

**Kohli, Shami star as India reach final**

Kohli's milestone century and Shami's seven-wicket haul propel India to 70-run victory over New Zealand in World Cup semi-final | P12

WORLD 6 Gaza 'carnage' must end: UN aid chief



My life is still very intense, says Gwyneth Paltrow

8 CELEBS

BUSINESS

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Alba clinches two major Investor Relations Awards

**Biden, Xi shake hands at first meeting for a year**

AFP | Woodside, US

US President Joe Biden and Chinese President Xi Jinping shook hands as they met for the first time in a year yesterday, at a high-stakes summit to calm soaring tensions between the two superpowers.

A smiling Biden greeted Xi after the Chinese leader stepped out of a black limousine at the scenic Filoli country estate in the California foothills near San Francisco, before the two leaders shook hands on the front steps.

**US warship fires on drone launched from Yemen**

AFP | Washington

An American warship opened fire on a drone that was heading toward it from Yemen, a US defense official said yesterday.

The official did not specify who launched the aircraft, but Yemen's Iran-backed Huthi rebels have claimed responsibility for a series of recent drone and missile attacks during Israel's war against Hamas.

**Rain advisory**

TDI | Manama

Coast Guard calls upon seafarers to be cautious of expected thunderous rain and high winds today for their safety.

**Asian drowned**

TDI | Manama

A body of an Asian, 41, was found after he drowned in the sea area near Al Sayah. Relevant procedures were taken.

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**HM King amends law on social security assistance**

Mahir Haneef  
TDI | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa has ratified and promulgated Law (21) of 2023, amending Law (18) of 2006 with respect to Social Security, following its approval by the Shura and Representatives and Councils.

The main change in the law from 2006 is that the Cabinet has been given the power to make additions to the categories of citizens who are eligible for receiving social assistance.

A new paragraph has been added to Article III, which lists the categories of persons eligible. It states, "The Cabinet may add new categories based on the minister's proposal."

The 2006 law specifies, under Article Three, that social assistance is for Bahraini families and individuals residing in the Kingdom of Bahrain who fall under the nine categories specified in the law.

Included in the nine categories are widows, divorced women, abandoned women, prisoner's family, unmarried girls, or-



HM the King

phans, people with disabilities and those unable to work, the elderly, and children.

In April this year, five MPs had submitted a bill before the Council of Representatives that proposed that every Bahraini family whose breadwinner earns below the minimum required for subsistence of a family should be given assistance to meet the minimum standard.

Similarly, an adult should also be financially supported to meet the minimum living standards if his income is below the minimum threshold, it was suggest-

ed.

In addition to the change in the Cabinet's power, slight changes have been made in two clauses (clauses 1 and 2) of Article I of the 2006 law, which contains definitions. Clause 1, which previously read as "Ministry of Social Development" has been changed to "The ministry responsible for social development". Clause 2, which was earlier worded as "Minister of Social Development", should now be read as "The minister responsible for social development".

**Israeli soldiers raid Gaza's main hospital**

AFP | Gaza

Israeli soldiers yesterday raided and then combed through Gaza's main hospital, Al-Shifa, before withdrawing, a key objective in their war on Hamas which has raised fears for patients and other civilians trapped inside.

The Gaza Strip's government said the death toll from the war had reached 11,500, including at least 4,710 children and 3,160 women.

Some 29,800 people have also been wounded in the fighting, according to the government, which has struggled to keep an exact toll of casualties amid intense fighting in northern Gaza.

Both Israel and its top ally the US say the Palestinian fighters have a command centre below the Al-Shifa complex, a charge denied by Hamas and leaders of the hospital that has become a focal point in the 40-day-old war.

Israeli soldiers, some wearing face masks, shot in the air and ordered young men to surrender, a journalist in contact with AFP reported.

About 1,000 male Palestinians, hands above their heads, were in the vast hospital courtyard, some of them stripped naked by Israeli soldiers checking them



Two injured Palestinian children are examined as they lie on a gurney at Al-Aqsa Hospital following the Israeli bombardment of in Deir el-Balah, in the central Gaza Strip, yesterday. (AFP)

for weapons or explosives, the journalist said.

Washington, the Red Cross and World Health Organization urged utmost caution with civilian lives.

The journalist trapped inside the hospital told AFP in the early evening that Israeli troops had withdrawn from the facility and redeployed around its outskirts.

The Palestinian Authority, based in the occupied West Bank, branded the raid as a "flagrant" violation of international law.

**'Wholly responsible'**

A White House spokesman pushed back against Hamas claims that US President Joe Biden was "wholly responsible" for the raid by Washington sharing its assessments that militants were using Al-Shifa complex.

"We did not give an OK to their military operations around the hospital," National Security Council spokesman John Kirby told reporters, adding that such decisions were for the Israeli military.

The United Nations has said it

estimates that at least 2,300 people - patients, staff and displaced civilians - were inside and may be unable to escape because of the fighting.

**'Hospitals not battlegrounds'**

International concern over the fate of the people inside Al-Shifa Hospital has been steadily increasing.

"The protection of newborns, patients, medical staff and all civilians must override all oth-



**UN Security Council adopts resolution calling for extended humanitarian pauses in Gaza, release of captives - but no ceasefire**

er concerns," UN humanitarian chief Martin Griffiths said on X. "Hospitals are not battlegrounds."

Witnesses have described conditions inside the hospital as horrific, with medical procedures taking place without anaesthetic, families with scant food or water living in corridors and the stench of decomposing corpses filling the air.

The situation in Gaza's other hospitals is also dire, with the World Health Organization saying 22 of 36 are not functional due to a lack of generator fuel, damage or combat.

(More reports on World Page)

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# HM King hails AGU role as modern scientific institution

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa commended the role of Arabian Gulf University (AGU) being one of the distinguished scientific and modern academic institutions, adding that it embodies cooperation between Bahrain and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries.

HM the King was speaking as he received Dr. Saad bin Saud Al Fuhaid the newly appointed

President of AGU.

HM King Hamad praised AGU's scientific and research contributions, lauding its achievements and distinguished position among various prestigious Arab and international universities.

He recalled the efforts of AGU's former president, the late Dr. Khalid Abdulrahman Al Othali, and his role in serving the university.

His Majesty affirmed that Bahrain will continue to support the university as it contin-



HM the King receives the new AGU President

ues to build generations who contribute to the progress and prosperity of the GCC countries with their knowledge and qualifications.

HM the King wished Al Fuhaid every success in continuing the university's pioneering journey and developing its programmes, curricula and specialities.

The new AGU head expressed gratitude to HM the King for Bahrain's support for the university to achieve its academic goals and visions.

# Bahrain keen to sustain economic development

TDT | Manama

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, highlighted the Kingdom of Bahrain's commitment to enhancing the development of its economic sectors to attract international investments and organisations that benefit the economy and Bahraini citizens.

