

**Bahrain claim victory in friendly**

Kingdom's senior men's national football team edge past counterparts from the Philippines in tune-up | P12

WORLD 6 Xi welcomes 'dear friend' Putin to Beijing



Chris Hemsworth gorges on 'good quality beef' to bulk up for movie roles

8 CELEBRITY

BUSINESS 5 Bahrain to host 29th Routes World 2024

**Bahrain thanked by Saudi King**

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa received a cable of thanks from King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, in reply to HM's congratulations on Saudi National Day.

The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques expressed his appreciation to HM King Hamad for his sincere feelings and prayers, wishing Bahrain and its people further progress and prosperity.

**Kingdom 27th in global talent ranking, second in Arab World**

TDT | Manama

Bahrain has secured an impressive position in the 2023 Institute for Management Development (IMD) World Talent Ranking, ranking 27th out of 64 global economies. This marks a significant climb of eight positions since 2022.

In addition, Bahrain has emerged as the second top-ranking country in the Arab world.

The rankings evaluate countries based on investment and development of domestic talent.

**Bahrain strongly condemns deadly Gaza bombing**

TDT | Manama

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs expressed the Kingdom of Bahrain's condemnation and strong denunciation of the bombing of Al-Ahly Baptist Hospital in Gaza, which resulted in the death and injury of hundreds of innocent citizens.

The Ministry expressed its sincere condolences and sympathies to the families of the victims and to the Palestinian people and wished those injured a speedy recovery.

Bahrain called upon the international community for an urgent ceasefire in Gaza, and to ensure respect for international humanitarian law in protecting hospitals, homes, and civilian facilities.

# HM King calls for unity to protect Palestinians

Bahrain and Italy discuss bilateral ties, regional and international developments

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa underlined the importance of unifying efforts to avoid any worsening of the Palestinian situation, to work for the release of any detained civilians, and to protect all civilians who — under international humanitarian law — must not be the target of any conflict.

HM the King stressed the need to open urgent humanitarian corridors for the entry of medical and relief aid, food, water and the provision of electricity to Gaza, reaffirming that the Kingdom of Bahrain supports



HM the King with Italian Prime Minister Meloni



the coordination of all efforts towards achieving a just peace, stability and security for all the peoples of the region.

He reaffirmed Bahrain's keenness to continue its approach to strengthen security and stability and consolidate peace in the region, and its firm position towards finding a just solution to the Palestinian issue, through giving the Palestinian people their legitimate rights, in order to reach a two-state solution in accordance with the Arab Peace Initiative, in a way that guarantees the right of the Palestinian people to establish their independent state with East Jerusa-

lem as its capital.

His Majesty made the statements as he met yesterday with Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni at the Italian Prime Minister's Office in Rome, as part of his ongoing visit to Italy.

During the meeting, they reviewed the strong relations between the two countries, as well as various aspects of co-operation and joint action that achieve their common interests.

They also discussed the latest regional and international developments, and in particular developments in the Gaza Strip.

HM the King expressed his appreciation for the important role

**The Kingdom of Bahrain supports the coordination of all efforts towards achieving a just peace, stability and security for all the peoples of the region**

HIS MAJESTY KING HAMAD BIN ISA AL KHALIFA

played by the Italian Republic at the international level in the service of international peace and security.

HM the King returned home yesterday after UK and Italy visits. (Full report on Page 3)

**Horrific tragedy**

## Gaza hospital bombed; Over 500 killed, hundreds injured

TDT | Manama

In a horrific incident unparalleled in recent history, a hospital in Gaza sheltering thousands of displaced Palestinians was bombarded yesterday evening, allegedly by Israel, killing over 500 civilians and injuring hundreds. Israel has denied its role and said a failed militant rocket is to blame.

The attack, which came on the eve of US President Joe Biden's visit to demonstrate the "iron-clad" support to Israel, occurred at al-Ahly hospital in Gaza City where thousands of civilians are seeking medical treatment and shelter from the relentless air strikes. The Gaza health ministry confirmed to news agencies that the death toll from the attack is over 500.

Following Israel's order to evacuate from North Gaza last week, over one million of the 2.3 million people in the Pales-



People gather around bodies of Palestinians killed in Israeli air strikes on the Ahli Arab hospital in central Gaza after they were transported to Al-Shifa hospital, yesterday. (AFP)

tinian enclave of Gaza Strip have been displaced and are relying on hospitals and schools to seek shelter from the constant air strikes by Israel.

Along with the displacement, the Palestinians in Gaza are also

facing an acute shortage of food and water and these necessities, along with electricity, have been cut off by Israel for over a week now since the Hamas attack.

Despite repeated calls from the United Nations, the World

Health Organization, and the Red Cross, international aid for the displaced civilians has not been let into the Gaza Strip, forcing the bodies to warn about an impending catastrophe.

Even before the attack on the hospital in Gaza, the number of Palestinians who died in Israeli attacks in the past week had crossed 3,000, with one-third of it being children.

The United Nations said yesterday that the Israeli evacuation order could be considered as a crime against humanity.

An Israeli air strike had hit a school run by the UN yesterday, killing six people, and a news report of Tuesday evening said people who fled to southern Gaza, following the Israeli directive to evacuate North Gaza, were bombed by Israeli forces and dozens have been killed.

The UN said yesterday evening that the forcible transfer of civil-

ians in Gaza could be in breach of international law and that a legal temporary evacuation of civilians came with obligations on Israel, which it appears to have made no attempt to fulfil.

Hospitals in Gaza have reached a breaking point as desperate residents are taking shelter there in the hope of escaping from the Israeli shelling.

AFP reported on Tuesday evening that the US has ordered 2,000 of its military personnel to prepare for deployment to the Middle East as a show of force, as Israel moves towards a ground attack.

While Hamas said on Tuesday that one of its top commanders had been killed in an Israeli strike in Gaza, Israel' Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called for broad international support in the country's fight against Hamas. (Detailed coverage on World page)



# TRA envisions a future generation that will contribute significantly to the Kingdom's prosperity

The TRA Bahrain's recognition of the youth's efforts in collaboration with Youth City 2030

In a remarkable display of talent and vision, the Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA) of Bahrain's unwavering commitment to youth empowerment has soared to new heights in the current year. The TRA-sponsored youth participants at Youth City 2030 have unleashed a wave of viral content that has captivated audiences around the globe.

Commending the tireless efforts put in by the youth representatives, Shaikh Abdullah bin Hamoud Al Khalifa, TRA Director of Consumer and Communications, revealed how the public awareness films and advertisements created by the youth representatives were presented through a range of platforms, including TRA's own channels, other public platforms, and cinemas. In addition to such platforms, the content was also featured at conferences, exhibitions, and international and regional forums, the Director said.



“These efforts of TRA originated from the vision to support youth by providing opportunities and resources for their personal and professional growth, so as to achieve their full potential.”

**PHILIP MARNICK,  
TRA GENERAL DIRECTOR**



“The focus areas include digital literacy, combating cyberbullying, fostering innovation, and promoting social responsibility. These efforts collectively pave the way for a generation that will lead Bahrain towards prosperity.”

**SHAIKH ABDULLAH BIN HAMOUD AL KHALIFA, TRA DIRECTOR OF CONSUMER AND COMMUNICATIONS**



“TRA's sponsorship of Youth City 2030 reflects this commitment to the youth and the recognition of their crucial role in driving societal progress.”

**TAIBA ALBINALI,  
MANAGER OF COMMUNICATIONS, TRA**



“Enthusiasm for the rich experience and the valuable knowledge gained in production, design, camera angles, and idea execution.”

**AMAL ALASHOOR,  
PARTICIPANT, TBC COMMERCIAL PROGRAM AT YOUTH CITY**



“The uniqueness of the learning experience, particularly in photography techniques and teamwork.”

**DANA SAEED,  
PARTICIPANT, TBC COMMERCIAL PROGRAM AT YOUTH CITY**



“Eman Hussain Ali, an architecture student, found the challenge of being a set designer both fulfilling and enlightening, and expressed eagerness to continue learning and exploring new realms.”

**EMAN HUSSAIN ALI,  
ARCHITECTURE STUDENT**



“Danah Mohammed, a Mass Communication student at the University of Bahrain, shared her wonderful journey in commercial production and the process of transforming ideas into refined commercials.”

**DANAH MOHAMMED,  
MASS COMMUNICATION STUDENT UNIVERSITY OF BAHRAIN**

At the Youth City event, the TRA's booth served as a portal for attendees, offering information about TRA Bahrain and its active initiatives. It provided a platform for visitors to gain insights into the TRA's role and activities within the telecommunications sector.

Moreover, the TRA enthusiastically participated in the Makers of the Future event, which aimed to empower youth and showcase various industries, including telecommunications. This event served as an excellent opportunity to share valuable industry insights with attendees, enabling them to explore career opportunities and make informed decisions about their future involvement in the industry.

The Daily Tribune had the privilege of interviewing youth leaders from Bahrain who attended the global event, Youth City 2030. They shared their personal experiences, key learnings, and takeaways from the program. The TRA Bahrain's recognition of the youth's efforts in collaboration with Youth City 2030 demonstrates its unwavering commitment to fostering digital literacy, innovation, and social responsibility among Bahraini youth.

By empowering young individuals with essential skills and providing them with opportunities, the TRA envisions a future generation that will contribute significantly to the Kingdom's prosperity. The success of initiatives like the TBC program and the emphasis on online safety showcases the positive impact of such collaborations on the youth and the broader community.

Citing a specific instance of the success of the youth empowerment programmes conducted by TRA throughout the year, the Director stated, “For example, the latest youth production supported by the TRA at Youth City 2022 received approximately 200,000 views across social media platforms and local cinemas.”

Guidance of the efforts put in by the youth representatives by TRA was crucial in achieving such unprecedented success, points out May Ali Alghatam, Acting Manager of Online Safety at TRA.

TRA selected the topic of facilitating a safe cyber environment for families, with specific focus on cyberbullying, as it is a significant challenge for all age groups today, but gave the participating youth the leeway to use their creativity to come up with ideas and solutions to tackle the issue, the Acting Manager of Online Safety said.

These efforts of TRA originated from the vision to support youth by providing opportunities and resources for their personal and professional growth, so as to achieve their full potential said Philip Marnick, TRA General Director, while explaining the plan that resulted in the tremendous success of the youth empowerment initiatives this year.

By collaborating with the TRA for Youth City 2030, the youth representatives also got the opportunity to develop their ICT skills and capabilities while showcasing their ideas and innovations, the General Director said.

Along with the youth support programme for Youth City 2030, TRA had been carrying out diverse initiatives throughout the year to support the youth, the General Director stated. This included numerous programs and training opportunities to empower young individuals to engage in the telecommunications sector, participation of youth delegations

at international and regional forums, and collaboration and close partnerships with local universities to provide opportunities for youth to contribute to ongoing projects, he said. Such year-round efforts reflect the TRA's firm belief in the innovative and decision-making capabilities of Bahraini youth, the General Director said.

Taiba Albinali, Manager of Communications at TRA, talked about the aims of TRA in sponsoring Youth City 2030 and said the authority is dedicated to empowering the youth and equipping them with the tools and information needed to take more informed decisions and thus create a better future.

In addition to this future-oriented approach, TRA's youth empowerment efforts focus on digital literacy, innovation, and social responsibility, paving the way for a generation that would lead the Kingdom towards prosperity, the Manager of Communication said. TRA's sponsorship of Youth City 2030 reflects this commitment to the youth and the recognition of their crucial role in driving societal progress, she explained.

The TRA organized a variety of engaging events and initiatives, providing children with valuable insights and resources to deepen their understanding of the industry.





## HRH Prince Salman appoints Housing Minister director

TDI | Manama

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, yesterday issued Edict (97) of 2023, appointing a director at the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning, based on a proposal by the Minister of Housing and Urban Planning.

The edict stipulates the following:

Article (I): Ahmed Abdullah Saleh Al Thawadi shall be appointed as Director of the Information Technology Directorate at the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning.

Article (II): The Minister of Housing and Urban Planning shall implement the provisions of this edict, which comes into effect upon its issuance and will be published in the Official Gazette.

HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister issued Edict (96) of 2023, appointing a director at the Information and e-Government Authority



HRH Prince Salman

(iGA), based on a proposal by the Minister of Interior.

The edict stipulates the following:

Article (I): Latifa Mohammed Al Abbasi shall be appointed as Director of the Innovation and Advanced Technologies Directorate at the iGA.

Article (II): The Minister of Interior shall implement the provisions of this edict, which comes into effect upon its issuance and will be published in the Official Gazette.

## Bahrain cables of congratulations

TDI | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa sent a cable of congratulations to President Ilham Aliyev of Azerbaijan, on his country's Independence Day.

