

Beautification and afforestation projects going full blast

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Significant efforts to display greenery and nature have been a goal for Bahrain, as Undersecretary for Municipalities Affairs, Shaikh Mohammed bin Ahmed, showcased the progress of beautification and afforestation projects in the Kingdom.

Although projects as such aim to beautify main streets in Bahrain and large intersections, these types of projects also significantly contribute to the Kingdom's long-term goals.

For example, the Representative of HM the King for Human-

itarian Works and Youth Affairs, His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, planted the 100,000th mangrove tree in the Ras Al Mutla Area, as part of the national afforestation plan.

Bahrain plans to multiply the number of mangroves by 400 per cent by 2035. This assists the Kingdom's goal of achieving zero neutrality by 2060, in the fight against climate change.

And though we must look at the future to curb climate change, projects like these also help in protecting the environment the Kingdom has today. Implementing sustainable projects to increase the number of trees and



HH Shaikh Nasser plants the 100,000th mangrove tree in the Ras Al Mutla Area



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greenery around the island not only preserves the environment

but allows for it to grow.

Notably, trees and greenery that are being planted across the island are suitable for the Kingdom's climate.

Practical projects must be implemented to combat Bahrain's worsening air pollution. The Kingdom is currently ranked among the top five most polluted countries for air quality in 2022.

Many areas in the Kingdom have received more attention than others; for example, Riffa and Seef. However, the government is taking the initiative and placing its efforts towards other areas on the island to spark allure and promote sustainability.

'From life to 15 years in prison' for man who attempted to murder son

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The High Appeals Court reduced the jail time of a man accused of attempting to murder his son with a chainsaw to 15 years in prison instead of a lifetime behind bars. The defendant was earlier

sentenced to life by the High Criminal Court on grounds of premeditated assault.

According to court files, the man reportedly tried to kill his son under the pretext that the teenager was on drugs and he was acting unstable. The victim's

mother told prosecutors that the pair weren't seeing eye to eye.

"Before the incident, the school requested us to come because an issue arose involving our son. They



told us he was caught smoking e-cigarettes. I managed to convince them to punish him by suspending him for two days," the mother told prosecutors. "On the day of the

crime, I was out in the evening, and my son was asleep. When I returned I saw my husband's clothes were blood-stained. I rushed inside and saw my son fighting for his own life," she added.

The victim is said to have been

rushed to hospital and managed to survive. The father handed himself into the police and confessed to his crime.

"He used to insult me regularly and he has gone out of control," the father pointed one to prosecutors.

Third Bahrain Baby Games to kick off today

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The third Bahrain Baby Games, organised by the Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC) will kick off today.

The event will be under the patronage of His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, First Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports (SCYS), General Sports Authority Chairman (GSA) and BOC President.



HH Shaikh Khalid

Commencing at 4.30pm with the arrival of the sponsor of the event accompanied by the playing of the Royal Anthem, followed by a series of performances from the participants.

After that, the crawling competition for 12-month-olds will start, then the baby walker competition for children under 15 months, then the show queue for representatives of the participating nurseries and kindergartens.



The crawling competition is for 12-month-olds, and the baby walker competition is for under 15 months.

Strong winds and rising dust will continue over weekend



A dusty weather

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Strong winds have been blowing around the Kingdom since yesterday morning, causing dust and other airborne debris.

The winds of Al Bareh started to influence the Kingdom over the previous two days, according to the Meteorological Department of the Ministry of Communications.

Officials predict winds will last until the start of next week since they travel at great speeds throughout the day, creating dust that causes large water



To protect the respiratory system, doctors advise patients with asthma and shortness of breath to avoid dusty environments and use masks.

waves.

Although the breeze will help to reduce the relative humidity, it will be warm during the day, with highs in the early forties.

Officials have urged individuals to exercise caution and heed the official bulletins and warnings issued by the Meteorological Department, especially those who travel by land and by sea. The time it takes to clear the air across the Kingdom may vary this coming week.

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LMRA steps up joint inspection campaigns

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The Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) and the Ministry of Interior continue joint efforts to intensify inspection campaigns against illegal practices in the labour market, in order to preserve a competitive, fair and stable labour market.

LMRA conducted two joint inspection campaigns in the Northern Governorate, the first was in coordination with the General Directorate of Crime Detection and Forensic Evidence of the Ministry of Interior and the other campaign was undertaken in coordination with the Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs (NPRA) and the Governorate's respective Police Directorate.

LMRA also conducted a joint inspection campaign in the Southern Governorate in coordination with the General Directorate of Crime Detection and Forensic Evidence of the Ministry of Interior.

The campaigns resulted in reporting violations related to the Labour Market and Residency laws. The cases were referred for legal action.

The LMRA renewed its call on all members of the society to support the efforts of government agencies in addressing illegal labour practices, by reporting violations via the electronic form on the authority's website www.lmra.gov.bh or by calling the authority's call centre on 17506055.

Court of Appeals upholds five Asian robbers' jail terms

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Five Asian men convicted of drug use, robbing an abandoned deceased businessman's house and possessing three pistols and ammunition have had their jail terms confirmed by the High Appeals Court.

The defendants earlier re-

ceived sentences ranging between four years and one year in prison.

According to court files, an Asian labourer reported the convicted men to the police after witnessing their illicit activities.

As a result, their place of living was searched, and the drugs



were found hidden in addition to the pistols, while it was dis-

covered that they were involved in robbing the house of the businessman. The latter died in 2013.

Further investigations uncovered that the pistols were stolen from the businessman's house.

"We found three pistols inside a bag, and we took them. We gave one to the third de-

fendant," the first suspect told prosecutors.

"We hid one of them in an abandoned building, while the other one we kept with us," he added.

The defendants' saliva tested positive for various types of drugs.