

**Masood, Abdullah  
 centuries lift Pakistan  
 in first England Test**

Pakistan posts 328-4, thanks to stunning centuries from Shan Masood and Abdullah Shafique | P 12

**WORLD 6 West Bank rally marks Hamas attack**

**THE DAILY tribune**

**Jennifer Aniston wasn't 'mad' about Barack Obama affair rumour**

8 CELEBS

**BUSINESS 5 NBB launches 24/7 USD clearing service**

**15 successful candidates for PM Fellowship Program**

TDT | Manama

The Prime Minister's Office (PMO) yesterday announced the list of 15 successful candidates for the 10th intake of the PM Fellowship Program, which has witnessed more than 2,500 applicants.

Registration for the tenth edition of the programme took place between 9 July and 9 August 2024, and has witnessed more than 2,500 applicants from across various government agencies.

The candidates, selected following a rigorous evaluation process, are as follows:

Ahmed Ali Ahmed - Ministry of Interior; Husain Mohamed AlGhasra - National Audit Office; Khaled Salman Alshaikh - Survey & Land Registration Bureau; Khaled Mohamed AlMansoor - Ministry of Works; Rashed Adel Kamal - Central Bank of Bahrain

Zahra Salman Zabar - Primary Health Care Centres; Saleh Zayed Saleh - Ministry of Finance and National Economy; Sayed Abdulla Hasan Qarooni - Supreme Council for Environment; Abdulla Atef Alkhaja - Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Alyaa Hasan Aljeeb - Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Fahad Faisal Almajed - Ministry of Interior; Mohamed Maki Alaswad - Labour Market Regulatory Authority; Narjes Khalil Ghuloom - Supreme Council for Environment; Yara Talal Almutawa - Economic Development Board; and Yasmeen Ali Shaker - Electricity and Water Authority.

**Israel fights multi-front war**

AFP | Jerusalem

Israel yesterday battled on multiple fronts, intensifying its battle with Lebanon's Hezbollah as Hamas warned of a long war on the first anniversary of the deadliest attack in Israeli history.

But Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said both wars would ensure the violence his country endured last October 7 could never be repeated. Israel's air defences also intercepted a missile fired from Yemen.

**HM King Hamad: BDF safeguards global maritime trade flow**



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, highlighted the role played by the Bahrain Defence Force (BDF) in cooperation with ally countries to secure freedom of maritime navigation in the region, thereby maintaining the flow of global trade. HM the King was speaking as he received senior BDF officials at Al Sakhir Palace yesterday. The senior officials included Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Commander-in-Chief of the BDF, His Highness Lieutenant-General Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the National Security Advisor and loyal Guard Commander, His Highness Colonel Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Royal Guard Special Force Commander, Lieutenant General Theyab bin Saqr Al Nuaimi, Chief of Staff of BDF, and officers. His Majesty was briefed on the plans to develop and modernise the weapons and units of the BDF.

**Unity in harmony**

**Cabinet urges enhanced collaboration between executive and legislative authorities**

TDT | Manama

**T**he Cabinet directed the relevant government ministerial committees to enhance collaboration between the Executive and Legislative authorities for the benefit of all.

This directive was issued during the weekly Cabinet meeting chaired by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, at Gudaibiya Palace yesterday.

On the occasion of His Majesty the King's Royal Order calling for the Shura Council and the Council of Representatives to convene, the Cabinet underscored the importance of his forthcoming address, which will kickstart the third session of the sixth legislative term.

The royal address is expected to strengthen collaboration be-

tween the Executive and Legislative.

**Memorandums**

During the meeting, the Cabinet discussed several memorandums, approving various significant initiatives.

One key memorandum was presented by the Ministerial Committee for Financial and Economic Affairs and Fiscal Balance, detailing the quarterly economic report for the first half of 2024.

The report indicated a 2.3% annual GDP growth at constant prices, buoyed by a 3.1% increase in non-oil activities. However, it also noted a 2.1% reduction in the number of non-Bahrainis working in the private sector.

The Cabinet also approved a memorandum concerning negotiations for a free trade agreement between the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries



HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister chairs the weekly Cabinet meeting

and the United Kingdom, highlighting efforts to strengthen economic ties.

In addition, a memorandum submitted by the Minister of

Combating Harmful Practices in International Trade.

This resolution aims to impose anti-dumping duties on several imports within the GCC.

The Cabinet approved a memorandum from the Minister of Industry and Commerce regarding two draft resolutions aimed at enhancing commercial registration procedures.

**Royal address**

The Cabinet commended the recent address of HM King Hamad during an event honouring parents and top-performing students across educational levels, praising students' distinguished achievements due to the Kingdom's robust educational sector.

It emphasised the importance of His Majesty's address, which noted that upskilling Bahrainis remains a cornerstone of development.

**Bahrain's GDP grows despite oil sector decline: Report**

TDT | Manama

**B**ahrain's economy has experienced real GDP growth of 1.3% year-on-year in the second quarter of 2024, supported by a 2.8% increase in the non-oil sec-

tor, despite a 6.7% decline in the oil sector during the same period.

This data is based on preliminary National Accounts information released by the Information and e-Government Authority (IGA).

The Ministry of Finance and National Economy has made the Bahrain Economic Quarterly Report for Q2 2024 available on its website, www.mofne.gov.bh.

The non-oil sector demonstrated particularly strong per-

formance, led by significant growth in three key emerging industries.

The Transportation and Storage sector recorded the highest year-on-year growth rate at 12.9%, followed closely by In-

formation and Communications at 11.2%.

Additionally, the Accommodation and Food Services sector saw a 10.6% year-on-year increase, reflecting rising demand in the tourism industry.

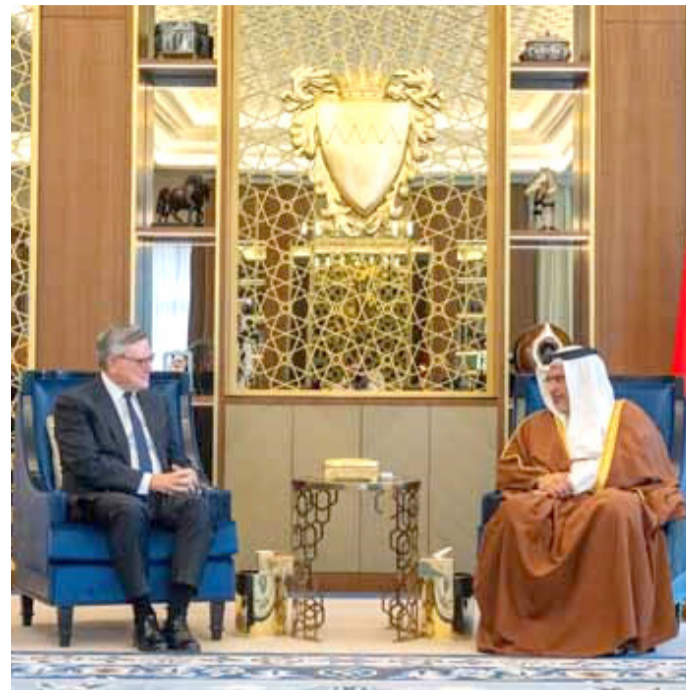


**Bahrain-Saudi relations**



His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, yesterday met with the Minister of Finance of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, His Excellency Mohammed bin Abdullah Al-Jadaan, at Gudaibiya Palace. HRH Prince Salman highlighted the strength of the longstanding relations between the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which continue to grow in line with the shared visions of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud. His Royal Highness noted the efforts of the Crown Prince and Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, in enhancing the Bahrain-Saudi partnership for the mutual benefit of both nations. He highlighted Bahrain's commitment to advancing multisectoral collaboration to create additional opportunities for all.