His Majesty the King wished Azerbaijan and its people further progress and prosperity.

His Royal Highness Prince

Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, sent a cable of congratulations to the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, HE Ilham Aliyev, on the occasion of Azerbaijan's Independence Day.

HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister sent a similar cable to Prime Minister HE Ali Asadov.

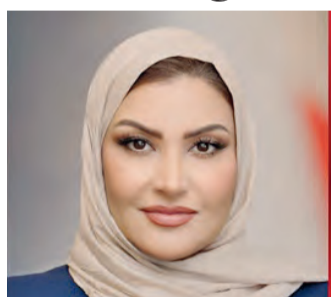
## Ombudsman Office organises global forum on human rights

TDI | Manama

Ghada Hamid Habib, the Ombudswoman, has announced the Independent Ombudsman Office will organise an international conference on the occasion of the celebration of the tenth anniversary of its inauguration under the title "The Effectiveness of Ombudsmen in Institutional Work and their Role in Promoting Respect for Human Rights" from tomorrow until Thursday.

The Ombudswoman affirmed that this conference is a platform for those interested in the work of ombudsman offices from all over the world to come together to discuss and exchange ideas related to the work of their institutions, and their role in promoting human rights.

In addition, selected topics have been chosen through sev-



Ghada Hamid Habib

eral interactive sessions that engage in important issues in the field of ombudsman offices work with their historical and reference aspects, and the most important standards and practices that govern their mandate where experts specialized in this field will give speeches.

The conference also will provide an opportunity for communication and cooperation between many stakeholders, academics, and executive officials who will attend.

## BIAS launches new logo for next decade

TDI | Manama

The Supreme Organising Committee of the Bahrain International Airshow (BIAS) has announced a new brand identity for BIAS for the next decade, following the great successes achieved by the show over the past 10 years, which will ensure the conti-

nunity of the prestigious aviation event, spearheaded by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

The new logo was launched under the auspices of His Highness Shaikh Abdulla bin Hamad Al Khalifa, HM the King's Personal Representatives, Chairman of BIAS Supreme Organising Committee.

## HM King back from UK and Italy visits

TDI | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa yesterday returned home following visits to the United Kingdom and the Italian Republic.

During the visit to the UK, HM the King discussed the Bahraini-UK partnership with His Majesty King Charles III of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the means to further enhance and develop them in various domains.

HM the King met with British government officials and held talks about regional and international developments, particularly the Middle East and Israeli military escalation in Gaza.

He emphasised the urgent need to cease military escalation, prioritize civilian protection, preserve lives, and open humanitarian corridors for medical and relief aid delivery.



HM the King returns home

HM the King also visited the Italian Republic, where he met with His Holiness Pope Francis, the Pope of the Vatican.

### Bahrain-Vatican ties reviewed

The meeting reviewed the close bilateral relations between Bahrain and the Vatican, highlighting efforts in promoting values of tolerance, coexistence,

human fraternity, dialogue, and cooperation for the good of all humanity.

During his visit, HM the King also held talks with Sergio Mattarella, the Italian President, and Giorgia Meloni, the Italian Prime Minister.

The meeting reviewed the historical bilateral relations and the latest regional and global

developments, including the ongoing escalation in the Gaza Strip.

The two parties stressed the importance of increasing efforts to contain the situation, prevent it from worsening, find calm, protect civilians, and open safe corridors for humanitarian aid delivery to the Gaza Strip.

## Public-private sector partnership boosts education system

### Deputy Premier inaugurates two private schools

TDI | Manama

Investment in education in the kingdom reflects the ongoing unique and distinguished partnership between the public and private sectors to provide diversified educational opportunities-based quality, innovation and sustainability, commensurate with the goals of the comprehensive development process.

This was emphasised by Deputy Prime Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa as he highlighted government's solid support to the initiatives, led by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, and supported by His Royal Highness Prince



Shaikh Khalid bin Abdulla with senior government officials at the opening ceremonies

Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

Shaikh Khalid bin Abdulla asserted that while the government is committed to developing the educational process, being the cornerstone of progress and prosperity, it is also keen on

providing the facilities necessary to the private sector to set up private educational institutions, to create more options to parents and students, as well as support the role played by government-funded institutions.

The Deputy Prime Minister made the statements while

opening yesterday, separately, the Abdulrahman Kanoo School-Diyar (ARKS Diyar), and the Nadeen School Dilmuni, both located in the Muharraq Governorate. Anna bint Ahmed Al Romaihi, Minister of Housing and Urban Planning, Dr. Mohammed bin Mubarak Juma, Education Minister, Rawan bint Najeeb Tawfiqi, Minister of Youth Affairs, officials and businessmen attended the opening ceremonies of the two schools.

Shaikh Khalid bin Abdulla praised the important role played by private education institutions, citing their positive contributions to raising the levels of human development witnessed by the Kingdom by developing the basic and cognitive skills of students at various levels, supporting the national economy by providing job opportunities for the citizens, and stimulating the building and construction sector.

### AI bilateral cooperation



Abdullah bin Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry and Commerce, received Chen Daixing, Secretary-General of the Shenzhen Federation, as part of his visit to Bahrain at the invitation of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization - Investment and Technology Promotion Office (UNIDO-ITPO). The meeting discussed bilateral cooperation in the field of artificial intelligence (AI) and other topics of common interest. The minister highlighted the importance of promoting entrepreneurship among young people and encouraging innovation and investment in AI, pointing to the role of youth in economic development and innovation, and the necessity of providing support to enable them to develop their entrepreneurial projects.

### Bahrain-India relations



Wael bin Nasser Al Mubarak, Minister of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture, received Vinod Kurian Jacob, Indian Ambassador to Bahrain. The minister hailed the distinguished Bahraini-Indian ties and its development in various fields. The ambassador expressed his appreciation to the minister and wished Bahrain further progress and prosperity. The Bahrain-India cooperation continues to go from strength to strength due to well-put mechanisms underpinning the bilateral ties. Trade growth between them is expected to exceed \$2 billion in the coming years.



**WIDE ANGLE**

**Filter Bubble and Doomscrolling: A Dangerous Duo**



**JOEL INDRUPATHI**

You click the like button on a Facebook post. You comment on an Instagram picture. You share an article with your LinkedIn followers. You save a YouTube video to watch later. You download a TikTok video. You search for specific news on Google.

Your big brother is watching you do all this. In fact, he is recording and storing your online behavior. He is one Mr Algorithm that each of these digital platforms have employed. This algorithm is not just observing your Internet habits, but creating user personas, and grouping you with people of similar likes and interests.

Companies employ this friendly neighborhood Algorithm Man – well, ‘man’ is an imaginary term, but the algorithm is certainly real – to supposedly enhance your User Experience (UX).

It is to show you more posts of your likings and preferences, and also to help advertisers to target ads most relevant to you.

But in 2011, this is just what Eli Pariser warned the world against. He talked and wrote about the ‘filter bubble’ into which people are now being put into.

Being in a ‘filter bubble’ means these algorithms have isolated you from information and perspectives you haven’t already expressed an interest in. It means you could miss out on important information. It is an algorithmic bias that skews or limits the information an individual user sees online.

You will keep seeing stuff you showed interest in, while other valuable stuff you would need to know may never get to you. At least not until you actively make an effort, and search for it.

As a result, one of the big problems Eli Pariser mentions in his interview to the TIME magazine is what he calls, ‘autopropaganda.’

By constantly reading stories and watching videos from one side, “You are basically indoctrinating yourself with your own views and you don’t even know it”. (Five Questions with Eli Pariser, TIME, May 16, 2011).

According to him, the potential downside to filtered searching is that it “closes us off to new ideas, subjects, and important information” and “creates the impression that our narrow self-interest is all that exists.” He says filter bubbles are potentially harmful to both individuals and society.

A bigger danger, I think, is when knowing that we are in ‘Filter Bubbles’, we do ‘Doomscrolling.’

Together, these two cannot just be merely harmful but seriously destructive to our minds.

But what exactly is doomscrolling? Well, sometimes called doomsurfing, it refers to our desire to constantly check for disturbing or upsetting news articles or videos online, often via social media.

We are all curious beings. But checking for news of pandemics, earthquakes, floods, killings, rapes, and wars will soon expose us to more and more of the same things on the Internet. So, reading or viewing stories of doom can adversely affect our mental health.

Also, if we keep reading articles that support only one viewpoint, we will keep getting more and more online material supporting the same viewpoint. So, we may never get to see strong arguments against our viewpoint.

It would eventually lead us to fall for what Pariser calls ‘autopropaganda’. And we will, without our knowledge, be subjected to ‘manipulation’ towards only one perspective.

An important thing we can do to circumvent this problem - of over exposure to only one viewpoint - is to actively search online for opposing viewpoints.

By reading perspectives opposed to our personal viewpoints, we will get a broader understanding of the context, even if the other perspectives do not convince us.

Most importantly, we would be beating the algorithms at their own game. And, hopefully, keep ourselves intellectually balanced.

**A bigger danger, I think, is when knowing that we are in ‘Filter Bubbles’, we do ‘Doomscrolling. Together, these two cannot just be merely harmful but seriously destructive to our minds**



(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)

**Justice with compassion**

Mother of four sentenced to rehabilitation instead of jail for forgery

TDI | Manama

The High Criminal Court showed leniency towards a 30-year-old mother of four children, sentencing her to a rehabilitation programme instead of jail time despite convicting her of forging an official document from the National Health Regulatory Authority Bahrain (NHRA).

The defendant had altered a letter purportedly from NHRA to allow a medical centre to use a hair-thickening device, though the authority had not issued any such approval.

During the ruling session, the court said it took into account the woman’s circumstances and ability to care for her young family within the bounds of the law, adding that she had no prior

criminal record.

“While forgery is a serious offence, the device in question was ultimately provided to the medical centre as intended. Considering these factors and her role as the sole caregiver, the court opted to substitute the jail term with a training and rehabilitation program under Section 72 of the Penal Code as an alternative punishment,” the court said.

In its investigation, the public prosecution found the defendant had used a design software last year to falsify an electronic record and a letter claiming preliminary NHRA approval for the device. She added a clause stating final approval would be granted.

Witnesses including the NHRA representatives testified



Justice is served with mercy for mother of four. (Image used for illustrative purposes only)

that the defendant admitted modifying the letter at the medical center’s urging, copying approval documents issued to her company and altering details like dates.

**Bahrain to host biggest school sport event in Middle East**

Ashen Tharaka

TDI | Manama

The International School Sports Federation (ISF) Gymnasiade 2024, which is set to be held in Bahrain in October, will be more than just a sporting event. It will also be an opportunity for education and cultural exchange between young people from all over the world.

In an interview with the Daily Tribune, ISF President Laurent Petrynka highlighted the uniqueness of the event, saying, “This is not just about sport, it is also about education and culture exchanges between young generations from all around the globe.”

Petrynka also expressed his gratitude to Bahrain for taking the lead in hosting the event in the Middle East. He said, “We are very committed to this region and we are grateful that Bahrain has taken the lead to the premier, the biggest school sport event worldwide in the Middle East.”

ISF Gymnasiade 2024 project has completed 80% of its workload, one year before the event is set to take place. The progress was revealed at a press conference held yesterday at the American University Auditorium in Bahrain.

The progress report was presented by Ishaq Abdullah Ishaq, Chairman of the Executive LOC for ISF Gymnasiade 2024, to the ministerial and other international officials present at the event.

“Today is an important day for us and you can witness how fast we are working towards meeting the demand. Now we have only one year, and the count-



Shaikh Isa bin Ali Al Khalifa



Ishaq Abdullah Ishaq



Laurent Petrynka



From left, Shaikh Isa bin Ali Al Khalifa, Cabinet Affairs Ministry Under-Secretary, Faris Al Kooheji, secretary general, Bahrain Olympic Committee (third), Dr. Bradley J. Cook, President, American University of Bahrain (fourth), and Ishaq Abdullah Ishaq, Chairman of the Executive LOC for ISF Gymnasiade 2024 (fifth)

down starts today.” he said.

Shaikh Isa bin Ali Al Khalifa, Cabinet Affairs Ministry Under-Secretary and Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC) vice president, told the Daily Tribune that “We are moving towards the right direction and this event is very important to keep Bahrain on the sport destination map.”

Throughout ISF’s 50 years of operation, it has had a clear mission to extend education through sport, to support both the physical and the mental health of the young generation.

