

Sinner, Swiatek
cruise at US Open

Defending champion Sinner and women's favourite Swiatek win in straight sets as Gauff battles through three-hour marathon | P16

Israeli forces seize nearly \$450,000 in West Bank raid

THE DAILY tribune



Pete Davidson shares 'guilt' over Elsie Hewitt's pregnancy

Al Baraka Islamic Bank Organises Entrepreneurship Master Class Programme

Bahrain-US strategic ties built on 'trust and cooperation'

TDI | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, underscored the longstanding strategic relations and close historical partnership between the Kingdom of Bahrain and the US, built over decades on trust, respect, and joint coordination. HM the King was speaking as he received Admiral Charles Bradford Cooper, Commander of the United States Central Command (CENTCOM), and the accompanying delegation, at Al Safriya Palace.

He welcomed Admiral Cooper and his delegation, congratulating him on assuming his new



HM King receives Admiral Charles Bradford Cooper

duties and wishing him success in strengthening Bahraini-US



cooperation in the defence and security sectors, to serve regional security and peace.

His Majesty also commended the continuous progress witnessed in bilateral cooperation

across various sectors, as two countries and allied nations striving to achieve their shared goals and aspirations.

HM King Hamad commended the role of the US administration

in consolidating the foundations of regional security and stability.

The meeting also reviewed regional and international developments, including the latest events in the region.

Gunman kills two children in US church, injures 17

AFP | Minneapolis, US

A gunman opened fire yesterday on school children attending a church service in Minneapolis, killing two pupils and wounding 17 children and adults, police said, in the latest violent tragedy to jolt the US. The gunman fired a rifle, shotgun and pistol before he took his own life in the parking lot.

(Detailed report on Page 10)

17-year-old held for exploiting children through social media

TDI | Manama

A 17-year-old has been arrested for exploiting and luring several children into providing video recordings, using his social media accounts. The Interior Ministry announced that the Child Protection in Cyberspace Unit at the General Directorate of Anti-Corruption, Economic and Electronic Security made the arrest.

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Traffic Reckoning

From harsher penalties to smart cameras and safer school runs, Bahrain declares its biggest traffic shake-up yet.

12 laws overhauled

500 smart cameras deployed

50,000 students safeguarded

Mahir Haneef
TDI | Manama

The Kingdom of Bahrain has launched a sweeping overhaul of its traffic system, uniting tougher laws, smarter enforcement and school safety preparations in a coordinated push to protect lives and property.

His Excellency General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, Minister of Interior and Chairman of the Traffic Council, said the reforms mark a continuous process of updating legislation and practices to strengthen a culture of safety across the Kingdom.

Law Overhaul

The new decree-law, issued on the directives of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and backed by the government



H.E. General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa chairs the Traffic Council meeting attended by senior government officials

led by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister, has amended 12 articles of the Traffic Law and added four new ones. The changes, which came into force on August 22, impose stricter penalties aimed at deterring reckless behaviour and safeguarding the public.

H.E. General Shaikh Rashid praised the early impact of the law's implementation, noting a surge in awareness and compliance among drivers. His Excellency underlined that the legislative overhaul is not a one-off act but part of an evolving framework to ensure Bahrain keeps pace with international



Bahrain has one of the highest vehicle densities in the Gulf, with around 750 cars per 1,000 people in 2024, making traffic reform a national priority.

standards in road safety.

The General Directorate of

Traffic presented details of its operational rollout, which includes smart traffic systems capable of detecting and tracking violations, intensified field patrols, and expanded awareness campaigns. On the sidelines, officials noted that the Interior Ministry had also signed an agreement with Beyon to provide 500 smart cameras, reinforcing the technology backbone of the reforms. (Detailed story on page 2)

School Safety

With the academic year set to begin, the council also reviewed preparations for transporting more than 50,000 students in 700 school buses. The Ministry

of Education has coordinated closely with the Traffic Directorate to reduce congestion and held training workshops for bus drivers to ensure safe practices. H.E. General Shaikh Rashid stressed that improving school transportation is central to the wider traffic reform, as the well-being of children must remain a top priority.

Officials affirmed that Bahrain's new approach to traffic governance rests on three pillars - stronger laws, smarter systems and safer roads. By embedding these changes into daily life, the Kingdom aims to move beyond penalties and build a society-wide commitment to road safety.

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SCW Turns Anniversary Into Leadership Agenda

New plan, new committees, future focus

● SCW marks 24th anniversary

● 2025–2026 plan unveiled

● Women in Sports Committee

Mahir Haneef
TDT | Manama

The Supreme Council for Women (SCW) has used its 24th anniversary not just for celebration but to set a new course, unveiling a national plan and approving fresh institutional measures designed to push Bahraini women into leadership roles.

At the Council's fifth meeting of its eighth term (2022–2025),



HRH Princess Sabeeka chairs fifth SCW meeting in its eighth term

Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, Consort of His Majesty the King and SCW President, congratulated members on the anniversary and announced the National Plan for the Advancement of Bahraini Women (2025–2026) under the theme “From Empowerment and Progress towards Leadership.”

HRH also revealed the theme for 2025 Bahraini Women's Day: “Bahraini Women: Distinction,

Creativity, Innovation.” The commemoration will spotlight Bahraini women's achievements in innovation and excellence, celebrate international and regional awards, and record their success stories in national development.

Royal support

HRH Princess Sabeeka credited His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa's continuous support as the foundation of the

Council's achievements. She also welcomed the Cabinet's congratulations, led by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, along with messages from the Royal Family, senior officials, dignitaries, and the Bahraini public.

Her Royal Highness praised the government's cooperation with ministries and institutions in driving the Council's programmes, noting that such co-

ordination has broadened women's role in the economy and improved the quality of services available to them.

Institutional measures

The Council endorsed steps by the General Secretariat on equal-opportunity committees in government bodies and reviewed preparations to establish a Women in Sports Committee.

Secretary-General Hala Lulwa Al Awadhi briefed members on

Bahrain was the first GCC country to establish a national women's council when the SCW was created in 2001.

the follow-up to the national plan, participation in specialised committees, and ongoing cooperation with international organisations through memoranda of understanding that aim to strengthen the standing of Bahraini women abroad.

HRH Princess Sabeeka underlined that the Council would continue to work with government entities, the private sector, and civil society to consolidate stability for women, ensure equal opportunity, and strengthen gender balance.

Smart Eyes on Bahrain Roads

● 500 AI smart cameras

● Integrated monitoring system

● Vision 2030 aligned

Mahir Haneef
TDT | Manama

An artificial intelligence-powered monitoring system with 500 smart cameras will soon be rolled out across Bahrain's roads under a new agreement between the Ministry of Interior and Beyon.

The deal, signed at the Ministry's headquarters, places Beyon Solutions in charge of equipping the General Directorate of Traffic with an integrated system designed to modernise traffic control and enhance public safety.

Officials said the technology goes beyond technological surveillance, using AI tools that can self-learn, evolve and de-



H.E. Shaikh Hisham bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa and H.E. Shaikh Abdulla bin Khalifa Al Khalifa sign the agreement, in the presence of H.E. Lieutenant-General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa and H.E. Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa

liver highly accurate data. This capability is expected to allow authorities to take proactive measures in tackling violations and easing congestion.

Leadership Backing

The signing ceremony brought together senior figures, including H.E. Lieutenant-General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, Minister of Interior and Chairman of the General Traffic Council, and H.E. Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Minister of Finance and National Economy. The agreement was signed by H.E. Shaikh Hisham

bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa, Undersecretary for Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs, and H.E. Shaikh Abdulla bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, CEO of Mumtalakat and Chairman of Beyon.

National Vision

Beyon described the partnership as part of wider national efforts, led by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and supported by the government under His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister, to protect

lives and modernise legislative frameworks.

H.E. Shaikh Abdulla said the project reflects Beyon's commitment to supporting Bahrain's Vision 2030 goals while reinforcing the Kingdom's position as a regional hub for digital transformation. His Excellency added that Beyon Solutions will provide support throughout all phases of the implementation.

With AI now at the heart of the Kingdom's road strategy, the agreement marks one of the most ambitious traffic safety upgrades Bahrain has undertaken to date.

Al Roudha Camp Roundabout inauguration



Lieutenant General His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, National Security Advisor and Royal Guard Commander, attended the inauguration of the Al Roudha Camp Roundabout. At the centre of the roundabout stands a memorial dedicated to the achievement of the Royal Guard team that scaled Mount Everest, with the climbers themselves attending the opening ceremony. HH Shaikh Nasser emphasised that the memorial stands as a testament to the courage and determination of the Royal Guard personnel who raised the Bahraini flag on the world's highest peak. His Highness said it reflects the spirit of challenge and perseverance embraced by the people of Bahrain.

Bahrain-Egypt ties



His Excellency Abdulla bin Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry and Commerce, highlighted the strong historical and economic ties between the Kingdom of Bahrain and Egypt and stressed the importance of enhancing cooperation. This came as the Minister received H.E. Riham Abdelhamid Mahmoud Ibrahim Khalil, Ambassador of Egypt to Bahrain. The Ambassador praised the bilateral relations that bind the two countries in various fields, and commended Bahrain's development and prosperity in various sectors.

Bahrain economy to 'grow' at 2.7% in 2025, 3.3% in 2026

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Bahrain's economy is set to grow by 2.7 per cent in 2025 and 3.3 per cent in 2026, up from 2.6 per cent this year, the Arab Monetary Fund said.

Non-oil activity, which makes up most of output, is the main driver.

Investment in roads and utilities, logistics, modern finance

and tourism is expected to keep that pace.

The outlook sits within the Economic Recovery Plan launched in October 2021, a programme of more than \$30bn in projects across tourism, telecoms, industry, housing, education, and youth and sport.

National strategies

The plan also rolls out national strategies to widen the base of

the economy and lift the share of ICT, logistics and financial services in GDP.

The current account is forecast to keep healthy surpluses, backed by foreign-currency earnings from oil, aluminium and tourism.

Across the Arab world, growth is put at 3.8 per cent in 2025 and 4.3 per cent in 2026, from 2.2 per cent in 2024.

Price pressures

Inflation is seen easing from 31.9 per cent this year to 20.8 per cent next year and 14.2 per cent in 2026; excluding countries with extreme price pressures, the rates fall to 7.6 per cent in 2025 and 5.6 per cent in 2026.

For the Gulf states, growth is projected at 4.0 per cent in 2025 and 4.4 per cent in 2026, after 2.2 per cent in 2024, helped by non-oil sectors.

Two jailed for forced labour trafficking



TDT | Manama

Two defendants have been sentenced to three years in prison and fined BD1,000 each by the First High Criminal Court for trafficking two victims into forced labour.

The ruling also ordered the permanent deportation of the first defendant once she has served her sentence.

The prosecution said the case began with a report from the victims, who accused the defendants of exploiting them by forcing them into tasks different from those agreed, without pay, against their will, under threat and for long hours.

Complaint

Investigators moved quickly after the complaint. The victims gave statements, the defendants were questioned, and police enquiries confirmed the account.

Testimony from the investigating officers supported the claims.

The prosecution then referred the matter to court, which handed down Wednesday's verdict.

‘Clear steps to raise educational system’

MP Kadhem backs parent briefings as schools ready for new term

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

With schools being readied and curricula updated for the new term, MP Jalal Kadhem backed parent briefings and said the Ministry of Education, led by His Excellency Dr Mohammed bin Mubarak Juma, “is moving with clear steps to raise the educational system”.

He welcomed the directives of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, to hold orientation events for parents in public schools so they can review programmes and plans for the new academic year.

Care

He called it “a step that shows the leadership’s care to cement effective communication between family and school, helping to build a learning environment that encourages success”.

