

# Precious Delos Santos crowned Miss Philippines Bahrain 2023

Ashen Tharaka  
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Ms. Precious Dane Delos Santos was crowned Miss Philippines Bahrain 2023 during a ceremony held on 17 March at Hilton Hotel Bahrain.

Her Excellency Anne Jalando-on Louis, Ambassador-designate of the Philippines to the Kingdom of Bahrain, graced the event with Mr. Ric Advincula, President of the Filipino Club Bahrain, the only Filipino NGO duly registered and recognised by the government of Bahrain through the Ministry of Labour and Social Development and also the organiser of this event.

The event was organised in celebration of the International Women's Month and the 45



Miss Philippines Bahrain 2023, Precious Dane Delos Santos, centre, with, from left, Mr. Ric Advincula, first runner-up Angel Bles Ison, second runner-up Chloe Keith David, and Philippine Ambassador-designate Ann Jalando-on Louis

years of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Philippines and Bahrain.

The venue was packed with all the candidates' supporters.

Miss Philippines Bahrain aims to celebrate the intelligence, grace and competence befitting of a role model of the modern Filipina, as well as empower women to take charge of their success and happiness, and break down personal and social boundaries to achieve their dreams and goals.

This year's contestants have shown this by displaying their courage and dedication to improve themselves and their future.

The event will now be an annual gathering for the Filipino community in Bahrain, according to organisers.

## Microsoft unveils AI for office use



Sajin Henry  
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Microsoft previewed a new integration of artificial intelligence (AI) "copilot" for Microsoft 365, its product suite that includes Word documents, Excel spreadsheets, PowerPoint presentations and Outlook email.

Moreover, AI can offer a draft in Microsoft's applications, speeding up content creation and freeing up workers' time, the company said in a statement.

Microsoft acknowledges in its Copilot demo that its AI may occasionally get it wrong or miss important details, emphasising that workers can choose to review, edit, or even discard results produced by the tool.

Microsoft notified that Copilot follows the customer's security, compliance and privacy policies for Microsoft 365, and that it does not use company data to train its system.

According to Sajin Henry, Managing Director of Syskode Technologies and a tech expert, technologies are reaching new heights, and Microsoft and Google are competing with one another. These tools are being used all over the world.

"This, I believe, could be a significant asset for Bahraini businesses, as it could be used to analyse customer data and develop better strategies for their products and services," he said.

## Rising temperatures pose serious threats to Bahrain

Julia Cassano  
TDT | Manama

As temperatures are gradually increasing in Bahrain, serious effects due to warming temperatures, such as sea level rise pose massive threats to the country, which could result in irreversible damage.

Rising sea levels in the Kingdom could submerge between 27 to 56 per cent of Bahrain, which is already the

smallest country in the Middle East by 2100, according to sources.

The Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications' Meteorological Directorate reported in their monthly weather summary that the month of February 2023, went on record for being "warmer than normal in temperatures."

The report stated that the mean temperature of the month was 19.7C, which is 1.3C above

the long-term normal for February. February 2023 goes on record as the fourth highest mean temperature for February since 1902.

The mean maximum temperature of the month was 23.2C, which is also 1.2C above the long-term normal, and the report states that this temperature for February 2023 goes on record as the seventh highest mean maximum temperature since February 1946.

## Bahrain Pharma manufactures first pharmaceutical products

- Producing omega-3 soft gel capsules and Ivynise syrup

- Products available in Arab countries

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The Bahrain International Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Company Limited (Bahrain Pharma), the first pharmaceutical factory in the Kingdom of Bahrain, has start-

ed producing the first batch of pharmaceutical products which are omega-3 soft gel capsules and Ivynise syrup (cough syrup).

The National Health Regulatory Authority (NHRA) granted Bahrain Pharma a manufacturing license in 2020 and was certified to Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) in 2022, allowing the company to manufacture and market their products.

The pharmaceutical product will be available in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, Iraq and Yemen.

## ILA inaugurates new 2023 Executive Committee

Julia Cassano  
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The Indian Ladies Association (ILA) celebrated the trials, tribulations, and success of the year 2022 with cultural performances, and inaugurated the 2023 Executive Committee to take on the challenging yet rewarding roles of the association.

"It is enlightening to see how over the years, ILA has expanded to touch the communities in various ways and share the Indian culture amongst the country," the outgoing President of ILA, Shipra Dhir Passi, said.

Highlighted during the speech was Sneha, a flagship and dream project, which aims to provide a



Outgoing and new ILA members

haven for children with special needs, as well as acquire functional literacy and apply daily living skills.

"Our main vision in 2022 was to get Sneha back on track, and with the selfless work of the Sneha volunteers, parents, teachers, and others, we did just that, as

we welcomed back all of the children in September 2022."

A key goal for ILA is to relocate to a new and better premise to offer the Sneha children a location that provides indoor and outdoor space, as Sneha's current premise does not provide the efficient space for the children's full ex-

posure to development.

Recently, ILA brought additional focus on educating and empowering the parents of Sneha with children with special needs providing workshops on human behavior, and how to maximise the potential of the children, as well as discuss-

ing the recent medical developments that can improve the children's conditions.

The event concluded with welcoming the new executive committee for the next term and honouring the outgoing committee, highlighting their dedication and selfless service to the ILA.

## First Bahraini cruise Banoosh

Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority (BTEA) CEO Dr Nasser Qaedi attended the inauguration ceremony of the Southern Tourism Company first tourist Banoosh cruise in Bahrain. The company, one of the companies of Bahrain Mumtalakat Holding Company (Mumtalakat), held the ceremony at the port of Manama, adjacent to Al Fateh Corniche on the eastern coast. The 12-passenger Banoosh offers scheduled 30-minute cruises from the port of Manama. The CEO praised the initiatives undertaken by the Southern Tourism Company in support of the marine tourism sector and expressed the support of BTEA for various private tourism bodies participating in the progress of the tourism sector.

