

'Deliver a great performance': Pizzi
 Bahrain face mammoth task against continental giants South Korea in their opening game of AFC Asian Cup | P12

HM King Hamad appoints advisor



HM the King
TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa issued Royal Order (3) of 2024, appointing an advisor to HM the King.

According to the order, Hala bint Mohammed Jaber Al Ansari was appointed as the Advisor to HM the King for Cultural and Scientific Affairs at the rank of minister.

The Minister of the Royal Court shall implement this order, which shall come into effect from the date of its issuance, and it shall be published in the Official Gazette.

Bahrain foreign policy praised

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Arab Parliament Speaker, Adel Abdulrahman Al Asoomi, expressed pride in Bahrain's diplomacy and its distinguished international position, led by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

This came on the occasion of Bahrain Diplomatic Day, which is celebrated on January 14.

(Bahrain Diplomatic Day reports on Pages 3-4)

E-passports success

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More than 100,000 copies of e-passports were issued in the last 10 months since its launch in March 2023, according to His Excellency Shaikh Hisham bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa, the Undersecretary for Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs (NPRA) at the Interior Ministry.

Citizens can apply via Bahrain. bh and the NPRA service centres after booking an appointment on the Mawaeid App.

Jobs for all

Shura Council approves law to double disability quota

TDT | Manama

In a landmark move, the Shura Council has approved a proposed law mandating increased employment opportunities for persons with disabilities.

This progressive legislation aims to raise the required number of disabled workers in companies with 50 or more employees from 2% to 4%, paving the way for more inclusive workplaces and a brighter future for the disabled community.

The proposal, championed by a dedicated group of Shura Council members, not only focuses on numerical targets but also emphasizes seamless integration. It calls for the creation of an official decree, spearheaded by the Minister of Labour in collaboration with other relevant authorities, outlining jobs and positions specifically suited for individuals with disabilities. This crucial step ensures compatibility between disability types and work requirements, allowing for tailored opportunities that maximize potential.

"This proposed law is about empowerment and recognition,"

declared Talal Mohammed Al Manai, one of the driving forces behind the initiative. "We want to see more Bahraini citizens with disabilities not just employed, but thriving in their chosen fields. By increasing the mandated percentage and ensuring job suitability, we are paving the way for a more inclusive and diverse labour market."

The Council's commitment to the cause echoes on an international level, aligning with various treaties and conventions on disability rights. By acknowledging the unique needs of individuals with disabilities and facilitating their participation in the workforce, Bahrain is taking



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"This proposed law is about empowerment and recognition. We want to see more Bahraini citizens with disabilities not just employed, but thriving in their chosen fields. By increasing the mandated percentage and ensuring job suitability, we are paving the way for a more inclusive and diverse labour market."

- TALAL MOHAMMED AL MANAI, SHURA COUNCIL MEMBER

a significant step towards a more equitable and dynamic society.

Streamline initiatives

While acknowledging the Ministry of Labour's current efforts in qualifying and supporting disabled job seekers, the proposed law seeks to further streamline and bolster these initiatives. The Ministry of Social Development will continue to play a crucial role in disability identification and workplace accommodation,

ensuring a cohesive approach that empowers individuals and fosters inclusivity.

The Shura Council's decision to refer the proposal to the government for formal bill drafting marks a significant victory for disability rights in Bahrain. With this proposed law on the horizon, the future looks brighter for Bahraini citizens with disabilities, promising a work environment where talent and potential take centre stage, regardless of ability.

Promoting food security

King Hamad Prize for Agricultural Development fourth edition launched

TDT | Manama

The fourth edition of the King Hamad Prize for Agriculture, which aims to create a positive competitive environment for agricultural project owners, farmers and researchers in the agricultural field, was announced yesterday.

Held under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, president of the Consultative Council of the National Initiative for Agricultural Development (NIAD), the prize also aims to preserve agricultural ecosystems, increase agricultural output and its contribution to the GDP, help achieve relative food security, and promote innovation and the use of modern agricultural techniques.

An additional objective is encouraging scientific research in the agricultural field in a way that contributes to the development and sustainability of the sector.



NIAD invites all investors in agricultural projects, farmers and scientific researchers to apply for the King Hamad Prize for Agriculture by signing up on its website www.niadbh.com.

awarded in three categories - the Best Agricultural Project, the Best Bahraini Farmer and the Best Agricultural Research and Studies.

The Best Agricultural Project Prize comprises two sub-categories. The first sub-category is for the best production project that produces outstanding ag-

ricultural crops or ornamental plants, and contributes to supporting the national economy and food security.

Projects will be recognized for their use of modern agricultural technology, following effective and smart marketing methods, their commitment to protecting the local environment, and to enhancing the capabilities of Bahraini workforce and increasing their participation in the agricultural sector.

The second sub-category is for the Best Agricultural Support Project. It recognises their role in supporting and sustaining productive agricultural projects, and increasing the diversity of products and the number of workers in this sector.

Such projects include engineering and agricultural consultancies, and designers and builders of irrigation systems and greenhouses. It also includes producers and sellers of seeds, fertilizers and nutrients, agricultural pest control.

125 die, 265 hurt as war in Gaza hits 100 days

AFP | Gaza

Israeli tanks and aircraft hit targets in southern and central Gaza yesterday and there were fierce gunbattles in some areas as the war reached 100 days since the Oct. 7 attack by the Hamas fighters.

Over the past 24 hours, the Gaza health ministry said 125 people had been killed and 265 wounded, bringing the total number confirmed to have been killed since the start of the war to almost 24,000, with more than 60,000 wounded.

Communications and Internet services were down for the third day running, complicating the work of emergency and ambulance crews trying to help people in areas hit by fighting.

Fighting was concentrated in the southern city of Khan Younis, where Hamas said its fighters hit an Israeli tank, as well as in Al-Bureij and Al Maghazi in central Gaza, where the military said several militants were killed.



India in Bahrain Festival A Resounding Celebration of Cultural Diversity



Mr. Ihjas Aslam C.S., Second Secretary at the Embassy of India, addressing the inaugural meeting of the India in Bahrain Festival. TDT | Manana

Embassy of India, Bahrain organized "India in Bahrain Festival," an event that brought together the vibrant Indian diaspora in Bahrain to celebrate the rich cultural tapestry of India on 12 January 2024 at the Embassy premises in Seef.

The festival was a showcase of India's diverse cultural heritage, attracting more than 500 members of the Indian community in Bahrain. The event held as part of the Promotion of Cultural Ties with Diaspora initiative of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India served as a platform for the community to share and appreciate the cultural wealth of different regions and communities in India. Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awardees residing in Bahrain were guests of Honour.

The festival featured an array of stalls that highlighted India's culinary heritage and handicrafts put up by more than 30 Indian community associations. Attendees had the chance to indulge in the flavors of India through a diverse range of traditional dishes and explore the intricate craftsmanship of Indian artisans. 12 cultural performances by members of the



MP Maryam Al-Dhaen (second from right) visiting a stall at the India in Bahrain Festival.



Punjabi Virsa



The Dawoodi Bohras



Bahrain Odia Samaj



Palakkad Pravasi Association



Voice of Trivandrum



Indian Handicrafts by Kala Design



Annai Tamil Mandram



Indian Ladies Association

Indian community showcased classical and folk performances from different traditions of India.

The event also saw the presentation of a collection of poems titled Headstrings by Kaashvi Subin Jagdish, an Indian student

studying in Bahrain. ICRF special bulletin for India in Bahrain festival 2024 was also released during the event.

Symphony of Emotions: Kaashvi Subin Jagdish's 'Heartstrings' enchants at Bahrain in India Festival



Mr. Ihjas Aslam C.S., Second Secretary at the Embassy of India, releasing the book at the Indian in Bahrain Festival.

Pradeep Puravankara
TDT | Manana

With a dazzling display of poetic prowess, Kaashvi Subin Jagdish, an exceptionally gifted Grade 10 student, has masterfully woven her emotions into the verses that elegantly adorn the pages of her debut book, "Heartstrings."

The literary gem was unveiled on the grand stage of the India in Bahrain Festival, where the prestigious Embassy of India Bahrain played host to the release on January 12, 2024.

Mr. Ihjas Aslam C.S., Second Secretary at the Embassy of India Bahrain, had the honour of releasing the book to an eager audience.

Dr. Abdul Khader Mangad, former Vice-Chancellor of Kannur University, India, and a renowned author lent his insightful preface to the anthology, elevating "Heartstrings" to a new literary zenith.

Published by PadmaSree Books, India, the book launch was further adorned by the presence of Mr. Nalappadam Padmanabhan, Author, and founder of PadmaSree. His endorsement marked the celebration of Kaashvi's literary achievement.

"Heartstrings" is not just a book; it's an anthology that

dives into the intricacies of Love, Loss, and Pain through three evocative sections. A total of 51 captivating poems, 17 in each section, paint a vivid tapestry of emotions that resonate with readers on a profound level.

Kaashvi's roots trace back to the loom-rich and lore-steeped land of Kannur in the Indian state of Kerala, and her journey began in Kuwait, where she was born and raised to parents Jisha Kaniyankandi and Subin Jagdish. A Bhavanite since her LKG days, she currently navigates the corridors of knowledge as a Grade 10 student at Bhavan's Bahrain Indian School.

Beyond her academic pursuits, Kaashvi is an avid reader and art enthusiast, with a passion for Bharatanatyam and Veena since the tender age of five. Her journey through the realms of literature, dance, and music has paved the way for the poetic marvel that is "Heartstrings."

The book is now available, waiting to tug at the heartstrings of readers, at the Bookmart in Bahrain. Kaashvi Subin Jagdish, with her debut masterpiece, has indeed created a symphony of emotions that promises to resonate with audiences far and wide.



Dignitaries posing for a photo session at the India in Bahrain Festival.

HM King, HRH Prince Salman congratulated on Diplomatic Day

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His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, were congratulated yesterday by Interior Minister, His Excellency General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, on Bahrain Diplomatic Day.

General Shaikh Rashid expressed pride in the distin-

guished achievements of Bahraini diplomacy, whose noble values emanate from HM the King's sound visions.

This has strengthened Bahrain's status and presence at regional, Arab, and international levels, setting it as an example to be emulated, he said, adding that Bahrain's balanced foreign policy, which is derived from its authentic Arab national identity, builds cooperation bridges and consolidates relations with friendly countries.



HM the King



HRH Prince Salman

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa has designated January 14 as an annual occasion to celebrate the Bahraini diplomacy and its outstanding contributions.

The Minister of the Interior congratulated the Minister of Foreign Affairs, His Excellency Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani, and Bahraini diplomatic missions and employees for their

sincere national role.

He praised Bahraini diplomatic personnel's efforts in highlighting the Kingdom's achievements, development strides, and political successes.

Hi-tech and user-friendly

Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications modernises taxi services with advanced meter system

TDT | Manama

In a significant move towards enhancing transportation services, the Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications has embarked on a project to introduce an innovative taxi meter system.

The Assistant Undersecretary for Land Transport, Engineer Hussain Ali Yaqoub, expressed the ministry's commitment to providing advanced and user-friendly services, aligning with the government's performance agenda and digital transformation goals outlined in the 2023-2026 programme.

This initiative aims to foster effective partnerships with the private sector, promoting pro-

gress and prosperity across various priority sectors for a brighter future for the nation.

The ministry recently signed a contract with the National Security Systems Company to develop individual taxi meters and establish a state-of-the-art control room dedicated to monitoring and regulating taxi operations.

This strategic collaboration represents a significant step towards improving the overall experience of shared transportation and revolutionising services offered to passengers.

Benefits

Eng. Yaqoub highlighted the benefits of the new system, stressing its role in enhancing



Image used for illustrative purposes only

transparency and safety within the taxi industry.

The advanced meters, equipped with cutting-edge technology, will provide pas-

sengers with comprehensive information, including driver details, trip specifics, and a clear route to their destination.

Additionally, the meters will

accurately calculate the actual cost of the journey, based on the approved tariff set by the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The integrated control room will play a pivotal role in strengthening the Ministry's regulatory and oversight functions. By leveraging a comprehensive monitoring system, it will ensure compliance with industry standards and regulations, further enhancing the safety and efficiency of taxi services.

Broader vision

This modernisation effort is part of the Ministry's broader vision to deliver advanced services that cater to the evolving

needs and expectations of both citizens and tourists.

The introduction of the enhanced smart meters represents a significant stride towards elevating the overall quality of transportation services in the country.