Kadhem said appointing Bahraini professionals across teaching and administrative posts is among the clearest gains of recent work.

This, he added, “shows strong confidence in national cadres to lead education, in line with the leadership’s vision to enable



Image used for illustrative purposes only



Bahraini citizens and strengthen their role in serving the nation”.

Support

He voiced support for the ministry’s start-of-term preparations: getting schools ready

learning resources are in place, alongside other steps to lift the quality of schooling.

Kadhem said the past few years have brought a run of decisions and measures that serve students, staff and parents.

“I am confident in Minister Dr Mohammed bin Mubarak Juma’s management of this key sector and his ability to keep improving education in line with people’s hopes,” he said.

He also pointed to the ministry’s recent humanitarian bent, citing attention to social cases, follow-up of community issues, and support for students and their families in exceptional circumstances, whether through field efforts or positive engagement on social media.

Solidarity

This approach, he said, “has strengthened solidarity and social responsibility, had a positive effect on families and the wider community, and reinforced trust in the ministry’s human and educational role”.

He concluded that Parliament backs the ministry’s plans, saying education remains a main pillar of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa’s reform project and a foundation for Bahrain’s economic and development vision.

“It is a step that shows the leadership’s care to cement effective communication between family and school, helping to build a learning environment that encourages success.”

- MP JALAL KADHEM

Open registration for Hajj season



TDT | Manama

The Supreme Committee for Hajj and Umrah Affairs held a meeting to follow up on preparations for the 1447 AH (2026) Hajj season.

The committee announced that registration will open on Wednesday, September 3, at 9 am, and will remain available until midnight on Tuesday, September 16, 2025, through the electronic key system via the Hajj platform haj.gov.bh.

The committee reviewed the latest updates to the Hajj platform, designed to simplify registration procedures and provide smoother services.

In addition to receiving applications from those wishing to perform Hajj, the platform enables users to view tour operators’ offers and track their application status.

The committee urged applicants to first register through the eKey 2.0 application and to update their information in the Government Notifications System (NotifyMe) available on the national portal bahrain.bh.

It also emphasised that applicants must hold a valid ID card and may include up to four companions under a single application.

10 firms praised for hiring 923 Bahrainis in first half of 2025

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

The Labour Ministry has named 10 firms for bringing in the highest number of Bahraini recruits in the second quarter of 2025, between April and June.

Hundreds of nationals were hired during this period by Lulu Bahrain Hypermarket, Bahrain Apparel, Gulf Air Group Holding, McDonald’s, Sixpence HR Solutions, Array Innovation, Barbecue Town, Nass Contracting, Al Hilal Multi-Specialty Medical Centre and Al Helli Supermarket.

From January through June, 10 companies together hired about 923 Bahrainis.

Lulu Bahrain Hypermarket

topped the list with 157 new staff, followed by McDonald’s with 148 and Silah Gulf with 109. Gulf Air Group came next with 97, while Bahrain Apparel Trading added 85.

Sixpence HR Solutions employed 81, Zain 67, Al Jazira Supermarket 66, Al Helli Supermarket 58, and the Bapco Refining staff branch 55.

Other companies also brought in Bahraini workers during the same period.

ASB Security Solutions and Bahrain Airport Services each hired 53. Data Direct Bahrain Solutions and Al Mihwar Restaurant each added 51. Gastro-nomic Bahrain brought in 50, Al Raja School 46, Centrepoint 42, and Total CX and Eagle Security and Safety 41.

ASU First to Fast-Track Diploma Holders

- First private bridging pathway
- Two-year fast degree track
- Saudi students invited

Mahir Haneef
TDT | Manama

For diploma holders in Bahrain and the wider region, a long-standing barrier to higher education has just been broken. Applied Science University (ASU) has unveiled the Kingdom’s first accredited Bridging Programme by a private university, giving students a fast-track route to a bachelor’s degree in as little as two years.

Breaking the barrier

Until now, diploma graduates often faced limited progression options. ASU’s new pathway changes that equation, offering officially recognised bridging into disciplines like Computer Science and into dual-award British engineering degrees delivered with London South Bank



Applied Science University (ASU)

University (LSBU). Students can choose from BEng (Hons) Civil, Architectural, Mechanical, or Electrical and Electronic Engineering.

The programme reduces the time to a full degree to two to two-and-a-half years, effectively collapsing what could have been a long academic detour into a swift and accredited transition.

The university has also ex-

ident of ASU, said the initiative reflects a forward-looking vision to expand academic opportunities across the region, with a particular focus on students from Saudi Arabia. He noted that the programme strengthens both academic knowledge and practical skills to align with labour market demands.

Global recognition

ASU’s standing underpins this development. The university holds a QS 5-Star rating and was the first Bahraini institution accredited by the UK’s QAA across all its programmes. With advanced facilities, research-driven teaching, and internationally experienced faculty, ASU guarantees that its graduates are globally competitive and attractive to employers.

Professor Masri invited ambitious students, including those in Saudi Arabia, to explore the new option by contacting the university through WhatsApp at +973 6663 3770. He stressed that ASU offers a dynamic environment, strong student support, and internationally recognised programmes designed to prepare graduates for leadership and excellence.

Bahrain-US labour cooperation



The Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) received a delegation from the United States Congress at the Expatriate Protection Centre, in the presence of representatives from the US Department of State. The delegation was briefed on the efforts of the Kingdom of Bahrain to continue strengthening a stable work environment that safeguards the rights of all parties, in addition to the pioneering initiatives implemented by the Kingdom in this sector, particularly the Wage Protection System (WPS) and the Regional Centre of Excellence and Capacity Building for Combating Trafficking in Persons (RCOE).

New Fishing Law takes effect today

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Bahrain's new Fishing Law takes effect today, requiring the presence of a Bahraini fisherman on all vessels engaged in commercial sea fishing.

The legislation also links crew sizes to vessel length and imposes fines and jail terms for violations.

Licence
To secure a fisherman's licence, the applicant must be Bahraini, aged 18 or over, fit to work at sea, and free of any prior conviction for a felony or a misdemeanour involving dishonour or breach of trust unless legally rehabilitated.

The licence must show the fisherman's details and the employer's details. The fisherman



Image used for illustrative purposes only

may not work for any employer other than the one named on the licence.

The licence is personal, cannot be transferred or assigned, must be shown to the competent authorities on request, runs for

one year, and may be renewed on the same terms.

Offence

Penalties vary by offence. Breaching key provisions carries imprisonment of

not less than one month and not more than six months, with fines from BD1,000 to BD5,000.

Other articles allow up to one month's imprisonment and fines between BD300 and BD1,000.

Lesser breaches carry up to 15 days' imprisonment and fines from BD100 to BD300.

Fine

If an offence is repeated within one year, the fine is doubled.

Each fishing vessel must have a Bahraini Naukhatha (Ship Captain), the skipper and employer of record. Boats 18 to 21 feet long may carry up to three crew in addition to the naukhtha. Those 22 to 24 feet may carry four people, of whom three must be Bahraini.

Road and walkway upgrades underway in Al Dair and Samaheej

TDT | Manama

Road and footpath works in Al Dair and Samaheej are in progress, with the remaining jobs due within two months, Muharraq Municipal Council member Fadhil Al Oud said.

He said the works sit within a wider plan to improve services across the constituency in line with residents' needs, with early focus on Al Dair and Samaheej.

Avenue 27 in Al Dair is being re-asphalted. It links Blocks 230 and 231 and serves several mosques and ma'tams, so it sees heavy daily use.

The scheme also adds a storm-water drainage point to reduce pooling in winter.

Block 232, described as relatively old, is receiving block paving for its internal walkways as part of neighbourhood upgrades. Movement and access

In Samaheej's Block 235, crews have repaved several walkways with blocks and laid



Fadhil Al Oud

new asphalt on selected streets to ease movement and improve access.

Some schemes are finished, Al Oud said, and the rest are scheduled to conclude within the next two months as part of one plan covering both areas.

He thanked the Undersecretary at the Ministry of Works, H.E. Shaikh Mishal bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, for his follow-up, saying the programme shows the ministry's focus on serving residents and raising infrastructure standards across Bahrain.

Kerala Samajam set to organise 'Shravanam 2025' Onam Festival

Pradeep Puravankara
TDT | Manama

Bahrain Keralayeeya Samajam (BKS), the mother organisation of Malayali expatriates in the Kingdom, has announced that its annual Onam celebrations, "Shravanam 2025," will be one of the largest and longest Onam festivals organised outside Kerala.

The announcement was made during a press conference by BKS President P.V. Radhakrishna Pillai, General Secretary Varghese Karakkal, and Festival Committee General Convener Varghese George, who highlighted the diverse range of cultural, artistic, and community programs planned for this year's edition.

'Pilleronam'



BKS President P.V. Radhakrishna Pillai, General Secretary Varghese Karakkal, and Festival Committee General Convener Varghese George at the press conference

The festivities began with "Pilleronam" (Children's Onam), an initiative designed to educate children about the historical and social significance of the festival.

From there, a packed calendar of daily events has been scheduled, drawing together music, dance, competitions, and traditional feasts.

On August 29, the "Ruchi Mela" food festival showcased Kerala's rich culinary heritage,

followed on September 1 by the official inauguration ceremony, "Kodiyettam."

Tug of war competition

A tug of war competition between expatriate organizations was staged on September 4, and the following day, playback singers Panthalam Balan, Ravishankar, and Pramila performed the songs of the late legendary playback singer P. Jayachandran,

accompanied by a commemorative speech by writer Ravi Menon.

September 6 featured folk dances from various Indian states, while September 7 hosted the "Onapudava" (traditional dress) competition.

Cultural programs organised by the BKS Entertainment Division took place on September 8, followed by the "Onappattu" (Onam songs) competition

on September 9 and the "Ente Keralam" (My Kerala) quiz on September 10.

Musical night

A musical night on September 11 featured young performers from the "Star Singers" reality show, including Anushree, Nanda, Balam, and Sreerag. September 12 saw the "Pookkalam" (floral carpet) competition in the morning, culminating in

a grand evening concert led by acclaimed singers K.S. Chithra, Madhu Balakrishnan, Nishad, and Anamika.

The following days continued with a mix of competitions and cultural showcases. September 13 featured Payasam and Thiruvathira contests, while September 14 held a traditional costume competition.

Folk music by the Aaravam Maram band was performed on September 15, followed by traditional games on September 16 and 17, and a kabaddi tournament on September 18.

Violin recital

September 19 brought a violin recital by maestro Ganga Sasidharan, with a cinematic dance competition staged the next day.

HIRING

LIC International B.S.C. (C), Market Leader in the Life Insurance industry in Bahrain, is looking for talents to join the Investment and Accounts Department for the following positions:

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Bahrain-India relations



His Excellency Abdullah bin Adel, Minister of Industry and Commerce, received Smitha Jensen, Chairwoman of the Indian Ladies Association, and a number of board members. The Minister praised the association's role in strengthening Bahrain-India relations and supporting volunteer and community initiatives, highlighting women as key partners in development. The meeting also discussed the association's volunteer projects and efforts to enhance cultural and social cooperation between the two countries.

Al Baraka Islamic Bank Organises Entrepreneurship Master Class Programme



TDT | Manama

Al Baraka Islamic Bank, one of the leading Islamic banks in the Kingdom of Bahrain, recently organised an advanced educational and training programme entitled the Entrepreneurship Master Class Programme for the children of its employees, in collaboration with INJAZ Bahrain. This initiative comes as part

Her Highness
Sheikha Hessa bint
Khalifa Al Khalifa,
INJAZ Bahrain
Chairperson



of Al Baraka Islamic Bank’s firm commitment to supporting education, empowering future generations, and strengthening the bonds between family, community, and the workplace.

