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Talks on fiscal and labour reforms



His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, chaired the 487th Government Executive Committee meeting yesterday. The session included updates on the Fiscal Balance Program, future financial sustainability goals, proposed enhancements to labour market regulations, and discussions on civil aviation sector matters.

Yunus sworn in as Bangladesh interim leader



Yunus takes the oath of office. (AFP)

AFP | Dhaka

Nobel Peace Prize winner Muhammad Yunus was sworn into office yesterday as Bangladesh's interim leader, vowing to guide the country back to democracy after a student-led uprising ended the 15-year rule of Sheikh Hasina.

Yunus, who only returned home hours earlier, swore to "uphold, support and protect the constitution", in front of political and civil society leaders, generals and diplomats at the presidential palace.

"Today is a glorious day for us," Yunus, 84, told reporters when he returned to Dhaka from Europe.

(Detailed report on World Page)

Job bonanza

12,555 Bahrainis employed in first half of 2024 representing 63% of annual target

8,637 citizens trained in collaboration with Tamkeen: Humaidan

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

The Minister of Labour, His Excellency Jameel Humaidan, affirmed that the growth of the business sector in Bahrain has contributed to providing more promising opportunities for citizens.

He noted that the government, under the leadership of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, has succeeded in enhancing economic diversification and attracting new investments across various economic, commercial, and service sectors.

Humaidan emphasised that a key objective of the government is to ensure not only the availability of job opportunities for citizens but also the security of

these positions and the potential for career progression.

The widening and diversification of the labour market, as noted by Humaidan, have enabled more Bahrainis to secure employment, reflecting the government's attention to linking economic progress with tangible benefits for its people.

In a statement following a Cabinet review of labour market data from the first half of 2024, Humaidan reported that 12,555 Bahrainis found jobs between January and June.

This figure represents 63% of the annual target set by the Economic Recovery Plan, which aims to employ 20,000 citizens each year.

Government expectations

The employment rate is progressing in line with government expectations, particularly those set out in the National Labour Market Plan for 2023-2026.

Humaidan also revealed that 4,398 of those employed were entering the workforce for the first time, constituting 35% of

Bahrain's efforts to attract foreign investments are expected to further expand employment opportunities in the future

H.E. JAMEEL HUMAIDAN, MINISTER OF LABOUR



the total.

This marks a slight increase from the previous year, where first-time job seekers made up 30% of new hires.

Employment services

The remaining 65% comprised individuals with prior work experience, who benefited from the Ministry's employment services, including job fairs, training programmes, unemployment insurance, and wage support initiatives.

rain's efforts to attract foreign investments are expected to further expand employment opportunities in the future.

Training

In terms of training, 8,637 citizens participated in basic and professional training programmes in collaboration with the Labour Fund (Tamkeen) during the first half of the year.

This represents a 19% increase compared to the same period in 2023 and accounts for 86% of the annual training target set by the Economic Recovery Plan. Additionally, 1,395 citizens received on-the-job training.

The Minister praised employers for their cooperation with the Ministry's initiatives aimed at integrating citizens into the private sector.

He urged continued collaboration and encouraged employers to make the most of the incentives offered by the government to ensure that Bahrainis remain the preferred choice for employment in the country's labour market.

Boosting bilateral ties

Bahrain, Kuwait sign tourism cooperation deal

TDT | Manama

Her Excellency Fatima bint Jaafar Al Sairafi, Minister of Tourism, has underscored the importance of advancing cooperation between Bahrain and Kuwait to achieve more integrated horizons in various fields.

Also Chairperson of the Bahrain Exhibition and Tourism Authority (BETA), Al Sairafi highlighted the strong bonds uniting the two countries, founded on a history of brotherhood and guided by the vision and directives of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, and the Amir of Kuwait, His Highness Sheikh Mishal Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah.

The tourism cooperation agreement for 2024-2026 aims to enhance collaboration in tourism promotion, marketing, and activation.

It seeks to develop cooperative opportunities that reflect the strong ties between the nations, encouraging entrepreneurs and investment firms in both countries to establish joint tourism projects.

The agreement also focuses on promoting tourism-ready investment opportunities and coordinating the exchange of legislation and regulations related to tourism and hotel activities.

Al Sairafi reiterated Bahrain's commitment to strengthening Gulf cooperation to boost in-



H.E. Fatima bint Jaafar Al Sairafi and her Kuwaiti counterpart show the agreement

ter-tourism, creating a comprehensive regional tourism system that enhances its contribution to the GDP.

She noted that the GCC countries are vital tourism markets as outlined in the Tourism Strategy 2022-2026, and the agreement with Kuwait supports this strategy's objectives and unifies efforts to develop the tourism sector in collaboration with the private sector.

The minister affirmed Bahrain's dedication to launching joint tourism packages celebrating Gulf identity, especially with Manama being selected as the Gulf Tourism Capital for 2024.

She said Bahrain will continue promoting tourism exchange.



Foundation of thriving nation

HRH Prince Salman hails national workforce as key to ensuring present and bright future

TDI | Manama

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, affirmed that the national workforce is the foundation on which Bahrain's prosperous present and bright future is built.

HRH Prince Salman was speaking as he met yesterday with the ninth intake of the Prime Minister's Fellowship Program, at Gudaibiya Palace.

The Minister of Finance and National Economy, HE Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, also attended the meeting.

His Royal Highness highlighted that the ongoing development and qualification of the national workforce stems from a firm belief in the importance of investing in human resources.

This investment enhances workforce efficiency, contrib-



HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister meets with the ninth intake of the Prime Minister's Fellowship Program



Investing in the national workforce is an investment in Bahrain's future."

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE SALMAN BIN HAMAD AL KHALIFA, THE CROWN PRINCE AND PRIME MINISTER

uting to the nation's growth and accomplishments, and supports the goals of the Kingdom's comprehensive development, led by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

Achievements

HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister commended the

achievements made within the national work process, attributing them to the efforts of the people of Bahrain in all fields.

His Royal Highness noted the tireless efforts, dedication, persistence, and sense of responsibility demonstrated by the ninth intake of the Prime Minister's Fellowship.

He highlighted that the members of Team Bahrain, who dedicate their efforts and creativity to serving the Kingdom of Bahrain, are a source of pride and inspiration for continued development and growth, noting that investing in the national workforce is an investment in Bahrain's future.

Determination and ambition

HRH Prince Salman noted that the successes and achievements of Team Bahrain reflect their determination and ambition to create a prosperous future for the Kingdom.

The members of the ninth batch of the Prime Minister's Fellowship Program expressed

their gratitude for His Royal Highness's commitment to supporting and developing the Kingdom's workforce and enhancing their contributions to the Kingdom's development.

The Fellows also emphasised their determination to achieve further progress and prosperity for the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Landscape facelift plans draw keen bids

TDI | Manama

Three projects aimed at enhancing public spaces have captured attention, according to the Tender Board yesterday.

Two of these efforts are managed by the Northern Area Municipality, while the third falls under the purview of the Capital Municipality.

The first tender from the Northern Municipality targets the renovation and upgrade of Shakhoora Garden. A total of 13 firms have shown interest in this project.

The scope of work includes the installation of solar lighting and shade structures, the refurbishment of existing buildings, new play equipment, CCTV cameras, specialised flooring, and the construction of service buildings.

