

NBB nine-month net profit rises 11 per cent

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Alba posts profits for third quarter, nine months

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GFH announces US\$ 87.95 million nine-month profit

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From Falcons to Superjumbos: Bahrain Airshow 2024 Takes Flight



Manama's skies are set to dazzle as the Bahrain International Airshow 2024 kicks off today, showcasing the world's most impressive aircraft - from the fierce F-15 fighter jets to the luxurious A380 superjumbo. Aerial performances from the Saudi Hawks and India's Sarang helicopters will captivate the crowds, while Gulf Air's Dreamliner and other advanced aircraft on display signal the region's rising prominence in aviation. Don't miss the full story inside on page 15, where we explore each marvel gracing Bahrain's skies.

HM King Hamad receives Knight Grand Cross

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa was awarded the Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order by His Majesty King Charles III of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

This Knight Grand Cross is the highest award of the Royal Victorian Order.

It was awarded during a ceremony held at Windsor Castle, as part of HM King Hamad's visit to the UK.

HM the King expressed his gratitude and appreciation to HM King Charles III, wishing him continued health and hap-



HM King Hamad with HM King Charles III



Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order

The Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order is a prestigious honor recognizing extraordinary personal service to the British monarchy.

piness, and extending his best wishes for the continued progress and prosperity of the UK and its people.

HM King Hamad commended the longstanding historic Bahrain-UK relations, founded on mutual understanding and shared cooperation.

Regal Alliance

HM King Hamad Celebrates Enduring Bahrain-UK Ties at Royal Banquet

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa attended a dinner banquet in the United Kingdom hosted by His Majesty King Charles III, celebrating the long-standing relationship between Bahrain and the UK.

HM King Hamad reflected on the shared history that binds the two island nations, noting that their "strong and deep-rooted friendship" has spanned over two centuries.

He acknowledged how this bond has supported Bahrain in developing its own models across fields like education, health, banking, and security, which contribute to the unique "Bahrain model".

His Majesty highlighted that, as two island nations built on trade and openness, Bahrain and the UK have consistently supported each other. Their strong connection is exemplified by the lasting friendship between their royal families.

HM the King expressed confidence in King Charles, sharing that Bahrain has always felt assured of the UK's support,



HM King receives a grand welcome from the UK Royal Guards

saying, "We believe that Your Majesty has our best interests at heart."

A focal point of HM King Hamad's speech was the nations' mil-

itary alliance, which began during World War II when Bahrain supported the Allied forces.

"This is not a new alignment," His Majesty said, recalling how

Bahrain contributed ten Spitfire aircraft to the Desert Air Force and provided access to an oil refinery, being the only Arab nation to do so.

Today, this partnership endures through the UK Royal Navy Support Facility in Bahrain, celebrating its tenth anniversary, which HM King Hamad described as "the physical embodiment" of their ongoing strategic cooperation.

Tribute to Queen Elizabeth II and Shared Ideals

HM King Hamad expressed heartfelt admiration for the late Queen Elizabeth II, recalling her warmth, friendship, and their mutual passion for horses.

His Majesty praised King Charles, noting the continuity of Queen Elizabeth's values in his leadership, including a commitment to inclusivity and religious tolerance.

"Your Majesty has the same values and personal attributes that I greatly admire," HM King Hamad said, highlighting their shared beliefs.

King Charles responded with gratitude, celebrating His Majesty King Hamad's 25-year reign and his accomplishments, including efforts to foster harmony and inclusivity among all Bahrainis.

Coordination Committee meeting



The Deputy King, His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, chaired the 496th Coordination Committee meeting. The committee reviewed the latest developments in implementing the tourism sector strategy (2022-2026), the proposals to develop Nationality, Passport and Residency Affairs (NPRA) services, and the proposals related to developing and enhancing the efficiency of the electricity and water sector.

Financial and banking



The Deputy King, His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, yesterday met with the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Arcapita Group, Abdulaziz Hamad AlJomaih, and the CEO of Arcapita Group, Atif Abdulmalik, at Gudaibiya Palace.

Appeals Court to rule on BD65,000 fraud

TDT | Manama

The High Appeals Court has scheduled a hearing for December 30th to rule on an appeal by a young man convicted of fraud.

He was initially sentenced to three years imprisonment for collecting over BD65,000 from multiple individuals without the necessary licenses from the Central Bank or other relevant authorities.

His scheme unraveled after he lost the funds in forex and cryptocurrency trading. The court has ordered the confiscation of the proceeds of the crime.

The Public Prosecution charged the defendant with 25 counts of receiving money from four individuals and others between 2023 and 2024, for the purpose of investment, without the required license from the Central Bank of Bahrain or other competent authorities.

The case came to light after a complaint from one of the victims.

The victim, who met the defendant at a café last February, was promised increased income through investment opportunities. He initially invested BD200 and, after receiving a purported 40% return, invested a further BD45,000 over time.

However, the defendant subsequently delayed returning the funds or paying profits, prompting further complaints. Other victims reported losses of BD2,450, BD3,000, and BD850, respectively.

Investigations confirmed the defendant received funds without the necessary licenses.

He confessed to receiving a total of BD 65,000 from the victims for investment in trading.

'Costly' care

MPs call for fair pricing and quality healthcare at private hospitals

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

The Parliament has called on Bahrain's health regulator to address high fees at private hospitals, with MP Maryam Al Dhaen accusing some of creating a "false image" of quality by inflating costs — a step towards fairer healthcare for all.

The decision came during the Parliament's meeting yesterday.

Leading the proposal, Al Dhaen criticised what she described as "the trading of healthcare, where lives and safety are at risk".

Illusion of quality

She argued that some hospitals raise their prices to create an illusion of quality, linking high costs with high standards in the minds of patients.

"There are real dangers in setting prices artificially high or low to shape public perception," Al Dhaen told The Daily Tribune, pressing for clear regulations. "Low prices can make people doubt the care, while high fees may wrongly imply superior treatment. It's time to end these misguided beliefs."

The proposal urges the National Health Regulatory Authority (NHRA) to step in and monitor private healthcare fees.

Private care

Parliamentarians pointed out that many citizens turn to private care due to long waits at public hospitals, only to face the added strain of high costs.

Dr Ammar Alanaisi, CEO of Taj Medical Group, added perspective from the private sector, noting that recent regulatory price cuts have intensified competition but could also impact



"Low prices can make people doubt the care, while high fees may wrongly imply superior treatment. It's time to end these misguided beliefs."

- MP MARYAM AL DHAEN



"Certain hospitals have slashed fees to unsustainable levels in an effort to dominate the market, which can compromise quality."

- DR AMMAR ALANAI, CEO OF TAJ MEDICAL GROUP

standards of care.

"Certain hospitals have slashed fees to unsustainable levels in an effort to dominate the market, which can compromise quality," he told The Daily Tribune.

Hope

Dr Alanaisi expressed hope that the upcoming insurance scheme could help, if carefully managed, though he cautioned against larger hospitals monopolising options.

"There's no oversight on what private hospitals charge," Al Dhaen added, cautioning that inflated fees risk turning fair healthcare into a luxury rather than a basic right.

Dr Alanaisi further suggested involving civil society groups, such as the Society of Owners of Private Healthcare Institutions,

in healthcare policy-making, stating, "This could help keep care accessible, especially for those with limited means."

Support

He affirmed his support for regulation should NHRA decide to pursue this approach and tighten oversight on certain services.

However, he emphasised that any monitoring should be grounded in carefully reviewed standards to ensure effective oversight, adding that robust criteria would be essential to maintain service quality without stifling the sector.

The proposal, now approved, calls on NHRA to make certain that healthcare remains fair and accessible to all, without placing undue financial burdens on citizens.

Parliamentary panel upholds Al Doy immunity

H Naser
TDT | Manama

The Parliamentary Legal and Legislative Affairs Committee has recommended against lifting the parliamentary immunity of MP Hamad Al Doy, sources revealed.

The decision follows complaints filed against Al Doy related to statements he made during a previous parliamentary session and subsequent social media posts.

