

Red storm rising

Bahrain U17 handball team thrashes Bulgaria 31-15 in ISF World Championship opener | P12

WORLD **6** Israeli forces storm Gaza hospital

THE DAILY tribune



Titanic reduced my son to tears, says Kate Winslet

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Finance minister reaffirms Bahrain's push for economic diversification

Israel committing "atrocities crimes" in Gaza

● Turk, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, warned that Israel's policies in northern Gaza "risk emptying the area of all Palestinians".

AFP | Geneva, Switzerland

The UN rights chief said the "darkest moment" of the conflict in Gaza was unfolding in the north of the territory, warning yesterday that Israel's actions could amount to "atrocities crimes".

Volker Turk pointed out that already "more than 150,000 people are reportedly dead, wounded or missing in Gaza" since the war there erupted just over a year ago.

"Unimaginably, the situation is getting worse by the day," he said. "My gravest fear is, given



A car marked "Press" at the site of an Israeli airstrike that targeted an area where a number of journalists were located in the southern Lebanese village of Hasbaya

Conventions to ensure respect for international humanitarian law. His statement stressed the urgency of the situation, warning that "today the darkest moment of the Gaza conflict is unfolding in the north of the Strip, where the Israeli military is effectively subjecting an entire population to bombing, siege and risk of starvation".

"The bombing in North Gaza is non-stop," he said.

At the same time, "the Israeli military has ordered hundreds of thousands to move, with no guarantees of return. But there is no safe way to leave," he warned.

The UN rights chief cautioned that there was "extremely limited access to this part of Gaza, (and) next to no aid has reached the area in weeks, with unlawful restrictions remaining".

"Many are now facing starvation."

At the same time, he said, "the Israeli military is striking hospitals, and staff and patients have been killed and injured or forced to evacuate simultaneously".



Israel's retaliatory campaign in Gaza has killed 42,847 people, the majority civilians, according to figures from the Hamas-run territory's health ministry which the United Nations considers reliable.

the intensity, breadth, scale and blatant nature of the Israeli operation currently underway in North Gaza, that number will rise dramatically."

Turk, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, warned that Israel's policies in northern Gaza "risk

emptying the area of all Palestinians".

"We are facing what could amount to atrocities crimes, including potentially extending to crimes against humanity."

He called on the world's leaders to act, stressing that all states are obligated under the Geneva

Gaza ministry says Israel forces detaining hundreds at hospital
Palestinian Territories

The health ministry in Hamas-run Gaza said Friday that Israeli forces had detained hundreds of staff, patients and displaced people during a raid on the last functioning hospital in the north of the territory.

The Israeli military said its forces were operating around Kamal Adwan Hospital in the Jabalia refugee camp in north Gaza, where it launched a major operation earlier this month.

The operation has sparked fresh concerns about the war's civilian toll, with UN rights chief Volker Turk saying the conflict's "darkest moment" was currently unfolding in northern Gaza.

The World Health Organization said it had lost contact with staff at the hospital since Friday morning.

"This development is deeply disturbing given the number of patients being served and people sheltering there," WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said. Gaza's health ministry said Israel's forces "stormed" the hospital, "detaining hundreds of patients, medical staff and some displaced individuals."

Train and go

MPs push for tougher expat hiring rules amid government pushback

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Employers should not award more than a two-year contract to expatriate employees, who should also train their replacements before leaving.

This may soon become mandatory if a proposal currently tabled before parliament receives approval from MPs.

However, the chances of approval appear slim, as the government has already expressed strong opposition, arguing that such a move would leave positions vacant with no suitable candidates.

Despite this, MPs maintain that the proposal would help tackle unemployment among locals and give Bahrainis a competitive advantage in the job market.

The proposal, which is set to be debated soon, also suggests other measures to make hiring non-Bahrainis more difficult.

Qualification and Experience

MPs argue that employers should hire only expatriates who hold a master's degree and have at least 10 years of experience.

The government has voiced objections, expressing concerns that these measures would limit



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The proposal would help tackle unemployment among locals and give Bahrainis a competitive advantage in the job market

MPs

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Such strict rules could make hiring too rigid, leaving departments unable to meet specific job needs.

GOVERNMENT MEMO



Mohsen Al Asbool, Former Chairman of the Legislative and Legal Affairs

hiring flexibility and leave key roles unfilled.

Committee Remains Optimistic

In a statement, the Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee expressed optimism, saying, "This is about putting Bahrainis at the heart of public work

and building up local expertise."

However, an official government statement warned, "Such strict rules could make hiring too rigid, leaving departments unable to meet specific job needs."

Government Memo Voices Opposition

A memo issued by the government regarding the proposal suggested an alternative approach, calling for skill and contract standards to be prioritized in hiring decisions.

"Job requirements and terms should align with real needs and allow some flexibility," the memo read. "These would be the administrative guidelines, given the need for adaptability in a fast-changing job market."

How to Balance Hiring and Quality?

Referred to the Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee by Speaker Ahmed Al Musallam, the draft also raises the question of how to balance the drive to boost local hiring while ensuring the right skills for essential roles.

The committee has recommended moving forward with minor wording adjustments, although the government remains cautious, viewing the proposal as potentially too restrictive.

Russian Parliament ratifies defense treaty with North Korea



TDT | agencies

Russian lawmakers voted unanimously on Thursday to ratify a strategic partnership agreement between Russia and North Korea that, among other things, provides for "mutual assistance" if either country comes under attack.

Russian President Vladimir Putin signed the agreement with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un during a visit to the isolated East Asian country in June, but many details remain unclear, including whether Pyongyang would be covered by Moscow's nuclear umbrella.

The treaty allegedly includes a "secret clause" allowing North Korea to send soldiers to the battlefields of Ukraine, the Wall Street Journal reported this week, citing an anonymous ex-Russian intelligence officer. That report came as Western officials said Pyongyang had sent around 3,000 troops for military training in Siberia.



Is it worth the risk?

BD 6,000 fine, six months in jail await reckless drivers

H Naser
TDT | Manama

Reckless driving may soon come with severe consequences, including up to six months in jail and fines ranging from BD 2,000 to BD 6,000—or both.

This dramatic measure is part of a proposal set for discussion in the upcoming session of the House of Representatives.

The Foreign Affairs, Defence, and National Security Committee has thoroughly reviewed the proposal and recommended its approval. Introduced by MPs Abdullah Al Rumaihi, Abdulha-keem Al Shanu, Ali Al Doseri, Najeeb Al Kawari, and Waleed Al Doseri, the bill aims to crack



According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), reckless driving is a leading cause of traffic fatalities in the United States, accounting for nearly 30% of all fatal crashes. This includes behaviors such as excessive speeding, aggressive lane changes, and driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

down on dangerous driving behaviours that endanger lives on the road.

The proposed punishments target drivers engaging in hazardous overtaking manoeuvres or recklessly using emergency lanes. The bill equates these actions with running red lights that result in fatalities, arguing that the severity of the offense warrants equally harsh penalties.

If the law passes, it will represent a significant escalation in penalties for such traffic violations, sending a strong message about the dangers of reckless driving and the commitment to enhancing road safety.



Sleepless in Wadi Al Buhair

Wadi Al Buhair residents lose sleep over mosquito stings, water logging

● Proposal to turn the area into a nature reserve gains attention

H Naser
TDT | Manama

Sleepless nights. People in the Wadi Al Buhair are enduring this torture, thanks to a mosquito infestation in the area.

According to MPs Khalid Buanq, Zainab Abdulameer, Mohammed Al Rifai, Mohammed Al Ma'arifi, and Waleed Jaber Al Dosari, the root cause is the long-standing issue of waterlogging in Wadi Al Buhair.