Al Bader Towers Contracting came in with the most economical bid at BD35,446,400, with Inter Lock Maintenance Construction putting forward the highest bid of BD84,233,600.

Another tender from the Northern Area Municipality centres on maintaining soft landscaping in gardens and along roads in the northern regions.

The contract stipulates that all gardening staff must be fully



Public playgrounds are set for major upgrade

equipped with tools, uniforms, and safety gear. The contractor chosen will need to demonstrate flexibility in labour deployment to meet varying demands.

The work is to be carried out in line with the Standard Specification for Soft Landscaping, Parks, and Beautification Directorate.

Lowest bid

Sayed Kadhem Al Durazi & Sons came in with the lowest bid at BD614,015,600, while Kingdom Landscape put down the highest at BD2,567,179,340, out of 10 bids received.

The third project, issued by the Capital Municipality, deals

with the operation and upkeep of gardens, walkways, and public squares within its area of responsibility.

Eleven companies are in the running for this contract, with Al Asayel General Trading offering the lowest bid of BD318,261,162, and Symmetry Construction and Trading submitting the highest at BD1,229,850,000.

This contract, spanning 48 months, will require the contractor to see to the maintenance of soft landscapes, irrigation systems, hardscapes, pumps, and toilets and ensure the general cleanliness of garden areas and facilities, according to the tender's specifications.

Broader strategy

These projects are part of a broader strategy to enhance public spaces in the northern and capital regions, ensuring they are well-maintained and accessible.

The Tender Board's announcement marks the beginning of a process where the most appropriate contractors will be chosen to execute these plans.

Each proposal will be carefully evaluated on both technical and financial grounds, bearing in mind that the lowest bid is not guaranteed to win the contract.

Promoting domestic tourism will bolster Kingdom's economy

Mohammed Darwish
TDI | Manama

Breathing new life into Bahrain's tourism sector involves a strategic focus on promoting domestic tourism.

This approach is essential for revitalising the local economy by supporting small investors.

HE Abdulnabi Salman, First Deputy Speaker, has prioritised this initiative, calling for a streamlined licensing process for unlicensed swimming pools and rest houses in Buri.

His goal is to attract more local visitors and boost the economy.

Mr. Salman explained that granting licenses to these facilities would help organise tourism activities while ensuring health and safety standards.

Public trust

This move aims to build public trust, provide recreational options, and drive the growth of domestic tourism.

He highlighted that simplifying the licensing process would assist pool and rest



Supporting domestic tourism aligns with a broader strategy to enhance the national economy and achieve sustainable development

HE ABDULNABI SALMAN, FIRST DEPUTY SPEAKER

house owners in expanding their businesses, leading to job creation and increased tourism spending.

Mr. Salman noted that supporting domestic tourism aligns with a broader strategy to enhance the national economy and achieve sustainable development.

Indian ambassador takes part in budget discussions

TDI | Manama

H.E. Mr. Vinod K Jacob, Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Bahrain participated in the discussions on the highlights of the Indian Budget 2024-25 organized by State Bank of India (SBI).

The discussions centered on the presentation by Dr. Soumya Kanti Ghosh, Group Chief Economic Adviser, SBI.

In his remarks, Ambassador Jacob recalled his close collaboration with SBI during his

tenure as Deputy High Commissioner in Colombo in implementation of the US\$1 billion line of credit for Sri Lanka in 2022 to 23 - an important demonstration of the successful cooperation between the diplomatic and financial verticals in pursuit of Neighbourhood First policy. Ambassador Jacob said that the Indian budget is keenly watched in Bahrain.

The headline economic growth figure of 8 percent provides immense opportunities for both sides.

Bahrain-India relations



His Excellency Dr. Abdulatif bin Rashid Al Zayani, Minister of Foreign Affairs, received H.E. Vinod Kurian Jacob, Ambassador of India to Bahrain. The meeting reviewed the strong historical Bahraini-Indian relations. The two sides discussed means to enhance bilateral cooperation across different domains to serve mutual interests. They addressed regional developments and their impact on regional security and stability, as well as several topics of mutual interest.

MP commends resumption of cochlear implant programme

TDT | Manama

MP Jalila Alawi has praised the recent completion of cochlear implant surgeries at Salmaniya Medical Complex, a development that, she notes, reflects the tangible progress within Bahrain's public health-care system.

This progress has been steered under the guidance of Health Minister H.E. Jaleela Al Sayed and Dr Maryam Al Jalahma, the Chief Executive of Government Hospitals.

Their efforts are directed towards enhancing the overall standard of medical services across the Kingdom.

Alawi also recognised the efforts of professionals behind the cochlear implant programme, particularly Dr Hazem Al A'Ali, General Director of Surgical Services, and Dr Maryam Sahwan, Chairperson of the ENT and Maxillofacial Surgery Department and Head of the Cochlear Implant Team, along with the entire Bahraini staff.

Further, Alawi pointed out that the resumption of the cochlear implant programme was a direct response to an urgent parliamentary proposal she had submitted alongside several MPs in earlier sessions.

The proposal, which was met with wide approval, is a reflection of the collaboration between the legislative and executive branches.

Alawi expressed hope that this fruitful cooperation would



The resumption of the cochlear implant programme was a direct response to an urgent parliamentary proposal I had submitted alongside several MPs in earlier sessions

MP JALILA ALAWI

continue to serve the nation and its citizens effectively.

She noted that patients and their families were delighted by the successful outcomes of the surgeries.

Since its inception, Bahrain's cochlear implant programme has facilitated nearly 300 surgeries. However, a suspension in 2022 left many patients awaiting further treatment.

Alawi noted that the Ministry's decision to resume these surgeries, following consistent appeals from MPs, patients, and their families, has been warmly received by both the medical and administrative teams involved.

Surgery waiting list cleared

TDT | Manama

The waiting list for cochlear implant surgeries at Salmaniya Medical Complex has been cleared, announced Dr Maryam Al Jalahma, CEO of government hospitals.

She attributed this achievement to the collaborative spirit and professionalism of the team, which has really pulled together and stepped up the treatment experience for patients in Bahrain.

Dr Al Jalahma assured that they will continue to perform cochlear implant surgeries for any new cases requiring surgical intervention in government hospitals.

Dr Hazem Al A'Ali, General Manager of Surgical Services at Government Hospitals, remarked that this milestone is part of an ongoing initiative to improve the quality and efficiency of medical services, thereby strengthening the health system for both citizens and residents.

He noted the importance of cochlear implant surgeries for



Dr Maryam Al Jalahma

patients with hearing loss and the profound impact these operations have on patients and their families.

The cochlear implant team includes surgeons, consultants, audiologists and balance specialists, speech therapists, a social researcher, and a psychologist.

Ex-EWA employee's sentence reduced

TDT | Manama

The High Court of Appeal has reduced the sentence of a former Electricity and Water Authority (EWA) employee from one year to three months in prison.

The employee was found guilty of forging electricity disconnection notices to force a tenant to pay overdue rent.

The victim had reported that he was renting land from the defendant for a monthly rent of BD240.

The defendant had sent him

fake electricity and water disconnection notices via WhatsApp, claiming they were from the EWA. These notices warned of imminent disconnection of services.

An investigation by the EWA revealed that the notices were indeed forged.

