

Afghanistan send Pakistan crashing to shock World Cup defeat, win by eight wickets | P12

## No casualties as US forces are targeted in Syria

AFP | Washington

American and allied forces in Syria were targeted yesterday in an attack that did not cause casualties, a US official said, after a militant group claimed to have launched drones at Washington's troops.

Armed factions close to Iran have threatened to attack US interests over Washington's support for Israel since Hamas killed more than 1,400 people in a shock cross-border attack from Gaza on October 7.

"An attack against US and coalition forces occurred early this morning in Syria. There were no injuries or damage," a US defense official said, referring to the international coalition against the Islamic State (IS) group.

## Fifth death in UK after Storm Babet

AFP | London

A fifth death was confirmed in the United Kingdom yesterday following the torrential rains and high winds brought by Storm Babet, which caused extensive flooding across the country.

The body of a man was found after he went missing in a vehicle in flood waters in Aberdeenshire in north-east Scotland, police confirmed.

He is the third person killed in Scotland during the storm, after a 56-year-old man died when a falling tree hit his van and a 57-year-old woman was swept away by a river.

## France to sell arms to Armenia

AFP | Paris

France announced yesterday the sale of defensive equipment to Armenia as Azerbaijan launched military drills with its ally Turkey.

The deal was announced weeks after Baku seized Nagorno-Karabakh from Armenian separatists and amid fears in Yerevan that Azerbaijan might now seek to target southern Armenia.

220 fils (includes VAT)



# Bahrain and UAE vow to strengthen solid ties

Abu Dhabi

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the UAE President, His Highness Shaikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, reviewed the deep-rooted solid Bahraini-Emirati relations, stressing their shared keenness to further strengthen them in a way that serves their common interests.

This came as HM the King and HH Shaikh Mohammed bin Zayed met at his residence in



HM the King meets with HH Shaikh Mohammed bin Zayed

Bahrain and the UAE have enjoyed excellent bilateral relations, marked by cordial political, economic, cultural, and people-to-people contacts.

Abu Dhabi.

The two leaders expressed their pride in the robust bilateral relations, which are growing steadily thanks to their high-level joint fruitful cooperation and coordination at all levels.

They wished the two countries and their peoples further progress and prosperity. HM the King and UAE President also discussed the latest regional and global developments, and exchanged points of view on them.

# We support peace

Bahrain promotes diplomatic resolutions for regional conflict, coexistence and prosperity

## Memorandum to support Bahrain in creating smart cities approved

TDT | Manama

The Cabinet affirmed the Kingdom of Bahrain's stance, led by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, on supporting diplomatic and peaceful resolutions of conflicts to promote coexistence, security, development, and prosperity for all people of the region.

This came as the Deputy King, His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, yesterday chaired the weekly Cabinet meeting at Gudaibiya Palace.

The Cabinet also affirmed the Kingdom's commitment to supporting alliances that enhance stability and serve development



HRH the Deputy King chairs the weekly Cabinet meeting

goals.

This was reiterated by HM the King during his address at the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Sum-

mit held by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Cairo Peace Summit held by the Arab Republic of Egypt, and during HM the King's meetings with His Majesty King Charles III of the

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Head of the Commonwealth, senior members of the UK government, His Holiness Pope Francis, Pope of the Catholic Church, the President of Italian Republic, HE Sergio Mattarella, and the Prime Minister of Italy, HE Giorgia Meloni.

Likewise, the Cabinet reiterated its stance in supporting Palestinians' right to an independent state with East Jerusalem as its capital.

It commended HM the King's directives to provide urgent humanitarian relief to the Palestinian people.

The Cabinet further expressed their gratitude to HM the King's Representative for Humanitarian Work and Youth Affairs, His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, for sponsoring the national campaign "Day of Solidarity with Our People in Gaza... We Are

with You", and to the Royal Humanitarian Foundation for organising this campaign.

## Swift response

The Cabinet also commended the efforts of Bahraini citizens for their swift response to the campaign.

To mark the United Nations Day, the Cabinet highlighted the importance of the UN's principles and values.

The Cabinet discussed and approved several memorandums during the meeting, one of which was a memorandum submitted by the Government Executive Committee on the Sixth National Telecommunications Plan, which aims to support Bahrain in creating smart cities, developing the economy, promoting innovation, and maintaining competitiveness through 30 initiatives implemented across six main axes.



# Over 5,000 deaths, majority civilians, and 40% children

TDT | Manama

Deaths in Gaza topped 5,000 yesterday, a majority of them civilians and over 40 per cent children, since Israel began relentlessly pounding the Palestinian enclave after a Hamas attack on October 7th killed around 1,400 Israelis.

Over one million of the 2.3 million people in Gaza have been displaced and thousands of buildings, including homes,

mosques, hospitals and schools, have been destroyed in the repeated air strikes by Israel.

Having caused a death toll that is over three times that of Hamas, Israel has ramped up its attack on the Gazans, who are facing an acute shortage of food, water, and fuel following the two-week siege by Israel, forcing the UN to warn that international aid is only a trickle of what is needed.

An AFP report of yesterday



Injured Palestinians are transported into al-Shifa hospital in Gaza City following Israeli strikes yesterday. (AFP)

evening quoted the Gaza government as saying that Israeli strikes overnight killed over 60 people, including 17 in a single strike on a house in Jabaliya in northern Gaza. Yesterday morning, at least 10 more were killed, the report said.

Palestinian Prime Minister Mohammed Shtayyeh yesterday accused Western nations of giving Israel a "licence to kill", in an apparent reference to recent statements made by Western

leaders supporting Israeli actions.

China's Middle East envoy will arrive in the UAE late evening on Monday to continue a visit to the region with the aim of cooling down the conflict.

Around a dozen aid trucks, which is the third convoy within three days, arrived in Gaza yesterday through the Rafah border crossing point with Egypt. About 100 trucks of aid are needed per day in Gaza, according to the UN.