The programme was attended by a group of the Bank’s employees’ children, within a specific age range ranging between 9 and 15 years, who engaged in an interactive learning experience designed to develop their personal skills and expand their knowledge in areas such as financial literacy, creative thinking,



Alongside the interactive workshops, the programme also featured an orientation tour of several of the Bank’s departments. This provided participants with the opportunity to observe the nature of banking operations and the mechanisms of delivering financial services first-hand, as well as to gain a better understanding of the role of the banking sector in supporting the national economy.

Mr Abdulla Suwaileh, Head of Human Resources and Administration at Al Baraka Islamic Bank

Her Highness Sheikha Hessa bint Khalifa Al Khalifa, INJAZ Bahrain Chairperson commented: “We are proud to partner with Al Baraka Islamic Bank in delivering the Entrepreneurship Master Class Programme, which

not only nurtures the entrepreneurial spirit of young participants but also strengthens the vital link between education, family, and the workplace. At INJAZ Bahrain, we remain committed to equipping youth with the skills and mindset needed to thrive as future leaders and entrepreneurs, and this collaboration is a powerful example of how joint efforts can positively impact the next generation.”

On this occasion, Mr Abdulla Suwaileh, Head of Human Resources and Administration at Al Baraka Islamic Bank, stated: “We are delighted to collaborate with INJAZ Bahrain in organising this pioneering programme, which reflects our unwavering

commitment to social responsibility and our belief in the role of the banking sector in building a brighter future for the children of our nation, preparing them to become tomorrow’s leaders and entrepreneurs.”

He added: “At Al Baraka Islamic Bank, we firmly believe that investing in the next generation is an investment in the future of our society and economy. Through this distinguished programme, we have sought to equip our children with the fundamentals of entrepreneurship while strengthening their values of innovation and teamwork, thereby better preparing them for their academic and professional futures.”



GULF INTERNATIONAL BANK B.S.C. - RETAIL BRANCH

Interim Condensed Financial Statements

For the period ended 30th June 2025

INTERIM CONDENSED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION		
	30.6.25 BHD	31.12.24 BHD
ASSETS		
Cash and other liquid assets	1,963,630	1,448,495
Placements	34,700,000	24,600,000
Loans and advances	6,660,239	4,149,444
Due from related parties	58,219,628	54,212,343
Equipment	57,600	77,005
Other assets	73,476	128,070
Total assets	101,674,573	84,615,357
LIABILITIES		
Deposits from customers	51,752,381	47,982,596
Due to related parties	25,104,226	14,644,080
Other liabilities	4,374,695	786,297
Total liabilities	81,231,302	63,412,973
HEAD OFFICE ACCOUNT		
Capital funds	20,000,000	20,000,000
Retained earnings	443,271	1,202,384
Total Head Office account	20,443,271	21,202,384
Total liabilities and Head Office account	101,674,573	84,615,357
INTERIM CONDENSED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		
	Six months ended 30.6.25 BHD	Six months ended 30.6.24 BHD
Interest income	1,680,565	1,308,481
Interest expense	891,504	615,181
Net interest income	789,061	693,300
Net fee and commission income	13,030	369,510
Foreign exchange income	254,282	174,779
Other income	12,769	4,440
Total income	1,069,142	1,242,029
Staff expenses	194,344	166,859
Premises expenses	19,180	18,700
Depreciation and amortisation	19,404	46,096
Other operating expenses	261,214	381,281
Total operating expenses	494,142	612,936
Net income before provisions	575,000	629,093
Provision (charge) / reversal for expected credit losses	(131,729)	46,548
Net income for the period	443,271	675,641
Other comprehensive income	-	-
Total comprehensive income	443,271	675,641

INTERIM CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN HEAD OFFICE ACCOUNT			
	Capital funds BHD	Retained earnings BHD	Total BHD
At 1 st January 2025	20,000,000	1,202,384	21,202,384
Transactions with Head Office:			
Transfer of profit to Head Office	-	(1,202,384)	(1,202,384)
Total transactions with Head Office	20,000,000	-	20,000,000
Comprehensive income:			
Comprehensive income for the period	-	443,271	443,271
Total comprehensive income	-	443,271	443,271
At 30 th June 2025	20,000,000	443,271	20,443,271
At 1 st January 2024	20,000,000	972,034	20,972,034
Transactions with Head Office:			
Transfer of profit to Head Office	-	(972,034)	(972,034)
Total transactions with Head Office	20,000,000	-	20,000,000
Comprehensive income:			
Comprehensive income for the period	-	675,641	675,641
Total comprehensive income	-	675,641	675,641
At 30 th June 2024	20,000,000	675,641	20,675,641

The interim condensed financial statements have been approved on 27th August 2025 and signed by:-

Mushari ALOtaibi

Acting Head of Retail Banking

Asif Saherwala

Chief Financial Officer - GIB B.S.C.
& Group Head of Financial Control

The above has been extracted from the condensed interim financial statements, which have been reviewed by KPMG Fakhro.

Gulf International Bank B.S.C., P.O. Box 1017, Al-Dowali Building, 3 Palace Avenue, Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain. Tel: +973 17534000

Gulf International Bank B.S.C. - Retail Branch is licensed by the Central Bank of Bahrain as a conventional retail bank

INTERIM CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS		
	Six months ended 30.6.25 BHD	Six months ended 30.6.24 BHD
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net income for the period	443,271	675,641
Adjustments for:		
Provision charge / (release) for expected credit losses	131,729	(46,548)
Depreciation	19,405	46,096
Operating income before changes in operating assets and liabilities	594,405	675,189
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Statutory deposit with the Central Bank	(67,000)	(261,000)
Loans and advances	(2,642,524)	7,069,339
Due from related parties	(4,007,285)	(10,871,350)
Other assets	54,594	(34,012)
Deposits from customers	3,769,785	7,011,615
Due to related parties	10,460,146	(6,997,846)
Other liabilities	3,588,398	(575,333)
Net cash flows from / (used in) operating activities	11,750,519	(3,983,398)
FINANCING ACTIVITY		
Transfer of profit to Head Office	(1,202,384)	(972,034)
Net cash flows used in financing activity	(1,202,384)	(972,034)
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	10,548,135	(4,955,432)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1st January	25,039,495	42,013,029
Cash and cash equivalents at 30th June	35,587,630	37,057,597
Cash and cash equivalents at 30 th June 2025 excludes statutory deposits with the Central Bank amounting to BHD 1,076,000 (30 th June 2024: BHD 690,000) and includes placements with original maturities of less than three months amounting to BHD 34,700,000 (30 th June 2024: BHD 36,500,000).		

Aluminium Bahrain

Alba and Derasat Partner for a Greener Bahrain



Manama

As part of its commitment to strengthening national partnerships for sustainable development, Aluminium Bahrain B.S.C. signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Bahrain Center for Strategic, International and Energy Studies (Derasat) to advance Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) initiatives in support of Bahrain's sustainability goals.

The MoU outlines joint efforts to enhance energy efficiency, reduce carbon emissions, and balance economic and environmental priorities. Key initiatives include a specialised research study to identify the optimal energy mix for Alba's operations and the development of a unified ESG framework. A joint task force of experts from both organisations will lead these efforts.

The agreement was signed on 27 August 2025 at Derasat's Awali headquarters by Alba CEO Ali Al Baqali and Derasat CEO Abdulla Mohamed Alahmed, in the presence of senior representatives from both entities.

Commenting on this occasion, Alba's CEO Ali Al Baqali stated: "This MoU with Derasat is a testament to Alba's unwavering commitment to sustainability and innovation. By combining our industrial expertise with Derasat's research capabilities, we are laying the groundwork for transformative ESG initiatives that will not only benefit Alba but also contribute to Bahrain's national goals. Together, we aim to pioneer solutions in renewable energy and carbon reduction that are both economically viable and environmentally responsible."

Adding further, Bahrain Center for Strategic, International and Energy Studies (Derasat)'s Chief Executive Officer, Abdulla Mohamed Alahmed, added: "This memorandum reflects our shared vision to strengthen research partnerships in energy and sustainability. Through advanced mathematical modelling and scenario analysis conducted by our Artificial Intelligence and Renewable Energy Lab (AIRE Lab), we aim to deliver practical, data-driven solutions that support Bahrain's long-term economic competitiveness and environmental goals."

This collaboration, aligned with Bahrain's net-zero 2060 commitment, marks a significant milestone in Alba's ESG journey. It reinforces the value of strategic partnerships in driving sustainable industrial growth, advancing research, and delivering long-term benefits to the local community.

Gulf Insurance Group (Gulf) B.S.C. (c)			GIG	
Summary Financial Information			GULF	
Condensed interim separate statement of financial position			Condensed interim separate statement of comprehensive income	
	At 30-Jun-25 BD 000s (Unaudited)	At 31-Dec-24 BD 000s (Audited)	Period ended 30-Jun-25 BD 000s (Unaudited)	Period ended 30-Jun-24 BD 000s (Restated) (Unaudited)
Assets				
Statutory deposits	12,773	11,228	117,424	107,439
Property and equipment	9,944	9,952	(91,712)	(122,749)
Investment properties	1,819	1,863		
Intangible assets	5,751	6,335	25,712	(15,310)
Right-of-use assets	861	962	(13,703)	23,106
Investment in subsidiaries	36,468	36,457		
Investments carried at fair value	210,486	204,272	12,009	7,796
Insurance contract assets	1,784	1,823		
Reinsurance contract assets	92,162	100,237	(6,056)	(402)
Other receivables	603	659	2,737	(405)
Deposits with banks	23,402	25,592		
Cash and cash equivalents	46,753	31,380		
Total assets	443,006	430,760	8,690	6,989
Equity and liabilities				
Equity				
Share capital	15,000	15,000	5,690	5,497
Statutory reserve	7,500	7,500	3,950	4,367
Fair value reserve	(291)	(2,732)	86	70
Contingency reserve	9,705	9,623	(59)	(59)
Other reserve	445	445		
Capital reserve	9,792	9,792		
General reserve	7,500	7,500	10,657	9,499
Proposed dividend	10,368	10,368	(4,552)	(3,952)
Retained earnings	116,757	104,026	14,795	12,536
Insurance / reinsurance finance reserve	453	617	(1,982)	(1,252)
Total equity	177,229	162,139	12,813	11,284
Liabilities				
Employees' end of service benefits	3,083	2,856	2,277	284
Insurance contract liabilities	249,518	249,611		
Reinsurance contract liabilities	7,104	9,550		
Lease liabilities	883	958		
Accruals and other liabilities	1,892	3,084		
Taxation payable	3,297	2,562		
Total liabilities	265,777	268,621	15,090	11,568
Total equity and liabilities	443,006	430,760		
The condensed interim separate financial information of the Company for the six months period ended 30 June 2025 have been prepared in accordance with IAS 34, Interim Financial Reporting. The condensed interim separate financial information has been prepared on a going concern basis applying the historical cost convention except for financial assets classified as FVTPL and FVOCI which are measured at fair value and employees' end of service benefits which is measured using the projected unit method under IAS 19.			For more information contact: Gulf Insurance Group (Gulf) B.S.C. (c) - Head quarters, Bahrain Bay P.O. Box 11442 Unit 51, Building 298 Road 4609, Block 346, Sea front Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain	
Financial information as above has been extracted from the condensed interim separate financial information reviewed by PricewaterhouseCoopers M.E Limited for the period ended 30 June 2025.			Jamal AlHazeem Chairman	
			Paul Adamson Director	

US tariffs on Indian goods double to 50%

Washington, United States

US tariffs of 50% took effect yesterday on many Indian products, doubling an existing duty as President Donald Trump sought to punish New Delhi for buying Russian oil.

India has criticized the levies as "unfair, unjustified and unreasonable," with its export body calling on Wednesday for government intervention to assuage fears of heavy job cuts.