HRH Prince Salman was speaking as he met yesterday with a delegation from PwC Middle East, at Riffa Palace.

The Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Isa bin Salman Education Charitable Trust and Chairman of the Board of Direc-



HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister meets with the PwC Middle East delegation

tors of the Labour Fund (Tamkeen), His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, and the Minister of Finance and National Economy, HE Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, also attended the meeting.

During the meeting, His Royal Highness was briefed by the delegation on the developments on PwC Middle East's regional services centre in Bahrain, as part of the outcomes of his recent visit to the United King-

dom.

HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister welcomed the PwC Middle East delegation to the Kingdom, highlighting Bahrain's longstanding relations with the UK and their bilateral cooperation across all fields.

He emphasised the importance of the role of consultancies in supporting financial, economic, industrial, and health organisations to achieve their development goals.

The plans and programmes of PwC Middle East, its new regional services centre, and its role in supporting local and international companies and creating promising employment opportunities were reviewed.

## Book on desert



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa received Abdulla bin Ahmed Al Kaabi, Director of the Wildlife Sector at Mafazat Al-Saaid (Hunting Desert), who presented HM the King with his book entitled "Wadi Ali: The Nature of Desert". HM King Hamad expressed his appreciation for the efforts exerted by the writer in compiling his valuable book, stressing that this new addition to the national library would become a significant reference for wildlife and desert enthusiasts. HM the King wished Al Kaabi further success. Al Kaabi expressed his gratitude to HM King Hamad for his continuous support for authors and keenness to preserve the national environmental resources of the Kingdom, wishing HM abundant health and happiness.

## Bahrain 'culture of tolerance model'

TDT | Manama

Shura Council Chairman, SHE Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh, affirmed that Bahrain is a model of a culture of tolerance that embraces different religions and cultures, in a statement marking the International Day for Tolerance.

He said that Bahrain has spread the values of tolerance and coexistence through soci-

ety and embodied them in the National Action Charter and the Constitution.

Al Saleh hailed the approach of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa to establish many initiatives to promote tolerance, solidarity and cooperation among various nations and cultures.

He praised the government's strategies and programmes in reflecting these values.

# HH Shaikh Nasser commends Labour Ministry's specialised programmes

TDT | Manama

His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, HM the King's Representative for Humanitarian Work and Youth Affairs, commended the Ministry of Labour for its diligent efforts to create job op-

portunities, offering specialised programmes, and preparing job seekers for the labour market.

HH Shaikh Nasser chaired the last meeting of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports (SCYS) for this year.

Present in the meeting was His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin



HH Shaikh Nasser chairs the SCYS meeting

Hamad Al Khalifa, SCYS First Deputy Chairman, General Sports Authority (GSA) Chairman, and President of Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC).

HH Shaikh Nasser praised the cooperation between the Ministry of Labour and the Labour Fund (Tamkeen).

# Biggest 'Study in India' Education Fair in Bahrain on November 24-25

## Opportunity to meet International Directors of Christ, VIT and Manipal universities

TDT | Manama

Study in India Counselling Meet 2023 would once again reach out to the students of Kingdom of Bahrain on 24 and 25 November 2023 at Ramee Grand Hotel.

It is organised by SAPE and supported by Indian Embassy in association with Laurels Centre for Global education, and Media

partner The Daily Tribune.

Students and parents will have the opportunity to meet the international directors of Indian universities from 10am to 8pm on both the days. The focus of the event will be to "invite students to study in India under various scholarships".

Study in India Counselling Meet will showcase 15+ India's highly ranked universities and colleges from different parts of the country. The officials of the institutions will be counseling students by aiding in choosing the right course and sharing updated and accurate information related to admissions.

Study in India Counselling



Image used for illustrative purposes only

Meet will provide students with a unique opportunity of mak-

choice and avail up to 100% merit-based scholarships.

## Universities

The participating universities include, Christ College Bangalore, Manipal Global, Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT), Jain Deemed-to-be University, Reva University, DIT University, Chennai Institute of Technology, MIT World Peace University, Acharya, Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology, IIMB, etc.

Sanjay Thapa, Director SAPE, said: "This event will give the opportunity to the students aspiring for college admission in 2024 a thorough guidance

on the courses, fee structure, college facilities, availability of scholarships, hostel facilities and admission procedures. We are happy to bring the best performing universities and colleges to this event which will help the students in Bahrain to plan a hassle-free higher education in India. We invite all the parents of students in higher classes to utilise this opportunity to gather information and guidance in finding the best colleges for their wards."

For more information and reserving appointments with the university officials please contact 36458340 or +919830058408

# Shaikha Bahar wins Real Estate Innovation Award



Shaikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, CEO of Real Estate Regulatory Authority, and Eng. Essam Bin Abdullah Khalaf, Chairman of Real Estate Regulatory Authority, presenting the cash prize to the winner

**Ashen Tharaka**  
TDT | Manama

Shaikha Bahar won the first prize in the Cityscape Real Estate Innovation Award ceremony at the awards ceremony held at the Exhibition World Bahrain yesterday for her sustainable smart neighborhood

vertical housing project in Diyar Al Muharraq.

Speaking to The Daily Tribune, Bahar said that the goal of her project is to create a society that is enabled by technology. Her concept of vertical housing, which is located in Diyar Al Muharraq, will integrate technology into all aspects of daily life, from energy



Abdulrahman Showaiter, second prize winner



Shaikha Bahar, winner of the Real Estate Innovation Award



Ali Alqaraan, third prize winner



**“I am very honoured to have won this award,” said Bahar. “I believe that this project has the potential to make a real difference in the lives of people in Bahrain. It is a model for how we can create sustainable and livable communities in the future.”**

- SHAIKHA BAHAR

management to waste reduction. “I am very honoured to have won this award,” said Bahar. “I believe that this project has the potential to make a real difference in the lives of people in Bahrain. It is a model for how we can create sustainable and livable communities in the future.” Abdulrahman Showaiter and Ali Alqaraan claimed the second and third prizes, respectively.

## Bahrain to take part in Space Camp 2025 in Alabama

Dubai

The National Space Science Authority (NSSA), represented by its CEO, Dr. Mohammed Ibrahim Al Aseeri, signed an agreement with Kallman Worldwide, represented by its President and CEO, Thomas Kallman, in the Partnership USA Pavilion in Dubai Airshow 2023.

Kallman has selected Bahrain for the third time in a row to be one of the participating countries in the Space Camp 2025, in Alabama, US, due to NSSA's excellence and the Kingdom's position in education regionally and based on the success of previous experiences.

Dr. Al Aseeri expressed his happiness to sign this agreement, which aims to highlight Bahrain among the advanced countries in space sciences and the use of space technologies to enhance comprehensive development and ensure prosperity in the Kingdom.