**The upcoming initiatives**

- Road to 2024
- November 2023 - Loc will participate in Olympic Day
- December 2023 - Saudi Games
- January 2024 - Initiation of volunteer selection upskill and training
- April 2024 - Test event in
- October 2024 - ISF Gymnasiade Bahrain

ISF’s partnership with governments, schools, and sport federations worldwide has been critical to the success of the mission and ISF events throughout history. The ISF Gymnasiade is the world’s largest school sport event, with over 5,000 students from more than 80 countries participating in 25 different sports. The event will be held in Bahrain from October 23-31, 2024.



Officials who attended the event



# Stock markets mostly rise

London, United Kingdom

Stock markets mostly rose yesterday as investors weighed the Israel-Hamas conflict, a raft of corporate results and concerns about interest rates.

Paris and Frankfurt closed 0.1 percent higher after slipping earlier in trading while London finished up 0.6 percent.

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones

## Bahrain All Share Index closes higher

TDT | Manama

Bahrain All Share Index has closed at 1,946.02 points marking an increase of 2.50 points above the previous closing. This increase was due to the rise in the Communication Services Sector, Financial Sec-

tor and Material Sector.

Results indicated that 52 equity transactions took place with a volume of 1,978,872 worth BD 314,761.

Investors traded mainly in the Financial Sector representing 61.18% of the total value of securities traded.

Industrial Average, the S&P 500 and the tech-heavy Nasdaq also

reversed earlier losses to trade higher at midday.

## Key figures around

New York - Dow: ▲ 0.3% at 34,099.04 points

London - FTSE 100: ▲ 0.6% at 7,675.21

Frankfurt - DAX: ▲ 0.1% at 15,251.69

Paris - CAC 40: ▲ 0.1% at 7,029.70

Brent North Sea crude: ▼ 0.3% at \$89.36 per barrel

West Texas Intermediate: ▼ 0.5% at \$86.21 per barrel

## CBB T-Bills issue No. 109 oversubscribed by 160%

● Maturity date is October 17, 2024

TDT | Manama

This week's BD 100 million issue of Government Treasury Bills has been oversubscribed by 160%. The bills, carrying a maturity of 12 months, are issued by the CBB, on behalf of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The issue date of the bills is

October 19 and the maturity date is October 17, 2024.

The weighted average rate of interest is 6.46% equivalent to the previous issue on September 21. The approximate average price for the issue was 93.866% with the lowest accepted price being 93.831%.

This is issue No. 109 (ISIN BH0009234640) of Government Treasury Bills. With this, the total outstanding value of Government Treasury Bills is BD 2.110 billion.

## Bahrain to host 29th Routes World 2024

TDT | Istanbul, Turkey

Bahrain International Airport has announced that it will officially host the 29th edition of Routes World in the Kingdom of Bahrain. The conference was handed over to Zayed R. Alzayani, Chairman of Gulf Air Group Holding (GFG), from Selahattin Bilgen, the CEO of Istanbul Airport during a handover ceremony held at the 28th conference in Istanbul Turkey – with an attendance of more than 3,000 aviation professionals from around the world.

The announcement comes as part of Gulf Air Group Holding's participation in the 28th edition of Routes World that took place in Istanbul from 15-17 October. GFG was in attendance alongside a special Bahrain delegation including Gulf Air, the national carrier of Bahrain, Bahrain Airport Company (BAC), the operator and managing body of Bahrain



The handover ceremony held at the 28th conference in Istanbul Turkey

International Airport (BIA), Bahrain Airport Services (BAS), Bahrain Economic Development Board, Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority, and Exhibition World Bahrain.

Zayed R. Alzayani, Chairman of Gulf Air Group Holding, said: "We are honored that the Kingdom of Bahrain will be hosting this prominent global event, and we'd like to congratulate Team Bahrain for their efforts in contributing to hosting the 29th edition of the conference that will bring together global

leaders from the aviation sector under one roof. The conference will support the objectives of the Bahrain Economic Vision 2030, with an aim to position the Kingdom as a global, competitive and sustainable economic hub."

Bahrain Airport Company (BAC) Chief Executive Officer Mohamed Yousif AlBinfalal said, "We are confident that hosting this global event will give attendees a closer look at the Kingdom of Bahrain's thriving and growing market."

## ASRY wins two awards in Human Resources Development

TDT | Manama

The Arab Shipbuilding and Repair Yard Company (ASRY) has received two awards for Human Resources Development from the HRM Summit Awards 2023. The awarding ceremony was held in Bahrain, under the patronage of Jameel bin Mohammed Ali Humaidan, the Minister of Labour, between 9 and 10 October 2023. The Excellency in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Award was received by the ASRY HR Division, whereas the HR Manager of the Year Award was accorded to ASRY HR Manager, Ms. Hanan Ahmed Alali.

The awards were received on behalf of the company by the Support Services General Manager & the Human Re-



Officials with the awards

sources Senior Manager Duaij bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, and the Human Resources Manager, Hanan Al-Ali, during the ceremony held at the Intercontinental Regency Hotel on October 9, 2023.

He commented: "We will continue to support our human resources to create a positive work environment that realizes employee satisfaction, seeing as they are an integral partner in the company's advancement."

## Bahrain FinTech Bay names new directors

TDT | Manama

Bahrain FinTech Bay (BFB) announced its newly appointed Board of Directors with Abdulwahed AlJanahi, Chief Executive at BENEFIT, as Chairman of the Board.

Other members of the newly constituted board of BFB are: Yousif Al Nefae – Deputy Chief Executive of BENEFIT and Vice Chairman of BFB Board, Nezar Maroof – Assistant General Manager of Marketing & Communication in BENEFIT, Hessa Husain – Assistant General Manager of Bahrain Credit Reference Bureau, Layla Al Qassab – Chief Financial Officer of BENEFIT, Rashad Faraj



Officials during a photocall

– Executive Director of Special Projects at Bahrain Economic Development Board and Dalal Buhejji – Executive Direc-

tor of Business Development (Financial Services) of Bahrain Economic Development Board.

## Bahrain, Saudi trade volume rose 15% in 2022: Nass

TDT | Manama

Sameer Nass, the Chairman of the Bahrain Chamber, expressed optimism over the 15% surge in trade volume between Bahrain and Saudi Arabia in 2022, reaching approximately \$4 billion.

He noted that this growth underscores the robust trade ties and close collaboration between these two fraternal nations. These remarks were made during a meeting held at the Chamber's headquarters on Monday, where a delegation from Alsharqiya Chamber, led by its Chairman Badr Mohammed Al-Ruzaizah, was in attendance.

Nass commended the long-standing relationship between Bahrain and Saudi Arabia, emphasising their cooperation and integration across diverse sectors. He also stressed the importance of increasing joint investments and



Nass during the meeting

broadening the horizons for investments in the commercial, industrial, and productive sectors.

Al-Ruzaizah, in turn, highlighted the significance of bilateral meetings between chambers of commerce, deeming them crucial for overcoming challenges and enhancing trade exchanges. He called for enhanced collaboration with chambers of commerce and joint committees to fortify cooperation in all domains.

Khalid Najibi, the First

Vice-Chairman of the Bahrain Chamber, affirmed the Chamber's commitment to strengthening economic relations with Saudi Arabian chambers of commerce. He also underscored the remarkable role of the Bahraini-Saudi Council, rooted in Saudi Arabia's unique status and exemplary relationship with Bahrain.

The meeting also delved into the stages of the Chamber's history, its revamped operations, and its economic and social initiatives.

## NBB strategic partner of Bahrain Film Festival

TDT | Manama

The National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) announced its backing for the third edition of the Bahrain Film Festival as a strategic partner. The annual event ran from the 5th to the 9th of October 2023.

NBB said its sponsorship of the festival reflects its long-standing commitment to facilitating cultural events in Bahrain in line with its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) promise, and continues to work with communities and government ministries in supporting exciting national initiatives.



## Zain Bahrain 'Silver Sponsor' of "MEIRA" 2023

TDT | Manama

Zain Bahrain has announced its 'Silver Sponsorship' and participation in the Middle East Investor Relations Association "MEIRA" 2023 Annual Conference hosted by Bahrain Bourse. The conference, held under the patronage of the Central Bank of Bahrain, will be held at the Ritz Carlton Hotel Bahrain on the 13th of November, 2023.

Abdulla Khaled Al Khalifa, Zain Bahrain Chief Communication and Investor Relations Officer said: "We are optimistic that the conference will be a success, with participants ac-



The deal signing

tively engaged in addressing critical issues that will reshape the region and the Kingdom's future."

Marwa Al Maskati, Director of Marketing & Communications – Bahrain Bourse & MEIRA Board Member comment-

ed, "The conference aims to attract exchanges, IR Service providers, consultants, listed companies, brokerage firms, and research companies within the IR domain from both regional and international markets."





News in brief

Iran has banned the teaching of all foreign languages including English and Arabic in kindergartens and primary schools, with immediate effect, state media reported yesterday. "The teaching of foreign languages is prohibited in kindergartens, nursery schools and primary schools, because at this age, the Iranian identity of the child is being formed," said Massoud Tehrani-Farjad, an education ministry official, according to IRNA news agency. The Islamic Republic had already banned the teaching of English in primary schools in 2018, although it is taught from secondary school onwards.



Iran bans teaching foreign languages to kids

The EU announced formally yesterday that it will maintain sanctions on Iran beyond a deadline in a landmark nuclear deal. The European Union's 27 member states "decided to take the necessary steps to maintain the restrictive measures under the EU non-proliferation regime on Iran," a statement said. The deal agreed with world powers in 2015 was aimed at curbing Iran's nuclear programme in exchange for the lifting of international sanctions. But the accord began unravelling in 2018 when then US president Donald Trump unilaterally withdrew from it and began reimposing sanctions and Iran retaliated by dropping some of its obligations under the agreement.

EU maintains Iran nuclear deal

The UN Security Council on Monday rejected a Russian resolution condemning spiraling violence in the Middle East, with delegates refusing to back a motion that did not single out Hamas for its surprise attack on Israel that left at least 1,400 people dead. The council huddled as Israel readied for an expected ground assault on the Gaza Strip, after air and artillery strikes that officials say have killed at least 2,750 people. It also came as the White House said President Joe Biden would visit Israel on Wednesday, in a visit that is designed to balance support for a key ally with calls for restraint in its operations in Gaza. Just four countries voted with Russia on its proposed text. Four others -- including the US -- voted against, while six abstained.

UN Security Council rejects Russian resolution on Israel-Hamas war

China then announced envoy Zhai Jun will visit the Middle East this week, with foreign ministry spokeswoman Mao Ning saying his objective was "to pool international consensus, urge relevant parties to stop hostilities, cool down the situation and create necessary conditions for political settlement". No details have yet been announced on Zhai's itinerary or the exact timing of his trip.

SPOT LIGHT

Police detain Greta Thunberg at London climate protest



Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg is arrested by police outside the InterContinental London Park Lane during the "Oily Money Out" demonstration

London, United Kingdom

UK police yesterday removed Swedish climate campaigner Greta Thunberg from a protest outside the energy sector's annual London get-together, an AFP photographer reported. The 20-year-old activist, who has become a key face of the movement to fight climate change, was taken away by two police officers and put into the back of a police van outside the Energy Intelligence Forum.

Joining a mass protest, Thunberg earlier slammed "closed door" agreements struck between politicians and representatives of the oil and gas industry. "Behind these closed doors, spineless politicians are making deals and compromises with lobbyists from (the) destructive fossil fuel industry," Thunberg told journalists outside the venue hosting the annual gathering, which runs until Thursday. Several hundred protesters gathered by the InterContinental London Park Lane hotel during the "Oily Money Out" demonstration, organised by pressure groups Fossil Free London and Greenpeace, blocking all entrances to the venue. The carbon-intensive sector has faced fierce criticism from the green lobby for continuing to invest in dirty fossil fuels and worsen climate change -- instead of accelerating the shift towards cleaner renewable energy.

Chinese envoy heads to Middle East in bid to contain war

AFP | Shanghai, China

China will this week weigh into the Israel-Hamas war by sending its special envoy to the Middle East, after the United States asked it to use its influence to stop the conflict from spreading.

Washington says it hopes China's friendship with Hamas backer Iran could help calm the conflict, particularly after Beijing brokered a detente between long-time foes Tehran and Riyadh earlier this year.

Iran has warned of a possible "pre-emptive action" against Israel as it prepares a ground offensive on the Gaza Strip. There are also fears that Lebanon-based Hezbollah, which is also backed by Iran, could open up a second front with Israel.

"Our message was that he thinks it's in our shared interest to stop the conflict from spreading," US State Department spokesman Matthew Miller told reporters on Saturday, after Antony Blinken spoke with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi by phone. "He thought it could be useful if China could use its influence."

China then announced envoy Zhai Jun will visit the Middle East this week, with foreign ministry spokeswoman Mao Ning saying his objective was "to pool international consensus, urge relevant parties to stop hostilities, cool down the situation and create necessary conditions for political settlement".