This comes as their proposal to turn the area into a nature reserve gains attention and is set for a vote in the Parliament's Tuesday session.

The MPs are advocating for the government to take action by either filling in the area or converting it into a nature reserve. This transformation would help ensure continuous water flow, effectively preventing stagnation that breeds insects.



Green Light Given

The Public Utilities and

Environment Committee has recommended approval after consulting with the Ministry of

Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture, as well as the Southern Municipal Council.

The Ministry has expressed its support for the proposal, highlighting its ongoing efforts to remove household waste and implement necessary measures to foster a healthier environment for local residents. The Municipal Council's assessment points to stagnant water as the primary cause of the infestation, creating conditions for weed growth and breeding grounds for disease-carrying mosquitoes.

Additionally, the council has reiterated a previous recommendation made during the first session of the fifth legislative term to establish a nature reserve in Wadi Al Buhair.

Their support for the current proposal stems from this earlier suggestion and the ongoing health concerns facing the community.

As the House of Representatives prepares to consider the proposal, the potential designation of the area as a nature reserve could be a significant step toward resolving these ongoing challenges.

Wife must return home as appeal for divorce is denied

H Naser
TDT | Manama

In a significant ruling, the High Appeals Court has rejected a Bahraini woman's appeal for divorce on the grounds of harm, reaffirming a lower court's decision in favour of her husband.

The case revolved around the wife's accusations against her husband, alleging threats, defamation, and her forced eviction from their marital home. She further claimed that he had accused her of infidelity with a colleague at work. However, testimony provided during the proceedings painted a different narrative.

According to lawyer Abdulatheem Hubail, the lower court had previously mandated the wife to return to her husband, highlighting the importance of marital obedience and prohibiting her from leaving the home without his consent.

Dissatisfied with the ruling, the wife filed an appeal, reiterating her claims of mistreatment, including physical and verbal abuse, allegations of infidelity, and eviction.

In response, the husband's legal representative argued that the underlying conflict primarily involved the husband's mother and not the couple themselves. He contended that his client had merely informed the wife's

father about her verbal abuse towards his mother and denied ever accusing her of infidelity or wrongdoing.

The appeals court ordered an investigation into the matter. During the proceedings, witnesses for the wife testified about her eviction and acknowledged that her husband provided her with monthly financial support. However, they denied having witnessed any verbal abuse or threats from him, mentioning that he had attempted reconciliation, albeit unsuccessfully.

Conversely, witnesses for the husband described him as loving and respectful, citing specific instances of financial support, including a loan of 6,000 Bahraini dinars for the wife's university studies and coverage for several medical procedures. They also stated that the husband had never accused her of infidelity or theft; rather, she had left the marital home voluntarily, prompting him to seek her return. Some witnesses noted that she had blocked his contact information.

After carefully reviewing all evidence, the High Appeals Court ultimately dismissed the wife's appeal, upholding the lower court's ruling. Consequently, the wife is now legally obligated to return to the marital home and comply with her husband's wishes.

Woman deported after embezzling rent from four apartments

H Nasser
TDT | Manama

The Cassation Court has confirmed the conviction and deportation of a woman in her sixties for embezzling rent payments from four apartments she managed. The woman, who held power of attorney for the properties, was found guilty of misappropriating funds that had been entrusted to her.

The case emerged in 2023, revealing that the woman had

been responsible for collecting rent for four apartments owned by a Bahraini citizen. She had been granted power of attorney in 2018 to oversee rent collection. However, investigations uncovered that she had diverted the rent money for her personal use from 2018 to 2023, failing to remit any payments to the owner. Additionally, she neglected to pay service charges, including electricity and water, for three of the apartments and illegally occupied the fourth unit with-

out paying rent or obtaining permission.

In her defence, the woman claimed she had managed the properties responsibly and had remitted rent from three of the apartments. She asserted that she lived in the fourth with the owner's consent. Her defence team also attributed any financial discrepancies to the economic downturn resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, which they argued had significantly affected the rental market, par-

ticularly in high-cost areas.

The defence further questioned the plausibility of the alleged embezzled amount of 23,000 Bahraini dinars, suggesting that the owner had been aware of the situation and failed to take action over the five-year period. They also emphasized the woman's advanced age and clean criminal record as mitigating factors.

Despite these arguments, the court upheld the embezzlement conviction.

Sixth Edition of "CONNECTING PEOPLE"

TDT | Manama

The Pravasi Legal Cell Bahrain Chapter has announced the sixth edition of its engaging event, "CONNECTING PEOPLE," set to take place on November 2nd from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM at the Kims Health Hospital Auditorium in Umm Al Hassam.

This year's event is themed "Working Together" and will feature guest speakers from the Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) and the

International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Attendees can look forward to informative sessions covering crucial topics such as Trafficking in Persons Awareness, Rights & Responsibilities of Workers, and a Health Talk.

The Pravasi Legal Cell Bahrain Chapter invites the public to participate in this significant event aimed at raising awareness and encouraging community engagement.

It's time for AI diplomacy

MPs call for creating a Digital Guardian

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Artificial Intelligence became the common man's invisible assistant some time ago. So, why not apply it to diplomacy?

MPs Khalid Buanaq and Ahmed Al Salloom are asking this question. They argue that it's high time for Bahrain to create a digital guardian capable of catching crises before they escalate into full-blown threats.

According to the MPs, Artificial Intelligence has become diplomacy's next essential ally. Buanaq and Salloom emphasize the immense benefits of integrating AI-driven tools into dip-



Khalid Buanaq



Ahmed Al Salloom



to keep pace, providing timely insights without being hindered by delays.

The MPs envision AI as a backbone for early warnings and a bridge between diplomatic missions and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. By gathering data and analyzing possible outcomes, diplomats could be better equipped to navigate unexpected developments, making in-

formed decisions without being caught off guard.

The proposal frames this shift toward technology as a necessary evolution in diplomatic work. Lawmakers believe that adopting AI will not only accelerate processes but also give diplomats a clearer perspective to manage the ebb and flow of international relations.

lomatic work.

The proposal suggests that these systems could enhance responses through quicker crisis tracking and analysis. "This would give our diplomats an edge in a world that changes in

the blink of an eye," they said.

A memorandum attached to the proposal highlights that traditional methods can slow down decision-making, leaving diplomats unable to react promptly. In contrast, AI offers the ability



AI can now create art that sells for millions? In 2018, an AI-generated painting titled "Portrait of Edmond de Belamy" sold for a whopping \$432,500 at a Christie's auction, sparking debates about the role of AI in the creative world. The artwork was created using a machine learning algorithm called GAN (Generative Adversarial Network), which was trained on a dataset of historical paintings.



A new era for Manama Souq

MPs aim to breathe life into historic market

H Naser
TDT | Manama

Manama Souq, a historic marketplace in Bahrain, is in dire need of attention, according to MPs who have raised concerns about its deteriorating condition. They report issues such as pest infestations, poor planning, and structural deficiencies that threaten the souq's heritage.

The initiative, championed by MPs Ahmed Qarata, Mohsen Al Asboul, Mahmoud Mirza, Hassan Bukhmas, and Mamdouh Al Saleh, seeks to redevelop Manama Souq into a vibrant hub for wholesalers and retailers across the country.

The House of Representatives will vote on the proposal this Tuesday aimed at revitalizing the historic marketplace.

The current state of the souq includes inadequate parking, lack of essential public facilities such as restrooms and shaded areas, and various infrastructural problems. MPs emphasize that a heritage-style redevelopment is crucial to preserve the souq's significance and improve the shopping experience.

