

Highway lane set for closure

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Works Ministry announced the closure of the slow lane on Almuasker Highway at its junction with Highway 95 near Riffa Views for maintenance works.

The three-day closure will start tomorrow at 11pm.

Filipino youth invited in online poetry competition

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All Filipino youth aged 10-18 years old in the Kingdom of Bahrain are invited to take part in the Philippine Embassy's first ever Online Poetry Slam entitled "Kababaihan - Ipagbunyi at Parangalan, Pantay na Karapatan, Ating Pahalagahan!" in the celebration of International Women's Day and National Women's Month!

Deadline for submission of entries is on 21 March at 5pm.

The winners will be announced at a live awards event via streamyard/FB Live on 31 March, at 3pm, where selected entries will also be shown and commented on by the judges.

The poetry-reading competition seeks to highlight topics about women, their achievements and contributions to national and global development, as well as to encourage the youth to become more aware about women's issues such as women empowerment, gender equality, and addressing gender gaps, and what they can do to help increase consciousness among fellow young people about these issues.

Bahrain condemns Houthi drone attack on Saudi

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The Kingdom of Bahrain strongly condemned the Iran-backed terrorist Houthi militia launch of explosive-laden drones against the Southern Region in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in a deliberate, hostile, and systematic attack targeting civilians.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs commended the vigilance and efficiency of the coalition forces.

Life inches back to normal as Covid-19 threat eases

All sectors of economy on growth track following updated four-tier traffic light system

Staff Reporter
TDT | Manama

Three weeks after the Kingdom entered the green zone of Covid-19 Alert Level Traffic Light System, life in the Kingdom has almost returned to normal except for the use of face masks at public places.

The updated four-tier traffic light system to combat the spread of the virus keeps track of infection numbers before deciding on the levels to be implemented.

A senior retail sector executive with a leading retailer, who doesn't want to be identified, said normalcy has returned to the segment although the paradigm changing shift to e-commerce has taken place during the pandemic period.

"The retail segment landscape has changed with the e-commerce element setting in with great might during the post-pandemic recovery period though it has outperformed many other sectors."

Muneer K K, a cold store owner in East Riffa, said sales have gone up after the Kingdom moved from Yellow Level



Large crowd of shoppers at a hypermarket

to the Green Level. "Sales really declined during the Yellow Level period as people were not coming out after being afraid of getting infected with Covid. There were days when I thought of closing down my store.

"But now I am optimistic. Things are improving though it hasn't reached the pre-pandemic levels. I believe as a cold store owner I can stand on two legs as the retail market looks positive."

Speaking to The Daily Tribune, Imtiaz Fareed, Purchasing Manager at Home Electronics, said the post-pandemic recovery doesn't specifically apply to the

home appliance and electronic equipment market as there was a huge demand for these products from the majority who were stuck at their homes.

"When all other segments of the retail industry declined, we were flourishing with 2020 being a bumper year as the sales of home appliances and electronic equipment went up apart from bulk sales also contributing to the overall growth. This sales boost has continued during the Post-Covid period as well."

Baiju Cheravattayi, Operations Manager with Sun and Sand Restaurant located on Ex-

hibition Road, said the hotel and restaurant sector is also witnessing a boost after the Kingdom moved to the green zone.

"We had many unvaccinated customers, who stopped coming during the Yellow Level Alert. Now the situation has changed and all are welcomed. Our restaurant enjoys a rich patronage of a large number of customers from Saudi Arabia. With the Saudi Government easing travel restrictions including the cancellation of RT-PCR for inbound travellers, we are seeing a good business now."

"I can say that the restau-

"The post-pandemic recovery doesn't specifically apply to the home appliance and electronic equipment market as there was a huge demand for these products from the majority who were stuck at their homes."

- IMTIAZ FAREED, PURCHASING MANAGER AT HOME ELECTRONICS

rant and hotel industry is on a post-Covid recovery track," he added.

The Daily Tribune earlier reported about new Covid cases going down, flattening the Covid curve. There were 1,699 new cases on Monday along with 2,749 recoveries and one death. There are 18,581 active cases including 39 hospitalised patients infected with Covid-19. The Kingdom has so far registered a total of 528,834 cases and 7,864 tests were recorded on Tuesday.

Mixing unique piano comedy and amazing virtuosity



Pianotainment ... a fascinating concert experience

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Pianotainment, a spectacular four handed piano show that has dazzled the world for over 25 years, is set to enthral music enthusiasts at the Bahrain Cultural Hall tonight with a world-class act.

Starring German concert pianists Stephan Weh and Marcel Dorn, the award-winning "crossover" show is the perfect symbiosis between piano comedy and amazing virtuosity.

Unique, wacky and endlessly entertaining, the performance,

a fascinating concert experience for young and old alike, has wowed audiences in over 100 countries.

The performance in Bahrain, part of the Spring of Culture Festival, is organised in collaboration with the German embassy in the Kingdom.

German Ambassador to Bahrain Ambassador Kai Boeckmann has been deeply engaged in promoting closer cultural cooperation with the Kingdom through a host of activities that have included concerts, shows and a German film festival.

Charming international roaming performers await huge fans at BIC

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The Eccentrics are bearers of joy - sometimes naughty, sometimes teasing and always mocking. Their mission is to spread humour and make people fidget with laughter.

Travelling Fun Fair is a parade of wandering acts and attractions including games, puppeteers, magicians and more, who will put on magnificent performances and inimitable charm!

All these much-beloved artists join the other roaming performers including Abraham Thill, Aras Stilt Band, the Joker group, Colour Dancers, Dr Bubbles, Funky Style Band and Jam Batucada at the upcoming Bahrain Grand Prix.

To add to the roaming acts, BIC's spectacular entertainment programme will be highlighted by the back-to-back concerts



Clowns

on the Friday night of the race weekend, 18 March, when globally renowned DJs Don Diablo and Afrojack will take to the stage for separate live performances.

There will also be all kinds of other fan experiences along

BIC's F1 Village, as well as exciting carnival rides, a kids' entertainment zone and plenty more!

Tickets to the F1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix 2022 are available online at bahraingp.com or by calling the BIC Hotline at +973-17450000.



COURT STORY

Bahraini man's five-year jail sentence for forging contracts overturned

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The Cassation Court has overturned the conviction of a Bahraini man who was earlier sentenced to five years in prison for forging contracts before submitting to Labour Fund

(Tamkeen) to receive financial support.

According to court files, the defendant was accused of embezzling BD22,000 from Tamkeen after faking the contracts which were related to the national employment support pro-

gramme.

As per the records, the Ministry of Labour's monitoring team visited the company headquarters for a normal check to ensure they are abiding by the rules as it was discovered that most of the employed staff were girls, al-

though the company was operating in the construction industry.

The team found that there were only three Asian men in an apartment, while the clock-in-and-out system showed no other employees were serving in the company.

Further investigations uncovered that most of those who signed the contracts were already outside Bahrain and they inked the agreements years ago after they were eluded that they would join after putting put to paper.

It was discovered that the defendant received financial support worth BD22,000 from Tamkeen. He was charged with forgery and fraud to earn financial. The Cassation Court sent the case to the High Appeals Court to re-hear it.