**Boosting banking and financial sector**



His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, met yesterday with the Group Chairman of Standard Chartered, Dr Josø Vizeals, along with the bank's senior officials, at Gudaibiya Palace. HRH Prince Salman expressed his pride in the role of the Kingdom's vibrant banking and financial sector in creating opportunities for Bahraini citizens and supporting the national economy, in line with the Kingdom's comprehensive development led by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa. He emphasised the Kingdom's commitment to providing the banking and financial sector with the necessary support to enhance its contributions to the Kingdom's overall development. HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister highlighted Standard Chartered's contributions since its establishment in the Kingdom over 100 years ago, noting how the bank has provided numerous opportunities for citizens and attracted investments to the Kingdom.

# Expansion makes waves

Long-overdue plan for public beach development in Hidd blends leisure and fishing

**Mohammed Darwish**  
TDT | Manama

Plans to expand the beach area near the fishermen's port in Hidd to include a public beach have attracted

renewed attention, with efforts underway to develop the area for the dual use of swimmers and fishermen. The aim is to ensure that these beaches are suitable for swimming while also providing a recreational space for residents.

The Muharraq Municipal Council has unanimously voted to urge the Ministry of Municipalities Affairs to address this pressing need, seeking to create a shared space that ca-



Muharraq Municipal Council's session in progress

ters to both beachgoers and fishermen — an initiative long desired by local residents.

To meet the rising demand for public beaches, the project will repurpose a section of the coastline currently used by fishermen.

**Necessity**

Council member Mohammed Al Moqahwi highlighted this necessity.

"We are fortunate to be surrounded by the sea; however, our shores require attention to better serve the community. The residents of Hidd deserve improved access to our coastal areas," Al Moqahwi told The Daily Tribune

Additionally, Al Moqahwi noted ongoing developments at Hidd Port, which include relocating the fish market and constructing a bridge to connect East Hidd City to Dry Dock Road.

**"We are fortunate to be surrounded by the sea; however, our shores require attention to better serve the community. The residents of Hidd deserve improved access to our coastal areas."**

- MOHAMMED AL MOQAWHI, MUHARRAQ MUNICIPAL COUNCIL MEMBER

He emphasised, "Fishermen depend on these waters for their livelihoods, and any expansion must take this into account."

This initiative follows a previous proposal made in April that suggested creating a beach on Hidd's eastern coast.

**Permits**

Since then, the municipal



committee has amended the original plan and secured the necessary permits for redevelopment.

Al Moqahwi added, "The community has long requested better recreational spaces, and this project will provide a dedicated swimming area for residents."

With council officials expected to monitor the project's progress closely, updates will be provided to keep the community informed.

## عروض التنين

### THE DRAGON OFFERS

20%

عند الطلب بقيمة 70 د.ب

WHEN YOU ORDER MORE THAN 70 BD

15%

عند الطلب بقيمة 50 د.ب

WHEN YOU ORDER MORE THAN 50 BD

10%

عند الطلب بقيمة 35 د.ب

WHEN YOU ORDER MORE THAN 35 BD

☎ 17722199    📍 PEKING.BH    📍 Water Garden City

## Legal protections for medical professionals

**H Naser**  
TDT | Manama

MP Jalal Kazim has submitted two proposed amendments to existing Bahraini laws, seeking enhanced legal protections for medical professionals during the course of their work.

The first proposal targets doctors, while the second extends similar protections to allied medical professionals.

Kazim's first proposal would amend Article 30 of Decree-Law No. 7 of 1989, concerning the practice of human

medicine and dentistry.

**Criminal investigations**

The amendment would add a new clause stating that criminal investigations against doctors for offenses committed during or related to their work can only be initiated by the Public Prosecution, after notifying the Ministry of Health and with the presence of a designated ministry representative.

The explanatory memorandum accompanying the proposal highlights the aim of providing doctors with legal protection against arbitrary le-

gal actions.

The presence of a ministry representative during investigations is intended to ensure fairness and prevent potentially frivolous lawsuits.

**Comparable legislation**

The proposal draws parallels to similar legal protections afforded to journalists in other jurisdictions and cites comparable legislation in Iraq and Jordan as examples.

Kazim's second proposal seeks to amend Decree-Law No. 2 of 1987, adding a similar clause to Article 25.

## Three women face trafficking charges

TDT | Manama

The Public Prosecution has concluded its investigation into a human trafficking case and referred three female defendants to the Criminal Court, according to the Chief Public Prosecutor of the Anti-Human Trafficking Prosecution.

The investigation was launched following a report from the Anti-Human Trafficking Department alleging that the three defendants trafficked five victims.

The victims were allegedly forced into illegal activities and exploited in acts contrary to public morals, with the defendants profiting from their exploitation.

The Chief Public Prosecutor stated that the Public Prosecution immediately launched an investigation upon receiving the report.

The investigation included taking statements from the five victims, who were placed in a shelter.

# Job market shift

MP proposes amendment to limit work permits for expatriates to two years

## Creating more job opportunities for Bahraini citizens

H Naser  
TDT | Manama

Member of Parliament Muneer Surur has introduced a proposed amendment to Bahrain's labour law, aiming to regulate the issuance of work permits for technical and administrative professions that are occupied by expatriates.

The amendment would add a new clause (g) to Article 24 of Law No. 19 of 2006, which governs the labour market.

The proposed clause would limit work permits for these professions to a two-year period, renewable only once.

“The amendment supports national efforts to prioritise Bahraini citizens for job opportunities and to curb the influx of foreign workers, which he argues contributes to unemployment in the Kingdom.”

- MP MUNEEER SURUR



authority.

The amendment aims to serve the public interest by streamlining the work permit process and preventing the prolonged stay of expatriate workers in unnecessary cases.

This, according to Surur, will help create more job opportunities for Bahraini nationals seeking employment.

The proposed law also seeks to ensure that the presence of foreign workers is limited to specific periods, allowing the country to benefit from their expertise while fulfilling the intended purpose of the work permit.

### Proposal

Surur stated that the proposal aligns with the government's recent decision to abolish flexible work permits.

He emphasised that the amendment supports national efforts to prioritize Bahraini citizens for job opportunities and to curb the influx of foreign workers, which he argues contributes to unemployment in the Kingdom.

The proposed amendment will now go through the parliamentary process for consideration and debate.

## Seven on trial for major human trafficking and drug ring

TDT | Manama

The High Criminal Court is hearing the case against seven defendants accused of running a large-scale human trafficking and drug operation.

The charges, spanning events from 2024, involve the exploitation of four women forced into prostitution.

The prosecution alleges that three Asian women formed a criminal group, trafficking and exploiting four victims.

The women were allegedly transported between multiple apartments, held against their will, and forced into prostitution to pay off fabricated debts.

### Consent

Prosecutors argue that the victims' circumstances rendered any apparent consent invalid.

The defendants are also charged with coercion, deception, and inciting prostitution.

Further charges against six of the defendants involve directly profiting from the victims' forced labour.

Additionally, several defendants face drug-related charges, including cannabis use and trafficking.

### Charges

Specifically, the fourth and fifth defendants are charged with cannabis use, the sixth with using cannabis and another substance, and the seventh with supplying and possessing cannabis.

Victim testimony paints a picture of systematic exploitation.

One victim described being brought to Bahrain by one of the defendants and forced into prostitution to repay a debt of BD1,500, plus BD150 for living expenses.