### Cooperation

He stressed that establishing cooperative relationships in regional and international joint projects with space agencies and technical, industrial, and research organisations working in space science, technology education, science, engineering, and mathematics, is an integral part of the NSSA's strategic plan. He said that this agreement enhances cooperation in the future, adding that the NSSA is keen to develop education and training in the space sector and its sciences.

# Bahrain keen to boost sustainable real estate practices with innovation and transparency



Attendees at the ceremony  
TDT | Manama

Bahrain's real estate sector can forge strong partnerships by embracing digitalisation, investing in infrastructure, and increasing stakeholder awareness.

The Minister of Sustainable Development, HE Noor Bint Ali Al Khulaif, made this statement in her opening remarks at the Real-Estate Innovation Award winners ceremony held at the Exhibition World Bahrain, yesterday.

Stakeholders in the Bahraini

real estate sector have been calling for greater transparency, and the government has responded by implementing measures to promote sustainable development and sound real estate practices. The National Real Estate Plan 2021-2024 provides a roadmap for achieving these goals, and the Real Estate Innovation Competition, launched in collaboration with the private sector, is expected to further accelerate progress in this area.

Digitalisation is another key factor in achieving sustainable development goals in the real es-



HE Noor bint Ali Al Khulaif, Minister of Sustainable Development

state sector. The adoption of digital technologies, such as arti-

cial intelligence (AI), can help to improve efficiency, reduce costs, and enhance transparency.

“Bahrain is the best place to achieve all the requirements in the real estate ecosystem,” stated the Minister. “We have a strong track record of innovation and sustainability, and we are committed to creating a world-class real estate sector that benefits all stakeholders.”

The Minister also highlighted the importance of attracting partners to the Kingdom of Bahrain by expanding cooperation with the private sector. City-

scape Bahrain, a major real estate exhibition held in the country, provides an opportunity for all stakeholders to explore the future of sustainable real estate in Bahrain and the transformations required.

With its commitment to innovation, sustainability, and transparency, Bahrain is well-positioned to become a leader in the global real estate market. The government's initiatives and the private sector's involvement are creating a vibrant ecosystem that is attracting investment and driving growth.

# UN-Habitat and Naseej join forces by signing MoU to drive sustainable urban development in Kingdom

**MoU signed**  
TDT | Manama

UN-Habitat Bahrain and Naseej, the MENA region's first fully-integrated real estate and infrastructure development company, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at the sidelines of Cityscape Bahrain.

The MoU aims to enhance collaboration between UN-Habitat and the private sector in support of the implementation of the 2021-2024 United Nations Sustainable Development Coop-

eration Framework signed with Bahrain.

The objectives of the MoU include enhanced awareness and efforts from the private sector in making Bahraini cities inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable.

Priority areas identified for pilot projects and resource mobilisation to support sustainable, smart and inclusive cities and communities in Bahrain is another objective of signing the MoU.

In an interview with the Daily Tribune, Dr. Fernanda Lonardoni, Head of UN-Habitat



Amin Alarrayed, CEO of Naseej, and Dr. Fernanda Lonardoni, Head of UN-Habitat Bahrain, at the MoU-signing ceremony

Bahrain, said that the private sector has a key role to play in

sustainable development. “Developers and investors have to

stay in front of societal expectations for sustainable development, particularly when those expectations are evolving as quickly as they are today,” she said.

The MoU is a significant step forward in promoting sustainable urban development in Bahrain. It is expected to lead to increased collaboration between UN-Habitat and the private sector, as well as the development of innovative projects that will make Bahraini cities more inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable.

# Asian imprisoned for drug smuggling into Kingdom

TDT | Manama

The First High Criminal Court punished an Asian to five years in prison, a fine of BD3,000, and deportation after carrying out the sentence for smuggling drugs into the Kingdom.

The defendant thought that his trick would fool the customs, but his facial expressions and the experience of the customs police discovered his silly trick of wearing a belt stuffed with one kilogram of drugs.

The details of the incident go back to the fact that when the accused arrived through Bah-

rain International Airport from an Asian country, and when he passed through the customs area, the first witness, the "customs man," suspected him, and so he searched him and did not find anything.

When asked about possessing any contraband, he denied it, but his facial expressions aroused suspicion, so the customs policeman transferred him to the X-ray machine room.

## Narcotic substances

Upon examining him, circular shapes inside the folds of his clothes were noticed and sus-



Image used for illustrative purposes only

pected to be narcotic substances, so he was transferred to the Drug Control Administration office.

Upon questioning, the accused admitted that he had hidden a

narcotic substance inside hidden pockets in the belt he was wearing with the intention of smuggling it into the Kingdom.

Accordingly, he was searched

and the accused took out approximately a kilogram of the narcotic substance.

Upon investigation by the Drug Control Department, it was found that the accused works within a network that brings narcotic substances to the Kingdom for the purpose of selling, and the role of the accused was to transport narcotic substances. Upon laboratory examination, it was proven to contain the narcotic substance and the substance methamphetamine, and by examining his urine sample, it was proven to contain the narcotic drug hashish and the substance diazepam.

## Workshop on AI, data analysis for customs

TDT | Manama

Customs Affairs held in association with the World Customs Organization (WCO) a workshop on Artificial Intelligence and Data Analysis for Bahrain Customs.

A total of 30 individuals from Customs Affairs participated.

The workshop aims to introduce the participants to the basics and benefits of analysing data, providing an introduction to WCO BACUDA and analysing its data, in addition to introducing and managing the data strategy of the WCO.

Director of BACUDA Project at the Capacity Building Directorate of the WCO, MR Hongik Kang talked about the power of data science that has become a powerful tool in identifying problems.

# Fight against financial crimes a national priority

TDT | Manama

The Bahrain Association of Banks (BAB) has emphasised the Central Bank of Bahrain's unwavering dedication, in collaboration with the Ministry of Interior, to enhance the Anti-Money Laundering/Countering the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) system.

This commitment is a pivotal aspect of the national agenda to combat serious crimes, ensuring the safety of the financial and

banking sector.

Consequently, the Kingdom of Bahrain has achieved the top position in the Gulf region for the least severity in money laundering and terrorist financing, as per the Basel Anti-Money Laundering Index.

Mr. Adnan Yousef, Chairman of the Association, highlighted this recent international accomplishment, and underscored the Kingdom of Bahrain's legislative framework, built on best practices in financial and economic domains,

which has elevated its competitiveness across various spheres.

He emphasised that the Kingdom prioritises the safety and transparency of the financial and banking sector, placing it at the core of national concerns.

## Commitment

Furthermore, he pointed out the sector's commitment to fostering coordination among regulators and financial institutions, aiming for the highest standards



Mr. Adnan Yousef

of compliance and control in the fight against money laundering and terrorist financing.