No details have yet been announced on Zhai's itinerary or the exact timing of his trip.

UN warns Israel against Gaza 'forcible transfer'

AFP | Geneva, Switzerland

The United Nations warned Israel yesterday against the "forcible transfer of civilians" in the Gaza Strip, which could be in breach of international law.

The UN human rights office said that a legal temporary evacuation of civilians came with obligations on Israel, which, the Geneva-based agency said, it appears to have made no attempt to fulfil.

Israel has demanded that residents of north Gaza leave for the south, hoping to clear the area of civilians in preparation for a

2,000 US troops put on deployment alert

AFP | Washington, United States

The US military yesterday ordered 2,000 personnel to prepare for deployment to the Middle East as a show of force amid the escalating conflict between Israel and Hamas in Gaza.

Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin said the deployment would allow the United States "to respond more quickly" to the crisis, while the White House

stressed it did not intend to put US combat forces on the ground. National Security Council spokesman John Kirby said preparing the troops for deployment "is really about sending a signal of deterrence."

"We don't want to see this conflict escalate and widen," Kirby said on CNN. "There are no plans or intentions to put US boots on the ground in combat in Israel."

"We are concerned that this order combined with the imposition of a 'complete siege' on Gaza may not be considered as lawful temporary evacuation and would therefore amount to a forcible transfer of civilians -- in breach of international law."

Gaza-based Hamas fighters broke through Israel's heavily fortified border on October 7, killing more than 1,400 people, most of them civilians. Israel says at least 199 hostages were taken by Hamas or other groups during the raid.

Israel has responded with withering air strikes on Hamas-controlled Gaza and by deploying tens of thousands of troops to the border in preparation for a full-scale ground offensive.

International law requires that any lawful temporary evacuation by Israel, as the occupying power, of an area on the basis of the security of the population or imperative military reasons must be accompanied by the

provision of proper accommodation for all evacuees, undertaken under satisfactory conditions of hygiene, health, safety and nutrition. "There appears to have been no attempt by Israel to ensure this for the 1.1 million civilians ordered to move."

"All our efforts are needed to make sure we don't get there," he said. Scholz, who will travel to Israel later on Tuesday, also warned against an escalation. "We have a common goal to prevent a conflagration in the region," said Scholz.

He will be the first head of government to visit Israel since Hamas launched the bloodiest attack in Israel's 75-year history last week. "I once again expressly warn Hezbollah and Iran not to intervene in this conflict," he said.



A Palestinian man reacts as he holds an injured girl following an Israeli airstrike on Rafah, in the southern Gaza Strip

With hostilities escalating, Israel has evacuated many of its border communities. It has been impossible for Gaza's 2.4 million residents to leave the Palestinian territory, as all exits remain closed.



Four or five days of food left in Gaza shops: WFP



A Palestinian man covered in dust holds the hand of a weeping child following an Israeli airstrike on Rafah, in the southern Gaza Strip

AFP | Geneva, Switzerland

The UN's World Food Programme said the food situation in the besieged and blockaded Gaza Strip was worsening, with only four or five days of stocks left in the shops.

WFP said stocks were getting low in warehouses inside the Palestinian enclave, but at the shop level, the situation was even more acute.

"The situation in Gaza is getting worse by the minute: the humanitarian situation but also of course the food security situation," WFP's Middle East spokeswoman Abeer Etefa, told reporters at the UN in Geneva via video-link from Cairo.

"The current stocks of essential food commodities are sufficient for only two weeks -- and that's at the wholesalers' level," she said, with the warehouses located in Gaza City in the north of the territory and shops having difficulties replenishing supplies.

"Inside the shops, the stocks are getting close to less than a few days, maybe four or five

days of food stocks left." Etefa said that out of five flour mills in the Gaza Strip, only one was operating due to security concerns and the unavailability of fuel. "So the bread supply is running low and people are lining up for hours to get bread," she said.

Only five bakeries out of 23 in Gaza contracted by WFP were still in operation, she added. "Our food supplies within Gaza are running really short," said Etefa.

The spokeswoman said there has been no looting of WFP warehouses, and "anyway, whatever we have left in the warehouses is so little".

Etefa said the WFP had mobilised over 300 metric tonnes of food that was either at or on its way to the Rafah border crossing from Egypt into the Gaza Strip -- enough food to feed around 250,000 people for one week.

"Everyone is still very hopeful that we will be able to get inside and this is why more supplies are on the way," she said.

US B-52 bomber lands at S Korea

AFP | Seongnam, South Korea

A nuclear-weapons-capable B-52 bomber landed in South Korea on Tuesday, Yonhap news agency reported, in the latest show of US support for longtime ally Seoul in the face of North Korean military threats. A photo published by Yonhap shows the aircraft landing at Cheongju Air Base, about 110 kilometres (68 miles) south of the capital, after it first made a flyover at South Korea's largest defence exhibition. While B-52s have previously taken part in joint exercises over the peninsula,



A US Air Force B-52H strategic bomber (C) flying with South Korean Air Force F-35A fighter jets during a joint air drill in South Korea

Tuesday's development marks the first time one has landed in the country since at least 2000, when such record-keeping began.

EU to launch humanitarian air corridor to Gaza

AFP | Tirana, Albania

The European Union will launch a humanitarian air corridor to Gaza through Egypt with the first flights expected this week, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said Monday. "Palestinians in Gaza are in need of humanitarian help and aid. That is why... we are launching an EU humanitarian air bridge to Gaza through Egypt" von der Leyen told a press conference in the Albanian capital Tirana, where she attended a regional Balkan summit. The operation is consisting of "several flights to Egypt to bring lifesaving supplies to humanitarian organisations on the ground in Gaza", a statement from the Commission's Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid (ECHO) department said. The first two flights this week will be carrying humanitarian cargo from UNICEF including shelter items, medicines and hygiene kits, it said.

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Hamas says one of top commanders killed in Israel strike

Palestinian militant group Hamas said Tuesday one of the top leaders of its armed wing was killed in an Israeli strike in the Gaza Strip.

"Ayman Nofal, 'Abu Ahmad', a member of the general military council and commander of the central command in Al-Qassam Brigades, was killed" in an Israeli strike on the central Gaza Strip, Hamas said in a statement, referring to its military wing.

The Israeli military did not immediately confirm the killing when contacted by AFP.

Israel thwarts infiltration bid from Lebanon, killing four: army

AFP | Jerusalem, Undefined

Israeli troops killed four attempting to enter its territory from Lebanon on Tuesday, the army said, as tensions run high on the border between the two countries.

"Observation troops spotted a squad attempting to infiltrate the security fence with Lebanon and plant an explosive device," the army said in a statement, adding "four terrorists were killed".

Later, anti-tank missiles targeted Israeli forces in two locations, with Israeli tanks and artillery retaliating against the "origins of the fire" and Hezbollah military posts, the army said.

Around half a million Israelis displaced inside Israel: military

AFP | Tel Aviv, Israel

Around 500,000 Israelis have been evacuated and displaced in the 10 days since Hamas unleashed the bloodiest attack in the country's history, the Israeli military said Tuesday.

"There are about half a million internally displaced Israelis at the time," Jonathan Conriscus, spokesman for the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), said in an online briefing.

He pointed out that all communities around the Gaza Strip had been evacuated, as had more than 20 communities along Israel's northern border with Lebanon.



Ido the husband of Israeli-French citizen Celine Ben David Nagar, killed during last week's attack by Hamas militants into Israel, is comforted during her funeral in Holon, south of Tel Aviv

Xi welcomes 'dear friend' Putin to Beijing

AFP | Beijing, China

Chinese leader Xi Jinping welcomed his "dear friend" Russian President Vladimir Putin to Beijing on Tuesday, kicking off a multilateral summit overshadowed by the Israel-Hamas war.

Beijing this week hosts representatives of 130 countries for a forum on Xi's vast trade and infrastructure project, the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

At the top of the guest list is Putin, who is on his first trip to a major global power since Moscow's invasion of Ukraine threw his regime into international isolation.

The two leaders met yesterday evening at an event kicking off the forum, video posted by Russia's foreign ministry showed, shaking hands and exchanging pleasantries.



Russia's President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping interacting during a welcoming ceremony at the Third Belt and Road Forum in Beijing

They then took part in a group photo with other leaders attending the summit. Putin is due to hold in-depth talks with Xi on the sidelines of the forum on Wednesday, the Kremlin said, with the war raging between Israel and Palestinian militant organisation Hamas looming large over the summit.

"During the talks, special attention will be paid to international and regional issues," the Kremlin said in a statement, without elaborating.

Xi kicked off the summit Tuesday with talks with Chilean and Kazakhstan Presidents Gabriel Boric and Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, Chinese state media reported.

He then met Hungary's Prime Minister Viktor Orban, describing a landmark agreement that outlaws the testing of nuclear weapons.

The move comes after President Vladimir Putin said earlier this month he was "not ready to say" whether Russia needed to carry out live nuclear tests.

Lawmakers in the State Duma unanimously approved the de-ratification bill in its first reading, with 412 voting for and none voting against.

The bill can be signed into law by Putin after passing three readings in the lower house and receiving approval in the upper house, although this is largely a formality. The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) aimed to completely ban all nuclear tests.

It never came into force as it was not ratified by all required signatories, but it did have symbolic value and helped put an end to the more than 2,000 nuclear tests carried out during and shortly after the Cold War.

Russia moves to revoke nuclear test ban treaty

AFP | Moscow, Russia

Russian lawmakers voted yesterday to revoke Moscow's ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, moving closer to abandoning a landmark agreement that outlaws the testing of nuclear weapons.

The move comes after President Vladimir Putin said earlier this month he was "not ready to say" whether Russia needed to carry out live nuclear tests.

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TOP 4 TWEETS 01 [Profile picture]

As we are on the verge of the abyss in the Middle East, I have two humanitarian appeals: To Hamas, the hostages must be immediately released without conditions. To Israel, rapid & unimpeded access for humanitarian aid must be granted for the sake of the civilians in Gaza. @antonioguterres

02 [Profile picture]

PM Netanyahu: "Nobody can make peace with Daesh, nobody can make peace with Al Qaida and nobody could make peace with the Nazis. They have to be defeated. Then we have the peace." @IsraeliPM

03 [Profile picture]

Make in India, Make for the World! We are working to make India among the top five shipbuilding nations of the world. @narendramodi

04 [Profile picture]

Following yesterday's attack in Brussels, my thoughts are with @SwedishPM, the Swedish people, and all those affected. I am also expressing solidarity with @AlexanderDeCroo and the Belgian people. Ukraine stands firmly alongside our Swedish and Belgian friends against terrorism. @ZelenskyyUA

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



# celebs

## Chris Evans finally confirms marriage to Alba Baptista: 'We had two ceremonies!'

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Chris Evans has finally confirmed he is married to Alba Baptista.

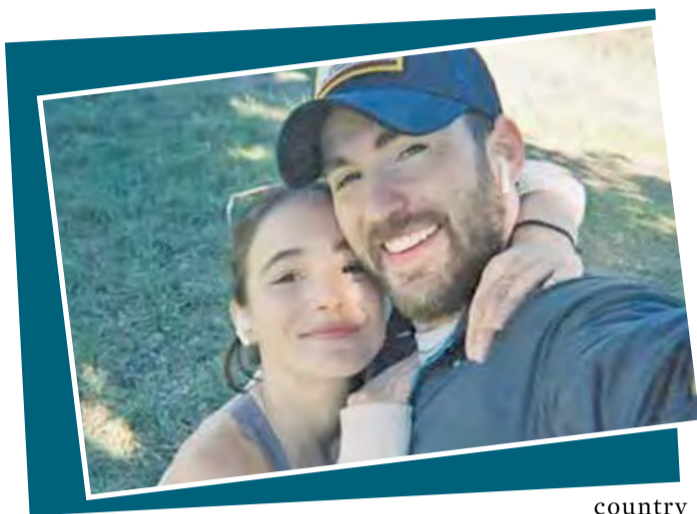
The 'Captain America' star, 42, made the admission in his first public outing a month after it was reported he had got hitched to the 26-year-old actress - with the actor also revealing they had two wedding ceremonies.

Chris spoke about the double celebration while flaunting his wedding ring at the New York Comic Con on Saturday, and told fans: "I got married. It was really, really great."

"We kind of had two ceremonies. We had one on the East Coast, we did one in Portugal - my wife's Portuguese. But they were just... wonderful and beautiful. "It's a lot planning a wedding - for those of you who are married you know, it takes a lot out of you."

"But now that we're through that, we've just kind of been enjoying life, gearing up for autumn - my favourite season."