With technology-driven solutions and seamless integration, the new system will empower passengers, allowing them to make informed decisions about their journeys and experience a higher level of convenience.

Moreover, the implementation of electronic payment options aligns with the ongoing developments in the digital payment landscape, providing passengers with greater flexibility and ease of transaction.

HH Shaikh Nasser attends Brunei wedding ceremony



His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, HM the King's Representative for Humanitarian Work and Youth Affairs, yesterday attended the wedding ceremony of His Royal Highness Prince Abdul Mateen, the son of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah of Brunei. HH Shaikh Nasser conveyed the greetings and congratulations of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, to His Majesty Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah.

GCC journalists visit India



Journalists from the GCC countries in front of the Taj Mahal yesterday during a seven-day familiarization trip to India organized by the Government of India. Zainab Zaman, reporter of The Daily Tribune, (standing third from right) departed from Bahrain on Saturday for the trip at the invitation of the Embassy of India in Bahrain.

Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay Unveils 'Byblos'

A culinary journey to Lebanon's shores

TDT | Manama

Nestled beside the pristine white sands of Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay, a new culinary gem awaits. "Byblos," named after the ancient Phoenician city, invites you on a captivating journey to the heart of Lebanon. Led by the masterful hand of Oriental Specialty Chef Tony El Khoury, Byblos promises an authentic yet modern take on Lebanese flavours, all woven against the backdrop of the mesmerizing Arabian Sea.

Chef Tony's passion for food is as deep-rooted as the olive

trees that grace the restaurant's interior. Born and raised in the vibrant city of Zahle, he found his calling amidst the warmth of Sunday family gatherings, where each bite held a universe of taste, texture, and shared joy. "With each bite," he muses, "I learned to appreciate the nuances of flavours, textures, and the art of harmonizing ingredients to create culinary masterpieces."

This passion translates into a menu that tantalizes the senses. Delicate mezze platters, featuring vibrant dips like Pumpkin Mutabbal and Spiced Hummus, pave the way for reinvented classics like the Lamb Shank Ouzi and Modern Manakish. A premium selection of Moroccan Tea, Arabic Coffee, and refreshing concoctions provide the



Lebanese food is a gastronomic delight

perfect accompaniment, while delightful desserts like Meghli Mahalabia and Brownies with Carob Molasses offer a sweet finale. And for a touch of theatrical flair, don't miss the mesmerizing presentation of Byblos' signature Kunafa.

"I take pleasure in creating dishes that I enjoy eating," Chef



Tony confesses. "Each time I craft a dish, I embrace the opportunity to infuse a creative twist into traditional recipes, enhancing their overall appeal and elevating the dining experience."

Captivating dream

Stepping into Byblos is akin to stepping into a captivating



dream. Inspired by the azure hues of the Mediterranean, the restaurant's décor seamlessly blends tradition with modern touches. Flickering torches cast a warm glow, beckoning you into a world of culinary delights. Lush greenery and olive trees evoke the ancient landscapes of Lebanon, while intricately

crafted vases by local artisans pay homage to Bahrain's rich culture. As you gaze upon the mesmerizing arabesque patterns adorning the ceiling and table stands, a sense of timeless elegance washes over you.

But Byblos is much more than just aesthetics. Positioned by the sea, it offers breathtaking views of the Arabian Sea. As the sun dips below the horizon, painting the sky in fiery hues, the reflection of the city lights dances on the water's surface. The gentle caress of waves provides a soothing soundtrack to your dining experience, while a live DJ adds a touch of vibrancy during weekend evenings. Embark on a journey to the shores of Lebanon, and discover a world of flavour and charm at Byblos.

HM King visions hailed on Diplomatic Day celebration

TDI | Manama

Minister of Foreign Affairs, His Excellency Dr. Abdullah bin Rashid Al Zayani, pointed out that the celebration of the Diplomatic Day of the Kingdom of Bahrain reflects His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa's appreciation of and great interest in the diplomatic work and diplomats.

Dr. Al Zayani the occasion highlighted HM the King's belief in the constructive active role

played by Bahraini diplomacy in consolidating friendly relations and cooperation with brotherly and friendly countries, preserving the interests of the homeland and citizens at home and abroad, in addition to spreading the values of peace, tolerance, coexistence and human fraternity, as well as strengthening international cooperation with other countries, in accordance with the rules of international law and international conventions.

The minister made the state-



H.E. Dr. Al Zayani delivers a speech at the event

ments during his speech yesterday as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs held a ceremony on the occasion of the Diplomatic Day of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Senior officials at the Ministry, heads of diplomatic and consular missions of Bahrain abroad, in addition to the administrative and diplomatic staff of the Ministry, were also present in the event.

Dr. Al Zayani conveyed the greetings of HM King Hamad and His Royal Highness Prince

Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, to the attendees, wishing them success in performing their national duties and advancing Bahraini diplomacy towards its goals of implementing the foreign policy of the Kingdom of Bahrain and realising the aspirations of the leadership.

He also expressed his deep pride in the distinguished achievements of Bahraini diplomacy and its honourable presence in all fields for nearly

55 years of dedication loyalty, in accordance with a balanced and effective diplomatic approach based on moderation, determination and perseverance, with the ultimate goal of caring for the higher interests of the homeland and its citizens first and foremost.

The minister praised the sincere and dedicated efforts made by heads of diplomatic missions, the ministry's employees, diplomats and administrators at home and abroad.

Bahrain 'empowering' tomorrow's workforce

Shura Council adjourns discussion on law requiring businesses to train graduates

TDI | Manama

The Shura Council session yesterday concluded with the adjournment of the discussion regarding a proposed law concerning vocational training.

The law, put forward by Ejlal Isa Bubshait, Dr. Hani Ali Al Sa'ati, Dr. Jameela Mohammed Redha Al Salman, Dr. Mohammed Ali Hassan, and Sadeq Eid Al Rahma, aims to make it mandatory for employers with a workforce of 50 or more to provide training for university graduates.

The Daily Tribute had earlier reported that the Shura Council was expected to pass the law and send it to the government to draft a law bill based on it.

The proposed law seeks to address the issue of high unemployment rates among graduates by obligating employers to train individuals recommended by the Ministry of Labour for a minimum period of three months. The recommended ratio is one trainee for every 50 workers in their establishments.

The main objective of the law



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is to encourage employers to actively contribute to the national effort of prioritizing Bahraini citizens for employment opportunities. By making it mandatory to train Bahraini university graduates, the law aims to equip them with the necessary skills and experience to secure suitable employment.

Robust legal framework

The absence of compulsory vocational training in the private sector has resulted in a significant number of unemployed graduates, necessitating legislative intervention to establish a robust legal framework that holds employers accountable for fulfilling their social responsibility.

The proponents of the law

stressed the importance of equal opportunities for all citizens, allowing new Bahraini university graduates to kickstart their professional careers early and gain practical training in private sector companies with a workforce of at least fifty employees. This initiative aims to activate the social role of capital alongside its economic function, in line with the constitutional requirements of social justice.

The proposal also emphasised the need to raise awareness among foreign university graduates entering the job market about the significance of working in the private sector, as it offers the most promising employment opportunities.

The discussion on this impor-

The proposed law seeks to address the issue of high unemployment rates among graduates by obligating employers to train individuals recommended by the Ministry of Labour for a minimum period of three months. The recommended ratio is one trainee for every 50 workers in their establishments.

tant law will resume in future sessions of the Shura Council, as the members continue to deliberate on its potential impact and feasibility.



MP Al-Dhaen heaps praise on Bahrain's diplomatic triumphs

TDI | Manama

On the occasion of Bahrain's Diplomatic Day, MP Dr. Maryam Al-Dhaen, Vice President of the Foreign Affairs, Defence, and National Security Committee of the House of Representatives, lauded Bahrain's enduring legacy of diplomatic excellence.

Al-Dhaen emphasized that Bahrain's parliamentary diplomacy, guided by the visionary leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and under the watchful eye of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, supports international partnerships, fosters cooperation, and upholds values of coexistence and tolerance.

Highlighting the significance of the day, Al-Dhaen underscored Bahrain's numerous regional and international successes in diplomatic relations. She praised the pivotal role played by Bahraini diplomacy in fortifying ties with brotherly and friendly nations, acknowledging the dedicated efforts of the national cadres at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in developing cooperative relations.

Al-Dhaen expressed gratitude for the impactful training programs, including the "Accredited Program for Parliamentary Diplomacy," offered



H.E. Dr. Maryam Al-Dhaen

by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa Academy for Diplomatic Studies. These programs empower parliamentarians to act as ambassadors for Bahrain, contributing to international peace and security while addressing global challenges through diplomatic solutions.

As Bahrain celebrates over fifty years of diplomatic achievements, Al-Dhaen reiterated the nation's commitment to promoting solidarity, fraternity, and constructive cooperation on the global stage. The MP extended her appreciation to key figures, including His Excellency Dr. Abdullah bin Rashid Al Zayani, Minister of Foreign Affairs, for their active roles in advancing Bahrain's diplomatic endeavours, fostering a legacy of peace and security worldwide.

Move to curb runaway domestic worker cases

TDI | Manama

Despite the Ministry of Labour's opposition, the Services Committee of the Council of Representatives has recommended approving a law proposal that eliminates the entitlement of domestic workers, including housemaids, to end-of-service benefits if they leave their employment in violation of work permit conditions.

The proposed law aims to contribute to reducing cases of runaway domestic workers, deterring maids through stricter penalties, safeguarding the rights of employers, and incentivising the recruitment of domestic workers while ensuring there are deterrent measures in place.

Additionally, the proposal seeks to increase the interest of merchants in investing



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in such activities related to the recruitment of domestic workers, thereby revitalising the market and the economy through increased investments and the establishment of such ventures. It also aims to raise the level of commitment among domestic workers, increase satisfaction levels for employers with the presence of these provisions, and reduce the rates of loose labour and crimes committed by domestic workers.

Parliamentary Diplomacy Diploma programme launch



His Excellency Ahmed bin Salman Al Musallam, Speaker of the Council of Representatives, H.E. Dr. Abdullah bin Rashid Al Zayani, Foreign Affairs Minister, and H.E. Ghanim bin Fadhl Al Buainain, Minister of Shura and Representatives Councils Affairs, participated in the inauguration ceremony of the Parliamentary Diplomacy Diploma programme, prepared jointly by the Mohamed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa Academy for Diplomatic Studies and the Representatives Council. The programme, coinciding with the Bahraini Diplomatic Day on January 14, stemmed from the cooperation between the legislative and executive branches, in light of the comprehensive development process of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, supported by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

Urgent proposal to halt removal of fish traps

TDI | Manama

Several members of parliament have submitted an urgent proposal to halt the removal of fish traps, known as "Al Hadour," and extend the removal period until alterna-

tive solutions and locations are found for fishermen.

The proposal, presented by MPs Jalela Al Sayed, Mohsen Al Asboul, Hisham Al Ashiri, Najeeb Al Kuwari, and Khalid Bu Anq, calls on the government to suspend the removal

of the fish traps and extend the removal period until alternative solutions and locations are identified.

The proposal emphasises that these traps are not located in sensitive areas and will not disrupt any projects in these loca-

tions. It also acknowledges that fishermen have been operating in these areas for years, and any changes should be implemented gradually. Halting the removal of the traps and postponing it will allow for a channel to listen to the fishermen's opinions.

Bahrain Blooms at Autumn Fair

Local brands blossom with record sales



Abdulla bin Adel Fakhro
TDT | Manama



Marwa Ahmed Yousif, owner of Marawy Beauty



Khalid Khalifa Al-Dosari, owner of Athbi Mart LLC



Hawraa Hassan Ahmed Mohammed Ahmed Al-Qayyim, founder and CEO of Al-Sayed Nuts Factory



Sheikha Mohammed Abdullah Al Mannai, owner of Tradish Food Trading LLC

The 34th Autumn Fair was a whirlwind of commerce and cultural exchange, with over 165,000 visitors swarming the Exhibition World Bahrain. But for Export Bahrain and its 18 local brands, it was a gold rush.

The Export Bahrain Pavilion buzzed with the aroma of spices, the gleam of handcrafted jewellery, and the vibrant colours of Bahraini textiles. From food and fashion to essential oils and cleaning products, the diversity of Bahraini ingenuity stunned the crowds. And the results? A staggering US\$170,000 in sales - a testament to the quality and appeal of local heroes.

This wasn't just about cash registers ringing. B2B meetings buzzed, forging potential partnerships and laying the groundwork for future expansion. From local enthusiasts to international visitors from across the GCC and beyond, the fair was a melting pot of collaboration.