Trump has raised pressure on India over the energy transactions, a key source of revenue for Moscow's war in Ukraine, as part of a campaign to end the conflict.

The latest salvo strains US-India ties, giving New Delhi fresh incentive to improve relations with Beijing.

But US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent told Fox Business on Wednesday that Trump had good ties with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"I think at the end of the day, we will come together," he said.

While Trump has slapped fresh duties on allies and competitors alike since returning to the presidency in January, this 50% level is among the highest that US trading partners face.

Crucially, however, exemptions remain for sectors that could be hit with separate levies -- such as pharmaceuticals, computer chips and smartphones.

Industries that have already been singled out, such as steel, aluminum and automobiles, are similarly spared these countrywide duties.

The United States was India's top export destination in 2024, with shipments worth \$87.3 billion.

But analysts have cautioned that a 50% duty is akin to a trade embargo and is likely to harm smaller firms.



Nass: Germany is an important economic partner



Manama

Chairman of the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Sameer Abdullah Nass, emphasized the importance of moving forward in enhancing economic and trade relations between Bah-

rain and Germany during his meeting with newly appointed Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the Federal Republic of Germany, Ahmed Ibrahim Al-Qurainees. He highlighted the need to open broader horizons for joint cooperation in promising sectors that represent a strategic priority for

the national economy. Nass explained that Germany is an important economic partner for Bahrain, noting that the Chamber is keen to deepen commercial and investment cooperation. He pointed out that there are promising opportunities between the two countries in several vital areas, primarily

in healthcare, energy, as well as the industrial, transport, and digital economy sectors, which are considered promising fields for cooperation and the exchange of expertise and investments. Ambassador Al-Qurainees stressed his commitment to working with the relevant au-

thorities in both Bahrain and Germany through official channels to enhance the paths of bilateral cooperation. He affirmed that the Kingdom aims to attract more German investments and provide the necessary facilities for investors, thereby strengthening Bahrain's position as a strategic gateway to the markets of the Gulf Cooperation Council countries. The ambassador expressed his appreciation for the prominent role played by the Bahrain Chamber in supporting economic relations between the two countries and its ongoing efforts to strengthen bridges of cooperation with international partners.

Investing in local talent

“Raffles Al Areen Palace” increases Salaries of 63% of Bahraini Employees with Support from Tamkeen

- The support comes in alignment with Tamkeen's 2025 strategic priorities
- The Wage Increment Program supports Bahraini employees in private-sector enterprises
- This program aims to promote the career progression of Bahraini talent

Manama

Raffles Al Areen Palace Bahrain has increased the salaries of 63% of its Bahraini employees through the Wage Increment Program offered by the Labour Fund (Tamkeen). As one of Bahrain's leading hotels and a prominent project located in the Zallaq area, Raffles Al Areen Palace continues to play a key role in advancing the hospitality and tourism sector in the Kingdom.

The support comes in alignment with Tamkeen'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, digiti-

zation and sustainability, and supporting the development of the ecosystem surrounding the labor market and private sector.

The Wage Increment Program supports private-sector enterprises to increase the salaries of their Bahraini employees, with a range between 5% to 20%. This program aims to promote the career progression of Bahraini talent while encouraging private-sector companies to reward and retain their high-performing employees.

Raffles Al Areen Palace Bah-



US restaurant chain Cracker Barrel cracks, revives old logo



Outside view of the Cracker Barrel Old Country Store in Mount Arlington, New Jersey Washington, United States

US restaurant chain Cracker Barrel announced Tuesday it was reverting to its old logo after its rebrand sparked a furious, culture war-fueled backlash, including criticism from President Donald Trump.

The folksy, homestyle US chain saw tens of millions of dollars wiped off its share price since it unveiled a new look last week that right-wingers criticized as “woke.”

The announcement that Cracker Barrel was going back to its old logo -- the image of an old man sitting on a chair and leaning on a barrel -- came just hours after Trump weighed in on the controversy.

“Cracker Barrel should go back to the old logo, admit a

mistake based on customer response (the ultimate Poll), and manage the company better than ever before,” Trump said on Truth Social.

The new, simplified -- and now abandoned -- logo featured just the text of the brand name in a rounded-off yellow hexagon.

In a statement on X, the company thanked its patrons for “sharing your voices and love for Cracker Barrel.”

“We said we would listen, and we have. Our new logo is going away and our ‘Old Timer’ will remain,” Cracker Barrel said.

“As a proud American institution, our 70,000 hardworking employees look forward to welcoming you to our table soon,” it added.

Trump, in a post on Truth

Social, welcomed the return to the old logo.

“Congratulations ‘Cracker Barrel’ on changing your logo back to what it was. All of your fans very much appreciate it. Good luck into the future. Make lots of money and, most importantly, make your customers happy again!,” he said.

The logo furor comes as Trump's White House leads a crusade against diversity and anything it brands “woke” -- a derogatory shorthand for leftist social justice movements -- in both the US government and corporate America.

The chain has around 660 US branches. Trump won in 74 percent of counties with a Cracker Barrel in 2024, according to elections analyst Dave Wasserman.

News in brief

◆ **China said Wednesday**

that it would not participate in denuclearisation talks with the United States and Russia, after President Donald Trump said he hoped to include Beijing in negotiations. Trump on Monday said the United States was trying to pursue denuclearisation with both countries. "I think the denuclearisation is a very -- it's a big aim. But Russia's willing to do it and I think China is going to be willing to do it too," Trump told reporters at the White House. "We can't let nuclear weapons proliferate. We have to stop nuclear weapons," he added. Russia and the United States -- former Cold War rivals -- possess almost 90 percent of the world's nuclear weapons between them, but Moscow pulled out of the last remaining arms control agreement with Washington in 2023.



China says will not participate in denuclearisation talks with US, Russia

◆ **Tokyo logs record 10 days of 35C or more: weather agency**



◆ **Tokyo experienced** a record 10 consecutive days of temperatures 35C or above, the weather office said yesterday. This "is the first time since the survey started" in 1875 that such a run has been recorded, the Japan Meteorological Agency told AFP, saying that Wednesday marked the 10th day of the heat streak. Heatwaves are becoming more intense and frequent worldwide because of human-caused climate change, scientists say, and Japan sweltered through its hottest ever June and July this year. Japan's summer last year was the joint hottest on record, equalling 2023, and was followed by the warmest autumn since records began 126 years ago.

◆ **Russian authorities** said Wednesday that a ban on petrol exports would be extended to October 31 in a bid to lower fuel prices that have soared after Ukrainian attacks on refineries. Ukraine routinely targets Russian refineries and oil depots to hamper Moscow's ability to fund its offensive. Russia, one of the world's biggest oil producers, has taken several measures in recent months to ease fuel prices that reached near-record highs this month. The government announced on Telegram that it had implemented "a new temporary ban on exports of petrol for cars", saying it wanted to "maintain a stable situation for the domestic fuels market". Recent Ukrainian attacks have also disrupted air and railway travel, prompting more people to drive during the summer travel season, further increasing petrol demand.

Russia extends petrol export ban as prices soar



SPOTLIGHT

SpaceX answers critics with successful Starship test flight



The upper stage of SpaceX's Starship rocket splashing down in the Indian Ocean after lifting off from Starbase, Texas

AFP | South Padre Island, United States

SpaceX's Starship megarocket roared into the skies Tuesday on its tenth test flight, turning in a strong performance after a series of fiery failures had begun to cast doubt on its future.

Towering 403 feet (123 meters), Starship is the most powerful launch vehicle ever built and key to founder Elon Musk's vision of carrying humanity to Mars, as well as NASA's plans to return astronauts to the Moon. The stainless steel colossus blasted off from the company's Starbase in southern Texas at 6:30 pm local time (2330 GMT), greeted by loud cheers from engineering teams, as seen in a live webcast.

A few minutes into launch, the first-stage booster known as Super Heavy splashed down

into the Gulf of Mexico, triggering a sonic boom on its way. Unlike other recent tests, SpaceX opted not to attempt a catch with the giant "chop stick" arms of the launch tower, instead testing how it would perform if an engine cut out. Attention then shifted to the upper stage -- also known individually as Starship and intended to one day carry crew and cargo -- to demonstrate its capabilities as it soared into space. For the first time, SpaceX was able to successfully deploy eight dummy Starlink internet satellites, with onboard cameras beaming back live views of a robotic mechanism pushing each out one by one.

It was not all smooth sailing. Some heat tiles fell away and a small section of a flap burned off during the vessel's fiery descent, as it was enveloped in pink and purple plasma.

Israeli forces seize nearly \$450,000 in West Bank raid

Israel carries out frequent raids across the West Bank

AFP | Jerusalem, Undefined

Israeli police said yesterday that security forces seized roughly 1.5 million shekels (\$447,000) during a raid in the occupied West Bank a day earlier. Israeli forces targeted a currency exchange in Ramallah on Tuesday, leaving dozens of Palestinians wounded, according to the Red Crescent. Israel carries out frequent raids across the West Bank, where tensions have remained high throughout the Gaza war, but incursions into central Ramallah, the seat of the Palestinian Authority, are relatively rare.

A statement from a police spokesman yesterday said Israeli border police and the military "raided a money exchange business in the heart of Ramallah that was used to transfer funds to the Hamas terror organisation". "Forces seized significant sums of money in both foreign and local currencies, with a total value of approximately 1,528,832 shekels, including US dollars, Jordanian dinars, euros, and other foreign currencies," the statement said.

"Nine wanted suspects accused of involvement in terror activity were arrested and taken, together with the seized evidence, for investigation," it added.



Israeli troops deploy during a raid in Nablus city in the occupied West Bank

Since the start of the Gaza war, sparked by Hamas's October 2023 attack on Israel, Israeli raids on Palestinian population centres in the West Bank, particularly in the territory's north, have intensified. Previous Israeli operations, earlier this year and in Decem-

ber 2023, have similarly targeted currency exchange offices in the West Bank, which Israel has occupied since 1967.

Israeli troops or settlers in the occupied West Bank have killed at least 972 Palestinians, since the beginning of the Gaza war,

according to an AFP tally based on Palestinian Authority figures. In the same period, at least 36 Israelis, both civilians and security forces, have been killed in attacks or during military operations in the territory, according to Israeli figures.

IAEA chief says inspectors have arrived at Iran
Washington, United States

UN nuclear inspectors began work yesterday at the key Iranian site of Bushehr, the chief of their agency said Wednesday, after Tehran agreed to limited cooperation in the wake of Israeli and US strikes. "They are there now," International Atomic Energy Agency director general Rafael Grossi told reporters in Washington. "Today they are inspecting Bushehr."

Erdogan jubilant as 'Steel Dome' air defence system delivered
Istanbul, Turkey

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Wednesday hailed a milestone for Turkey as its "Steel Dome" air defence system was delivered to the military, saying regional conflicts had pushed Ankara to boost its defence capacities. "Today we are providing our army with the (Steel) Dome system, consisting of 47 vehicles worth \$460 million, which will inspire confidence in friends and fear in enemies," Erdogan said.

NGO says starving Gaza children too weak to cry

AFP | United Nations, United States

The head of Save the Children described in horrific detail yesterday the slow agony of starving children in Gaza, saying they are so weak they do not even cry. Addressing a Security Council meeting on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the president of the international charity, Inger Ashing, said famine -- declared by the UN last week to be happening in Gaza -- is not just a dry technical term.

"When there is not enough food, children become acutely malnourished, and then they die slowly and painfully. This, in simple terms, is what famine is," said Ashing.

She went on to describe what happens when children die of hunger over the course of several weeks, as the body first consumes its own fat to survive and when that is gone, literally consumes itself as it eats muscles and vital organs.