"It's, like, the best time of year right now. Now we're just relaxing and enjoying life and reflecting."



It was reported in September Chris and Alba got married in an intimate ceremony at their Boston-area home.

A source told Page Six at the time that the ceremony was "locked down tight" and guests had to sign non-disclosure agreements and turn off their mobiles.

The ceremony was attended by guests including Chris' Marvel co-stars including Jeremy Renner, Robert Downey Jr, Scarlett Johansson and Chris Hemsworth.

It was also reported the couple travelled to Alba's home

country to have a second wedding so her family could witness her and Chris exchange vows.

Chris and Alba first sparked rumours they were an item in November 2022, when People reported they had been dating for more than a year - and hours after the report, the actors were spotted holding hands in Central Park, New York City.

In February, Chris made their romance Instagram-official by posting a series of pictures of him and Alba hiking and picking apples to mark Valentine's Day.

## Chris Hemsworth gorges on 'good quality beef' to bulk up for movie roles

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Chris Hemsworth enjoys "good quality beef" when he needs to bulk up for roles.

The 40-year-old actor's private chef Sergio Perera has explained how the 'Thor' star adjusts his meals to suit each project that he works on.

Speaking to news.com.au, Perera said: "Obviously the guy is a big boy, requires a lot of protein for the body he has."

The chef - who has appeared on the TV show 'MasterChef Australia' - added:

"When it comes to building muscle, he just keeps it very clean with a lot of barbecuing - like meats and vegetables - and keeping it Mediterranean, which involves a lot of olive oil."

Perera explained how Hemsworth never snacks on anything "boxed or canned" and eats a "hearty salad" on a daily basis.

The cook recalled: "One thing I did religiously with him, was every single day he would have one very hearty salad that consisted of raw and cooked vegeta-

bles, fermented products, nuts, seeds, and a lot of good fats with a piece of steak or a big piece of fish."

Perera has been working with 'Extraction' actor for more than a decade after he was contacted by the star's wife Elsa Pataky - who felt that Chris needed assistance to cope with the physical demands of his Hollywood career.

The chef said: "He had just finished the first 'Thor' movie, and he needed someone to help match his meal plan to his physical demands. And that's how I came on board."

"I would sit with his trainer, who is one of his closest friends, and we would all work together on figuring out Chris' goals."

Perera enjoyed working with the actor so much that he even moved to Hemsworth's native Australia.

He said: "I went there thinking I was only going to be there for a few months, but I ended up staying."



Chris Hemsworth

## 'A sort of emotional blindness sets in': Will Smith responds to Jada Pinkett Smith's shock separation confession

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Will Smith developed an "emotional blindness" to his wife Jada Pinkett Smith.

The 52-year-old actress has revealed that she and Will have been living separate lives since 2016 and the 'I Am Legend' star has explained that the confession "kind of woke him up" to his wife's "hidden nuances".

In an email to the New York Times newspaper, Will said: "When you've been with someone for more than half of your life a sort of emotional blindness sets in, and you can all too easily lose your sensitivity to their hidden

nuances and subtle beauties."

The publication reported that the 'King Richard' actor has only now realised that Jada

is "more resilient, clever and compassionate than he'd understood".

Jada's shock revelations contrast with Will's public descriptions of the couple's relationship.

In a TV interview last year, the 55-year-old star said: "There's never been infidelity in our marriage. Jada and I talk about everything, and we have never surprised one another with anything ever."

Jada explained that she and Will were "figuring out" their future after initially divulging the news about their separation.



Will Smith

**When you've been with someone for more than half of your life a sort of emotional blindness sets in, and you can all too easily lose your sensitivity to their hidden nuances and subtle beauties**

WILL SMITH

## Tom Hanks warns fans about AI ad fake

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Tom Hanks has warned fans that his AI-likeness appears in a commercial without permission.

The 'Elvis' actor has hit out at an advert for a dental plan that he appears to feature in, insisting the replica is fake and he didn't authorise the use of his virtual doppelganger.

He wrote on Instagram alongside a screenshot from the ad: "BEWARE!! There's a video out there promoting some dental plan with an AI version of me. I have nothing to do with it."

The 67-year-old actor previously expressed his concerns about the rise in AI and how there could be a series of movies fronted by him even after his death.

## Jada Pinkett Smith admits that divorcing Will Smith 'didn't feel right'

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Jada Pinkett Smith says that divorce "didn't feel right" for her and Will Smith.

The 52-year-old star revealed earlier this week that she and her husband have been separated since 2016 and has now explained that they planned to divorce but ultimately did not go through with it.

Quizzed on the differences between separation and divorce, Jada told The Sunday Times magazine: "Well, we needed the time."

"Will and I got married at an early age and we were able to make some beautiful things and some not so beautiful things."

"We got to a place where we had to go our separate ways in order to break from some of those more immature fantasies of what being married was about."

"And bear in mind, when we had that separation in 2016 the goal was to divorce, but divorce



Jada Pinkett Smith

just didn't feel right for either of us. We don't know why. But here we are."

The 'Red Table Talk' host - who has son Jaden, 25, and daughter Willow, 22, with Will - explained that she does not live with her estranged husband at the moment but expects to do so again in the future so she can "take care" of the 'Independence Day' actor.

Jada said: "To be honest with you, I think eventually we will (live together again) I really do.

"Will's getting old. I'm staying quite young, but it's getting apparent to me that he's gonna need someone to take care of him."

The couple still support each other in their "life partnership" and it was a joke about Jada's alopecia that resulted in Will famously slapping comedian Chris Rock at the Oscars last year - but 'The Matrix' star rubbished suggestions that she encouraged him to react violently.

### SUDOKU

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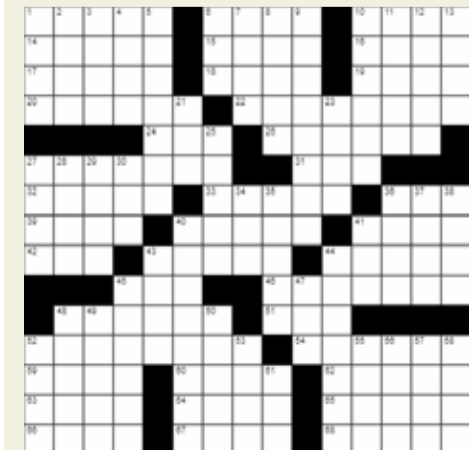
#### Yesterday's solution

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

#### 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- Give; 6- Type of tomato; 10- Strike callers; 14- Sharp-edged instrument; 15- Take from me; 16- Labor; 17- Playing marble; 18- Screen; 19- Nabisco cookie; 20- Zealot; 22- Shell of a turtle; 24- Bit; 26- Figure of speech with "like" or "as"; 27- Arctic; 31- JFK posting; 32- Bendable twig, usually of a willow tree; 33- Tall tales; 36- Front part of an apron; 39- Allot; 40- Apportion; 41- Pasternak heroine; 42- Begley and Wynn; 43- Welcome; 44- Flower segment; 45- Limb of a felled tree; 46- Left out; 48- Second book of the Bible; 51- Friend of Tigger; 52- Agreeable; 54- Slowpokes; 59- Bits of thread; 60- Glass ornament; 62- Heron, usually white; 63- Yikes!; 64- Carson's successor; 65- One of the Muses; 66- Sand hill; 67- As a result; 68- Dreadlocks wearer;

#### Down

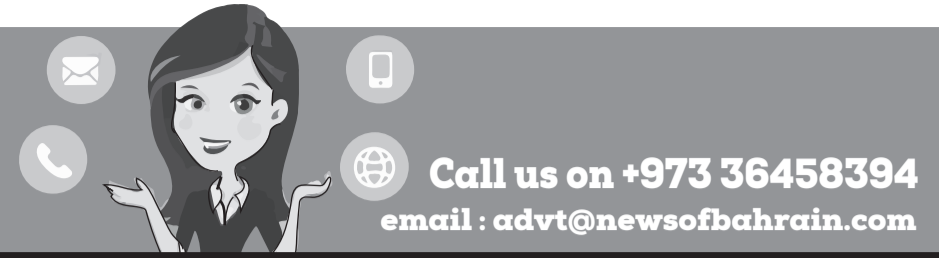
1- Metric unit of mass; 2- Hindu music; 3- Islamic call to prayer; 4- Words of denial; 5- Tab grabber; 6- Go, team!; 7- Auricular; 8- King with a golden touch; 9- Mild laxative; 10- System of social perfection; 11- Virtuous; 12- Portion; 13- Blackthorn fruit; 21- Teen's desire; 23- Tsp. and tbsp.; 25- Holmes's creator; 27- A bit; 28- Not new; 29- Fragments; 30- Mark of Zorro; 34- Pub drink; 35- Copter part; 36- Inner layer of a quilt; 37- Dies; 38- Hairless; 40- Questionable; 41- Court cry; 43- Deities; 44- Explorer; 45- Feel intense aversion; 47- Cal. pages; 48- Nobelist; 49- Chemically inactive gas; 50- Scoff; 52- Trudge; 53- Zingy taste; 55- Pearl Mosque city; 56- Some nest eggs; 57- Riga resident; 58- Portico; 61- Scooby-;

#### Yesterday's solution

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



# Classifieds



## VACANCIES AVAILABLE

**TAMIMI MARKETS BAHRAIN COMPANY W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of PORTER (SHOP), suitably qualified applicants can contact 35127876

**AL SHEGHEL TO COORDINATE AND ORGANIZE PARTIES** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36261011 or MOHAMDA2010@GMAIL.COM

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

**TOP DEAL DESIGNS W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33208617 or TOPDEALDESIGNWLL@GMAIL.COM

**COMSIP AL A ALI W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17773006 or AURELIEN.CHAUSSY@VINCI-ENERGIES.COM

**PLANNERS GROUP INTERNATIONAL** has a vacancy for the occupation of SHIP RIGGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17532010 or m.vishal@exibah.com

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

**LAMA FOR REPAIRING ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT CO. W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33302604 or syed223022@gmail.com

**MEM MARKETING CO. W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35940120 or MOHAMEDJEZ.EEAA@GMAIL.COM

**LUCKY FALCON REPAIR WORKSHOP FOR REFRIGERATOR AND AIR CONDITIONER** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39692931 or AZAMZAKARIA@YAHOO.COM

**SADEQ SKY LINE CLEANING** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 3727242 or SADEQCONSTRUCTION@GMAIL.COM

**JLINK PHONE** has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39006623 or J.LINK.BH@GMAIL.COM

**BLACK SEA REAL ESTATE W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33615001 or BITTUSANDHU530@GMAIL.COM

**ABU HAMZA RESTAURANT BAHRAIN PARTNERSHIP COMPANY** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33469271 or imrantahir395@yahoo.com

**LYFLYT ENERGY CONTRACTING W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE REPRESENTATIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39278453 or SHAHINA.MAYIN@GMAIL.COM

**WHITE FALCON PRIVATE SECURITY SERVICES Co. W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39405504 or WORLDSERVICES1988@GMAIL.COM

**ELEGANT SILVERS W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39190926 or YOUSEF994@GMAIL.COM

**EZMA PALACE GLASS AND MIRRORS CO.W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33256578 or EZMAPALACE.BH@GMAIL.COM

**AL KOHEJI ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS & CONSTRUCTION WLL** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17701711 or lmra@kecc.me

**SHEHARYAR ALI SERVICES W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34569303 or VISTAWORLDBH@GMAIL.COM

**ABN AL NAFIS PALACE TAILORING - BAHRAIN PARTNERSHIP COMPANY** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66664123 or DEEPJULIAN4123@GMAIL.COM

**MINE CORE COMPANY W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSULTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34110323 or PJM@MINECORE.ME

**COLONY TOURIST RESTAURANT W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36881934 or ALIRABIA834@YAHOO.COM

**RAHIM KHA YOUNUS MAINTENANCE CO W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of

WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33154343 or MDPAPPU0410@GMAIL.COM

**Agile Arabia Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER**, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38990302 or ASHRAF@AGILEARABIA.CO.UK

**BAHRAIN COFFEE BREWERS COMPANY W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of COFFEE SERVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17111722 or ANEESH@FOODVESTHOLDING.COM

**EXPOSURE W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of PHOTOGRAPHER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39393639 or F.ALMANNAI@HOTMAIL.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

**A - KARIM ALJAHROMI CONTRACTING COMPANY WLL** has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17831000 or AKJCONT@BATELCO.COM.BH

**ALHAJ HASSAN GROUP B.S.C CLOSED** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17551111 or VIJESH.NAIR@HAJIHASSAN.COM

**ABU SUFIAN MAINTENANCE & REPAIRING FOR ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35911388 or ABUSUFIAN.MAINTENANCE@GMAIL.COM