Mr. Adnan said: "This accomplishment adds to the Kingdom's track record of successes in this domain, particularly following its previous top rankings among Arab and Middle Eastern countries for the same indicator in preceding years. It is noteworthy in this context that these triumphs are outcomes of concerted efforts by state institutions aimed at consistently bolstering

the Kingdom's standing across diverse dimensions.

"The involved ministries and authorities, including the Ministry of Finance and National Economy, the Central Bank of Bahrain, and the Financial Investigation and Economic Crimes Departments at the Ministry of Interior, have played pivotal roles. Additionally, the constructive collaboration between financial and banking institutions has contributed significantly to these achievements."

# Criminal Court convicts Arab national of forging EWA bill

● Jailed for three years, fined BD1,000 and faces deportation

TDT | Manama

The Chief Prosecutor of the Cybercrime Department announced that the Criminal Court of First Instance has convicted an Arab national who owns a transaction processing office for forging a bill attributed to the Electricity and Water Authority (EWA).

The court sentenced him to three years in prison and imposed a fine of BD1,000, in addition to permanently deporting him from the country after



serving his sentence. The court also ordered the confiscation of the forged document.

The details of the incident date back to when the Public Prosecution received a report from the Exhibition Police Center in the Capital Police Directorate. The report indi-

cated the discovery of forgery in a bill claimed to be issued by EWA, which was presented by a customer inquiring about the reason for the lack of electricity supply to his residential unit. It was later found that the bill was forged.

Consequently, the Public Prosecution initiated an investigation by interrogating the suspect and confronting him with the forged document and the evidence against him. The suspect confessed to the charges attributed to him. The Public Prosecution ordered the detention of the suspect for the crime of forgery in official electronic records and referred the case to the Criminal Court of First Instance, which issued the aforementioned verdict.

# NHRA organises quality control training programme for workers



Participants in the programme

TDT | Manama

The National Health Regulatory Authority (NHRA) organised its second training programme on quality control of medical devices and supplies.

The workshop, organised in

two batches that totalled 103 participants, demonstrated the agency's commitment to ensuring that medical devices and supplies used to diagnose illnesses and support treatment are safe and efficient.

Dr. Mariam Athbi Al Jalahma, CEO of NHRA, said that the

training programme aimed at preparing trainees to cover all regulatory aspects of medical devices and supplies, which ensures the highest quality standards in purchasing, transportation, storage, sale, provision of after-sales services, and other regulatory requirements.

# Stage set for Bahrain Animal Production Show on November 23

TDT | Manama

Khalid Ahmed Hassan, Undersecretary for Agriculture and Marine Resources at the Ministry of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture, announced that the sixth edition of the Bahrain Animal Production Show (Mara'ee 2023) will kick off on November 23.

It is considered one of the largest exhibitions specialising in animal production and rare breeds of birds, poultry, goats,

sheep, and horses, which are only found in the Kingdom.

The show will be held under the auspices of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, reflecting the Kingdom's keenness to preserve livestock and consolidate food security and commensurate with the plans and programmes implemented by the government, led by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, to enhance investment in this vital



Khalid Ahmed Hassan



The show reflects Bahrain's keenness to preserve livestock and consolidate food security.

sector in a sustainable development manner, he added.

The Undersecretary extended his appreciation to His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, HM the King's Representative for Humanitarian Work and Youth Affairs, Honorary President of the Bahrain Royal Equestrian and Endurance Federation (BREEF), for his support in preparing the Bahrain International Endurance Village to hold the exhibition for the sixth time in a row, which received

more than 240,000 visitors from inside and outside the kingdom in the previous editions.

This year's edition, held on November 23-25, will display various types of livestock, sheep, and rare and purebred breeds of animals and birds.

The Farmers' Market will showcase their products, a cowboys village, dogs circus, a games park (Al Areen), an area allocated for food trucks, and other entertainment and educational activities will be available.

## Scent Arabia 2023: Export Bahrain, Omani-Bahraini Friendship Society join hands for local perfume brands

TDI | Manama

Export Bahrain has entered into a deal for Scent Arabia Exhibition this year with Omani Bahraini Friendship Association to support and showcase distinguished Bahraini businesses.

Scent Arabia is set to captivate audiences from November 14th to 18th at Exhibition World Bahrain by uniting the most innovative and influential companies in the fragrance and cosmetics sector.

Through their active participation in Scent Arabia, Export Bahrain aims to empower Bahraini businesses in the fragrance and cosmetics sector, enabling them to tap into new markets, reach a wider and more diverse audience, and establish robust connections with industry



Safa Sharif Abdulkhalik

peers.

Dr. Jumaa bin Ahmed Al Kaabi, the Ambassador of Bahrain to Oman, said the exhibition seeks to provide unwavering support to entrepreneurs in both nations by facilitating their development, improving their productivity, and fostering op-



Safa Sharif Abdulkhalik

portunities for partnerships and collaborations.

Faisal bin Harib Al Busaidi, the Ambassador of Oman to Bahrain, said this exhibition aims to vigorously promote and market the products of entrepreneurs in both brotherly countries.



Faisal bin Harib Al Busaidi

Safa Sharif Abdulkhalik, the dynamic and visionary Chief Executive Officer of Export Bahrain, passionately conveys her enthusiasm, stating unequivocally that Export Bahrain remains resolute in their commitment to supporting and elevating Bahraini brands.

## Al Salam Bank exclusive partner of Informa Markets Exhibitions



The deal signing

TDI | Manama

Al Salam Bank announced its strategic partnership with Informa Markets, a global events and exhibition organizer. The Bank will be the official sponsor and exclusive banking and finance institution at select Informa Markets exhibitions, including the Autumn Fair, Jewellery Arabia, and Scent Arabia.

The signing ceremony took place yesterday at the Jewellery Arabia Hall at the Exhibition World Bahrain in Sakhir. The event was attended by Abdulkarim Turki, Chief Operating Officer at Al Salam Bank, Mohammed Ebrahim, General Manager of Informa Markets, and several Executive Management members from both institutions, as well as members of the media.

Anwar Murad, Deputy CEO - Banking at Al Salam Bank, said: "This program will be aimed at providing Bahraini talents interested in the events and

exhibitions industry with the opportunity to gain specialized training and professional development, in addition to equipping them with the necessary hands-on experience in banking and event management, reflecting positively on our community as a whole."

Mohammed Ebrahim, General Manager of Informa Markets, expressed his enthusiasm for the collaboration, stating: "This partnership will significantly enhance the exhibitor experience at our events and provide valuable support to both local and international participants."

The partnership will also include the establishment of the Al Salam Bank's exclusive lounge area at all Informa Markets exhibitions, that will feature unique Jewellery pieces on offer by sponsors and exhibitors, in addition to providing exclusive invitations to select clients at Al Salam Bank, a dedicated registration queue at events, along with VIP access and parking services.