"Our consecutive participation in the Autumn Fair is about amplifying the reach of our national products," declared Mr.

ternational visitors from across the GCC and beyond, the fair was a melting pot of collaboration.

Abdulla bin Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry & Commerce and Chairman of Export Bahrain. "This is about propelling Bahraini businesses onto the global stage. And from the overwhelming response, it's clear: our businesses are ready."

For participating brands, the fair was a springboard. Khalid Khalifa Al-Dosari, owner of Athbi Mart LLC, saw his demand skyrocket: "The Autumn Fair gave us a platform to connect with new customers and expand our reach." Hawraa Hassan Ahmed Mohammed Ahmed Al-Qayyim, founder of Al-Sayed Nuts Factory, went from a home business to a full-fledged factory, with dreams of global expansion dancing in her eyes.

Export Bahrain, working in close collaboration with Informa Markets, played a vital role, providing invaluable support and a powerful platform.

Marwa Ahmed Yousif, owner of Marawy Beauty, gushed: "Through Export Bahrain, the Autumn Fair opened doors beyond the exhibition, boosting our production and giving us the ability to compete locally and regionally."

As Sheikha Mohammed Abdullah Al Mannai, owner of Tradish Food Trading LLC, put it: "Export Bahrain believed in the quality of our Bahraini-made cookies and cakes, and now, thanks to them, a whole new world of potential customers is waiting."

The 34th Autumn Fair has come and gone, but its echoes will resonate for a long time. For Export Bahrain and its local brands, it was a resounding success, showcasing the vibrancy, potential, and entrepreneurial spirit of Bahrain to the world. And that, truly, is something to celebrate.

Bahrain All Share Index marks 1,983.18 points

TDT | Manama

Bahrain All Share Index closed at 1,983.18 points, marking a decrease of 3.20 points below the previous closing.

This decrease was due to the fall in the financial sector and the industrial sector.

Bahrain Islamic Index closed at 739.88 points, marking a decrease of 1.57 points below the previous closing.

Results indicated that 115



equity transactions took place with a volume of 3,708,497 worth BD 1,265,967.

Investors traded mainly in the material sector, representing 56.48% of the total value of securities traded.

UK remains ready to act against attacks on shipping: Cameron



Peace protesters march toward the gates of the Royal Air Force Akrotiri base, a British overseas territory near the Cypriot coastal city of Limassol, as they rally against its alleged use to supply Israel's war in Gaza, a claim denied by Britain

AFP | London, United Kingdom

Britain remains ready to act to "defend freedom of navigation", foreign minister David Cameron said yesterday in the wake of joint US-UK air strikes on Yemen.

"We've demonstrated that we're prepared to follow words and warnings with action and that is incredibly important," Cameron told broadcaster Sky News. He suggested further strikes could occur if the Houthi rebels, who control much of Yemen, continue to target ships in the Red Sea.

"We have to act. Not acting is also a policy and it was a policy that wasn't working," he said.

"It's not just the goods that are coming to this country... it is also grain ships on their way to Ethiopia and Sudan to feed some of the poorest and

hungriest people in the world." He accused Iran, which backs the Houthis, of being a "malign actor in the region".

Some MPs complained that they were unable to debate Thursday's air strikes before they occurred.

Cameron said there would be a statement in parliament on Monday when both houses could raise questions.

Opposition leader Keir Starmer, widely tipped to become prime minister later this year, told the BBC he would back further action "on its merits", although the decision ultimately rests with the government. Cameron's comments echo those of US President Joe Biden, who said he would "not hesitate to direct further measures to protect our people and the free flow of international commerce as necessary".

Adecco chief says AI will create new jobs



AFP | Zurich, Switzerland

Artificial intelligence raises serious concerns for jobs but it will also create new positions, the head of Adecco, the world's biggest temporary staffing agency, told AFP.

From meteorologists to law-

How will AI disrupt the world of work?

Machuel: "It's probably the largest disruption and revolution that we've seen in decades. It's going to be massive. And let's be clear, no one really knows or can really anticipate with a precise view what's going to happen in the next five years."

"All this productivity enhancement helps people do more but also destroys some of

yers and screenwriters, generative AI capable of creating content -- such as the chatbot ChatGPT -- could change the contours of many professions.

But it will also create new positions, according to Denis Machuel, the chief executive of Zurich-based Adecco.

the jobs people are doing. There is definitely an element of jobs being created and jobs that are being destroyed. We've seen that with the internet, with digitalisation.

"What we've seen in the past tells us that there is more or less a balance between the two."

"Technology brings a lot of better understanding of interaction between people and markets but it also brings complexity. And that complexity requires more people to deal with it."

"GenAI will bring productivity on one side but it will also bring more proof-points, more data, more ways of looking at relationships, products and services. And for all these, we need people."

Are some jobs more at risk than others?

Machuel: "It's probably a bit too early to precisely describe jobs that are fundamentally at risk. Because we have to look at the tasks behind them."

"If you only compute information, gather information and

synthesise it, then your job is at risk, be it a job in finance, in legal, in business, because... it is what GenAI does."

"Probably white-collar workers will be more impacted than blue-collar workers -- at least in the short term."

"Within the white collar space, the things that are linked to massive information management will be more disrupted than the skills that are linked to relationship building, to strategic thinking or problem-solving."

"However, we know that there are limits."

"Take the example of a lawyer or of a paralegal: computing an immense number of legal decisions can be done by GenAI."

"However, the deep and subtle understanding of a complex legal situation and problem-solving skills that are needed to put things together is still very human-related."

"Usually, the sort of mundane tasks that can be automated are not the most exciting for people to do. So if you can automate that, it gives you more time to

It's probably a bit too early to precisely describe jobs that are fundamentally at risk. Because we have to look at the tasks behind them. If you only compute information, gather information and synthesise it, then your job is at risk, be it a job in finance, in legal, in business, because... it is what GenAI does.

DENIS MACHUEL, THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF ZURICH-BASED ADECCO.

concentrate on the nicer things."

How is AI used at Adecco?

"We've signed a partnership

with Microsoft to create a career platform that will advise companies and workers on their path, supporting their reflection on the type of skills and jobs they could go for.

"Opening horizons on things people didn't necessarily imagine but could be achievable for them."

"There are quite a few workers whose skills are transferable."

"The good news about GenAI is that there is a positive explosion of possibilities of upskilling and re-skilling through these tools."

"We've created a curriculum vitae maker with an AI-powered tool that helps people generate their own CV."

"On the daily tasks of our recruiters, I was mentioning this chatbot that interacts with thousands of candidates very quickly."

"It gives the possibility for our recruiters to spend more time in the human relationship, and not in a database search."

"That means a recruiter can spend more time with people than doing the mundane tasks."

QUOTE OF THE DAY
YOU MAY HAVE TO FIGHT A BATTLE MORE THAN ONCE TO WIN IT
MARGARET THATCHER

TODAY IN HISTORY

588BC
Nebuchadrezzar II of Babylon lays siege to Jerusalem under Zedekiah's reign. The siege lasts until July 23, 586 BC.



1535
King Henry VIII declares himself head of the Church in England

1559
Elizabeth I crowned Queen of England in Westminster Abbey

1902
Abdulaziz Ibn Saud leads 40 men over the walls of Riyadh and takes the city, marking the beginning of the Third Saudi State

News in brief

◆ **North Korea fired** a suspected intermediate-range ballistic missile on Sunday, Seoul's military said, days after Pyongyang staged live-fire exercises near the country's tense maritime border with South Korea. "Our military detected one suspected intermediate-range ballistic missile launched from the Pyongyang area towards the East Sea at around 14:55 (0555 GMT)," Seoul's Joint Chiefs of Staff said in a statement, referring to the body of water also known as the Sea of Japan. The missile flew 1,000 kilometres (621 miles), the JCS added, saying that authorities in Seoul, Washington and Tokyo were analysing the specifications. "We strongly condemn the latest missile launch by North Korea as it is a clear provocation that seriously threatens peace and stability on the Korean peninsula," it said. Japan's coast guard also confirmed a suspected missile launch by North Korea, citing information from the country's defence ministry, and warning vessels to take care.



North Korea fires intermediate-range ballistic missile: Seoul military

◆ **Nikki Haley** has overtaken Ron DeSantis for coveted second place in the Iowa caucuses, the last poll before the event showed Saturday, but former US president Donald Trump still leads by nearly 30 percentage points. The Midwestern state of three million people officially kicks off the 2024 US presidential election on Monday when its residents participate in its unusual "caucus" system to mark their preference for Republican presidential candidates. Trump received 48 percent of likely Republican caucusgoers' vote in the NBC News/Des Moines Register/Mediacom Iowa poll, which is notable for its historical accuracy and ability to fuel last-minute surges.

◆ **Denmark's King Frederik X** acceded to the throne on Sunday, ushering in a new era after his mother Queen Margrethe abdicated, with more than 100,000 Danes turning out for the unprecedented event. After a final horse-drawn carriage procession through the streets of Copenhagen, the hugely popular 83-year-old queen signed a declaration of abdication at Christiansborg Palace, ending her 52-year reign and automatically making her son monarch. She then left the Council of State, also attended by the government, the new king, his wife and their 18-year-old eldest son, the new Crown Prince Christian. Margrethe left the room with tears in her eyes, saying: "God bless the king."

◆ **Denmark's King Frederik X** takes throne ushering in new era



CURIOSER & CURIOSER

Iran frees reporters who covered death that sparked protests

AFP | Tehran, Iran

Iranian authorities yesterday freed two journalists who spent more than a year behind bars for covering the death of Mahsa Amini, which sparked months-long nationwide protests, local media said.

Niloufar Hamedani, 31, and Elahe Mohammadi, 36, were "released from Evin prison on bail," according to the reformist Shargh newspaper. Other outlets in Iran also reported their release.

Tasnim news agency said that each "will pay a bail of 100 billion rials (\$192,307)."

The journalists are appealing their sentences of several years in prison, and Tasnim said they "will remain out of jail until the appeals court makes a decision."

They are also banned from travel abroad, it said.

Images of the two journalists smiling and holding hands outside the prison circulated on social media following their release. Mohammadi, a reporter for Ham Mihan newspaper, and Hamedani, a photographer for Shargh newspaper, had been held in Tehran's Evin prison following Amini's death in September 2022.

Amini, a 22-year-old Iranian Kurd, had been arrested for an alleged breach of strict dress rules for women. She died in custody of the morality police. Hamedani was arrested less

China FM warns Taiwan independence moves will be 'harshly punished'

AFP | Beijing, China

China's top diplomat warned yesterday that any steps towards Taiwan's independence would be "harshly punished", after the self-ruled island defied Beijing's warnings and chose pro-sovereignty candidate Lai Ching-te as president.

Voters on the island spurned Beijing's repeated calls not to vote for Lai, delivering a comfortable victory for a man China's ruling Communist Party sees as a dangerous separatist.

Beijing, which claims Taiwan



Local newspapers with the ruling Democratic Progressive Party's (DPP) victory in the presidential election on the front pages remain on the counter at the reception of an office building in Taipei

as its territory and has never renounced force to bring it under its control, responded to Lai's victory by saying it would not change the "inevitable trend of China's reunification".

"If anyone on the island of Taiwan thinks of going for independence, they will be trying to split apart China's territory, and will certainly be harshly punished by both history and the law," Wang Yi said in a joint press conference with his Egyptian counterpart Sameh Shoukry in Cairo.

"This is a dead end," he added.

"No matter what the results of the election are, they cannot change the basic fact that there is only one China and Taiwan is a part of it," Wang said Sunday.

"Taiwan has never been a country. It wasn't in the past, and it certainly won't be in the future," he added.

Efforts to that end, Wang warned, "seriously threatens the well-being of Taiwan compatriots, seriously harms the fundamental interests of the Chinese nation, and seriously jeopardises peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait region".

Former PM Jacinda Ardern marries partner in New Zealand



New Zealand's former prime minister Jacinda Ardern (L) standing with her husband Clarke Gayford

AFP | Wellington, New Zealand

Former New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern has married her longtime partner, tying the knot after Covid restrictions forced the couple to cancel a ceremony in 2022.

On the back of her shock resignation in January last year, Ardern told reporters she was looking forward to "finally" getting hitched to her TV presenter fiancé.

The 43-year-old married fishing show host Clarke Gayford, 47, in a small ceremony held on Saturday in New Zealand's Hawke's Bay wine

region. The couple planned to marry in early 2022, but were forced to cancel after Ardern's government ramped up Covid restrictions in the face of surging cases.