# Bahraini man jailed for Asian bank shares fraud

## Sentenced to six months behind bars

TDT | Manama

A sophisticated fraud scheme involving the sale of non-existent shares in an Asian bank has landed a Bahraini man a six-month prison sentence.

The perpetrator, a repeat offender, used a pre-existing relationship with his male victim to convince him to invest a substantial BD251,000 in a fictitious financial institution.

He presented meticulously forged documents to support his fraudulent claims, deceiving the victim into believing he was making a sound investment.



Image used for illustrative purposes only

The deception only unraveled after the transaction was complete, prompting an investigation.

The Public Prosecution's case focused on the fraudulent acquisition of funds and the defendant's creation and use of counterfeit banking documents.

The case moved through the Bahraini court system, beginning with the Minor Criminal Court.

### Documents

During questioning, the victim stated, “He was very convincing. We've known each other for years, and he presented everything so professionally. The documents looked completely legitimate.”

He further added, “I never suspected anything until I tried

to verify the investment with the supposed bank in Asia. That's when I realized it was all a lie.”

This court initially sentenced the defendant to six months in prison, a BD1,000 fine, and ordered the confiscation of the forged documents.

### Verdict

The High Criminal Court of Appeal upheld this verdict.

A final appeal to the Court of Cassation was unsuccessful, confirming the original sentence.

The defendant will now serve his six-month prison term, a direct consequence of his elaborate and ultimately unsuccessful attempt at financial deception.

# Parliament prepares for new session opening



MPs attend a preparatory committee meeting to oversee arrangements for the opening ceremony

TDT | Manama

The Parliament is gearing up for the opening of the third annual session of the sixth legislative term, scheduled for Sunday, October 13, 2024.

This follows Royal Order No. (38) of 2024, convening both the Shura Council and the Council of Representatives.

Mohammed Ibrahim Al Sisi Al Buainain, Secretary General of the Council of Representatives, chaired a preparatory committee meeting on Monday at the Isa Cultural Centre to

oversee arrangements for the opening ceremony.

The meeting was attended by Karima Mohammed Al Abassi, Secretary General of the Shura Council; Mohammed Shikhan, Deputy Head of Royal Ceremonies; and other senior officials and representatives from relevant government bodies.

Al Buainain highlighted the comprehensive development underway in Bahrain under the leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and with the support of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin

Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

### Royal support

He praised the royal support for parliamentary work and the achievements of the reform project.

He also emphasised the effective cooperation between the executive and legislative branches in serving the nation and its citizens.

The committee meeting focused on logistical, technical, and media preparations for the opening ceremony, including

the distribution of tasks and roles among participating entities.

### Relevant institutions

Al Buainain confirmed that all relevant institutions are fully prepared.

He expressed his gratitude to the team responsible for organising the event, commending their efforts to ensure a successful opening.

The meeting ensured that the ceremony will reflect the importance and significance of this national parliamentary event.

# 83% of Bahrain plastic bags compliant with regulations

TDT | Manama

A recent and comprehensive inspection campaign conducted by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce has revealed an encouraging finding: 83% of plastic bags available in local markets are in compliance with the stringent requirements aimed at protecting wildlife.

This significant compliance rate was confirmed after a thorough collection of samples to ensure adherence to Decision No. 14 of 2022, which outlines specific regulations regarding plastic bag usage.

The campaign, as detailed in a post shared on the Ministry of Industry and Commerce's official Instagram account, involved meticulous inspections of 502 stores across the Kingdom and the collection of a total of 551 samples.

### Requirements

However, it was noted that 17% of the products examined did not meet the specified re-

quirements, highlighting an area that still needs attention and improvement.

This inspection initiative follows a series of previous campaigns aimed at ensuring that local markets comply with regulations prohibiting the manufacturing, importing, and trading of single-use plastic bags that are less than 35 microns thick.

These ongoing efforts demonstrate the government's dedication to enforcing environmental standards and promoting responsible practices among businesses and consumers alike.

### Threshold

Decision No. 14 of 2022, which prohibits the production, import, and sale of single-use plastic bags that fall below the 35-micron thickness threshold, formally came into effect on September 18, 2022.

This decision plays a crucial role in supporting the ministry's initiatives aimed at environmental protection.

## Scattered rain, strong winds expected in Kingdom today

TDT | Manama

The Kingdom of Bahrain may experience today scattered rain accompanied by strong winds, particularly in marine areas.

Citizens and residents are advised to prepare for strong winds, from 2pm to 6pm.

This was announced yesterday by the Meteorology Department at the Ministry of Transport and Communications via its official platforms.

The department emphasised that October and November typically mark the onset of weather fluctuations, and with several supporting elements present over the next two days, local formations are expected to develop in areas adjacent to Bahrain today and tomorrow.

According to the official weather bulletin, the maximum temperature today is forecasted to reach no higher than 36 degrees Celsius.

Humid conditions are expected to transition to partly cloudy skies at times, with relatively warm temperatures during the day.

Winds will generally be easterly, ranging from 5 to 10 knots, increasing to 12 to 17 knots, with gusts potentially reaching 25 knots later in the day.

# Saving lives on 'Death Road'

Councillors finally approve pedestrian bridge along Muharraq's dangerous highway

Mohammed Darwish  
TDT | Manama

Locals refer to it as the 'Death Road' — a dangerous stretch of highway in Muharraq where at least five lives have been lost.

After years of fatal accidents, councillors have now approved a pedestrian bridge for the Khalifa Al Kabeer Highway, which runs between Omar bin Al Khattab School and the fishermen's port.

The area is often crossed by seasoned fishermen hauling their catch, putting them at serious risk.

Councillor Abdulaziz Al Naar noted the hazards faced by both fishermen and visitors to the port.

"There's an accident here every year. The road has a dangerous bend, and the gate is positioned right on it, making it impossible to see oncoming traffic, especially with the trees blocking the view," he explained.

The speed limit along this road is 100 km/h, and pedestrians frequently misjudge the speed of approaching vehicles,



Actual view of the highway



"There's an accident here every year. The road has a dangerous bend, and the gate is positioned right on it, making it impossible to see oncoming traffic, especially with the trees blocking the view."

- ABDULAZIZ AL NAAR, MUHARRAQ COUNCILLOR

leading to numerous accidents.

Al Naar added that local residents had submitted a petition, signed by many, requesting urgent action on the matter.

"We are now looking for a company to build the bridge and have already secured donors willing to fund it," he said, stressing the need for approvals from the Ministry of Municipalities and the Ministry of Works.

The council is currently awaiting official clearance from the ministries before moving forward with construction, which many see as a crucial step towards improving safety in the area.

## Parliament to debate bill aiming to support low-income citizens

H Naser  
TDT | Manama

The Bahraini House of Representatives is set to debate a proposed law in its upcoming session aimed at establishing a financial support account for low-income citizens.

The bill, introduced by MP Ali Al Nuaimi, has received the endorsement of the Services Committee.

The proposed legislation seeks to ease the financial burdens on low-income families, ensuring a decent standard of living and providing assistance in the face of rising living costs and challenging economic conditions.

The bill acknowledges the significant increase in the cost of essential goods and services, making it difficult for many Bahraini families to meet their basic needs.

### Measure

It argues the measure will positively impact the national economy and contribute to social stability.

The five-article bill proposes a mechanism for funding the support account.

Article one outlines a levy of \$1 per barrel of crude oil exported from Bahrain, applicable to barrels exceeding \$40 in value, starting from the first



MP Ali Al Nuaimi

fiscal year following the law's enactment.