## Alba clinches two major Investor Relations Awards

TDI | Manama

Aluminium Bahrain (Alba) has scooped two major awards -- Leading Corporate for Investor Relations (IR) in Bahrain as well as Best Investor Relations Professional - Bahrain, at the 2023 Middle East Investor Relations Association (MEIRA) Annual Conference and Awards, which was held on 13 November 2023 at the Four Seasons Hotel - Bahrain Bay.

The MEIRA 2023: From ESG to Sustainable Capital Markets was hosted by Bahrain Bourse in collaboration with the Central Bank of Bahrain.

Commenting on this win, Alba's Chief Executive Officer Ali Al Baqali said: "Scooping this



The award ceremony

award for the 12th year in a row is a strong vote of confidence for everything we do in Investor Relations, and I thank Director Investor Relations and her team for going above and beyond to set the benchmark in IR best

practices as we navigate the dynamic business landscape."

Adding further, Alba's Director - Investor Relations, Insurance & Corporate Secretary, and recipient of the Best Investor Relations Professional - Bah-



Ali Al Baqali

rain Award, Eline Hilal, said: "I am incredibly humbled to receive this award as the top Investor Relations lead in Bahrain and the region for more than a decade."

## Media mogul Murdoch says he'll stay 'active' after passing torch

New York, United States

Conservative media mogul Rupert Murdoch, who hands control of his empire to son Lachlan this week, yesterday pledged to maintain an "active role" in the business and slammed "intolerant" elites for silencing debate one year before the 2024 election.

The 92-year-old Murdoch formally passes the torch to 52-year-old Lachlan at News Corp on Wednesday. He will do the same at Fox Corp on Friday.

"I hope to continue an active role in the company," Murdoch, who will remain as chairman emeritus at News Corp, adding that Lachlan will now be the company's "sole Chair." The Australian-born Murdoch rose from local news in Adelaide to amassing a stable of legacy newspapers in Britain and the United States before launching into broadcast media.

Aggressive tabloids like The Sun and New York Post, storied dailies The Times and Wall Street Journal, and big-hitting television networks like Fox and Sky have turned the Murdoch family into some of the world's most influential figures.

## AMH Island Classic Charity Golf tournament

TDI | Manama

American Mission Hospital is all set to hold its Annual will be holding its Annual Island Classic charity golf tournament from the 16th to the 18th of November 2023. The 24th Island Classic will be officially opened today at 12 pm. This event is held every year under the patronage of His Majesty the King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa at His Majesty's golf course in Saffriya.

AMH Corporate CEO/ Chief Medical officer Dr. George Cheriyan said, "First and foremost I would like to thank His Majesty the King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa who has so kindly permitted the tournament to be held on His private golf course in Saffriya once again. Golfers



wait eagerly every year to get a chance to play on this challenging course."

The tournament is designed as a handicapped team event and will follow the Florida format, in which all players play their shot from the position determined to be the best ball. All players in a foursome team will have an equal opportunity to contribute to the over-

all outcome and score of the team.

Teams will be divided into two flights - Championship and Premier Flight and at the end of the three days of play; three winners from each category will be awarded. Several side contests including Closest to the Pin, Longest Putt and the most accurate drive will also be conducted side by side.

## UTB hosts job preparedness workshop

TDI | Manama

University of Technology Bahrain (UTB), in collaboration with INJAZ Bahrain, recently organised a workshop focused on job preparedness for its students.

The workshop emphasized the importance of enhancing their CVs with relevant skills, internship experience, and educational achievements when applying for jobs as fresh graduates.

Students were provided with



the opportunity to review and evaluate their CVs. By critically assessing their CVs, students were able to identify areas for



improvement and make necessary adjustments to enhance their chances of securing employment opportunities.

## Russian economy expands for second quarter running

Moscow, Russia

Russia's economy grew for a second consecutive quarter despite high inflation and Western sanctions that have weakened the ruble, official data showed yesterday.

The economy expanded by 5.5% year-on-year in the third quarter after contracting in the same period last year, according to the federal statistics agency. The Russian economy shrank in 2022 but it started to grow again in the second quarter of this year on an

annual basis, ending a streak of four straight quarters of contraction.

Officials have forecast the economy to rebound in 2023, with the central bank expecting growth of between 2.2% and 2.7% for the full year.

Economy Minister Maxim Reshetnikov said last week annual growth should come in at three percent.

Russia was hit by unprecedented Western sanctions in the wake of its military campaign in Ukraine.

## Nissan Drives Men's Health Awareness with Movember Campaign

TDI | Manama

Y.K. Almoayyed & sons, the sole distributor of Nissan in Bahrain is embracing the global Movember movement during the month of November. Movember, a month dedicated to raising awareness about men's health, particularly focuses on prostate cancer and encourages men to prioritize their well-being.

The Movember campaign, initiated by Nissan, aims to shed light on the importance of regular check-ups and screenings for men's health, particularly focusing on prostate cancer. With the alarming statistics surrounding this disease, Nissan believes that early detection and prevention are critical in ensuring healthier lives for men worldwide.

To support this cause, Nis-



san launched an innovative activation that invited men to take charge of their health. Throughout November, individuals seeking a free consultation for prostate cancer simply sent a message to Nissan on Instagram to avail themselves of this unique opportunity. Nissan then connected participants with medical professionals who provided expert guidance and invaluable insights regarding prostate cancer screenings and prevention.









# Classifieds



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## Beckham says Messi at Inter Miami is 'our gift to America'



India's former cricket player Sachin Tendulkar talks with former English football player David Beckham (R) before the start of the World Cup semi-final in Mumbai

AFP | Mumbai

David Beckham said in an interview yesterday that his Inter Miami franchise signed Lionel Messi as "our gift to America and the MLS".

Former Manchester and Real Madrid midfielder Beckham, speaking on his first ever visit to India and in his role as a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador, admitted he still has to pinch himself when he sees the Argentinian World Cup winner on the teamsheet in Florida.

"It's still hard to believe that when someone turns around to me and says Inter Miami have Lionel Messi in their team, you know," he said.

"It's a very proud thing for me to have as an owner, to have a player like that, the best play-

er in the world, in our team.

"We always knew that bringing Leo to America, not just to Miami, it was our gift to America and the MLS.

"Because someone like that changes the game. You know, someone like that inspires another generation of soccer players.

"And that's why we wanted to bring Leo to the team. Of course, we want to win championships. Of course, we want to be the best team in the league.

"But one of the reasons why we bought him was to also inspire the next generation of soccer players in America.

"To want to be soccer players. So bringing him does that and it's an important thing for us."

## Racing fans set for ultimate drives, passenger rides in BIC's Track Experiences on Saturday

TDT | Manama

The ultimate drives and passenger rides are on offer to motorsport fans this Saturday in Bahrain International Circuit's (BIC) Track Experiences.