An international hero of progressive politics, Ardern steered New Zealand through natural disasters, the Covid-19 pandemic and the 2019 Christchurch mosque massacre.

She graced the cover of Time Magazine in 2020, and drew widespread praise after carrying baby daughter Neve with her on the floor of the United Nations general assembly.

83 countries hold Ukraine peace talks



Participants pose during the 4th meeting of the National Security Advisors (NSA) on the peace formula for Ukraine, in Davos

AFP | Davos, Switzerland

More than 80 countries were holding talks yesterday seeking common ground on Ukraine's peace formula, as the Swiss co-hosts admitted that being ready to include Russia remains some way off.

National security advisors from 83 countries held a fourth round of discussions based on Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky's 10-point proposals for a lasting and just peace in Ukraine, nearly two years on from Russia's full-scale invasion.

The talks were co-chaired by Ukrainian presidential aide Andriy Yermak, who heads Zelen-

sky's office, and Swiss Foreign Minister Ignazio Cassis.

"The purpose is to prepare so that we are ready and ripe to launch a process with Russia -- when the time comes," Cassis told a press conference.

He said the talks had to find a way to include Russia at some point, but thus far, neither Kyiv nor Moscow was ready to take such a step.

The meeting was being held in the luxury ski resort of Davos in eastern Switzerland, on the eve of the five-day World Economic Forum summit of the globe's business and political elite.

Cassis said that rather than groups such as the G7, the G20

or the European Union coming up with their own positions, or working through the "too polarised" UN Security Council, "here we try to speak together" and find common language.

Brazil, India and South Africa participated in the talks -- countries that sit alongside Russia in the BRICS group.

Cassis said their involvement was highly important as they were still in dialogue with Moscow and therefore retained a certain degree of trust.

He said that getting collective momentum across a wide range of countries beyond simply those in the West made it more likely that a conflict exit route could be found.

New volcanic eruption threatens Icelandic fishing village

AFP | Reykjavik, Iceland

A new volcanic eruption sent flames, smoke and lava spewing out near the Icelandic fishing port of Grindavik yesterday, only hours after villagers were evacuated to safety, authorities said.

It was the North Atlantic nation's fifth volcanic eruption in under three years.

The most recent occurred just weeks ago on December 18 in the same region, southwest of the capital Reykjavik.

The eruption began at 8:00 am (0800 GMT) on Sunday, the Meteorological Office (MO) said.

Jets of glowing orange lava flowed out and a huge smoke



Billowing smoke and flowing lava are seen during a volcanic eruption on the outskirts of the evacuated town of Grindavik, western Iceland

cloud rose against the sky at sunrise. "A crack has opened up on both sides of the dykes that have begun to be built north of Grindavik," the Met Office wrote.

"From measurements from the Icelandic coastguard helicopter, the (lava's) perimeter is now about 450 metres (yards) from the northernmost houses in the town," it said.

Seismic activity had intensified overnight and the few dozen remaining residents of Grindavik were evacuated around 3:00 am, public broadcaster RUV reported.

"The town had already been successfully evacuated in the night and no lives are in danger," said President Guoni Johannes-

son on X, formerly Twitter. "Infrastructure may be under threat," he wrote, adding that airline flights had not been affected.

Most of the 4,000-strong population of Grindavik had moved out as a precaution on November 11 after scientists said a tunnel of magma was shifting beneath them. A series of small earthquakes -- sometimes hundreds per day -- created large cracks in roads, homes and buildings.

Shortly after the December 18 eruption, residents were allowed to return for brief periods.

They were authorised to regain their homes permanently on December 23 but only a few dozen chose to do so.

Five die trying to cross Channel to UK in freezing cold

AFP | Calais, France

Five migrants died and a sixth was in critical condition yesterday after trying to reach Britain from northern France in freezing temperatures, the French maritime authority said.

More than 30 people were rescued, the maritime prefecture said in a statement.

The fatalities were the first reported migrant deaths on the Channel in 2024.

Authorities said four migrants died overnight, while a fifth body was found later on the beach.

The group was attempting to reach a vessel off the resort town of Wimereux when their small boat got into difficulty around two am (0100 GMT), the maritime prefecture said.

The crew of a French tow vessel, the Abeille Normandie, went to the rescue and spotted "unconscious and lifeless people" in the water, an offi-

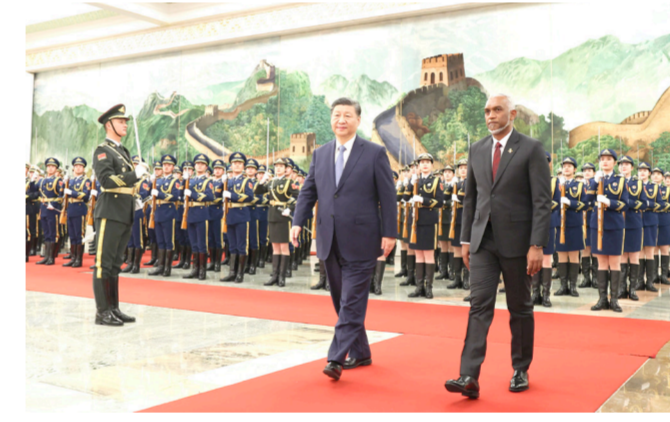


According to London, nearly 30,000 migrants crossed the Channel from mainland Europe to Britain in small boats in 2023, an annual drop of more than a third. Afghans, Iranians, Turks, Eritreans and Iraqis make up the majority of migrants.

cial said, estimating the water temperature at nine degrees Celsius.

Along the Wimereux embankment an AFP journalist saw items of clothing and shoes abandoned by the migrants. The survivors were taken to a shelter in Calais.

Maldives tells India to withdraw troops by March as row deepens



Maldives' President Mohamed Muizzu (R) and Chinese President Xi Jinping walking during a welcome ceremony at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing

AFP | Malé, Maldives

The Maldivian president told India yesterday to withdraw its nearly 100 troops by March 15, a day after returning from China where he signed a raft of deals.

The March deadline was set during talks with Indian officials in the Maldives on Sunday, a top aide to President Mohamed Muizzu said, honouring the leader's long-standing election pledge.

"The president put forth this request at the meeting of the high-level committee between the two nations... the proposal is currently under consideration," Muizzu's Public Policy Secretary Abdulla Nazim Ibrahim told reporters.

India has a deployment of

about 89 personnel, including medical staff, to operate three aircraft to patrol the archipelago's vast maritime territory.

Muizzu came to power in September after pledging to evict Indian forces.

Muizzu said the Maldives will also slash reliance on India for healthcare and medicine, adding more countries where citizens needing government-paid health treatment abroad can go.

Most eligible citizens currently get treatment in India, as well as small numbers in Sri Lanka and Thailand, officials said.

Most pharmaceuticals in the Maldives are currently imported from India, and Male will now seek to import medicines from the United States and European nations, he said.

North Korean foreign minister to visit Russia

AFP | Seoul, South Korea

North Korea's foreign minister will visit Russia this coming week, state media reported Sunday, with Washington leading a chorus of global condemnation over Pyongyang's alleged transfers of weapons to Moscow for use in Ukraine.

Traditional allies, Russia and North Korea have recently boosted ties

anew, with Pyongyang's leader Kim Jong Un making a rare overseas trip to see President Vladimir Putin in Russia's far east in September.

Top Russian officials, including Moscow's defence and foreign ministers, also visited North Korea last year, with the flurry of trips both ways fanning concern among Kyiv's allies over the possibility of a potential arms deal.

LEGAL VIEWPOINT W

TOP 4 TWEETS

01

@WHO and partners visited Al-Aqsa Hospital in the middle area, and Nasser Medical Complex in Khan Younis, vital lifelines for patients and thousands of displaced people in #Gaza. These facilities require sustained support and protection to remain operational. The increased hostilities in the south of the Strip are making it difficult for aid to reach them.

@DrTedros

02

@antonioгутерres

03

@ZelenskyyUA

04

@ZelenskyyUA

The Ukraine-UK security agreement provides us with confidence as we defend ourselves against Russian aggression and lays the groundwork for strong security positions until Ukraine joins NATO.

LEGAL VIEWPOINT W

Combating Terrorism

DR. ABDELGADIR WARSAMA GHALIB

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Terrorism causes real threat to the world, particularly in certain areas due to many reasons related to that particular place. In fact, there are steps taken worldwide, by all countries and at the individual country level, to eradicate and combat terrorism.

One of the most effective and important initiative to face terrorism was taken by FATF, wherein they had issued certain recommendations for implementation towards terrorism financing. Such recommendations aim to face and combat terrorism through stopping all financial sources that feed terrorism. No financial sources to terrorism will dry and kill terrorism activities.

The most important recommendation herein, ask all countries to take positive steps for ratification and implementation of UN instruments adopted to stop terrorism financing. The UN, has always been very keen to ask members to stop solidly against terrorism and to have peace for all in our world. To achieve this recommendation, countries shall issue legislations criminalizing all steps that lead to all financing of terrorism.

Such legislations, shall include clear provisions and instructions for freezing and confiscating terrorist assets. This shall, include all assets belonging to terrorists and used in the terrorists' acts. Also, the legislations, shall include provisions and procedures for reporting suspicious transactions related to terrorism. All entities and individuals are required to be very vigilant, alerted to take actions against terrorism to protect themselves and others, otherwise, all will be seriously affected and could lose their lives and the lives of their lovable. Any report to any suspicious act, could help in eradicating terrorism ghost.

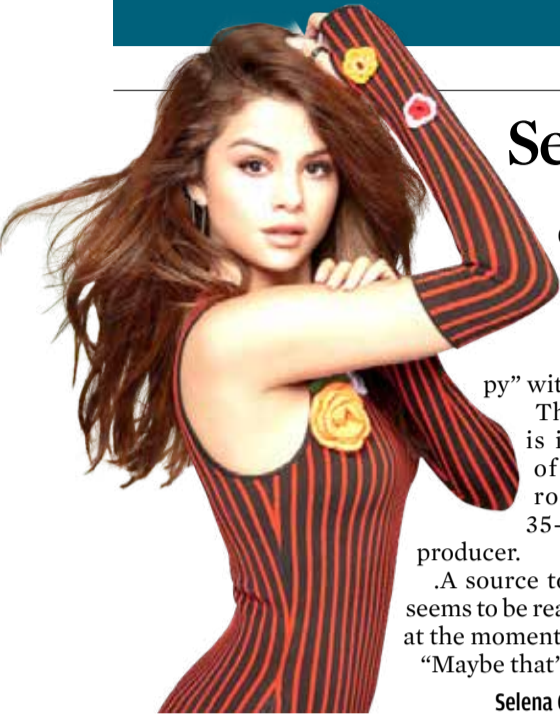
The FATF recommendations towards stopping terrorism financing, call for the need for international co-operation. This is required, due to the fact that terrorism is an international crime that could reach any place in the world. Clear positive acts by all and everyone is highly required, as all are concerned and could be affected.

In controlling terrorism financing, it would be better to think out of the box. As, almost, most of terrorism financing is taking place through banks and financial institutions and due to restrictive measures adopted in such institutions, there is need to regulate other alternative remittance mechanism. This could include, what is known as "Huwala" wherein certain individuals opt to send money through hand delivery due to many reasons including non-availability of banks or money changers. Regulating such transfer methods is needed as they could be a good alternative for financing terrorism. Countries are required to issue regulations to regulate "Huwala" and other similar alternative remittance methods. Above, among others, are recommendations to control money used needed for terrorism. Vigilance and adoption of corrective measures by all is a must, otherwise, we will face many dangers from terrorists.

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

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

celebs



Selena Gomez feels 'super happy' with Benny Blanco

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Selena Gomez is "super happy" with Benny Blanco. The 31-year-old star is in a great frame of mind amid her romance with the 35-year-old record producer. A source told PEOPLE: "She seems to be really feeling herself at the moment. "Maybe that's Benny or maybe

that's just where she's at personally and professionally."

Selena's friends and family are ultimately "happy that she's happy".

The cast and crew of 'Only Murders in the Building' - Selena's hit TV show - are also protective of the brunette beauty.

The insider added: "Everyone was a fan of hers before 'Only Murders', and now everyone is protective of her. With her cast and crew, the feeling is 'any boyfriend of Selena's is a boyfriend of ours.'"

Last year, a source revealed that Selena feels "safe and secure" with Benny.

