



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

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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

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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.

220 fils (includes VAT)



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
TDT | 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 Beyond 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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