The defendant, who had exploited his position as an EWA employee, had not issued the notices on the date mentioned and

they were not authorised by the customer services department.

The defendant's lawyer argued that his client had been working in the accounts department for 35 years and had no prior criminal record or complaints against him.

He claimed the defendant had obtained a court order to terminate the lease agreement and remove the tenant from the property due to serious violations.



No one is above the law

Bahraini lawyer jailed for insulting and attacking arresting police officers

● Set to spend three months behind bars

TDT | Manama

A Bahraini lawyer has been sentenced to three months in prison by the Lower Criminal Court for insulting two police officers while they were executing an arrest warrant against him.

The lawyer was also found guilty of throwing objects at the officers.

The court imposed a BD100 bail to suspend the execution of the sentence, pending the outcome of his appeal.

The lawyer is said to have assaulted police officers who were tasked to execute an arrest warrant issued against the lawyer.

Legal procedure

During the previous hearing, the Public Prosecutor argued that the arrest warrant was a legal procedure and not a search warrant, emphasising that the force used by the police was in accordance with the law.

The Prosecutor refuted the lawyer's claims of police assault, stating that the officers had gone to the lawyer's residence to execute the arrest warrant.

The lawyer, according to the Prosecutor, refused to open the door and demanded the warrant be passed under the door.



Image used for illustrative purposes only

After several attempts to open the door, the lawyer began filming the officers and verbally abusing them.

Legal authority

The Prosecutor explained that the police had to restrain the lawyer after arresting him, stressing that they had identified themselves and their legal authority from the beginning.

The Prosecutor requested the maximum penalty for the law-

yer.

The lawyer's defense attorney argued that his client was alone in his apartment when he was surprised by individuals claiming to be police officers with an arrest warrant.

The lawyer, according to his attorney, questioned them from behind the door to verify their identity and authority.

The lawyer requested the warrant be passed under the door for verification, but the



According to the Prosecutor, the lawyer refused to open the door and demanded the warrant be passed under the door. The lawyer filmed the officers and verbally abusing them.

officers claimed it was on their phone.

Precaution

When the lawyer opened the door to see the warrant, he decided to film the incident as a precaution.

However, the officer asked him to stop filming, and the police proceeded to arrest him.

The lawyer's attorney insisted that his client did not commit the crime of insulting a public official, arguing that the arrest procedures were invalid due to insufficient investigation.

Despite the defense's arguments, the court found the lawyer guilty and sentenced him to three months in prison.

Bahraini youth urged to acquire practical experience

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Her Excellency Karima Al Abbasi, Secretary General of the Shura Council, has urged young people involved in empowerment and training initiatives to acquire practical experience across various national sectors.

She emphasised the importance of exposing them to inspiring encounters and guidance from officials and leaders in different fields.

This, Al Abbasi suggested, would help bridge the gap between academic learning and its practical application, enhancing their grasp of present and future demands, in line with the vision of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

Al Abbasi's remarks were delivered during her meeting with participants of the "Empowerment Lab for Bahraini Youth" programme, part of the



H.E. Karima Al Abbasi speaks at the event

13th edition of the "Youth City 2030" initiative for 2024.

This gathering reflects the Shura Council Secretariat's focus on community partnerships, collaboration with various institutions, and raising awareness of legislative work among the youth.

The Secretary General commended the enthusiasm of the participants in the "Empower-

ment Lab for Bahraini Youth" as they sought to understand the role of the legislative authority in advancing the kingdom's development agenda.

Empowerment

She acknowledged the government's efforts, under the leadership of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince

The "Youth City 2030" initiative aims to identify and nurture young talents, preparing them to excel and become strong candidates in the job market.

and Prime Minister, in empowering the younger generations and enhancing their capabilities through advanced talent development programmes.

Also, she recognised the importance of the "Youth City 2030" initiative, launched by His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the HM King's Representative for Humanitarian Works and Youth Affairs.

Real-life hero



Deputy Corporal Zulfiqar Ali Mohammed of the Royal Academy of Police was honoured by Brigadier Fawaz Al Hassan, Commander of the Royal Academy of Police, for saving lives and property when a fire occurred after an accident with two cars. The deputy controlled the fire that broke out from one of the cars and managed the scene until the specialized units arrived at the scene. The Ministry of Interior said the deputy's intervention shows the sense of security and responsibility he possesses.

Bahrain to host global experts for seventh dermatology forum



Bahrain Dermatology, Laser and Aesthetics
CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION

مؤتمر و معرض البحرين للجلدية و الليزر و التجميل

TDT | Manama

The Kingdom of Bahrain is set to host the seventh edition of the Bahrain Dermatology, Laser, and Aesthetics Conference & Exhibition "BDLA7 2024" from September 5 to 7 at the Radisson Blu Diplomat Hotel in Manama.

The event, headed by Dr. Ameen Al-Awadhi, will feature the participation of esteemed local, regional, and international dermatologists and plastic surgeons, alongside strategic partnerships with leading organizations and associations.

The conference is organized by BDA for Medical Events.

BDLA7 2024 serves as a vital platform, uniting numerous consultants and specialists in dermatology, plastic surgery, and related fields.

It also welcomes nurses, technicians, and other professionals from Bahrain and around the globe, providing an opportunity to stay updated on the latest scientific research, medicines, dermatological treatments, and new technologies.

Attendees will exchange expertise, expand their professional networks, and foster collaboration between healthcare institutions, both within Bahrain and internationally.

The conference agenda includes a series of lectures and panel discussions covering a wide range of topics such as psoriasis, alopecia, eczema, vitiligo, and the latest medi-



Dr. Ameen Al-Awadhi



Dr. Fatema Khamdan

cal advancements in these and other skin conditions.

Laser technologies

Additionally, attendees will explore cutting-edge laser technologies for dermatology and cosmetology treatments.

The event will also feature training workshops on new devices and cosmetic injection techniques, as well as foundational training in dermatological and plastic surgery, aimed at enhancing the knowledge and skills of Bahraini dermatologists and plastic surgeons.

Dr. Fatema Khamdan, Consultant Dermatologist and Head of the Medical Dermatology scientific Committee at BDLA7 2024, commented, "We anticipate another successful event, continuing the legacy of excellence and innovation established in previous editions."

Free healthcare services for Filipinos

TDT | Manama

In partnership with the Embassy of the Republic of the Philippines, Al Hilal Medical Center's Manama Central Branch is offering free healthcare services to Filipinos from August 2-31, 2024, starting at 7:00 am daily.

The initiative, part of the "Bagong Pilipinas, Healthy Pinoy!" campaign, includes complimentary blood tests,

doctor consultations, blood pressure checks, and BMI measurements.

Filipinos can avail of tests for blood sugar, total cholesterol, kidney function (creatinine), liver function (SGPT), and uric acid levels. To ensure accurate results, an eight-hour fasting is recommended for blood tests.

To access these services, Filipinos must present their CPR at the reception desk.

From courtroom to campaign trail

Lawyer Khawla Hazeem Al Shamsi second woman to enter Muharraq by-elections

TDT | Manama

Bahraini lawyer Khawla Hazeem Al Shamsi has declared her intention to run in the upcoming by-elections for the first constituency of Muharraq Governorate, scheduled for September.

With this announcement, Al Shamsi becomes the second woman to enter the race, vying for the seat against nearly seven male candidates who have already declared their candidacy.