**WATFORD INSPECTION SERVICES W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33980065 or ANILKRISHNANAG@GMAIL.COM

**GATE SMART CITY GLASS AND STEEL W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35064327 or SMARTCITYGLASS170@GMAIL.COM

**ARCAL W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of ALUMINIUM TECHNICIAN (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17701900 or hrd@arcabiz

**SUPER GATE MAINTENANCE AND CLEANING** has a vacancy for the occupation of ERECTOR(MACHINERY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36006364 or HU33SSAIN@YAHOO.COM

**FRSAN PALACE HOTEL CO. W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of HAIR DRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17295555 or samuigroup.bh@gmail.com

**EBRAHIM ALI HASAN BUTI / AFRITAH - 4533** has a vacancy for the occupation of FISHERMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39803236 or EBRAHIMALIBUTI@GMAIL.COM

**BAHRAIN BURGER COMPANY W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SERVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17722171 or MAIL@FOODVESTHOLDING.COM

**ARTISTA DECOR** has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39322133 or HANZA.SHEHAB80@GMAIL.COM

**AL TANWEER TO BUY AND SELL WASTE AND SCRAP** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33022251 or YOUNEIS330222@GMAIL.COM

**BADER MAINTENANCE & CONSTRUCTION W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SERVICEMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17300455 or FARIDABADER@GMAIL.COM

**LFM INTERNATIONAL TRADING W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (OPERATIONS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33413065 or MARQUISLOVETT@HOTMAIL.COM

**MASHJEN FOR GENERAL TRADING W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES SUPERVISOR (RETAIL TRADE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33319201 or ALAMJAD\_00@HOTMAIL.COM

**NAWAF MOHAMED AL JISHI HOLDING GROUP W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33330888 or NAWAF.ALJISHI@ETS.BH

**NORALSHAMCONTRACTING AND OTHER SUPPORT SERVICES W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33656585 or GASIMMUHAMMED20@GMAIL.COM

**DANESH FOOD STUFF W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39664685 or WAGHOODANISH@YAHOO.COM

**JAMEEL AHMED EQUIPMENT RENTING AND EXCAVATION CO. W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39659325 or

JAMILAHMEDHAJI50@GMAIL.COM

**SUAAD RESTAURANT W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33871600 or FAWAZOMERB@GMAIL.COM

**QUBIX SOLUTIONS W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33980808 or QUBIXSOLUTIONSBAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

**MEMO CORNER RESTAURANT AND CAFE W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER/BARTENDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38248809 or YASER.M1331@GMAIL.COM

**AL MANAR BAKERIES** has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37272722 or almanarbakery@almanarbakery.com

**INTERNATIONAL MARKETING COMPANY W.L.L. CLEANTEC** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36636640 or HANANKHALAF84@GMAIL.COM

**SHANE BAHRAIN FOODSTUFF W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of BUTCHER (ANIMALS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17002125 or SHANEBAHRAINCO@GMAIL.COM

**NESSPAK DECORE W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33360314 or 74TAHIRAWAN@GMAIL.COM

**HIGH LIFE BAHRAIN ENTERTAINMENT W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of ACTOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39022204 or HILIFEBAHRAINFK@GMAIL.COM

**RUWAD ALETQAN TO ORGANIZE EXHIBITIONS AND CONFERENCES** has a vacancy for the occupation of MARKETING SPECIALIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37471088 or ABDULLAH@SHINAN-GULF.SA

**SHAH G CONSULTANCY W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33128786 or SYEDSHAH.BH@GMAIL.COM

**SUNSHINE CAR SPA AND POLISHING W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33923307 or MAHMOOD.ALSAMMAKO@GMAIL.COM

**GLITZ INTERIOR DECORATION CO W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36253266 or MUSHTAQ29SP@GMAIL.COM

**HA URBAN DESIGNS CO W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33733381 or AAMERSAEED75@GMAIL.COM

**AMRITSAR SERVICES W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33715161 or AMRITSAR.BH@GMAIL.COM

**SERFERATY TECHNOLOGY** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38229871 or SAUD\_PI@HOTMAIL.COM

**NEW RELIC SERVICES CO W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33022605 or QUREPBAH@GMAIL.COM

**ZAIMA CONSULTANCY SERVICES W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33261484 or FAHADBASHIR109@GMAIL.COM

**SIGNATURE HOTEL (FOUR SEASONS BAHRAIN BAY) COMPANY W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY OFFICER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17115000 or EHAB.ZAINUDDIN@KEYPOINT.ME

**METEX GLOBAL SERVICES W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33310257 or AFRIDI302@GMAIL.COM

**JAHECON W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WIRING ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17244111 or JAHECON@BATELCO.COM.BH

**TEAM CONSTRUCTION** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39289289 or teamco98@gmail.com

**FOOD INNOVATION CO W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of FOOD SERVICE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77660137 or HR.FOODINNOVATION@FAKHRO.COM

**ARAB SHIPBUILDING & REPAIR YARD CO. JASRY** has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37787773 or duaajmalkhalifa@ASRY.NET

**MOHD AKTHAR CONSTRUCTION CO PARTNERSHIP** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can

contact 34185885 or MOHDAKTHAR2017@GMAIL.COM

**Charcoal Gourmet Burger Snack** has a vacancy for the occupation of FOOD SERVICE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36020031 or PRINCEBURGER@GMAIL.COM

**YATEEM GULF CONTRACTING** has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17253397 or AAYATEEM@BATELCO.COM.BH

**GCS W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37722884 or government@mre.co

**BAHRAIN GUARDING SOLUTIONS W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37722884 or GOVERNMENT@mre.co

**HUAWEI TECHNOLOGIES BAHRAIN W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (PROJECT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33993977 or MOHAMMED.ALDERAZI@HUAWEI.COM

**MASKATI COMMERCIAL SERVICES W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES REPRESENTATIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17732000 or ADEL@MASKATIGROUP.COM

**NESTO SUPERMARKET & DEPARTMENT STORE W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39151200 or WESTERBAHRAIN2021@GMAIL.COM

**UMNAWAF LADIES TAILORING & TEXTILES** has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39432202 or NBURSHAD098@GMAIL.COM

**ARABIAN INTERNATIONAL SERVICES COMPANY W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of AUTOMOBILE ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39677780 or AWALSERV@BATELCO.COM.BH

**YUSUF ALI AHMED ISA** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39762225 or YAAICONTRACTING@GMAIL.COM

**BOKHOWA CONTRACTING & TRADING GROUP W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17255980 or ADEEBALI@BOKHOWAGROUP.COM

**ALKAWTHAR JUICE & ICE CREAM** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(JUICE & SANDWICHES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39828050 or ABDULMAJEEDBH@YAHOO.COM

**AL KOBAISI MOTORS** has a vacancy for the occupation of WATCHMAN / GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17732002 or MD@ALKOBAISIGROUP.COM

**GIR LINING W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33054436 or FATIMA@GIR-GROUP.COM

**YOKOGAWA MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA B.S.C. (CLOSED)** has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (PROJECT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17358169 or sumedha.munasinghe@yokogawa.com

**ALHAJ HASSAN GROUP B.S.C CLOSED** has a vacancy for the occupation of PIPEFITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17551111 or VIJESH.NAIR@HAJIHASSAN.COM

**AB EBAAH ELECTRICAL WDRICSHOP** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39656528 or FARDAN\_83@HOTMAIL.COM

**ALGHARB CAFETERIA** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(FALAFEL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 37371035 or ALINASER@GMAIL.COM

**JANATI BEAUTY CENTRE** has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39680959 or JANATIBC@GMAIL.COM

**ALDANA COUTURE** has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39555905 or danashamsan69@gmail.com

**Daqoos Restaurant** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36337739 or SMURTADHA92@gmail.COM

**ALDOY CONTRACTINGS & EXCAVATIONS** has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33990991 or MDASALDOY@GMAIL.COM

**BOKHOWA CONTRACTING & TRADING GROUP W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39655980 or ADEEBALI@BOKHOWAGROUP.COM

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

**EBRAHIM HAMAD ALTHAWADI TRADING & CONT.** has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17274404 or deepupatthepparampil@gmail.com

**ELECTRICAL MACHINES INDUSTRIES BAHRAIN W** has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17830750 or EMIB@BATELCO.COM.BH

**BAHRAIN GUARDING SOLUTIONS W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37722884 or GOVERNMENT@mre.co

**KHADJIA AHMED ALI** has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39636655 or MOHD.ALMOHSEN@HOTMAIL.COM

**ALOSRA RESTAURANT W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17240098 or alosrarestaurant.co.wll@gmail.com

**CALIFORNIA EXCAVATIO CONSTRUCTION & HEAVY** has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER/OPERATOR(SHOVEL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17610065 or CALIFORNIAHY@GMAIL.COM

**BAHRAIN GUARDING SOLUTIONS W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37722884 or GOVERNMENT@mre.co

**YOUSIF KAWOOSH W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17677114 or MKAWOOSH@YKAWOOSH.COM

**MUROOJ AL-SHAM FOOD PRODUCTS W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39451015 or SAHAF71@HOTMAIL.COM

**KRISPY KREME W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SERVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17262998 or SSALEH@AMERICANA.BH

**CITY GLASSES W L L** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39813203 or acityglass@yahoo.com

**SWEETER TASTE FAST FOOD** has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39001044 or SHEHABI13@YAHOO.COM

**VENETO PAINTS** has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39698800 or BINMAHMD@BATELCO.COM.BH

**AL NOORAIN BAKERY EST** has a vacancy for the occupation of BREAD BAKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39456969 or UMZAL1975@GMAIL.COM

**AL-SAYEDAH UPHOLSTERY** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39462445 or MMALFARDAN@ICLOUD.COM

**ALAMJAD GENTS SALON** has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39111155 or ALRAFEEQ.HR@GMAIL.COM

**MOHAMMED AHMADI CO W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17268111 or HRD1@macbh.com

**Afiag Coil W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of MACHINE OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17293388 or hr1@gulfstarbh.com

**ALAWAMI AIR CONDITIONING CENTRAL** has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39684123 or ALAWI44@HOTMAIL.COM

**GCS W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37722884 or government@mre.co

**KATINA UNIFORM FORFASHION DESIGN W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of DESIGNER(FASHION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 35458490 or HARISEMER@GMAIL.COM

**JASMI'S CORPORATION W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17588787 or lmra@jasmis.com

**INTELLIVISION LABELS W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of PRINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38433424 or ACCESSBAH1@GMAIL.COM

**SITRA MEAT CO. W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38883320 or gm@sitrafactory.com

**2004 GENTS SALONE** has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33077578 or JafferSanAd@hotmail.com

**BATSCO CO.W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified

applicants can contact 33644886 or hr@BATSCO.NET

**KARAM ALSAMA RESTAURANT** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17332808 or BOADOL81@GMAIL.COM

**ALLAQ RESORT COMPANY BSC CLOSED SOFTTEL BAHRAIN ZALLAQ THALA** has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17631660 or ahmed@jazayani.com

**NICE LAND AUTO SERVICES** has a vacancy for the occupation of MACHINIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33808786 or MALNOOH1973@GMAIL.COM

**MOHAMED JALAL CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17536956 or RASHID\_BUALI@JALAL.COM

**Top One Contracting** has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17322148 or SURAJSHAMSANBH76@GMAIL.COM

**SALY CONSTRUCTION** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39688875 or MOHD11051@GMAIL.COM

**NOOR ALEZAH SANDWICHES&JUICE** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39622485 or NARJESASHOOR@GMAIL.COM

**MOHAMED JALAL CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17536956 or RASHID\_BUALI@JALAL.COM

**CHARCOAL GOURMET BURGER SNACK W L L** has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17001720 or GOURMETBURGERBAH@GMAIL.COM

**ALDANA HOLDINGS CO. W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34600553 or MOHD.AL3MMARI@GMAIL.COM

**DAN CONTRACTING** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17330048 or DAN\_CONTRACTING\_3931@HOTMAIL.COM

**RELIANCE WATER PURIFICATION** has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39319199 or LULWASHAMS@GMAIL.COM

**MOHAMED JALAL CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17536956 or RASHID\_BUALI@JALAL.COM

**Chaudhary 227 Contracting** has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36341794 or chaudhary227c@gmail.com

