

**Bahrain Club hand Manama first defeat**

Xavier Gibson scores 37 points to power victors to upset in overtime of defending champions Manama in 2022/2023 Zain Bahrain Basketball League | P16

WORLD 11 Iran general says over '300 dead'

THE DAILY **tribune**



Dua Lipa granted Albanian citizenship 12 CELEBS

BUSINESS 5 'Rasmalai' restaurant opens at 'Al Liwan'



**Eats and Treats**

P8-9

# 1,500 China nuke warheads by 2035

Beijing 'significantly' increased efforts to engage with Middle East in 2021: Pentagon

Washington

China and its military "significantly" increased efforts to engage with Middle Eastern countries, according to a Pentagon report released yesterday.

The report on China's military, released annually, also warned that Beijing was on track to have 1,500 nuclear warheads by 2035.

The Pentagon believes China has over 400 nuclear warheads in its current stockpile.

"The (Chinese army) plans to basically complete modernisation of its national defense and armed forces by 2035. If China continues the pace of its nuclear expansion, it will likely field a stockpile of about 1,500 warheads by its 2035 timeline," the report read.

As for the Middle East, the Pentagon highlighted two "key shifts" that China made in 2021 in how it went about the so-called Belt Road Initiative.

China's increased engagement with countries, specifically Iraq, was noticed through its work to begin prioritising public health, digital infrastructure, and green energy opportunities in Middle Eastern countries.

Beijing increased its "Health Silk Road" and "Digital Silk Road" initiatives by providing



medical aid, including COVID-19 vaccines, personal protective equipment (PPE), and other pandemic support to partner countries.

This could help China expand the international market share of its medical products, strengthen its bid for a role as a

global public health leader, and identify the need for new Belt Road Initiative (BRI) projects.

The Digital Silk Road is one way China delivers its technology to other countries, which they try to leverage to "propagate" their own technology standards as they try to set glob-

al standards for next-generation technology, according to the Pentagon.

Some of these methods include Chinese investments in 5G networks, undersea cables and data centers. It also includes satellite navigation systems, artificial intelligence, and quan-

tum computing for domestic use and export.

"As Beijing's economic interests expand in areas like Africa, Latin America, Central Asia, and the Middle East, we expect to see increased focus on expanding power projection operations globally," the Pentagon said.

**Missing diver's body found**

Staff Reporter  
 TDT | Manama

The Interior Ministry yesterday confirmed that its teams have found the body of missing Bahraini diver Nashmi Al Hiddi.

Nashmi had been reported missing since Saturday afternoon after he undertook a regular diving adventure off Bahrain's northern coast.

According to Interior Ministry sources, a massive hunt began instantly with marine patrols being directed to various areas off the northern coast.

The Public Prosecution was also notified of the incident.

**Thailand monks fail drug tests**



Bangkok

A Buddhist temple in central Thailand has been left without monks after all its holy men failed drug tests and were defrocked, a local official said yesterday.

Four monks, including an abbot, at a temple in Phetchabun province's Bung Sam Phan district, tested positive.

First Arab lunar mission

## UAE to make history with launch of rover to moon today

● All systems go for five-month journey

Dubai

The UAE has completed the final preparations to launch its rover to the moon in the Arab world's first lunar mission, it was announced yesterday.

Rashid rover will blast off from Cape



The HAKUTO-R Mission 1 lunar lander into the SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket

Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida, US, today, Nov. 30, embarking on a five-month journey to the moon.

The Mohammed bin Rashid Space Center (MBRSC) invited viewers from all over the world to watch the launch live at 12:39pm UAE time (GMT+4), 11:39am, Bahrain time.

In a statement, Japan-based ispace inc. announced it had completed the integration of its HAKUTO-R Mission 1 lunar lander into the SpaceX Falcon 9

rocket.

"We are pleased to have finished the first phase of the Mission 1 with the final preparations before launch completed," said Takeshi Hakamada, Founder and CEO of ispace.

"To do this, we utilised a design and development model that balanced reliability and low costs by employing proven technologies and components from around the world," he added.

220 fils (includes VAT)



6 084010 110021 >

homesrus

City Centre Bahrain Tel: +973 17556002  
 Seha Tel: +973 17556001  
 www.homesrusgroup.com

homesrusbahrain homesrusbahrain

SALE 25% - 75% OFF

\*Terms and conditions apply