

MTT LAUNCHES NEW RADAR WIND AND TEMP PROFILER

The RWTP will contribute to improving safety for airports

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The Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications Meteorological Directorate has completed the installation of a Radar Wind and Temperature Profiler that measures wind and temperature in the atmosphere.

Ahmed Al Nemah, the Acting Undersecretary of Civil Aviation Affairs at the Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications (MTT) said that the completion of the project is an important milestone in the Ministry's strategic plan to develop the Kingdom's meteorological services, by investing in cutting-edge technology that enables the Meteorological Directorate to closely observe the weather phenomena affecting the takeoff and landing of aircraft,

Data from the Profiler will be furnished to any requesting airline using Bahrain International Airport for assistance in takeoff or landing

especially in the lower layers of the atmosphere.

This in turn will contribute to further improving safety at the Bahrain International Airport and strengthening its standing amongst various Airline Companies working in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Adel Deham, Director of



The MTT Facility

Meteorology at MTT's Civil Aviation Affairs, explained that the main function of the radar is to measure the velocity (speed and direction) of the wind in addition to

the atmospheric temperature at different altitudes above the runway on a continuous basis, and such information can then be furnished to any requesting airline using

Bahrain International Airport for assistance in takeoff or landing.

Deham added that this information would help forecast weather conditions

and enable the Meteorological Directorate to issue necessary weather warnings to pilots of aircraft during takeoff and landing, ensuring avoidance of weather-related accidents that can affect the safety of passengers and aircraft. Helicopters, which are low altitude flying aircraft, will be especially served by this radar.

"The information generated from this device will enable us to expand our database, and can be used in the future in the field of research or to predict the movement of any lingering components in the atmosphere, including harmful gases in the event of any disaster, God forbid, in the Gulf Region," he said.

The radar data will be one of the main inputs for the Numerical Weather Prediction project, which is one of the MTT's upcoming projects.

Beating the odds, Bahraini adventurer heads to Iceland

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A Bahraini adventurer is on his way to Iceland to inspire others who are in difficult situations.

Ahmed Jaffar, a Parkinson's disease survivor, is on his way for another intense challenge as he is hoping to tackle the extreme temperatures of Iceland in the next 12 days. The Arad resident who is a successful businessman and the owner of a large supermarket chain in Bahrain has already completed five challenging trips including an adventure in Antarctica,

Ahmed Jaffar, who suffers from Parkinson's disease, drew international acclaim as well as admirers from around the globe who refer to him as the 'beast of Bahrain'

horseback riding and trekking in Mongolia as well as climbing Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest peak in Africa.

Jaffar drew international acclaim as well as admirers from around the globe who refer to him as the 'beast of Bahrain'. Last

year, researchers from The Austrian Parkinson's Support Group gave him the title 'Ambassador for Parkinson's Affairs and Relationships' in an awarding ceremony in Vienna.

Now, he is on yet another trip to 'challenge Parkinson's' as well as to inspire others "so that they won't give up". Speaking to *DT News*, Jaffar said "I go for these challenging trips to show that Parkinson's has not defeated me as well as to show people who are suffering difficulties in life that they can achieve great things no matter what the obstacles are."

Despite being burdened with the life-altering disease, Jaffar leads a normal life, working hard on his business and taking care of his family in addition to a rigorous



Jaffar in Antarctica

exercise routine. "Exercise is very important, if I fail to exercise rigorously and consistently, the Parkinson's starts to take over. This is one of the reasons I am taking up big challenges such as Kilimanjaro, Antarctica and Iceland. These trips strengthen me physically and mentally."

Jaffar is expected to reach Iceland today morning after leaving Bahrain last night. His plans for Iceland include glacier hiking, Iceberg Boating, trekking, hiking and Horse Riding.

"It will be a busy schedule. It will be physically exhausting. I am a little tensed, as I have not prepared for it as much as I wanted to. Because of various reasons, I did not get enough time to prepare and practice and it might be leaving me a little short fitness-wise for such a huge endeavour. However, I hope it can be managed."

"The extreme climate will be the greatest challenge. Its never easy to tread from a country like Bahrain where temperature rises to over 40 degree Celsius to another country where it is very cold," he said.



Jaffar climbing Kilimanjaro



A photograph taken by Jaffar in Antarctica