**BLACK ONX TAILORING** has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33249494 or SZAYER@GMAIL.COM

**Cafeteria Tseppas** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34467713 or FATIMA\_ALSELAIT@HOTMAIL.COM

**USMAN GHANI SHOP** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35578505 or USMANBAH46@GMAIL.COM

**AL ALAYAN CAFETERIA** has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33198988 or ASIAALAZAN@GMAIL.COM

**SUFRYA FOR TRADITIONAL FOOD** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66667077 or FATIMA.GHAREEB@GMAIL.COM

**HUAHONG LIGHTING W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39469580 or HUAHONGLIGHTING@GMAIL.COM

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

**PICK UP LAUNDRY W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37377337 or PICKUP.LAUNDRY.BH@GMAIL.COM

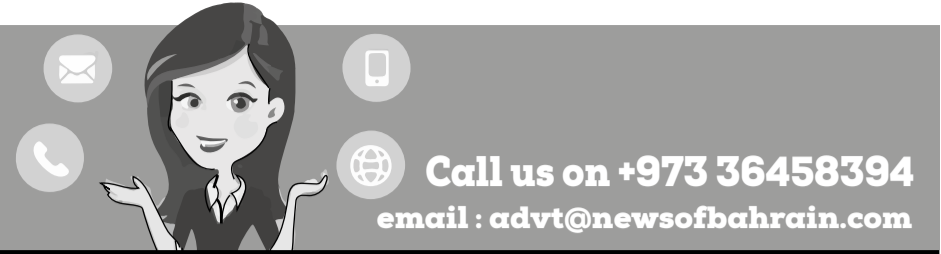
**PAK RAVI CONTRACTING W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39245209 or CAREPOINT67@GMAIL.COM

**SANTY EXCAVATION AND CONSTRUCTION COMPANY W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC(DIESEL ENGINES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17401013 or hrteam@santyconstruction.com

**AL RAFEEQ TOWER EXCAVATION WLL** has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39000116 or MOSAWI67@HOTMAIL.COM



# Classifieds



## VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

**ALKOMED ENGINEERING SERVICES CO.** has a vacancy for the occupation of AIR-CONDITIONING TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17698500 or ALKOMED@BATELCO.COM.BH

**Kingdom Security Protection Services W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39415444 or RASHEED@SECURICORE.BH

**AL-AHLIA CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17737000 or h.s.m1111@gmail.com

**TIKIZ BURGER W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37373000 or ALIALASFOOR@HOTMAIL.COM

**HAYAT INTERIOR DECORATION W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33163234 or MR\_LONELY\_2009@YAHOO.COM

**Real Value Contracting WLL** has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36767312 or INFO@REALVALUECONTRACTING.COM

**ARIZ RESTAURANTS COMPANY W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of BAKER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33783358 or surmasy116@gmail.com

**WORLD COOL HEAT AND AIR**

**CONDITIONING INSTALLATION** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33240114 or ALIALALLALI90@GMAIL.COM

**RELATION LAUNDRY** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33207945 or ABD.AWAN90@GMAIL.COM

**Pets Cabana WLL** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36796042 or CONTACT@PETSCABANA.COM

**BU FAHAD MARKET** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17666333 or BUFAHAD75@GMAIL.COM

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## Fresh Fritz starts Japan Open defence with a win



Taylor Fritz in action

AFP | Tokyo

Defending champion Taylor Fritz won his Japan Open first-round match yesterday and said he felt "motivated and ready to play" after lightening his load ahead of the tournament.

The American has been one of the busiest players on the ATP Tour this season but he has taken his foot off the gas since the US Open, appearing in only the Laver Cup and Shanghai Masters.

He beat Britain's Cameron Norrie 6-4, 6-3 to kick off the defence of his Tokyo title and said it was "probably an advantage that I might be less burnt-out".

"After the US Open, I think I had played the most matches of anyone on tour," said Fritz, the number one seed in Tokyo.

"I thought it made sense to start the Asia swing in Shang-

hai. I feel motivated and ready to play."

World number 10 Fritz beat fellow American Frances Tiafoe in last year's Japan Open final and has won six career titles.

He is the highest-ranked American in the world and overcame an early setback to dispatch Norrie in his Tokyo opener.

"I was holding easily and then out of nowhere he broke me, so it was a tough spot to be in," said Fritz.

"I feel like I played a couple of really good points to break and I played the bigger, more important points better in the return games.

"I definitely upped my level."

Fritz was joined in the next round by countryman Ben Shelton, who beat Japan's Taro Daniel 3-6, 6-4, 7-6 (7/2).

## Loeb runs out of luck after brilliant surge in Morocco

● Frenchman takes Bahrain Raid Xtreme within sight of rally lead before desert setback

TDT | Manama

Sebastien Loeb was thwarted in his bid to give Bahrain Raid Xtreme a memorable victory in the Rallye du Maroc when he ran out of luck after a brilliant surge yesterday in the final round of the World Rally-Raid Championship.

Partnered by Fabian Lurquin in his BRX Prodrive Hunter, Loeb set a scorching pace to lead the rally's penultimate stage well past the half way point, in the process taking a remarkable 5mins 52 secs off Nasser Al Attiyah, to move within 29 seconds of the Qatari's overall lead.

With a stage win and another outright rally success in his sights, the challenge of the nine-time World Rally Champion ended when his car slid into a ditch after 230km.

Sebastien Loeb: "I caught Nasser very early. I think he had a puncture so he changed a wheel. He was already in the dust of (Matias) Ekström. I got him a few times on the sentinel, but he didn't let me pass. Then finally he let me pass.



Sebastien Loeb steers his Bahrain BRX Prodrive Hunter in Morocco

"I was driving fast, and came to a tricky navigation point which Ekström missed. He went straight. So I got past him without overtaking him, and I was first on the track, doing my job, trying to keep my rhythm. Then we reached another very tricky point, our line was not 100% correct, and I saw the hole too late."

More drama followed when Al Attiyah's Toyota stopped in the dunes, leaving the championship leader and defending champion trying to repair the car with co-driver Mathieu Baumel 11 km from the finish.

Stéphane Peterhansel in an Audi won the 343 km stage from Zagora to Merzouga from

Orly Terranova and Bernardo Graue in the other BRX Prodrive Hunter, who continued their recovery from a second stage suspension problem with a superb drive to clock the second best time.

Fifth place on the day was enough to establish Saudi Arabia's Yazeed Al Rajhi in a Toyota as the new rally leader, and he goes into tomorrow's final leg holding a 3 mins 49 secs advantage over Peterhansel.

After podium finishes on the first three days, Loeb and the Prodrive Hunter were in their element on the most beautiful, varied and difficult stage of the rally, winding through camel grass for 10kms before a rocky

"I was driving fast, and came to a tricky navigation point which Ekström missed. He went straight. So I got past him without overtaking him, and I was first on the track, doing my job, trying to keep my rhythm. Then we reached another very tricky point, our line was not 100% correct, and I saw the hole too late

SEBASTIEN LOEB

section and a finish among the dunes of Merzouga.

The seemingly impossible mission to wipe out Al Attiyah's 6 mins 16 secs overnight had become a probability at the half-way point, before the rugged Moroccan desert terrain had its say.

The other major casualty on the day was Spain's Carlos Sainz, who came to a complete standstill in the dunes soon after Al Attiyah's problem, while leading the stage.

The rally reaches its conclusion tomorrow afternoon following a 152km stage starting and finishing in Merzouga.

## CLASSIFIEDS

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## Sri Lanka lifts Gunathilaka ban after sexual assault acquittal

AFP | Colombo

Sri Lankan cricketer Danushka Gunathilaka had his playing ban lifted yesterday, weeks after he was cleared of sexual assault by a court in Australia.

The 32-year-old batsman was



Danushka Gunathilaka

arrested in November last year just hours after his country lost to England in their final Twenty20 World Cup match in Australia.

But he returned home after his September acquittal, telling reporters outside the court that

he could not wait "to go back and play cricket".

Gunathilaka was still subject to disciplinary proceedings from Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC), but the board announced yesterday he was now free to return to the game.



# Netherlands humiliate South Africa

European underdogs defeat South Africa by 38 runs at Cricket World Cup

● **Dutch captain Scott Edwards' unbeaten 78 crucial in setting up a total of 245-8.**

AFP | Dharamsala

Netherlands defeated mighty South Africa by 38 runs at the Cricket World Cup on Tuesday as the European outsiders humiliated the Proteas for the second time in a year.

Chasing 246 to win from a rain-reduced 43 overs after Dutch captain Scott Edwards made a crucial 78 not out, South Africa, one of the tournament favourites, were bowled out for 207 in the shadow of the Himalayas.

In November last year, the Dutch sent South Africa crashing in the Twenty20 World Cup in Australia.

The victory was the World



Netherlands' Logan van Beek (R) celebrates with teammate Sybrand Engelbrecht after taking

Cup's second major shock in three days after Afghanistan defeated defending champions England on Sunday.

There was no hint of the drama to come as South Africa eased comfortably to 36-0 in their pursuit.

However, four wickets then fell for the addition of just eight

runs.

Quinton de Kock had cracked back-to-back centuries in South Africa's impressive opening wins over Sri Lanka and Australia.

But on 20 he was caught behind off Colin Ackermann, one of three South African-born players in the Dutch starting line-up.

**Scorecard**  
Netherlands 245 for 8 (Edwards 78\*, van der Merwe 29, Jansen 2-27) beat South Africa 207 (Miller 43, van Beek 3-60, van der Merwe 2-34, de Leede 2-36, van Meekeren 2-40) by 38 runs

Ackermann had been man-of-the match when the Netherlands shocked South Africa in Adelaide last year.

Skipper Temba Bavuma (16) fell three runs later, clean bowled by Roelof van der Merwe who played 13 ODIs for South Africa before moving to the Netherlands.

Seamer Paul van Meekeren beat the defences of Aiden Markram for one before Van der Merwe's wily left-arm spin tempted Rassie van der Dussen into a rash reverse sweep with the catch taken by Aryan Dutt at backward point.

De Kock, Markram and Van der Dussen had all made centu-

**Last year, the Dutch defeated South Africa in the Twenty20 World Cup, making this their second victory over the Proteas in a year**

ries in South Africa's World Cup record total 428 in the win over Sri Lanka.

Heinrich Klaasen and David Miller steadily rebuilt the innings in a 45-run partnership for the fifth wicket before Logan van Beek broke through.

Klaasen on 28 took on a long-hop and managed only to find Vikramjit Singh at fine leg, leaving South Africa teetering on 89-5.

Marco Jansen (9) saw his stumps scattered by Van Meekeren as South Africa slumped to 109-6 and it was virtually game over when David Miller swung and missed at Van Beek after making 43.

Bas de Leede mopped up Ger-

ald Coetzee and Kagiso Rabada before Keshav Maharaj's late, defiant 40 was ended by Van Beek.

It was the Netherlands' first win at this World Cup after losses to Pakistan and New Zealand.

Earlier, Edwards played a brilliant innings while Van der Merwe shone with a late cameo as the Netherlands made a fighting 245-8.

Edwards's runs came off 69 balls and featured 10 fours and a six.

Van der Merwe, 38, hit a quick-fire 29 off 19 balls with three fours and a six before he was caught behind off Lungi Ngidi.

Together, Edwards and Van der Merwe put on a crucial 64 for the eighth wicket after the Dutch were struggling at 112-6 following a delayed start due to rain.

Rabada claimed his 150th ODI wicket as South Africa's feared pace attack ripped through the Netherlands top order in chilly, damp conditions.

## Manama, Muharraq set for cup showdown

● **Bitter rivals to compete for the Late Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa Cup tomorrow**

● **Traditional opener of new basketball season to take place at Khalifa Sports City Arena with 8pm tip-off**

TDI | Manama

Bitter rivals Manama and Muharraq lock horns tomorrow night in this year's Bahrain Super Cup—the traditional annual opening game of the new national basketball season.

The game is scheduled for an 8pm tip-off and it will be played at Khalifa Sports City Arena in Isa Town.

The two teams will be battling for the right to lift the Late Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa Cup. The game's winners' trophy has been



Muharraq players, from right, Hussain Salman, Bader Abdulla Malabes and Tyler Wilkerson during training this week

named in honour of the former Bahrain Basketball Association president, who made many key contributions to the national game during his tenure.

The one-off contest has been won the last three seasons by

Al Ahli, and this year will have a new team taking the trophy.

Manama were the losing opponents of Ahli in last year's game. They have won the Bahrain Super Cup the most times in its history with four, from

the 2015/2016 to the 2018/2019 seasons.

Meanwhile, both Manama and Muharraq are also set to compete in the FIBA West Asia Super League (FIBA WASL) 2023/2024 season.

The new campaign was originally scheduled to begin on Monday this week, but has been rescheduled to 13 November in view of the current severe security situation in the Middle East, according to the FIBA Regional Office Asia.

Manama are the reigning champions in the WASL. They are in Group B of the tournament's Gulf sub-zone along with Kazma of Kuwait, Shabab Al Ahli of the UAE and Al Shamal from Qatar.

