

More candidates join the fray

● 400 candidacy applications in the first two days

● The candidate lists will be on display for three days, between October 10 and 12

TDT | Manama

Citizens continued to flock yesterday to the supervisory centres in all four governorates of the Kingdom to file their nominations for the upcoming Parliamentary and Municipal elections next month.

Supervisory centres, as in the last two days, opened their doors at 5 pm. However, there was no rush, as on Day 1, with centres were quiet, with only a few citizens present to file nominations.

Officials confirmed receiving 400 candidacy applications in the first two days.

The four supervisory centres are Khawla Secondary School for Girls in the Capital Governorate (parliamentary election only), Al-Hidaya Al-Khalifa Secondary School for Boys in Muharraq Governorate, Yathreb Preparatory School for Girls in the Northern Governorate, and Al-Mustaqbal Primary School for Girls in the Southern Governorate.

The head of the Supervisory Committee on the Safety of Referendum and Elections in Muharraq Governorate, Dr Ali Al-Shuwaikh, said they received 17 applications on day two.

Of the 17 nominations, 10 were for the parliamentary election, including three women.

Seven candidates for the Municipal council included two women.

In another development, yesterday, Former MP Ibrahim Bousandal filed his nomination in the Muharraq Governorate as an independent candidate.

In the 2006 election, he was one of the prominent members of Al -the Asala Association.

When asked about dropping out, he said this allows him to work without any constraints of political association.

"I will continue the same approach when it comes to stand-



Potential candidates waiting at supervisory centres

Election monitoring: Application window opens on Monday

TDT | Manama

Civil society organisations wishing to participate in the national monitoring of the upcoming elections could file applications starting this Monday, announced the Supreme Committee for Supervising the Safety of Elections.

Application windows will remain open until the 23rd of October 2022.

The Ministry of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments will accept applications on the third floor of its building during official working hours.

According to Article 1 of the Electoral Observation law, electoral observation means all monitoring and controlling the electoral process through field follow-up and collecting data to verify the proper application of procedures related to the electoral process.

A person who undertakes the electoral observation should be a Bahraini, not affil-

ing for the rights of citizens," he stressed.

Bousandal will run from the second district of Muharraq Governorate, Where Ibrahim Al Naifi'i is the sitting MP.

Bousandal said that during his tenure, he presented several



iated with any political parties, and not a candidate, agent, legal representative or endorser of any candidates.

Application forms and procedures are available on www.vote.bh.

- The scope of the electoral observation includes monitoring;
- The progress of the electoral process in all its stages;
- The behaviour of can-

didates, political associations and other civil institutions;

- The behaviour of voters, citizens and individuals concerning respecting the laws;
- The use of places of worship or religious discourse to promote candidates, or degrade others, or any other violations punishable by relevant laws.

proposals and was instrumental in increasing the handicapped allowance from BD50 to BD100.

Officials at the Supervisory centre in the Capital Governorate also witnessed two divorced women filing papers to fight for a parliamentary seat.

According to Al Ayam, the incident had also paved the way for another battle.

The ex-husband of one of the women said he intends to object to her candidacy. He points out that the woman is living with him on the first floor of the building temporarily only. Hence cannot claim that as her residential address.

All sitting MPs file in capital

Meanwhile, it also emerged that all of the sitting MPs from the capital governorate had

filed their nominations, with MP Ahmed Al Salloum being the last person to file nominations.

Al Salloum will face the election from the 5th district of the Capital Governorate.

MP Abdullah Al Aali also filed papers to enter the fray from fifth constituency - his sitting constituency. Al Aali is first cleric to enter the electoral race.

Yesterday, the Youth Leadership Society, the Observatory Society for Human Rights, Rotaract Bahrain, and Bahrain Debates Centre jointly launched a campaign #Youth_we_vote" to motivate young men and women to participate in the elections.

Nominations until Sunday

As per the rule, citizens wishing to run for membership in the Council of Representatives



MP Abdullah Al-Aali presents his candidacy papers



Former MP Ibrahim Bousandal files nomination

and municipal elections could file the papers until this Sunday.

COVID-19 patients, to file nominations, should contact the hotline at 77277277 to book an appointment with the relevant supervisory committee.

The nomination procedures are available for cross-checking on www.vote.bh.

The candidate lists will be on display for three days, between October 10 and 12, during which potential candidates may challenge the decisions of the supervisory committees.

Supervisory committees shall issue final decisions regarding the challenge requests by October 15, which citizens could at a competent court before October 18. The court decision will come by October 25.

Fahd Al Buainain, the head of the supervisory committee in North, announced receiving 74 nominations for the parliamentary election, of which 7 were rejected. The committee also received 54 applications for the municipal election, of which 4 were rejected.

Dr Ali Al Suwaikh, the head of the supervising committee in Muharraq, announced receiving 14 nominations for parliament and 30 for Municipal Council.

In the Capital Governorate, the supervising committee received eight applications yesterday. The committee, in total, received 85 nominations and accepted 63 applications.



Potential candidates waiting at supervisory centres



Oleg Orlov and Yan Rachinsky, members of Russian human rights organisation Memorial



Natalia Yashchuk and Anna Popova, projects coordinators of the Center for Civil Liberties



Human rights activist Ales Bialiatki, founder of the organisation Viasna (Belarus)

The Nobel Peace Prize 2022

(Continued from page 1)

“The Norwegian Nobel

Committee wishes to honour three outstanding champions of human rights, democracy and peaceful co-existence in the neighbour countries Belarus, Russia and Ukraine,” said committee chair Berit Reiss-Andersen.

“It is not one person, one organisation, one quick fix,” she told Reuters. “It is the united efforts of what we call civil society that can stand up against authoritarian states and, or, human rights abuses.”

She called on Belarus to release Byalyatski from prison and said the prize was not aimed against Putin. Belarusian security police in July last year raided offices and homes of lawyers and human rights activists, detaining Byalyatski and others in a new crackdown on opponents of Lukashenko.

Authorities had moved to shut down non-state media outlets and human right groups after mass protests the previous August against a presidential election the opposition said was rigged.

“The (Nobel) Committee is sending a message that political freedoms, human rights and active civil society are part of peace,” Dan Smith, head of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, said.

The prize will boost morale for Byalyatski and strengthen the hand of the Centre for Civil Liberties, an independent Ukrainian human rights organisation, which is also focused on fighting corruption, he said.

“Although Memorial has been closed in Russia, it lives on as an idea that it's right to criticize power and that facts and history matter,” Smith added.



MP Ahmed Al-Salloum submits nomination

Court rejects drug dealer's appeal, confirms 10-year jail, BD5,000 fine

TDT | Manama

A drug peddler had his 10-year jail term and a BD5,000 fine upheld by the Court of Appeal.

The court also ordered authorities to deport him after completing his jail term.

Court files say the man, an

Asian national, was selling drugs in the Kingdom and fell into the trap set by the Bahraini police based on a tip-off.

Police said they arrested him through a covert operation. An undercover agent, police said, contacted the suspect through an unnamed source and estab-

lished a relationship.

After gaining his confidence, the agent placed an order to buy BD150 worth of 'Marijuana' to which the suspect agreed.

The suspect also agreed to deliver the drugs in the Salmabad area, kept under surveillance by a team of policemen.



Unsuspecting the trap, the suspect came to the meeting place and handed over the drug, only to find him surrounded by cops.

Police said they had to use force to bring him under control.

Based on his confession, police raided his residence and

found undisclosed quantities of marijuana.

The man also confessed to receiving them from other sources.

Public Prosecution charged him with the sale of marijuana, acquisition and possession of the drug with intent to use.