

Bahrain condoles with Thai Monarch

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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 condolences to His Majesty King Maha Vajiralongkorn of the Kingdom of Thailand on the demise of his mother, Queen Sirikit.

Kingdom welcomes Thailand-Cambodia ceasefire agreement



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The Kingdom of Bahrain welcomed the signing of the ceasefire agreement between Thailand and Cambodia, held under the mediation of the USE President Donald Trump, on the sidelines of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Summit in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

In a statement, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs emphasised that the Kingdom views this development as an important step toward protecting civilian lives and

Trump heads to Japan ahead of key Xi Jinping meeting

AFP | Kuala Lumpur

US President Donald Trump heads to Japan today for the second leg of an Asia tour expected to culminate in a meeting with China's Xi Jinping.

The trip, Trump's first swing through the region since returning to office, kicked off in Malaysia yesterday with a flurry of agreements.

That included Cambodia and Thailand with trade deals after co-signing ceasefire pact on the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) summit in Kuala Lumpur.

220 fils (includes VAT)



Press progress

Shura Council unanimously approves new law scrapping jail terms for publishing offences

● BD10,000 fines set to replace imprisonment

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

The Shura Council voted unanimously yesterday to approve a new Press Law that scraps prison terms for publishing offences, licenses professional electronic media and gives existing outlets six months to comply.

Fines of up to BD10,000 will replace jail.

Both chambers have backed the text; royal ratification is the next step, after which implementing arrangements will follow.

"No jail for journalists, with full backing for responsible electronic media. This is a law of press freedom," said Second Deputy Chair Dr Jihad Al Fadhel.

During debate, members drew a line between electronic media and social networks, argued for updating the law's title to match the sector and pointed to the financial strain on print.

Others pressed for independent licensing review, intellectual-property protections and GCC comparisons, while several backed wider ministerial leeway for regulating fast-changing online outlets alongside court oversight to keep a high ceiling



From left, H.E. Information Minister Ramzan Al Nuaim and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, H.E. Ghanim Al Buainin

with clear safeguards.

"Electronic media is not the same as social media and often sits beyond national jurisdiction; we must distinguish the two," said Shura member Dr Mohammed Ali Al Khuzai.

"Renaming the law puts it in the right frame. We cannot treat a changing sector with rigid, dated statutes," said Shura member Dr Bassam Al Bin Mohammed.

Pressures

He added that today's revenue squeeze on print and the speed of digital outlets demand a legislative base that helps journalists meet those pressures.

"Using 'accountability' rather than 'discipline' in sanctions reflects a reform-minded approach, and the law should also carry firm guarantees for press intellectual-property rights."

"Were these changes shaped by His Majesty's call for a mod-



ern, enlightened press law? The text must balance responsible freedom with practical flexibility for electronic media," said Shura member Ali Al Aradi, who also urged more room for the Information Ministry to set procedures for online platforms.

Review

"As a GCC bloc, we should review comparative texts and how neighbours handle similar laws," said Shura member Hamad Al Nuaimi. "Bahrain's press is nationally minded and its institutions are the trusted source in an

age of AI-generated content. Free expression is a means, not an end, and should serve the public interest," said Shura member Dr Ali Al Rumaihi.

Recalling Bahrain's press tradition, Shura member Dalal Al Zayed noted regulatory roots going back to the 1930s and said the key safeguard is judicial oversight of any primary or supplementary penalties, along with routes to challenge administrative decisions.

"The ceiling should be high, with clear bounds, and journalists also exercise self-restraint,"

she said.

Suspension

Courts may suspend newspapers or block websites during investigations where content is deemed to threaten national security or public order, and the Information Ministry, working with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, may direct outlets not to publish material issued by foreign governments.

Print and online outlets must carry official notices on sovereignty, defence, security or health if received in time for release.

Financing approval milestone

BD149.679mln allocated to 2,322 new housing applicants

● Over BD630mln disbursed for citizens as of third quarter of 2025

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A total of 2,322 new applications have been approved under Bahrain's Housing Finance Programme by the third quarter of 2025, with a total financing value of BD149.679 million, Her Excellency Amna bint Ahmed Al Rumaihi, Minister of Housing and Urban Planning, affirmed.

Since the programme's launch in 2022, more than 18,000 applications have been received, of which 10,504 have been approved, with disbursed financing reaching BD630.139 million as of the third quarter of 2025.

"The Tas'heel Aqari (Real Es-

tate Facilitation) option remains the most popular among beneficiaries, reflecting citizens' growing confidence in instant housing financing," Al Rumaihi noted.

The Minister highlighted that 81% of financing applications were transferred from traditional housing services to the programme's instant financing options.

Demand

She added that the recently launched Tas'heel + option, introduced in April 2025, has also seen strong demand, with over 600 applications submitted so far.

The programme offers increased financing ceilings of BD81,000 and BD91,000 under two repayment plans, alongside a fixed monthly installment not subject to periodic adjustments.

"This approach encourages

citizens to take confident steps toward purchasing suitable homes while ensuring financial sustainability," Al Rumaihi said.

Al Rumaihi commended the cooperation of commercial banks and real estate developers, which has contributed to rising demand for the financing options.

She also highlighted the role of the Bayti real estate platform, which streamlines the process by providing an integrated digital experience — from virtual property tours to booking, down payment, and financing completion.

Initiatives

The Minister further underscored the importance of Government Land Development Rights Projects in boosting interest in housing finance programmes, citing successful initiatives such as the Suhail

Housing Project in Al Lawzi, Al Naseem District in Salman City, Al Wadi project in Al Buhaier, Hoora Sanad project in the Southern Governorate, and the Khalifa City project providing over 3,000 housing units, along with other Housing Bank initiatives.

Al Rumaihi concluded that



This approach encourages citizens to take confident steps toward purchasing suitable homes while ensuring financial sustainability

H.E. AMNA BINT AHMED AL RUMAIHI, MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN PLANNING



Cultural collaboration

EU and BACA team up to jointly enhance National Museum of Bahrain and Al Qal’at Al-Bahrain site

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The European Union (EU) and the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities (BACA) have unveiled a joint roadmap to enhance Bahrain’s most significant cultural landmarks — the Bahrain National Museum and Al Qal’at Al-Bahrain, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The roadmap sets out a shared vision for cultural preservation, museum development, and capacity-building, marking a new chapter in EU-Bahrain cultural cooperation by combining EU’s technical expertise with BACA’s local knowledge.

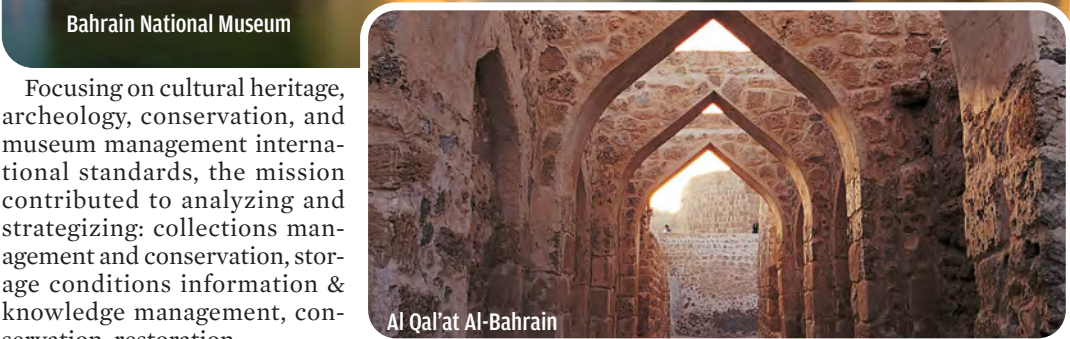
Focus

This initiative will focus on state-of-the-art museum technologies, conservation techniques, and expanded exhibition spaces.

Through this partnership, the EU contributed with an expert mission that involved exchanges with key stakeholders, government officials and staff, allowing for the joint development of the roadmap.



Bahrain National Museum



Al Qal’at Al-Bahrain

Focusing on cultural heritage, archeology, conservation, and museum management international standards, the mission contributed to analyzing and strategizing: collections management and conservation, storage conditions information & knowledge management, conservation, restoration.

Proud

Highlighting the importance of the initiative, Ambassador of the European Union to the Kingdom of Bahrain, H.E. Christophe Farnaud, emphasized that: “The European Union is proud to partner with the Bahrain Au-

thority for Culture and Antiquities to enhance the Bahrain National Museum and Al Qal’at al-Bahrain Site. These landmarks embody Bahrain’s rich heritage and its enduring role as a crossroads of civilizations. Through this collaboration, we aim to combine innovation and

preservation – ensuring that Bahrain’s story continues to inspire future generations”.

Ms Haya Ahmed Al-Sada, Director of Museums, stated that: “It is through these meaningful collaborative efforts between the EU, and BACA that we can develop sustainable strategies,

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Through this collaboration, we aim to combine innovation and preservation – ensuring that Bahrain’s story continues to inspire future generations

H.E. CHRISTOPHE FARNAUD, AMBASSADOR OF THE EU TO THE KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN

enhance our museums, and ensure that sites like the Bahrain National Museum and Qal’at Al-Bahrain continue to resonate on both a national and international level. We are truly grateful for this initiative and look forward to activating the plan in the medium term.”

Inauguration

The Bahrain National Museum was officially inaugurated by the late Amir His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa on 15 December 1988. It was

considered one of the finest museums of its kind in the Gulf region.

Today, the Bahrain National Museum is one of the island’s main cultural landmarks.

Opened in February 2008, the Qal’at al-Bahrain – Ancient Harbour and Capital of Dilmun seeks to maintain the ancient historic features of the site, as well as document the archaeological periods by preserving the artefacts discovered at the site.

Fort

Al Qala’at Al-Bahrain Site Museum is situated across from the historic Qala’at Al-Bahrain, one of the most important historic political and military forts in the GCC region.

The fort is part of the Qala’at Al-Bahrain Site, inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2005.

The joint roadmap builds upon the EU’s broader engagement with Gulf countries under the EU-GCC Outreach Facility highlighting the role of cultural diplomacy in strengthening mutual understanding and long-term partnerships.

7 - 8 نوفمبر



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Replacement plan

Move to tie foreign staff work visas at state firms to Bahrainisation targets

Mohammed Darwish
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Work visas for foreign staff at state-linked firms would hinge on Bahrainisation compliance under a proposal now before Parliament's Services Committee.

The plan, tabled by MP Dr Munir Seroor, gives qualified Bahrainis first call on administrative and leadership posts.

The memo says foreign staff have held many senior and mid-level roles for long periods, which has narrowed the path for capable nationals.

Role

It adds that the labour market already holds trained candidates, yet the absence of a clear replacement plan has limited their role.

The proposal sets out a national database of qualified Bahrainis, listing discipline, experience and specialism, to be the first point of reference when posts fall vacant.