These exciting and widely popular activities are to be held in three ultra-quick cars, namely the Renault Clio Cup and the Radical SR1 and SR3.

Saturday's events at "The Home of Motorsport in the Middle East" are scheduled to be held from 8am to 3.30pm.

Fans can get an awesome introduction to the high-octane world of motorsports in the Clio Cup Experiences, where they



Action from a previous event at BIC

can step into a 1.6 litre, Turbocharged Renault Clio Cup sportscar either for a drive or a passenger ride.

The driving experience takes the participant onto the track behind a professional instructor in a lead-follow manner,

while the passenger experience requires those taking part to simply buckle up and enjoy the rush!

Supreme thrills can also be enjoyed in the Radical SR1 Driving Experience, which is ideal for amateurs and racers alike as the car's 185bhp engine roars like no other. Interested participants are required to complete a Clio Cup Drive in order to take part in this activity.

In the Radical SR3 Passenger Experience, fans will be taken from zero to 100kph in about 3.4 seconds, making for a memorable number of laps around the circuit.

## Bahrain International Trophy to be shown by record number of broadcasters

TDT | Manama

The \$1 million Bahrain International Trophy tomorrow will be broadcast by 22 broadcasters – a record total for the event – as befitting one of the showpiece races in the region.

Fourteen horses are set to go to post in what is the strongest renewal yet in the race's five-year history with five countries represented, and six of the intended runners already winners of either Group 1 or Group 2 races.

The field, headed by three-time Group 1 winner, Nation's Pride, will be competing for a greatly-enhanced US\$1m prize fund. The race has attracted overseas trained horses from France, Great Britain, Ireland and the United Arab Emirates,



Action from a previous edition of the event

as well as two locally trained runners.

The race is due off at 3:05 pm local time.

Racecourse Media Group (RMG) and HBA Media (HBA), two of the world's leading

horseracing media rights companies, working with the Bahrain Turf Club, are distributing the TV coverage.

Some of the world's leading sports broadcasters are taking live coverage include Fox Sports

in the US and ESPN / Star+ in Latin America and Caribbean. For the first time, live coverage will be shown in India and Indonesia via Fancode and Transvision.

Yusuf Buheji, CEO of the Bahrain Turf Club, said: "The Bahrain International Trophy will once again receive significant exposure from broadcasters all around the world, including live coverage in India and Indonesia for the first time. We look forward to welcoming all the broadcasters and their audiences, both new and old, to what should be a fantastic day."

RMG will also work with Timeline TV in co-producing the live one-hour world feed programme (2.30pm to 3.30pm local), which will air in 112 countries.

## Title holder East Riffa, Al Taawon and Nasser Centre win openers

TDT | Manama

East Riffa Secondary School's team opened its Nasser bin Hamad Football Tournament for Secondary Schools campaign on a high-note, defeating the British School of Bahrain 5-0, held at Al Ittihad Club as part of Group 4 games.

The tournament is being held under the patronage of HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Representative of HM the King for Humanitarian Works and Youth Affairs, and organised by the Ministry of Education.

The title holder, East Riffa Secondary School, enjoyed a re-

sounding victory, with Mohammed Al Shaikhani leading the charge by scoring three goals.

Ahmed Tariq and Rashid Suraj also contributed to the team's success, each scoring one goal. Al Shaikhani's exceptional performance and hat-trick earned him the well-deserved title of "man of the match".

In a thrilling encounter, Al Taawon Secondary School emerged victorious over Bahrain School with a narrow 2-1 scoreline in their Group 1 match. The match, held at Bahrain School's football field, showcased intense competition and exceptional performances from both teams.

Al Taawon's substitute player, Mohammed Saeed, proved to be the hero of the day as he rescued his team from a potential draw by scoring a crucial goal in the final minute. Saeed's late strike sealed the fate of the match, granting Al Taawon a hard-earned victory.

Hassan Habib had earlier opened the scoring for Al Taawon with a well-taken goal. On the other side, Bahrain School's Ounel found the back of the net to keep the game closely contested. Ali Hameed of Al Taawon was named the man of the match.

Meanwhile, in another Group

1 clash, Nasser Vocational Training Centre faced off against Bayan School of Bahrain. The match, held at Al Ahli Club's stadium, witnessed a hard-fought battle between the two teams.

Nasser Vocational Training Centre managed to edge past Bayan School with a solitary goal, securing a narrow victory. The decisive goal was scored by Ammar Al Basri, whose clinical finish proved to be the difference-maker in the tightly contested match.

Al Basri's outstanding performance earned him the well-deserved recognition as the man of the match.



Action from a match

# Bahrainis reach Abha for qualifier

HH Shaikh Khalid meets team ahead of their game against Yemen tonight in qualification for the FIFA World Cup 2026

● Bahrainis depart with 30-player senior men's national squad called up by head coach Juan Antonio Pizzi

● National team delegation in Abha is headed by Bahrain Football Association official Rashid Al Zayani

TDI | Manama

Supreme Council for Youth and Sports first deputy chairman, General Sports Authority (GSA) president and Bahrain Olympic Committee chief His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa met with Bahrain's senior men's national football team prior to their departure yesterday for Abha, Saudi Arabia.

There, the nationals will be taking on Yemen tonight in their opening continental qualifying match for the FIFA World Cup 2026.

The game is scheduled for a 9pm kick-off, Bahrain time, at Prince Sultan bin Abdulaziz Sports City in Abha. It is in Group H, where the Bahrainis are also with the UAE and Nepal in this second round of qualification under the Asian Football Confederation (AFC). The fixtures are also qualifiers for the AFC Asian Cup 2027.

Tonight's contest is the first



HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa addresses the players during their training locally before their departure

of two games in a week in the qualifiers. Bahrain next take on the UAE on Tuesday at home at the National Stadium in Riffa.

HH Shaikh Khalid was accompanied on his visit to the team's training by Bahrain Football Association (BFA) president Shaikh Ali bin Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, BFA vice-president His Highness Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali bin Isa Al Khalifa, GSA CEO Dr Abdulrahman Askar, BFA secretary general Rashid Al Zoubi, and other officials.

HH Shaikh Khalid urged the players to give their best effort in the matches and wished them

all the best.

Bahrain's delegation that departed yesterday for Abha was headed by national team director Rashid Al Zayani. It included head coach Juan Antonio Pizzi, his staff and supporting team members, along with the players.

According to the team's programme, the nationals held training at the match venue last night and also had a pre-game Press conference featuring Pizzi and a Bahraini player.