"Yet our clinics are almost silent. Now, children do not have the strength to speak or even cry out in agony. They lie there, emaciated, quite literally wasting away," said Ashing.

She insisted aid groups have been warning loudly that famine was coming as Israel prevented food and other essentials from



Palestinian women and children wait to receive food portions from a charity kitchen in Khan Yunis in the southern Gaza Strip

entering Gaza over the course of two years of war triggered by the Hamas attack of October 2023. "Everyone in this room has a legal and moral responsibility to act to stop this atrocity," said Ashing. The United Nations officially declared famine in Gaza on Friday, blaming what it called systematic obstruction of aid by Israel during more than 22 months of war. A UN-backed hunger monitor called the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification Initiative said famine was affecting 500,000 people in the Gaza governorate, which covers about a fifth of the Palestinian territory including Gaza City.

Third Crusade: Crusaders begin the Siege of Acre under Guy of Lusignan

King John of England grants small town of Liverpool a charter (right to elect a mayor and aldermen)



English explorer Henry Hudson is the first European to sail into Delaware Bay, naming it South Bay

The first American-built locomotive, "Tom Thumb," races a horse-drawn car from the Stockton and Stokes stagecoach company from Baltimore to Ellicott Mills; due to mechanical problems, the horse wins!



TOP
4
TWEETS

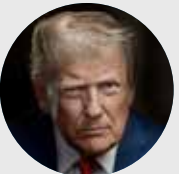
01



I welcome the General Assembly's decision to establish two new mechanisms within the @UN to promote international cooperation on AI governance. I call on all stakeholders to support this historic initiative & help build a future where AI serves the common good of all humanity.

@antonioGuterres

02



I have been fully briefed on the tragic shooting in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The FBI quickly responded and they are on the scene. The White House will continue to monitor this terrible situation. Please join me in praying for everyone involved!

@realDonaldTrump

03



This morning, @WHO evacuated 18 child and 1 adult patient from #Gaza to #Jordan, along with 62 companions. Since October 2023, WHO has supported medical evacuations for over 7600 patients, including 5300 child patients.

@DrTedros

04



The loss of lives due to a landslide on the route to the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Temple is saddening. My thoughts are with the bereaved families. May the injured recover at the earliest. The administration is assisting all those affected. My prayers for everyone's safety and well-being.

@narendramodi

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

Israel demands UN-backed monitor retract Gaza famine report

AFP | Jerusalem, Undefined

Israel yesterday called on UN-backed hunger monitor the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification Initiative (IPC) to immediately retract a report which determined that famine was present in parts of Gaza.

"Israel demands that the IPC will retract immediately its fabricated report and publish a notice," the director general of Israel's foreign ministry, Eden Bar Tal, told a press conference.

He said Israel would share "evidence" of misconduct in preparing the report with IPC's donors if the organisation fails to heed

"within a short time".

Bar Tal called the IPC a "politicised" institute that is "working for an evil terror organisation", referring to Palestinian militant group Hamas whose 2023 attack on Israel triggered the ongoing war in the Gaza Strip.

The United Nations officially declared a famine in Gaza on Friday, blaming "systematic obstruction" of aid by Israel during more than 22 months of war.

The Rome-based IPC said famine was affecting 500,000 people in the Gaza governorate, which covers about a fifth of the Palestinian territory including Gaza City.

The IPC projected that the famine would expand to Deir

el-Balah and Khan Yunis governorates by the end of September, covering around two-thirds of Gaza.

Israel has severely restricted aid allowed into Gaza and at times completely cut it off during the war.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has dismissed the IPC's findings as an "outright lie".

He said Israel "does not have a policy of starvation", citing figures on aid it had allowed into Gaza.

COGAT, an Israeli defence ministry body which oversees civil affairs in the Palestinian territories, has argued that the IPC's findings relied on "partial data and unreliable sources".

Jean-Martin Bauer, director of the UN World Food Programme's food security analysis, defended the IPC, saying it was the "gold standard" for these kind of assessments.



The vast majority of the Gaza Strip's population of more than two million people have been displaced at least once during the war.



Palestinians wait to receive food portions from a charity kitchen in Khan Yunis in the southern Gaza Strip

Record-breaking rain fuels deadly floods in India's Jammu region

AFP | Srinagar, India

Floods and landslides triggered by record-breaking heavy rain have killed more than 30 people in India's Himalayan region of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said yesterday.

A landslide on the route to the famous Hindu shrine Vaishno Devi killed 33 people, local disaster management official Mohammad Irshad told AFP.

India's Meteorological Department said the torrential rain had smashed records in two locations.

Jammu and Udhampur recorded their highest 24-hour rainfall on Wednesday, with 296 mm (11.6 inches) in Jammu, nine percent higher than the 1973 record, and 629.4 mm (24.8 inches) in Udhampur -- a staggering 84 percent surge over the 2019 mark.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the loss of lives was "saddening".

The intense monsoon rainstorm in the Indian-administered territory has caused widespread chaos, with raging water smashing into bridges and swamping homes.

Floods and landslides are common during the June-September monsoon season, but experts say climate change,



Women sit over a car buried under mud and debris along the banks

coupled with poorly planned development, is increasing their frequency, severity and impact.

Climate experts from the Himalayan-focused Interna-

tional Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) warn that a spate of disasters illustrates the dangers

when extreme rain combines

with mountain slopes weakened by melting permafrost, as well as building developments in flood-prone valleys.

Trump urges criminal charges against George Soros, son



Hungarian-born US investor and philanthropist George Soros
Washington, United States

US President Donald Trump called yesterday for billionaire George Soros and his son to face criminal charges over unfounded claims that their family, a favorite right-wing target, is behind "violent protests" around the country.

Trump did not specify what prompted his morning outburst, but it comes as his administration pursues multiple criminal investigations against his perceived enemies.

"George Soros, and his wonderful Radical Left son, should be charged with RICO because of their support of Violent Protests, and much more," the president wrote on his Truth Social platform, referring to a law against taking part in a criminal organization.

The Open Society Foundations, the philanthropic empire founded by Soros, slammed Trump's comments.

"These accusations are outrageous and false. The Open Society Foundations do not support or fund violent protests," a spokesperson for the foundations said in a statement to AFP.

The foundations support the "rights to free speech and peaceful protest that are hallmarks of any vibrant democracy," the spokesperson added.

Long-standing conspiracy theories involving the Soros family swirled again in June, as street protests broke out in Los Angeles against a ramp up of immigration raids.

Trump used the demonstrations as justification to deploy the National Guard and Marines into the Democratic-run city.

Fact-checkers including AFP debunked several images which circulated online at the time, purporting to show that nonprofit groups backed by the Soros family had strategically placed bricks to hurl at police.



Shooter kills 2 children in Minneapolis church, 17 people injured

AFP | Minneapolis, United States

A gunman opened fire yesterday on school children attending church in Minneapolis, killing two pupils and wounding 17 people, police said, in the country's latest violent tragedy.

Minneapolis Police Chief Brian O'Hara told a media briefing that the shooter, in his early twenties, sprayed bullets into the Annunciation Church as dozens of students were at Mass to celebrate their first week back to school.

The church sits next to an affiliated school in the south of the city, the largest in the state of Minnesota.

"Two young children, ages eight and 10, were killed where they sat in the pews," O'Hara said, adding that 17 others were injured, including 14 children.

Two were in critical condition, he said.

The gunman fired a rifle, shotgun and pistol before he took his own life in the parking lot, according to the police chief.

Minnesota Governor Tim Walz wrote on X earlier that he was "praying for our kids and teachers whose first week of school was marred by this horrific act of violence."

Live video footage showed panicked parents retrieving their young children and fleeing, amid a major emergency response.



Police and first responders work at the scene of a shooting near Annunciation Church and Catholic School in Minneapolis, Minnesota

A country of school shootings

"This was a deliberate act of violence against innocent children and other people worshipping. The sheer cruelty and cowardice of firing into a church full of children is absolutely incomprehensible," O'Hara said.

"Our hearts are broken for the families who have lost their children, for these young lives that are now fighting to recover, and for our entire community that has been so deeply traumatized by this senseless attack," he added.

Wednesday's violence is the

latest in a long line of school shootings in the United States, where guns outnumber people and attempts to restrict access to firearms face perennial political deadlock.

"Don't just say this is about thoughts and prayers right now. These kids were literally

praying. It was the first week of school. They were in a church. These are kids that should be learning with their friends," Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey told reporters.

"They should be playing on the playground. They should be able to go to school or church in

BETTER
YOU
KNOW

In 2024, there were over 44,000 firearm-related deaths, marking the first time in five years that the annual total fell below 45,000. This represents an almost 5% decrease from 2023, which had over 46,000 such fatalities, according to provisional data from the CDC.

peace without the fear or risk of violence."

President Donald Trump said he had been briefed on the "tragic shooting" and that the FBI was responding.

"The White House will continue to monitor this terrible situation. Please join me in praying for everyone involved!" he wrote on his Truth Social platform.

The confirmed shooting comes after a wave of false reports of active shooters at US college campuses around the country as students return from summer break.

Trump administration takes control of Washington rail hub

AFP | Washington, United States

The Trump administration said yesterday it will exert more control over Washington by taking over management of Union Station, the US capital's rail hub.

The announcement by Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy -- he said the station had become "dilapidated" -- came as the administration has already deployed thousands of federal agents and National Guard troops to the streets of Washington to battle what it calls a surge in violent crime.

President Donald Trump "wants Union Station to be beautiful again. He wants transit to be safe again. He wants our nation's capital to be great again," Duffy told a press conference at the stately building a stone's throw from the US Capitol.

Union Station, which opened in 1907, has been owned by the government since the 1980s but its operational control is held by the national railroad company Amtrak.

Now the Trump administration is taking over.

Since the 1980s "Washington Union Station has become dilapidated. It is known more as a



U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy (C) sits onboard a NextGen Amtrak Acela train for a trip to Boston following a news conference on the upgraded train's first day of service along the Northeast Corridor

center for vagrancy than a hub for commerce and travel," Duffy said in a statement.

"We are going to make the investments to make sure that this station isn't dirty, we don't have homelessness in the Union Station," Duffy said at the press conference, which was called to unveil a new generation of Amtrak high speed trains.

The administration plans improvements including to eleva-

tors, lighting and security, and will put on a new roof, Duffy said.

As he seeks to exert control on a broad range of American institutions, Trump has cracked down on the overwhelmingly Democratic city where he lives, depicting it as overrun by street shootings and other crime.

The show of force has been widely criticized as the latest power grab Trump has made or

attempted since returning to the White House in January.

The US capital has a unique legal status as it is not a state or part of one, and operates under a relationship with the federal government that limits its autonomy and grants Congress extraordinary control over local matters.

Trump used this loophole to send the National Guard into Washington this month.

French, German, Polish leaders vow 'support' to Moldova in face of Russia



From left: Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk, French President Emmanuel Macron, Moldova's President Maia Sandu and German Chancellor Friedrich Merz walk down the steps following a press conference

AFP | Chisinau, Moldova

The leaders of France, Germany and Poland all expressed their support for Moldova's EU bid on Wednesday, slamming Russian "lies" and "hybrid attacks" during a symbolic visit to the former Soviet republic bordering Ukraine.

The visit comes a day before campaigning starts for next month's tense parliamentary election amid claims of Russian interference in the pro-EU nation.

French President Emmanuel Macron, German Chancellor Friedrich Merz and Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk met Moldova's President Maia Sandu to celebrate the country's 34th independence day

as she pushes for EU membership.

"The Kremlin's propaganda tells us that Europeans want to prolong the war and that the European Union oppresses people. These are lies. Unlike Russia, the European Union threatens no one and respects everyone's sovereignty," Macron told reporters alongside Merz, Tusk and Sandu, expressing France's "determined support" to Moldova and its EU bid.