Each company would keep an internal replacement plan with annual targets, hiring and training pathways, and a timetable that raises ratios over time from middle management to top posts.

Progress

Visa renewals for foreign employees would be tied to demonstrable progress, with temporary exemptions only



MP Dr Munir Seroor

where no suitable Bahraini is available.

The plan also calls for specialist training programmes with universities and training centres to ready nationals for leadership roles.

Incentives for compliant firms could include easier access to scarce technical hires and relief from selected government fees.

The labour market already holds trained candidates, yet the absence of a clear replacement plan has limited the Bahrainis' role.

Results

Oversight would rest with a national follow-up committee that would monitor delivery, issue yearly reports on Bahrainisation in administrative and leadership jobs, and publish the results.

Supporters frame the case around three points. Bahrain has the talent to fill these roles. Long stints by foreign staff in senior jobs have curbed advancement for citizens. Enabling Bahrainis to play a direct role in leading key economic sectors is a stated public aim.

Luxury scam

Two Asians on trial for attempted smuggling and tax evasion worth over BD309,000

Rehab Mohammad
TDT | Manama

The First High Criminal Court has begun hearing the case of two Asian men, aged 35 and 40, accused of attempting to smuggle four luxury watches that were skillfully concealed to avoid detection.

The pair are also charged with unlawfully reclaiming value-added tax (VAT) refunds totaling BD309,755 through 182 fraudulent transactions.

During the hearing, the two defendants appeared in court and denied the charges.

The court scheduled the next session for November 2 to hear the defense's arguments.

Report

According to the Financial Crimes and Money Laundering Prosecution, the Tax Evasion Crimes Unit received a report from the National Financial Intelligence Centre.

The centre had been notified by Customs Affairs about the defendants' attempt to leave Bahrain with undeclared high-end watches concealed in a sophisticated manner to avoid seizure by customs officers.

Investigations revealed that customs officers at Bahrain International Airport became suspicious of the two men during routine screening.



ities made them ineligible for VAT refunds intended exclusively for tourists.

Search

When asked if they were carrying any funds or valuables to declare, both denied having any. However, a search led to the discovery of four expensive watches carefully concealed to evade detection.

The defendants later claimed that they were engaged in an economic activity involving the purchase of luxury watches in Bahrain for resale abroad.

The National Bureau for Revenue (NBR) was contacted to verify whether the defendants had conducted VAT refund operations, and findings revealed that both had indeed submitted 182 refund claims—all obtained illegally, as their business activ-

Refund claims

Further inquiries confirmed that the first defendant had filed 57 refund claims amounting to BD102,711.822, while the second defendant had submitted 125 refund claims worth BD207,044.066.

Evidence included invoices, photographs of the items, and documentation from the NBR proving that the refunds were claimed under false pretenses.

One of the defendants told investigators that he resided in a Gulf country and, due to financial difficulties, began acting as a middleman between watch sellers and buyers, earning commissions of AED1,000 to AED2,000 per deal.



The defendants had attempted to leave Bahrain with undeclared high-end watches concealed in a sophisticated manner to avoid seizure by customs officers.

Inspection

He said he met the co-defendant and agreed to purchase and transport watches from Bahrain, concealing them by wearing long clothing to avoid inspection.

The Public Prosecution charged both men with tax evasion by fraudulently reclaiming VAT refunds while knowing they were not entitled to them.

They were also charged with failing to declare monetary assets when requested by customs officials, in violation of disclosure regulations at customs checkpoints.

‘Speed up payment for overdue promotions and allowances’

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

An urgent proposal from MP Hamad Al Doy calls on the government to speed up payment of overdue grade promotions and allowances owed to public-sector employees who, despite eligibility under Civil Service Bureau decisions, have yet to receive them.

He said the move answers rising calls from many employees whose dues are long past



Settling these dues would raise job satisfaction, build trust in public institutions and steady family finances, while improving the quality of government performance and services

MP HAMAD AL DOY



dates set by the Bureau.

According to him, some ministries and bodies have paid while others have not, creating uneven treatment and a sense of unfairness that has affected morale, efficiency and output.

Equal treatment

The proposal seeks equal treatment across government, to lift staff morale and strengthen a sense of belonging at work, and to ease pressure on Bahraini households as living costs rise.

It asks the government, through the Civil Service Bureau and working with the relevant bodies, to take immediate steps to pay all due promotions and allowances to every eligible employee without exception,

and to apply civil service rules in the same way across entities.

Al Doy said settling these dues would raise job satisfaction, build trust in public institutions and steady family finances, while improving the quality of government performance and services.

Allocations

He called for adherence to the allocations set in the state budget and cautioned against freezing them without an administrative reason.

The lawmaker added that carrying out the proposal would be a step towards fairness and sound administrative and financial discipline, and would show equal treatment of all staff.

Bahrain-Pakistan ties



His Excellency Dr. Shaikh Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications, reiterated the longstanding relations between the Kingdom of Bahrain and Pakistan, highlighting their continuous growth and development across various domains. Dr. Shaikh Abdullah bin Ahmed was speaking as he received H.E. Saqib Rauf, Ambassador of Pakistan to Bahrain. The Minister emphasised the ministry's commitment to enhancing cooperation in the transportation, communications, and logistics sectors to support shared interests and economic development in both countries. Ambassador Rauf commended the Kingdom's progress in transport and communications. He underlined his country's commitment to expanding cooperation to achieve mutual benefits and further development in areas of common interest.

LMRA, IOM sign deal to back regional training centre

TDT | Manama

The Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) signed the second-phase agreement to support the Regional Training Centre in Combating Trafficking in Persons (2025–2028).

The agreement was signed by H.E. Nibras Talib, LMRA Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the National Committee to Combat Trafficking in Persons; and Aishath Ihma Shareef, Head



H.E. Nibras Talib and Aishath Ihma Shareef show the agreement

of IOM Mission in Bahrain.

It aims to enhance Bahrain's efforts in combating trafficking in persons, build national and regional capacities, and strengthen cooperation in line with international standards.

Talib affirmed Bahrain's commitment to further developing its anti-trafficking efforts, drawing on international expertise and partnerships, particularly with IOM, to consolidate Bahrain's position as a leading regional model in victim protection and capacity-building

through the Regional Training Centre.

He noted that the second phase builds on the success of the first, through the implementation of new specialised training programmes and the development of practical tools to address various forms of trafficking in persons.

The new phase focuses on expanding capacity-building initiatives, adapting training curricula for a wider range of beneficiaries, preparing materials for frontline workers, developing

e-learning modules, and conducting awareness workshops.

It also aims to raise awareness among private sector employers on trafficking prevention.

The agreement includes the design of a professional diploma in combating trafficking in persons, the establishment of a monitoring and evaluation framework to assess performance and long-term impact, and the promotion of regional and international cooperation through high-level technical and social events.

Visitor comfort

H.E. Al Sairafi: Hotel services reflect authentic Bahraini hospitality, enhancing Kingdom's position on global tourism map



The close partnership between the Ministry and hoteliers directly contributes to raising the quality of services and enhancing the overall tourism experience

H.E. FATIMA BINT JAAFAR AL SAIRAFI, MINISTER OF TOURISM

TDT | Manama

The hospitality industry is a key partner in the success of Bahrain's tourism sector, playing an active role in achieving the objectives of the Tourism Strategy 2022-2026, Her Excellency Fatima bint Jaafar Al Sairafi, Minister of Tourism, affirmed.

She noted that the Kingdom's world-class hospitality offerings directly contribute to its positioning as a major tourist destination that meets the highest quality standards, while reflecting Bahrain's unique identity



Tourism stakeholders and other attendees at the event

and its authentic heritage of hospitality.

H.E. Al Sairafi was speaking at a meeting with representatives of the hospitality sector during which key statistics related to the tourism sector's performance this year were reviewed.

Cooperation

The meeting discussed ways of improving cooperation during Celebrate Bahrain 2025, as well as comprehensive efforts by both the ministry and the hotels to develop the sector.

H.E. the Minister explained that hospitality is a key component of the national tourism ecosystem, stressing that the close partnership between the Ministry and hoteliers directly contributes to raising the quality of services and enhancing the overall tourism experience.

She added that the successes achieved during the Celebrate

Bahrain season in previous years reflects a spirit of cooperation between the public and private sectors, noting that this year will witness a more diverse calendar of tourism experiences than ever before, raising the Kingdom's position as an all round regional family and entertainment destination.

Experience

Bahrain Tourism & Exhibitions Authority (BTEA) CEO, H.E. Sara Ahmed Buhiji, praised the role of hotels and other tourism establishments, which she said are a fundamental pillar of the sector's infrastructure and a pivotal element of the tourist experience.

Ongoing cooperation with these establishments has resulted in innovative tourism packages that combine accommodations, events, entertainment, and shopping during Cel-



Hotels and other tourism establishments are a fundamental pillar of the sector's infrastructure and a pivotal element of the tourist experience

H.E. SARA AHMED BUHIJI, CEO OF BAHRAIN TOURISM & EXHIBITIONS AUTHORITY (BTEA)

brate Bahrain, enhancing the Kingdom's attractiveness as a destination.

Appreciation

Representatives of the sector expressed their appreciation for the efforts of the Ministry of Tourism and the BTEA in enhancing Bahrain's tourist attractions, affirming their commitment to providing the best offerings to visitors during the coming season.

This will contribute to the sector's continued growth, consolidating the Kingdom's position on the regional and international tourism map.

BACA to mark International Day of Islamic Art in style

TDT | Manama

The Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities (BACA) presents a month-long programme of diverse activities, educational workshops, and artistic events in celebration of the International Day of Islamic Art, proclaimed by UNESCO on 18 November of each year.

Extending throughout November, the programme invites participants of all ages to take part in workshops and creative experiences designed to enrich their appreciation of Islamic art and its timeless beauty.

The programme opens with the Astronomy Night: Supermoon Stargazing at the Bahrain National Museum on Wednesday, 5 November,

offering visitors a chance to witness the breathtaking phenomenon of the supermoon at its closest approach to Earth.

Sketch Tour

On 8 November, a Sketch Tour will be held at Al Fadhel Mosque in Manama, led by artists Judy Abi Rustom and Dina Abdullah, exploring the harmony and beauty of Islamic design through an artistic lens.

Arabic calligraphy features prominently in the programme through the Letters Between Geometry and Art Workshop with trainer Jawaher Al Ali, taking place on Saturday, 15 November, at the Bahrain National Museum, offering participants a creative space that fuses imagination with tradition.

Airport road upgrade

Main works set to begin for Phase 3A development

TDT | Manama

Main works are set to begin for the road development project leading to Bahrain International Airport - Phase 3A.