Ministry of Tourism's Response

In response to the proposal, the Ministry of Tourism revealed that a tender has already



Ahmed Abdulwahed Qarata



Mohsen Ali Al Asboul



Mahmoud Merza Fardan



Hassan Eid Bukhmmas



Mamdouh Abbas Al Saleh



been issued through the Tender Board to appoint a consulting engineering firm for the development of key areas within Manama Souq. The evaluation of bids and the awarding of the contract were completed in the first quarter of this year.

Upcoming Projects and Plans

The selected firm will oversee several important projects, including the renovation of the Bab Al Bahrain complex, redesigning the roof of the adjacent market area known as "Al Musaqaq," and upgrading Al Tawawesh Square and Wednesday Market Square. Plans also include enhancing traditional cafes and transforming key locations into museums that showcase the rich history of Manama Souq.

Experience the best of Bahrain: six must-see events coming this November

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

The Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority has announced six key events for November, with three in sports.

The Jewellery Arabia 2024 show is a major attraction, bringing together over 650 brands from Bahrain and beyond. The exhibition is set for 26 to 30 November at the Bahrain International Exhibition Centre.

Running at the same time



and place, 'Scent Arabia' will fill the halls with rich fragrances from the Gulf region and further afield.

On 1 and 2 November, the 'Bapco Energies' event brings

family entertainment to the Bahrain International Circuit. The line-up includes acrobatic basketball, live DJs, and a variety of activities for children. Tickets are priced at 5.5 dinars



for adults and 2.750 dinars for children.

Three sports events will also take place, with the Bahrain 8-Hour Endurance Race being one of the highlights on

1 and 2 November. The Bahrain International Circuit, known as the 'Home of Motorsport in the Middle East', will host the race, sponsored by 'Bapco Energies'. Families

can enjoy activities throughout both days in the entertainment area.

Following this, from 6 to 9 November, the circuit will host the Nasser bin Hamad Cycling Tour, with its fourth edition expected to draw around 500 cyclists from Bahrain and the wider Gulf.

To round off the sports line-up, Bahrain will host the 3x3 Basketball World Tour on 1 and 2 November, featuring top teams from across the globe.

Swipe a phone, rot in jail

● **Expanded Definitions:** The new amendment broadens the definition of theft to include electronic devices and cybercrime, specifically targeting smartphones and laptops.

● **Government Support:** With the government's backing, the proposed changes aim to enhance digital security and protect citizens' sensitive information in a rapidly evolving tech landscape.

H Naser
TDT | Manama

Stealing mobile phones and personal data is about to carry a much heavier price, as MPs push for stricter penalties, including jail terms and hefty fines. The proposed changes come in response to the growing threat of cybercrime and the



Representative picture

misuse of sensitive information. Currently, the Penal Code mandates a minimum three-month prison sentence for theft under specific circumstances (Article 380). The new proposal seeks to replace this with a minimum one-year jail term, particularly when the theft involves

misappropriating personal data stored on electronic devices.

The government has already signalled its support for the tougher stance, calling it essential to protect modern communication devices and the sensitive personal and financial information they hold. With government

backing, the proposal is likely to pass, coming into effect by amending the Penal Code (Decree-Law No. 15 of 1976) in its next session, alongside Decree No. 7 of 2024.

Broadening the Definition of Theft

The amendment will expand the definition of theft to include not just physical items, but also modern electronic devices and cybercrime. MPs highlight that the existing Penal Code does not explicitly address the theft of electronic gadgets, focusing instead on thefts from residences, places of worship, vehicles, or during night-time.

The proposed change adds a new clause (Clause 12) to Article 380, explicitly criminalizing the theft of mobile phones, laptops, tablets, and other electronic or digital devices, including any technology capable of rapidly transmitting, processing, storing, and retrieving data.

Lawmakers say this update will help combat the rising incidence of theft targeting smartphones, computers, and other devices loaded with sensitive information, valuable data, and personal assets.

Tougher Penalties on Misappropriation

The proposal goes beyond just amending Article 380. It also introduces two new clauses to Article 396, which currently addresses the misappropriation of lost or mistakenly acquired property, carrying a maximum penalty of two years imprisonment or a 200-dinar fine. The amendments specify:

- A penalty of up to two years in jail or a 500-dinar fine for misappropriating electronic devices.

- A penalty of up to two years in jail and/or a 500-dinar fine for misappropriating these devices with the intent to access the information, data, or images stored on them.

The government has justified the proposed changes, citing the need for stricter penalties due to the potential for data misuse.

Lawmakers Urge Swift Action

The Foreign Affairs, Defence, and National Security Committee of the House of Representatives has reviewed the amendments and recommended their approval. The proposed update to the nation's Penal Code now



Globally, smartphone theft is a major issue, with an estimated 400 million smartphones stolen each year, according to a report from the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). This staggering figure illustrates the widespread nature of the problem across various countries

awaits a final decision by the House of Representatives, where its fate will be determined.

If passed, the new law will mark a significant step forward in combating cybercrime and protecting citizens' digital privacy in an increasingly interconnected world.

Breathing Room for Borrowers

MPs propose extended repayment time for personal loans

H Naser
TDT | Manama

If all goes according to plan, individuals with personal loans may soon find themselves with more time to repay their debts. The Financial and Economic Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives has recommended approving a proposal to extend the maximum repayment period for personal loans from seven to ten years.



MP Bader Al Tamimi, who introduced the proposal, emphasized its necessity in helping citizens navigate the financial

challenges stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic. He noted that this extension would not only boost consumer purchasing power but also assist those struggling to meet their loan obligations.

"This move aims to enhance social stability by facilitating loan rescheduling, which would lead to more manageable monthly payments," Al Tamimi stated. "It will also alleviate the burden of rising living costs and

contribute to national economic recovery."

If the proposal receives approval, the government will direct the Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB) to implement the ten-year repayment term for personal loans provided by banks and financial institutions, all while ensuring the rights of these institutions are protected.

The committee's report highlighted that they sought the

CBB's input on April 3, 2023, but had not received a response by the time the report was submitted. Despite this lack of feedback, the committee recommended moving forward with the proposal, citing compelling public interest considerations.

The proposal is set to advance to the full House of Representatives for debate and a vote in its upcoming session, marking a significant step toward easing financial pressures on citizens.

New Millennium School students experience life at sea aboard INS TIR



TDT | Manama

A group of 25 students from New Millennium School visited the INS TIR, the oldest ship in the Indian Navy, docked at Bahrain Port.

The trip was organized by

the First Training Squadron of the Indian Navy as part of an initiative to provide students with firsthand insight into the diverse roles and responsibilities of naval service on October 13, 2024.

During the visit, students re-



ceived an in-depth briefing on the history and significance of INS TIR, which plays a crucial role in training future naval cadets.

Ship explored

They explored various areas

of the ship, including the bridge, engine rooms, and living quarters, gaining a comprehensive understanding of life at sea. Officers led interactive sessions to explain the vessel's operational capabilities and the rigorous training processes that naval ca-



dets experience aboard the ship.

Reflecting on the experience, the students shared, "It gave us a unique perspective on how the Indian Navy functions and the dedication required to serve the nation at sea. It was truly inspiring."

School Chairman Dr. Ravi Pillai, Managing Director Mrs. Geetha Pillai, and Principal Dr. Arun Kumar Sharma expressed their gratitude to the Indian Navy for facilitating such a unique and enlightening experience for the students.