The insider told 'Entertainment Tonight': "She feels so safe and secure with him, so she felt like it was a good time to share how happy she is with her fans.

"Benny is a great communicator, is honest and open with Selena, and listens to her.

"He's respectful, isn't a player, and not in it for the attention or fame. He doesn't care about any of that and Selena sees that and

really trusts him."

Selena - who has previously dated the likes of Justin Bieber, Zedd and The Weeknd - feels she can be "her most authentic self with Benny without doubting his potential motives".

The source added: "It's taken a lot for her to let someone in, but Benny has proven himself to her and she appreciates his ideals and morals. She feels like she can give him a part of her heart that she hasn't been able to, or willing to, offer in a relationship in a very long time.

Selena Gomez

Justin Timberlake to host free hometown concert

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Justin Timberlake will host a free concert in his hometown of Memphis, Tennessee.

The 42-year-old singer and actor is building anticipation for his musical comeback with a special 'One Night Only' show at the Orpheum, which has a capacity of 2,300, on January 19.

Justin shared a picture of a billboard with the show details on Instagram and wrote: "Going home".

He also posted an old video of himself as a pre-teen saying: "This is where I come from... this is the Mississippi River and that is Memphis, Tennessee."

And, Justin shared a picture of an itinerary with "travel to Memphis Jan. 19 - Orpheum" on his to-do list.

All other items on the list were concealed.

Meanwhile, Justin's long-time collaborator Timbaland recently teased Justin's return to music, saying his new album would be a return to "fun Justin".

He told Variety: "We just finished up and everything sounds great. Now it's really on him how he plans to wrap it up and how and when he envisions it to come out. With an artist of his caliber, everything has to be aligned, but it's done and it's coming.



Justin Timberlake

Kaley Cuoco calls out mom-shamers as she admits baby daughter watched Succession

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Kaley Cuoco let her nine-month-old daughter watch 'Succession'.

The 'Based On A True Story' star, 38, has nine-month-old Matilda with her actor partner Tom Pelphrey, 41, and she has admitted she is not against her little girl having screentime, be it TV or an iPad, and has called on people to stop being so judgemental after a conversation with another mom on a flight.

Revealing she and her little one watched the finale of the hit satirical comedy-drama, which has some colourful language use, she told Jimmy Kimmel on Monday's (09.01.24) 'Jimmy Kimmel Live!': "I knew our flight was coming up. I was like, "Oh, my god. How are you going to do this?" ...I said, "Are you going to watch some TV, put some TV on for the kid?" She was like, "Oh, no. We don't allow TV yet for our kid." And I was thinking, Matilda just watched the first season of Succession last week.

"I was like, okay, so are we not supposed to do that? I don't understand. I'm like not kidding. We watched the finale. She's like, oh my god."

Matilda was "really shocked" by the ending of the programme and burst into tears.

Kaley continued: "I told her the show was over, she cried.

"I think I'm doing everything the opposite than people are doing."

Jimmy reassured her that he was brought up on television.

He noted: "Now I think television is books, and iPads are television."

Kaley agreed. He then quipped: "Like, if you can keep them off the iPad, yeah, put her in front of the television, no problem at all."

The 'Big Bang Theory' star then admitted: "Oh, she loves her iPad, too."

He asked: "Oh, she's got an iPad?"

Kaley replied: 'Oh, she's watching everything. I have no shame. As long as she's not crying."

Jimmy then asked how the tot can work the iPad and Kaley revealed: "She is getting really good. It's scary. She can move. The hands move."

Kaley called out the mom-shamers and insisted a little 'Succession' for her baby is no harm.

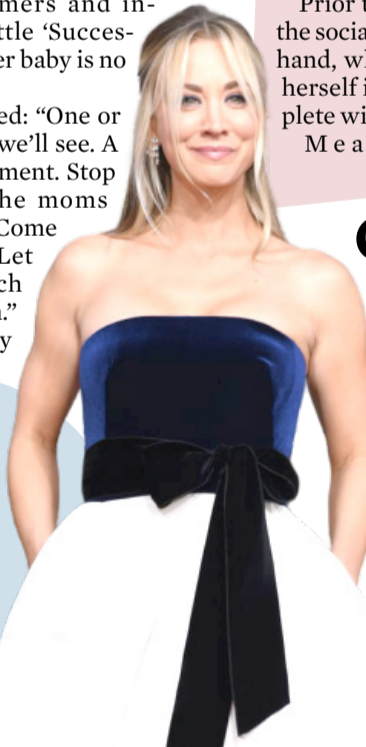
She added: "One or the other, we'll see. A lot of judgment. Stop judging the moms out there. Come on, guys. Let them watch Succession."

Kaley

"I think I'm doing everything the opposite than people are doing"

KALEY CUOCO

Kaley Cuoco



Tom Holland speaks out on rumours he and Zendaya have split

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Tom Holland and Zendaya are still together.

The 27-year-old actor struck up a relationship with his 'Spider-Man: No Way Home' co-star after working together on the set of the hit film in 2021 but rumours that they had broken up began to surface when she unfollowed everyone on Instagram, although he has now insisted that this is not the case.

Asked if he and Zendaya had broken up, he told TMZ: "No, absolutely not."

Zendaya hasn't explained why she chose to unfollow everyone on her social media platform, but she hasn't been too active on any of her pages in recent months either.

The former Disney Channel actress last posted on X - formerly known as Twitter - in September 2023 and the last time she showed anything to her 185 million followers was a poster promoting her upcoming film 'Challengers'.

Prior to that, the last post Zendaya made on the social media site came three months beforehand, where she showed fans a photoshoot of herself in a plunging polka dot bodysuit, complete with flowers made from recycled bottles.

Meanwhile, Zen-



Tom Holland and Zendaya

daya has recently been forced to deny she and Tom are set to tie the knot speculated that the couple might have taken their relationship to the next level when she appeared to be wearing an engagement ring.

In a since-deleted post on her Instagram Story last month, she clarified: "I can't post anything, you guys.

"I posted it for my hat. Like not for the ring on my right hand, you guys, seriously.

"You think that's how I would drop the news? You think, like, what!

She had captioned the original picture with a prominent ring on show with: "Let me just put the full body back so y'all can relax lmao."

Gerard Butler to star in live-action remake of How to Train Your Dragon

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Gerard Butler is set to star in the live-action remake of 'How to Train Your Dragon'.

The 54-year-old actor voiced the role of Stoick the Vast in the DreamWorks Animation trilogy and will reprise the part for the upcoming

movie from original co-director Dean DeBlois.

Mason Thames and Nico Parker will play Hiccup (voiced by Jay Baruchel in the original) and Astrid (originally played by America Ferrera).

The movie currently has a June 13, 2025 release date.

The animated 'How To Train Your Dragon' trilogy was based on the books by Cressida Cowell.

The series was set in Berk, a myth-

ical Viking village, and tells the story of Hiccup, a teen wishing to become a dragon slayer like the other Vikings. He injures a rare Night Fury dragon but is unable to bring himself to kill it.

He instead helps and befriends the dragon Toothless, and discovers that things are not exactly as they seem in the conflict between Vikings and dragons.



Gerard Butler

SUDOKU

8		7		3				
	7		4	1				
2				9				
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9			1	7	4			6
	1	4						
			4					1
		8	3			5		
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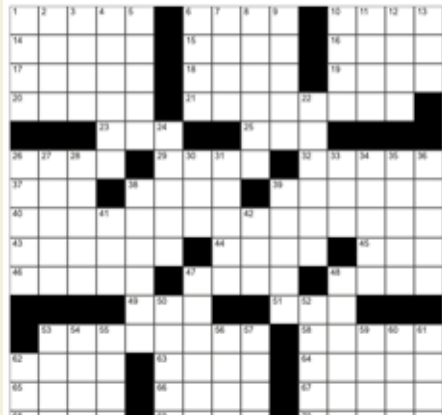
Yesterday's solution

7	9	1	3	8	6	4	5	2
4	6	2	5	9	1	7	8	3
8	5	3	4	7	2	9	1	6
6	1	9	7	5	4	3	2	8
3	4	5	2	6	8	1	7	9
2	8	7	9	1	3	5	6	4
9	3	8	1	2	5	6	4	7
5	2	4	6	3	7	8	9	1
1	7	6	8	4	9	2	3	5

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- Fiber obtained from a banana plant; 6- "___ spruch Zarathustra"; 10- 27th president of the U.S.; 14- Visible exhalation; 15- Rules; 16- In fine fettle; 17- Novelist Calvino; 18- Bread spread; 19- Minerals; 20- Watery animal fluid; 21- No long-distance charge; 23- Bell and Barker; 25- Wreath of flowers; 26- Scrutinize; 29- Sigher's word; 32- Wears well; 37- Nasser's org; 38- Starting; 39- Person in the petroleum industry; 40- Make a trade?; 43- Series of prayers; 44- Film spool; 45- Chinese philosopher Mo ___; 46- Prince Valiant's wife; 47- Andean country; 48- Wither through heat exposure; 49- Convert into leather; 51- Writing instrument; 53- Inattentive; 58- Saturn's largest moon; 62- Course list; 63- "Chicken of the sea"; 64- Evade; 65- Lodge members; 66- Foreign dignitary; 67- ___ firma; 68- Caesar's wings; 69- Pro follower; 70- Streamlined;

Down

1- National competitor; 2- Soak leather in base solution; 3- On ___ with; 4- Decorative pillar; 5- Bouquet; 6- Bunches; 7- Composer Schiffrin; 8- Bulges; 9- ___ Mio; 10- Red-bearded god; 11- Swiss river; 12- Head for the hills; 13- French possessive; 22- Pertaining to a son or daughter; 24- Pert; 26- Above; 27- Christmas song; 28- "___ by any other name..."; 30- Lobos; 31- Ablaze; 33- Tie-score word; 34- Strike hard; 35- Shallow ornamental bowl; 36- Twisted expression?; 38- Add fizz; 39- Get the better of; 41- Budgetary excess; 42- ___ the land of the free...; 47- Soul; 48- Whine; 50- Adjust, modify; 52- Les ___-Unis; 53- Unit of an insurgency; 54- "Puppy Love" singer; 55- Subterfuge; 56- Foul mood; 57- Poet Teasdale; 59- Made tracks; 60- Yorkshire river; 61- Mont. neighbor; 62- ___ culpa;

Yesterday's solution

S	A	V	E	D		P	O	D	S	T	E	M	P		
E	M	I	L	E		E	D	I	E		O	V	A	L	
T	A	C	I	T		A	I	R	S		U	E	L	E	
S	S	E		E	G	R	E	T		A	P	N	E	A	
	V	O	C	A	L		T	R	E	S	S				
A	L	E	U	T	S		T	E	H	E	E				
C	A	R	S			M	O	R	O	N		S	O	B	
H	I	S	T	O	R	I	O	G	R	A	P	H	E	R	
E	R	A		C	E	L	L	O			E	I	N	E	
	C	L	O	A	K					T	O	R	P	O	R
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Classifieds



Call us on +973 36458394
email: adv@newsofbahrain.com

VACANCIES AVAILABLE

Almufeed Electrical Services Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CABLE JOINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17677784 or almufeedelectricalwll@gmail.com

KOOHEJI CONTRACTORS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON ASST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17786500 or careers@kcbahrain.com

HOME CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39335330 or DOMESTONE@GMAIL.COM

PRO STITCH GARMENTS FACTORY Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77082293 or prostitchgarments.bh@gmail.com

STEEL HUB W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 16100360 or JESSICA@ALGHANAH.COM

ALDAAYSI SONS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39464237 or ALDAAYSI1@GMAIL.COM

SAJID MEN SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33058503 or BASHIRARSHAD006@GMAIL.COM

KOOHEJI CONTRACTORS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON ASST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17786500 or careers@kcbahrain.com

GALGACHA RC JEWELLERY DESIGN W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36812284 or KESTOGHOSH14@GMAIL.COM

ABO ABDO FOR REPAIR OF MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33286654 or MOHMEDALSALAM98@GMAIL.COM

FAHAD JEWELLERY DESIGN BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34030582 or TECHOO.FA@GMAIL.COM

ZIA FOR AIR CONDITIONING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34445800 or mintugil666@gmail.com

ABU ZIDAN BUTCHERY CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (MEAT CUTTING), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36474254 or FAIZANBUTT100@GMAIL.COM

GUJI SPECIALTY COFFEE has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36949192 or GUJI.BHR@GMAIL.COM

KOOHEJI CONTRACTORS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON ASST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17786500 or careers@kcbahrain.com

