

Bahrain plans strategies on food pricing, security and regulation

● Policies to establish single food regulatory in the Kingdom

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Bahrain is 'coming up' with new strategies that will include food pricing, as well as policies to establish a single food regulatory in the Kingdom, BCCI Food Sector Committee chairman Khaled Al Amin said yesterday when speaking to the media.

"Everybody now wants to focus on food security. The challenge is to put all the food affairs under one ministry or under one body, so there is one authority

regulating everything," Mr Al Amin said.

"There are no new announcements on these strategies, but Bahrain is coming up. The strategy will be there in time and the Minister of Industry will announce it, which will focus on food pricing, food supply and food security," he stated.

Bahrain and Qatar

When asked a question about relations between Bahrain and Qatar and how logistics would move ahead, Al-Amin stated that countries must move ahead to progress.

"If you want to progress, the project has to move ahead. If the project doesn't move ahead there's no progress. We trust



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- KHALED AL AMIN, BCCI FOOD SECTOR COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

our leadership in Bahrain and the GCC."

Challenges

Speaking on current issues that face Bahrain, Al Amin said, "For the food supply they should open the containers at the importer warehouse, instead of

on the port as opening at the port would lead to a reduction in quality."

Egypt and India

Al Amin also spoke about the current challenges between countries Egypt and India. Egypt has been facing food security

challenges for years as it heavily relies on imported wheat to meet domestic demand.

The country also imports a large amount of rice and other grains to cover needs, and Russia's recent withdrawal from the Black Sea grain-export initiative, as well as India's restrictions on rice exports have caused grave concerns for Egypt.

"It's a political problem. Usually when the election is close the government will ban export of the most important food."

Bahrain's market is stable

Even though Bahrain imports 96 per cent to 98 per cent of its food, Al Amin highlighted that Bahrain's supply and market is stable, and there are no prob-

lems currently.

"The food supply and chain are there, and we are building our food security step by step. We have started with Bafco and we want to continue from there," the chairman of the Food Sector Committee at BCCI stated.

He stated during the meeting that Bahrain is also working to implement its sugar refinery that is now in progress to be reopened.

Last December, a multi-million-dinar agreement had been signed by the Industry and Commerce Ministry to set up a sugar manufacturing project at Salman Industrial town. The deal would lease a plot to Bahrain sugar refinery to launch the project at Bahrain International Investment Park (BIIP).

Government Hospitals obtains key global accreditation

● Important in boosting healthcare services provided for all in Bahrain

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Government Hospitals obtained Institutional Accreditation from the Saudi Commission for Health Specialties after evaluating the training-related facilities, based on the standards approved by the commission.

This achievement is represented by the ability of government hospitals, represented by the Salmaniya Medical Complex (SMC), to obtain programmatic accreditation for a number of new medical specialties from the Saudi Commission for Health Specialties.

Status

Shaikh Hisham bin Abdulaziz Al Khalifa, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Governmental Hospitals, affirmed the importance of these accreditations in enhancing the status of government hospitals and health services provided in Bahrain.

He also noted the importance of medical training as the basic building block for qualifying medical personnel to achieve quality services to patients.

Dr. Ahmed Mohammad Al Ansari, Government Hospitals CEO, affirmed the keenness of government hospitals to provide an educational environment for trainers and trainees based on the foundations of health education, to provide high quality training in all specialties.

Information Minister takes part in Arab Media Forum

Abu Dhabi

Information Minister Ramzan bin Abdullah Al Noaimi participated in the 21st Arab Media Forum, which was held under the patronage of His Highness Shaikh Mohamed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the UAE Vice President, Prime Minister and Dubai Ruler.

The forum was attended by over 3,000 influential media personalities, ministers and heads of leading local, Arab and international media organisations, as well as thought leaders, intellectuals and writers

The minister took part in a session on "Dialogue Between Arab Information Ministers", where he highlighted that Arab countries are having a direct confrontation with extremism and hate speech, in light of the multiplicity of unconventional media tools.



Mr. Al Noaimi speaks at the forum

He recalled the fallen servicemen who lost their lives while performing their national duty on the Saudi borders while participating in the Bahrain Defence Force (BDF) taskforce, which is part of the Arab Coalition leading operations Decisive Storm and Restoring Hope, praying to Allah Almighty to rest the souls of the fallen servicemen in eternal peace, bless

their relatives with patience and fortitude and grant the injured a speedy recovery.

He said that the Houthi aggression was carried out during the United Nations' truce without considering Yemen's interests or peace efforts in the region.

Al Noaimi affirmed the importance of media in supporting the efforts of Arab countries to achieve stability and development, as well as the importance of developing a media that is aligned with Arab development plans.

He noted that the Arab media today possesses all the necessary capabilities and competencies to keep pace with the current regional and international changes, which makes it essential that the information we receive is credible, professional, and accurate.

Focus on ways to enhance Bahrain-India relations



Mr. Humaidan and India Ambassador Jacob holds hold a meeting

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Labour and Social Development Minister Jameel bin Muhammad Ali Humaidan and Indian Ambassador to Bahrain Vinod Kurian Jacob met to discuss Bahrain-India relations and ways to develop them.

Humaidan, also Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA)'s Chairman of the Board of Directors, briefed the ambassador about national efforts to improve the labour

market, which included modernising labour legislation to meet international standards and enhancing social protection.

He praised the Indian workforce and its participation in Bahrain's development process.

The ambassador praised the Kingdom for establishing an investment-friendly environment and preserving workers' rights, stressing his country's keenness to strengthen cooperation.

Bahrain-Pakistan ties



Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Commander-in-Chief of the Bahrain Defense Force (BDF), received Group Captain Raheel Shaukat, Naval and Air Attache of the Republic of Pakistan, resident in Riyadh and accredited in Bahrain. The Commander-in-Chief commended the Bahraini-Pakistani relations, wishing the Naval Attaché success in performing his duties.

'Green Tourism and Investment'



Mr. Abdullah bin Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry and Commerce and Acting Minister of Tourism, met with Shripad Yesu Naik, Indian Minister of Culture and Tourism, on the sidelines of his participation in the World Tourism Day ceremonies and events in Riyadh, which was held under the slogan "Green Tourism and Investment" and organised by the Ministry of Tourism in the Kingdom. Fakhro stressed the Kingdom of Bahrain's keenness to continue complementary efforts in the tourism sector between the Kingdom and India. The two sides praised the growth and development witnessed by the tourism sector in the two countries.



RHF praises Ambassador

Dr. Mustafa Al Sayed, Royal Humanitarian Foundation (RHF) Secretary-General, received Muhammad Ayub, outgoing Pakistani Ambassador to Bahrain. Dr. Al Sayed expressed appreciation for the ambassador's efforts during his tenure in promoting cooperation between the two countries, especially in the humanitarian and relief work. He wished the ambassador success in his upcoming tasks. Ambassador Ayub expressed his gratitude to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa for the humanitarian efforts undertaken by the Kingdom to the Pakistani people during the recent floods in Pakistan.