

## Bahrain airshow connects Gulf with global aerospace industry



The Airshow showcases the latest technological innovations in the aviation sector

TDT | Manama

Thousands of aerospace and defence professionals from over 30 countries around the world connected at the Bahrain International Airshow (BIAS) 2022 for three days of partnership building, collaboration and thought leadership.

Officially opened by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and Prime Minister, on behalf of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the event is organised by the Bahrain Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications and the Royal Bahraini Airforce in association with Farnborough International.

The three-day event, which took place 9-11 November 2022, saw 186 participating companies across the display, exhibition hall and chalets and 200 civilian and military delegations taking part.

The airshow followed on from Manama Air Power Symposium 2022, which brought

together a high-caliber audience of over 300 air force commanders and operators, policymakers, and industry leaders from over 25 countries for the most important regional air power conference in 2022.

New deals and partnerships worth over USD 1.8 billion were announced at the show including the purchase of 30 of the latest-generation, single-aisle aircraft powered by Pratt & Whitney GTF engines by Royal Jordanian Airlines ("Royal Jordanian"), a strategic partnership between MAE Aircraft Management and Asia Cargo Network Singapore and Texel Air Bahrain and Sierra Nevada Corporation's (SNC) new alliance.

Two dedicated conference theatres offered a thought exchange platform, where senior aerospace executives from the Gulf region and international companies collaborated to bring issues of mutual interest to the fore. The programme included panels and keynotes on four key themes: Airports and Airlines, Cargo and Logistics, Women in Aerospace and Space.

## Environmental cooperation



Oil and Environment Minister and Special Envoy for Climate Affairs Dr Mohammed bin Mubarak bin Daina met UK Government Climate Change Envoy (COP26) Dr John Morton during his participation in the 27th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27) in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt. The meeting discussed cooperation in environment protection and tackling climate challenges, within the framework of the Bahraini-British relations. Dr Bin Daina expressed Bahrain's keenness to achieve common goals in dealing with climate change and climate security.

## Inspection in full swing



The Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) conducted a joint inspection campaign in the Southern Governorate, in cooperation with the Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs (NPRA) of the Ministry of Interior and the Southern Governorate Police Directorate. The campaign resulted in reporting a number of violations related to the Labour Market and Residency laws and were referred for legal action. LMRA stressed its commitment to report any violation through a continuous and intensive inspection plan, in cooperation with the relevant government entities. The LMRA renewed its call on all members of the society to support the efforts of government agencies to address illegal labour practices, calling on the public to report violations by filling the electronic form on LMRA's website [www.lmra.bh](http://www.lmra.bh) or calling the authority's call centre on 17506055.

# 494 Covid-infected 'voted in elections'

As many as 252,256 Bahrainis cast their ballots in the first round of elections

Staff Reporter  
TDT | Manama

Close to 500 citizens infected with Covid-19 virus voted in the first round of polls held to elect the new Parliament and Municipal Councils.

This was revealed yesterday by the head of the Legislation and Legal Opinion Commission and the Executive Director of Parliamentary and Municipal Elections 2022, Nawaf Abdullah Hamza.

He said the voting process for the infected was successfully implemented in cooperation with the Ministry of Health. "We wanted to ensure that every citizen enjoyed his democratic right and offered a chance to the infected voters to cast their ballots. And all precautions were taken to ensure that the process remains smooth."

He pointed out that Covid-19 infected individuals will be given an opportunity to vote in the runoffs as well, which is scheduled to be held on November 19. "Every citizen has the right to perform his democratic duties with integrity and transparency."

The first round of polls held to elect the new Parliament and Municipal Councils on Saturday created many milestones in terms of participation.

This year, the Kingdom has recorded the highest number of candidates as 561 and 176 candidates contested for 40 and 30



Special facilities were set up for Covid-infected individuals to cast their ballots

seats for the lower house of the parliament and for the municipal councils, respectively. This represents an increase of 20 per cent compared with 2018.

A total of 252,256 Bahrainis cast ballots in the first round of elections and the high turnout in the elections reflects the national awareness about the importance of elections in consolidating the achievements made during the prosperous era of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, and the follow-up of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime

Minister, he added.

The turnout among female was 48pc, an indication of the high level of political engagement of Bahraini women and their prominent role in consolidating democracy practices, Mr Hamza said, adding that the turnout of young voters was 45.37pc, a "figure that reflects the vitality of political and democratic life in Bahrain, and the interest of young citizens in actively participating in the national process of electing lawmakers and municipal councillors".

Bahrain recorded 73 per cent



**We wanted to ensure that every citizen enjoyed his democratic right and offered a chance to the infected voters to cast their ballots. And all precautions were taken to ensure that the process remains smooth**

NAWAF ABDULLAH HAMZA, HEAD OF THE LEGISLATION AND LEGAL OPINION COMMISSION AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF PARLIAMENTARY AND MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS 2022

record turnout in the 2022 general elections, the highest figure since the first elections in 2002. This was revealed by the Minister for Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments and head of High Committee for Elections for 2022 Nawaf Al Mua'awda during a Press conference at the close of the polls on Saturday night.

The minister said that the success of the record turnout was a culmination of the democratic progress led by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa since 2002 and supported by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister. The number of Bahrainis eligible to cast ballots in the 2022 elections is 344,713.

## Push for tourism sector as GCC 'major source' of income

Al Ula

Tourism Minister Fatima bint Jaffer Al Sairafi has stressed the importance of making the tourism sector a major source of income for the GCC through regional cooperation.

Al Sairafi was speaking as she participated in the 6th meeting of the Committee of GCC Tourism Ministers held on Al Ula in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The minister stressed the importance of this meeting in implementing the visions of their Majesties and Highnesses, and GCC leaders to develop the sector. She highlighted the tourism industry in the GCC and the cooperation with Bahrain



Al Sairafi with other GCC Tourism Ministers

in implementing tourism activities and programs to provide a diverse platform for tourists from all countries. Al Sairafi expressed Bahrain's keenness to

implement the meeting's agenda, including the final statement and the Riyadh Declaration issued by the 42nd session of the GCC Supreme Council.

She reviewed the importance of implementing previous decisions of the committee regarding the GCC tourism strategy, platform, and other topics.

## Choir performance



The Papals Choir performed on November 6 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church Bahrain during the Angelus Meeting and Prayers with the Holy Father Pope Francis.