

Metro mulls rolling into sports city

Bahrain is to begin a feasibility study to extend the metro corridor to Sports City

● Ministry is to start a feasibility study of the project

● Plan is to extend metro corridor from King Hamad Railway Station at Alramli area to the new sports City and the International Exhibition Centre at Sakhir area.

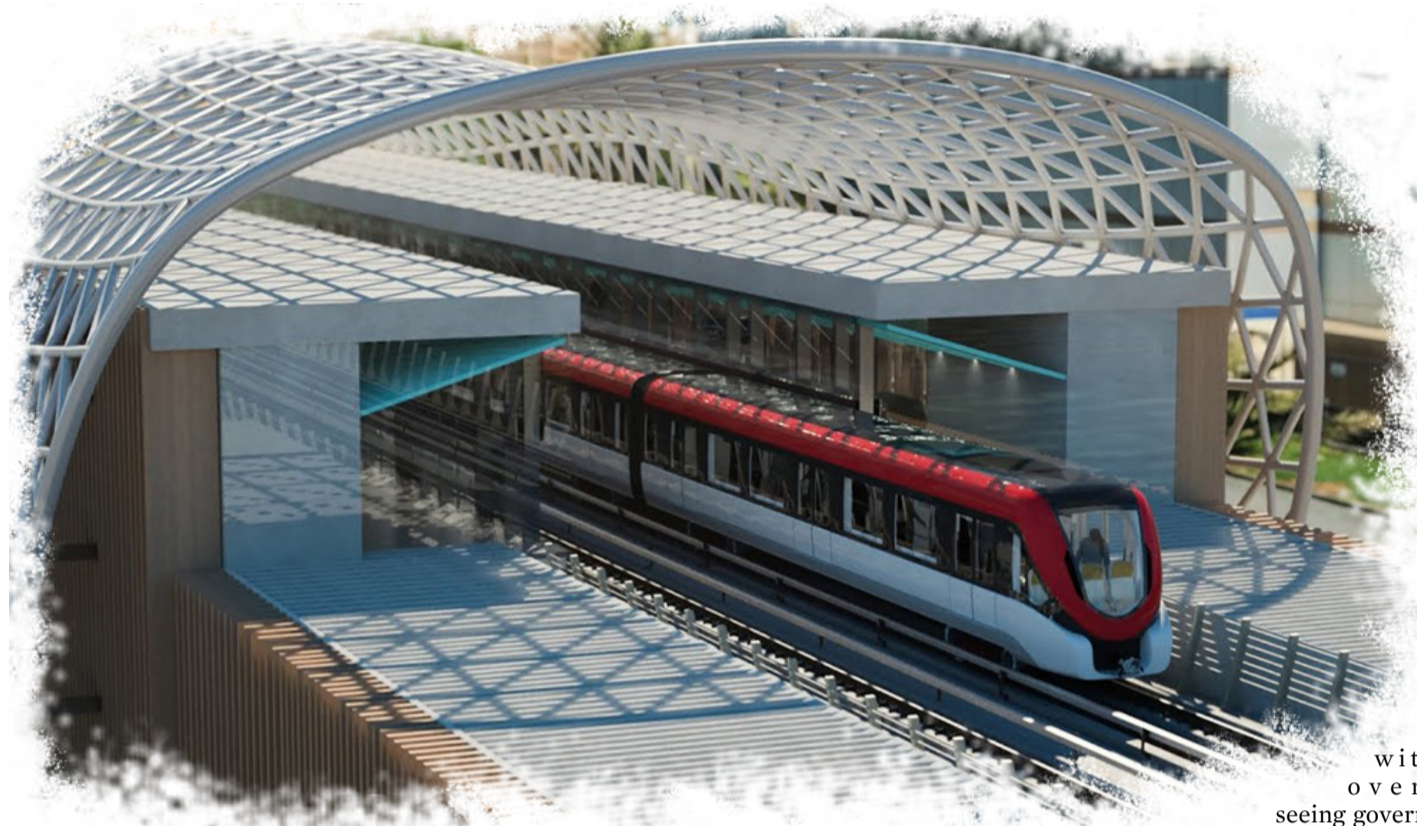
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Plans are on the anvil to extend Bahrain's metro corridor to Bahrain sports city, for which the Kingdom is to start a feasibility study.

The plan is to extend the Bahrain metro corridor from King Hamad Railway Station at Alramli area to the new sports City and the International Exhibition Centre at Sakhir area.

The Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications said they are looking forward to appointing a technical consultant to study the feasibility of the route for completion in the first phase.

The study will evaluate the



possibilities of a different alternative corridor, the project's economic benefit, station allocation, concept and preliminary design of the corridor and cost estimate of the project.

The ministry had also launched a tender for the

project in March, which attracted huge interests.

Eleven companies had expressed their willingness in the project. The bid values are undisclosed.

Egis, Gulf Markets International, Mo-

hamed Salahuddin Consulting, AECOM Middle East Limited, SENER Ingenieria y Sistemas and Intecsainarsa are among the bidders.