This was announced by His Excellency Ibrahim bin Hassan Al Hawaj, Minister of Works. He highlighted that this strategic government project aims to improve the road network and its efficiency, ensuring smooth traffic flow and easy access to the airport and its facilities.

Al Hawaj said that the project will enhance infrastructure in Muharraq Governorate by reducing congestion on Arad and Khalifa Al Kabeer highways, meeting population growth, urban expansion, and citizens' expectations.

It supports sustainable development goals and Bahrain's Economic Vision 2030, he added.

The Minister explained



H.E. Ibrahim bin Hassan Al Hawaj

that Phase 3A at the Falcon Intersection includes full upgrades, such as rehabilitating the intersection and parts of Arad and Khalifa Al Kabeer highways.

He noted that the works involve constructing a new free left-turn bridge on Khalifa Al Kabeer highway at its junction with Arad highway and upgrading the existing waterway on Arad highway.

The project also includes landscaping and beautification works, along with a modern stormwater drainage system meeting approved engineering and environmental standards.

College to train Bahraini nurses and midwives

Demand rises for more healthcare professionals in public and private hospitals, clinics

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

MP Jaleela Al Sayed has put forward a plan to create a College of Nursing and Midwifery to train more Bahrainis as demand for care rises with new hospitals and clinics across the public and private sectors.

She said the aim is to build self-reliance in the nursing workforce and reduce dependence on expat labour.

The lawmaker noted there is no standalone government nursing college, and that nursing teaching is currently a department within the University of Bahrain's College of Health Sciences, which limits intake and narrows scope for academic and hands-on growth.



Founding the college is a step to upgrade health teaching and meet national staffing needs, improving care quality and embedding the principle of sustainability in human development

MP JALEELA AL SAYED

The proposal, according to Ms Al Sayed, fits the government push for applied teaching tied to the jobs market.

Bahrain Polytechnic is cited as the best home for the project because of its focus on applied sciences and practical courses linked to productive and service sectors.

Under the plan, the new college would offer modern degree paths and strike training ties with medi-

cal providers in Bahrain and abroad.

Students would take on intensive placements under joint academic and professional oversight, which, she said, would raise the skills of Bahraini staff and the standard of care for patients.

Goals

Al Sayed listed the goals as increasing the number of qualified Bahraini nurses, developing

applied health teaching, lifting community care, and backing long-term development plans, adding that the project would strengthen Bahrain's standing as a regional centre for applied health teaching.

She said founding the college is a step to upgrade health teaching and meet national staffing needs, improving care quality and embedding the principle of sustainability in human development.

'Movement and Creativity'



Her Excellency Rawan bint Najeeb Tawfiqi, Minister of Youth Affairs, participated in the Movement and Creativity event organised by Al Haraka Baraka movement at Souq Al Baraha. The event featured a special participation by Bahraini visual artist Abbas Al Moosawi, who presented artworks reflecting the spirit of creativity and movement within Bahraini society. The minister commended the movement for its innovative initiatives and projects that promote a culture of physical and creative activity among young people, noting that the authorities have become a model for motivating Bahraini talent and creating a vibrant youth environment.

Art exhibition



The "Firdaws" art exhibition was recently inaugurated in the presence of Abdulnabi Salman, First Deputy Speaker of the Council of Representatives, highlighting the Kingdom of Bahrain's rich history and civilization through contemporary art. Held at the Abaad Gallery, the exhibition features the works of 15 male and female artists, presenting a diverse range of artistic trends and techniques that reflect Bahrain's cultural heritage. During the ceremony, First Deputy Speaker Abdulnabi Salman was honoured for his continued support and interest in the fine arts. Professor Abdul Shaheed Khamdan was also recognised for his efforts in hosting and organizing the exhibition at the Abaad Gallery hall.

NBB appoints Nabeel Mustafa as Group Chief Operating Officer



Manama

The National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) has announced the appointment of Nabeel Mustafa as Group Chief Operating Officer. Nabeel brings over 20 years of experience in the financial services sector, having held several senior leadership roles since joining NBB in 2018. Most recently serving as Acting Group Chief Operating Officer, he has demonstrated strong leadership in operational excellence, digital transformation, and process optimisation across the Group.

Nabeel brings over 20 years of experience in the financial services sector, having held several senior leadership roles since joining NBB in 2018. Most recently serving as Acting Group Chief Operating Officer, he has demonstrated strong leadership in operational excellence, digital transformation, and process optimisation across the Group.

He holds an MBA from the New York Institute of Technology and a Bachelor's degree in Banking and Finance from the University of Bahrain, in addition to completing the Emerging Chief Operating Officer Programme at Stanford University Graduate Business School. This appointment underscores NBB's focus on executing its long-term strategy and driving enhanced stakeholder value with operational precision.

Trump says increasing tariffs on Canada by 10%

Aboard Air Force One, Undefined

US President Donald Trump said Saturday he was hiking tariffs on Canadian goods by an additional 10

percent, in the latest fallout over a Canadian anti-tariff ad that featured late US leader Ronald Reagan. The announcement came two days after Trump said he had terminated all trade

talks with Canada over what he called the "fake" ad campaign. "Their Advertisement was to be taken down, IMMEDIATELY, but they let it run last night during the World Series,

knowing that it was a FRAUD," Trump said on his Truth Social platform, posting the message as he flew to Asia for meetings with key regional leaders. "Because of their serious mis-

representation of the facts, and hostile act, I am increasing the Tariff on Canada by 10% over and above what they are paying now," he said. The ad from the Canadian province of Ontario used

quotes from a radio address on trade that Reagan delivered in 1987, in which he warned against ramifications that he said high tariffs on foreign imports could have on the US economy.



Alba women uplifts little hearts at Salmaniya Medical Complex

Manama

As part of Aluminium Bahrain B.S.C. (Alba)'s ongoing commitment to social responsibility and in celebration

of Bahraini women's leading role in humanitarian initiatives, female members of Alba's Community Service Team led an initiative under the theme "Heartfelt Care" with a visit

to the Children's Ward at Salmaniya Medical Complex on Wednesday. During the visit, Alba ladies distributed gifts to young patients, wishing them a speedy recovery. This initiative

forms part of a series of community-driven activities led by Alba's female workforce in the lead-up to Bahraini Women's Day in December





Beyon further expands global reach

Launches Sure by Beyon Across the Channel Islands

Manama

Beyon announced the launch of the Sure by Beyon brand identity across the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, following the Umniah by Beyon launch in Jordan. The announcement reinforces the Group's ongoing strategy to unify its telecommunications brands under one dynamic identity. This continuation of Beyon's international brand rollout reflects its long-term vision to strengthen the Group's global presence as a diversified technology powerhouse driving connectivity, innovation, and digital transformation across markets.

The launch of Sure by Beyon was marked by a series of corporate events in Guernsey, Jersey, and the Isle of Man, bringing together senior officials, business leaders, partners, and community representatives. The events reflect Beyon's continued focus on operational alignment and strategic execution across its international telecommunications portfolio.

As part of the Beyon group, Sure has been at the heart of communications across the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man and the South Atlantic, for generations. Known for its strong local heritage and trusted service, Sure has played a central role in connecting com-



munities, supporting economic development, and delivering reliable, world-class connectivity. Its evolution to Sure by Beyon reflects the Group's confidence in the brand's enduring con-

tribution and future potential across its markets.

Commenting on the occasion, Andrew Kvalseth, Chief Executive Officer of Beyon Group, said: "The announcement of

Sure by Beyon marks another important step in our Group's strategic journey to align our telecommunications brands under one identity that embodies the innovation, scale,

and values of Beyon. What began in Bahrain as a vision to create a global technology group is being realised through a strong international presence that continues to deliver value, partnership, and purpose across every market we serve."

Andrew Kvalseth added, "Sure by Beyon demonstrates the strength and balance of our international portfolio. Its strong fundamentals and ongoing investments in next-generation networks, fiber, and 5G continue to create long-term value for both the islands and the Group."

Through Sure by Beyon, the Group continues to deliver on its ambition of creating a portfolio of technology and communications companies that feeds into the Group purpose to accelerate the digital future for better lives and prosperity. The rebrands of both Umniah and Sure also underscore Beyon's commitment to enhancing global connectivity and fostering digital innovation while maintaining the values that define its heritage.

With these milestones, Beyon continues its international growth journey, expanding its global footprint, deepening collaboration across its operations, and reaffirming its position as a diversified technology group defined by scale, ambition, and a long-term vision for sustainable growth

India and China to resume direct flights

Kolkata, India

India and China resume direct flights on Sunday after a five-year suspension, a move important both for trade and a symbolic step as Asia's giants cautiously rebuild relations.

India's government said the resumption of flights will boost "people-to-people contact" and aid the "gradual normalisation of bilateral exchanges".

India's largest commercial carrier, IndiGo, is set to operate the first daily flight to mainland China, departing Kolkata at 10:00 pm (1630 GMT) Sunday for Guangzhou.

There are already regular flights between India and Hong Kong, while additional services from the capital New Delhi to Shanghai and Guangzhou will begin in November.

"The direct air link will reduce logistics and transit time," said Rajeev Singh, head of the Indian Chamber of Commerce in Kolkata, telling AFP it would benefit businesses.

India's eastern port city of Kolkata has centuries-old ties with China dating back to British rule, when Chinese migrants arrived as traders.

Indo-Chinese fusion food remains a beloved staple of the city's culinary identity.

"It's great news for people like us, who have relatives in China," said Chen Khoi Kui, a civil society leader in Kolkata's Chinatown district of Tangra. "Air connectivity will boost trade, tourism and business travel."

India's imports from China surged to more than \$11 billion last month, up more than 16 percent compared with September 2024, according to New Delhi's commerce ministry.

Exports from India to China were \$1.47 billion, modest by comparison, but up around 34 percent year-on-year.

Direct flights between the two countries were suspended during the Covid-19 pandemic, halting roughly 500 monthly services.

Trump meets Qatar leaders on way to Asia

Aboard Air Force One, Undefined

US President Donald Trump on Saturday thanked Qatar's emir and prime minister for being a "big factor" in helping secure a Gaza ceasefire deal, during a refueling stop on his way to Asia.

The Qatari leaders boarded

Air Force One when it landed at Al Udeid Air Base, which hosts the regional headquarters for the US military and thousands of American troops.

Trump said the duo had played a crucial role in the Middle East peace process, adding that Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani had been his "friend to the world."

"What we've done is incredible peace to the Middle East, and they were a very big factor in it," Trump said.

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio, fresh off a trip to Israel as part of an all-out diplomatic push by Washington to keep the Gaza truce on track, was present for the meeting with Qatar's leaders.

Trump is traveling to Asia for the first time since retaking office in January, with two regional summits and face-to-face meetings with China's Xi Jinping and other leaders on the agenda.

Qatar has played a key mediating role in indirect talks between Israel and Hamas since the outbreak of the war, and is among

the guarantors of the fragile peace deal, along with Egypt, the United States and Turkey.