Finance minister reaffirms Bahrain's push for economic diversification



TDT | Washington

Bahrain is firmly committed to driving economic diversification through targeted policies and initiatives aimed at fostering growth in key sectors, affirmed Minister of Finance and National Economy, Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa. He made these remarks at the Standard Chartered Investor Forum, held during the World Bank and IMF annual meetings in Washington, USA, where Sustainable Development Minister Noor bint Ali Alkhulaif and Central Bank Governor Khalid Humaidan were also in attendance.

Shaikh Salman emphasized that Bahrain's efforts align with the comprehensive development strategy led by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and actively supported by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

The minister highlighted the nation's positive economic indicators and projected continued growth into the next year. He underscored the critical role of non-oil sectors in driving economic development and contrib-



Noor bint Ali Alkhulaif, Minister of Sustainable Development and Chief Executive of the Bahrain Economic Development Board, participated in a panel discussion titled "Human Capital: The Cornerstone of Economic Growth" as part of a side event organized by the Secretariat General of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and the World Bank, on the sidelines of the 2024 Annual Meetings of the World Bank Group (WBG) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Washington D.C. The panel also featured His Excellency Faisal F. Alibrahim, Minister of Economy and Planning of Saudi Arabia; Her Excellency Deemah AlYahya, Secretary General of the Digital Cooperation Organization; and Mr. Ousmane Diagana, Vice President of the World Bank for the Middle East and North Africa. The GCC side event showcased the significant role the GCC economies play in the global economy and focused on their economic, investment, and trade positions, as well as their efforts to achieve economic integration and boost their competitiveness both regionally and internationally.

uting to GDP growth, reaffirming Bahrain's commitment to implementing the Economic Recovery Plan, which prioritizes digital transformation to enhance efficiency and competitiveness.

GCC on path to sustainable growth



TDT | Washington

The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries are on the right track to achieving sustainable economic growth across all levels, noted Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Minister of Finance and National Economy.

The minister said this while speaking in a panel titled "Gulf Economic Integration: Achievements and Aspirations," organized by the GCC General Secretariat in cooperation with the World Bank.

The session, held as part of the annual meetings of the World Bank and IMF in Washington, showcased GCC achievements in addressing global and regional challenges, strengthening competitiveness, and promoting economic integration.

Also participating were Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Jadaan, Saudi Finance Minister, Noora bint Sulaiman Al Fassam, Kuwaiti Minister of Finance and Acting Minister of

Oil, and Ali bin Ahmed Al Kuwari, Qatari Finance Minister.

The minister underscored the importance of joint economic cooperation and integration to strengthen resilience against economic challenges faced by the region, enhancing competitiveness and driving inclusive, sustainable growth.

Shaikh Salman also emphasized the importance of investing in young national talent, creating an environment that nurtures their skills, particularly in the technology sector. He noted that Bahrain has dedicated efforts to building and aligning its tech infrastructure with modern, innovation-driven practices. The minister said that Gulf Cooperation Council nations are committed to enhancing global competitiveness and diversifying their economic base, which attracts promising investment opportunities and drives sustainable economic growth through stronger partnerships with the private sector, benefiting the nations and their people.

Plan to expand housing in Southern Governorate gains committee's nod

H Naser
TDT | Manama

A proposal to boost housing availability in Constituency 7 of the Southern Governorate has gained the backing of the Public Utilities and Environment Committee in the House of Representatives.

The initiative, put forward by MP Ali Al Nuaimi, seeks to tackle the pressing housing demand in the region, especially for residents with long-standing applications. It calls for identifying and setting aside land for new housing projects to accommodate those on the waiting list.

The explanatory memorandum accompanying the proposal highlights the area's rapid population growth, the scarcity of current housing projects,



and the urgent need for more units.

During discussions, the Ministry of Housing confirmed that 372 new housing units are already under construction in Khalifa City, with additional land development projects underway as part of the Land Development Rights programme to offer affordable housing. The ministry also noted new flexible financing programmes designed to support citizens in achieving homeownership.

Despite the ministry's current efforts, the committee endorsed the proposal, emphasizing the ongoing need to expand housing options in Constituency 7.

The proposal will be up for a parliamentary vote next Tuesday, where approval is anticipated.

QUOTE OF THE DAY
THE LESS WE DESERVE GOOD FORTUNE, THE MORE WE HOPE FOR IT
 LUCIUS ANNAEUS SENECA

TODAY IN HISTORY

1850
 Robert McClure sights the fabled Northwest Passage for the first time (from Banks Island towards Melville Island)



1861
 Pony Express (Missouri to California) ends after 19 months

1863
 International conference begins in Geneva aimed at improving medical conditions on battlefields - beginning of the Red Cross

1977
 Last natural case of smallpox discovered in Merca district, Somalia. Considered the anniversary of the eradication of smallpox, the most spectacular success of vaccination

News in brief

Canada slashes immigration as public concern rises
 Canada sharply curbed its immigration targets in an effort to "pause" population growth, a shift that comes as public support for immigration declines. The announcement marked a major pivot for a country known as a welcoming destination for new arrivals, including economic migrants from the developing world seeking better living conditions. Canada's population jumped 3.2 percent from 2023 to 2024, the biggest annual rise since 1957, and now stands at 41 million -- a rise partly fueled by a wave of new arrivals.

Taiwanese President Lai Ching-te said
 Taiwan president says 'won't yield an inch' in defence of island's territory, as China maintains military pressure on Taipei to accept its claim of sovereignty. Lai made the remarks during a visit to the Kinmen islands off China for the 75th anniversary of a victory over communist forces in the Battle of Gungingou. It followed a fortnight of intense military activity in the Taiwan Strait -- the sensitive waterway that separates China and Taiwan -- with troops from both sides holding drills.

Seoul slams Russian move to ratify defence treaty with N.Korea
 South Korea's foreign ministry voiced "grave concern" yesterday after Russia moved to ratify its defence treaty with North Korea, calling again on Moscow to stop its "illegal cooperation" with Pyongyang. On Thursday, Russian lawmakers voted unanimously to ratify a defence treaty with North Korea that provides for "mutual assistance" if either party faces aggression. South Korea and the United States claim thousands of North Korean troops are training in Russia, with Ukraine saying this week that the soldiers have arrived in the "combat zone" in Russia's Kursk border region.

CURIOSER & CURIOSER

Novel hatchling raises hopes for endangered Indian bustard



The baby Great Indian Bustard has hatched in India
 AFP | New Delhi

The Great Indian Bustard is a locally revered species in Rajasthan, but human development has had a significant impact on their habitat and population

A baby Great Indian Bustard has hatched in India thanks to artificial insemination, a significant breakthrough that raises hopes of saving the critically endangered bird. The number of the desert-dwelling, metre-tall birds has plummeted dramatically in the past 25 years, with only around 150 believed to remain in the wild. But for the first time last week a bustard chick hatched as a result of artificial insemination, aided by scientists from the Wildlife Institute of India, according to the New Indian Express outlet. The mother bustard, dubbed Tony, laid an egg at a breeding centre in Rajasthan on September 24, and a healthy chick emerged on October 16, the Thursday report said. The state's deputy chief

minister Diya Kumari said the event was a "historic step" in efforts to save the species from the brink of extinction. The Great Indian Bustard is a locally revered species in Rajasthan, a state bordering Pakistan which is home to the expansive Thar Desert. But human development has had a significant impact on their habitat and population. India's Supreme Court ordered power lines to be put underground in key bird breeding zones because bustards were being killed after flying into high-tension wires.

