

# Students take IELTS training programme

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The Ministry of Education has commenced the widespread implementation of a training programme focused on assessing English language proficiency through the International English Language Testing System (IELTS).

Building on the successful pilot phase conducted last year, which exclusively targeted third-year secondary school students, this programme now encompasses all students across different grades, totaling approximately 40,000 male and female students.

Over the course of the next five days, starting yesterday, students will undertake a pre-test to gauge their listening, reading, writing, and speaking abilities in English. Following the assessment, a six-month training programme will be introduced



Gauging the students' listening, reading, writing, and speaking abilities in English to enhance their skills.

In May 2024, students will undergo a post-test to evaluate their progress, and comprehensive reports will be provided based on their performance in both tests.

To ensure effective implementation, the Ministry is conducting intensive training for secondary school teachers in collaboration with renowned

partners such as the National Geographic Learning Publishing House, the British Council, and the Regional Office for the English Language at the US Embassy. The training will equip educators with the necessary strategies to enhance students' English language acquisition.

Additionally, comprehensive guidelines and practical book-

lets will be distributed to students, containing valuable information about the IELTS test and a range of practical activities designed to improve their ability to manage time, handle questions effectively, avoid common mistakes, and attain the desired proficiency levels. This holistic approach aims to empower students and foster their success in the IELTS examination.

## Inspection campaigns uncover labour violations



Expats' legal status is being checked by the joint inspection teams

### Arrests, legal measures taken against violators

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In an effort to combat irregular residency and ensure adherence to labour laws in the Kingdom of Bahrain, joint inspection campaigns were carried out by the Nationality, Passports, and Residence Affairs (NPRA), the Capital Governorate Police Directorate, and the Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA).

The campaigns resulted in the identification of several

violations, leading to the arrest of violators and the implementation of legal measures against them.

The Capital Governorate Police Directorate secured the areas where workers were present and verified the validity of their residency and work permits with relevant authorities.

Similar campaigns were also carried out in other governorates of the Kingdom. The Nationality, Passports, and Residence Affairs urge community members to report any complaints related to irregular labor violations. They can do so by contacting the call center at 17077077 or via email at info@npa.gov.bh.

## Bahrain calls for strong GCC cooperation in health sector



Dr. Jaleela with participants at the event

Muscat

Health Minister Dr. Jaleela Al Sayed Jawad Hassan emphasised the importance of strengthening GCC health cooperation and developing its systems and producers to provide the best health services in the region.

Dr. Jaleela was speaking as she headed the Kingdom of Bahrain's delegation at the Ninth Meeting of the Committee of the Ministers of Health of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), and the 86th General Conference of the GCC Health Ministers Council in Muscat, Oman.

The meeting reviewed the GCC Health Ministers Council

2023 performance report, projects and budget for 2024.

They discussed several joint projects and initiatives such as the joint GCC Health Minister Action Plan, the implementation of the international health regulations, healthy cities projects, and organise registration and classification of health specialties in the GCC states.

## NIHR delegation pays visit to Hidd Rehabilitation Centre for Special Needs



NIHR delegation at the Centre

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A delegation from the National Institution for Human Rights (NIHR) visited Hidd Rehabilitation Centre for Special Needs, which is affiliated with UCO Elderly Care.

The delegation was briefed on the centre's educational and

rehabilitative services for people with mental disabilities and Down Syndrome.

They were informed about issues related to equipping educational facilities and classes to encourage people with disabilities to respond effectively, thus contributing to achieving the desired goals towards their

integration into society.

The visit is within the framework of the NIHR's keenness to inspect the care and rehabilitation services and programmes provided by these centres, and to examine their commitment to implementing standards related to the protection and promotion of human rights.



### Condolences

Foreign Affairs Minister Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani paid a visit to the Italian Embassy to offer condolences on the death of Giorgio Napolitano, former President of Italy. The minister expressed his sincere condolences to the government and people of Italy, as well as the ambassador, recalling the late president's efforts and role in promoting bilateral relations with Bahrain.



### Bahrain-France relations

Abdullah bin Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry and Commerce, received Eric Giraud-Telme, the newly appointed French Ambassador to Bahrain. The two sides discussed joint bilateral relations between Bahrain and France, and ways to strengthen and develop them to achieve common goals, especially in trade and economy. The French ambassador expressed his keenness to strengthen bilateral ties to serve the best interests of both countries and their people.



### Arab Interior Ministries Council meeting

The Ministry of Interior participated in the 38th coordinative meeting for Arab Interior Ministries Council and the third meeting for the council Communication Representatives in the member countries in Tunis. The meeting discussed subjects related to the report of the legal committee for Criminal Prosecution for the year 2023, the proposals of the various council bodies. A number of topics were also presented to be discussed at the 91st session of the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol).

### Health services cooperation



The Government Hospitals received a delegation from King Hussein Cancer Foundation in Jordan, within the framework of its to enhance cooperation and exchange expertise in the health sector. They paid an inspection visit to the Abdullah Khalil Kanoo Pediatric Oncology Unit at Salmaniya Medical Complex to learn about the latest services and treatment provided by the government. They discussed ways to enhance health services through many initiatives, as well as developing health and medical cooperation and exchanging expertise with the centre.