Muharraq, on the other hand, who are making their debut in the tournament, are in Group A alongside Al Ahli Jeddah of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait SC of Kuwait and Al Rayyan of Qatar.

Manama became the first-ever FIBA WASL champions in June after defeating Kuwait 67-59 in the gold medal game of the FIBA WASL Final Eight, held in Dubai.

## Afghanistan 'matchwinner' Gurbaz backed to stun New Zealand at World Cup



Afghanistan's Rahmanullah Gurbaz plays a shot (file photo)

AFP | Chennai

Afghanistan skipper Hashmatullah Shahidi on Tuesday hailed flamboyant shot-maker Rahmanullah Gurbaz as a World Cup "matchwinner" as they plot the downfall of New Zealand.

Afghanistan pulled off one of the greatest shocks in the history of the tournament when they defeated defending champions England by 69 runs in New Delhi on Sunday.

That victory was set up by Gurbaz's 57-ball 80, laced with eight boundaries and four sixes.

Along with fellow opener Ibrahim Zadran (28), Afghanistan enjoyed a first wicket stand of 114.

"Rahmanullah can change the game anytime," said Shahidi.

"You know whenever I am talking to him, I am telling him 'you are a matchwinner'. He has a lot of impact on the games.

"So whenever he does well, automatically, our team will perform well."

On the downside, Rahmanullah, was reprimanded on Tuesday for venting his frustration after being run-out, angrily smashing his bat against

**Rahmanullah can change the game anytime. You know whenever I am talking to him, I am telling him 'you are a matchwinner'. He has a lot of impact on the games. So whenever he does well, automatically, our team will perform well**

HASHMATULLAH SHAHIDI

the boundary rope.

In a statement, the International Cricket Council said Gurbaz had broken the code relating to the "abuse of cricket equipment or clothing, ground equipment or fixtures and fittings during an international match."

Afghanistan had lost both their opening games at the tournament before they stunned England, ending a 14-match World Cup losing streak stretching back to their 2015 debut.

The victory was only their second at a World Cup.

"Definitely it was a big win against the defending champions for us," said Shahidi.

## BIC launches 10% Early Bird discount on F1 tickets

● **Limited-time promotion on tickets to BIC's Main Grandstand and Turn 1 Grandstand for F1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix 2024**

TDI | Manama

Bahrain International Circuit (BIC), "The Home of Motorsport in the Middle East", has launched a limited-time only Early Bird discount on select tickets to the Formula 1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix 2024.

Following the tremendous response of the previous Early Bird offer made avail-



Ferrari's Charles Leclerc in action at BIC during this year's F1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix (File photo)

able throughout the summer months, BIC has lined up a new promotion offering a 10 per cent reduction on ticket prices for the Main Grandstand and Turn 1 Grandstand.

These are two of the best locations at BIC from where to enjoy the most exciting action in next year's F1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix, scheduled to take place 29 February to 2 March in Sakhir. It will be the opening round of the 2024 FIA F1 World Championship, and it will mark BIC's landmark 20th anniversary in the top flight. In addition to this, the grand prix will be held for the first time ever on a Saturday night, making for an all-new spectacle for F1 fans.

The new Early Bird offer is

available for only a limited period, so fans are advised to act quickly and purchase their tickets today. There is also limited availability on these ticket allocations as they have been selling fast for next year's sporting and social extravaganza.

The ticket prices on offer for the F1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix 2024 are amongst the most affordable in the world, offering race-goers the best value for money to be a part of one of the most sought-after events in all of motorsport.

To snap up the F1 tickets at these incredible prices, fans can book now at the circuit's official website, bahraingp.com, or by calling the BIC Hotline on +973-17450000.



# Bahrain claim victory in friendly

Kingdom's senior men's national football team edge past counterparts from the Philippines in tune-up

● **Ebrahim Al Khattal on target for Bahrain in first half for match's lone goal**

● **Bahrainis complete latest gathering under head coach Juan Antonio Pizzi**

TDT | Manama

Bahrain edged past the Philippines 1-0 last night in an international friendly match played at Shaikh Ali bin Mohammed Al Khalifa Stadium at Muharraq Club in Arad.

Ebrahim Al Khattal was on target with the game's lone goal in the first half.

The tune-up was the second of two friendlies played over the past week for the nationals. They had previously defeated Kyrgyzstan 2-0 in an earlier exhibition contest.

The Bahrainis have used the matches as part of their preparations for next month's start to their continental qualification campaign for the FIFA World Cup 2026. They will also be competing in the next edition



Ebrahim Al Khattal, right, is congratulated by teammate Ali Madan after scoring for Bahrain last night

of the AFC Asian Cup in Doha in January of next year.

Bahrain head coach Juan Antonio Pizzi fielded a starting 11 yesterday that featured Ebrahim Luthfallah in goal; Amine Hassan, Waleed Al Hayyam and Abdulla Al Khalasi in defence; Mohammed Abdulwahab, Mohammed Al Hardan, Ali Madan, Mohammed Marhoon, Komail Al Aswad and Al Khattal in midfield; and Abdulla Yusuf as the lone striker.

Al Khattal opened the scoring in the 16th minute with a

header from close range. Marhoon supplied the assist—a cross from the right wing—which Al Khattal met on the edge of the six-yard box to head home. That was enough to put the Bahrainis ahead at the break.

In the second half, Al Khattal almost doubled their advantage with an acrobatic bicycle kick just minutes after the re-start. Substitutes Mahdi Humaidan and Abdulla Al Hashash also had chances, with Humaidan's conversion disallowed for an offside infraction. Al Aswad also had a



**Bahrain's group in the second round of qualifying for the FIFA World Cup 2026 is now complete. Joining the Bahrainis and the UAE are Yemen and Nepal, who both won their match-ups in qualifying's first round. The Yemenis beat Sri Lanka 4-1 while Nepal defeated Laos 2-1, both on aggregate, after their two-leg play-off, which concluded yesterday**

stoppage-time free-kick tipped over the crossbar by Philippine goalkeeper Neil Ethridge.

Last night's friendly marked the conclusion of the national team's latest training gathering under Pizzi. The Argentinian had called up 33 players for the



Bahrain's Abdulla Yusuf battles with the Philippines' Dennis Villanueva to keep possession during their match yesterday

two friendlies.

The other players included Sayed Mohammed Jaafar, Mohammed Adel, Moses Atede, Ahmed Bughammar, Sayed Dhiya Saeed, Hussain Al Ekri, Hazza Ali, Mohammed Abdulqayoom, Jassim Al Shaikh, Ali Hassan Saeed, Abdulaziz Khaled, Saleem Omar, Hamza Al Juban, Mubarak Mohammed, Ahmed Al Sherooqi, Hussain Abdulka-reem, Hamad Al Doseri, Salem Hussain, Ebrahim Al Wali and Jassim Khelaif.

For the upcoming FIFA World

Cup qualifiers, Bahrain will play directly in the second of five qualification rounds. They are in a competitive Group H along with the UAE, Yemen and Nepal.

The nationals kick off their campaign against Yemen on 16 November, and then play the UAE on 21 November. The next match dates will be next year in March and June.

For the AFC Asian Cup, Bahrain are in Group E in the tournament's preliminary round along with South Korea, Malaysia and Jordan.

## Bahrainis begin 2024 Paris Olympics qualification quest

● **Kingdom's senior men's national team to take on Kazakhstan in opening Group B contest at 1pm, Bahrain time**

TDT | Manama

Bahrain take on Kazakhstan today as they begin their Asian Men's Qualification campaign for a place in the men's handball tournament at the Paris Olympic Games 2024.

Eleven nations are in Doha vying for just the one direct spot at next year's Olympiad.

The Bahrainis' opening contest is scheduled for a 1pm start, Bahrain time, and it will be played at Duhail Handball Sports Hall at the Qatari capital.

Bahrain and Kazakhstan are in Group B for the preliminary stage of the qualifiers along with Iran, Kuwait and Japan. Group A features Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, the UAE, India and China.

There are five games in all today. At 11am, South Korea face the UAE; at 3pm, Saudi take on India; at 5pm, Japan play Iran; and at 7pm, Qatar face off with China.

The qualifiers are to be held until 28 October. Following their match today, Bahrain next take on Japan tomorrow, after which there will be a rest day. They return to action only



Bahrain officials present a national team jersey during the pre-qualifiers technical meeting held yesterday

### BAHRAIN SQUAD

Hussain Al Sayyad, Mohammed Abdulhussain, Ali Eid, Mohammed Habib Nasser, Mohammed Habib Ahmed, Ali Mirza, Mohammed Mirza, Ahmed Fadhel, Qassim Qambar, Hassan Madan, Mohammed Hameed Rabia, Hasan Mirza, Mahdi Saad, Hesham Issa, Hassam Al Samaheji, Hassan Shehab, Mujtaba Al Zaimour, Jassim Khamis and Ahmed Redha

on Sunday against Kuwait, and then after another rest day, complete the preliminaries against Iran on 24 October.

At the end of a single round-robin, only the top two teams from the two groups advance to the semi-finals, which are scheduled for 26 October.

The final and game for third place will then be held on the concluding day of action.

The runners-up from the Doha qualifiers will get another chance to book their tickets to Paris but must compete against other top handball nations from around the world in one of the three Olympic qualifying events. These are set to be held in March of next year with 12 national teams in the fray.

National team head coach Aron Kristjansson has a 19-player squad in the qualifiers. Kristjansson guided Bahrain to the Kingdom's first-ever Olympic men's handball participation at the Tokyo Games in 2021, and he is hoping for a repeat success. Tokyo was also the first time in history that Bahrain qualified for any team sport at the Olympics.

## Women's tennis team to face Maldives

● **2023 Billie Jean King Cup Asia/Oceania Zone Group III matches begin today at Bahrain Tennis Federation**

● **Bahrain women's team in Group D of 14-nation competition, along with Maldives, Laos and Macau**

TDT | Manama

Bahrain take on the Maldives today in their opening match-up of the 2023 Billie Jean King Cup Asia/Oceania Zone Group III, being hosted this week by Bahrain Tennis Federation (BTF) at their courts in Isa Town.

The Bahrainis are one of 14 women's national teams competing in the prestigious competition, which is being held in the Kingdom for the second time. Play continues until Saturday.

The draw for the preliminary round was held yesterday and Bahrain and the Maldives are in Group D along with Laos and Macau.

Group A features Iran, Saudi Arabia and Iraq; Group B includes Vietnam, Kyrgyzstan and Bhutan; and Group C is composed of Tajikistan, Brunei, Qatar and Nepal.

Following a single round-robin, the top team from each group will advance to the next stage. There, they will play for two qualifying cards for Group



Vietnam's Ngoc Si Boi during a practice match at the BTF courts in Isa Town

### PARTICIPATING SQUADS

BAHRAIN: Salma Faragallah, Hajar Zaidan, Mariam Ali, Haneen Al Najjar  
BHUTAN: Gawa Seldon, Sonam Chuki Dorji, Tandin Dorji, Tenzin Yangkey  
BRUNEI: Ja Hui Tan, Ming Rui Chong, Adriana Sim  
IRAN: Meshkatolzahra Safi, Yasaman Yazdani, Nili Atfi, Hana Soltani, Kimia Sagheb Tehrani  
IRAQ: Zalal Khalil, Lara Hasan, Noora Adil, Alaa Abdulrazzaq  
KYRGYZSTAN: Vladislava Andreevskaya, Arina Solomatina, Safina Khabibrahmanova  
LAOS: Malaylack Delilah Pathummakuronon, Phonephatthep Philavong, Thirada Phommachack, Phonesamai Champamanivong  
MACAU: Jamie Lau, Si Nong Lu, Weng Si Leong  
MALDIVES: Aaraa Aasaal Azim, Layan Shamin, Nayara Ali, Mishal Mohamed  
NEPAL: Abhilasha Bista, Malika Rana, Sunira Thapa, Rayana Shah  
QATAR: Mubarak Al Naimi, Khadija Gassama, Safiya Al Thani, Shaikha Khalifa, Hind Al Mudahka  
SAUDI ARABIA: Lara Bukary, Daniya Alzuhair, Sarah Alobaidan, Yara Alhaqbani, Naya El Farouki  
TAJIKISTAN: Yosuman Salimova, Amina Khashimova, Malika Rahimova, Fazila Murodova  
VIETNAM: Sophia Tran Huynh, Quynh Diem Phan, Ngoc Si Boi

II in next year's competition, while the remaining sides will compete for their best final classification.

The Billie Jean King Cup is a leading global tournament

between national teams in women's tennis. The competition in the Kingdom is a zonal event, with teams playing for promotion to the higher-tier group.