Qatar's Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani hosted Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan this week to discuss the highly sensitive next steps in the deal, including the establishment of a security force in Gaza and the fate of

Hamas.

Qatar's prime minister has also been a key negotiator since the outbreak of the war following Hamas's October 7, 2023 attack on Israel.

The talks aboard Air Force One came as Israel conducted an air strike targeting an alleged Islamic Jihad militant in Gaza.

Multi Market employs and trains 40 Bahraini employees through ‘Tamkeen’ programmes

Manama

As part of its ongoing efforts to enhance the skills of national talent in line with labor market demands and to support their professional development, Multi Market has hired and trained 40 Bahraini employees through the various employment and career development programs offered by the Labour Fund “Tamkeen”.

Tamkeen’s support for the national workforce at Multi Market aligns with the Labour Fund’s 2025 strategic priorities, which focus on enhancing the position and competitiveness of Bahrainis in



the private sector, equipping Bahrainis with suitable skills for career development in the private sector, and prioritizing enterprise growth, digitization and sustainability, and supporting the development of the ecosystem surrounding the labor market and private sector.

This support also reinforces

the role of enterprises in attracting, training and developing Bahraini talent, contributing to increased productivity and enhanced competitiveness. It also plays a vital role in supporting the retail sector, which contributed 4.2% to the Kingdom’s GDP in the second quarter of this year, highlighting its importance as a key contributor

to the national economy. Additionally, it reflects Tamkeen’s ongoing commitment to supporting local enterprises that invest in national talent across various economic sectors further enabling them to play an active role in the Kingdom’s economic development.

The Labour Fund “Tamkeen” provides a wide range of

programs designed to support various enterprises, empower the private sector as a key driver of economic growth, and deliver employment and career development initiatives aimed at making Bahraini talent the first choice of employment in the labor market.

Multi Market offers a com-

prehensive shopping experience that brings together a diverse range of products. The market features a wide selection of household items, fresh fruits and vegetables, Bahraini baked goods, seafood, meat, and dairy products, in addition to a café that serves a variety of beverages.

In line with its commitment to supporting the local community, Multi Market places great emphasis on national talent, with Bahrainis comprising most of its workforce – a reflection of its belief in the vital role of local professionals in delivering top-quality service and enhancing the overall customer experience.

US treasury secretary signals deal to ease trade war with China

Two sides had also thrashed out a “final deal

- Two leaders to formally announce the deal at their summit.
- China, once the biggest buyer of US soybean exports, simply halted all order

AFP | Washington, United States

US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent yesterday signalled a tentative deal with China to de-escalate their damaging, tariff-fueled trade war -- just days before a summit between Presidents Donald Trump and Xi Jinping.

In an interview with ABC’s “This Week,” Bessent said the US threat of a 100 percent tariff hike on Chinese goods had effectively been taken off the table in exchange for Beijing deferring curbs on its global rare earth exports.

“The tariffs will be averted,” Bessent said after wrapping up talks with Chinese Vice Premier



A woman takes a drink from a robot at a booth along a business street in Beijing

He Lifeng in the Malaysian capital Kuala Lumpur.

On the export controls, China will “delay that for a year while they reexamine it,” Bessent said.

The secretary’s remarks came as Trump kicked off an Asia tour in Kuala Lumpur that will culminate in a sitdown with Xi in South Korea.

Bessent said he expected the two leaders to formally announce the deal at their summit.

The secretary said Beijing had also agreed on “substantial” pur-

chases from US farmers, who are a key source of domestic political support for Trump and have been massively impacted by the tariff row between the two countries.

China, once the biggest buyer of US soybean exports, simply halted all orders as the trade dispute took hold.

“I believe, when the announcement of the deal with China is made public, that our soybean farmers will feel very good,” Bessent said.

The secretary said the two sides had also thrashed out a “final deal” over the US version of the wildly popular Chinese social media app TikTok, which boasts around 170 million US users. Citing national security concerns, Washington has sought to wrest TikTok’s US operations from the hands of Chinese parent company ByteDance.

Last month, Trump signed an executive order that would place control in the hands of a group of US investors -- many of them close allies of the president.

“All the details are ironed out, and that will be for the two leaders to consummate that transac-

tion on Thursday in Korea,” Bessent told CBS’s “Face the Nation” in a separate interview.

The talks in Kuala Lumpur also touched on the fentanyl trade -- a lasting source of friction with Washington accusing Beijing of turning a blind eye to trafficking in the powerful opioid, something it denies.

“We agreed that the Chinese would begin to help us, with the precursor chemicals for this terrible fentanyl epidemic that’s ravaging our country,” Bessent said.



Trump kicked off an Asia tour in Kuala Lumpur that will culminate in a sitdown with Xi in South Korea.

Trump signs Malaysia trade and rare earths deal

AFP | Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

US President Donald Trump and Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim signed a trade agreement yesterday, boosting US access to critical minerals as China tightens controls on rare earths.

Beijing this month announced sweeping restrictions on the rare earths industry, prompting Trump to threaten 100% tariffs on imports from China in retaliation.

Trump is in the Malaysian capital Kuala Lumpur at the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) summit, ahead of a meeting with Chinese leader Xi Jinping on Thursday.

Under the new US-Malaysia deal, Kuala Lumpur pledged to “refrain from banning or imposing quotas on exports to the US of critical minerals”, while Washington agreed the formalisation of a 19 percent tariff on Malaysian goods.

“Malaysia has committed to ensure no restrictions are imposed on the sale of rare earth magnets to US companies”, the White House said in a joint statement.

Malaysia also vowed to speed up development of its critical minerals sector in partnership with US firms, including extending operating licences to boost production capacity.

US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer said the deal

would make investment and trade in critical minerals “as free as possible and as resilient as possible”.

“We live in a world where having these critical minerals is important to our manufacturing, to our technology and to our economy,” Greer said at the signing.

“It’s very important that we cooperate as willing partners with each other to ensure that we can have smooth supply chains.”

Malaysia said in 2023 that it holds around 16.2 million tonnes of untapped rare earth reserves.

A nationwide moratorium on raw rare earth exports took effect on January 1, 2024, aiming to encourage domestic processing.

At the

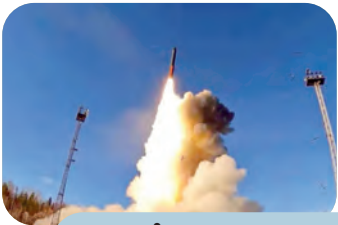


height of a US-China trade dispute in 2019, Chinese state media suggested that rare earth exports to the United States could be cut in retaliation -- sparking fear among manufacturers.

News in brief

◆ **Russia's President**

Vladimir Putin announced yesterday a successful final test of a new nuclear-powered cruise missile, the Burevestnik, amid Moscow's ongoing Ukraine offensive and uncertainty over a new summit with US leader Donald Trump. "The decisive tests are now complete," Putin said in a video released by the Kremlin during a meeting with military officials. He ordered the preparation of "infrastructure to put this weapon into service in the Russian armed forces." Putin called the missile a "unique creation that no one else in the world possesses", adding that the Burevestnik has "unlimited range". During the last test on October 21, the missile flew for some 15 hours, travelling 14,000 kilometres (8,700 miles), said Russia's military chief of staff Valery Gerasimov, adding that this was not the upper limit for the weapon.



Russia says successfully tested new nuclear-capable cruise missile

◆ **Hurricane Melissa strengthens as it crawls toward Jamaica**

Hurricane Melissa was cutting a deadly path through the Caribbean yesterday, strengthening into a Category 4 storm as it crawled along a worryingly slow course toward Jamaica and the island of Hispaniola. Melissa has already been blamed for three deaths in Haiti this week, as its outer bands brought heavy rains and landslides to the impoverished nation. In the Dominican Republic, which shares the island of Hispaniola with Haiti, a 79-year-old man was found dead after being swept away in a stream, local officials said Saturday. A 13-year-old boy was missing. "You feel powerless, unable to do anything, just run away and leave everything behind," Angelita Francisco, a 66-year-old homemaker who fled her neighborhood in the Dominican Republic, told AFP through tears.

◆ **French authorities** have detained two men suspected of being part of the four-man crew who stole precious jewellery from the world-famous Louvre museum last week, two sources close to the case said yesterday, confirming media reports. One of the suspects was apprehended around 10:00 pm (2000 GMT) on Saturday at Paris-Charles de Gaulle airport as he was about to board a plane abroad, French media Le Parisien and Paris Match reported. The second was arrested not long after in the Paris region, according to Le Parisien. Dozens of investigators had been tasked with tracking down the thieves who successfully robbed the Louvre in broad daylight on October 19, making off with royal jewels worth an estimated \$102 million in just seven minutes. The robbers had clambered up the extendable ladder of a stolen movers' truck and, using cutting equipment, broke into a first-floor gallery.

Two suspects arrested after Louvre jewel heist: sources



SPOTLIGHT

Pakistan flag carrier resumes UK flights after five-year ban



AFP | Islamabad, Pakistan

Pakistan's state-owned airline resumed direct flights to Britain on Saturday, after UK authorities had ended a five-year suspension imposed over aviation safety concerns. The debt-ridden flag carrier Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) was barred from flying to Britain, the European Union and the United States in June 2020, a month after one of its Airbus A320 aircraft plunged into a Karachi neighbourhood, killing nearly 100 people.

The deadly crash was blamed on human error.

Britain lifted restrictions on Pakistani carriers in July after concluding that aviation safety standards were "satisfactory and in line with international norms".

At a ceremony Saturday at Islamabad International Airport, Pakistan's Defence Minister Khawaja Asif said that the resumption of flights to Britain was a major milestone in restoring PIA's credibility. "After a long and difficult

delay of five years, today the resumption of flights from Islamabad to Manchester is a feat we have achieved through our hard work and determination," Asif said.

He added that in the years since the British had imposed their ban, Pakistani authorities overhauled pilot training, licensing, aircraft maintenance and safety protocols to meet international standards. Beyond a twice-weekly route between Islamabad and Manchester, PIA plans to operate flights to London and Birmingham as well.

The European Union Aviation Safety Agency lifted its own ban on PIA in November 2024, allowing the airline to resume flights to Paris in January.

The flag carrier, which employs around 7,000 people, has long struggled with debt, mismanagement and regulatory issues.

The government has pledged to privatise the airline, though a deal collapsed last year after a buyer reportedly offered far below the asking price.

Israel insists it calls shots in Gaza despite truce

Israel opposes any role for its regional rival Turkey



Palestinians walk along a road past destroyed buildings in Khan Yunis, in the southern Gaza Strip

● **Aid agencies complain convoys still do not have enough access**

● **Israel remains in control of more than half the territory**

● **An Egyptian convoy brought rescuers and heavy machinery to speed up the search**

AFP | Jerusalem, Undefined

Israel insisted yesterday that it will maintain control of security inside Gaza despite signing up to a US-brokered ceasefire that foresees the deployment of an international security force.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told ministers that Israel would decide for itself where and when to strike its foes and which countries would be allowed to send troops to police the truce.