These statements, concerning alleged unethical practices at Amwaj Islands, led to a heated exchange with fellow MP Khalid Buanq and further criticism of MP Ahmed Al Saloum, the head of the Amwaj Islands Central Owners' Association, on social media.

The union subsequently issued a press statement announcing legal action against Al Doy for defamation.

Al Doy responded by claiming the union was attempting to obscure the truth and misrepresent his comments.

Report

The parliament's bureau is reportedly delaying the presentation of the committee's report to the full parliament.

This delay aims to allow for potential reconciliation between Al Doy and the complainants before a final decision is made.

According to the parliament's internal regulations, a decision on lifting immunity must be reached within one month of receiving the request.

The request was received by the Speaker of Parliament on October 28th, meaning a decision is required within the next two weeks; otherwise, the delay will be considered implicit approval to lift the



MP Hamad Al Doy



According to the parliament's internal regulations, a decision on lifting immunity must be reached within one month of receiving the request.

immunity.

Regulations

Bahraini parliamentary regulations stipulate that during a parliamentary session, no legal proceedings, including arrest, investigation, search, or detention, can be initiated against a member without prior parliamentary approval, except in cases of a crime being committed in the presence of witnesses.

Outside of a session, the Speaker's approval is required.

Failure to issue a decision within the one-month timeframe is considered equivalent to granting permission.

Lawmakers approve 10% increase in Bahrain social security payments



H.E. Ghanim Al Buainain

TDT | Manama

A people-focused proposal to raise Bahrain's social security payments by 10 per cent every three years — incrementally guaranteeing much-needed relief for low-income citizens — was approved yesterday, alongside a new rule that limits family support obligations to only financially able, unmarried relatives.

This adjustment aims to give consistent aid increases to Bahrain's most vulnerable, reflecting inflation pressures without needing frequent government



MP Ahmed Al Salloom

intervention.

The changes also address long-standing financial strains within families, focusing support duties on those with means rather than burdening those already struggling.

MP Ahmed Al Salloom described the plan as a straightforward way to secure periodic increases, eliminating the need for constant legal adjustments.

"We're ensuring aid rises regularly, which is essential with today's costs," he remarked, adding that the family support rule would lift a burden from those unable to afford it.

MP Dr Mahdi Al Shuwaikh



MP Dr Mahdi Al Shuwaikh

called on Social Development Minister, His Excellency Osama Al Alawi, to work more closely with community groups, highlighting a lack of social security review over the past 16 years as a concern.

He suggested yearly reviews to keep support aligned with citizens' needs, noting that Bahrain has the expertise to carry out regular assessments, much like other developed countries.

MP Jameel Mulla Hassan echoed these sentiments, saying he hoped the next budget would bring relief for citizens, especially given the current economic pressures.

Bill restricting foreigner driving licenses rejected

TDT | Manama

The government has rejected a proposed law aimed at restricting the issuance of driving licenses to foreigners.

The government argues the bill is unnecessary as existing legislation already addresses the issue and that the bill infringes upon fundamental constitutional rights.

The proposed law sought to alleviate traffic congestion by limiting the number of foreign drivers on the roads.

However, the government's response, included in an explanatory memorandum, stated that the existing Traffic Law, specifically Article 19, already delegates the authority to set conditions for obtaining driving licenses to the executive regulations.

These regulations apply equally to citizens and residents.

Massive solar power plant to be installed at UoB

TDT | Manama

A 44-megawatt solar power plant, among the largest in the region, is to be constructed at the University of Bahrain.

Expected to produce around 75 gigawatt-hours of electricity each year, the project will use large portions of the university's parking areas and open spaces for solar panels.

It aligns with Bahrain's aim to achieve net-zero emissions by 2060.

The Planning and Studies Directorate at the Electricity and Water Authority has outlined the project, which will operate under a turnkey contract.

The selected firm will oversee all stages, from engineering and design to installation, testing, and operation, including civil and electromechanical works. The contract is set to span two years.

The plant will combine ground-mounted solar systems with panels installed over parking structures, making full use of available space on campus.



Bahrain has set goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 30 per cent by 2035 and to reach net-zero by 2060.

This project supports Bahrain's environmental aims, announced by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, under the guidance of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

To bid, companies must meet specific criteria. Eligible firms must have completed at least ten grid-connected solar photovoltaic projects on a turnkey basis over the past three years, including two solar car park installations and one ground-mounted solar project.

NBB nine-month net profit rises 11 per cent



Usman Ahmed, Group CEO



Hala Yateem, Chairperson of NBB

● **The increase is driven mainly by asset growth leading to higher net interest income.**

TDT | Manama

National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) has reported a 5% increase in net profit attributable to shareholders reaching BHD 19.1 million (USD 50.7m) for the third quarter ended 30 September 2024, compared to BHD 18.2m (USD 48.3m) in the same period of 2023. The increase is driven mainly by asset growth leading to higher net interest income.

Earnings per share at 8 fils (USD 2 cents) for the third quarter of 2024 are in line with the same period in 2023.

Total comprehensive income attributable to NBB's shareholders decreased by 2% to BHD 20.0m (USD 53.1m) compared to BHD 20.5m (USD 54.4m) in 2023. The decrease is mainly attributable to the mark-to-market movements of the bond portfolio.

Year-to-date

NBB has reported an 11% increase in its net profit attributable to the shareholders for the nine months ended 30 September 2024, recording BHD 65.7m (USD 174.3m) compared to BHD 59.0m (USD 156.5m) for the same period of 2023. The

increase in net profit is mainly due to higher net interest income driven by a stronger balance sheet compared to the same period in 2023, and higher gains from investment securities and treasury activities.

Earnings per share increased to 29 fils (USD 8 cents) for the period compared with 26 fils (USD 7 cents) for the same period in 2023.

Total comprehensive income attributable to NBB's shareholders for the period increased by 13% to BHD 71.4m (USD 189.4m) compared with 63.3m (USD 167.9m) in 2023. The increase is mainly attributable to the positive mark-to-market movements of the equity portfolio and to a higher attributable net profit. The Group's total equity attributable to shareholders of 30 September 2024 is at BHD 567.6m (USD 1,505.6m) compared to BHD 565.0m (USD 1,498.7m) reported as of 31 December 2023. The Group's total assets increased by 7% during the period to BHD 5,759.9m (USD 15,278.2m) compared to BHD 5,372.5m (USD 14,250.7m) recorded on 31 December 2023. The increase was mainly due to loans and advances registering a growth of 16% from 31 December 2023.

Strong quarter

On the occasion, Mrs. Hala Yateem, Chairperson of NBB said, "Another strong quarter is a testament of our unwavering commitment to continue de-

livering impactful shareholder value. NBB reported double-digit growth in attributable profit for the nine months ending 30 September, reaching BHD 65.7m with a 11% increase from the same period last year. The third quarter also saw us reach the highest level of total assets in the Group's history, amounting to BHD 5.8 billion and representing a 7% growth from the year-end level. This robust balance sheet signifies the trust our customers place in our services. Looking ahead, we remain focused on sustaining our strong performance while pushing the boundaries of innovation to achieve continued success."

Organic growth

Usman Ahmed, Group CEO of NBB commented, "The third quarter of 2024 highlights NBB's continued strength and successful execution of our strategy, as it marks the fifth consecutive quarter with year-on-year attributable profit growth. Our operating profit for the nine months reached BHD 75.5m with a 10% rise compared to the same period last year. This performance is driven by our organic growth across the region, with significant increases in loans and deposits of 16% and 9% respectively from the year-end level. As we move forward, we remain focused on driving growth by creating tangible value for our clients and stakeholders."

Alba posts profits for third quarter, nine-month



Alba officials during a group photo opportunity following a meeting

TDT | Manama

Aluminium Bahrain (Alba), the world's largest aluminium smelter on one site, has reported a Profit of BD54.5 million (US\$145m) for the third quarter of 2024, up by 215% Year-over-Year (YoY), versus a Profit of BD17.3m (US\$46m) for the same period in 2023.