There are 30 of the Kingdom's top talents on the squad. They include Ali Madan, Mohammed

Marhoon, Abdulla Yusuf, Moses Atede, Mahdi Humaidan, Ahmed Bughammar, Mohammed Adel, Mohammed Al Hardan, Abdulkarim Al Fardan, Ali Hassan, Sayed Mahdi Baqer, Hussain Al Aker, Komail Al Aswad, Jassim Al Shaikh, Mohammed Abdulqayoom, Hazza Ali, Sayed Mohammed Jaafar, Amine Hasan, Waleed Al Hayyam, Abdulla Al Khalasi, Mubarak Mohammed, Ebrahim Luthfallah, Abdulla Al Hashash, Ebrahim Al Khattal, Mohammed Abdulwahab, Ebrahim Al Wali, Salem Hussain, Hussain Abdulkareem, Hamad Al Doseri and Jassim



Bahrain and Yemen officials show off their kits for tonight's match in the pre-game technical meeting held yesterday



Aside from FIFA World Cup 2026 qualification, these second round of qualifiers are also for the AFC Asian Cup 2027. Furthermore, Bahrain are gearing up for the next edition of the AFC Asian Cup in January of next year in Doha

Khelaif.

There are five rounds in the

FIFA World Cup qualification format for the AFC, which will have eight teams book their tickets to the global showcase, plus potentially another following an inter-confederation play-off.

Thirty-six nations are directly in this second stage, divided into nine groups of four. The teams will play against each other on a home-and-away basis. The nine group winners and group runners-up advance to the third round. In addition to this, they will also automatically qualify for the AFC Asian Cup 2027.

Aside from FIFA World Cup qualification, Bahrain are also gearing up for the next edition of the AFC Asian Cup, to be held in Doha in January of next year. These are the national team's first official games under Pizzi.

## South Africa not playing a 'Mickey Mouse team' in semis, says Bavuma

AFP | Kolkata

South Africa skipper Temba Bavuma yesterday warned they are not up against a "Mickey Mouse team" in their World Cup semi-final against Australia amid feverish expectation of reaching their first championship match.

The Proteas won seven of their nine league matches to finish second in the 10-team table to book a final-four clash in Kolkata on Thursday.

That run included a 134-run rout of the Australians at Lucknow four weeks ago.

Five-time champions Australia are coming off seven straight wins at the tournament.

"A lot of people believe that this could be the year that we see ourselves in the final," Bavuma, who remains doubtful to play the semi-final due to his hamstring injury, told reporters.

"We'd like nothing better than that. But we also respect the game of cricket. We're not coming up against a Mickey Mouse team. Australia have a lot of experience and confidence in knockout games like this, so we've got to respect that."

The most shocking World Cup exit for South Africa was their 1999 semi-final loss to Australia after the match in



South Africa's captain Temba Bavuma (R) reacts during a practice session



From a skill point of view, from a physical point of view, the guys are quite confident.

There's a sense of calmness within the team and obviously the normal level of anxiety that you would expect of going into the game tomorrow

TEMBA BAVUMA

Birmingham ended in a tie and their rivals went through due to a better group finish.

Australia also easily came out on top in a 2007 semi-final clash between the teams in the



Australia easily came out on top in a 2007 semi-final clash against South Africa in the Caribbean

Caribbean.

Bavuma said the mindset of his team remains confident ahead of the knockout contest.

"From a skill point of view, from a physical point of view, the guys are quite confident," said Bavuma.

## Australia rely on title wins and 'extra leg' in World Cup semi-final

AFP | Kolkata

Australia skipper Pat Cummins said his players will draw on experience from previous title wins in their World Cup semi-final clash with South Africa, spurred on by Glenn Maxwell's heroics having given them "an extra leg".

Five-time winners Australia went down to the Proteas in the league stage by 134 runs before they won seven straight matches to make the semi-final in Kolkata on Thursday.

Australia, who lost an ODI series in South Africa in September, have beaten their rivals twice in World Cup semi-finals.

"You start from scratch every time you play," Cummins told reporters. "They're a team we've played quite a lot and know quite well."

"I think what helps us is we've got a lot of guys that have been in this situation before that have won the one-day World Cup, T20 World Cup, various other tournaments in big moments. So, I think that really helps. You can draw on that in the middle of the contest."

The most dramatic World Cup semi-final between the two teams was a tied match in Edgbaston in 1999 with Australia moving into the final due to a better group stage finish.

Cummins said "the 99 World Cup one, it's kind of folklore, isn't it? I've seen that replay



Australia's captain Pat Cummins (2R) celebrates with teammates after a match



The most dramatic World Cup semi-final between Australia and South Africa was a tied match in Edgbaston in 1999 with Australia moving into the final due to a better group stage finish

heaps of times, you hear the stories."

Cummins, along with David Warner, Steve Smith, Glenn Maxwell, Mitchell Marsh,



I think what helps us is we've got a lot of guys that have been in this situation before that have won the one-day World Cup, T20 World Cup, various other tournaments in big moments. So, I think that really helps. You can draw on that in the middle of the contest

PAT CUMMINS

Mitchell Starc and Josh Hazlewood was part of Australia's 2015 World Cup triumph at home and their maiden T20 World Cup title win in Dubai in 2021.

# Kohli, Shami star as India reach final

Kohli's milestone century and Shami's seven-wicket haul propel India to 70-run victory over New Zealand in World Cup semi-final

● **Virat Kohli scores record-breaking 50th one-day international hundred**

AFP | Mumbai

Virat Kohli scored a record-breaking 50th one-day international hundred before Mohammed Shami took a sensational seven-wicket haul as India sealed a place in the World Cup final with a 70-run win over New Zealand in Mumbai yesterday.

Kohli made 117, to surpass the record he had shared with India great Sachin Tendulkar, and Shreyas Iyer a rapid 105 in a commanding total of 397-4 that also featured Shubman Gill's 80 not out.

New Zealand were left needing to break their own record for the highest total by a team batting second to win a World Cup semi-final -- a Duckworth/Lewis adjusted

299-6 against South Africa at Auckland in 2015.

But in-form paceman Shami then took a career-best 7-57 as New Zealand, the losing finalists at the last two World Cups, were dismissed for 327 despite Daryl Mitchell's 134, his highest score at this level.

India, who've won all 10 of their matches at the tournament so far as they bid for a third World Cup title and second on home soil, will now face either Australia or South Africa, who play on Thursday, in Sunday's final in Ahmedabad.

First-change Shami struck twice early on, taking a wicket with his first ball to leave New Zealand 39-2.

But the Black Caps had hope of an improbable victory during a third-wicket partnership of 181 between captain Kane Williamson and Mitchell.

Shami, however, all but ended the chase with two wickets in three balls during the 33rd over.

Williamson fell for 69 when he flicked Shami -- who had dropped him on 52 -- straight to Suryakumar Yadav at deep square leg.

And 220-3 became 220-4 when Shami had Tom Latham lbw for a duck.

Glenn Phillips (41) hit out while adding 75 with Mitchell. But with the run-rate against New Zealand, both Phillips and Mark Chapman perished to catches in the deep by Ravindra Jadeja.