In a social media post on Instagram, Al Shamsi stated, "To the esteemed residents of the first constituency of Muharraq Governorate, I announce my desire to participate in the upcoming by-elections for the Busaiten area. As the first



As the first woman to hold a doctorate in law, I seek the blessings of Allah to guide me towards what is best for you and for our nation."

KHAWLA HAZEEM AL SHAMSI,
BAHRAINI LAWYER

woman to hold a doctorate in law, I seek the blessings of Allah to guide me towards what is best for you and for our nation."

Political landscape

Al Shamsi's entry into the race is a significant development, highlighting the growing participation of women in the Bahraini political landscape.

The other woman who will run for the available seat representing Muharraq's first constituency is Dr. Nada Ali Bin Shams.

The by-election, which will take place next September, was triggered by the Court of Cassation's decision to revoke the membership of former MP Mohammed Al Hussaini due

to his holding of dual citizenship, a violation of Bahraini electoral laws.

Candidates

The Court of Cassation's ruling has sparked a wave of activity, with several candidates already expressing their intention to run.

Among the declared candidates are prominent figures like Dr. Essam Al Alawi, businessman Ibrahim Al Shaikh, Khalid Sulaibeekh, Saleh Al Sada, Nada bin Shams, Abdullah Al Sehli, Ahmed Al Tamimi, and Shaikh Mohammed Al Qallaf.

Khawla Al Busmait, who ran in the 2022 elections for the same seat, has yet to announce whether she will participate.

ILA interactive session and workshop successful

TDT | Manama

The Indian Ladies Association (ILA) organised two events on 5th August 2024 at 4p.m. at ILA Premises.

Adv V K Thomas, an Indian legal consultant in the Kingdom of Bahrain, explained important issues based on the inheritance law applicable in Bahrain for Expatriates.

Followed by the inspiring speech of Hon. President, Ms Kiran Mangle, Adv VK Thomas shared the insight of regulations with regards to non Bahraini & Expats.

It was an interactive session which covered crucial topics like wills, legal heirs, bank account operation (single or joint), estate of the deceased (movable or immovable property/ real estate) and the court procedures. The ILA Members had many queries which were addressed by Adv. Thomas.

The second event was a workshop conducted by Dr. Syed Meher, Country Manager and assisted by Mr. Syed Adnan of ACM Pharma.



ILA members with Dr. Syed Meher and Mr. Syed Adnan

Hairloss treatment

Dr. Mehar provided an insightful discussion on hairloss treatment.

He covered the various causes of hair fall, including genetics, stress, dietary deficiencies, and hormonal imbalances, and emphasized preventive measures such as a balanced diet and proper hair care routines.

Dr. Meher introduced the lat-

est advancements in medical treatments, including topical solutions, oral medications, and minimally invasive procedures, highlighting ACM Pharma's innovative products.

Interactive Q&A

The session concluded with an interactive Q&A, where Dr. Mehar addressed attendees' concerns with personalized

advice and recommendations.

Indian Ladies Association has been registered under the Ministry of Social Development since 1984 as a charitable organization. With the motto 'Service before Self', today the ILA is one of the most renowned high-profile formal ladies' groups in Bahrain. ILA shall be hosting the iconic Dandiya on 20th Sept 2024 at Crowne Plaza.

Hilton Bahrain to host PAWject Runway 2 – Dog Fashion Show

TDT | Manama

Hilton Bahrain is thrilled to host another Dog Fashion Show in celebration of their second-year anniversary as a dedication in promoting pet welfare as a pet-friendly hotel.

This event will be held in collaboration with Bahrain Animal Rescue Centre (BARC) tomorrow from 5:00 pm onwards in partnership with Purina Arabia, Bubbles & Mische, Advance Veterinary Clinic & Store, GS Pets Shop & Resort, INOOM, Pet Park BH, Paws & Tails, Creative Beats and Vibes. All ticket proceeds

will go to Bahrain Animal Rescue Centre.

The Dog Fashion show titled, PAWject Runway 2 will be a showcase of talents, tricks and style along with their human companions on the runway.

Not only pets from different households will walk the runway but also the rescue dogs from BARC will participate in the most fashionable way. Tickets for this event are priced at BD5.

"Thanks to the overwhelming success of last year's Dog Fashion Show and the community's support, we have decided to make it a yearly tradition! It's not only a



Participants in previous event

celebration of giving back to the community, but also to reinforce our commitment to pet welfare. Hilton Bahrain will continue to promote pet welfare and commit to being a pet-friendly hotel," said Tamer Farouk, General Manager of Hilton Bahrain.

"This collaboration aims to put the spotlight on the importance of a loving environment for our pets especially the rescued animals from Bahrain Animal Rescue Centre."

"We are incredibly grateful to Hilton Bahrain for their continued support and dedication to animal welfare. By hosting

PAWject Runway 2, they are not only providing a platform to showcase the incredible bond between humans and animals but also raising vital funds for BARC," said by one of the volunteers at BARC.

Hilton Bahrain welcomes pet lovers and pet owners to join the celebration and promises that this event will be as fun and as heartwarming as the year before.

For more information about PAWject Runway Dog Fashion Show and Hilton Bahrain's commitment to promoting pet care, please contact BAHHHH_PR@hilton.com.

LuLu announces 4th e-raffle winners of 100,000 BD worth promotion

TDT | Manama

LuLu Hypermarket handed out BD 304 worth of gifts in the fourth draw of its Summer Raffle Draw. Prizes included 200 grams of gold shared by four top winners and LuLu Gift Cards to 200 winners as well as 20,000 shopping points for 100 winners.

The fourth draw took place at Lulu Hypermarket Dana Mall and was conducted in the presence of Lulu Senior Management. The Summer Raffle Draw will put BD 100,000 worth of prizes into the hands of shoppers just in time for the busy retail season before summer break and school opening.

The Raffle promotion will run till August 9th, 2024 and prizes include 1 kilo of gold to



Raffle winners during a photo call

be distributed to 20 winners, valuable LuLu Gift Cards worth BD 50 each to 1000 winners and Loyalty points promising in-

stant discounts under the LuLu Happiness Programme for 500 lucky winners.

Shoppers get an electronic

raffle ticket for every BD 5 spent and stand a chance to win multiple times if they spend each week.

Bahrain Islamic Index closes higher

TDT | Manama

Bahrain All Share Index has closed at 1,910.77 points, marking a decrease of 20.53 points below the previous closing.

This decrease was due to the drop in the communication services sector and the financial sector.

Bahrain Islamic Index has

closed at 799.28 points, marking an increase of 1.26 points above the previous closing.

Results indicated that 45 equity transactions took place with a volume of 577,037 worth BD 222,012.

Investors traded mainly in the communication services sector, representing 72.81% of the total value of securities traded.

Oil prices steady after two days of gains

TDT | agencies

Oil prices held steady yesterday after two sessions of gains. Brent crude futures fell 16 cents, or 0.2%, to \$78.17 a barrel by 0903 GMT. U.S. West Texas Intermediate crude lost 9 cents, or 0.12%, to \$75.14, Reuters reported.

Brent had gained 2.4% on Wednesday and WTI 2.8% in a second straight session of

gains as prices recovered from a sharp drop on Monday, when Brent settled at its lowest since early January and WTI early February.

