hamad Medal for Medical Merit", expressing his thanks and appreciation to them for this medal, which represents a great honour.

He praised their strenuous efforts during the past period, and wishing them all success and encouraging them to put in further efforts towards the interest and prosperity of the Kingdom.