Earnings per Share was fils 39 for Q3 2024 versus EPS of fils 12 for the same period in 2023. The Total Comprehensive Income stood at BD51m (US\$135.6m) versus Total Comprehensive Income for the third quarter of 2023 of BD20.8m (US\$55.2m) - up by 145.7% YoY. Gross Profit for Q3 2024 was BD83.4m (US\$221.8m) versus BD48.6m (US\$129.3m) for the same period in 2023 - up by 71.6% YoY. With regards to the Revenue from contracts with customers in Q3 2024, Alba generated BD433.5m (US\$1,152.8m) versus BD400m (US\$1,063.7m) in Q3 2023 - up by 8.4% YoY.

Nine-month results

With regards to the nine months of 2024, Alba has reported a Profit of BD147.5m

(US\$392.2m), up by 55.8% YoY, versus a Profit of BD94.6m (US\$251.7m) for the same period in 2023. The Company reported Earnings per Share of fils 104 versus fils 67 for the same period in 2023. Alba's Total Comprehensive Income was BD145.3m (US\$386.5m), up by 60.7% YoY, compared to a Total Comprehensive Income of BD90.5m (US\$240.6m) in the same period of 2023. Gross Profit was BD242.6m (US\$645.2m) versus BD196.4m (US\$522.3m) in the same period of 2023 - up by 23.5% YoY. Alba generated Revenue from contracts with customers of BD1,175m (US\$3,125m) versus BD1,157m (US\$3,077m) in the same period of 2023 - up by 1.6% YoY.

Alba's top-line and bottom-line were driven by LME prices which increased by 4% in the 9 Months of 2024 and 11% YoY in Q3 2024; however, lower premiums down by 15% YoY in the 9 Months of 2024 compared to the previous year, partially offset these gains while premiums inched higher by +2% YoY in Q3 2024 versus the same period in 2023.

Commenting on the Company's performance for the nine

months of 2024, the Chairman of Alba's Board of Directors, Khalid Al Rumaihi stated: "Despite navigating a complex global landscape, Alba has demonstrated its resilience and ability to deliver strong financial results. Our focus on operational efficiency, combined with strategic initiatives, has enabled us to achieve higher top-line and bottom-line performance. As we move towards the end of 2024, we remain focused on capitalising on emerging opportunities and deliver sustainable value to our shareholders."

Alba's Chief Executive Officer, Ali Al Baqali, added: "At Alba, we believe that safety and productivity are mutually inclusive. By prioritising both, we have created a culture that has allowed us to consistently deliver strong results. Our commitment to safety has enabled us to achieve to-date more than 26m safe working hours without LTI."

Alba Management will hold a conference call today at 3:00 PM Bahrain Time to discuss the Company's financial and operational performance for Q3 and 9 Months of 2024 and outline its strategic priorities moving forward.

Alba Priorities

Capacity Expansion and Efficiency Enhancement

Leverage its industry-leading certifications such as Aluminium Stewardship Initiative (ASI), EcoVadis and Low-Carbon Aluminium EternaITM to penetrate new markets and drive growth in Value Added Sales (VAP).

Complete Block 4 Project and Solar Farm (+6 MW) by Q4 2024.

Advance the Class III Feasibility Study for the New Replacement Line which will replace Reduction Lines 1-3. Planned Merger: Alba x Ma'aden: Progress with the due diligence.

Bahrain Flour Mills Company reports Q3 & 9-month profits

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Bahrain Flour Mills company (Al-Matahin) announced a net Profit of BD 358,905 for the third quarter of 2024, versus a net profit of BD 60,124 for the same period in 2023 with an increase of 83%.

The results were announced following a board meeting chaired by Mr. Basim Al Saie, Chairman of the Board of Directors.

The increase in the net profit for the third quarter of the year 2024 in comparison to the same



Basim Al Saie, Chairman of the Board of Directors

period in 2023 is attributed to the increase in sales revenues & decrease in other operating exp provision, besides improved investment income in the third Quarter.



The Company reported Basic and Diluted profit per Share of fils 14.46 for Q3 2024 versus Basic and Diluted Earnings per Share of fils 2.42 for the same period in 2023.

Operating profit for Q3 2024 was BD 107,594 versus operating loss of BD (47,182) for the same period in 2023, due to above reasons. With regards to sales in Q3 2024, BFM generated BD

1,800,558 versus BD 1,655,535 in Q3 2023 - increased by 8%, due to the increase in Bran production.

Nine-month

For the period of nine months of 2024, BFM has reported a Net Profit of BD 528,444 versus BD 1,605,685 for the same period in 2023-decrease by 204%.

The Company reported Basic and Diluted Earnings per Share of fils 21.29 for the period of nine months of 2023 versus fils 64.68 for the same period in 2023.

Operating Profit for the period of nine months of 2024 was BD

114,178 versus BD 524,876 for the same period in 2023 - decrease by 360%, due to an increase in operating expenses.

BFM generated during the nine months of 2024, sales of BD 5,737,441 versus BD 5,722,937 for 2023 -with a slight increase by 0.3%. The Company's total equity decreased by 0.4% to BD 26,180,931 compared with BD 25,220,886 as recorded on 31 December 2023.

The total assets for the period reached BHD 37,826,419 compared to BD 35,548,935 at the end of the same period in 2023, being an increase of 6%.

Tamkeen launches Fintech Sector Skills report

TDT | Manama

The Labour Fund "Tamkeen" announced the release of the Fintech Sector Skills Report, in collaboration with "Bahrain Fintech Bay."

The report serves as an essential reference for individuals, institutions, and professionals seeking to enter this vital sector or who are currently employed within it in addition to demonstrating the emerging trends in the fintech sector, highlighting the evolving nature of job roles and career opportunities. It also identifies the core skills needed to align the workforce's capabilities with market needs through a comprehensive overview of educational pathways and training programs available for those interested in joining or advancing within the fintech field.



Bader Sater - Chief Executive Officer of Bahrain FinTech Bay,



Amer Marhoon, Managing Director of the Skills Bahrain initiative

Amer Marhoon, Managing Director of the Skills Bahrain initiative, said, "This report represents an essential step in strengthening Bahraini talent within the fintech sector by providing an in-depth analysis

of future trends and required skills. This report will also assist us at Tamkeen in developing specialized programs and initiatives that align with the sector's market needs and skills required, hence enabling Bah-

rainis to become more future ready."

Bader Sater - Chief Executive Officer of Bahrain FinTech Bay, added, "We look forward to seeing this report serve as a beneficial tool for guiding individuals and institutions towards a future focused on innovation and sustainability."

This report showcases Bahrain's readiness to adapt to the changes in global trends when it comes to the Fintech sector. It provides insights and data to identify challenges associated with these shifts in the sector, offering comprehensive perspectives on future skills and job roles. It also aims to enhance the ability of individuals and institutions to adapt to and leverage these changes to strengthen their competitiveness both locally and globally.

Kanoo Real Estate and Rafal Real Estate Development Co. Sign deal for Alegria



The deal signing

TDT | Manama

Kanoo Real Estate, a Division of the Yusuf Bin Ahmed Kanoo Group, announced their strategic partnership with Rafal Real Estate Development to elevate the real estate landscape in Saudi Arabia. The strategic partnership, which is at the final stages of obtaining authority approvals, and formalized at Cityscape Global 2024 earlier this week, leverages the combined expertise of both companies to drive innovation and growth within the sector.

The signing ceremony was attended by Dr. Faisal Khalid Kanoo, Board member the Yusuf Bin Ahmed Kanoo Group, Mr. Sulaiman bin Abdulkadir Al Muhaidib, Chairman of Rafal Development, Mr. Talal Fawzi Kanoo, Chairman of Kanoo Real Estate, Mrs. Saffia Abdulla Kanoo, Vice-Chairman of Kanoo Real Estate, Mr. Elias Abousamra, CEO of Rafal, Mr. Mohamed Abdullelah Al Kooheji, Chief Executive Officer of Kanoo Real Estate, and other senior representatives from both companies.