Prices were supported on Wednesday by a 3.7 million barrel drop in U.S. crude inventories, far exceeding analyst expectations of a draw of 700,000 barrels and marking a sixth straight weekly decline to six-month lows.

NBB congratulates Mohammad Jamil and Rashid Ebrahim for winning a Luxury Villa and USD 100,000 with Thara'a prize account

TDT | Manama

The National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) has announced the winners of the June Thara'a Prize Account draw. This marked the year's second grand raffle that awarded a luxury villa and a cash prize of USD 100,000 to the winners.

The first winner, Mohammad Jamil, officially received the keys to his new home at a celebratory handover ceremony held on the 1st of August at Riffa Views. The Bank's team presented the second winner, Rashid Ebrahim, with the coveted USD 100,000 prize at his home on the 6th of August.



In pictures, winners during prize distribution

Commenting on the occasion, Chief Executive – Retail Banking at NBB said, "With two



more grand prizes and enticing monthly cash prizes still to come this year, we encourage everyone to open a Thara'a

Prize Account and start saving to increase their chances of winning."

Launched earlier this year, Thara'a is an exclusive account that offers customers the chance to participate in raffles with prizes including four luxury villas and more than USD 2 million in cash prizes throughout the year.

Customers can boost their chances of securing life-changing prizes by increasing their savings. In addition to the exclusive Thara'a draws, accountholders also enjoy double the entries into the Al Watani Savings Scheme for every BD 50 deposited.

Beyon names new CEO

Andrew Kvalseth, new CEO
TDT | Manama

Beyon announced yesterday that Mikkel Vinter will retire from his role as CEO of Beyon after a successful tenure of 6 years that ignited the digital transformation of the Beyon group. Andrew Kvalseth has been appointed as the new CEO effective 25th August 2024.

Andrew Kvalseth brings over 20 years of international leadership experience in TMT, financial services, online marketplaces, e-commerce and digital transformation. He has held senior executive positions ranging from Chief Commercial Officer, Chief Investment Officer to CEO and Chairman, across a range of leading companies, including Telenor and Schibsted.

Beyon Chairman Shaikh Abdullah bin Khalifa Al Khalifa said, "Mikkel Vinter joined the company in 2019 and we embarked on an exciting journey to transform Batelco and



Beyon Chairman Shaikh Abdullah bin Khalifa Al Khalifa

launch Beyon. Thanks to Mikkel and his leadership qualities and vision we have succeeded in delivering remarkable performance and achievements in all areas of the business including telecoms, global connectivity, international investments, and digital growth."

"The Board is very pleased to announce Andrew Kvalseth as the new CEO," added Shaikh Abdullah. "This appointment is the next natural step in establishing a strong and experienced management team to lead Beyon towards its vision and meet the expectations of the Board and shareholders. We welcome Andrew to Beyon and wish him all the best"

Beyon has recently announced key appointments in its executive team. Maitham Abdulla bin Khalifa was appointed as Batelco CEO, Shaikh Mohamed bin Khalifa Al Khalifa was appointed as Beyon Digital Growth CEO, Reem Altajer was appointed



Beyon CEO Mikkel Vinter as the Chief Financial Officer, Jehan Hasan was appointed as Beyon Chief Strategy Officer, and Isa Alsabea as Beyon Chief Investment Officer.

Beyon CEO Mikkel Vinter said, "While I will miss Beyon and all the team, I also look forward to the new chapter ahead which includes focus on Board roles in Europe and the Middle East. The Kingdom of Bahrain will always hold a big place in my heart, and I will continue to be a resident of this wonderful country," Mikkel added.

Speaking ahead of his arrival, Andrew Kvalseth said he is very much looking forward to joining the team in Beyon. "I am very excited to take on the role of CEO of Beyon at this time in its journey. The company's success to date lays a strong foundation to build upon. I can't wait to start working with the team to continue the progress and start the next phase of its transformation to become a global technology leader."

Trafco Group's Q2 and H1 profits rise

● H1 Profit increases 13%

TDT | Manama

Trafco Group has reported a Profit for the period attributable to the shareholders of BD 603k for the second quarter of 2024 as against BD 501k for the second quarter of previous year, with an increase of 20%.

Earnings per share were 8 fils compared to 7 fils during the second quarter of previous year.

The total comprehensive income related to Trafco Group shareholders is BD 521k compared to BD 534k of the second quarter of previous year with a decrease of 2%.

Mr. Ebrahim Zainal, Chairman of Trafco Group, stated that the improved results for the second quarter of 2024 are mainly due to improved gross profit margin of core business and better performance of subsidiary companies.



Ebrahim Zainal, Chairman of Trafco Group

H1 results

For the half year of 2024, the group achieved Profit for the period attributable to the shareholders of BD 1.56m compared with BD 1.38m in the same period of previous year, with an increase of 13%.

Earnings per share for the half year of 2024 were 21 fils compared with 19 fils in the same period of previous year.

The total comprehensive income related to Trafco Group shareholders is BD 1.58m compared to BD 1.68m of the same



Azzam Moutragi, Trafco Group Chief Executive Officer

period of previous year, with a decrease 6%.

Mr. Azzam Moutragi, Trafco Group Chief Executive Officer, stated that the increase in the net profit for the first half year of 2024 was driven by the availability of sufficient inventory that led to achieving higher sales; the Group managed to enhance its inventory in spite of the international supply chain problems. He added that the total comprehensive income decrease was due to fair valuation of Quoted and Unquoted Investments at the closing date.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

IN THE END, IT'S NOT THE YEARS IN YOUR LIFE THAT COUNT. IT'S THE LIFE IN YOUR YEARS ABRAHAM LINCOLN

TODAY IN HISTORY

378

Battle of Adrianople: Goth army defeats Roman forces under Emperor Valens, who is killed

1790

Robert Gray's Columbia Rediviva returns to Boston after 3 year journey, 1st American ship to circumnavigate the Globe

1898

Rudolf Diesel of Germany obtains patent #608,845 for his internal combustion engine, later known as the diesel engine



1942

Mahatma Gandhi and 50 others arrested in Bombay after passing of a "quit India" motion and campaign by the All-India Congress

News in brief

Doug Emhoff, the Second Gentleman of the United States as husband of Vice President Kamala Harris, yesterday announced the US would make an exceptional contribution over \$2 million to UN cultural agency UNESCO to boost the fight against anti-Semitic hawtred.



US donates \$2.2 million to UNESCO to fight anti-semitism

Ukrainian troops have advanced up to 10 kilometres (six miles) into Russia in possibly the most serious border incursion of the conflict, the Institute for the Study of War said yesterday.

Ukraine advanced 'up to 10km' into Russia: ISW



(ISW) said in its latest update.

Apple yesterday announced changes to its App Store after the European Union accused the iPhone maker of breaking the bloc's landmark new digital rules.

Apple makes changes to App Store after EU warning



SPOTLIGHT

New Banksy artwork 'stolen' from above London shop



AFP | London, United Kingdom

New Banksy artwork depicting a wolf on a satellite dish in London was removed, possibly stolen, less than an hour after it was unveiled btwy the elusive street artist on Thursday.