These funds will be deposited into a dedicated "Financial Support Account for Low-Income Individuals."

### Account

Article two mandates the Ministry of Finance and National Economy to open and manage this account.

Article three details the disbursement of funds by the Ministry of Social Development, in coordination with the Ministry of Finance and National Economy.

A one-time annual payment will be distributed to Bahraini heads of households based on income brackets.

Those with a monthly income below BD300 will receive 200% of their monthly entitlement; those with a monthly income between BD301 and BD700 will receive 150% of their monthly entitlement.

# Muharraq pushes for oil waste containers at restaurants

TDT | Manama

Muharraq's sewers are being choked by cooking oil illegally dumped by restaurants, causing foul smells and flooding that plague residents.

To tackle the issue, the Muharraq Municipal Council has voted to mandate dedicated oil waste containers at all eateries from next year.

Council member Dalal Al Moqahwi highlighted the widespread habit of restaurants pouring used oil down the drains, leading to blockages and offensive odours.

The new rule, pending approval from the Ministry of Municipalities, is set to ensure restaurants manage their waste properly.

It mirrors the system already in place for boat and launch owners, who use private recycling services for their oil.

Proponents argue the measure will improve sanitation, protect public health, and prevent further environmental damage caused by improper oil disposal.

Meeting

During yester Monday's meeting, the Council urged the Ministry to include these containers in the next cleaning contract, making it compulsory for restaurants to comply.

Al Moqahwi explained that many restaurant owners irresponsibly dispose of oil by pouring it into drains, causing blocked sewers, flooding, and unpleasant odours for nearby residents.

Complaints from locals and expats have also surged regarding restaurants dumping oils into regular bins, which attract pests and worsen the already dirty conditions.

"These containers will help tackle these problems, clean up the area, and contribute to a healthier environment," Al Moqahwi told The Daily Tribune



"Many restaurant owners irresponsibly dispose of oil by pouring it into drains, causing blocked sewers, flooding, and unpleasant odours for nearby residents."

- DALAL AL MOQAHWI, COUNCIL MEMBER



"Boat owners already have oil disposal containers collected by private companies for recycling. Restaurants should face the same requirement for oil disposal."

- ABDULAZIZ AL NAAR, COUNCIL CHAIRMAN



Restaurants pour used oil down the drains, leading to blockages and offensive odours.

Council chairman Abdulaziz Al Naar backed the proposal, pointing out that boat owners already have oil disposal containers collected by private companies for recycling.

"Restaurants should face the same requirement for oil disposal," he said.

Al Moqahwi warned of the environmental harm caused by restaurants dumping expired oils into pipes, leading to major

blockages.

She also noted oils are often thrown into regular bins, prompting complaints from residents near restaurant-heavy areas.

"By enforcing the use of oil filters and specialised containers, we can not only stop sewer floods but also encourage restaurants to work with companies that recycle the oils for other uses, like lubrication," she said.

Al Moqahwi explained that when complaints arise, Health Ministry inspectors visit restaurants to educate staff on the consequences of improper disposal, including blockages, foul odours, and pest infestations.

"We're planning awareness campaigns for restaurant workers," she said, noting past efforts stressed the dangers of pouring oil down the drain.

The recommendation is now with the Ministry of Municipalities for consideration in the next cleaning contract.

## Former Bahrain Resident Passes Away

TDT | Manama

Sherin Thomas, aged 38, passed away, leaving behind his family and loved ones.

Son of KT Abraham, a member of the Plathanam family of Seethathode in Kerala, India, Sherin's passing has left a deep void in the hearts of those who knew him.

The body will be brought to the house of his maternal uncle, Dr. Varghese Kurian, Chairman of the VKL Holdings and Al Na-



Sherin Thomas

mal Group of Companies, at 4 pm today

From there, it will be taken to his home at 8 am tomorrow (Wednesday), ahead of funeral services.

Sherin will be laid to rest at the Malankara Catholic Church following the service.

He is survived by his mother Rosamma Abraham, his wife Jina, who hails from the Vahaniel family in Mylapra, his daughter Yoan, his sister Reeja, and her husband, Ranjith Thomas, who resides in Bahrain.

## Bowling event to support cancer-hit Filipinos

TDT | manama

Pinay Ikaw Na (PIN) has announced its latest initiative, the Pink Bowling-for-a-Cause, a charity event designed to support fellow Filipinos fighting cancer.

Scheduled on 25 October at the Funland Center, this event promises both a lively and meaningful experience, combining entertainment with significant purpose.

Dinah Sta. Ana, president of PIN, said: "Pink Bowling-for-

a-Cause on its third year is not just a bowling tournament; it represents a collective effort to raise essential funds and awareness for cancer patients."

All proceeds from the event will be directed towards aiding patient with cancer, providing them with crucial resources and care.

For more information or to register, please contact Dinah at 3979 7669 or Marijoy at 3999 8783.

In addition to the bowling

tournament, attendees can enjoy a colourful day featuring Zumba, a sale of delicious Filipino food, and a raffle draw with exciting prizes.

Participants and supporters are encouraged to be a part of this significant event.

With this activity, each strike and spare will contribute to making a tangible difference in the lives of those affected by cancer, uniting the community in a shared mission to support and uplift.

Mark Zuckerberg surpasses Bezos to become world's second richest person



Yusuff Ali M.A., Abu Dhabi based Chairman of LuLu Group

● Billionaires mostly from the US, India and China; Five GCC businessmen also in the list

● Yusuff Ali M.A. is the only Indian businessman in GCC on the list

TDT | Manama

The Bloomberg Billionaires Index, a comprehensive daily ranking of the world's 500 wealthiest individuals, has unveiled notable shifts among its elite.

Elon Musk continues to reign as the richest person globally, with a staggering net worth of 263 billion USD, boosted by a remarkable increase of 6.73 billion.

In a significant develop-

ment, Mark Zuckerberg has surpassed Jeff Bezos to claim the second position, now valued at 211 billion USD after a rise of 4.51 billion.

Jeff Bezos, the founder of Amazon, closely follows with a net worth of 209 billion USD, reflecting a gain of 4.17 billion.

Four prominent GCC citizens are also ranked in the billionaire list. Among them Alwaleed Bin Talal from Saudi Arabia and globally ranked 123rd place with \$17.4B is ranked top among GCC.

This was followed by Sulaiman Al Habib, also from Saudi Arabia with \$11.7B, Abdullah Al Ghurair from UAE with \$9.28B, and Mohammed Al Amoudi from Saudi Arabia \$9.22B.

Yusuff Ali M.A., Abu Dhabi based Chairman of LuLu Group is the only Indian businessman in the GCC to find a place in the list. Ranked 483rd globally, Yusuffali's net worth is US\$ 6.45 billion.

# NBB launches 24/7 USD clearing service

NBB becomes Bahrain's first bank to offer 24/7 USD clearing for payments

● NBB partners with Citi for 24/7 USD clearing

● Enables real-time cross-border transactions anytime

● Enhances efficiency in managing USD inflows and outflows

TDT | Manama

The National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) has become the first bank in Bahrain to offer its customers 24/7 USD Clearing for both incoming and outgoing payments.

The innovative service, developed in partnership with Citi, streamlines the processing of USD transactions, allowing NBB's corporate and retail clients to send and receive US dollar funds at any day and time.