This strategic partnership between Kanoo Real Estate and Rafal Real Estate Development builds upon the successful launch of the Alegria project, a half-billion-Riyal development in Riyadh's Al Narges district in February 2024.

Dr Faisal Khalid Kanoo, Board Member of the Yusuf Bin Ahmed Kanoo Group said: "This strategic partnership strongly aligns with our commitment and mission to contribute to Saudi vision 2030 by creating vibrant communities, and our ambitious vision to expand our footprint in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Mr. Sulaiman bin Abdulkadir Al Muhaidib, Chairman of Rafal Real Estate Development, stated: "Our alignment with Kanoo Real Estate underscores our dedication to raising the standard of living with thoughtfully designed, vibrant communities."

Mr. Elias Abousamra, CEO of Rafal Real Estate Development, added: "We are also pleased to attract significant GCC investment to the Kingdom, reinforcing Saudi Arabia as a premier destination for regional growth and prosperity."

Mr. Mohamed Abdullelah Al Kooheji, Chief Executive Officer of Kanoo Real Estate, also commented, "Alegria is a premium development distinguished by blending Salmani architectural heritage with contemporary design. With integrated landscaping, state-of-the-art amenities and a diverse range of residential options, it reflects our shared vision to elevate community living standards through innovative and sustainable real estate solutions."

IMTA launches BAIC in Bahrain

TDT | Manama

International Motor Trading Agency (IMTA), a leading automobile distributor in Bahrain, has announced the launch of BAIC, a renowned Chinese automotive brand, marking a new era in the Kingdom's automotive landscape.

Starting Tuesday, November 12, 2024, BAIC's impressive lineup of vehicles will be available at the new showroom located in Tubli.

With a rich heritage and a commitment to technological advancement, BAIC offers a diverse range of vehicles to suit every lifestyle, from urban commuters to adventurous off-road enthusiasts.

A Diverse Range of Vehicles

IMTA will introduce a variety of BAIC models to the Bahraini market, including:

- Sedan: U5 Plus
- SUVs: X35, X55, X7.
- Off-road vehicles: BJ40 (4-door & 2-door options), BJ60 (5-seater & 7-Seater options), BJ80 (A true off-roader) & All New BJ30.

Each model is designed to deliver exceptional performance,



advanced safety features, and stylish design. The off-road lineup, featuring powerful and versatile models like the BJ40, BJ60, and BJ80 is crafted to conquer Bahrain's diverse terrains, from city streets to desert landscapes.

Special introductory offers & prices on all the models for

1 week will be available from November 12th.

"We are thrilled to introduce BAIC to the Bahraini market," said IMTA President Suzan Salman Kanoo.

"BAIC is committed to creating smarter vehicles that prioritise safety, comfort, and intelligence," said BAIC Intl.

GCC Region Director Mr. Liu Mengze. "

IMTA Vice President, Mr. K.N. Singh commented, "With a skillful team dedicated to customer satisfaction, and models crafted for both urban and off-road adventures, BAIC offers discerning motorists a reliable and versatile choice."

QUOTE OF THE DAY

TIME IS MORE VALUABLE THAN MONEY. YOU CAN GET MORE MONEY, BUT YOU CANNOT GET MORE TIME
JIM ROHN

TODAY IN HISTORY

1933

In a letter to Jean-Baptiste Le Roy, Benjamin Franklin writes "in this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes"



1956

US Supreme court rules race separation on buses in Alabama unconstitutional

1980

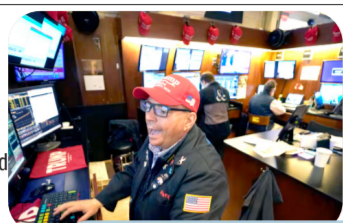
US spacecraft Voyager 1 sends back 1st close-up pictures of Saturn during its fly-by

1985

Nevalo del Ruiz volcano erupts in Colombia, killing 25,000 in the town of Armero

News in brief

A state-funded English-language broadcaster in Taiwan said yesterday it removed a video of one of its journalists calling US President-elect Donald Trump a "convicted felon" because the term had been used inappropriately.



Taiwan video taken down after reporter calls Trump 'convicted felon'

Queen Camilla, whose husband is Britain's head of state King Charles III, will return to public duties on Tuesday with a shortened programme after withdrawing from events last week due to a chest infection.

Britain's Queen Camilla returns to public duties after chest infection



US Secretary of State Antony Blinken will head Tuesday on an emergency trip to Brussels to discuss how to support Ukraine with European allies in the race before Donald Trump takes the White House.

Blinken in emergency Brussels trip on Ukraine after Trump win

The attack was reported on Monday. Preliminary investigations suggested that the 62-year-old driver, surnamed Fan, had been "triggered by (his) dissatisfaction with the division of property following his divorce". He is currently in a coma after self-inflicted injuries to his neck and other parts of his body.

The attack was reported on Monday

Preliminary investigations suggested that the 62-year-old driver, surnamed Fan, had been "triggered by (his) dissatisfaction with the division of property following his divorce"

He is currently in a coma after self-inflicted injuries to his neck and other parts of his body

AFP | Zhuhai, China

35 killed, dozens wounded in south China car ramming



Wounded people lie on the ground after a suspected hit-and-run attack outside a sports center, in Zhuhai, China, on Monday, in this still image taken from a social media video.

Driver has killed 35 people and wounded 43 others in southern China, police said yesterday, a day after the car ploughed down people exercising in a sports centre in the city of Zhuhai.

After the attack was reported on Monday, police only said people had been wounded, while videos of the incident appeared to have been scrubbed from social media.

But on Tuesday, police said that a "serious and vicious attack" had occurred at Zhuhai Sports Centre, revealing the death toll to be 35.

The 43 people wounded are not currently in life-threatening conditions.

Videos from Monday night geolocated by AFP showed people lying motionless on the ground, while others were seen frantically attempting to resuscitate the unconscious.

Preliminary investigations suggested that the 62-year-old driver, surnamed Fan, had been "triggered by (his) dissatisfaction with the division of property following his divorce", the police said in a statement.

Fan drove "a small SUV through the gate and forced his way into the city's sports centre, ramming people who were exercising on the internal roads of the sports centre", the statement added.

He was "controlled on the spot by the police who rushed to the scene as he attempted to drive away".

Fan drove a small SUV through the gate and forced his way into the city's sports centre, ramming people who were exercising on the internal roads of the sports centre

form Xiaohongshu, users expressed their shock at the death toll.

"Last night after work, when I watched the news, there weren't this many people reported," one user commented on a photo of the police statement released.

Videos on the social media platform also showed Zhuhai residents queuing up at blood donation centres and hospitals.

In a safety alert, Japan's embassy in China warned its citizens on Tuesday to be on high alert and "refrain from speaking loudly in Japanese and avoid provocative, attention-drawing behaviour such as being loud in groups".

The embassy said it had no information that any Japanese citizens had been wounded in the attack.

China has seen a spate of violent public attacks in recent months.

A man killed three people and wounded 15 in a knife attack at a supermarket in the Chinese megacity of Shanghai in October. In September, a Japanese schoolboy was stabbed in the southern city of Shenzhen and died of his injuries.

And in July, police said a vehicle crashed into pedestrians in the central city of Changsha, killing eight.

NASS CORPORATION BSC financial statements including Condensed Consolidated Statement of Financial Position, Profit or Loss, Cash Flows, and Changes in Equity for 2024 and 2023.

Delmon Poultry Company B.S.C. Condensed Interim Financial Information for the Quarter and Nine Months Ended 30 September 2024 (Reviewed), including Profit or Loss, Cash Flows, and Changes in Shareholders' Equity.