Yunus sworn in to lead Bangladesh

AFP | Dhaka, Bangladesh

Nobel Peace Prize winner Muhammad Yunus was sworn into office yesterday, vowing to lead Bangladesh back to democracy after a student-led uprising ended the 15-year rule of Sheikh Hasina.



Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus (C) takes the oath of office as the chief adviser of Bangladesh's new interim government during the oath-taking ceremony administered by President Mohammed Shahabuddin (L) in Dhaka

Law and order is our first task... We cannot take a step forward unless we fix the law and order situation," he said.



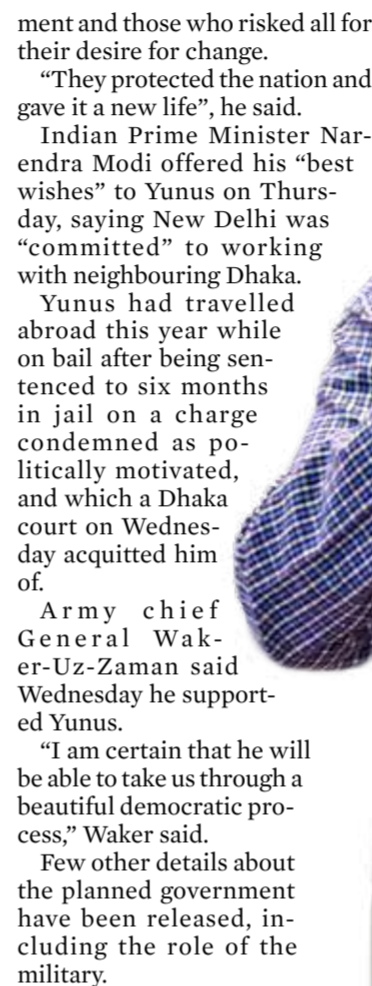
During Hasina's reign, Yunus was hit with more than 100 criminal cases and a smear campaign by a state-led Islamic agency that accused him of promoting homosexuality.

India PM Modi offers 'best wishes' to Yunus

New Delhi, India

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi offered his "best wishes" to Bangladesh's newly sworn-in interim leader Muhammad Yunus on Thursday, saying New Delhi was "committed" to working with neighbouring Dhaka.

visers, not ministers, also took the oath. They included top leaders of the Students Against Discrimination group that led the weeks-long protests, Nahid Islam and Asif Mahmud.



ment and those who risked all for their desire for change. "They protected the nation and gave it a new life," he said.

Nagasaki mayor defends Israel snub at A-bomb memorial

AFP | Tokyo, Japan



Starmer

Nagasaki's mayor said yesterday it was "unfortunate" that US and British ambassadors have refused to attend a ceremony marking the 1945 atomic bombing of the Japanese city because Israel was snubbed.



Shiro Suzuki

On August 9, 1945, the United States dropped an atomic bomb on Nagasaki, killing 74,000 people including many who survived the explosion but died later from radiation exposure.

US F-22 stealth warplanes arrive in Middle East

Washington, United States

Advanced American F-22 stealth warplanes arrived in the Middle East yesterday, the US military said, as Washington boosts its forces in the region ahead of an expected Iranian counterattack on Israel.



The Pentagon said last week that a regional conflagration stemming from the Gaza war.

Israel revokes status of Norway envoys to Palestinians



A youth transports a woman in a wheelchair as displaced Palestinians leave an area in east Khan Yunis towards the west, after the Israeli army issued a new evacuation order for parts of the city, in the southern Gaza Strip

AFP | Jerusalem, Undefined

Norway summons Israeli envoy over diplomats' revoked status

AFP | Oslo, Norway

Israel said yesterday it was revoking the diplomatic status of Norway's envoys to the Palestinian Authority accusing Oslo of "anti-Israel behaviour" during the Gaza war and drawing a formal protest.

Norway -- a key facilitator in the Israeli-Palestinian peace process, particularly in the secret negotiations that led to the Oslo Accords of the 1990s -- swiftly summoned the Israeli ambassador to lodge a formal protest.

Norway said yesterday it had summoned an Israeli embassy official over Israel's decision to revoke the diplomatic status of Norwegian envoys to the Palestinian Authority.

Netanyahu 'sorry' October 7 attack occurred



Displaced Palestinians leave an area in east Khan Yunis towards the west

Washington, United States

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said in an interview published yesterday that he was "sorry" that Hamas was able to carry out its October 7 attack, without explicitly taking responsibility.

UK crocodile expert jailed for 10 years over sexual abuse of dogs

AFP | Sydney, Australia



Adam Britton (file)

Once-respected crocodile expert was sentenced in Australia yesterday to more than 10 years in jail for sexually abusing and killing dozens of dogs, and a string of other crimes.

Instead, the ABC reported, Britton filmed himself raping and killing dogs in a shipping container on his property in Darwin.

Two powerful earthquakes hit off Japan: USGS

AFP | Tokyo, Japan



Picture for representation only to a statement.

A 6.9-magnitude earthquake followed by a 7.1 tremor struck off southern Japan yesterday, the United States Geological Survey said.

"Fire", Japan is one of the world's most tectonically active countries.

TOP 4 TWEETS 01

Renewable energy is key for a healthier planet and a better future for all. We must accelerate a just, equitable transition to renewables. Now is the time for breakthrough #ClimateAction.

02 A feat that will be cherished for generations to come! The Indian Hockey team shines bright at the Olympics, bringing home the Bronze Medal! This is even more special because it is their second consecutive Medal at the Olympics.

03 The U.S.-Australia alliance is an anchor to peace and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific and globally. Deepening our cooperation across the pillars of our alliance -- security, economic, climate, clean energy -- has been the hallmark of the Australia-U.S. Ministerial Consultations.

04 As communities up and down America's Eastern Seaboard are impacted by Tropical Storm Debby, my Administration isn't waiting to act. We are with you now and going forward. And we will get through this together.

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

Classifieds



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VACANCIES AVAILABLE

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cancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17001211 or OLWYNP@GMAIL.COM

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ROYAL IT ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONICS CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(ELECTRICIAN/WIREMAN), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34476935 or MSHAKEELSQ@YAHOO.COM

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Alredha tourist transport has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (CAR MECHANICAL WORKSHOP), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700680 or info@alredhatransport.com

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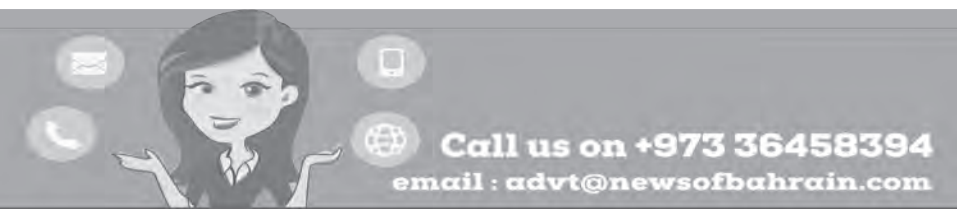
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Classifieds



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Alsameea fights for glory in China

Mohamed Alsameea to represent Bahrain at BRAVE CF 84 against Chinese prospect

● **Alsameea makes his professional MMA debut outside Bahrain**

● **Aims to follow in the footsteps of mentor Hamza Kooheji**

● **Undefeated record of 2 wins, no losses in Bahrain**

TD | Manama

Over the past few years, Mohamed Alsameea has established himself as the next big thing in combat sports for Bahrain and now, the 21-year-old is set to represent Bahrain in China as he takes on Chinese prospect Yang Weiqiang at BRAVE CF 84 on August 9 in his first professional MMA fight outside the Kingdom.