EGYPTIAN HOUSE RESTURANT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33435050 or pd.docm21@gmail.com

CABRILLE MANAGEMENT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33302950 or SUGANDHSURESH@KAIRAHOLDINGS.COM

SALEH RAMADHAN ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39642742 or SALEHRAMADHAN63@GMAIL.COM

NAHER ALFURAT VEGETABLES AND FRUITS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33285924 or ALOJAIMI.AHMED@GMAIL.COM

GMD HOLDING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38889488 or GLENDISOZUA3124@GMAIL.COM

CP FLY BIRD TOURS & TRAVELS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33761543 or RAMIRAMSHAD786@GMAIL.COM

KOOHEJI CONTRACTORS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON ASST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17786500 or careers@kcbahrain.com

WADI ALQAMAR TECHNICAL CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33223734 or CH.MUHAMMADMUNAWAR23@GMAIL.COM

ALHAMAD CONSTRUCTION & DEVELOPMENT CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17226618 or ACKRO07@GMAIL.COM

ZOHAL CONSTRUCTION CO. W.L.L. has a

vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17877277 or zohalcc@batelco.com.bh

NASS MECHANICAL CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of STEEL FABRICATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

Inter media Advertising Bahraini Partnership Co has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39550042 or AA22AA99@HOTMAIL.COM

ABU NASIR STYLISH SALOON W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36461938 or aleemasghar577@gmail.com

ALHAMAD CONSTRUCTION & DEVELOPMENT CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17226618 or ACKRO07@GMAIL.COM

JALAT SERVICES CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33836783 or ADIZHERE86@GMAIL.COM

MOSA RESTAURANT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39454342 or SHAKEELG88@YAHOO.COM

TOP CHOICE RESTAURANT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34218817 or ATHULMONU95@GMAIL.COM

NATALIA FACILITY SUPPORT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36111950 or NATALIAFCSWLL2023@GMAIL.COM

ARAKAMANI W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37250828 or TAMNI2018@HOTMAIL.COM

KAMALCO SUPERMARKET has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33316049 or MOHD-ALABBASI@HOTMAIL.COM

WOODTREND FURNITURE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33434035 or JALIL_QURESHI84@YAHOO.COM

STAR GRACE COMPUTER CONSULTANCY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33690788 or 1790SHAHBAZ@GMAIL.COM

BIZWAY CONSULTANCY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSULTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32303786 or NEXAM.BH@GMAIL.COM

ALHAMAD CONSTRUCTION & DEVELOPMENT CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17226618 or ACKRO07@GMAIL.COM

AL BAQIA GENTS SALON W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33299991 or HANAN.SAEED73@GMAIL.COM

LABORLINK SERVICES CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33879802 or GULZARAHMAD748@GMAIL.COM

LUCKY FISH AQUARIUM W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32088270 or LUCKYFISHAQUARIUM257@GMAIL.COM

CARGO TEN TEN W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33701470 or AZM.BH.PK@GMAIL.COM

KHAJULA SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37350823 or HAIDRABADSERVICES@GMAIL.COM

PIONEER LIGHT MAINTENANCE SERVICES CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34569303 or vistaworldbh@gmail.com

MUBASHIRA SERVICES CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33956025 or STONES4U@GMAIL.COM

ALHAMAD CONSTRUCTION & DEVELOPMENT CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17226618 or ACKRO07@GMAIL.COM

NEW K2 RESTAURANT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33344254 or FZQ786@YAHOO.COM

HASRAT DECORATION CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36776389 or GAGANBHULLAR75@GMAIL.COM

DARK WAY SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for

the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35411081 or BAIG.CL@GMAIL.COM

MOHAMED RASHED CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33051349 or MOHMEDRASHEDBH50@GMAIL.COM

SHAFQAT PUBLICITY AND ADVERTISING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36675632 or ADI244628@GMAIL.COM

FUTURICA SYSTEMS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35456363 or MUSUFYANG38@GMAIL.COM

YUNES ALMDAR EBRAHIM ZAINAL/ GHAITH ALSAMAA - 1238 has a vacancy for the occupation of SEAMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33343337 or ZAINAL.ESSA@GMAIL.COM

ALHAMAD CONSTRUCTION & DEVELOPMENT CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17226618 or ACKRO07@GMAIL.COM

PROTECTS SECURITY SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36094012 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

ALMOAYYED SECURITY has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or profice@almoayyedcg.com

HAJI HASSAN READY MIX B.S.C CLOSED has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17785353 or hr.admin@hajihassan.com

ALSAATI CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17256580 or KHULOOD.ALSAATI@HOTMAIL.COM

AZADI CONTRACTORS has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17780500 or AMAL_AAA1@HOTMAIL.COM

MAHMOOD ALNOOH CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39677337 or info@mancohb.com

MOHAMED JALAL CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17536956 or RASHID_BUALI@JALAL.COM

NAREES BUILDMASTERS CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35016677 or human.resources.ngc@gmail.com

ALJAMEEL CONSTRUCTION WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of PLUMBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17213003 or hussain@jgroupglobal.com

Al-Raya Shopping Centre W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY MAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39662016 or VIBIN@ONEBAHRAINHOSPITALITY.COM

TEA TIME W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36960999 or HASH2H2@GMAIL.COM

MARASSI AQUARIUM AND UNDERWATER ZOO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CUSTOMER SERVICES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77488000 or YG@EAGLEHILLS.COM

TECHNO PAK CONTRACTING CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39245981 or ZAHEERABBAS1283@GMAIL.COM

MR CUTTS SALOON CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34509910 or IMFAISAL1987@GMAIL.COM

NOOR ZAMIN SERVICES CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35097047 or GLOBALTOUCH.BH@GMAIL.COM

MOHAMED RASHED BUILDING COMPLETION has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33051349 or MOHMEDRASHEDBH50@GMAIL.COM

KAZEROONI CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR (SITE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17742595 or HR@KAZEROONGROUP.COM

PROTECTS SECURITY SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36094012 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

ALMOAYYED SECURITY has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or profice@almoayyedcg.com

ABDULHADH ALAFOO WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17874756 or alafoo@batelco.com.bh

Aldarwish Ceramic Company Partnership has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36060654 or DARWISH@BATELCO.COM.BH

AlFateh Group W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17222222 or Jasim@alfateh.bh

OSAKA TAILORING has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39455118 or OSAKA.77@YAHOO.COM

ALI RASHID AL AMIN INDUSTRIES CO. B.S.C. (CLOSED) has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17732220 or ARALAMIN@BATELCO.COM.BH

HAJI CAFE GRILLS has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK (ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39938893 or MUSILAHAL@GMAIL.COM

AL DHABYANIA SALOON has a vacancy for the occupation of HAIR DRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33022299 or SAMEERALFAYEZ99@HOTMAIL.COM

ALMADINA GOLD SMITH has a vacancy for the occupation of JEWELRY GOLDSMITH (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36299953 or abdulaziz-ahmed@live.com

QASR ALMAHAL VEGETABLES AND FRUITS has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17600644 or alihali@hotmail.com

REEM LINE CLEANING & MAINTENANCE has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33300811 or reemlinegroup@gmail.com

AZIZ ALZARQI CENTRE has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33006444 or TAXI55TAXI@GMAIL.COM

SALMA FOR FRESH MEAT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17340637 or ALAA1122137@GMAIL.COM

ALMANAR PRESS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17639699 or almanabhac@hmail.com

ALTAMIYA WORLD SANDWICHES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37962525 or AREFA28@GMAIL.COM

MISTER MACHINE B.S.C c has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36566116 or TAHAABDULLA@MISTER-MACHINE.COM

OIL ALAAJUB 6 COSMETICS has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39205353 or SUMAYA.ALJALAHMA65@GMAIL.COM

Alfajer restaurant has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN AIDE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17414017 or ALIAAQ696@GMAIL.COM

ALDOOR EXCAVATION & BUILDING CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17877246 or zainabhr@aldoorb.com

PROTECTS SECURITY SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36094012 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

ALMOAYYED SECURITY has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or profice@almoayyedcg.com

ICE TOWN JUICES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35096565 or ICETOWNBAH@GMAIL.COM

NASS MECHANICAL CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of STEEL FABRICATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

GULF AIR B.S.C. (C) has a vacancy for the occupation of CABIN CREW / FLIGHT STEWARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17337804 or recruitment@gulfair.com

SEVEN INTERNATIONAL WALLS CONSTRUCTION W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39619192 or KHADIJA.HASSANJUMAA@GMAIL.COM

NASS MECHANICAL CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of FITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

MILANO TRADING EST has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTING CLERK, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39623459 or INFO@BARCELONAVENDING.COM

ALSAHWA BUILDING MATERIALS & CARPENTRY has a vacancy for the occupation of PLUMBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470067 or MYEALHAIKI@GMAIL.COM

NASS MECHANICAL CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of FITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

KINGDOM ASPHALT COMPANY W L L has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICAL TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17466776 or ABDULLA@KINGDOM.BH

MY BAKERY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39614800 or ADMIN.HR@MYBAKERY.BH

COZY DECOR MATERIALS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33882162 or info.cozydecor@gmail.com

NASS MECHANICAL CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANICAL HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

PAKISTAN STAR RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39126738 or ANIS.KHALID@GMAIL.COM

EWAN ALBAHRAIN FOR CONSTRUCTION & RENOVATION CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39402028 or AAJA1970@GMAIL.COM

HAYA CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39635396 or NASSER00@BATELCO.COM.BH

NASS MECHANICAL CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of FOREMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

ABU SAIBA PLANTS & FLOWERS has a vacancy for the occupation of DATE PALM WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17593263 or APF.EST@HOTMAIL.COM

PROTECTS SECURITY SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36094012 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

FABRIC CARE LAUNDRY has a vacancy for the occupation of LAUNDERER/PRESSER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39686163 or ANILKUMAR48901@GMAIL.COM

NASS MECHANICAL CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of FITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

QURBAN CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34110014 or ALISHUBBER201@HOTMAIL.COM

Secure Me W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17749697 or secure.me@live.com

ELYA LAND CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17131343 or ELYALANDCONTRACTING@GMAIL.COM

NASS MECHANICAL CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of FITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

BAHRAIN SPECIAL TECHNICAL SERVICES STS CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66741383 or info@BAHSTS.COM

ZAFEEER CONSTRUCTION W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39339937 or ZAFEEER2030@YAHOO.COM

KHABAZ BUNAIRI BAKER W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36650780 or HA42015@GMAIL.COM

NASS MECHANICAL CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

UNIQUE FACILITY SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33306469 or CHIRIVELLAHARIKIZ@GMAIL.COM

SAYACORP HOSPITALITY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICAL TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33637004 or kathrina.nisnisan@conradhotels.com

REAL PAK INTERNATIONAL CARGO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33928400 or MU6038126@GMAIL.COM

NASS MARINE SERVICES CO WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of RIGGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17725522 or yousif@aanass.net

YUSUF AHMED ISA BUILDING COMPLETION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35137132 or YUSUFTAMIMIBH@GMAIL.COM

HALEEM SANDWICHES & FALAFEL has a vacancy for the occupation of SANDWICHES MAKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39861117 or MUBRK-SAAD@HOTMAIL.COM

QUEBEC TOWN CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39755200 or quebecgroup9@gmail.com

MAGIC SHINE CLEANING CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36509129 or info@magicshinebh.com

NOVAR BUILDING CONSTRUCTION W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of PLUMBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36950505 or NOVARBH@YAHOO.COM

HAIZ ALUMINIUM has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33678778 or e.eid@ccci.bh

JOHN BUILDING MATERIALS & SAFTY EQUIPMENT CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17281140 or johnbuildingbahrain@yahoo.com

THAWOWDA TAILORING has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33038625 or NAFEEDSADARY@HOTMAIL.COM

NASS MECHANICAL CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of RIGGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

CITY CORNER CATERIA has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33549579 or CRS68882@HOTMAIL.COM

Diyar Baghdad contracting has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38857715 or PRASAD@DIYAARGLOBALB.COM

NASS MECHANICAL CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of RIGGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

GULF AIR B.S.C. (C) has a vacancy for the occupation of SPECIALIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17337804 or recruitment@gulfair.com

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of EMPLOYEE (OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

ALYAMAMA HOUSE FOR CLEANING CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17345569 or YAMAMAHOUSE1@GMAIL.COM

GUARDUS SECURITY CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or HRD@ALMOAYYEDCG.COM

Delta Security Services Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17262725 or hr@delta-ss.me