CELEBS

celebs

Taylor Swift sweeps MTV EMAs

Swift leads female-dominated MTV Europe Music Awards, wins four honours, including best artist and video

● Taylor Swift wins best artist and best video

● Tyla and Sabrina Carpenter also take home multiple awards

● Blackpink's Lisa, Ariana Grande, and Eminem among other winners

AFP | Manchester

Taylor Swift led the way at the 2024 MTV Europe Music Awards in Manchester on Sunday, picking up four awards on a night dominated by female artists, including Tyla and Sabrina Carpenter.

The ceremony's 30th edition, which brought the biggest names in world music to north-west England, saw Swift take home trophies for best artist, best live, best US act and best video for her collaboration with Post Malone in "Fortnight".

In a pre-recorded message, Swift expressed sadness for not being able to attend in person but said the honour was "just unbelievable".

Tyla won three awards, including for best R&B, while Carpenter won for best song.

British singer Rita Ora hosted the awards, which were held in Britain for the seventh time.

Swift, whose ongoing "Eras" tour is the most lucrative in history, was nominated in seven categories following the release this year of her 11th album "The Tortured Poets Department".

In the best artist category she went up against compatriots Beyonce, Billie Eilish and Post Malone, and British star Raye, who won a record six gongs at this year's Brit Awards.

Carpenter, one of the stars of the summer with her hit "Please Please Please", completed the list of nominees.

While Swift won that category, Carpenter's "Espresso" took best song, outshining Eilish's "Birds of a Feather", Beyonce's "Texas Hold 'Em", "Beautiful Things" by Benson Boone, Chappell Roan's "Good Luck, Babe!" and "We Can't Be Friends" by Ariana Grande.

As with the US music industry's Grammy awards, Latin artists, including stars such as Puerto Rican Bad Bunny and Colombian Karol G were left out

of the top categories this year despite their global hits.

Both were contenders in the best Latin field, alongside

Shakira, who has revived her career with the hit "Bzrp Music Sessions, Vol. 53", about her separation from ex-footballer Gerard Pique.

Other artists who picked up awards in Manchester included Lisa of the ultra-popular K-pop group Blackpink, Ariana Grande, Eminem and Liam Gallagher.

Busta Rhymes received a global icon award.

This was the first MTV Europe Music Awards since 2022 after last year's edition, to be held near Paris, was cancelled because of the war between Israel and Hamas.



South Korean band Le Sserafim took home the push performance award



Rita Ora hosts the awards show



Neil Tennant and Chris Lowe of Pet Shop Boys perform alongside a local orchestra, the Manchester Camerata



Busta Rhymes performs during the event



Taylor Swift's "Eras" tour, the most successful in music history, made her a top nominee with seven MTV EMA nods this year

SUDOKU

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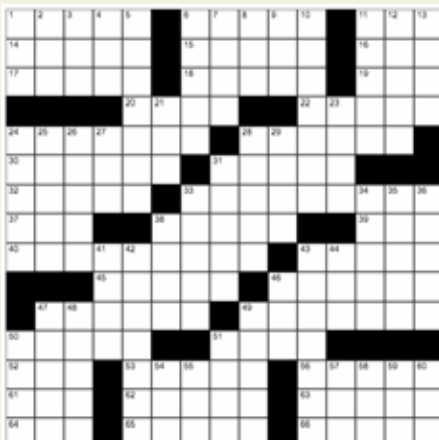
Yesterday's solution

6	2	9	5	4	1	7	8	3
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8	1	4	3	7	6	5	9	2
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2	4	6	8	3	5	9	1	7
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How to play

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

CROSSWORD



Across

1- Moist; 6- Long walks; 11- Stipulations; 14- Alamo's county; 15- Beaming; 16- Sellout sign; 17- Conger catcher; 18- Lover of Juliet; 19- Small batteries; 20- Encounter; 22- Alpaca's cousin; 24- Bitter derision; 28- Comfort in misfortune; 30- Quantity; 31- Strikes out; 32- Stylish; 33- Sweetheart; 37- Is afflicted with; 38- Monte; 39- At the present time; 40- Hollow-horned ruminants; 43- Part of Hispaniola; 45- Two-legged support; 46- Gibberish; 47- Thief; 49- Vocalization of young birds; 50- Pithy; 51- Word that can precede war, biotic and climax; 52- Greek vowel; 53- Cheek cosmetic; 56- Expressed disapproval; 61- Mus. slow up; 62- Tree-lined walk; 63- Overture; 64- Born, in France; 65- "See ya!"; 66- Wise ones;

Down

1- Garden tool; 2- Salt Lake City player; 3- Brooks filmmaker responsible for "Blazing Saddles"; 4- High dudgeon; 5- Inactive; 6- Seraglio; 7- Rhythm; 8- Dutch carrier; 9- Fair-hiring abbr.; 10- Tumor; 11- Stern with a bow; 12- Picture border; 13- Cubs slugger Sammy; 21- Ball-park fig.; 23- Final, ultimate; 24- Figure skater Cohen; 25- Jordan's capital; 26- Way to cook; 27- Junkyard dog; 28- Vends; 29- Ersatz butter; 31- Called one's bluff; 33- Visible exhalation; 34- Architect Jones; 35- your life; 36- "Dallas" family name; 38- Deal (with); 41- Subsidies; 42- Generous; 43- Constitution of a person; 44- longa, vita brevis; 46- Stick (out); 47- Knot again; 48- Use a soapbox; 49- Scoff; 50- Small gull; 51- Author James; 54- Pay stub; 55- Nth. Abbr.; 57- Health haven; 58- Frat party staple; 59- Chemical ending; 60- Driller's deg.;

Yesterday's solution

A	L	E	C	A	J	A	R	M	A	M
R	I	A	L	S	E	T	U	P	A	B
A	E	R	O	S	T	E	E	R	N	E
B	U	L	B	E	T	E	I	S	I	S
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E	V	E	R	T	M	E	T	A	L	L
G	E	O	R	G	S	A	L	E	A	R
O	R	D	S	K	I	E	R	M	O	A
L	I	K	E	P	A	N	E	S	W	A
D	E	A	F	M	U	T	E	L	E	E
	F	A	T	E	L	A	W	S		
R	E	B	O	R	N	N	E	T	T	O
A	L	A	R	I	N	A	N	E	E	M
N	E	S	T	K	I	N	D	S	R	O
T	A	T	S	L	A	S	T	N	O	N

Justice for victims

Ten-year sentence for man who forced two women into prostitution

H Naser
TDT | Manama

The High Criminal Court has sentenced an Asian man to 10 years imprisonment for forcing two Asian women into prostitution and assaulting one of them.

The court's decision followed the man's confession and the discovery of a ledger detailing his earnings from the women's forced prostitution.

Each victim had a dedicated page in the ledger, meticulously documenting client encounters.

A report from an Asian embassy in Bahrain initiated the investigation, alleging that a woman was being held captive in a Juffair apartment and forced into prostitution.

Responding swiftly, Bahraini police apprehended the suspect and rescued not only the initial victim but also a second



Image used for illustrative purposes only

woman held under similar circumstances.

The investigation uncovered a human trafficking scheme:

both women had been lured to Bahrain with false promises of legitimate employment.

Upon arrival, they were immediately confined by the suspect, who had been in contact with them beforehand, and subjected to forced prostitution through a combination of physical and psychological coercion designed to control and exploit them for financial gain.

According to the victims' testimony, the defendant not only forced them into encounters with clients but also assaulted one of them after drugging her drink.

He confiscated their phones, preventing them from contacting anyone outside the apartment.

It was only after one of the victims managed to contact her embassy that the authorities were alerted to the situation.

ICRF to host inaugural cricket tournament for workers

● Set for Nov. 15, 2024

TDT | Manama

As part of its Silver Jubilee celebrations, the Indian Community Relief Fund (ICRF), in collaboration with the Bahrain Cricket Federation, will host a unique Cricket Tournament that features teams composed exclusively of workers.

This exciting event, aimed at fostering community spirit and celebrating the invaluable contribution of the worker community, will take place on Friday, November 15, 2024, at the Bahrain Cricket Federation grounds in Busaiteen.

The tournament will commence at 6 a.m. and is expected to wrap up by 4 p.m. with the announcement of the winners.