Bahraini fans can watch the



Mohamed Alsameea

entire event on the big screen by going to EpixCinemas.com and getting a ticket for the live screening at Epix's world-class movie theater at Dana Mall.

Alsameea, who aspires to follow in the footsteps of his mentor, Arab MMA legend and Bahrain's own Hamza Kooheji,

remains undefeated in his professional MMA career with a record of two wins and no losses. Both of his professional fights took place in Bahrain under the BRAVE Combat Federation banner, at BRAVE CF 72 and BRAVE CF 80, where he secured stoppage victories on both occasions.



Mohamed Alsameea trains at KHK MMA and is considered the potential "next Hamza Kooheji" of Bahrain

The Bahraini prospect now aims to bring glory to BRAVE CF and secure a victory for Bahrain when he competes at BRAVE CF 84 in the Team BRAVE CF vs. Team WLF (YFU) Tournament.

Interestingly, Alsameea is no stranger to team competition. During his amateur career, he represented Bahrain in IMMAF events, working closely with his teammates and winning three IMMAF medals for the nation.

A key factor in Alsameea's development has been his associa-



Mohamed Alsameea (right) faced off his Chinese opponent before BRAVE CF 84

tion with Hamza Kooheji at KHK MMA. Founded under the vision of His Highness Shaikh Khaled bin Hamad Al Khalifa, KHK MMA has become a training ground for top fighters from around the world.

Alsameea joined the team as a

young prospect and has thrived under the guidance of world-class coaches and the support of Hamza Kooheji himself, positioning him as the potential "next Hamza Kooheji" of Bahrain.

In addition to his MMA career, Alsameea is also an Asian Combat Jiu-Jitsu Champion and when he steps into the cage at BRAVE CF 84 in China, he will carry the hopes of an entire nation and seek to justify the faith that BRAVE Combat Federation has placed in him as he competes in the promotional duel for Asian supremacy against WLF (YFU).

BRAVE CF 84 will feature seven bouts as the top BRAVE CF fighters face off the best athletes from Chinese organization YFU - the duel between promotions will take place in the first six fights, with the main event taking place between two BRAVE CF fighters, as Bidzina Gavashelishvili takes on Erasyil Shuktaev in a Catchweight bout of 59.2 kg.



The Bahrain Paralympic Committee, in collaboration with the Bahrain Basketball Association, recently organized a specialized workshop on "Wheelchair Basketball" at Manama Club. The event, spanning two days, was led by renowned Lebanese trainer Tawfiq Alloush and attracted a diverse group of players, coaches, classifiers, and referees. The workshop covered essential topics such as taxonomy, officiating, player recruitment strategies, and managing wheelchair basketball events and teams.

Jameela AlNashaba discusses Bahrain's groundbreaking tennis initiative

Hussain Almaskati
TD | Manama

The Bahrain Tennis Federation's new women's tennis training program is generating significant excitement and anticipation. Speaking exclusively to Hussain AlMaskati of TD, Jameela AlNashaba, Head of the Ladies Tennis Committee, outlined the program's inspiration, goals, and expected impact.

The launch of this program was driven by a vision to expand tennis participation and emphasize the sport's global importance as an Olympic event. According to AlNashaba, "Our goal is to introduce women in Bahrain to tennis and teach them the game's rules and techniques, regardless of their prior experience". She highlighted the program's aim to empower women and create a sense of community through competition. Tennis, she said, provides significant benefits, including stress reduction—an important factor for many women dealing with life's challenges.

Main Goals of the Program

AlNashaba outlined several key objectives for the program. One major goal is to empower female leadership within the



Jameela AlNashaba

tennis community. "We want to develop skills necessary for managing teams and clubs and influencing decision-making in sports governance", she explained. This objective reflects a broader ambition to increase female representation in all aspects of the sport.

Another goal is to improve coaching competence. Participants will receive training to enhance their coaching skills, focusing on developing talent at all levels. "We're providing advanced coaching techniques to help female coaches support players in reaching their full potential", AlNashaba noted.

The program also aims to enhance officiating skills. AlNash-

aba emphasized the importance of preparing women for officiating roles, such as umpiring and refereeing. "Equipping women with the skills for these roles is essential for increasing their representation in all facets of the sport", she said.

The program also seeks to foster a supportive network of female tennis professionals. "We want to create a space where women can share experiences, support each other, and collaborate on initiatives to advance women in tennis", AlNashaba added.

What Participants Can Expect

Participants in the program will benefit from a comprehensive curriculum. They will engage in leadership development workshops covering strategies, effective communication, and decision-making in sports management. "We're providing tools to help women become effective leaders within the tennis community", said AlNashaba.

In coaching, the program includes hands-on training in player development, performance analysis, and mental conditioning. "Our focus is on coaching female athletes and helping them excel", she highlighted.

Officiating training will cover tennis rules, match officiating, and ethical standards. "We want to ensure that women are well-prepared for officiating roles", AlNashaba noted.

Participants will also have opportunities for networking and mentorship with established professionals. "Building connections with experienced professionals is a key part of the program", she said.

Looking Ahead

The response to the program has been overwhelmingly positive. AlNashaba said, "Interest has surpassed expectations, and many women are eager to continue their involvement beyond August". The enthusiastic reception to the new training program highlights its success and potential impact on women's sports in Bahrain.

Under Jameela AlNashaba's leadership, the Ladies Tennis Committee is already planning future initiatives to further support and promote women's tennis. The Bahrain Tennis Federation's commitment to expanding opportunities for women and fostering a vibrant sports community is clear, with the program poised to make a lasting impact both locally and beyond.

BIC launches second phase of Early Bird offer F1 tickets



Action from a previous race

● **Up to 10% off on tickets to F1 Bahrain GP 2025**

TD | Manama

Bahrain International Circuit (BIC), "The Home of Motorsport in the Middle East", announced yesterday a second phase of its popular Early Bird promotion on tickets to the Formula 1 Bahrain Grand Prix 2025.

Starting August 8, motorsport fans around the world are invited to take advantage of up to 10 per cent off on ticket prices for next year's sporting and social spectacle, scheduled to take place 11 to 13 April as the fourth of 24 rounds on the 2025 FIA F1 World Championship.

This offer continues on the first phase which generated tremendous demand, and will be available for a limited time only.

Fans are thus advised to act now and purchase their tickets at discounted prices that cannot be beaten.

The second phase of the Early Bird discount covers all ticket options across the circuit's grandstands. The 10 per cent price reduction is available on tickets to the Main Grandstand and Turn One Grandstand, while a five

per cent discount is on offer for the Beyon Grandstand, University Grandstand, and Victory Grandstand.

BIC's Main Grandstand and Turn One Grandstand are two of the premier locations where fans can experience the most exciting action of the race weekend. The ticket prices are amongst the most affordable in the world for such seats, giving race-goers the best value for money to be a part of one of the most sought-after events in all of F1.

All those interested in being a part of the 2025 grand prix weekend are advised to lock up their seats at the soonest possible time to avoid missing out, with Bahrain's event gaining global popularity each year and another record-breaking sold-out crowd in 2024.