Speaking on the occasion, Ali Abdulkarim, Group Head of Corporate & Commercial Banking at NBB said, "We are pleased to be partnering with Citi to provide this service, which underscores our unwavering focus



on delivering industry-leading solutions that empower our customers. The enhanced service streamlines cross-border transactions, granting our clients unparalleled efficiency and flexibility in managing their USD inflows and outflows— a significant advantage in today's fast-paced global marketplace."

For his part, Emre Umut, TTS Head of Financial Institutions Sales MEA at Citi stated "We are very proud of our long-term re-

lationship with NBB, one of the leading financial institutions in Bahrain. Our collaboration with NBB, exemplifies the way Citi has continued to support the business activities and growth ambitions of clients in Bahrain. Our 24/7 USD Clearing service is a differentiator enabling our clients to serve consumers who demand instant payment capabilities in a faster, efficient and more transparent manner across the world."



NBB becomes one of the first banks in Bahrain to offer 24/7 USD clearing, enabling clients to send and receive US dollar funds at any time, thanks to its partnership with Citi

NBB's implementation of 24/7 USD clearing for incoming and outgoing payments provides its customers with superior agility in managing their cross-border financial operations. This service eliminates the constraints of traditional business hours and time zone differences to ensure faster access to USD funds and improved cash flow management.

The Bank remains committed to continuously enriching its services with best-in-class financial solutions to deliver unparalleled customer experience.

## Wajda Group hosts Cybersecurity Forum



Fru Christians Bill  
TDT | Manama

Wajda Group, in partnership with SOPHOS, successfully hosted a Cybersecurity Forum at Wyndham Grand, uniting CIOs and IT leaders from Bahrain's top organizations.

The event highlighted the latest cyber threats and effective strategies for safeguarding critical systems.



Officials present a certificate to a participant

Wajda Group opened with insights into their ICT services, setting the stage for SOPHOS to present their cutting-edge solutions, including endpoint protection, advanced network security, and AI-driven strategies.

Two industry experts, Fru Christians Bill (CIO-SADAD) and Dr. Mohammad Nass (Board Member of Major Enterprises),

shared valuable practical approaches to proactive defense and AI-enhanced threat detection.

Mohammad Asif (Chief Executive), Mohammed Faisal Ikram (Director) of Wajda Group, and Ravinder (Regional Sales Manager - SOPHOS) presented souvenirs and certificates to Fru Christians Bill and Dr. Mohammad Nass, recognizing

their contributions.

The forum fostered collaboration among IT leaders, offering a unique platform for knowledge sharing and networking. Attendees left empowered with actionable insights to better protect their organizations against future cyberattacks, marking the event as a significant success in strengthening regional cybersecurity efforts.



Officials and attendees pose for a photo

## Batelco offers 7-day free network trial

TDT | Manama

Batelco, part of the Beyon Group, launched an exciting 7-day free mobile network trial, inviting customers to experience the excellence of its network firsthand.

The free trial is conveniently accessible through Batelco's app, where users can easily sign up for a 7-day trial obtaining a temporary eSim, with no hidden fees or long-term commitment.

After experiencing the network, customers can subscribe to any of the available postpaid or prepaid plans via the mobile app.

This initiative comes in line with Batelco's recent recognition in the latest TRA Quality of Mobile Network Experience report. The recognition reflects Batelco's continuous enhancements of the customer experience across multiple touchpoints, including improving network performance, investing in robust infrastructure, and adopting cutting-edge technologies.

Batelco has consistently upheld its leadership in delivering 100% 5G network coverage for 4 consecutive years, successfully expanding its network reach throughout all regions of Bahrain. Furthermore, Batelco's 5G network speeds have surpassed 3.3 Gbps for the first time in the Kingdom's mobile industry.



Rashed Mohamed, Batelco Chief Technology Officer stated, "We are extremely pleased with the results from the TRA Benchmark, which serve as a testament of our commitment to delivering best-in-class services to our customers. Batelco proudly achieved an Excellent Rating of 19 out of 20 in Quality of Experience (QoE) KPIs."

Rashed Mohamed further noted Batelco's appreciation to the TRA, "We would also like to extend our gratitude to the TRA for fostering a supportive environment that encourages mobile operators to innovate continuously, driving the Kingdom to the forefront of technological leadership and innovation," he added.

Aseel Mattar, Batelco GM of Consumer, stated, "Having achieved these great results, we believe the best way to demonstrate the quality of our network is by enabling everyone to experience it personally. So, we have introduced a 7-day free trial to provide everyone with the chance to test our network and evaluate its quality for themselves. This initiative is the first of its kind in Bahrain, showcasing our confidence in the services we offer."

QUOTE OF THE DAY  
THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT TAKING A PLOW AND BREAKING NEW GROUND. IT GIVES YOU ENERGY  
KEN KESEY

TODAY IN HISTORY

1769

Captain James Cook lands in New Zealand for the first time, near present-day Gisborne at Poverty Bay on the East Coast of the North Island



1856

The Second Opium War or second Anglo-Chinese War: begins with the Arrow Incident on the Pearl River

1945

Microwave oven patented by US inventor Percy Spencer

2001

US President George W. Bush announces the establishment of the Office of Homeland Security

News in brief

Tunisia's President Saied set for landslide election win  
President Kais Saied was poised yesterday to win Tunisia's election by a huge margin, though low voter turnout reflected widespread discontent in the cradle of the Arab Spring pro-democracy uprisings. Three years after Saied staged a sweeping power grab, rights groups fear his re-election will entrench his grip on power in the only democracy to emerge from the 2011 protests. Exit polls showed Saied, 66, expected to rout his challengers with 89 percent of the vote.

Mexico mayor murdered days after taking office  
The mayor of a city in southern Mexico has been murdered less than a week after taking office, authorities said Sunday, the latest in a series of attacks on politicians in the violence-plagued Latin American country. The killing of Chilpancingo mayor Alejandro Arcos "fills us with indignation," Guerrero state governor Evelyn Salgado wrote on social media, without providing further details of the circumstances. Local media reported that Arcos was decapitated, but there has been no official confirmation.

Florida orders evacuations as Hurricane Milton strengthens  
Survivors of deadly Hurricane Helene along the Florida coast were ordered to evacuate again yesterday as authorities warned another major storm was building into a Category 3 and would cause "devastating damage". Relief workers in the area are still racing to find survivors in the aftermath of Helene, which killed more than 225 people across a handful of states. Storm surge warnings were issued once again for parts of Florida as Milton, currently a Category 1, approached with winds of 100 miles (161 kilometers) an hour, the US National Hurricane Center said in its latest advisory yesterday.

CURIOSER & CURIOSER

Weather may delay launch of mission to study deflected asteroid



NASA's Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART) mission just before its closest approach to the Dimorphos asteroid

Stormy weather has threatened to delay the launch of Europe's Hera spacecraft, which is scheduled to blast off yesterday, SpaceX has said. The probe will head off on a mission to inspect the damage a NASA spacecraft did to an asteroid when it smashed into it in 2022 during the first test of Earth's planetary defenses. The Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART) deliberately crashed into the pyramid-sized asteroid Dimorphos roughly 11 million kilometers (6.8 million miles) from Earth. The fridge-sized spacecraft successfully knocked the asteroid well off course, demonstrating that humanity may no longer be powerless against potentially planet-killing asteroids that could head our way in the future. But much about the impact remains unknown, including how much damage was done and exactly what the asteroid was like before it was hit. So the European Space Agency (ESA) says it is sending Hera to the asteroid to conduct a "crime scene investigation" in the hopes of learning how Earth can best fend off future asteroids. The spacecraft was scheduled to blast off on a Space Falcon 9 rocket from Cape Canaveral in the US state of Florida at 10:52 am local time (1452 GMT) yesterday. However, thunderstorms have been forecast in the launch area. SpaceX said on Sunday that the weather is currently only 15 percent favourable for a launch. If a delay is required, a back-up launch is planned for Tuesday 10:46 am local time, SpaceX said. The launch window for the mission will remain open until October 27. The launch had also faced a potential delay due to an anomaly involving a Falcon 9 rocket during the launch of SpaceX's Crew-9 astronaut mission late last month. But on Sunday, the US Federal Aviation Administration gave the green light.