Merz said the "door to the European Union is open", adding the country would be "wholeheartedly welcome in the European Union" and that Berlin would "do all we can to open the first chapter of negotiations in the autumn".

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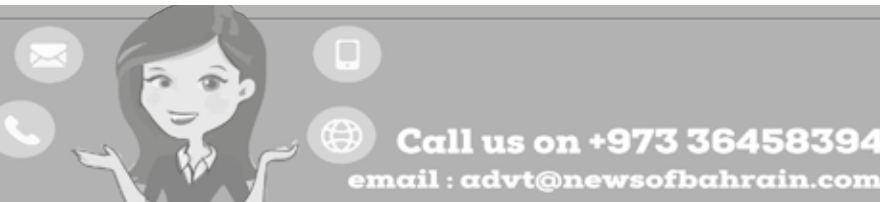
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INTERIOR SOLUTIONS COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17832022 or hamida.alhubail@havelockone.com

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

CLEAN AND FRESH LAUNDRY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(LAUNDRY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 35495060 or SAJIDAM.JAD786@GMAIL.COM

CIRCLE INTEGRATED SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17822228 or INFO@CIRCLE.BH

NEXT LEVEL OF REAL ESTATE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ADMINISTRATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35002840 or BAHRAIN.BH1947@GMAIL.COM

SHABAB AL KHALEJ AUTO SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (CAR ELECTRICAL WORKSHOP), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39166292 or SHABAB_ALKHALEJ@HOTMAIL.COM

LAKE FLOWERS TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33742623 or KMAMS009@HOTMAIL.COM

INTERIOR SOLUTIONS COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of FABRICATOR(-FIBERGLASS PRODUCTS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17832022 or hamida.alhubail@havelockone.com

PANORAMA CONTRACTING & ENGINEERING SERVI has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17729935 or AHMED@PANORAMABH.COM

GIMDERMA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of GRAPHIC DESIGNER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36789109 or ISMAYIL@GIMCOMPANY.COM

JUMBO AUTO SER has a vacancy for the occupation of GARAGE MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39625030 or SHWOPIEC99@HOTMAIL.COM

STRATEGIC OUTSOURCING SOLUTIONS has a vacancy for the occupation of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17813777 or SAMSON@REDHOUSEMARKETING.COM

CYPRUS CYBARCO TABET JV W.L.L has a

vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (PROJECT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17224545 or cct@cct-bh.com

BOOKARTY MARKET PLACE CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37239999 or ABUFIZAN313@GMAIL.COM

ALNESF ALAAKHER SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39617050 or ALNESF_ALAAKHER@HOTMAIL.COM

4W SECURITY CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17001640 or Government@mre.co

SAFEWAY FOOD INDUSTRIES CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(HAND WRAPPING), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17003828 or SAFEWAY-FOOD@GMAIL.COM

GIFT PALACE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17227206 or GEEPAS-BAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

QAISAR AWAN CARGO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33268625 or VAMOSEVENTS6@GMAIL.COM

Arabian International Contracting CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (PROJECT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39677780 or AWALSERV@BATELCO.COM.BH

A2 BEAUTY LOUNGE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANICURIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66675511 or accounts@visitbahrain.bh

INTERIOR SOLUTIONS COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of FABRICATOR(-FIBERGLASS PRODUCTS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17832022 or hamida.alhubail@havelockone.com

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

MUHAMMAD FARHAN ZAFAR SUPPORT SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(ELECTROPLATER), suitably qualified applicants can contact 38011687 or TABASSUMFAROQ61@GMAIL.COM

FARSAN ALRIFFA TAILORING has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35380515 or ram-h3@hotmail.com

AL FARAZDAK UPHOLSTERY & CURTAIN MAKING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of UPHOLSTERER(FURNITURE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39279888 or AHMEDASHEER_64@HOTMAIL.COM

ALNASEEM INTERNTIONAL SCHOOL has a vacancy for the occupation of TEACHER(ENGLISH LANGUAGE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17782000 or mgmt@merbati.com

MODERN KNOWLEDGE SCHOOLS has a vacancy for the occupation of TEACHER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17727712 or hr@mkschoolsbh.com

M B A 333 SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35049193 or ASADM6607@GAMIL.COM

ELLIAN SALON BEAUTY has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33355855 or AMOODL.86@HOTMAIL.COM

LANKA BRAVO CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of RECEPTIONIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33669283 or ALINAKHAN541@GMAIL.COM

FAST AND BEST CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of REPRESENTATIVE(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 37335277 or DOAAALY2@GMAIL.COM

SOHAG ABDUL MARKETING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33285638 or M.SHOHAG9339@GMAIL.COM

Urban Tarka Restaurant has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33926361 or Rajputelec63@gmail.com

Ramada Hotel and Suites Amwaj W. L. L has a vacancy for the occupation of ROOM ATTENDANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 13600111 or mannai.hr@mannaitrading.com

NEW MACHO SHOES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33213724 or NAEEM.BAJWAT@GMAIL.COM

Dream World Construction Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CON-

STRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34111999 or sharef.works@gmail.com

DREAM PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or HRD@DREAMGROUP.BH

ALAMIN GARDENS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(GARDENING), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17732220 or ARALAMIN@BATELCO.COM.BH

Abayat AlNamliti has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17343414 or namaity@batelco.com.bh

MASHREQ RAHMANIYA SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33213724 or TAYYABZ213@GMAIL.COM

AL-AHLIA CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17737000 or h.s.m1111@gmail.com

NASS ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING CO. (W.L.L) has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17725522 or yousif@aanass.net

AL-AHLIA CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17737000 or h.s.m1111@gmail.com

AL-AHLIA CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17737000 or h.s.m1111@gmail.com

Silver Bird awnings - partnership has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17310199 or EXP.SEV4@GMAIL.COM

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

AL-AHLIA CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17737000 or h.s.m1111@gmail.com

ALDABAAGH BUTCHERY has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE REPRESENTATIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17226588 or AZHAR@DELMONFISH.COM

OAK WOOD INTERIOR DESIGN has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER(FURNITURE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17727270 or INFO@OAKWOODGROUP-BH.COM

MUHAMMAD NAVEED BEST MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COMPUTER OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33458832 or AHSANMALIKBH01@GMAIL.COM

CHHOTA LORI SALOON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34109265 or MASOODGEE@GMAIL.COM

BADER TRADING AND CONTRACTING CO WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17583121 or baderco@batelco.com.bh

SPARK OFFICE SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33298000 or SPARKOFFICE.GCC@GMAIL.COM

ALSABAT HOUS HOLD ANA SCHOOL ITEMS has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17790311 or ABU80ALI@HOTMAIL.COM

AL MASSA LAUNDRY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(LAUNDRY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39776559 or RADHI834@GMAIL.COM

INTERIOR SOLUTIONS COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of FABRICATOR(-FIBERGLASS RODUCTS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17832022 or hamida.alhubail@havelockone.com

SITRA FUEL STATION has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39663421 or

WORLD SHADING has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17644117 or HA.WORLD-SHADING@GMAIL.COM

Wajda International Technology Services W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of

MANAGER (PROJECT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17410567 or wits.bh@wajdagroup.me

ALDAAYSI DISTRIBUTION CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17783399 or hr@aldaaysiholding.com

MEMA BOUTIQUE TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of RETAIL TRADE SALESMAN (BOUTIQUE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36544365 or MEMABOUTIQUE-BH@GMAIL.COM

PELLA CARPENTRY WORKSHOP W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER-EDGE SAWYER(WOOD), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39777869 or PELLA-TOUCH@GMAIL.COM

YOKOGAWA MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA B.S.C. (CLOSED) has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17358100 or mohamed.yahya@yokogawa.com

ALTASAMUH GARAGE 7 has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17711333 or hassan@emaar.bh

YOKOGAWA MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA B.S.C. (CLOSED) has a vacancy for the occupation of PROJECT LEADER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17358100 or mohamed.yahya@yokogawa.com

DAR AKHBAR ALKHALEJ PRESS & PUBLISHING has a vacancy for the occupation of TOOL AND PATTERN MAKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17620111 or SAM.GDN.AK@GMAIL.COM

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Kingdom Security Protection Services W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17822228 or RASHEED@SECURICORE.BH

CODE BEAM W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (PROJECT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39534385 or HISHAM@HISHAM.NET

PRO VISION CONSTRUCTION & CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34579463 or PROVISIONCONTRACTING.BH@GMAIL.COM

ASAD FOR MOBILE REPAIR AND ACCESSORIES SHOP W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36460245 or faisalkhanniaz40@gmail.com

ALAHRAMAT LAUNDRY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKERS(LAUNDRY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39813999 or SAD9SAM@YAHOO.COM

GULF TOBACCO COMPANY. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17641290 or MASOOMADOC2014@GMAIL.COM

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

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

ALI ALMATROOK COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39663131 or KHALID@AL-MATROOK.COM

VILLA MAMAS RESTAURANT CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17305032 or Hr@villamamas.com

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HASHEM ALORDON RESTAURANTS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33339771 or N.M.S.ALRAHEDI@HOTMAIL.COM

NESTO SUPERMARKET & DEPARTMENT STORE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39151200 or WESTERN-BAHRAIN2021@GMAIL.COM

Saleh Abdulla Kameshki & Sons B.S.C (c) has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17250627 or admin01@kameshki.com

ALAHLAM TECHNICAL & CONSTRUCTION

SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17785335 or HAMED_996@HOT-MAIL.COM

JAMAL ABDULLA RASHID ALJALAHMA CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39462566 or JAJALAHMA@YAHOO.COM

GREEN CITY SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33214563 or info@gcs.bh

MUHAMMAD JAWAD SUPPORT SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38460598 or JAWAD0909Q@GMAIL.COM

Basharat Building Contracting has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39581507 or BAHLOVE6@GMAIL.COM

MAHER AHSAN SUPPORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE WORKER HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35634134 or AHMRAZA134@GMAIL.COM

NEW VIBE SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONCRETE & CEMENT FINISHER), suitably qualified applicants can contact 37920554 or KASHIFK-PR41@GMAIL.COM

BINT E RASHEED INTERIORS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DECORATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38404056 or FAIZARANA.BH@GMAIL.COM

SAKHI JAN SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(PAINT FINISHER), suitably qualified applicants can contact 37090204 or SAKHIJANBH12@GMAIL.COM

MUHAMMAD ZAHIR SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37434348 or ZAHIRSHAHBH12@GMAIL.COM

MUHAMMAD USMAN CONSTRUCTION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE BOY / FARRASH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33197378 or HAIDRAL1286983@GMAIL.COM

LUCKY BIRD CONTRACTING & SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39199881 or LUCKYBSSA68338@GMAIL.COM

CHIC & SHINE SALON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33402472 or ADNAN-GEE4545@GMAIL.COM

QUICK QUEST SERVICES BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33667325 or MICE3513@GMAIL.COM

FALAK MAINTENANCE SOLUTIONS CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33925604 or FALAKSHAIRKHAN04@GMAIL.COM

BANCORP SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35180928 or BANNUBEF10@GMAIL.COM

AI SPACE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35546274 or it1000it100@gmail.com

ALSAATI CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17256580 or KHULOOD.ALSAAT@HOTMAIL.COM

NAZO LAUNDRY SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of LAUNDERER/PRESSER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 66696496 or

INFINITE AUTO SHINE has a vacancy for the occupation of CAR WASHER/CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36656416 or infiniteautoshine1@gmail.com

RONDA CAFE has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33225345 or MARTHA.A.EN-DALE@OUTLOOK.COM

MUHAMMAD SAQIB SERVICES. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33253535 or DOCUMENTBHA9@GMAIL.COM