ARAB Union Contracting Co WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17533125 or GOLDENGROUPBAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

MARIYAM NISAR CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33410786 or RAHEELFAIZA650@GMAIL.COM

H & R MULTI TASKING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66993322 or alhusseini.empire@batelco.com.bh

ARASHITA COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36647895 or MRMJANNATUL@GMAIL.COM

HAMAN SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35948612 or ALGORIANWALQA@GMAIL.COM

WAQAS FAIZAN OFFSHORE CONTRACTING BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66308852 or WAQASGUJJAR479@GMAIL.COM

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Call us on +973 36458394
email : advt@newsofbahrain.com

VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

KOOHEJI ENGINEERING CONSULTANCY CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CIVIL ENGINEER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17826668 or INFO@KE-CONSULTANCY.COM

ATLANTIC SWIMMING POOL has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17731388 or A.RAHMAN@ATLANTIC-POOLS.COM

ASWAG PLUS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33102220 or MARAF13910@GMAIL.COM

FIRST MOTORS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE BOY / FARRASH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39931932 or mirza@alzayani-investments.com

GULF AIR B.S.C. (C) has a vacancy for the occupation of CABIN CREW / FLIGHT STEWARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17337804 or recruitment@gulfair.com

SMART SECURITY & SAFETY has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17555025 or husain.alhelli@smart.bh

RIFFA GATE SPARE PARTS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39884866 or ABAQI7660@GMAIL.COM

MAXEL INTERNATIONAL CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39944412 or ABUTHAR1975@GMAIL.COM

SPECTRUM ADVERTISING CALLIGRAPHY DRAWING has a vacancy for the occupation of DESIGNER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77019726 or HAMED71BH@GMAIL.COM

SEVEN STARS SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33447826 or YOUNISALEKER@GMAIL.COM

ABDULRAHMAN HUSSAIN MOHAMMED ALI ESTABLISHMENT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17292961 or abdulrahmangarage@yahoo.com

ANSAR & SONS JEWELLERY TRADING CO WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can

contact 36377969 or SHAHADASHRAF72@OUTLOOK.COM

FRANKS A LOT RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17811970 or rayjaffar@gmail.com

NEW AVAILABLE SPECIALIZED CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17227838 or EVERGREENDOCUMENT@GMAIL.COM

JOY OF BRIDE WEDDING DRESSES RENTAL has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33430500 or edrisigroup@hotmail.com

Hayward trading wll has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36383940 or HAYWARD.TRADING1@GMAIL.COM

CALIFORNIA PETS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33023233 or JEHAD_1234@OUTLOOK.COM

ZONE SECURITY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36322266 or info@zonebh.net

TISHA TRADING CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33252311 or ALIVIRK700@GMAIL.COM

Naz Alkhaleej Contracting W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35101737 or muhammadashfaq976@gmail.com

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Under-par Djokovic takes first step towards Grand Slam history



Serbia's Novak Djokovic hits a return against Croatia's Dino Prizmic

● **'Incredible' teen qualifier takes set off Djokovic at Australian Open thriller**

AFP | Melbourne

Novak Djokovic survived a fierce test against teenager Dino Prizmic at the Australian Open yesterday as he launched his bid for a historic 25th Grand Slam, but defending women's champion Aryna Sabalenka destroyed her opponent 6-0, 6-1.

World number one Djokovic, who is gunning for an 11th Australian Open title to pull clear of Margaret Court on the all-time list of majors, won 6-2, 6-7 (5/7), 6-3, 6-4.

The Serbian, with 24 Slams under his belt, is already the most decorated player in the men's game -- two clear of the injured Rafael Nadal and four ahead of the retired Roger

Federer.

The 36-year-old -- now boasting a 29-match winning run in Melbourne -- was expected to breeze through against Croatia's Prizmic, who is half his age.

But after coasting to the first set he was given a searching examination by the youngster, who levelled the match in a tie-break.

The Croatian qualifier threatened to pull away in the third set but the veteran rallied from 3-2 down, reeling off the next eight games to seize control and he was able to snuff out another late fightback.

"He deserved every applause, every credit that he got tonight," Djokovic after Prizmic left the court to a standing ovation from the Melbourne crowd.

"He's an amazing player, so mature for his age and he handled himself on the court incredibly well. This is his moment, honestly. It could easily have been his match as well."

Loeb closes the gap

BRX star turns the heat on with superb stage victory as rally enters second week

● **Sebastien Loeb, Fabian Lurquin in BRX Prodrive Hunter slash 10 minutes 31 seconds off overall leader Carlos Sainz**

TDT | Manama

The Dakar Rally looks to be on course for an intriguing fight to the finish after Sebastien Loeb began the second week of the event yesterday by securing another superb stage victory for Bahrain Raid Xtreme (BRX).

With a dominant drive on the 483km stage from Riyadh to Al Duwadimi, Loeb and Fabian Lurquin in the BRX Prodrive Hunter slashed 10 mins 31 secs off the overall lead held by Carlos Sainz in an Audi.

Loeb's second successive stage win, and his third overall, underlined the intentions of the nine-time World Rally Champion, who set a record six best times in a row in Saudi Arabia last year to record consecutive runner-up finishes.

If he is to follow up with a first outright Dakar victory, both for BRX and himself, he must still wipe out an overall advantage of 19 mins held by Sainz across the five stages leading to Friday's



Sebastien Loeb powering his Bahrain Raid Xtreme Prodrive Hunter

finish in Yanbu.

Loeb's win yesterday came despite him opening the stage after the Riyadh rest day. While he held back initially as American Seth Quintero set the pace, Loeb was ahead just after the halfway point, and pulled away to take the stage by more than seven minutes from Brazil's Lucas Moraes.

Loeb said yesterday after the completion of the stage: "That was a really good day today that came out well for us. It was not easy though as it was diffi-

cult with the navigation and a bit complicated with a bit of everything; some canyons, some dunes, tracks and so on but we stayed concentrated on the road book.

"We did make a couple of mistakes here and there with direction but overall we were able to correct all those mistakes very quickly to enable us to push. A good day."

Sainz will now feel the heat from the Frenchman in the BRX Prodrive Hunter. Loeb replaced the Spaniard's Audi team-mate,



We did make a couple of mistakes here and there with direction but overall we were able to correct all those mistakes very quickly to enable us to push. A good day

SEBASTIEN LOEB

Mattias Ekström, as his closest challenger when the Swede plunged from contention with mechanical problems after just 47km.

After a well-earned day off following the gruelling 48-hour Chrono stage, the drivers faced another big test yesterday. Apart from the stage itself, which included 47km of dunes, and the rest mostly made up of dry river beds and off piste, the crews covered 873km of road sections.

Loeb was clearly focused at the wheel of the BRX Prodrive Hunter, as he recorded his 26th Dakar stage victory overall, leaving him just three behind the great Jacky Ickx.

The Dakar rests at the Al Duwadimi bivouac tonight where the rally last visited at the end of stage two before setting off today on a 458km stage to H'ail.

Bahrain1 double yet again

Khalil Al Ansaari, Rashid Al Balooshi triumph in round two of 2023/2024 Bahrain Drag Racing Championship at BIC

● **Khalil Al Ansaari wins in Pro Mod class, Rashid Al Balooshi takes Competition 4.5 category**

● **Four Bahraini competitors win: Ahmed Hasan, Hussain Abduljalil, Zakaria Al Kuwari, Yousif Ahmed**

TDT | Manama

Bahrain1 Racing secured a sensational double in the second round of the 2023/2024 Bahrain Drag Racing Championship (BDRC), held over the weekend at Bahrain International Circuit (BIC) in Sakhir.

The Bahrain1 pair of Khalil Al Ansaari and Rashid Al Balooshi captured first place in the Pro Mod and Competition 4.5 categories, respectively, to headline an action-packed meeting at the world-class quarter-mile strip of "The Home of Motorsport in the Middle East".

Both Al Ansaari and Rashid triumphed following all-Bahrain1 final runs. Al Ansaari defeated Bahrain1 teammate Khaled Al Balooshi in their decisive Pro Mod elimination. Bahrain's Saad Al Murran came third in class. Rashid took his victory after outgunning teammate Saeed Al Balooshi in the Competition 4.5 final. Jan Christensen from Canada came third.



Rashid Al Balooshi celebrates atop the Competition 4.5 podium alongside Saeed Al Balooshi, left, and Jan Christensen

With those results, Bahrain1, owned by His Majesty the King's Personal Representative His Highness Shaikh Abdulla bin Hamad Al Khalifa, continued their impressive start to the BDRC season at BIC.

It was the second consecutive round in which Bahrain1 drivers won in the Pro Mod and Competition 4.5 classes. Canadians Justin Bond and Jordan Lazic had earlier secured those victories in the championship-opener held last month.

Meanwhile, four Bahraini competitors climbed to the top of the podium in their categories. They included Ahmed Hasan in the 10.0 Index class, Hussain Abduljalil in the 8.5 Index,

Zakaria Al Kuwari in the Outlaw 4-Cylinder, and Yousif Ahmed in the Street Fight Bikes 9.5.

All-Bahraini podium

Hasan claimed his 10.0 Index victory after defeating Hisham Al Awadhi in the final. Mubarak Al Doseri came third to complete an all-Bahraini podium. Abduljalil followed suit in the 8.5 Index, where he beat countryman Yousif Al Khamiri in the final, with Khalid Abdulkarim, also from Bahrain, taking third place.

For Al Kuwari, he won against Jassam Salah in their Outlaw 4-Cylinder final, with Ahmed Haider finishing third for another all-Bahrain podium. Ahmed



won in Street Fight Bikes 9.5 class against Mohamed Albanksi, with Ragheb Mohamed taking third. All three riders were from Bahrain.

Kuwait had five participants take first place in this round. Fahad Khwari won against compatriot Mohammad Zaman in the 9.0 Index class, with Mohamed Idris of the UAE taking third. Abdulrahman Bo Alwa powered to the win in the 7.5 Index category against Jaber Ahmed, with



The Camaro of Canadian Jan Christensen competing in the Competition 4.5 class

Abdulla Al Hatem placing third for an all-Kuwaiti podium.

Yousef Marafi won the Outlaw 6-Cylinder category against fellow-Kuwaiti Jassem Zaman. Hussain Ashkanani defeated Bahrain's Yousif Ahmed to take the 8.5 Index Bikes class with Bahraini Sayed Yousif Faisal in third; and Kuwait's Fahad Al Harbi beat Saudi Arabia's Khalid Al Doseri to win the Pro Street Bikes category, with Hamad Al Ahmed of Bahrain completing the top three.

Elsewhere in the meeting, Yousif Al Ali of the UAE won the Pro 29.5 V8 category after defeating Bahraini Mohamed Al Merbati in their final run, while Mohammed Al Kaabi of the UAE finished in third place. Khalid Al Doseri of Saudi claimed the

Outlaw Bikes win, powering past Mohammed Al Awwad of Kuwait in their final, while Nawaf Abdulla Al Dosseri of Saudi completed the podium-placers.

The BDRC is a National Hot Rod Association (NHRA)-sanctioned event, organised by BIC in cooperation with the Bahrain Motor Federation, the Bahrain Drag Racing Commission and the Bahrain Motorcycle Commission.

The 2023/2024 calendar features five rounds in all and it continues until March of next year. Round three is scheduled for 30 January to 2 February, to be followed by round four the very next week from 6 to 9 February. The championship finale will then take place 19 to 22 March.

Najjar, Tariq clinch back-to-back wins

● **Khalid Najjar triumphs in Junior MAX in season's second and third rounds, Tariq Soofi wins in Micro MAX**

● **Nasser Nass, Leopold Juch triumph in Mini MAX; Mohammed Alhassan, Rashid Khalifa share Senior MAX spoils**

TDT | Manama

Khalid Najjar and Tariq Soofi each claimed back-to-back victories over the weekend in rounds two and three of the 2023/2024 Bahrain Rotax MAX Challenge (BRMC), held at Bahrain International Karting Circuit (BIKC) in Sakhir.

Najjar stepped atop the podium of the Junior MAX class in both meetings, while Tariq enjoyed his double success in the Micro MAX category.

Other winners in the second round were Nasser Nass in the Mini MAX class and Mohammed Alhassan in the Senior MAX, while Leopold Juch took the Mini MAX win in round three with Rashid Khalifa securing the Senior MAX victory.

The BRMC is the Kingdom's leading national karting championship, organised and run by Bahrain International Circuit and BIKC in cooperation with the Bahrain Motor Federation and the Bahrain Karting Commission.