# West Bank rally marks Hamas attack

Protesters march on the anniversary of Hamas's attack, showing solidarity with regional resistance groups

- Protesters waved Hamas and Hezbollah flags
- Chants supported various resistance groups
- Some praised October 7 attack as transformative

AFP | Washington

Waving Hamas flags and carrying portraits of slain Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah, hundreds rallied in support of the Palestinian struggle in the occupied West Bank city of Ramallah yesterday, the first anniversary of Hamas's attack on Israel. About 400 Palestinian protesters of all ages and representing various political factions marched in the de-facto Palestinian capital, which is controlled by long-time Hamas rival the Palestinian Authority, an AFP correspondent reported. Activists organised the rally on the first anniversary of Hamas's unprecedented attack on Israel under the slogan "we will not lose faith in the revolution".



Protesters carry Lebanese flags during a rally to mark the anniversary of Palestinian militant group Hamas's October 7, attack on Israel, in Ramallah in the occupied West Bank. Beyond the characteristic yellow and green flags of the Lebanese armed group Hezbollah and of the Palestinian Islamist movement Hamas, protesters also waved the flags of Lebanon, Iraq, Iran Islamic Resistance in Iraq and Yemen. Hezzbollah, as well as the pro-radically fired rockets and missiles at Israel since the start of the Gaza war.

YOU KNOW WHAT  
A coffin-shaped box labeled "International Law" was displayed at the rally, symbolizing protesters' frustration with these institutions

Demonstrators also chanted "salute from Ramallah to Hezbollah soldiers", and "put the sword against the sword, we are the men of Mohammed Deif", in reference to Hamas's military chief. Israel says it killed Deif -- nicknamed "the cat with nine lives" -- in a strike in July, which Hamas denies. Other participants held up a box shaped like a coffin that bore the words "International Law" on its sides. "We came to remember our martyrs, wish recovery for our wounded, and congratulate the resistance (to Israel), whether Palestinian, Lebanese, Iraqi, or Yemeni, for their struggles over the past year," Jamila Johar told AFP, saying he was "hoping for victory". Others praised Hamas's October 7 attack on Israel outright. "We came to raise our voices and say that the Palestinian struggle continues, and that the 7th of October took us from a phase of humiliation to a phase of dignity and pride," said a man who spoke on the condition of anonymity for security reasons. Similarly, Afaf Ghatasha, who identified herself simply as a member of the Palestinian People's Party, said October 7 "changed the course of the Palestinian cause, the region, and the world." "We came to say that the world will not find stability until the occupation ends and a Palestinian state is established," she added. The Israeli military has been fighting against Hamas in Gaza since its unprecedented attack on Israel a year ago, resulting in the deaths of 1,206 people, most of them civilians, according to an AFP tally based on official Israeli figures. Israel's retaliatory military offensive in Gaza has killed at least 41,909 people, the majority of them civilians, according to figures provided by the Hamas-run territory's health ministry.

## Cash-strapped Maldives leader in India to repair frail ties



India's President Droupadi Murmu (2R) poses alongside her Maldives counterpart Mohamed Muizzu (2L) and his wife Sajidha Mohamed during Muizzu's ceremonial reception

AFP | New Delhi  
Maldives President Mohamed Muizzu was given a red carpet welcome on his first state visit to India yesterday, a trip Prime Minister Narendra Modi said marked a "new chapter" to reset troubled ties. Muizzu came to power a year ago on a promise to evict dozens of Indian troops deployed in his small but strategically located archipelago. India yesterday rolled out a financial support to bolster Male's struggling economy, with Muizzu and Modi discussing "energy, trade, financial linkages and defence cooperation", India's foreign ministry said. "Your visit is a new chapter in our ties," Modi told Muizzu, who was given an honour guard including cavalry and a marching band. "India will always be there for the progress and prosperity of the people of Maldives." Muizzu, 46, in a speech alongside Modi that included the virtual inauguration of an Indian-supported airport runway and social housing, said he had held "extensive discussions... charting a path for the future collaboration between our two countries". He also thanked India for budgetary support "instrumental in addressing foreign exchange issues", including a 30 billion rupee (\$357 million) and \$400 million currency swap agreement. India will also develop the commercial port at Thilafushi to ease the congested port at the island capital Male, and the two nations will begin talks on a potential free trade agreement.

## US duo win Nobel for gene regulation breakthrough



Nobel Committee Secretary General Thomas Perlmann speaks to the media in front of a picture of this year's laureates Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun during the announcement of the winners

AFP | Stockholm  
US scientists Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun won the Nobel Prize in Medicine yesterday for their discovery of microRNA and its role in how genes are regulated, solving a decades-old mystery, the Nobel Assembly at Sweden's Karolinska Institute said. If gene regulation goes awry, it can lead to serious diseases such as cancer, diabetes, or autoimmune illnesses. "Their groundbreaking discovery revealed a completely new principle of gene regulation that turned out to be essential for multicellular organisms, including humans," the jury said. Ruvkun said he was shocked to win the prestigious prize. "It's quite a sea change," the 72-year-old professor at Harvard Medical School told AFP after receiving the news in a call from the prize committee in the early hours of yesterday. "I've won other awards in the past, but those were very quiet in comparison." "There's already been TV crews and photographers, and 300 email messages from friends!" he said, as his dog barked at the front door with more reporters arriving. Ruvkun shared that he and Ambros are "buddies" and had a congratulatory video call that morning. "We just FaceTimed to high-five. We've been friends for years." Ruvkun told Swedish public radio SR he looked forward to the Nobel gala banquet on December 10 in Stockholm, where the laureates will receive their prizes from the hands of Sweden's King Carl XVI Gustaf.

## Blast kills two Chinese workers in Pakistan's biggest city



Security officials examine the site of an explosion which occurred near Karachi airport in Karachi

AFP | Karachi  
A massive blast that targeted a convoy of Chinese engineers and investors' coming from Karachi's international airport. Karachi borders Balochistan province, the largest but poorest region of the country, where billions of dollars have been funnelled into transport, energy and infrastructure projects as part of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). The BLA is waging a war of independence against the state, which it accuses of permitting unfair exploitation of resources by outsiders in the mineral-rich region. In August, it carried out coordinated attacks across Balochistan that killed dozens of mostly Punjabis, the largest ethnic group in Pakistan, who were working in the region.

Legal Viewpoint

## Let the buyer beware



DR. ABDELGADIR WARSAMA GHALIB, LEGAL COUNSEL  
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TOP 4 TWEETS

01



I am delighted to welcome President Dr. Mohamed Muizzu to India. During our talks today, we discussed ways to improve economic linkages, connectivity, cultural connect and also cooperation in sectors like climate change, water resources, agriculture, fisheries and more. @MMuizzu

02



It was a pleasure to show @TheOPECFund's Abdulhamid Alkhalifa around @IAEAorg's Seibersdorf labs today. These labs play a key role in tackling global challenges like health, food, energy, or climate. Together with the OPEC Fund, we are co-operating to address these issues.