The event will see 16 dedicated workers teams, representing various labour camps across Bahrain, come together to showcase their skills and passion for the game.

The overwhelming interest in this tournament highlights the enthusiasm within the worker community for sports and recreational activities, which play a crucial role in improving their well-being and bringing communities together.

Objective

Advocate V K Thomas, Chairman of ICRF, emphasized the significance of such events, saying, "The objective of this tournament is to uplift the spirits of participating workers through sports. This initiative reflects ICRF's commitment to enhancing the lives of the



"This initiative reflects ICRF's commitment to enhancing the lives of the worker community in Bahrain, not only through support and welfare but also through opportunities for recreation and camaraderie."

- ADVOCATE V K THOMAS, CHAIRMAN OF ICRF

worker community in Bahrain, not only through support and welfare but also through opportunities for recreation and camaraderie."

This tournament also serves as a continuation of ICRF's Silver Jubilee activities, following the recent felicitation ceremony honoring 25 long-serving workers who have each contributed over 25 years of service.

Hosting this cricket tournament is another step towards recognizing the dedication of Bahrain's workers and providing them with a platform to connect, compete, and enjoy.

Community spirit

The tournament promises an exciting day of cricket and community spirit, as workers come together for a celebration of sports and resilience.

Spectators are welcome to join in and cheer for the teams, making it an event to remember for everyone involved.

For further information contact - 39337866 or 39802727.

Museums to hold diverse cultural activities

TDT | Manama

The museums of the Kingdom of Bahrain continue to enhance their role as cultural hubs, offering a wide range of artistic, educational, and recreational activities that enrich the local cultural scene.

Last month, the Bahrain National Museum and Bahrain Fort Museum drew significant participation across various societal groups with their dynamic programs.

Targeting children and youth aged 8 to 16, the Bahrain National Museum, in collaboration with the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities, has lined up activities led by specialists in education, health, and



An engaging activity that sparks joy and fosters learning for kids

astronomy.

The upcoming schedule begins on Friday, November 15, with a Tai Chi session.

This will be followed by an 'Astronomy Night: Mars-Moon Conjunction' on Thursday, November 21, at 10 pm, and the

series will conclude with a yoga session on Saturday, November 23, in partnership with the Indian Embassy.

The Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities (BACA) underscores the vital role museums play in fostering com-

munity engagement and preserving the nation's history and heritage.

By hosting annual programs and events, these institutions contribute significantly to Bahrain's cultural legacy and promote public involvement.

Can Art Save the Planet?

Dr. Nidhi S Menon, Assistant Professor at the University of Technology Bahrain, Director of Bhavahara (Art Enthusiast Group), and Supporter of Indian Institute for Performing Arts (IIPA), says arts can be a dynamic force to achieve SDGs

TDT | Manama

The world stands at a critical juncture, facing urgent challenges like climate change and deepening inequalities.

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) offer a roadmap for a better future by 2030.

Yet, while policies and frameworks are crucial, Dr. Nidhi S. Menon, Assistant Professor at the University of Technology Bahrain, argues that the arts - dance, music, and theatre - hold untapped power to propel this global mission forward.

Dance: A Universal Language Breaking Boundaries

"Dance is the ultimate universal language," Dr. Menon begins, with a passion that underscores her belief.

The grace and intensity of dance, she explains, have the power to cut through cultur-

al barriers, making complex themes like environmental crisis or cultural appreciation understandable and moving.

"Imagine a performance that not only tells but shows the story of our planet's urgency. It leaves an imprint," she notes.

When sustainability is woven into dance festivals, it's more than entertainment - it's a call to action, challenging audiences to reflect and engage.

Music: Mobilizing the Heartbeat of Change

Music, Dr. Menon continues, can be just as electrifying and transformative.

"Music can light a fire in people," she says, her words vivid with conviction.

A well-composed song about gender equality or environmental stewardship doesn't just raise awareness; it strikes a chord, urging listeners to act. Dr. Menon sees the potential in con-

certs designed around the SDGs, where the atmosphere becomes one of unity and purpose.

"Music can turn gatherings into movements, bringing the community together to push for real change," she adds, imagining the ripple effect of such initiatives.

Theatre: Crafting Stories That Demand Action

For Dr. Menon, theatre holds



"Imagine a world where every dance, song, and story fuels a movement towards sustainability," she envisions. "That's the power we must harness."

- DR. NIDHI S MENON



a special place. Her recent directorial work, 'Bhayaprasthav', serves as a striking example.

Inspired by SDG 15, 'Life on Land', the production tackled environmental degradation and the human toll on biodiversity.

"Theatre can bring abstract issues like climate displacement to life, making them real and relatable," she says, her voice filled with urgency.

She describes how audienc-

es left 'Bhayaprasthav' with a newfound commitment to environmental conservation, having been drawn into the story's emotional heart

"This art form makes you think, and act," Dr. Menon asserts, recognizing its potential to mobilize advocates in every community.

The Academic Perspective: Bridging Knowledge and Creativity

An accomplished academic, Dr. Menon sees universities as pivotal in leveraging the arts to achieve the SDGs.

"Institutions have the resources and influence to make a difference," she points out.

By embedding the SDGs into academic programs, encouraging artist-student collaborations, and conducting actionable research, universities can lead the way in sustainable innovation.

"It's about empowerment," Dr. Menon explains. "We must prepare the next generation to be creative change-makers."

A Vision for a Sustainable Future

As our conversation draws to a close, Dr. Menon's vision emerges clearly - a world where art is more than an aesthetic experience, but a force for good.

"Art is a catalyst," she says, her words laced with hope and determination.

By using the arts to engage and inspire, she believes we can transform the SDGs from lofty aspirations to lived realities.

"Imagine a world where every dance, song, and story fuels a movement towards sustainability," she envisions. "That's the power we must harness."

For Dr. Menon, the journey to 2030 is not just about policy, it's about people, creativity, and the undeniable impact of the arts.

Sarang Helicopter Display Team

From Falcons to Superjumbos: Bahrain Airshow 2024 Takes Flight



Boeing 787-9

Aerospace Festival One Day Ticket

Adult Ticket 5,000 BD
 Location: Bahrain International Circuit
 Date: November 13 to November 15.
 This ticket allows for admission for 1 day only.
 Children under 16 years of age can enter for free.
 For assistance please call +973 17560555.
 This ticket allows for admission for 1 day only from November 13 to November 15, from 10:00am to 6:00pm.

Mahir Haneef
 TDT | Manama

Bahrain's skies are abuzz as the Bahrain International Airshow 2024 takes off today, turning the Gulf nation into a showcase of aviation's finest – from sleek commercial giants to high-powered fighter jets. This year's spectacle is more than just a display of impressive machinery; it's a strategic unveiling of power, national priorities, and international partnerships.

At the heart of the show, the Royal Saudi Air Force's mighty F-15SA fighter commands at-

ention. Based on the legendary F-15 Eagle, a model famed for air superiority since the 1970s, this aircraft combines raw speed – reaching up to Mach 2.5 – with cutting-edge radar and missile tech. Its presence is a clear signal of Saudi Arabia's dedication to staying at the forefront of defence.

Meanwhile, Gulf Air's Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner glides in with quiet sophistication, representing a different kind of might: the power of connection. This sleek, fuel-efficient aircraft has revolutionized commercial air travel since 2011, giving Gulf Air the ability to connect Bahrain to

far-reaching hubs worldwide. The Dreamliner's smooth approach serves as a reminder of Bahrain's commitment to modern, long-haul aviation.

Aerial artistry takes centre stage as the Saudi Hawks aerobatic team paints the sky in streaks of green and white, thrilling the crowd with their precision formations honed over decades. Joining them, India's Sarang Helicopter Display Team manoeuvres Dhruv helicopters in a graceful display, showcasing the Dhruv's versatility – a machine built for

the extremes of the Himalayas and capable of daring sea rescues.