These details came as the tender and auction board, the independent regulatory body tasked

with overseeing government bidding and bidding practices, opened 57 bids received for eight tenders by five government agencies and ministries.

The ministry had said that it envisages completing an approximate length of 28.6km with 20 stations with two lines in the

first phase.

The first line will connect Airport to Seef District through Airport Avenue and King Faisal Highway. The second line will connect Juffair to the Educational area in Isa Town through King Faisal Highway, passing by the Diplomatic sector and Bab Al Bahrain.



The entire Bahrain Metro project is estimated to cost between US\$ 1 billion and US\$ 2 billion and comprises four metro lines totalling 109km.

The system, designed to carry 43,000 passengers per hour, will be carried out through a public-private partnership.

New FM station on the way

● Ministry is auctioning the rights to operate and manage the FM channel with 89.2 MHz frequency

● Ministry is offering a five-year contract

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The Ministry of Information Affairs announced auctioning its FM Radio channel at 89.2 MHz frequency for five years.

The contract comes with all rights to operate and manage the FM channel Radio Studio 24x7 in the Kingdom.

The winning contractor, the ministry said, must provide FM Transmitter, Transmission Line, Pie Rack and connectivity to Pie Rack from the auctioneer's Radio Studio.



Representative picture

A tender launched on 19th April attracted two bidders, said the Tender board in a statement.

Group Plus for Advertising, which quoted BHD 327,625,000, was the highest bidder. The other bidder, Rami Productions Middleeast, quoted BHD 299,250,000, according to Tender board documents.

Stations by frequencies

Some of the other Radio stations in Bahrain by frequencies are Radio Sawa (89.9MHz) Deutsche Welle / Radio Monte Carlo Douliya (90.9 MHz), Emarat FM (92.3 MHz), Sawt al-Khaleej (94.4 MHz), Sawt el-Ghad (94.8 MHz), BBC World Service in English (101.0 MHz), Panorama FM (103.0 MHz) and BBC World Service in Arabic (103.8 MHz).

Most of the radio stations in the Kingdom are state-owned, except for Radio Mirchi (104.1FM), which is a privately-owned radio station broadcasting in Hindi and Malayalam.

Maintenance of palace garden, house in Buri and much more

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The Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning has announced plans for conducting the maintenance of Al-Qudaibiya Palace Garden.

The tender and auction board announced receiving three bids for the tender ranging from BHD 262,840,000 to BHD 287,622,500. Gulf Fencing & Specialist Surfacing emerged as the lowest bidder.

The board also opened four bids for supplying liquid chlorine to a tertiary treatment plant in the Tubli. The bids ranged between BHD 514,877,192 and BHD 608,110,508. Emma Gate emerged as the lowest bidder.

Works Ministry also announced plans to demolish an existing old house in Buri and constructing a new one there.

The house in block no: 754 is enclosed by buildings on two sides and roads 5405 and 5408 on the other sides.

A tender launched attracted 11 parties whose bids ranged between BHD 47,200,000 and BHD 76,371,715.

Sarab Contracting est quoted the lowest amount, according to the tender board.

The committee also opened a tender for the Electricity and Water Authority to rent truck-mounted cranes for four years. The work attracted eight bids. Finally, the committee opened two tenders in the aviation sector for the Bahrain Airport Company. The first tender for hiring skilled labourers for the support and maintenance at Bahrain International Airport found nine takers. The second for the supply of food supplies, find only one bidder.

Smuggling drugs in face masks: suspects to learn fate on 15 June

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Four men, accused of smuggling Marijuana by hiding inside a consignment of face masks exploiting the coronavirus situation, will learn their fate on 15 June 2021.

The seizure, officials said, showed the lengths to which smugglers were willing to go.

Customs officers had seized undisclosed amounts of Marijuana that smugglers brought in using air freight services.

Court files say the suspects, all Asian nationals, hid the illicit drugs with the help of their accomplices abroad before sending

The seizure, officials said, showed the lengths to which smugglers were willing to go.

them to the Kingdom.

However, their attempts failed when customs officers grew suspicious of the sewing styles of the face masks that looked bulged.

Customs officials, however,

notified the suspects to come and collect their consignment.

Unsuspecting of the trap laid for them, the suspect walked straight into the custody of the police officers, who were quick to make the arrest.

During interrogation, the suspects confessed that they were tasked with importing drugs, while two others were responsible for distributing them in the Kingdom.

Public prosecution charged the suspects with smuggling and peddling outlawed drugs.

Suspects stood trial before the High Criminal Court.



Representative picture

Not the first time!

This, however, is not the first time that smugglers attempted to make use of the ongoing pandemic to their benefit.

British customs officers had reported a similar incident where smugglers tried to smuggle in 14 kilograms of cocaine worth more than \$1.25 million.

British Interior Ministry found the cocaine wrapped in 15 packages in boxes full of face mask when checked a Polish-registered van bound for Britain. Reports point out that Europe's cocaine market is worth more than \$10 billion.