"Israel is an independent state. We will defend ourselves by our own means and we will continue to determine our fate," Netanyahu said. "We do not seek anyone's

approval for this. We control our security."

Meanwhile, AFP footage showed an Egyptian convoy in Gaza bringing rescuers and heavy machinery to speed up the search for the remains of deceased Israeli hostages Hamas says are lost in the rubble of the devastated Palestinian territory.

Low-loader lorries flying the Egyptian flag transported bulldozers and mechanical diggers into Gaza, accompanied by tipper trucks sounding their horns and flashing their lights, en route to an Egyptian aid committee based in Al-Zawayda.

Israel government spokeswoman Shosh Bedrosian said Netanyahu had personally approved the arrival of the Egyptian team.

"Now, this is a technical team only, and none of these personnel are in the military," she said.

"The team are allowed entry beyond the IDF's Yellow Line position into Gaza territory to conduct the search for our hostages."

Under the terms of a US-brokered ceasefire, as Israeli forces withdraw after the end of two years of brutal fighting against Hamas, an international force, expected to be drawn from mainly Arab or Muslim countries, is

supposed to secure Gaza.

But Israel opposes any role for its regional rival Turkey and Netanyahu, under fire from hardliners in his own coalition for even agreeing the ceasefire, took a stern line on Sunday as government ministers met in Jerusalem.

"We made clear with respect to international forces that Israel will determine which forces are unacceptable to us," he said, one day after US Secretary of State Marco Rubio wound up the latest in a parade of high-level visits by Washington officials.

Later, Bedrosian put it more starkly: "The prime minister has said it's going to be done the easy way or the hard way, and Israel will have overall security control of the Gaza Strip."

"Gaza will be demilitarised and Hamas will have no part in governing the Palestinian people."

'Child's dream is gone'

Aid agencies complain that humanitarian convoys still do not have enough access to Gaza to alleviate the famine conditions in parts of the territory, and families there are still going hungry.

AFP journalists followed the family of 62-year-old grandmother Hiam Muqdad for a day in



Israel has withdrawn its forces within Gaza to the so-called "Yellow Line" but remains in control of more than half the territory, approves every UN aid convoy going through its borders and has carried out at least two strikes since the ceasefire.

their Gaza City neighbourhood, where they live in a tent next to their ruined home and her barefoot grandchildren gather domestic waste and twigs to burn to heat water.

"When they said there was a truce, oh my God, a tear of joy and a tear of sadness fell from my eye," Muqdad told AFP. "The child's dream is gone. In the past they used to go to the park but today children play on the rubble."

Huthis release model after nearly 5 years in prison

Sanaa, Yemen

Yemen's Huthis have released model Entisar al-Hammadi after holding her in prison for nearly five years, her lawyer and a security source told AFP on Sunday.

Hammadi, 23, was arrested in February 2021 in Sanaa while heading to a photo shoot.

She was sentenced to five years in prison on charges of prostitution, drug abuse and fornication

-- charges described by her lawyer and rights groups as false and targeting women's liberties.

"Entisar al-Hammadi was released yesterday evening and is now in her home," her lawyer, Khaled al-Kamal, told AFP.

"Entisar suffered from various illnesses and her condition had deteriorated as a result of the injustice she suffered," he added.

Hammadi had attempted to

Entisar al-Hammadi



take her own life in 2021, rights groups said at the time.

Born to an Ethiopian mother and Yemeni father, Hammadi had posted dozens of pictures online in traditional costume, jeans or a leather jacket, both with and without an Islamic headscarf.

She has thousands of followers on Instagram and Facebook.

According to HRW, Hammadi had worked as a model for four years and acted in two Yemeni TV series.

Roman Emperor Constantine the Great is said to have received his famous Vision of the Cross

Black Saturday during the Cuban Missile Crisis: An American spy plane is shot down over Cuba and the navy drops warning depth charges on Soviet submarines



China announces its population has reached over 1 billion people

British government deregulates financial markets in a "Big Bang," enhancing London's status as a financial capital while increasing income inequality

TOP
4
TWEETS

01



I welcome the signing of the @UN Convention against Cybercrime – a vital global treaty to protect people in the digital world & the first criminal justice treaty in more than two decades.

@antonioguterres

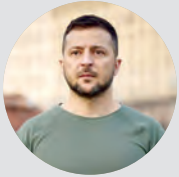
02



I am deeply saddened by the passing of Her Majesty Queen Sirikit, The Queen Mother of Thailand. Her lifelong dedication to public service will continue to inspire generations. My heartfelt condolences to His Majesty The King, the members of the Royal Family and the people of Thailand in this hour of profound grief.

@narendramodi

03



Response efforts are ongoing in Kyiv following the Russian attack. All the necessary emergency services are working at the sites. Last night, Russia launched more than 100 drones against us.

@ZelenskyyUA

04



This is an era of geoeconomics. And we must use our geoeconomic weight to protect our strategic sectors and supply chains.

@vonderleyen

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

US warship arrives in Trinidad and Tobago, near Venezuela

It is set to remain in the small Caribbean nation until Thursday

● The exercises are part of a mounting military campaign by US President Donald Trump against drug-trafficking organizations

AFP | Port Of Spain, Trinidad And Tobago

A US warship arrived in Trinidad and Tobago yesterday for joint exercises near the coast of Venezuela, as Washington ratcheted up pressure on drug traffickers and Venezuelan leader Nicolas Maduro.

The USS Gravelly, whose upcoming arrival was announced Thursday by the Trinidadian government, docked in the capital, Port of Spain.

It is set to remain in the small Caribbean nation until Thursday, during which time a contingent of US Marines will conduct joint training with local defense forces.

The exercises are part of a mounting military campaign by US President Donald Trump against drug-trafficking organizations in Latin America, which has targeted Trump's arch-foe Maduro in particular.

Maduro, a longtime Trump foe whose reelection last year was widely rejected as fraudulent, has accused the United States of "fabricating a war" aimed at toppling him.

The standoff escalated sharply on Friday, when the Pentagon ordered the deployment of the world's biggest aircraft carrier, the USS Gerald R Ford, to the region.

Trump has also authorized CIA operations against Venezuela.

The standoff has pulled in



The USS Gravelly warship is seen at a distance off the coast of Port of Spain

Colombia's Gustavo Petro, a sharp critic of the American strikes who was sanctioned by Washington on Friday for allegedly allowing drug trafficking to flourish.

Washington has accused both Maduro and Petro of being "narcoterrorists," without providing any proof of the allegations.

In August, Washington deployed a fleet of eight US Navy ships, 10 F-35 warplanes and a nuclear-powered submarine to the region for anti-drug operations -- the biggest military build-up in the area since the 1989 US invasion of Panama.

'Getting a lash'

In Trinidad and Tobago, a laidback twin-island nation of 1.4 million people, some welcomed their government's show of support for the US campaign but others worried about getting caught up in a conflict between Washington and Caracas.

"If anything should happen with Venezuela and America, we as people who live on the outskirts of it ... could end up getting a lash any time," 64-year-old Daniel Holder, a Rastafarian who wore a white turban, told AFP, "I am against my country being part of this," he added.

Victor Rojas, a 38-year-old carpenter who has been living in Trinidad and Tobago for the past eight years, said he was worried for his family back home.

"Venezuela is not in a position to weather an attack right now," he said, referring to the country's economic collapse under Maduro.

Trinidad and Tobago, which acts as a hub in the Caribbean drug trade, has itself been caught up in the US campaign of strikes on suspected drug boats.

Two Trinidadian men were killed in a strike on a vessel

that set out from Venezuela in mid-October, according to their families.

The mother of one of the victims insisted he was a fisherman, not a drug trafficker.

Local authorities have not yet confirmed their deaths.



US forces have blown up at least 10 boats they claimed were smuggling narcotics, killing at least 43 people, and Trump has also threatened ground attacks on suspected cartels in Venezuela.

UK police arrest asylum seeker sex offender mistakenly freed

● Police originally arrested him in July after he repeatedly tried to kiss a 14-year-old girl

AFP | London, United Kingdom

UK police yesterday arrested an Ethiopian asylum seeker and convicted sex offender, whose crimes had sparked anti-immigration protests, after he was accidentally released from prison in an embarrassing blunder by officials.

London's Metropolitan Police said officers arrested Hadush Kebatu in the north of the capital nearly 48 hours after he was mistakenly freed.

Prime Minister Keir Starmer said Kebatu would now be deported.

"We have ordered an inves-



Ethiopian asylum seeker Hadush Gerberslasie Kebatu

A delivery driver described seeing Kebatu return several times in a "very confused" state, only to be turned away by staff and directed to the railway station.

tigation to establish what went wrong. We must make sure this doesn't happen again," he added on X.

Kebatu, 38, had served the first month of a one-year sentence for sexually assaulting a teenage girl and a woman, and was reportedly due to be de-

ported when the Prison Service error occurred Friday.

His high-profile case earlier this year in Epping, northeast of London, sparked demonstrations in various English towns and cities where asylum seekers were believed to be housed, as well as counter-protests.

The Metropolitan Police said it received a tip-off he was at a bus stop in London's Finsbury Park neighbourhood, and officers found him inside that park. He was arrested for "being unlawfully at large".

The Telegraph newspaper said Kebatu had wrongly been categorised for release on licence and handed a £76 (\$100) as a discharge grant.

'Confused'

Police had appealed Saturday for Kebatu to turn himself in, after reports emerged that he had appeared confused and reluctant to leave the prison in

Chelmsford, eastern England.

A delivery driver described seeing Kebatu return several times in a "very confused" state, only to be turned away by staff and directed to the railway station. The driver told Sky News he saw Kebatu outside the jail, asking "where am I going? What am I doing?" "He was starting to get upset, he was getting stressed," the driver said. The father of Kebatu's anonymous teenage victim told the broadcaster that, with the Ethiopian's mistaken release, "the justice system has let us down". Police originally arrested the asylum seeker in July after he repeatedly tried to kiss a 14-year-old girl and touch her legs, and made sexually explicit comments to her.

He also sexually assaulted an adult woman, placing a hand on her thigh, when she intervened to stop his interactions with the girl.

Trump co-signs Thailand-Cambodia ceasefire agreement

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

US President Donald Trump co-signed a truce between Thailand and Cambodia during the first stop on his Asia tour on Sunday, touting new trade deals with the countries after they agreed to prolong a ceasefire along their border.

Five days of clashes erupted along Thailand and Cambodia's jungle-clad frontier this summer, as a territorial dispute triggered open combat, killing more than 40 people and forcing 300,000 to flee their homes.