DUA PHARMACY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17043330 or AHMEDELTAHIR59@GMAIL.COM

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation

of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

BLACK BLUE INTERIOR DECORATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36253266 or MUSHTAQ29SP@GMAIL.COM

RUQAYA TOUCH BEAUTY SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33803436 or RUQAYA.LAMSA@GMAIL.COM

BAHRAIN SPECIAL TECHNICAL SERVICES STS CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANICAL HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17622082 or info@BAHSTS.COM

BAHRAIN SPECIAL TECHNICAL SERVICES STS CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of FOREMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17622082 or info@BAHSTS.COM

Noor Al Eyman Bulding Materials has a vacancy for the occupation of PLUMBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17442629 or EYMANAC2012@GMAIL.COM

ANEES CARGO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38137429 or FAHAD.BH.PK@GMAIL.COM

MUHAMMAD ISHFAQ REPAIR OF MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENTS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36400916 or AUTOEXPERT.PK@GMAIL.COM

MOTOZONE TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33422370 or ABOOBAKRAHMAD56@GMAIL.COM

FINE STAR REPAIRING OF ELECTRONIC SERVICES CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WIREMAN(ELECTRICAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36751010 or RANAAMIRO620@GMAIL.COM

Abu Inzamam Commerce - Bahraini Partnership Co has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33803636 or ITC.WLL786@GMAIL.COM

BAHRAIN CAR HIRING COMPANY S.O.C has a vacancy for the occupation of CAR WASHER/CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17534343 or ALMUTAWA999@GMAIL.COM

ALUMEX GLASS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33023738 or JAHANGIRDELMON@GMAIL.COM

Tonu Construction Bahraini partnership company has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34062995 or IBRAHIM.SOLIM95@GMAIL.COM

Bahrain Electromechanical Services Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17536275 or BEMCO@BATELCO.COM.BH

AlMazhar World Public Relations Bahraini Partnership has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36725889 or UALI426@GMAIL.COM

RAAFIA AUTO CAR SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37143431 or usamaasifqazi@gmail.com

COUTURE BY AZIZA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DESIGNER(FASHION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36848288 or mohd.h.na@gmail.com

MOHAMMED JALAL CLEANING SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17533311 or JMJALAL@BATELCO.COM.BH

MOHAMMED JALAL CLEANING SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17533311 or JMJALAL@BATELCO.COM.BH

DELMON FISH has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSULTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17226588 or lmra52@delmonfish.com

GREEN STAR ISRAR GARAGE has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33645871 or RAKHA813@GMAIL.COM

CYPRUS CYBARCO TABET JV W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (PROJECT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17224545 or cct@cct-bh.com

JUFFAIR BOULEVARD HOTEL & SUITES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ROOM ATTENDANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35475656 or HR@JUFFAIRBOULEVARD.COM

Classifieds

VACANCIES AVAILABLE
CONTINUED

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NAPCO NATIONAL COMPANY FOR GENERAL TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CUSTOMER SERVICES CO-ORDINATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17762222 or TONY.ABIRAMIA@NAPCOGROUP.COM

M A A FASHION GENERAL TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37262307 or OMARFARUK2456@GMAIL.COM

MIQAT CAR SERVICES WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (CAR MECHANICAL WORKSHOP), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39234381 or MIQAT.CAR.SERVICES.BH@GMAIL.COM

SADAA CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34354460 or HASEEBAKRAM186@GMAIL.COM

CAPRICON SERVICES BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39531396 or CAPRICONTRADING.BH@GMAIL.COM

AUDIO AVENUE CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33311207 or FAIZAN2944@GMAIL.COM

AL-HAKMANI TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39003171 or ABD04992020@GMAIL.COM

RAJPOT BAKERY has a vacancy for the occupation of BREAD BAKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39888023 or CHSHAFIQ581@GMAIL.COM

AREENA CONTRACTOR GROUP CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17245222 or HR@AREENAGROUP.COM

SKY RIVER PUBLICITY & ADVERTISEMENT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PRINTING PRESSMEN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33213724 or HA9162709@GMAIL.COM

AQWANA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36080057 or info@aqwana.bh

Lilian International Trading Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(-SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 77118888 or NAMSHEED@LILIANE.CO

TWIN LOTUS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33545410 or INFO@THAIMARTBAHRAIN.COM

LANKA BRAVO CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33249820 or ALINAKHAN5411@GMAIL.COM

ARSALAN RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39092475 or ASMASHAH332211.MS@GMAIL.COM

R C CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36087133 or MURUGESANKK85M@GMAIL.COM

G L F G CARGO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35958647 or AFZAALMUGAL71@GMAIL.COM

JONNY HAM CO SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 335466434 or USSIJIL@GMAIL.COM

ONE STOP EUROPE MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES REPRESENTATIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33956025 or DIMESIONAL.STONES@GMAIL.COM

BLISS & BLOOM CARGO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CHAIRMAN (COMPANY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33667324 or INFO28TRAVEL@GMAIL.COM

AWS SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER-CLEANING-(HAND & CHEMICAL SOLUTIONS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33046925 or MOMINCH3303@GMAIL.COM

STARDOTS CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66602131 or FKHANKHAN314@GMAIL.COM

Breath-holding contest set for Nasser bin Hamad Marine Heritage Season

HH Khalid bin Hamad’s event draws 50 competitors in Amwaj Islands

● Contest to be held Friday near Amwaj Marina

● 50 competitors confirmed for “Shout of Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad” event

● Rules and safety procedures explained at pre-event briefing

● Part of the ongoing 8th Nasser bin Hamad Marine Heritage Season

TDT | Manama

The organising committee of the 8th Nasser bin Hamad Marine Heritage Season is set to host the Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa Breath-Holding Contest on Friday in the waters near Amwaj Islands Marina. Fifty participants will compete to stay submerged at a depth of two metres, with the ten longest performers declared winners.



Participants prepare for the upcoming breath-holding competition off Amwaj Islands

Pre-Event Briefing

Ahead of the competition, organisers held an orientation session for all entrants. Regulations, scoring methods, and

strict safety procedures were explained, with an emphasis on prioritising participant well-being. Coordination has also been made with partner entities to ensure smooth delivery of the

event at the highest standards.

Focus on Safety

Mishal Al Anzi, representing the organising committee, underlined the importance of a



Ten winners will be crowned based on underwater endurance at two metres’ depth

safe and controlled environment for the contest. He confirmed that all equipment and measures have been put in place to safeguard competitors throughout the challenge.

Cultural Spirit

Al Anzi also noted the large turnout reflects Bahraini society’s passion for marine heritage and young people’s willingness to engage in sports that preserve national traditions.

Season Context

The breath-holding competition is one of the highlights of the Nasser bin Hamad Marine Heritage Sports Season, which began in July and will continue through mid-November.

Messi will be game-day decision for Miami in Leagues Cup semis



Lionel Messi in action (file photo)

AFP | Miami

Lionel Messi’s status for Inter Miami’s Leagues Cup semi-final against Orlando City will be a game-day decision after the Argentine star trained with his teammates, the MLS squad announced Tuesday.

Inter Miami assistant coach Javier Morales said the Herons will monitor both Messi and Jordi Alba before deciding whether they will be available for Wednesday’s home showdown against Orlando City.

“Jordi and Leo trained with us, they completed training. We’ll see how they feel as the day progresses, and tomorrow we’ll make a decision,” Morales said.

Morales called Messi completing his training workout “super positive” and added, “I imagine he’ll be in the squad at least.”

UK training operation to set up in Bahrain

● Dan and Claire Kübler to train on behalf of the Royal Stables

Manama

The Bahrain Turf Club are delighted to welcome a new addition to their training ranks following the announcement that Dan and Claire Kübler are to train for Al Adiyat Racing and others under the Royal Stables in Bahrain.

Husband and wife Dan and Claire Kübler have trained in the United Kingdom under a joint licence as Kübler Racing for the last five years, enjoying considerable success. In 2023 they were represented by Astro King in the \$1million Group 2 Bahrain International Trophy and they enjoyed their best season to date in 2024 saddling 42 winners.

Speaking about how the opportunity to assist in developing a new training facility in Bahrain came about, Dan and Claire Kübler said: “The move follows an approach we received from His Highness Shaikh Isa, on behalf of the Royal Stables, who outlined his vision and ambition for racing



Astro King, trained by Dan and Claire Kübler, is seen during an exercise prior to the 2023 Bahrain International Trophy

in Bahrain.

“Our first taste of Bahrain came when campaigning our best horse Astro King in the million-dollar Bahrain International Trophy in late 2023. The ambition and intent of the Bahrain Turf Club were clear then, and the pace of development since has been striking.

“With increased investment, an expanding fixture list, and a clear commitment to the future, Bahrain is fast becoming a focal point for racing in the region, with ambitions to join

the leading centres of world racing. We are excited to play a role in that journey.”

The pair will begin training from a new facility in October, coinciding with the start of the 2025/26 season.

Yusuf Buheji, CEO of the Bahrain Turf Club said: “Our goal at the Bahrain Turf Club is to keep developing and improving the quality of racing in Bahrain. For a training operation of the calibre of Dan and Claire Kübler to set up in Bahrain and train from a newly developed facility



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DAN AND CLAIRE KÜBLER

is exciting news.”

“It shows that our investment in infrastructure, facilities and the race programme is driving horseracing in Bahrain forward and giving it an increasingly prominent role on the world stage.

“To have horses trained here in the Kingdom by Dan and Claire Kübler will help increase the competitiveness and quality of our racing.”

‘Disappointing’ Celtic fluff Champions League chance in Kazakh shoot-out

AFP | Paris

Scottish champions Celtic crashed out of the Champions League play-offs on Tuesday after missing three spot-kicks in a humiliating penalty

shoot-out against Kazakh side FC Kairat.

The Kazakh Premier League champions had already come through three qualifying rounds and go into the hat for Thursday’s draw for the Champions

League proper for the first time.

There they can hope to rub shoulders with the likes of superpowers Paris St-Germain and Real Madrid.

Celtic meanwhile must con-

sole themselves with a place in the Europa League.

With neither side able to score in 210 minutes of football across the two legs, it came down to penalties which Kairat won 3-2.

Bahrain braces as Asian Games near

Over 5,000 athletes compete in Asia’s largest youth sporting events

- Third Asian Youth Games from October 22–31
- Competitions held across 23 venues, 30+ training sites
- 24 sports, 207 events, promoting youth Olympic development

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

Bahrain is counting down the days to the third Asian Youth Games, with just 55 days to go until the event kicks off on October 22. Yesterday at 7pm, a press conference at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel revealed the Kingdom’s readiness to host one of Asia’s largest youth sporting gatherings.

The press briefing was led by HH Shaikh Issa bin Ali Al Khalifa, Vinod Tiwari, Deputy Director General of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA), Dr. Thani Al Kuwari, OCA Vice President West Asia, Mr. Tayyab Ikram, Chairman of the OCA Coordinational Committee, and Faris Al Kooheji, Secretary General of the Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC).

“A Special Event for Bahrain”

Speaking exclusively to TDT, Shaikh Issa described the Games as a “special event for Bahrain” and confirmed that all preparations—from venues and accommodation to sports facilities—have been progressing under the directives of His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, President of the BOC and Organising Committee. “We are confident that Bahrain is fully prepared to host this major regional event and that the third edition of the Asian Youth Games will succeed across all categories,” he said.