Israeli forces storm Gaza hospital

Hundreds detained at Kamal Adwan hospital amid concerns over patient safety and medical access

WHO loses contact with hospital staff during Israeli military operation
150+ patients and medical staff reportedly besieged inside facility

AFP | Gaza

Gaza's health ministry said Israeli forces detained hundreds of staff, patients and displaced people during a raid yesterday on the last functioning hospital in the territory's embattled north. "Israeli forces have stormed and are present inside Kamal Adwan Hospital" in the city of Jabalia, the ministry said in a statement. "They are detaining hundreds of patients, medical staff and some displaced individuals from neighbouring areas who sought refuge in the hospital from continuous bombardment." World Health Organization chief Tedros Ghebreyesus said that contact with the hospital had been lost since morning. "Since this morning's reports of a raid on Kamal Adwan Hospital in northern Gaza, we have lost touch with the personnel there," Ghebreyesus said on X. "This development is deeply disturbing, given the number of



A man inspects the damage at the site of an Israeli strike that targeted an area in Khan Yunis on the southern Gaza Strip patients being served and people sheltering there. The Israeli army confirmed that its troops were operating in the hospital area, accompanied by agents of the Shin Bet domestic security service. Army and Israeli Security Agency forces "are operating in the area of the Kamal Adwan Hospital in Jabalia, based on intelligence information regarding the presence of fighters and their group's infrastructure", it said in a statement. Israeli forces had surrounded the hospital in Jabalia refugee camp before entering the premises, Gaza's civil defence agency said. "More than 150 patients and staff, including medical and nursing teams, are besieged by the Israeli army inside Kamal Ad-



Palestinians run for cover next to covered bodies after an Israeli airstrike near the Kamal Adwan hospital in Beit Lahia in the northern Gaza Strip (file photo)

wan Hospital," agency spokesman Mahmud Bassal said. COGAT -- the Israeli defence ministry body responsible for civil affairs in the Palestinian territories -- said yesterday it had allowed the transfer of 23 patients out of the hospital the previous night in Palestinian ambulances and UN vehicles. Kamal Adwan is the last functioning hospital in north Gaza. It has been struggling with shortages of medicines and medical equipment since the start of war, which have been aggravated by the launch of a major Israeli operation in north Gaza earlier this month. "There has been no supply or provision of food, medicine, or essential medical supplies needed to save the lives of the injured and sick in the hospital," the health ministry said, calling the situation "catastrophic in every sense of the word." COGAT said it had allowed the transfer of one fuel truck, "180 blood units and a truckload of medical equipment" donated by UN agencies. Tedros said the WHO and partner agencies had reached the hos-

Despite being the last functioning hospital in north Gaza, Kamal Adwan was overwhelmed with nearly 200 patients and hundreds of civilians seeking shelter before the raid occurred

pital late Wednesday and managed to transfer 23 patients and 26 caregivers to Gaza's Al-Shifa Hospital. "Kamal Adwan Hospital has been overflowing with close to 200 patients - a constant stream of horrific trauma cases. It is also full of hundreds of people seeking shelter," he said.

Trees and power lines flattened as Cyclone Dana hits India



Villagers walk along a beach near Digha ahead of the arrival of cyclone Dana

AFP | Kolkata

Cyclone Dana tore the roofs off homes and flattened trees and power lines after making landfall yesterday on India's east coast, but did not appear to have caused significant casualties. Cyclones -- the equivalent of hurricanes in the North Atlantic or typhoons in the northwestern Pacific -- are a regular and deadly menace in the northern Indian Ocean. At least 1.1 million people in the states of Odisha and West Bengal were relocated to storm

shelters before the eye of the cyclone reached the coast just after midnight. District official Siddarth Swain told AFP that the storm had left a "trail of destruction" in the coastal town of Puri. "Many trees and electric poles are uprooted," he said, adding that ground saturated by rain had led to "landslides in areas that didn't have landslides before." In Laurel, a scenic town nestled near volcanic Lake Taal south of the capital Manila, AFP reporters saw roads blocked by felled trees, vehicles half-submerged in mud and homes severely damaged by flash flood-

Tropical storm leaves towns submerged, 66 dead in Philippines

AFP | Manila

Residents of the northern Philippines used spades and rakes to clear their homes of mud and debris yesterday while others still awaited rescue as the death toll from Tropical Storm Trami rose to 66. Tens of thousands remained displaced after fleeing floods driven by a torrential downpour that dumped two months' worth of rainfall over just two days in some areas. "Many are still trapped on the roofs of their homes and asking for help," Andre Dizon, police director for the hard-hit Bicol region, told AFP. "We are hoping that the floods will subside today since the rain has stopped." But accessibility remained a major issue for rescuers yesterday, particularly in Bicol, President Ferdinand Marcos said at a morning press briefing. "That's the problem we're having with Bicol, so difficult to penetrate," he said, adding that ground saturated by rain had led to "landslides in areas that didn't have landslides before." In Laurel, a scenic town nestled near volcanic Lake Taal south of the capital Manila, AFP reporters saw roads blocked by felled trees, vehicles half-submerged in mud and homes severely damaged by flash flood-



Residents using a makeshift raft wade through a flooded street caused by heavy rains brought about by Tropical Storm Trami in Naga City, Camarines Sur province

The storm dumped two months' worth of rainfall over just two days in some areas, leading to severe flooding and landslides

was indescribable how scared we were." Isiao Malabanan, 63, agreed he was alive only because the flood occurred during daytime, but said his family had lost everything "including our clothes". Jona Maulion, who started an auto repair business in Laurel less than a year ago, questioned if her family could ever afford to restart from scratch. "We thought we were on the way to success in the business," the 47-year-old said. "I didn't know that this would happen, everything is gone."

Modi announces more German visas for Indians as Scholz visits



India's PM Narendra Modi (L) shakes hands with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz before their meeting
 AFP | New Delhi

Germany will dramatically boost the number of skilled Indians it permits to work in the country, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced yesterday as he hosted Chancellor Olaf Scholz. The German leader is on his third visit to India since last year, bringing several cabinet ministers for discussions between the leaders of the world's third- and fifth-largest economies. Modi said the Scholz administration had decided to increase the number of visas granted annually to skilled Indian workers to 90,000, up from 20,000. "I am confident this will give a new momentum to Germany's growth," he said. "When India's dynamics and Germany's precision meet, when Germany's engineering and India's innovation meet... a better future is decided for the Indo-Pacific and the entire world." India and Germany first signed a migration agreement two years ago to facilitate mobility for professionals and students. Berlin has also pledged to make its visa application process less bureaucratic and to



Germany's decision to increase visas for skilled Indian workers is expected to give a significant boost to its economy, addressing a labour crisis with 570,000 job vacancies, while strengthening Indo-German ties

When India's dynamics and Germany's precision meet, when Germany's engineering and India's innovation meet... a better future is decided for the Indo-Pacific and the entire world
 NARENDRA MODI

from both sides undertook a "maritime partnership exercise" earlier this week in the Indian Ocean. The maiden exercise was aimed at "further strengthening the maritime connect between the two nations and interoperability between the navies", a statement from India's navy read Thursday. Scholz's visit is also expected to discuss India's ambitious programme to scale up production of "green hydrogen", a clean energy source in demand in Germany as Russian oil and gas supplies have shrunk and Berlin seeks to meet its climate goals. Scholz and his team are expected to travel to Goa on Saturday to inspect naval vessels before returning to Germany in the evening.

