







Black Friday sales light up Bahrain markets

TDT | Manama

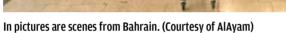
🔪 argain hunters in Bahrain yesterday ventured out into the streets of the Kingdom to make the most of the mega discounts on offer at shops for "Black Friday" also called "White Friday in Arab countries.

Black Friday is a term for the Friday following Thanksgiving in the US and often marks the start of the Christmas shopping season. White Friday sales in the Gulf countries happen both online and in classic brick and mortar stores.

Brands, companies and retailers often introduce incredible deals on the day all over the world. Retailers in Bahrain were also not holding back yesterday, with them introducing their deals to turn the day bright for shoppers.

Citizens and residents, eager to grab the "large discounts' dia, crowded the markets and tels and telecom. malls since morning despite the woes worldwide.





Mandatory adherence to COVnew variant possibly resistant to ID-19 preventive measures also existing vaccines compounded failed to prevent people from up in front of stores, waiting for Offers and discounts were on their favourite goods for a bar- announced keeping their doors

found through advertisements, ing clothes, furniture, household tags displaying up to 70% off, text messages and social me- appliances, gold ornaments, ho- as cars packed streets in the vicinity of malls and commercial complexes in Manama.

In some places, vehicles lined going out to the markets to own the doors to open. Some malls all goods and products, includ- gain. Some of the products wore open for 38 hours without inter-



ruption to meet the increased demand and reduce pressure. However, in the US, scenes were different with a shift to online, COVID fears, and far less-steep discounts thinned crowds on the day. Many shoppers are also choosing curbside pick-up rather than venturing inside.



India set to resume overseas flights

Reuters | New Delhi

Tndia said yesterday it will from South Africa and other resume international passenger flights from mid-Dea new coronavirus variant old ban. spread globally.

said reports of mutations in the navirus risk levels of indivariant, identified as B.1.1.529, vidual countries, accordhad "serious public health im- ing to a formal government plications", and asked states

to adopt rigorous screening and testing for all passengers "at risk" countries.

But India's civil aviation cember with COVID-19 linked ministry said it had decided to curbs for "at risk" countries, let airlines resume scheduled and ordered tightened screen- international flights from Dec. ing at borders as fears over 15, lifting a nearly two-year-

The resumption of flights The federal health ministry would be based on the coro-

Stocks tumble on new coronavirus variant fear

Reuters | New York

percentage drops in months, sistant. read more and pandemic-hit sectors that Cruise operators Carnival issues.

South Africa, with the European in over a year. Union and Britain among those -s stocks dropped yesterday, tightening border controls as the start of the holiday shopping post-Thanksgiving holiday ses-Usith the Dow and S&P 500 researchers sought to establish season, kicked off as the new suffering their biggest one-day if the mutation was vaccine-re-

reacted with alarm on Friday to Arca Airline index saw its big-

Retailers fell as Black Friday, variant fueled concerns about

Delta Air Lines and American gains in COVID-19 vaccine mak-Authorities around the world Airlines also tumbled. The NYSE ers Pfizer Inc and Moderna Inc.

the coronavirus variant found in gest one-day percentage decline participants noted the drop was tumbled more than 3%.

likely exaggerated by the thin volume during the shortened

Unofficially, the Dow Jones low store traffic and inventory Industrial Average fell 905.04 points, or 2.53%, to 34,899.34, have benefited from a reopen- Corp, Royal Caribbean Cruis- Selling was broad, with big the S&P 500 lost 106.74 points, ing falling sharply after a new es and Norwegian Cruise Line declines in all 11 major S&P sec- or 2.27%, to 4,594.72 and the and potentially vaccine-resist- each plunged more than 10%, tors except healthcare, which Nasdaq Composite dropped ant coronavirus mutation was while shares in United Airlines, fell slightly thanks to strong 353.57 points, or 2.23%, to 15,491.66.

> The domestically focused Despite the sell-off, market Russell 2000 small-cap index

Tesla decides against state aid for German battery plant as Musk opposes subsidies

Tesla withdraws application for state funding

All subsidies should be eliminated, Musk tweets

Regional funding application still underway

Reuters | Berlin

Tesla said yesterday it has subsidies.

withdrawn its application The Eu



A view shows the entrance to the construction site of the future Tesla Gigafactory

The European Union in Janfor state aid for its planned bat- uary approved a plan that in- leader China. tery factory near Berlin as CEO cluded giving state aid to Tes-

tric vehicle maker opposed all production of electric vehicle batteries and help the bloc to the decision, the spokesperson proval permits while it awaits thorities in April that the counreduce imports from industry said.

Elon Musk declared the elec- la, BMW and others to support 1.14 billion euros (\$1.28 billion) be eliminated," Musk posted on a spokesperson for the federal change.

in EU funding for its battery Twitter in response to a tweet economy ministry said. decision likely by the end of the application.

eral Ministry of Economics and For some reason, governments Economics... it is withdrawing added, deviating from the subits IPCEI application for state ject of the factory grant. funding for the battery factory in subsidies allocated to so-called ministry estimates. 'Important Projects of Common European Interest'.

Construction plans for the plant would not be affected by begun building under pre-ap-

plant in Gruenheide, Branden- by another user after Tesla said burg under the plan, with a final it had withdrawn its funding er also applied in November

"Tesla has informed the Fed- massive subsidies for oil & gas. the Brandenburg Ministry of don't want to do that...," Musk

Tesla itself is investing 5 bil-Grunheide," a Tesla spokesper- lion euros in the battery plant, son said, referring to European according to German economy

Meanwhile, construction of a car production site alongside the battery plant, which Tesla has "It has always been Tesla's al government, has made good ments were at odds with the Tesla was expected to receive view that all subsidies should progress in the last few weeks, urgency needed to fight climate

The electric vehicle mak-2020 for regional funding from "But that must include the Brandenburg, according to the regional government's website.

A Brandenburg economy ministry spokesperson said this application had not been with-

The amount Tesla applied for is undisclosed, but investments worth over 100 million euros are generally given 6.8% of their value, the website says.

Musk has made his irritation for German laws and processes known, saying in a letter to aufinal approval from the region- try's complex planning require-