Dr. Thani Al Kuwari high-



Panel of speakers including Vinod Tiwari, Dr. Thani Al Kuwari, Mr. Tayyab Ikram, HH Shaikh Issa bin Ali Al Khalifa, Faris Al Kooheji, and Yusuf Muhroofi



Crowd in attendance at the press conference at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel



The official mascot “Shihab” represents the Arabian oryx, while welcoming mascots “Najm” and “Dana” reflect Bahrain’s rich cultural heritage

lighted the Games’ broader significance, noting: “The image of Bahrain and Asia will be honored. This event is a celebration of respect and friendship across the continent.”

Scale and Sporting Zones

The Games will gather over 5,000 athletes aged 15–17 from nearly 45 countries, competing

in 24 sports ranging from athletics, swimming, and basketball to judo, kabaddi, teqball, e-sports, and more. Events will be held across 23 competition venues and over 30 training facilities, organized into three main zones and subzones.

Zone 1 centers on Isa Sports City, hosting track and field from October 23–26, handball and futsal from October 21 and 23–27, and volleyball and kabaddi competitions across multiple halls. Zone 2 at Exhibition World will feature table tennis, MMA, e-sports, taekwondo, Muay Thai, jiu-jitsu, boxing, judo, teqball, weightlifting, and wrestling. Subzones include C: Military Sports Association and Royal Golf Club for show jumping and golf, and D: Bahrain International Endurance Village and Sofitel Bahrain Zallaq for camel racing, cross country, endurance, and triathlon events. Accommodation will span Amwaj, Manama, Seef, and Juffair/Adliya, ensur-



Official mascot “Shihab” unveiled alongside welcoming mascots “Najm” and “Dana”

Pics credit : Anchalo Bensiger

ing athletes are close to their respective competition zones.

“Making the Games Relevant”

Mr. Tayyab Ikram emphasized the Games’ importance for the Olympic movement and the youth of Asia: “Our objective at the Olympic Council of Asia is to make the Games more relevant for today’s generation. Bahrain has delivered in record time to host an event that will welcome the future stars of Asia, leave a sustainable legacy, and

inspire youth across the continent.”

Mascots and Cultural Identity

The event also marked the unveiling of the official mascot “Shihab”, representing the Arabian oryx and symbolizing strength and agility, alongside welcoming mascots “Najm” and “Dana”, reflecting traditional Bahraini attire and cultural heritage. High-profile attendees included Mohammed Shahid, President of BRAVE CF, among others.

Legacy Beyond 2025

The Asian Youth Games, which build on previous editions held in Singapore (2010) and Nanjing, China (2013), promote physical fitness, cultural exchange, and Olympic ideals. In addition to medals, athletes will gain pathways toward qualification for the 2026 Youth Olympics in Dakar and ultimately the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games.

With just under two months to go, Bahrain is poised to host a Games that promise to be both memorable and transformative for athletes, fans, and the broader sporting community.

Indian spin great Ashwin calls time on IPL career

AFP | Chennai

Indian spin great Ravichandran Ashwin yesterday announced his retirement from the Indian Premier League and plans to play in other global franchise tournaments.

The 38-year-old, a master off-spinner who quit international cricket in December during India’s Test tour of Australia, ends as the fifth-highest wicket-taker in the IPL with 187 scalps.

He played for five IPL franchises and won the tournament with Chennai Super Kings in 2010 and 2011, where he also played in this year’s edition.



They say every ending will have a new start. My time as an IPL cricketer comes to a close today but my time as an explorer of the game around various leagues begins today

RAVICHANDRAN ASHWIN

“They say every ending will have a new start,” Ashwin wrote on social media.

“My time as an IPL cricketer comes to a close today but my time as an explorer of the game around

various leagues begins today.”

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) does not allow any current player in Indian international or domestic cricket to feature in overseas leagues.

The feisty Ashwin finished his India career with 537 wickets in 106 Tests at an average of 24.00.

He also played 116 one-day and 65 Twenty20 internationals.

Ravichandran Ashwin



Vingegaard reclaims lead as UAE win Vuelta time-trial



Germany’s defender #02 Antonio Rudiger warms up ahead of a match

AFP | Figueres

Jonas Vingegaard reclaimed the overall lead of the Vuelta a Espana on the fifth-stage team time-trial on Wednesday, while Team UAE riders Juan Ayuso and Joao Almeida climbed to second and third in the standings.

As the 21-day race arrived in

Spain after four stages in Italy and France, the leaderboard was reshuffled with the three race favourites moving to the top of the deck.

Team UAE won the 24.1km stage around Figueres in 25min and 26sec, with Vingegaard’s Visma just eight seconds off the pace and Giulio Ciccone’s Lidl-Trek a further second slower in third on the day.

India says Ahmedabad ‘ideal city’ for Commonwealth Games

AFP | Ahmedabad

India said yesterday that the City of Ahmedabad is an “ideal” location for the 2030 Commonwealth Games, with its bid viewed as part of a wider push by the cricket-mad nation to

host the 2036 Olympics.

Ahmedabad is the key city in Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s home state of Gujarat, home to a 130,000-seater arena, the world’s biggest cricket stadium and named after the

premier.

Modi’s cabinet approved India’s bid for the 2030 Commonwealth Games yesterday. India submitted a formal letter of intent last year to the International Olympic Committee to

host the 2036 Games.

“Ahmedabad is an ideal host city offering world-class stadiums, cutting-edge training facilities, and a passionate sporting culture,” a cabinet statement read.

Bahrain kick off September camp with Qatar, UAE friendlies



Bahrain players in training ahead of their upcoming friendlies

Talajic names 29-man squad for international FIFA window

- September camp runs from August 30 to September 9
- Friendlies vs Qatar (Doha) and UAE (Dubai) on schedule
- 29-player squad named for preparations under Talajic
- Focus on November's Arab Cup playoff

TDT | Manama

The Bahrain national football team will begin their September training camp on August 30 with a closed session, as part of their preparations for upcoming challenges during the international FIFA window. A day later, on August 31, the squad will hold a training session open to the media for 15 minutes. On September 1, the team will travel to Doha to face Qatar in a friendly behind closed doors at Al Thumama Stadium on September 3. The following day, they will depart for Dubai to continue

their preparations and take on the UAE on September 8 at Zabeel Stadium, before returning home on September 9. Head coach Dragan Talajic has called up a 29-player squad for the camp, featuring: Ibrahim Lutfallah, Abdulkarim Fardan, Yousif Habib, Mohammed Al Ghurabli, Waleed Al Hayam, Amine Benaddi, Abdulla Al Khulasi, Ahmed Dia, Sayed Mahmood Al Mousawi, Ahmed Bughamar, Hamad Shamsan, Sayed Mahdi Baqer, Sayed Dhiya Saeed, Hussain Al Aakhar, Vinicius Emanuel, Mohammed Marhoon, Haz-zah Ali, Hassan Jameel, Mah-di Humaidan, Ali Madan, Ahmed Al Shurooqi, Omar Saber, Jassim Al Shaikh, Ko-mail Al Aswad, Ibrahim Al Khattal, Mahdi Abduljabbar, Hussain Abdulkarim, Mohammed Al Romaihi, and Abdulla Al Subaie. The camp aims to assess player readiness and build team cohesion ahead of crucial fixtures later this year. Chief among them is Bahrain's Arab Cup qualifying playoff against Djibouti on November 25 in Qatar, where the winner will advance to Group D alongside defending champions Algeria, Iraq, and either Lebanon or Sudan.

Sinner, Swiatek cruise at US Open

Defending champion Sinner and women's favourite Swiatek win in straight sets as Gauff battles through three-hour marathon

- Sinner beats Vit Kopriva 6-1, 6-1, 6-2
- Swiatek wins 65th straight WTA first-round match
- Gauff survives three-set battle against Tomljanovic
- Osaka returns strong with straight-sets victory

AFP | New York

World number one Jannik Sinner began his bid for back-to-back US Open titles with an emphatic victory on Tuesday as women's draw favourite Iga Swiatek swept into the second round. Italian star Sinner waltzed to a 6-1, 6-1, 6-2 win over Czech world number 89 Vit Kopriva, needing just 1hr 38min to advance to the next round. "It feels great to be back here. Obviously it's a very special tournament," said Sinner, who is attempting to become the first man to repeat as US Open champion since Roger Federer won five in a row from 2004-2008. Sinner, 24, faces Alexei Popyrin in the third round. "I'm very happy that I'm healthy again," said Sinner, who was forced to retire from last week's Cincinnati Open final against Carlos Alcaraz. "I have amazing memories (from last year). Every year is different. You come here starting this tournament hopefully in the best possible way, which I did," he added. Sinner's blistering start on the Arthur Ashe Stadium court was matched by Poland's Swiatek, who was similarly emphatic in a 6-1, 6-2 rout of Colombia's Emiliana Arango. The 24-year-old from Poland was always in control against 84th-ranked Arango, overwhelming the Colombian with some powerful groundstrokes



Poland's Iga Swiatek plays a backhand return to Colombia's Emiliana Arango

mixed with some deft work at the net. The win makes Swiatek the first woman in history to win 65 consecutive WTA-level first round matches, surpassing Monica Seles' previous record of 64. Yet Swiatek's performance was relegated to a footnote in her post-match press conference, where news of pop star Taylor Swift's engagement to NFL player Travis Kelce dominated the questions. 'Swiftie' Swiatek Swiatek is a fully paid-up "Swiftie" -- the nickname given to Swift's millions of fanatical followers -- and could not hide her delight at learning of the singer's looming nuptials. "I'm just happy for her, because she deserves the best," Swiatek said. The six-time Grand Slam singles champion -- a winner in New York in 2022 -- will face the Netherlands' Suzan Lamens in the second round. Yet while Sinner and Swiatek strolled into the second round, 2023 women's singles cham-

YOU
KNOW WHAT

Swiatek's dominant win was overshadowed by questions about Taylor Swift's engagement, leaving the tennis star gushing over her favourite pop idol during the post-match press conference

pion Coco Gauff was forced to claw her way past Australia's Ajla Tomljanovic in a gruelling late night battle that lasted just under three hours. Gauff racked up 59 unforced errors, 10 double faults and suffered six breaks of serve before finally prevailing 6-4, 6-7 (2/7), 7-5 against Tomljanovic, ranked 79th in the world. "It wasn't the best but I'm happy to get through to the

next round," said Gauff, who admitted she had been drained by an unsettled build-up to the tournament. Gauff, who won her second career Grand Slam at the French Open earlier this season, overhauled her coaching team on the eve of the US Open in an effort to revamp her service game. "Honestly it's been really tough, mentally exhausting," Gauff said. "But I'm trying. It wasn't the best today, but it was an improvement on last week." While Gauff laboured to victory, two-time former champion Naomi Osaka had no such difficulty in dispatching Belgium's Green Minnen 6-3, 6-4. but The Japanese former world number one revelled in returning to a venue that she regards as a home from home. "Whenever I play here the atmosphere feels like home, and it is home for me," said Osaka, who is seeded 23rd and will next face American Hailey Baptiste. In other women's draw results on Tuesday, Ukrainian 27th

seed Marta Kostyuk took down Britain's Katie Boulter 6-4, 6-4. Eighth seed Amanda Anisimova of the United States ousted Australia's Kimberly Birrell 6-3, 6-2. Brazil's 18th seed Beatriz Haddad Maia advanced with a 6-3, 1-6, 6-1 win over Britain's Sonay Kartal. But there was disappointment for rising French star Lois Boisson. Boisson, who captivated her homeland with a run to the semi-finals of the French Open in June, exited in three sets to Switzerland's Viktorija Golubic, losing 3-6, 7-6 (7/3), 6-2. Russian 13th seed Ekaterina Alexandrova brushed aside Latvia's Anastasija Sevastova 6-4, 6-1,

"I'm very happy that I'm healthy again. I have amazing memories (from last year). Every year is different. You come here starting this tournament hopefully in the best possible way, which I did

Diana Shnaider and Sofia Kenin were the rare seeds to fall.