Pakistani Taliban attack kills 10 police in northwest

AFP | Peshawar

Around 20 Taliban fighters launched a deadly assault on police in northwest Pakistan, officials said yesterday, in the latest in a series of attacks on security forces by the Pakistani branch of the militant group. Ten police were shot dead at a check post near the Afghan border, officials said yesterday, in an attack claimed by the Pakistan Taliban. "The intense exchange of fire lasted for nearly an hour. Ten Frontier Constabulary personnel were martyred, and seven were wounded during the attack," a senior intelligence officer told AFP on condition of anonymity. About 20 to 25 militants launched a heavy assault on a post of the Frontier Constab-



Truck wait in Pakistan's Khyber district to cross the border into Afghanistan attacks mostly targeting security forces. A senior official from the Frontier Constabulary also confirmed the details on the condition of anonymity. The attack was around 70 kilometre (around 43 miles) east of Afghan border.



TOP 4 TWEETS

01



Welcomed my friend, Chancellor Scholz, to my residence in New Delhi. Glad to be meeting him and discussing a diverse range of issues that will add momentum to the India-Germany friendship. Our nations have a strong track record of developmental cooperation and we look forward to building on this in the times to come. @Bundestkanzler @narendramodi

02



In this world we need friends and allies - just like India and Germany. Dear @narendramodi , thank you for your warm welcome in New Delhi! @Bundestkanzler

03



Strong support to the Lebanese People & Sovereignty at the International Conference in Paris. Seven steps are urgently needed, starting from a ceasefire and the election of a President. @JosepBorrellF

04



Almost every country on Earth requires voter ID. Why not America? @elonmusk

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

CELEBS

Anna Kendrick had 'uncomfortable' experiences on set

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Anna Kendrick was pressured to agree to revealing scenes as a teenage actress. The 39-year-old star can next be seen as aspiring actress Cheryl Bradshaw in 'Woman of the Hour', which she has also directed, and she admitted a scene where her alter ego is asked to appear naked was "lifted verbatim" from her own experiences.

In the scene, Cheryl declines an invitation to appear topless, prompting a male casting director to make an inappropriate gesture and comment about her physical appearance.

Anna grew emotional as she told The Guardian newspaper: "That is lifted verbatim from something that happened to me when I was 19. Oh boy..."

"I've, um... I've had experiences where I found out there was a wardrobe change that the costume designer had been cagey about, likely because she felt her hands were tied. It's like you can't get to the bottom of it: 'Wait - sorry - um, why would I be in a bathing suit in this scene?'"

The 'Pitch

Perfect' star was quick to stress her experiences are less common these days.

She added: "But I'm grateful that this happens a lot less now. And when you say you're uncomfortable, there's more of a culture of being taken seriously."

Anna previously revealed she had spent five years in a coercive relationship and she's admitted she still has "good days and bad days" in recovering from the abuse she experienced.

Asked how she feels now, she said: "I have good days and bad days. But it's more accurate to call them good months and bad months."

"If you'd asked me three years ago, I would have said there was something almost embarrassing about that. Like: 'Aren't you over it by now?'"



Titanic reduced my son to tears, says Kate Winslet

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Kate Winslet's son "cried a lot" when he watched 'Titanic' for the first time.

The 48-year-old actress starred alongside Leonardo DiCaprio in the 1997 film, and Kate now has revealed that her ten-year-old son, Bear, was reduced to tears when he watched the movie in 2023.

The Oscar-winning star told E! News: "My youngest has seen 'Titanic', he saw it last year. He cried a lot, and he kept having to pause it, and he was very upset."

By contrast, Kate revealed that her two oldest children - Mia and Joe - are fans of one of her movies in particular.

The actress said: "My older two, who are nearly 24 and 21 they love 'Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind'. Yeah, that's a big favourite for them."

My youngest has seen 'Titanic', he saw it last year. He cried a lot, and he kept having to pause it, and he was very upset

KATE WINSLET

Kate previously admitted that her life was "horrible" after the release of 'Titanic'.

The award-winning actress - who played Rose DeWitt Bukater in James Cameron's record-breaking movie - was only 22 when 'Titanic' was released, and Kate initially struggled to cope with the intense scrutiny that she faced.

She told PORTER magazine: "Journalists would always say, 'After 'Titanic', you could have done anything and yet you choose to do these small

things' ... and I was like, 'Yeah, you bet your life I did! Because, guess what, being famous was horrible.'"

Kate has now learned how to cope with the pressures of fame, revealing that she no longer considers it to be a "burden".

The 'Mare of Easttown' star - who eschewed parts in big-budget movies in favour of period pieces following her 'Titanic' success - shared: "It's not a burden, any of it. ['Titanic'] continues to bring people huge amounts of joy. The only time I am like, 'Oh god, hide', is if we are on a boat somewhere."

Kate Winslet



Ariana Grande 'open' to having a face-lift

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Ariana Grande is "open" to having a face-lift.

The singer, 31, made the admission when she sat down to reveal her beauty tactics while sitting for a lie detector test with Vanity Fair - during which she also shared all the cosmetic procedures she has had to stay looking young.

When her 'Wicked' co-star Cynthia Erivo, 37, asked Ariana during

the video chat: "Did you ever get any work done to feel more popular?", the singer denied having any procedures.

She also rejected rumours she had got a nose and boob job - with the polygraph examiner deployed by Vanity Fair confirming she was telling the truth.

When Cynthia asked Ariana: "Did you get a face-lift?", the pop star replied: "No, not yet. I'm open."

Ariana also called the test the "best day" of her life as it allowed her to hit back at people spreading rumours about procedures she may have got done.

The singer then stressed she had

not undergone a "fox eye lift" - saying she had never heard of it and didn't know what it involved.

When Cynthia asked if Ariana had a chin implant, she frowned and asked: "How do they do that?"

But Ariana did admit she had had fillers and Botox in "various places" - and said she had stopped getting jabbed "like four years ago".

She added: "That is the extent (of my work)... (I am) in full support of all people who do these things."

"Whatever makes women, men, non-gender conforming people feel beautiful should be allowed. Why do we care?"



'I cut part of my finger off': Harrison Ford's culinary career was short lived

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Harrison Ford lost his job as a chef when he "cut part of [his] finger off".

The 82-year-old actor could have had a very different career path but his work in professional kitchens was cut short when it was quickly discovered he had lied about his experience.

The 'Shrinking' star not-

ed on 'Jimmy Kimmel Live' he'd worked as a chef "for relatively short periods of time, until they found out about me and fired me."

He added: "My first job was, I cooked at a hospital. I don't know what I told them but they gave me a knife and a bunch of carrots, and I cut this part of my finger off within minutes."

"But the sew-your-finger-back-on department was right down the hall, and right after that was

where they fire you for lying about [knowing how to cook]."

The 'Star Wars' star also had another culinary job but it wasn't too taxing.

He said: "I was working on a yacht that was owned by the youngest bank president in Chicago at the time. He had a yacht and a boutonniere and he was a nice guy, but he didn't know much about cooking."

"But he was heir to the Swift meatpacking factory, so all I had to

do was buy really expensive beef."

Harrison - who has Ben, 58, Wilford, 55, Malcolm, 37, and Georgia, 34, from his previous marriages and Liam, 23, with wife Calista Flockhart - recently insisted he "loves" being older.

Reflecting on the de-aging technology used in 'Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny', he told Reader's Digest UK: "I know that that is my face, it's not kind of photoshopped magic; that's what I actually looked like 35 years

ago - because Lucas Film has every frame of film that we've made together over all of these years."

"And this process, this scientific mining of the library, was put to good use. But it's just a trick unless it's supported by a good story. And it sticks out like a sore thumb if it's not real-I'm not talking about visually, I mean emotionally real. And so I think it was used very skillfully and assiduously. I'm very happy with it."