Thailand and Cambodia agreed an initial truce in late July after intervention by Trump, as well as Chinese diplomats and Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim, who chairs the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) bloc.

East Timor joins ASEAN after 14-year campaign

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

East Timor joined the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) bloc as its 11th member state on Sunday, after 14 years of campaigning.

Its Prime Minister Xanana Gusmao joined ASEAN leaders for a summit and signing ceremony in the Malaysian capital of Kuala Lumpur, before posing for photographs together in interlocking arms.

Kamala Harris says may 'possibly' run again for White House

London, United Kingdom

Former US vice president Kamala Harris said in a British television interview previewed Saturday that she may "possibly" run again to be president.

Harris, who replaced Joe Biden as the 2024 Democratic presidential candidate but lost to Donald Trump, told the BBC that she had not yet decided whether to make another White House bid.

But the 61-year-old insisted she was "not done" in American politics and that her young grandnieces would see a female president in the Oval Office "in their lifetime, for sure".

"I have lived my entire career a life of service, and it's in my bones, and there are many ways to serve," Harris told the British broadcaster in an interview set to air in full on Sunday.

"I've not decided yet what I will do in the future, beyond what I am doing right now."

UNDP and FinMark Partner for 2026 Sustainability Forum Middle East in Bahrain



The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and FinMark Communications W.L.L. (FinMark) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen collaboration for the fourth edition of the Sustainability Forum Middle East, set for 27-28 January 2026 in Bahrain. The event will be held with the support of Bahrain's Supreme Council for Environment and in the presence of H.E. Dr. Mohamed bin Mubarak Bin Daina, Minister of Oil and Environment, Special Envoy for Climate Affairs. The Forum annually attracts over 400 senior business leaders, policymakers, and sustainability experts and includes climate-focused roundtables across Bahrain and other GCC countries. The signing event was attended by Asmaa Shalabi, UNDP Resident Representative in Bahrain, and Laila Danesh, Managing Director of FinMark Communications and Head of SFME's Advisory Committee.

PACT's Successful Blood Donation Drive



Palakkad Arts and Cultural Theatre (PACT) organized a highly successful blood donation camp at Salmaniya Medical Complex. The camp saw excellent participation with over a hundred donors. PACT President Ashok Kumar presided over the function, and Chief Coordinator Jyothi Menon delivered the welcome address.



KSCA Hosts Grand Valluvanadan Onasadhya



The Bahrain Kerala Social and Cultural Association (KSCA) successfully organized the traditional 'Valluvanadan Onasadhya' (Onam Feast) at Adhari Park Hall. Authentic delicacies were prepared under the guidance of culinary expert Damodaran Namboothiri. Rajeev Misra, Counselor at the Indian Embassy, was the Chief Guest. KSCA President Rajesh Nambiar presided over the function. The event also featured cultural performances by Sopanam Vaadyasangham and the 'Aaravam' singing collective.

The Art Hotel & Resort Turns Pink for a Cause



In a month when hearts and spaces turn pink, The Art Hotel & Resort - Amwaj Islands joined the fight against breast cancer through a series of meaningful initiatives blending awareness, art, health, and compassion. The hotel actively participated in Gulf Air's "Think Pink" event, reflecting its strong sense of community responsibility. Adding a touch of creativity and care, the hotel introduced a special "Pink Drink" across its restaurants, with proceeds dedicated to supporting local breast cancer awareness efforts. In partnership with Al Hilal Hospital, a dedicated health day was also organized, featuring an educational session and free medical checkups for employees – reinforcing the hotel's belief that prevention starts with awareness and early detection.



Almoayyed Computers Middle East shines at GITEX Global 2025



Manama

The Bahrain Technology Companies Society (BTECH) honored Almoayyed Computers Middle East (ACME) at GITEX Global 2025 for winning two major accolades – AI Vendor of the Year at the Future Enterprise Awards and Top System Integrator – Government Digital Transformation Partner at the GEC Awards. The recognition celebrates ACME's leadership in driving innovation and advancing Bahrain's growing presence in the global digital landscape.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Let Sports of Bahrain connect and inspire

Dear Editor,

I recently came across your new online portal dedicated to sports, and I must say it's a wonderful initiative for sports enthusiasts like us. It's refreshing to see a platform focused on promoting Bahrain's sporting spirit and local talent.

I would like to suggest including a contact list of sports clubs and trainers, as well as updates on upcoming events and tournaments. This would make the portal a valuable resource for athletes, coaches, and fans alike. Additionally, interviews with sports celebrities from Bahrain and abroad would bring a personal and inspiring touch to the content.

Instead of functioning purely as a news portal, I encourage you to integrate interactive elements that connect people who share a passion for sports — such as discussion forums, photo uploads from local games, or athlete profiles.

Keep up the great work, and I look forward to seeing the portal grow into a true community for sports lovers.

Sincerely,
Arshad

● Reply

Dear Arshad

We truly value your suggestions about adding contact details for sports clubs and trainers, featuring upcoming events, and including interviews with sports personalities from Bahrain and beyond. These ideas are very much in line with our vision, and we're already working to implement several of these features in upcoming updates.

Your feedback helps us shape the platform to serve our readers and the sports community better. We're committed to introducing these changes soon and will continue improving the experience based on valuable input like yours.

Thank you once again for your encouragement and support.

Editor

Turning our Filipino community PINK for Pinktober Fun Run 2025



The true meaning of life lies not in how much love we have, but in how deeply and generously we share and express it to others—even when it's difficult.

Turning our Filipino community PINK for Pinktober Fun Run 2025 was an inspiring event organized by the Southern Bahrain Noble Eagles Club on October 24, 2025, at Sitra Bridge Walkway in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The Philippine Nurses Association of Bahrain proudly joined this initiative to help raise awareness about breast cancer and promote wellness within our community.

This event reminds us that when a community comes together with purpose and hope, it can create meaningful change and leave a lasting positive impact.

As we united in pink, we served, honored, loved, and supported survivors, fighters, and families affected by breast cancer throughout the year. Every journey—and the diversity of experiences that come with it—deserves to be met with compassion, dignity, appreciation, and quality care, regardless of one's background.

Let us continue working toward a world where every life touched by breast cancer is empowered, supported, and never alone.

- Joyce Bagang



PICTURE OF THE DAY



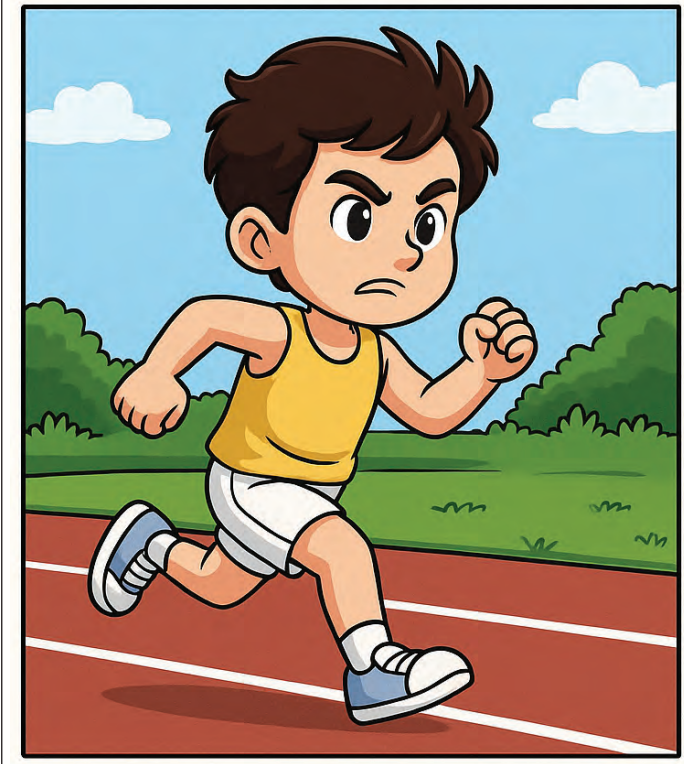
Photo : bibinbabay



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VIEWS ON
NEWS OF BAHRAIN

Residents worried, Officials respond :
What's next for Bahrain's stray dog issue ?

Packs of stray dogs roaming Muharraq's neighbourhoods have sparked renewed public concern. Council member Fadhil Al Oud says the animals are posing risks to residents and damaging the area's image, despite an annual BD209,000 spent on trapping and care.

A new proposal could tighten animal import rules and introduce a more transparent system for managing strays across Bahrain's four governorates. The plan also promises humane rehoming under the Animal Welfare Law No. 52 of 2014.

TOP COMMENTS

vini_officially

Dear Government, please give us a land with shelter space for all these animals. We are all capable of going to that location and looking after them.

purrincesofpawsia

All dogs coming in and leaving Bahrain are vaccinated, micro-chipped, and spayed or nuetered so they aren't the problem. The real problem is breeders. Breeding should be regulated. But this a long term plan.

om_laila_630

What's next should be extremely high fines for abandoning animals, all dogs and cats should be microchipped and it should be that the owner is findable like having the owner for number in the chip. Many people are careless about animals and as a Muslim country Bahrain should come together to stop this.

emilia_sabkar

Regulate breeding- license required. If breeding is illegal- fine the owner. Mandatory chips for pets. If pet is without chip - fine the owner. National campaign of spaying and neutering of stray animals. And problem is sorted within few years.

tamilponnu90.bh

Government needs to take action seriously in this matter or else it will affect public..

Bahrain's Cultural Tour Sets Example

Dear Editor,

I am writing to express my sincere appreciation for the exceptionally well-organized evening tour conducted on World Tourism Day, which successfully highlighted Bahrain's cultural heritage. As a resident of Bahrain for over a decade, participating in this expertly guided group tour—my first of this nature—was a truly rewarding experience. My thanks and congratulations go to the organizing bodies: the Bahrain Tourism and Exhibition Authority (BTEA), the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities (BACA), the Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunication (MOTT), and the Bahrain Public Transport Company (BPTC).

The four-hour itinerary, which seamlessly linked the Bahrain National Museum, the Kanoo Museum in Bab Al Bahrain, and the Al Jasra Craft Center, offered a comprehensive look into the island's history and artistic traditions. The professionalism of the tour guides and the logistical coordination were remarkable. It was particularly inspiring to see the commitment to promoting local handicrafts.

The visit to the Al Jasra Craft Center stood out as a prime example of sustainable cultural development. By consolidating display, live production, sales, and training activities under one roof, the authorities are effectively protecting traditional crafts, such as pottery and cloth weaving, while simultaneously encouraging local economic growth and providing opportunities for younger generations to continue these arts. This comprehensive, all-in-one approach to preserving tangible cultural heritage while ensuring its commercial viability is a truly commendable and sustainable model.

