

# ILA celebrates Dandiya Night 'Garbha Ni Raat 2022' in style

Indian Ambassador Srivastava and wife grace Indian dance festival event

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The Indian Ladies Association (ILA) Bahrain conducted its iconic Dandiya Night "Garbha Ni Raat 2022" on 23 September at Crowne Plaza Hotel, Bahrain.

This event is being organised by ILA Bahrain since last 25 years. It is the biggest and grandest Indian dance festival in the Kingdom. It marks the beginning of festive season in India.

More than 1,600 people from Indian, Bahraini and other nationalities participated in this grand event.

Chief guests of the program were H.E. Piyush Srivastava, the Ambassador of India in the Kingdom of Bahrain, and his wife Mrs Monica Srivastava, who is also the patron of ILA in Bahrain. Guest of Honour at the event was Mr Yusuf Lori Director of Information and Follow up, Capital Governorate.

Other invited dignitaries included heads of businesses of Bahrain, heads of various asso-



Indian Ambassador Piyush Srivastava and his wife Mrs Monica Srivastava share the joy with the Indian community at the event



ciations like BCICAI, American Women Association, Rotary, Lions Club, Bahrain Cancer Society, Bahrain Red Crescent Society, Bahrain Reproductive Health Association, Anti Smoking Society, Bahrain Diabetic Association, Bahrain Society For Child Development, among others.

Main attractions were a Live DJ for dancing crowd, Live Dhol Band (Indian Drums performance), Live Traditional Dance performances by ILA members

and other groups with various stalls and bazaars for Art n Craft, Jewellery, clothes and food. There were many competitions for the crowd like Best Rangoli (indian art of painting using colored powdered), Best Thali Decoration, Best Traditional Navratri Outfit, Best Dancing Group, Best Dancing couple, Best Dancer Male/Female, Best Dressed Fusion Male/Female, Best Dressed kid, and a grand Raffle Draw for 3 mega prizes.



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The decorations in the Hall were done by ILA members. A charity stall was set up by students for donations to Sneha. In addition, there were many attractive stalls set up by the members of ILA. Main sponsors of the event were Mega Mart, Zayani, Kolmaz, Asian Paints, Kewalrams, YK Almoayyed. Media partner Radio Mirchi Bahrain.

Funds raised from this event will be used for various charitable activities of ILA.

## ICTGC meeting discusses BD2.2m government procurement requests



The virtual meeting chaired by Ali Al Qaed in progress

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Procurement requests by government entities valued at approximately BD2.2 million were discussed at the 55th Information and Communication Technology Governance Committee (ICTGC) meeting.

The virtual meeting was chaired by Information & eGovernment Authority (iGA) Chief Executive Mohammed Ali Al Qaed.

The meeting included a discussion on the eWallet, an iGA project approved by the Cabinet, that aims to introduce an electronic wallet as an alternative to cash collection for government transaction fees.

The committee also reviewed the installation of digital chips in smart meters at the

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Electricity & Water Authority (EWA), which will enable the meters to remotely read consumption data in real-time and automatically spot any issues in the meters and/or discrepancies in consumption. The project is part of EWA's plan to install smart meters across the Kingdom's governorates.



## RCSI Bahrain welcomes 356 new undergraduate students on campus

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The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland - Medical University of Bahrain (RCSI Bahrain) was delighted to welcome 356 new undergraduate students on campus for the start of the 2022-23 academic year.

Once again, RCSI Bahrain welcomed medical students from all corners of the globe, among which 26% are Bahraini nationals, 43% are from the Middle East and Africa (excluding Bahrain), 15% are from North America, 13% from Asia and 3% are from Europe.

Mr Stephen Harrison-Mirfield, RCSI Bahrain Chief Operating Officer, commented: "The start of the academic year is a key moment for RCSI Bahrain. It is always with immense pleasure that we welcome our



RCSI Bahrain Professor Sameer Ootom

newcomers from several global regions and reconnect with other students.

"More importantly, it is an occasion for all of us to create and nurture relationships with one another for years to come, even beyond graduation. RCSI Bahrain takes pride in the development of its global Alumni community with a network of 2,746 Alumni health practitioners present in 35 countries as of



RCSI Bahrain Mr Stephen Harrison Mirfield

this year."

Under the School of Nursing and Midwifery, the Nursing Year 1 students were the first to commence followed by the students from the School of Medicine, enrolled in the Medical Commencement programme, Foundation Year and Medicine Year 1 programmes.

During the course of their first week, new students participated in the orientation pro-

gramme and Freshers' activities with teaching starting the following week. All new students have been assigned a Buddy - a student from a more senior year acting as a guide, to support their transition to university.

Professor Sameer Ootom, President of RCSI Bahrain, stated: "The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated to the world that the healthcare sector is a founding pillar of society upon which rests the general public's health and wellbeing.

"At RCSI Bahrain, we are committed to supporting the healthcare sector of Bahrain and beyond, by educating and training healthcare professionals to international standards. I wish our new students an exciting and rewarding journey with us while their leading careers in healthcare await."



RCSI Bahrain MCP students



RCSI Bahrain MCP Buddies