SUDOKU

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

Yesterday's solution

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

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- Large-scale; 5- Secret supply; 10- Quote; 14- "All The Way To...", song by REM; 15- Large artery; 16- Take... view of; 17- Dirty; 18- Sheep cry; 19- Get together; 20- Went in; 22- Decapitates; 24- Sun. speech; 25- Big... Calif.; 26- Picasso or Casals; 29- Chat room chuckle; 32- Course with pluses and minuses; 36- "On the Waterfront" director Kazan; 37- Capital of the Philippines; 39- "Michael Collins" actor; 40- In spite of; 43- Small child; 44- Spuds; 45- Contest. ethnicity; 46- End of...; 48- Suffix with meteor; 49- Some locks; 50- Links luminary Ernie; 52- Pro...; 53- Peeved; 57- Governing bodies; 61- Poultry enclosure; 62- Wipe out; 64- Shipping deduction; 65- French 101 verb; 66- Brewer's need; 67- Hip bones; 68- Actor Penn; 69- Covered with water; 70- Penny;

Down

1- Celtic language; 2- Unskilled laborer; 3- What's... for me?; 4- Cabbage salad; 5- Cavalry sword; 6- Tattled; 7- Live and breathe; 8- Thrust with a knife; 9- Loathes; 10- Photographic device; 11- The very...; 12- Headed for overtime; 13- CPR experts; 21- Rock's... Speedwagon; 23- Pertaining to people; 26- Five. Prefix; 27- Crazy as...; 28- Please, in Potsdam; 29- Actress Christine; 30- Inception; 31- Petrol unit; 33- Experiment; 34- Therefore; 35- Wise ones; 37- 1959 Kingston Trio hit; 38- Vegas opening; 41- Pisa place; 42- Theatrical; 47- Go back into business; 49- Hunger; 51- Later, dude!; 52- Molars, e.g.; 53- High cards; 54- Short letter; 55- Asta's mistress; 56- Sketched; 57- Flat sound; 58- Yarn; 59-... go brag; 60- Senate position; 63- Towing org;

Yesterday's solution

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

Classifieds

VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

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ALMOAYYED CONTRACTING GROUP W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of FOREMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or proffice@almoayyedcg.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

SANTY EXCAVATION AND CONSTRUCTION COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17401013 or hrteam@santycorrection.com

ASFAHAN ICE CREAM has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN AIDE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17742428 or admin@isfahanigroup.com

HARDEEZ has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17262998 or ssaleh@americana-food.com

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

CRYSTAL PALACE HOTEL W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17251444 or NAMALCO@BATELCO.COM.BH

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Ramee Grand Hotel & Spa has a vacancy for the occupation of HOST(CONFERENCES/MEETINGS), suitably qualified applicants can contact 1711999 or hrg_bh@rameehotels.com

ALDALEEM MARINE SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANICAL FITTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17262256 or aldaleem@hotmail.com

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TAMBURU RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33350666 or S.alheddi@hotmail.com

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Alnaar for repair car has a vacancy for the occupation of SERVICES HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39625104 or MAMA@BATELCO.COM.BH

HARDEEZ & KENTUCKY RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17262998 or ssaleh@americana-food.com

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Bahrain U17s stumble against South Korea

South Korea win 2-0, leaves Bahrain's AFC U17 Asian Cup qualification hopes hanging

- Lee Su-yoon's 36th-minute penalty set Bahrain back
- South Korea's Lee Ji-ho scored final goal in 90th minute



Action from the match

Bahrain's U17 side faced a tough defeat against South Korea in a crucial AFC U17 Asian Cup qualifier yesterday, losing 2-0 in a match that saw the Bahrainis battling both a strong opponent and the pressure of the qualification stage.

Coming off a narrow 1-0 win over the Maldives and an opening loss to China, Bahrain knew their qualifying campaign was hanging in the balance as they took the pitch at Dalian Football Youth Training Centre in Dalian, China.

Head coach Badr Khalil's side needed at least a point to keep control of their qualifying destiny before their final match against Bhutan on Sunday. Yet, despite their efforts, the South Korean team proved a daunting barrier to their progress.

Missed Opportunity
The opening minutes set a

tense tone, with both teams probing cautiously, aware of what was at stake. Bahrain showed sparks of cohesion in midfield, stringing together several well-timed passes. But as the half wore on, South Korea began to edge the contest, pressing high and disrupting Bahrain's rhythm. Bahrain's defense held firm for much of the first half, but a critical moment arrived in the 36th minute.

South Korea earned a penalty, and Lee Su-yoon stepped up to convert calmly, putting South Korea 1-0 up and Bahrain on the back foot. Though Bahrain regrouped, the penalty seemed

to knock the wind out of their sails, and the half-time whistle left them with a significant mountain to climb.

Struggle to Break Through

Heading into the second half, Bahrain's midfield tried to seize control, hoping to create opportunities against a disciplined South Korean defense. Coach Khalil's strategy was clear: press forward and play with urgency. Bahrain's wingers attempted to stretch the play, but South Korea's defensive structure left little room for maneuver.

The Bahrainis had their chances, and there were mo-

Bahrain's U17 team now faces an uphill battle for AFC U17 Asian Cup qualification, requiring a win over Bhutan and favorable group results to keep their hopes alive

ments where it felt like the equalizer was within reach. Yet, as the minutes ticked down, Bahrain's fatigue became apparent, and the elusive final pass to unlock South Korea's defense remained out of reach.

Last-Minute Strike

Just as Bahrain pushed numbers forward in a final bid for a breakthrough, South Korea capitalized on the counterattack. In the dying minutes of regulation, Lee Ji-ho struck in the 90th minute, sealing the game with a clinical finish that left Bahrain's defense scrambling. The 2-0 scoreline felt harsh on a Bahrain side that had fought admirably, but South Korea's poise and experience ultimately prevailed.

Now with a record of one win and two losses, Bahrain will need both a resounding win over Bhutan and favorable results elsewhere in the group to keep their qualification hopes alive. It's a tough spot for Coach Khalil's team, but the Bahrainis still have everything to play for.

Ten Hag bemoans United's lack of 'killing' instinct, Spurs march on

AFP | London

Manchester United boss Erik ten Hag admitted his team lacked a "killing" instinct in their Europa League 1-1 draw at Jose Mourinho's Fenerbahce on Thursday as Tottenham made it three wins from three with a 1-0 win at home to AZ.

Joshua Zirkzee teed up Christian Eriksen to blast United ahead after 15 minutes from the edge of the area in Istanbul.

United goalkeeper Andre Onana made a superb double-save to parry two Youssef En-Nesyri headers to protect their lead at half-time.

It was wiped out, however, within four minutes of the restart as sloppy defending allowed En-Nesyri to head in Allan Saint-Maximin's inviting



Richarlison scores for Tottenham from the penalty spot

cross. A point leaves United languishing in 21st spot in the 36-team table and they have now gone a full calendar year without winning a European game.

"We have to win and we get again in the position to win, but we have to be killing (the opponent off) more," said Ten Hag. "We let the opponent get away with the point."

Tottenham teen Moore compared to Neymar after Europa League starring role

AFP | London

Tottenham teenager Mikey Moore was compared to Brazilian ace Neymar after a standout role in the 1-0 win over AZ Alkmaar in the Europa League on Thursday with Spurs boss Ange Postecoglou admitting it will be difficult to "keep the lid" on expectations. Making just his second start for the first team, 17-year-old Moore shone playing down the left wing, regularly leaving AZ defenders floundering. "From minute 45 to 65, I thought we had Neymar on



Mikey Moore

the left wing! He was brilliant," Tottenham skipper James Maddison told TNT Sports as he compared his teammate to Neymar, the world's most expensive footballer when he moved to PSG from Barcelona for 222 million euros in 2017.