Next year's F1 Bahrain Grand Prix will be the 21st edition of the Kingdom's race and the 12th time it will be taking place under lights.

Aside from F1, there will be plenty more exciting motorsport action with an international support series line-up, along with a world-class, off-the-track entertainment programme for the whole family to enjoy on all three days.

For more information on the F1 Bahrain Grand Prix 2025 or other events at BIC, visit bahraingp.com or call the BIC Hotline.

HH Shaikh Khalid praises FIFA's role in developing game globally



TDT | Manama

His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, First Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports (SCYS), Chairman of the General Sports Authority

(GSA), and President of the Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC) praised the role of International Federation of Association Football (FIFA) in the development of football globally.

This came as His Highness attended the reception held by

FIFA on the sidelines of the Paris 2024 Olympics.

Gianni Infantino, President of FIFA, received HH Shaikh Khalid and commended the Kingdom's role in supporting and developing global sports.

HH Shaikh Khalid was accom-

panied by His Highness Shaikh Salman bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, Vice President of GSA; His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Ali Al Khalifa, the Vice President of BOC; and Faris Mustafa Al Kooheji, Secretary General of BOC.

HH Shaikh Khalid emphasised the importance of this meeting to strengthen cooperation between the Kingdom and FIFA.

HH highlighted that FIFA's participation in major sporting events such as the Olympics represents the associa-

tion's commitment to supporting and developing football globally.

HH Shaikh Khalid underscored Bahrain's keenness on supporting international efforts aimed at enhancing sports and developing football.

US sprinters fire relay warning, Olympic swimmers plunge into Seine

Dominant performances in relay heats as athletes battle challenging Seine waters

● US women's 4x100m relay team wins heat in 41.94 seconds

● Sha'Carri Richardson's 9.99-second anchor leg impresses

● Van Rouwendaal wins Olympic 10k marathon swimming gold

AFP | Paris



an

Sha'Carri Richardson in action

US sprinters laid down an Olympic relay gauntlet to their rivals yesterday ahead of a possible Noah Lyles sprint double, while marathon swimmers took the plunge into the River Seine.

The American men and women both powered through their 4x100m relay heats to warn off any rivals aiming to challenge their dominance.

Stung by having to settle for 100m silver, Sha'Carri Richardson ran her anchor leg in eye-popping 9.99sec

to see the women home while the men could afford to leave out Lyles and still cruise to victory.

Olympic 100m silver medallist Richardson and newly-crowned 200m champion Gabby Thomas steered the United States into the final of the women's 4x100m relay after winning their heat in 41.94 seconds yesterday.

Melissa Jefferson, who won bronze in the 100m in Paris, ran the opening leg, with Twanisha Terry taking the baton down the far straight.

Terry's handover to Thomas wasn't as smooth as it could have been, however, handing the advantage to Germany.

Thomas' pass to anchor-leg Richardson was clean.

The 100m silver medallist then powered past Rebekka Haase to

push the German quartet into second in 42.15.

Switzerland took the third automatic qualifying spot.

Britain won the second semi-final in 42.03sec ahead of France and Jamaica, the reigning Olympic champions but missing big guns such as Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce, Shericka Jackson and Elaine Thompson-Herah.

Canada and the Netherlands sealed the two fastest non-automatic qualifying places for the final scheduled on Friday.

'Do it for him'

Earlier yesterday, 24 women dived into the River Seine, which was deemed clean enough for competition, for the 10-kilometre swim through the heart of the city.

Sharon van Rouwendaal from the Netherlands won a gruelling battle against her competitors and a strong current in 2hr 3min 34sec, devoting her gold to the memory of her pet dog, Rio, who died in May.

"Swimming is my everything, but so was he... My father said: 'swim one more time and do it for him. And that's what I did,'" she added.

Water quality in the Seine has been in the spotlight during the Olympics despite a 1.4-billion-euro (\$1.5-billion) effort to improve sewerage and water treatment.

Organisers have been forced to scrap several training sessions and postpone the men's individual triathlon after assessing the water to be too dirty to swim in.

Standings

#	NOC	G	S	B	Total
1	China	28	25	17	70
2	United States	27	35	33	95
3	Australia	18	14	11	43
4	France*	13	18	21	52
5	Great Britain	13	17	20	50
6	South Korea	12	8	7	27
7	Japan	12	7	13	32
8	Italy	10	11	9	30
9	Netherlands	10	5	7	22
10	Germany	9	6	5	20
11	Canada	6	5	9	20
12	New Zealand	4	6	2	12
13	Ireland	4	0	3	7
14	Romania	3	4	1	8
15	Hungary	3	3	3	9
	Sweden	3	3	3	9
51	Bahrain	1	0	0	1

Harmanpreet double takes India to Olympic men's hockey bronze

Eight-time champions India came from behind to collect their 13th men's Olympic hockey medal with a hard-fought 2-1 win over Spain in the bronze medal match yesterday.

Harmanpreet Singh scored two penalty corners after Marc Miralles had given Spain the lead at the Yves du Manoir Stadium in Colombes, northwest of Paris.

It is India's fourth bronze medal, and second in succession following Tokyo, and adds to those eight golds, the last of which came in 1980, and three silvers.

India had won seven of their previous 10 encounters with three-time champions Spain but after a cagey first half they found themselves trailing when Miralles fired an 18th minute



India's Harmanpreet

penalty stroke past the 'Wall of India' Sreejesh Raveendran, playing his 336th and final international.

Borja Lacalle almost made it two, beating Sreejesh only to see his shot rebound off the post. With the country's richest

man Mukesh Ambani supporting from the stands, India began to press hard and with just a few seconds remaining of the first half, Harmanpreet buried a penalty corner to level the scores.

Three minutes after the break, Harmanpreet repeated the trick, sweeping another penalty corner just inside the Spanish post.

It was his tenth goal of the tournament, making Harmanpreet the top scorer at these Olympics.

Spain picked up the tempo in the final quarter, forcing a series of late penalty corners and one outstanding save from Sreejesh which ensured that India would take the bronze medal, the country's fourth medal in Paris.

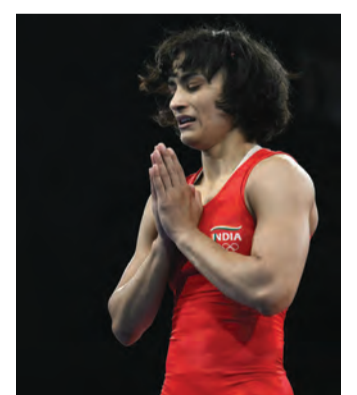
Indian wrestler Phogat retires after Olympic disqualification

AFP | New Delhi

India's heartbroken Vinesh Phogat yesterday announced her retirement from wrestling, a day after being disqualified from the women's 50kg competition at the Paris Olympics for being overweight for the final.

Phogat, who has won three Commonwealth Games gold medals, had been due to face Sarah Hildebrandt of the United States for the gold medal on Wednesday in Paris but was found to be 100 grams over the 50kg limit.

"Mother wrestling won against me, I lost. Your dreams and my courage are shattered," Phogat wrote on social media



India's Vinesh Phogat celebrates after a win (file photo)

platform X. "I don't have any more strength now. Goodbye wrestling 2001-2024. I will forever be indebted to you all. Sorry."