Adding an international flair, Pakistan's JF-17 Thunder cuts through the air, proving itself as a nimble, cost-effective multirole fighter. Though a relative newcomer, the JF-17 has earned a solid reputation with its agility and affordable operating costs, making it a standout among the crowd.

One of the airshow's legends, the American F-16 Fighting Falcon, roars overhead, reminding onlookers of its Cold War roots

and enduring legacy. With over 4,600 units in operation worldwide, this multi-role aircraft remains one of the most trust-

ed and widely deployed in modern combat.

On the ground, the static displays tell their own stories. The UAE's Mirage 2000-9, a marvel of French engineering, stands as a testament to the Gulf's defence ties with Europe, while Emirates' A380 superjumbo – the world's largest passenger aircraft – embodies luxury and innovation in commercial flight. Not to be outdone, the Royal Bahraini Air Force showcases its own strength with Blackhawk helicopters and Hawk training aircraft, underscoring Bahrain's dedication to regional security.



F-15 SA



Hawk



F-16 Fighting Falcon



JF-17



Mirage 2000-9



A380



Blackhawk

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Bahrain hosts struggling China in crucial qualifier

High-stakes match at Bahrain National Stadium decisive for World Cup qualification hopes

- Bahrain seeks crucial win against China
- Mohamed Marhoon key player for Bahrain
- Bahrain sits 4th in group, level on points with Australia and Saudi Arabia
- China under pressure at bottom of group, seeks to end away drought
- Bahrain banking on vocal home crowd to inspire their performance



Bahrain's spirited draw against Saudi Arabia in October

As Bahrain prepares to host China in a high-stakes World Cup qualifying match, the stage is set for an electrifying encounter at the Bahrain National Stadium in Riffa tomorrow at 5PM.

The Dilmun Warriors have shown resilience under head coach Dragan Talajic, putting together a solid campaign since the start of the third round. After a narrow round-of-16 exit in the Asian Cup, Bahrain has lost only one of its last eight matches, highlighted by a stunning September victory over Australia, where a late own goal sealed a

shocking upset for Bahrain. Recently, they displayed defensive strength with a 0-0 draw against Saudi Arabia in Jeddah, where goalkeeper Ebrahim Lutfalla's penalty save preserved the result.

With Thursday's game marking the middle of the third round, Bahrain sits fourth in Group C, level on points with Australia and Saudi Arabia, and trailing only Japan. A win would give them a strong push toward a

potential top-two finish, keeping their World Cup dreams alive.

Key Players and Tactical Focus

For Bahrain, Mohamed Marhoon remains a crucial figure, having scored in the 2-2 draw against Indonesia last month. Marhoon, who now wears his 50th cap, will look to inspire the home crowd with his attacking brilliance against China. Meanwhile, the team has been intensifying their training, working

on shooting precision and quick passes to bolster their offensive edge.

On the opposing side, China's head coach Branko Ivankovic faces mounting pressure as his squad, positioned at the bottom of Group C, fights to salvage their campaign. Despite recent struggles, China secured a morale-boosting 2-1 win over Indonesia in October, with goals from Bakram Abduweli and Yuning Zhang. However, China has not

Bahrain goalkeeper Ebrahim Lutfalla's penalty save in the recent 0-0 draw against Saudi Arabia showcased the team's defensive resilience as they look to secure a crucial home victory against China

won an away match since a win over Thailand nearly a year ago.

Home Advantage

Playing in front of an enthusiastic home crowd at the Bahrain National Stadium provides a valuable advantage for the Dilmun Warriors. Midfielder Komail Alaswad emphasized the importance of fan support, saying, "Our fans are our 12th man. Their energy pushes us to give everything on the pitch."

As the clock ticks down, anticipation is building, and both teams know the stakes. For Bahrain, a win could propel them into contention for a top-two finish, while for China, it's a chance to avoid falling further behind. With qualification hopes on the line, Bahrain is ready to defend their home turf and continue their World Cup journey.

Villa's Rogers receives first England call-up after mass withdrawal



Morgan Rogers
AFP | London

Aston Villa's Morgan Rogers is among a group of five players added to England's squad for this month's Nations League fixtures against Greece and Ireland after eight players withdrew.

Interim boss Lee Carsley is overseeing his final two fixtures, in Athens on Thursday and at Wembley three days later, before handing the reins over to Thomas Tuchel.

Carsley will be without string of senior players -- seven from the top four clubs in the Premier League -- after Trent Alexander-Arnold, Levi Colwill, Declan Rice, Bukayo Saka, Cole Palmer, Jack Grealish and Phil Foden withdrew from the squad.

Southampton goalkeeper Aaron Ramsdale has also pulled out.

The Bahraini Stand: Uniting fans for a shared purpose

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

Hussein Al-Samahiji, the President of the Al-Ahli Club Supporters Association, has announced a new initiative aimed at bringing together Bahraini fans in a unified movement. Through a dedicated account named "The Bahraini Stand" and the creation of a special mobile group, Al-Samahiji's vision is to rally support for all teams representing Bahrain.

This initiative seeks to build a collective spirit among fans, allowing them to share their enthusiasm and support for the Kingdom's athletes and clubs, no matter the sport. With this unified effort, the goal is to foster national pride and create an



Fans celebrate during a match (file photo)

energetic atmosphere for every Bahraini team.

In preparation for Bahrain's crucial match against China

tomorrow at the Bahrain National Stadium, Al-Samahiji's initiative takes on even greater importance.

As the national team faces off on home turf, the movement aims to bring fans together to cheer loudly and proudly, ensuring the team feels the full strength of their nation's support.

Al-Samahiji's move comes at a time when sports in Bahrain are growing, and fans are looking for ways to connect and encourage their teams on a national level. By bringing together the passion of Bahrain's sports community, this initiative will likely create lasting impact, encouraging future generations of fans to continue the tradition of unwavering support for their country.

Khalidiya Club joins Bahrain Football Association

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

The Bahrain Football Association's General Assembly has officially approved Khalidiya Sports Club as a regular member of the federation. This significant step marks a new chapter for the club, further strengthening Bahrain's football community and foster-

ing greater participation in the sport across the Kingdom.

Khalidiya SC's new membership with the Bahrain Football Association is a reflection of its growth and commitment to promoting football at both the youth and senior levels. With this official recognition, the club now has access to a broader network of resources, support, and opportunities to further develop



its programs and players.

This decision also reflects the ongoing evolution of Bahraini football, as more clubs are integrated into the national framework, contributing to a more competitive and united sporting environment. Khalidiya's inclusion will undoubtedly play a key role in enhancing the overall football culture in Bahrain.

Medvedev bounces back, sees off De Minaur to boost ATP Finals bid

Former champion revives ATP Finals hopes with convincing 6-2, 6-4 win

● Daniil Medvedev bounces back from opening loss

● Alex de Minaur on brink of elimination

● Medvedev faces Jannik Sinner next

AFP | Turin

Former champion Daniil Medvedev brushed aside ATP Finals debutant Alex de Minaur yesterday to bounce back from an opening defeat and boost his hopes of making the knock-out phase.

The Russian, who lost his first group-stage match to Taylor Fritz, overpowered De Minaur in Turin to win 6-2, 6-4 and leave his opponent on the brink of elimination.

Australian De Minaur will be knocked out with a match to spare if the other tie in the Ilie Nastase Group between Jannik Sinner and Fritz goes to three



Russia's Daniil Medvedev hits a return to Australia's Alex De Minaur

sets later yesterday.

Medvedev, who lifted the title in 2020, did not face a single break point and broke De Minaur's serve three times.

The fourth seed will next face world number one and title favourite Sinner on Thursday.

"I decided not to care about it in a good way," Medvedev said.

"If I lose, the season is over, if I win I have another chance on Thursday... I'll try and do the same the next match, so I don't care."

BETTER YOU KNOW

Medvedev, who claimed the ATP Finals title in 2020, is known for his strong defensive game and was unbreakable against De Minaur, winning 93% of his first-serve points in the second set

Both players battled to holds in their opening service games but Medvedev broke for a 2-1 lead and never looked back.