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Players celebrate after their win

Red storm rising

● **Bahrain U17 handball team thrashes Bulgaria 31-15 in ISF World Championship opener**

● **31-15 win showcases Bahrain's readiness for world stage competition**

Hussain Almaskati
TDT | Manama

In a commanding start to their ISF Handball World Men's Championship campaign, Bahrain's U17 team defeated Bulgaria 31-15 yesterday.

The Bahrainis displayed disciplined tactics and sharp execution under the guidance of head coach Aron Kristjansson, leaving Bulgaria struggling to match the pace and precision of Bahrain's play.

The Bahraini squad, featuring a roster of 30 players, is deep in preparations for the 2025 IHF World Men's Handball Championship, set to be co-hosted by Croatia, Denmark, and Norway from January 14 to February 2. Their dominant performance

against Bulgaria reflects a team finding form at just the right time, leveraging both experienced core players and promising young talent.

Key Plays and Cohesive Defense

From the opening whistle, Bahrain took control with efficient offensive sequences, building an early lead that only widened as the game progressed. Spearheaded by players like Hussain Al Sayyad and Mohamed Habib, Bahrain's attack was fluid and relentless, leaving the Bulgarian defense scrambling to contain them. Meanwhile, the Bahraini defense held firm, stifling Bulgaria's attempts and



Bahrain's U17 team, with a roster of 30 players, combines experienced veterans and emerging talent—a balanced force as they eye international handball glory in January

limiting their scoring chances.

This decisive win comes as Bahrain prepares for a crucial upcoming friendly tournament in Kuwait, scheduled for November 6-9, where they'll compete alongside Kuwait, Tunisia, and Cape Verde. The event promises valuable exposure to top international teams, providing a competitive edge before the World Championship.

Building Momentum for the Worlds

This win is the latest in Bahrain's journey toward the global stage, where they'll compete in Group H against handball powerhouses Egypt, Argentina, and Croatia. Having secured their place in the World Championship with a bronze-medal finish at the 21st Asian Men's Handball Championship earlier this year, Bahrain is eager to make a mark on the world scene.

As the squad continues training under Kristjansson, their performance against Bulgaria suggests they're on track to bring their best to international competition. With Bahrain's passionate fan base behind them, the nationals are poised for an exciting journey on the world stage come January.

New Zealand eye history after Santner's 7-53 in India Test

AFP | Pune

New Zealand were in sight of a historic series win in India after spinner Mitchell Santner took 7-53 to help bowl out the hosts cheaply in the second Test yesterday.

A stunned India fell to 156 all out in their reply, gifting the visitors a first-innings lead of 103 on a turning Pune pitch.

New Zealand, who have never won a Test series in India and lead the three-match series 1-0, were 198-5 at stumps in their second knock, a lead of 301, after skipper Tom Latham hit 86.

Wicketkeeper Tom Blundell, on 30, and Glenn Phillips, on nine, were batting at the close of play.

"Still a job to do with the bat," bowling hero Santner said.

"Obviously the more runs we get now, it makes our job with the ball a little bit easier."

Spinner Washington Sundar grabbed four wickets to take his match tally to 11 after returning figures of 7-59 on day one.

Sundar trapped Devon Conway lbw for 17 in New Zealand's second knock before senior spinner Ravichandran Ashwin sent back Will Young for 23 before tea.

Sundar also bowled Rachin Ravindra for nine as the left-hander went back for a cut only to miss and the skidding



New Zealand's Mitchell Santner (C) celebrates with teammates after taking the wicket

Santner's match haul of 11 wickets is his best in a Test match

ball hit the off-stump. Daryl Mitchell fell for 18.

Latham reached his fifty and kept firm in a 60-run partnership with Blundell until his departure when Sundar trapped the left-hander lbw.

"It is satisfying," Santner said of the visiting batsmen taking on the Indian spinners in favourable conditions.

"We know how challenging it can be in these conditions. Seen India squeeze a lot of teams for a long time and I guess it was

pleasing with the bat with guys trying to fire some shots and play some sweeps and take on the bowlers."

Kohli shock

Santner sparked for New Zealand with his left-arm spin as he claimed his first five-wicket haul in 29 Test appearances to trump India at their own game of spin.

Ravindra Jadeja top-scored with 38 but India's batting fell apart, with the hosts bowled out in the second session in just 45.3 overs.

Overnight batsmen Yashasvi Jaiswal and Shubman Gill started cautiously before Santner

"I thought the pace that Santner bowled today was spot on for this surface. You want to be playing cricket on the front foot in these conditions, but we couldn't find that rhythm and momentum today"

INDIA BOWLING COACH MORNE MORKEL

struck in the 11th over of the day. He trapped Gill lbw for 30 with a slider to the right-hander. The home fans were then stunned into silence when Santner took the prized wicket of Kohli, bowled on a low full toss for one.

Santner admitted it was a "shock" to get the star batsman out in that manner.

Off-spinner Phillips struck on his fourth ball to get the left-handed Jaiswal caught at slip for 30 to leave the hosts on 70-4 and then 83-5 when he bowled Rishabh Pant for 18.

First-match centurion Sarfaraz Khan managed 11 before Santner got him caught at mid-on.

"I thought the pace that Santner bowled today was spot on for this surface," India bowling coach Morne Morkel said.

England reeling at 24-3 after gritty Shakeel century



Pakistan's Saud Shakeel plays a shot

AFP | Rawalpindi

Shakeel's century was a crucial innings for Pakistan, as it helped them build a significant lead and put pressure on England

Spinners Sajid Khan and Noman Ali left England reeling at 24-3 after Saud Shakeel's fighting hundred put Pakistan in control of the series-deciding third Test in Rawalpindi yesterday.

England came in looking to erase a deficit of 77 but had no answers for the Pakistan spinners on a turning pitch.

Sajid dismissed Ben Duckett for 12 and Noman Ali removed Zak Crawley (two) and Ollie Pope (one) in the space of five runs.

When bad light ended the second day's play with five overs remaining, Joe Root and Harry Brook were at the crease on five and three respectively.

England still need 53 runs to avoid an innings defeat with seven wickets in hand and three days left to play.

The series is tied at 1-1 after England won the first Test by an innings and 47 runs while Pakistan took the second by

152 runs, both in Multan.

On another day dominated by spin, Shakeel's brilliant 134 was the highlight, pulling Pakistan within touching distance of a first home Test series win since they defeated South Africa in February 2021.

Shakeel anchored Pakistan's innings, lifting them from a precarious 177-7 to 344 all out.

"We had an idea that this pitch will help spinners so with that in mind I prepared myself," said Shakeel, admitting it was one of his best knocks.

The left-hander held Pakistan's innings together with a gritty knock spread over 322 minutes and 223 balls, hitting just five boundaries.

Wounded Arsenal must show 'ruthless mentality' against Liverpool: Arteta

AFP | London

Mikel Arteta says Arsenal cannot afford to feel sorry for themselves after a rash of injuries and William Saliba's suspension ruined their preparation for Sunday's blockbuster



Mikel Arteta

clash with Liverpool.

Arteta's side will be without Saliba after his red card in last weekend's shock defeat at Bournemouth, with the Arsenal boss sweating on the fitness of several key players.

Bukayo Saka, Riccardo

Calafiori and Jurrien Timber are all in a race against time to be fit for Liverpool's visit to the Emirates Stadium on Sunday.

"We're going to do our very best to somehow have them available. It's very uncertain," Arteta told reporters.