Looking ahead, I hope the relevant authorities, particularly the BTEA and BPTC, continue to collaborate on such initiatives. Utilizing the public transport network for these guided cultural tours is an effective strategy for both promoting Bahrain's heritage and encouraging the public use of sustainable transportation, especially as we enter the pleasant winter climate season.

Thank you for allowing me to share this positive experience.
-Sunil Thomas Ranny

Classifieds



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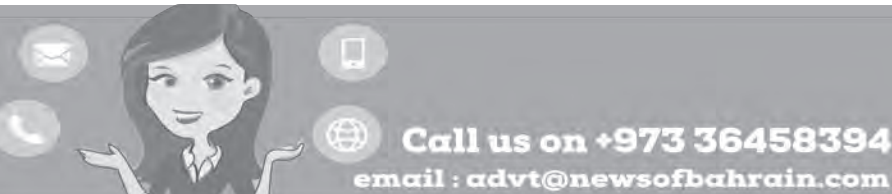
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THE KASHMIRI GENERAL TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66914266 or EVERGREENDOCUMENT@GMAIL.COM

ALMOAYYED SECURITY has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or proffice@almoayyedcg.com

piston rod garage for cars and forklifts maintenance and spare p has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37791717 or ALSAYED-SAAR820@GMAIL.COM

ALLAQ RESORT COMPANY BSC CLOSED SOTEL BAHRAIN ZALLAQ THALAH has a vacancy for the occupation of TRAINEE COMPUTER PROGRAMMER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17631660 or ahmed@jzazayani.com

Mandi Land Restaurant has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17240012 or AWALI@BATELCO.COM.BH

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 PUBLCRELATION@SAUDIGEOPHYSICAL.COM

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ZORELL SERVICES CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR (INTERNAL WORKS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33807122 or GULLSHAHEN34@GMAIL.COM

JASS JAZZ INTERNATIONAL W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35002840 or PUREMIND.BH@GMAIL.COM

PERFECT FIT TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33225479 or ABDUL_636@HOTMAIL.COM

Modern Global Cleaning Co.W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17211008 or AW-ALSERV@BATELCO.COM.BH

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Al Ameen Transport has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17722778 or ALAMEEN1@BATELCO.COM.BH

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YOUNG JIN ENTERPRISE COMPANY LIMITED has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (DOCKER), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700711 or JEONG.DONGJIN.0102@GMAIL.COM

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SAIRA FASHIONS has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17533125 or GOLDEN-GROUPBAH@GMAIL.COM

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COMBI SUPERMARKET WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of CASHIER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39817261 or mohd.akter1974@gmail.com

PAK ASIA CAFETERIA has a vacancy for the occupation of FOOD SERVICE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35614641 or MYKHAN20441@GMAIL.COM

MAHAIL MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES REPRESENTATIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37262842 or SOHAILBUSINESS.BH@GMAIL.COM

CHOWCHUK RESTAURANT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32055523 or AAMIRCHAND83@GMAIL.COM

AL MADINA CAR AUTO SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34306903 or ALABERT1@HOTMAIL.COM

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occupation of UPHOLSTERER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17229691 or AL-RAQYA@OUTLOOK.COM

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JERY AL SHAIK COLD STORE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17211001 or MODAWIB@HOTMAIL.COM

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Burj Al Tameer Scaffoldings W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SCAFFOLDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38887099 or INFO@ALTAMEERBH.COM

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safehullah@gmail.com

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ABU RAKAN FURNITURE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33319201 or WAJDIY0@GMAIL.COM

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INFACORP B.S.C Closed has a vacancy for the occupation of EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39450254 or ssharif@gfh.com

ASESORIA INTEGRAL W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ADMINISTRATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32110606 or JALEEL.TALAQ@GMAIL.COM

LAK BEAUTY LOUNGE has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33212517 or BUHIJI33@GMAIL.COM

KALLIAH & DOMNAH TAILORING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33538927 or EBRAHIM_DHAIF@HOTMAIL.COM

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GREEN WAY PUBLICITY AND ADVERTISING COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (PRESS MACHINE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34245978 or ARIZONASERVICES33@GMAIL.COM

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AL FOWZ KINDERGARTEN has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32144111 or RAWAAISA@GMAIL.COM

Indian Delights Restaurant Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17250300 or deepa161@yahoo.com

DANUBE HOME W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36280063 or karthikeyan.dakshinamoorthy@aldanube.com

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cants can contact 17640222 or KBPC2004@GMAIL.COM

CASABILLA REAL ESTATE COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36760636 or casabilla2@gmail.com

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GAD ALKHAIR TRADING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33306237 or HASSANBEH99@GMAIL.COM

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1991 LAUNDRY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (LAUNDRY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39333951 or AW.AL-BASTAKI@GMAIL.COM

AMAL WORLD SPA has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33755539 or AMALMOUR-ABBI@GMAIL.COM

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Classifieds

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TEAM MARKHOR W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36625559 or JABEIN98@GMAIL.COM

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NAEEM & HARIS SCRAP W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36556643 or muhammadjamshaidbh1974@gmail.com

RUKUN ALYAQEEN INTERNATIONAL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17718033 or BHABANI.MISHRA@rayinternational.bh

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HASHOR SILVER W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33027245 or SADAQAT.SHATTI@GMAIL.COM

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SUPER ASIA INTERNATIONAL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33881499 or SHAHZAIBVIRRI44@GAMIL.COM

TRIDENT CLEANING SOLUTION ESTABLISHMENT has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 37707040 or MOHAMMED-MOBE@GMAIL.COM

Almansoori doubles up at BIC

● Ali Almansoori wins both BTCC races

● Saeed Al Sulaiti wins BMC 1000cc class

● Mohammed Alzaidan wins BMC 600cc class

Manama

Ali Almansoori continued his fantastic start to the 2025/2026 Bahrain Touring Car Challenge (BTCC) by winning both races in the season's second round, held over the weekend as part of National Race Day at Bahrain International Circuit (BIC) in Sakhir.

After kicking off the campaign with a double in round one last month, Almansoori repeated his success in his Honda Civic contender along BIC's 2.554-kilometre Inner Track.

National Race Day also featured action in the opening round of the 2025/2026 Bahrain Motorcycle Championship (BMC), with Saeed Al Sulaiti winning in the 1,000cc class and Mohammed Alzaidan taking first place in the 600cc category.

The meeting was organised and run by BIC in cooperation with the Bahrain Motor Federation, the Circuit Racing Commission, and the Bahrain Motorcycle Commission.

In the BTCC, Moazz Elzah-



rawi got the day's programme underway by topping the practice timesheet with a fastest lap of 1min 19.270secs in his Honda Civic. But then Almansoori made his presence felt by taking pole position for race one with a quickest time of 1:17.245 in qualifying.

Tight Finish

That set the stage for the opening 15-lap sprint, where Almansoori was challenged for the win by three others. He eventually took the chequered flag in a time of 23:37.443 as he fended off Ahmed Bajnaid, also driving a Honda Civic, by a mere 0.527secs. James Taylor in an Acura RSX DC5 took the final podium place 1.598s from first, while Hamad Khamis in a Honda Civic was not far behind in fourth, 1.859s from Almansoori.

Isa Ebrahim in a Honda Civic and Jamal Ebrahim in a Nissan

Skyline completed the finishers in fifth and sixth, respectively, while not classified were Elzahrawi, Carina Abdulrahman in a Volkswagen Scirocco, and Ahmed Algaidy in a Honda Civic.

Another Victory for Almansoori

In race two, Almansoori was once again triumphant, this time in 13:55.095. He crossed the finish line with a narrow 2.360s gap from Bajnaid, while Khamis came third 28.764s back.

Jamal Ebrahim and Isa Ebrahim were fourth and fifth, while not classified were Taylor and Algaidy.

Meanwhile, in the BMC, Al Sulaiti set the practice pace with a quickest lap of 1:07.931 on his Yamaha R1, while in qualifying, Fahad Algosaibi in a BMW 1000RR took overall pole, as well as that in the 1,000cc class,

with a fastest time of 1:09.381.



In the first race, Almansoori's winning margin was just over half a second, as he held off three hard-charging rivals in one of the closest BTCC finishes this season

Alzaidan secured the lead grid position amongst the 600cc competitors with a best lap of 1:09.557 on his Kawasaki ZX6.

BMC Race

In the meeting's lone 14-lap race, Al Sulaiti prevailed and took overall first place in 16:08.206. Alzaidan followed as overall runner-up 15.089s behind while also taking the win in the 600cc category. Algosaibi came third overall 17.027s back.

Joining Al Sulaiti and Algosaibi on the 1,000cc podium was

Fahad Al Gharabally on his Suzuki GSXR.

In the 600cc, Ali Adiby riding a Kawasaki ZX6 finished second while Ali Bou Shehri on a Honda CBR600RR was third.

Following all the action, the winners were presented their respective trophies in their podium ceremonies.

BIC's 2025/2026 racing calendar is set to feature seven rounds of National Race Day. Round three is scheduled for 21 November, and then the campaign resumes next calendar year with round four on 10 January. Round five will be held on 6 February, and then the sixth and penultimate meeting will take place on 13 March. That will set the stage for the grand finale on 24 April.

For more information on National Race Day or other events and activities at BIC, visit bahraingp.com or call the BIC Hotline.

Mokaev eyes BRAVE CF gold to complete full circle journey

Manama

Muhammad "The Punisher" Mokaev has unfinished business to attend to, and at BRAVE 100, the highly touted phenom is determined to close the loop on a journey that began five years ago.

When the Dagestani-born Englishman steps inside the cage at Khalifa Sports City in Isa Town, Bahrain, on Friday, November 7, he won't just be locking horns with Gerard "The Animal" Burns for the inaugural BRAVE CF Flyweight World Championship.

The 25-year-old will be fighting for something far deeper — the culmination of his story that started with the Bahrain-based mixed martial arts company that gave him his first break at the elite level.

Platform for Dreams

"BRAVE CF gave me the platform to show the world who I am. They opened the doors when I was just a kid with big dreams, and for that, I will always be thankful," Mokaev shared.

Back in 2020, this once-decorated amateur standout arrived in BRAVE Combat Federation carrying the weight of immense expectations. He was widely seen as the young man who could spearhead its flyweight division.

Over five bouts under its banner, he lived up to that billing — winning four, two of which came by submission — and establishing himself as a blue-chip prospect destined for greatness.

Proving Ground



Muhammad Mokaev in action during a bout

That early run with BRAVE CF catapulted Mokaev into global consciousness, opening doors for opportunities abroad.

His move to a North American promotion further validated his reputation as he kept his unbeaten streak intact, proving to fans and critics alike that the hype surrounding him was real.

However, fate had other plans. Circumstances beyond his control forced him to part ways with that organization.

Triumphant Return

When it came time to find a new home, it didn't take long for BRAVE CF to welcome its prodigal son back.