03



Every time I meet with families of Oct. 7 2023 hostages, or with released hostages themselves, I am reminded of how violence and conflict take such a terrible toll on civilians. The best medicine is peace. Let the hostages go. @DrTedros

04



I first got elected to the United States Senate as a 29-year-old kid because of the United Farm Workers in southern Delaware who were organized by Cesar Chavez. Here I stand, 50 years later, as your president, honored to celebrate the heritage of the Hispanic community. @POTUS

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

The issue of consumer protection, is very important from legal perspective particularly with reference to business contracts because most of these contracts relate to sale of goods needed by consumers. There are many legal principles governing this aspect. However, in this connection we refer to one of the legal doctrines which has been taken from the Roman legal principles. This important legal doctrine is "caveat emptor, or, let the buyer beware" and applies exclusively on sale of goods contracts. A type of contract that we, as consumers, need to live with everyday many times.

A sale of goods contract is generally defined as "a contract by which the seller transfers or agrees to transfer the property in goods to the buyer for a money consideration called the price." This definition in fact applies to all types of goods, being big consignment or small units. Goods needed by wholesale merchants or consumers.

Legal speaking, we have to note that it is not necessary, in all cases, to observe and maintain complex formalities to create a contract for the sale of goods. The general rules related to contracts, such as the offer by one party and the acceptance by another party and the payment of the consideration agreed upon between the contracting parties, apply to sale of goods contracts.

Sale of goods contract could be in writing, verbal, partly in writing and partly verbal or even could be implied from the conduct of the parties. There is an implied condition, on the part of the seller, that in case of a sale the seller has a right to sell the goods. In case of agreement to sell, the seller should have the right to sell when the property is to pass to the buyer immediately.

If the seller cannot pass goods to the buyer for any reason, then he will be liable for breach of a condition. A contract for sale of goods, normally, implies many warranties. The warranties include, the goods are free from any charges of encumbrances, or in other words they are free from any sort of third party rights, not made known to the buyer before concluding the contract and that the buyer will enjoy quiet possession.

In case the contract for the sale of goods is by description, there is an implied condition that the goods will correspond with the description if the buyer does not see the goods before he buys them, for example, from a mail order catalogue or through correspondence form the internet, in such examples, we could clearly say that there has been sale of goods by description.

Electronic commerce through the internet is a good example for sale of goods by description, in this connection it is important to mention that The International Chamber of Commerce and others are working hard to regularize e-commerce including sale of goods via the internet.

The description of the goods may cover many matters such as size, quality, quantity, weight, ingredients, origin or even how they are to be packed. All such implied conditions are to apply in sale of goods.

(The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Daily Tribune)









# Man City and Premier League both claim victory in legal case

Manchester City challenge commercial deal rules; tribunal issues mixed ruling

● **City disputes Premier League's APT rules on commercial deals**

● **Tribunal backs rules' legitimacy but agrees on some unfair aspects**

● **Premier League maintains APT rules needed for competition fairness**

AFP | London

Manchester City and the Premier League both claimed victory yesterday after the champions challenged the English top flight's rules on commercial deals.

City launched legal action against the associated party transaction (APT) rules earlier this year on the grounds they were anti-competitive.

The APT rules are designed to ensure commercial deals with



Manchester City's Croatian midfielder #08 Mateo Kovacic (C) celebrates after a goal

entities linked to a club's owners reflect fair market value.

The case is separate from an

ongoing hearing involving City, with the club fighting 115 charges relating to alleged breaches of

Manchester City's

Premier League financial rules. The Premier League said yesterday that City were "unsuc-



**Manchester City claimed the tribunal declared Premier League's APT rules "structurally unfair" in certain transactions, granting partial victory to both sides**

cessful in the majority of (their) challenge" and that the tribunal considering the case had determined the APT rules were necessary and pursued a legitimate objective.

But City released a statement saying the tribunal had declared the APT rules "unlawful" and that the league had abused a dominant position under competition law.

The Premier League said the tribunal had supported the le-

gitimacy of the regulations and said it had found them essential to make the profitability and sustainability rules (PSR) effective.

It said the tribunal had agreed with the Premier League that if a transaction was evidently not at fair market value, that would distort competition within the league.

The league also said the panel had rejected City's argument that the purpose of the rules was to discriminate against clubs with ownership from the Gulf region.

The Premier League said the panel found in favour of City in "two respects only" -- that shareholder loans should not be excluded from APT rules and that a "limited number of amendments" to the APT rules made earlier should not be retained.

Manchester City said the panel found the APT rules were "structurally unfair" and that the panel had set aside specific decisions of the Premier League to restate the fair market value of two transactions entered into by the club.

## Sanath Jayasuriya named as full-time Sri Lanka cricket head coach

AFP | Colombo

Sanath Jayasuriya was appointed Sri Lanka cricket head coach yesterday, replacing Chris Silverwood who quit following the country's early exit from the T20 World Cup.

Jayasuriya, 55, had been in interim charge since June and yesterday was appointed full-time coach until March 2026 after recent successes, which included a Test match win in England and a home 2-0 Test series sweep against New Zealand.

Sri Lanka also won a one-day international series against India for the first time in 27 years under Jayasuriya.

The former Sri Lanka captain said his appointment was a dream come true.

"It is a challenging job, I know that... but I want to take the challenge and move forward



Sri Lanka's head coach Sanath Jayasuriya (2R) attends a practice session

with the team," he told reporters in Colombo.

"There are no words for me to express my happiness".

His immediate challenge is to prepare his players for three

ODIS and three T20s against the visiting West Indies starting next week.

"The boys will need a lot of trust with the coach and confidence with the coach," Jayas-

**It is a challenging job, I know that... but I want to take the challenge and move forward with the team. There are no words for me to express my happiness**

SANATH JAYASURIYA

uriya said.

"Anytime they can approach me, and discuss anything with me."

He said he was at an advantage over foreign coaches because he could talk to players in their native language.

He is regarded as one of the greatest one-day international batsmen of all time and was pivotal in Sri Lanka's 1996 World Cup victory.

## Barca hoping to return to Camp Nou 'by end of year'

AFP | Barcelona

Barcelona are hoping to return to their legendary Camp Nou stadium, currently undergoing modernisation and expansion work, "by the end of the year", club spokesperson Elena Fort said yesterday.

The Catalan giants' construction roadmap was presented to the press yesterday, with officials insisting the club was "actively working" to return to the Camp Nou "by the end of the year" with an initial 62,000 capacity, instead of the 105,000 planned at the end of the work.

The stadium should be completed in the summer of 2026, when the project dubbed "Espai Barça" will be finished and the stadium roof installed.

Barcelona fans will be able in the coming days to register to



Construction work underway at Barcelona's Camp Nou stadium

buy a six-month partial season ticket for the latter part of the campaign.

Work on the Camp Nou got underway in June 2023 but was slowed over permit complications and complaints over working conditions.

As a result Barca requested to extend their contract for the use of the Montjuic Olympic stadium "until March 31, 2025, as a precaution".

## Naomi Osaka pulls out of Japan Open with back injury

AFP | Tokyo

Four-time Grand Slam champion Naomi Osaka yesterday pulled out of her home Japan Open next week because of an injury that caused her to retire from the China Open in Beijing.

"Due to injury, Naomi Osaka will not participate" in the WTA 250 tournament in the city of Osaka from October 14-20, the Japan Tennis Association said in a statement.

The 26-year-old former world number one looked in good touch as she recorded three wins at the China Open in Beijing last week.