Participants of various ages and nationalities compete in their very own Rotax-powered karts in the championship's various classes, heating up the tarmac along BIKC's 1.414-kilometre CIK-



A group of the winners from the weekend

FIA track.

Khalid Najjar had a perfect weekend competing in the BRMC's Junior MAX division. He set the pace from start to finish in both meetings, putting on a fantastic display of his prowess. After topping the second round's qualifying practice timesheet, Najjar went on to win the pre-final by a convincing margin, and then secured a pole-to-flag victory in the 15-lap final with a time of 13 minutes 52.578 seconds. Najjar cruised unopposed to the chequered flag, finishing 8.514 seconds ahead of runner-up Shaheen Shaheen, while Zayd Alzain came third 19.607s back.

In the third round, Najjar picked up from where he left off, once again taking the Junior MAX final but with an even bigger gap of 11.001s, completing the sprint in 13:45.517. Shaheen was again in second place, while Rashid Hilal rounded off the podium 11.078s from Najjar.

Just like Najjar, Tariq Soofi had a flawless weekend, leading the Micro MAX category in every session of both rounds. Tariq kicked off the season's second meeting taking pole in qualifying practice, and then winning the pre-final ahead of Austin Gray. In the final, Tariq

coasted to an outright victory, completing the nine-lap race in 9:22.613. He finished more than nine seconds ahead of Austin, while Rayyan Najjar came third just under 14 seconds behind.

In the third round, Tariq maintained his fine form all the way to the final, which he won with a closer gap of nearly two seconds from Rayyan. Austin was also not far behind to take third place.

Pace-setter

In the Mini MAX class, Leopold Juch was the early pace-setter, topping qualifying practice ahead of Demir Albali. But Nasser Nass responded well and took the win in the pre-final. He then rode his momentum into the final, claiming the chequered flag in 8:51.689 after nine laps. Demir followed 2.481s behind, while Shaikh Ahmed bin Saqr Al Khalifa joined them on the podium 2.857s back.

In round three, Leopold beat out Nasser to Mini MAX pole before taking the pre-final ahead of Shaikh Ahmed. Leopold completed his impressive run in the meeting, powering to the win in the nine-lap final in a time of 8:46.192 while never giving up his position in front. Ronaldo Koen came second with a 4.544s margin,

while Demir claimed his double podium for the round in third 5.211s adrift.

In the Senior MAX class, Mohammed Alhassan made his presence felt early in the second round and captured pole in qualifying practice, but then Vedant Menon won the pre-final with Alhassan finishing third.

In the 15-lap final, Alhassan bounced back, starting from the second row to triumph in a total time of 13:31.290. Tye Mejia was the runner-up 1.210s behind, and Rashid Khalifa took third 7.073s back.

Khalifa had a superb drive, going from 17th at the start to finishing fifth on the road before being promoted to the podium after a penalty and disqualification to the karters ahead of him. Menon, on the other hand, had a rough start and dropped all the way to the very end of the 19-kart field, but then he also made a fantastic comeback and gained 13 places to finish sixth on the road, before being promoted to fifth on the final classification.

In the third round, Khalifa led the way in qualifying practice but Gracie Grantham triumphed in the pre-final ahead of Wian Boshoff. In the final, Khalifa and Boshoff were engaged in a tight head-to-head battle over the race's final five laps. Boshoff had originally gotten the better of Khalifa at the finish, but he was later given a 10-second penalty by the stewards, handing the win to his rival.

Khalifa was classified first in 13:39.905 after 15 laps. Mejia put in a strong showing to finish second a narrow 0.295s behind after starting 13th, while Musaad Albassam came third 2.133s from Khalifa.

The 2023/2024 BRMC calendar features eight rounds in all. The series returns for round four on 26 January.

Celtics rout Rockets in Udoka's NBA return to Boston



Jaylen Brown in action

AFP | Los Angeles

Jaylen Brown scored 32 points and Jayson Tatum added 27 as the Boston Celtics remained unbeaten at home, defeating Houston 145-113 on Saturday in former Celtics coach Ime Udoka's return to Boston.

The Celtics improved to an NBA-best 30-9 overall and 19-0 at home, the league's only undefeated club at home stretching its team-record home win streak to start a season.

Brown, who scored 21 points in the third quarter when the Celtics pulled away to stay, hit 11-of-15 shots from the floor, 4-of-6 from 3-point range, and added six rebounds, two assists, two steals and two blocked shots.

"Being aggressive. A lot of times defense gets you going," Brown said of his third-period success. "I get it on the run and when we play like that in transition we're tough to beat."

'Deliver a great performance': Pizzi

Bahrain face mammoth task against continental giants South Korea in their opening game of AFC Asian Cup



Bahrain players and officials at their final training session yesterday

● **Group E match against South Koreans scheduled for 2.30pm kick-off**

● **Bahrain head coach calls on national team to give maximum effort**

TDI | Manama

Bahrain must rise to the challenge and "deliver a great performance" today when they face continental giants South Korea in their opening match of the AFC Asian Cup. This was highlighted yesterday by head coach Juan Antonio Pizzi, who was speaking ahead of the national team's Group E clash against their heavily favoured opponents.

"We know they have elite play-

ers," Pizzi was quoted as saying yesterday in his pre-match Press conference. "In order for us to be able to compete, we need every player to give 100 per cent.

"We cannot rely on one or two players; we need all 11 to deliver a great performance."

Today's game is scheduled for a 2.30pm kick-off, Bahrain time, at Jassim bin Hamad Stadium in the Qatari city of Al Rayyan.

Pizzi said that Bahrain have been gearing up intensively for the competition, and are now set for likely their biggest test of the group stage against a star-studded South Korean side that features Tottenham Hotspur's Son Heung-min, Wolverhampton Wanderers' Hwang Hee-chan, and Bayern Munich's Kim Min-jae.

"Our preparation period has been quite short but thankfully, the players have been implementing my instructions and ideas well," Pizzi said. "We know

that we need to give more but we will stay the course and focus on the objective we set when I took over.

"Of course we are very optimistic, we know that we have three tough matches ahead of us. Korea have great players but we'll try to mitigate them and hopefully we'll get a good result."

Pizzi is appearing in the AFC Asian Cup for the second successive edition. He was at the helm of Saudi Arabia in the 2019 tournament, when they exited in the round of 16 after losing to Japan 0-1. Bahrain were also eliminated from the competition at that stage, and it was the South Koreans who bottled them out with a narrow 2-1 victory in extra-time.

Ambitions

Pizzi said: "We have the same optimism and the same ambitions and we want to take it step



Juan Antonio Pizzi during his pre-game Press conference



We know they have elite players. In order for us to be able to compete, we need every player to give 100 per cent. We cannot rely on one or two players; we need all 11 to deliver a great performance

JUAN ANTONIO PIZZI

by step to realise our ambition. Right now our objective is to qualify for the Round of 16."

The Bahrainis played two friendly matches earlier this month as part of their final lead-up to the AFC Asian Cup, but lost both their games to Australia and Angola and were unable to find the net both times. Pizzi remained upbeat, however, that the goals will come.

"Goals are always scored as a result of good performance," he said. "We have individual skills, we have a strong midfield, and



Star midfielder Mohammed Marhoon controls the ball during practice

we will try to use our link up play to good effect."

Meanwhile, South Korea's head coach, 1990 FIFA World Cup winner Jurgen Klinsmann, said that they are not taking anything easy, despite being the Group E favourites, and added that his players are completely focused on today's contest.

"Every game will be a nail-biter," said the German. "Every team here is strong and we will not underestimate any opponent and think about the future.

"We are only thinking about the next game which is Bahrain. This is our message to the team, to be only focused on the next step. We expect a difficult game but we want to do well and we want to stay here until the very end."

Bahrain completed their preparations yesterday with a training session attended by Bahrain Football Association vice-president His Highness Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali bin Isa

Al Khalifa.

Pizzi has 26 players on the national team roster in Doha. They include goalkeepers Sayed Mohammed Jaafar, Ebrahim Luthfallah and Abdulkarim Al Fardan; defenders Amine Bena-di, Sayed Mahdi Baqer, Waleed Al Hayyam, Salem Hussain, Mohammed Adel, Hussain Al Aker and Abdulla Al Khalasi; midfielders Hazza Ali, Mohammed Abdulwahab, Moses Atede, Mohammed Hardan, Ebrahim Alwali, Mohammed Abdulqayoom, Jassim Al Shaikh, Jassim Khelaif, Mohammed Marhoon, Komail Al Aswad and Ebrahim Al Khattal; and forwards Ali Hassan Saeed, Ali Madan, Mahdi Humaidan, Abdulla Al Hashash and Abdulla Yusuf.

Bahrain are making their seventh appearance in the AFC Asian Cup, having qualified for the competition's sixth straight edition. Their best finish to date was fourth overall in the 2004 tournament held in China.

South Korea, Qatar victorious in Asian handball

● **South Korea, Qatar, Kuwait and Iran secure places in main round**

● **Bahrain face off with UAE at 7pm tonight for Group D supremacy**

TDI | Manama

Top title contenders South Korea and Qatar were both victorious yesterday in their second games of the preliminary round in the 21st Asian Men's Handball Championship, currently being hosted by Bahrain. The South Koreans coasted to a 42-13 rout of New Zealand in their Group B clash, while Qatar ousted Gulf rivals Oman 28-18 in Group A. Both winners captured back-to-back wins in their pools to remain undefeated and secure their places in the main round.

Also triumphant yesterday were Kuwait and Iran, and they too booked their spots in the ensuing phase. Kuwait beat Chinese Taipei 31-27 in Group A while Iran edged past China 24-22 in Group B.

In South Korea's big win yesterday, they built a commanding 20-6 lead at the end of the



South Korea's Youngung An looks to make a play against New Zealand's Luke Ireland

first half and never looked back. Hyeonsik Lee was named the Best Player of the Game for the victors.

Close out

In Qatar's victory, they were up 15-7 at the break and did well to close out the contest over the final 30-minute period. Goalkeeper Anadin Suljakovic was

selected as their top performer.

For Kuwait, they held a narrow 16-13 advantage after the first stanza and were able to hold on to their lead in the second half for their second straight victory. Abdulaziz Althafiri was adjudged as the Best Player of the Game for the Kuwaitis.

In Iran's win, they led 15-10 heading into the interval, and

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

1pm: Group C, Japan vs India
3pm: Group D, Kazakhstan vs Hong Kong
5pm: Group C, Iraq vs Saudi Arabia
7pm: Group D, Bahrain vs UAE

were able to hold off a China rally late on for the crucial win. Goalkeeper Mohammad Siavoshishahenayati was named the Best Player of the Game.

Tournament action continues today with the final day of the preliminary round in Groups C and D. In the feature event, hosts Bahrain will look to finish as Group D winners when they face off with the UAE at 7pm. Both sides have already secured their places in the main round, with pool supremacy up for grabs in this fixture. Kazakhstan and Hong Kong face off at 3pm in the other divisional tie.

Meanwhile, two crucial matches are set for Group C, where Iraq, Japan and Saudi Arabia are all still with a chance of making it to the main round.

Following Iraq's 28-all tie with the Japanese in their previous game, they face a tough test against Saudi at 5pm. Japan, on the other hand, are favourites when they take on winless India at 1pm.

'Ticked boxes' as India crush Afghanistan to clinch T20 series



India's Yashasvi Jaiswal reacts during the match

AFP | Indore

2-0 lead.

Opener Yashasvi Jaiswal and Shivam Dube smashed half-centuries as India thrashed Afghanistan by six wickets in the second Twenty20 international in Indore yesterday to clinch the three-match series.

Jaiswal, who hit 68 off 34 balls, returned to the team along with star batsman Virat Kohli after the two missed the opening win.

Jaiswal put on key partnerships including a 92-run stand with left-handed partner Dube, who hit an unbeaten 63, as India chased down their victory target with 26 balls to spare and take an unbeatable

Top-ranked India have been unbeaten at home for 15 consecutive T20 series.

Their bowlers set up victory with left-arm spinner Axar Patel leading the charge with figures of 2-17 to help dismiss Afghanistan for 172 despite Gulbadin Naib's 57.

"The last two games, we've ticked a lot of boxes," India skipper Rohit Sharma said after the win.

Rohit praised Jaiswal and Dube.

"They've had a great couple of years. Jaiswal has played Test cricket now and even T20. He has shown what he is capable of. He has the talent and has a great range of shots.