"BRAVE CF is home and will always be home. This is where I started my professional journey, and this is where I want to make history," Mokaev declared.

Now, history is exactly what's at stake. The BRAVE CF flyweight bracket has long awaited its ruler despite housing some of the most talented 125-pounders on the planet.

Full Circle Moment

Mokaev knows that a victory on November 7 would not only crown him as the first-ever World Champion in the weight class but also complete a narrative that began the moment he first set foot on the BRAVE CF stage.

"This is a full circle moment for me. From my first fight in BRAVE CF to this World Title opportunity, everything has led to this. I feel like destiny brought me back here," he said.

Dangerous Challenge Ahead

Standing across from him will be Burns, a dangerous and relentless Irish counterpart with ambitions of his own.

Recognizing what Burns brings to the table at BRAVE 100, Mokaev is fully aware that claiming gold will require everything he has.

"I know it's not going to be easy. Gerard Burns is a talented opponent, but I'm doing this for myself, for everyone who believed in me, and for those who never left my side when times were hard," he stated.

Matthew Deakin, Shuvendu Bakshi Triumph at Awali Golf Club's KPAO Qualifier



TD Balbir Singh, AMH CEO Julia Tovey and Captain Steve Newall with overall winner Shuvendu Bhaksi and Medal Winner Nasser Yaqoob Saleh

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Matthew Deakin claimed his third consecutive prize with a net 68 in Division Two at the Awali Golf Club's KPAO Qualifier, while Shuvendu Bakshi secured the overall winner title with a net 66. The event, sponsored by the American Mission Hospital (AMH), saw strong performances across all divisions in a matchplay qualifying round.

CEO Julia Tovey and Dr. Bhartendu Mehta represented AMH during the prize ceremony alongside Captain Steve Newall and Tournament Di-

rector Balbir Singh. Division One was won by veteran Ali Musbah (net 67), with Nasser Yaqoob Saleh taking the best gross honors at 72. Division Three winner Raghav Talwar scored a net 70 in his victory.

The KPAO tournament — named for Kingsbury (Division 1), Pinhey (Division 2), Ayto (Division 3), and O'Sullivan (ladies) — advances the top 16 qualifiers to a season-long matchplay bracket, with finals scheduled for April or May. The event highlights Awali Golf Club's competitive season and continued partnership with AMH.

Bahrain Fall to Saudi Arabia Ahead of Semifinal

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

Bahrain wrapped up their group stage campaign yesterday with a 27–33 loss to Saudi Arabia in Group A of the boys’ handball competition at Umm Alhassam Hall A.

It was a strong day of handball action overall, with the United Arab Emirates defeating Thailand 38–24 to open proceedings, followed by Jordan overcoming Hong Kong, China 22–15. In Group B, China cruised past Kazakhstan 41–26, while Kuwait sealed a 24–19 win over Iran to round out the afternoon session.

In the day’s final match, Saudi

Arabia built an eight-goal lead by halftime, going into the break 17–9 ahead of Bahrain. The hosts responded well in the second half, scoring 18 goals, but could not overturn the deficit as Saudi Arabia held firm to take the win.

Ali Jadeed and Mohammed Tarrada stood out for Bahrain, scoring five and six goals respectively. Ahmed Abdulla added four more, while Ahmed Eid and Abuthar Yateem each netted three. Both teams had already confirmed their spots in the semifinals before the match. Bahrain will face Kuwait tomorrow at 7 PM, while Saudi Arabia take on China in the other semifinal at 5 PM.



Bahrain's Mohammed Tarrada fires a shot under pressure from Saudi defender Abbas AlAwazim



Kazakhstan's Tashbay Claims Gold in Girls' Cycling Time Trial



Medal-winning cyclists celebrate on the NBH Loop podium

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

The Girls’ Individual Time Trial took place yesterday morning at the NBH Loop, where Kazakhstan’s Anel Tashbay delivered a composed and consistent ride to secure the gold medal at the Asian Youth Games Bahrain 2025.

Tashbay completed the course in 17:06.05, averaging 42.8 km/h to finish ahead of Xing Aofei of China, who took silver with a time of 17:25.08. Law Ching Kiu of Hong Kong claimed bronze in 17:40.41, rounding out a competitive top three separated by less than 35 seconds.

The race challenged riders

with Bahrain’s early morning heat and light winds, demanding precise pacing and endurance over the rolling circuit.

India’s Anjali Jakhar placed fourth, while Lo Wei of Chinese Taipei completed the top five.

Further down the field, Indonesia’s Mila Safa Fidela and Japan’s Kanna Odashima finished sixth and seventh respectively, while Uzbekistan’s Madina Anvarova and Mongolia’s Nandin-erdene Undes-Erdene also delivered solid performances to make the top ten.

Bahrain’s Dana Aldoseri represented the host nation, finishing in 21:40.52 to place 18th.



Pics credit: Anchalo Bensiger

Bahrain advance to last eight in 3x3 Basketball

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

Bahrain’s boys’ 3x3 basketball team capped off a strong group-stage campaign at the Asian Youth Games Bahrain 2025, defeating China 21–14 yesterday at Umm Alhassam Hall B to finish top of Group B and secure a place in the quarterfinals.

The hosts impressed with sharp teamwork, led by Hasan Abdulkadir, who poured in 13 points on 85% shooting accuracy (11 of 13). His dominance inside, coupled with Yousif Meshael’s key two-pointer midway through the game, kept Bahrain in control. Somto Onoduenyi and Sergej Scekcic anchored the defense, disrupting China’s rhythm and forcing multiple turnovers.

Meanwhile, China’s Yao Shengbin led his team’s offense but was limited by Bahrain’s defensive pressure, as the visitors managed just 42% from the field and struggled from distance.

The victory confirmed Bahrain’s position at the top of Group B, setting up a highly anticipated quarterfinal match against neighbours Saudi Arabia, who topped Group D. The matchup is scheduled for today at 1:45pm, with both Gulf sides looking to extend their impressive runs into the medal rounds.

Elsewhere in the competition, Saudi Arabia edged Sri Lanka 17–16 in their final group match, while Iran and Thailand also put in strong showings in their respective groups.



Bahrain’s standout athletes from last night, Hassan Abdulkadir (R) and Yousif Meshael (L)



Gold medal winners on Sunday: Tashbay Anel (Kazakhstan), Sharahili Bashar (Saudi Arabia), Xie Yiqing (China), Bhoi Pritesmita (India), Pak Kyong Song (DPR Korea), Jiang Jinfu (China), Almazrou Tala Abdulaziz (Saudi Arabia) and Al-Asadi Mahdi Qaed Raheem (Iraq).

Asia’s Rising Stars

Emerging champions make their mark across Asia

- Malaysia wins historic gold in show jumping
- China, Kazakhstan dominate track and beach events
- Underdogs impress with strong all-round performances

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As Sunday’s matches at the Asian Youth Games drew to a close, Malaysia’s Princess Sharifah Ariel Budriah stood out, clinching the show jumping gold with a flawless 29.85-second round, marking her country’s first title in the event. Iraq’s Mohammed Humam Harith took silver, and the UAE’s Alkarbi Saleh Mufrej Ali

Mohame finished with bronze. In athletics, China’s boys’ medley relay team won gold in 1:52.80 minutes, ahead of Sri Lanka and Chinese Taipei. Kazakhstan’s Maxim Sazhnev topped the boys’ discus throw with 63.23 metres, followed by China’s Jia Kunchuan and Iran’s Alireza Samimishalamzari. Several other track-and-field finals, including the girls’ triple jump, high jump and 3,000 metres, had no published results. Kazakhstan and China shared honours in beach volleyball. Kazakhstan’s Alikhan Agabek and Orazali Sagnysh beat Thailand 21-15, 23-21 for the boys’ gold. China’s Zhuang Ming and Fan Yuhan came from behind to defeat Thailand 2-1 in the girls’ final. Quarter-finals in boxing saw Mongolia’s Altangadas Altanzul beat Japan’s Kamemori Matsuri 5-0 in the girls’ 46 kg class. Uzbekistan’s Nazokat Mardonova, China’s Cui Xinying, and



People’s Republic of China outscored Kazakhstan 41-26 in Sunday’s handball match.

India’s Chandrika Bhoreshi also advanced in their respective categories. In the boys’ bouts, Kazakhstan’s Myrsabit Arman



Saudi Arabia defeated Kyrgyzstan 3-1 in the futsal match on Sunday..

and Uzbekistan’s Yorkinjonov Abdugani secured wins to move into medal contention. Thailand dominated esports, where Sirawut Rungrakasikul won the boys’ e-Football 1v1 gold after beating Indonesia’s Cezar Michael Julius 3-0. Iran’s Amirmohammad Farahani took bronze. In the girls’ competition, the UAE’s Tala Almazrou won gold, defeating Thailand’s Dunyachit Supawadee 3-0. Futsal group play brought uneven results. In the girls’ matches, Chinese Taipei beat Hong Kong 15-1 and China defeated Bahrain 11-1. In the boys’ pool, Afghanistan stunned China 4-1, while Saudi Arabia overcame Kyrgyzstan 3-1. In handball, the UAE beat Thailand 38-24, Jordan beat Hong Kong 22-15, and Saudi Arabia defeated Bahrain 33-27. Muay Thai produced multiple golds for Thailand but also new champions from across Asia. Iran’s Jani Baran won the girls’ –40 kg final, Iraq’s Mahdi Qaed Raheem took the boys’ –45 kg gold, and Palestine’s Allis Vivian won the girls’ –45 kg title. Thailand’s Pimlapat Roikaew, the UAE’s Issam Khaleel, and Uzbekistan’s Turdiboev Asadbek also secured victories. China continued to dominate table tennis. Zhou Guan hong, Hu Yi, and Lin Wan-rong all recorded straight-set victories in their group-stage matches. Singapore’s Seah Benaiah and Iran’s Amiri Mobin also remained unbeaten in early rounds. In taekwondo, China won the mixed-team final 2-0 against Thailand. On the volleyball court, Pakistan’s boys shocked China 3-0, while Indonesia’s girls eliminated China 3-0. Iran’s girls swept Hong Kong 3-0, and the Philippines beat Chinese Taipei 3-1. Weightlifting concluded with Thailand’s Rakjan Thanodom taking the boys’ 60 kg gold with a total of 221 kg. Wang Yu-chun of Chinese Taipei claimed silver at 219 kg, and Turkmenistan’s Azamatov Atabek earned bronze at 218 kg. Sunday’s events highlighted strong performances across multiple sports as the Games continued to showcase emerging talent from across Asia.



Kazakhstan’s player attempts a shot past China’s defence during their handball match on Sunday.



An Indonesian player leaps for a shot against Sri Lanka during their 3×3 basketball match on Sunday, where Indonesia prevailed 17-11.