He struck 16 winners in the first set and then lost just two points behind his serve in the second.

A break in the ninth game of the second set proved decisive and he closed out victory with another comfortable hold.

FA investigates Premier League referee Coote over video rant



Jurgen Klopp speaks to referee referee David Coote (file photo)

AFP | London

The Football Association is investigating after a video was posted on social media appearing to show Premier League referee David Coote making derogatory comments about Liverpool and their former manager Jurgen Klopp.

Referees body Professional Game Match Officials Ltd announced on Monday that Coote, 42, had been suspended pending a full investigation.

The Football Association is also looking at Coote's comments. It is understood part of its investigation will centre on whether Coote's reference to Klopp's nationality constitutes an aggravated breach of its misconduct rules.

"We are aware of the matter, and we are investigating it," an FA spokesman said yesterday.

New Zealand hat-trick hero Ferguson out of Sri Lanka ODIs

AFP | Wellington

New Zealand fast bowler Lockie Ferguson is out of the one-day international series against Sri Lanka with a leg injury, days after taking a hat-trick against the same opposition.

Ferguson went off for treatment straight after becoming the sixth New Zealander to take a Twenty20 international hat-trick during his second over in Sunday's series-levelling win in Dambulla.

Seamer Adam Milne replaces the 33-year-old white-ball specialist and will join the squad in Dambulla ahead of Wednesday's first ODI of a three-match series.

"We're gutted for Lockie," said New Zealand coach Gary Stead.

"He showed in the space of just two overs what an asset



New Zealand's Lockie Ferguson in action

he is with the ball and he's also brought a lot of leadership to this group.

"We're hopeful his recovery will be short and he'll be

back out on the field in no time."

The second and third ODIs are inallekele on November 17 and 19.

Ali bin Khalifa chairs General Assembly of Bahrain Football Association

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

In a significant move for Bahraini football, Ali bin Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa recently chaired the General Assembly of the Bahrain Football Association (BFA). This meeting comes at a crucial time as Bahrain continues to develop and expand its football programs, with both royal support and governmental attention playing key roles in the sport's growth.

During the meeting, Ali bin Khalifa acknowledged the unwavering support provided by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, which has

been vital in the continued development of football in the Kingdom. His Majesty's generous sponsorship and commitment to the sport have laid a strong foundation for success, ensuring Bahrain remains at the forefront of regional football.

Additionally, the efforts of His Excellency Isa Al Khalifa, alongside the esteemed leadership of the government under the guidance of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, were highlighted. Their involvement and support for Bahrain's football initiatives reflect a broad-

er vision to promote sports and foster unity within the nation.

The BFA General Assembly under the leadership of Ali bin Khalifa serves as a reminder of the importance of collaboration between Bahrain's government, football organizations, and its royal family to ensure the continued success and growth of the sport across the Kingdom.

With this strong backing, the future of football in Bahrain is poised to flourish, with more opportunities for local talent and a greater sense of national pride surrounding the sport.

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Ebrahim, Buelow share BTCC spoils

Thrilling night racing action unfolds at Bahrain International Circuit



Winners of Bahrain Touring Car Challenge celebrate on the podium

● **Al Zaidan, Al Tourah excel in motorcycles**

● **Track incident paused race one but ended in Ebrahim's favour**

TDT | Manama

Isa Ebrahim and Andreas Buelow shared the spoils in the second round of the 2024-25 Bahrain Touring Car Challenge (BTCC), held under lights as part of National Race Day last weekend at Bahrain International Circuit (BIC) in Sakhir.

Mohammed Al Zaidan and

Saud Al Tourah also had reason to celebrate. They were both victorious in their respective classes in round two of the 2024-25 Bahrain Motorcycle Championship (BMC).

The weekend's night racing events were held along the 2.55-kilometre Inner Track at 'The Home of Motorsport in the Middle East'.

National Race Day was organised by BIC in cooperation with the Bahrain Motor Federation, the Circuit Racing Commission, the Bahrain Motorcycle Commission, and the Motorsport Marshals Club.

Moaz Elzahrawi kicked things off in the BTCC by topping the practice timesheet in his Honda Civic challenger with

a top lap of one minute 19.207 seconds. Ebrahim then took charge in qualifying, securing pole position for race one with a best time of 1:18.825.

Track incident

Ebrahim capitalised on his leading grid position to claim the victory in the opening 15-lap race, which had to be paused due to an incident on track involving Elzahrawi, who had started alongside Ebrahim on row one.

Ebrahim continued from where he left off and powered to the chequered flag in his Honda Civic with a winning time of one hour four minutes 52.505 seconds. He finished 3.167 seconds ahead of Buelow, while Ali Baqer came third 1:08.687s back, both



Action from Bahrain Touring Car Challenge

also in Honda Civics.

In race two, Hamad Khamis was on pole in his Honda Civic following the reverse grid rule, but at the start, Baqer had a quick getaway and managed to take the lead into turn one.

Sizable gap

It didn't take long, however, for Buelow to seize the advantage midway through the opening lap, and he held on the rest of the way while building a sizable gap of more than half-a-minute at the finish. Buelow's winning race time was 20:31.740 while Baqer was the runner-up 34.696s behind. Khamis completed the podium placers a lap back.

Meanwhile, in the BMC, Al Zaidan in a Kawasaki ZX6 set the pace in practice with a time of 1:12.794 in the 600cc category, while Nawaf Al Shuaibi in a Suzuki 1000 SXR led the 1,000cc class with a lap of 1:15.822.

In qualifying, Ali Boushehri took overall pole with a lap of 1:10.781 in his Honda CBR 600RR while also being in front of the 600cc class. Al Tourah was the leader amongst the 1,000cc contenders with a lap of 1:12.279.

In the meeting's single 14-lap race, Al Zaidan was the overall winner in 16:52.845. He was joined on the 600cc podium by Boushehri, who was 9.856s behind, and Saif Al Buainain in a Yamaha R6, who finished third with a 54.983s gap from the victor.

Al Tourah won the 1,000cc class in 17:16.888. Hassan Al Awadhi was the runner-up 27.376s behind in his Yamaha R1, while Fahed Al Hashash in a Suzuki GSXR took third a lap behind.

Following all the action, the winners in both the BTCC and BMC were awarded their respective trophies during the podium ceremonies attended by officials.

Seven rounds of National Race Day are scheduled to take place this 2024/2025 season, to be held all the way through to May.



Action from Bahrain Motorcycle Championship



Winners of Bahrain Motorcycle Championship celebrate on the podium



The reverse grid rule in BTCC added suspense to race two, leading to Buelow's impressive half-minute gap victory over the field

Alpine F1 team switch to Mercedes engines from 2026

AFP | London

The Alpine Formula 1 team announced yesterday it will switch to Mercedes engines from the 2026 season as it bids to keep pace with its rivals.

Alpine's parent company Renault decided in September to end its works engine programme in France, which had been working on developing new power units to comply with F1 regulation changes that come into force in 2026.

Alpine lagged behind the field in the early races of this season but has sped up significantly in recent months

The deal with Mercedes that runs until 2030 is aimed at eliminating problems linked to the Renault engines and follows the

appointment of former Renault F1 team boss Flavio Briatore as executive advisor.

A statement from the team announced that Alpine, the team previously known as Renault which rebranded in 2021, would also switch to Mercedes gearboxes.

"Alpine, Mercedes-AMG High Performance Powertrains, and Mercedes-Benz Grand Prix have entered into power unit and gearbox agreements from

the start of the 2026 world championship," the team said.

Alpine lagged behind the field in the early races of this season but has sped up significantly in recent months, culminating in Esteban Ocon and Pierre Gasly finishing second and third, behind winner Max Verstappen, in the rain-hit Sao Paulo Grand Prix on November 3.

As a result the team leapt from ninth to sixth in the constructors' standings.



Alpine's French drivers Esteban Ocon (front) and Pierre Gasly drive through the pit lane during the qualifying session of the Bahrain Formula One Grand Prix