Mitchell's fine effort ended in similar fashion when he whipped Shami to Jadeja at deep midwicket before the paceman finished the match when he had last man Lockie Ferguson caught behind.

**'Dream' innings**  
Kohli's innings saw him surpass the mark of 49 hundreds he had shared with Tendulkar as his compatriot looked on from the Wankhede Stadium stands in a capacity 33,000 crowd featuring football star David Beckham.

Kohli put on 163 with Iyer, who made 105 off just 70 balls,



India's Mohammed Shami celebrates a wicket

while adding 75 with Mitchell.

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Kohli put on 163 with Iyer, who made 105 off just 70 balls,

led the applause as Kohli bowed towards his childhood hero. Dropped on 107, Kohli was eventually out when he pulled Southy low to deep square leg and the dynamic Iyer's second successive hundred ended after he holed out off Trent Boult.

Shami, who took his previous best of 5-18 under the Wankhede lights when Sri Lanka were dismissed for just 55 in pool play, had an immediate success yesterday.

Devon Conway could only edge his late-moving first ball, although it still needed wicket-keeper KL Rahul to hold a brilliant diving catch.

Conway's fellow left-handed opener Rachin Ravindra, the tournament's breakout star with three hundreds in his first World Cup, was also caught behind off Shami for 13.

But then came New Zealand's rally with the powerful Mitchell completing an 85-ball century featuring eight fours and five well-struck sixes.

”

It feels like a dream. Too good to be true

VIRAT KOHLI

including four fours and eight sixes.

“It feels like a dream. Too good to be true,” said Kohli at the innings break.

Tendulkar hailed Kohli's “skill and passion”.

“I couldn't be happier that an Indian broke my record,” wrote Tendulkar, a team-mate of Kohli when India beat Sri Lanka in the 2011 final at the Wankhede, on X, formerly Twitter.

There was controversy at the start yesterday following revelations the match was being played on a used, rather than fresh, pitch.

Opener Rohit set the tone for the innings with a quick-fire 47 before a skyed drive off Tim Southee was well caught by Williamson running back from mid-off.

New Zealand thought they had new batsman Kohli out for a second-ball duck, lbw to Southy but their review revealed an inside edge.

Kohli completed a 59-ball fifty. A two off fast bowler Ferguson then took Kohli to his landmark hundred, his third of the tournament, as chants of “Kohli, Kohli” rang round the ground.

Kohli had then faced 106 balls, hitting eight fours and a six in his 279th ODI innings. Tendulkar led the applause as Kohli bowed



Sachin Tendulkar celebrates Kohli's achievement, hailing his “skill and passion” in breaking the century record

## Scorecard

India 397 for 4  
(Kohli 117, Iyer 105, Gill 80\*, Southee 3-100) beat  
New Zealand 327 (Mitchell 134, Williamson 69, Shami 7-57) by 70 runs

## World Cup debacle sees Azam quit in major Pakistan shake-up

AFP | Lahore

Pakistan cricket underwent a major shake-up yesterday in the aftermath of the team's World Cup flop as Babar Azam quit as skipper with Shan Masood becoming Test captain, Shaheen Shah Afridi taking the reins of the white-ball side while coaches were downgraded.

Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) officials said they had sacked Azam as limited-overs skipper but still wanted him to remain in charge of the Test team.

“Today, I am stepping down as the captain of Pakistan in all formats,” Azam announced on X, formerly Twitter, after meeting PCB chief Zakar Ashraf in Lahore.

“It's a difficult decision but I feel it is the right time for this call. I will continue to represent Pakistan as a player in all three formats.”

Azam, 29, had been leading the side since November 2019 but after the failure to reach the World Cup semi-finals in India his position was immediately under threat.

“I am here to support the new captain and the team with my experience and dedication,” added Azam.

“I want to express my sincere thanks to the Pakistan Cricket Board for entrusting me with



Pakistan's captain Babar Azam (3R) attends a practice session

”

It's a difficult decision but I feel it is the right time for this call. I will continue to represent Pakistan as a player in all three formats. I am here to support the new captain and the team with my experience and dedication

BABAR AZAM

this significant responsibility.”

Minutes later, Masood was appointed skipper of the Test team until 2025 and Shaheen for white ball cricket without

mentioning his tenure although the T20 World Cup takes place in the United States and Caribbean in 2024.

The coaching staff will have a “different portfolio”, the PCB said without elaborating.

“The PCB has changed the portfolio of the coaching staff including (director of cricket) Mickey Arthur,” it said.

### 'Respect'

“All coaches will continue to work in the National Cricket Academy while the PCB will announce a new coaching staff for the Australia tour in due course.”

Azam said his journey had been a rollercoaster ride which culminated in a record of four

wins and five losses at the World Cup.

As well as suffering an eighth defeat in eight meetings at World Cups against arch-rivals India, he also oversaw a first loss to neighbours Afghanistan.

“I vividly remember the moment when I received the call from the PCB to lead Pakistan in 2019. Over the past four years, I've experienced many highs and lows, on and off the field,” said Azam.

“But I wholeheartedly and passionately aimed to maintain Pakistan's pride and respect in the cricket world.”

Ranked as the number one batsman before the World Cup, Azam failed to score big runs in India, finishing with 320 without a century over nine games



Azam led Pakistan in 20 Tests, winning ten, losing six and drawing the other four. In 43 ODIs, Pakistan won 26, losing 16 with one no result

## Alcaraz beats troubled Rublev to keep ATP Finals hopes alive

AFP | Turin

Carlos Alcaraz kept alive his hopes of reaching the last four of the ATP Finals with yesterday's 7-5, 6-2 win over an emotionally fraught Andrey Rublev.

World number two Alcaraz has struggled with form and fitness over the past few months and was staring at possible early elimination after losing his first Red Group match with Alexander Zverev.

But he looked in much better condition yesterday and comfortably claimed his first ever win in the season-ending tournament, snapping a three-match losing streak.

“I'm really happy to get my first win at the Masters here in Torino, I played at such a great level I'm really happy about it,” said Alcaraz on court.

“The first match was a tough match for me and it was a tough moment after it but I'm really happy with the way I came back.”

The 20-year-old easily dealt with Russian Rublev who once again failed to make his mark in a big match with one of tennis' leading lights, a problem which has dogged his career.

Fifth seed Rublev, the reign-



Carlos Alcaraz celebrates his win

ing Monte Carlo Masters champion, was on the verge of tears after losing his opener with Daniil Medvedev and lost control again after giving away a service game at the start of the second set.

Being one set and a break down was too much for the 26-year-old who started smashing his racket into his own knee, drawing blood as he sat down.

Troubled Rublev was still bleeding down his leg after the change of court and, just as against Medvedev, gave into his anger and promptly collapsed.