But in her last-16 match,



Naomi Osaka in action

against eventual champion Coco Gauff, Osaka retired at the end of the second set because of a back injury.

"So I locked my back up during practice earlier and honestly wasn't sure if I could even play but I just wanted to try," she said on social media.

"Unfortunately things just got progressively worse during the match."

Osaka's last WTA tournament appearance in her home country was a fleeting one, two years ago at the Pan Pacific Open in Tokyo.

She won a first-round match after one game when opponent Daria Saville retired.



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# Masood, Abdullah centuries lift Pakistan in first England Test

Pakistan posts 328-4, thanks to stunning centuries from Shan Masood and Abdullah Shafique

● Masood scores 151, first century in 4 years

● Shafique returns to form with 102

TDT | Manama

**S**kipper Shan Masood and opener Abdullah Shafique both cracked centuries as Pakistan scored an impressive 328-4 on the opening day of the first Test against England in Multan yesterday.

Masood's brilliant 151 was his first hundred for four years, while Shafique also returned to form with 102 as the pair put on a solid 253-run stand for the second wicket after Pakistan won the toss and batted.

England, led by Ollie Pope in the absence of the injured Ben Stokes, briefly fought back when they removed both Masood and Shafique in the space of just two runs in the third session.

The visitors then took the second new ball at 308-3 and dismissed Babar Azam, trapped



Shan Masood takes the aerial route on the first day at Multan

leg-before by fast bowler Chris Woakes for 30. Saud Shakeel was unbeaten on 35 at the close of play, with nightwatchman Naseem Shah yet to score.

England's attack toiled hard in the Multan heat, with fast bowler Gus Atkinson the most successful with 2-70. Woakes and spinner Jack Leach both took a wicket each.

Masood had been under pressure to make runs, with his last hundred coming against the same opponents at Manchester in 2020 -- 14 Tests and 27 innings ago.

He pushed Woakes for a single to complete his fifth Test hundred off just 102 balls with two sixes and 13 fours in a dominant display of batting.

Shafique was equally assured as the pair made England's three-pronged pace attack and two spinners toil on a batting-friendly pitch.

"Thanks to the management that they backed me in my lean phase," he said.

"I am happy that I have contributed today. As a batting unit, we have done well but we still need to carry on tomorrow,"



Shafique said.

'Pretty happy'

Assistant coach Jeetan Patel was satisfied with the hard work put in by England's bowlers.

"The toil the bowlers put in today was great," said former New Zealand spinner Patel. "They tried different things to take wickets, with different fields."

"We are pretty happy with what we have ended up with. We would have liked them six down or all out but it's a sub-continental pitch."

England took a wicket in the fourth over when Atkinson forced opener Saim Ayub to glove a shorter ball down the leg side to wicketkeeper Jamie Smith with the total on eight.

The visitors thought they had a second when pace bowler Brydon Carse, on debut, trapped Masood in front on 16 and umpire Kumar Dharmasena gave him out.

However, a review showed the ball had pitched outside the leg stump.

Masood went on the attack against Shoaib Bashir, hitting the off-spinner for four boundaries before two more off Atkinson took him to his 11th Test fifty.

Shafique survived being run out on 34 when Pope missed the stumps with his diving throw with the batsman well short of his ground. He smashed two fours and a six off Bashir to reach his sixth Test half-century.

Both teams picked three fast bowlers and two spinners, hoping that the pitch would offer new-ball help to the seamers before taking spin later in the match.

## Fritz wins delayed match to reach Shanghai Masters third round

AFP | Shanghai

**W**orld number seven Taylor Fritz finally made it into the third round of the Shanghai Masters yesterday, two days after his match against France's Terence Atmane had been suspended because of rain.

Resuming at 4-3 in the first set, Fritz defeated 161st-ranked Atmane 7-6 (7/4), 7-6 (7/5).

"I thought he played really well and if I wasn't on top of my game... I definitely could have lost that match," said Fritz.

"I just stayed with it, and played solid in a lot of the big moments."

Fritz will next face Japanese qualifier Yosuke Watanuki.

World number 10 Grigor Dimitrov also managed to finish a delayed match yesterday, beating Belgium's Zizou Bergs 6-3,



Taylor Fritz in action

3-6, 6-2 and the Bulgarian will meet Australia's Alexei Popyrin in the third round.

"It's been very challenging the last couple of days," Dimitrov said.

"But we just have to make the most out of what we have."

American Frances Tiafoe ended Chinese hopes when he defeated Zhou Yi 6-2, 6-4.

"(Zhou) played a good match,

**”**  
I thought he played really well and if I wasn't on top of my game... I definitely could have lost that match

TAYLOR FRITZ

obviously it seemed pretty one-sided, but the second set was very tough," said Tiafoe after beating the last home player remaining in the draw.

In the third round, Tiafoe will meet Russian Roman Safiullin, who he called a "super dark horse".

"He can beat a lot of guys... He's had an up-and-down season, but he's capable," said Tiafoe.

## Italian Classics continue with Tre Valli Varesine



Team Bahrain rider Italy's Damiano Caruso celebrates after a race (file photo)

AFP | Rome

**A**fter the Giro dell'Emilia on Saturday, Bahrain Victorious have stayed in Italy for the next Autumn Italian Classic from the UCI ProSeries: the Tre Valli Varesine, scheduled for Tuesday, October 8th. The race will start in Busto Arsizio and finish according to tradition on the Via Sacco in Varese, after covering nearly 200 km.

The squad remains largely unchanged from the Giro dell'Emilia, where they faced a hilly course in such difficult conditions that only 53 riders managed to finish. The one change is the addition of Santiago Buitrago, who comes in for Nikias Arndt. The Colombian climber will make his debut

in this demanding race that is seen as the perfect preparation 'Il Lombardia' next Saturday. Along with others who have high hopes for the final monument of the year, Buitrago will use Tuesday as a final warm up for 'The Race of the Falling Leaves'.

Bahrain Victorious' last appearance at the Tre Valli Varesine was in 2019, with Damiano Caruso securing a 9th-place finish. Caruso returns this year as the team's road captain, on the back of a strong performance at the Giro dell'Emilia. TBV has consistently performed well in this race, achieving top-ten results in all three of its participations, including a podium finish in 2017 with Vincenzo Nibali.

## Deschamps delight as 'light back on' for Pogba after doping ban

AFP | Paris

**F**rance coach Didier Deschamps yesterday welcomed the news that there was light at the end of the tunnel for midfielder Paul Pogba after a doping ban.

On Friday, French international Pogba learned that his four-year ban for doping had been reduced to 18 months by the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

"There is this light that turns on again," said Deschamps on the French Football Federation

(FFF) website.

"He will have stages to go through but it is excellent news. He will be able to play again from March."

The 91-times capped World Cup winner tested positive for testosterone in August 2023 after a match between Juventus and Udinese in Italy.

Pogba blamed a food supplement prescribed by a doctor he consulted in the United States for the

positive test.

He was provisionally suspended in September of the same year, and then banned for four years by the Italian National Anti-Doping Tribunal the following February.

The 31-year-old can now hope to return to the French team in 2025.

"I spoke to

him for quite a long time on the phone as this whole period has been very complicated for him," said Deschamps, also referring to "the injuries, plus the private problems he had (a case of blackmail against him notably involving one of his brothers), plus this suspension".

"It still remains a sanction which is heavy, less heavy," added Deschamps, but Pogba "knows that in March 2025, he will become a player again and as he loves football and playing so much, it is excellent news for him".