

# NEW HEALTH MINISTER READY FOR BIGGER RESPONSIBILITIES

**Faeqa bint Saeed Al Saleh to officially take charge today**

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Following the recent Cabinet reshuffle, several ministers were given additional responsibilities, which also includes that of an extra ministry.

Speaking to DT News, former Social Development Minister and the newly appointed Health Minister Faeqa bint Saeed Al

Saleh said, "Our main duty is to ensure constant improvement of services. In my new post,

my main concern is to improve healthcare services in Bahrain." "All ministries are

committed to Government's work plan, which puts citizens' benefit first," Al Saleh said.

"The Health Ministry is concerned about all the people living in Bahrain (citizens and residents), unlike Social Development Ministry, which provide services mainly to Bahrainis," she said, hailing the decree issued by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa providing her a



Faeqa bint Saeed Al Saleh

new position in the reshuffled Cabinet. She commended the wise leadership for taking the steps, which reflect firmness and keenness in dealing with the upcoming challenges and requirements of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Al Saleh also pledged full support in upgrading the quality of health services in Bahrain, hailing Kingdom's landmark sustainable development strides.

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## MP calls to rethink subsidies redirection scheme

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Parliamentarian yesterday urged to reconsider the recent decision to remove subsidies for red meat, as there are other sectors still consuming larger amounts from the state budget.

Parliament Public Utilities and Environment Committee Vice Chairman MP Ghazi Al Rahma said in a press

**"Over BD1 billion is taken off the state budget to benefit 35 private sector companies in the gas industry. The govt must stop this wastage"**

statement that millions could be saved if the Government's support to private companies in the natural gas industry is lifted.

"Over BD1 billion is taken off the state budget to benefit 35 companies in the private

sector of gas industry. The government must stop this wastage, which only benefits private investors and not the people of Bahrain. This amount exceeds the money allocated for supporting goods that directly affect citizens' livelihoods, such



MP Ghazi Al Rahma

as prices of red and white meat," Al Rahma stated. He said he is not targeting private

gas companies by demanding to lift their subsidies, but the "difficult" situations that

the region is witnessing, especially by Bahrain, calls for rethinking of the subsidies scheme.

"We can't deny the big role of these companies in boosting the economy and creating job opportunities," Al Rahma commented.

As reported earlier, several MPs, including Al Rahma, called to rethink the government's subsidies redirection scheme, explaining that "it should be removed from other sectors."

In addition to BD1 billion for gas industry, he also revealed that BD350 million was allocated from last year's state budget as support to electricity and water services, while only BD67m is set to support foodstuff products such as meat, poultry and flour.

## Participation open for Shaikha Hessa Award

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The Supreme Council for Women (SCW) announced that it continues to receive participants in the second edition of the Shaikha Hessa bint Salman Al Khalifa Award for Youth Voluntary Work, one of the key initiatives to promote voluntary work and encourage youngsters to stand out in serving the Bahraini society.

SCW called upon more Bahraini youngsters to contest for the award. The award

disseminates and promotes the concept of volunteer work culture and highlights its moral value as a national and humane duty. It also develops

**SCW called upon more Bahraini youngsters to contest for the award**

the role of individuals and groups in achieving creative and sustainable volunteer work projects.

The award also aims to strengthen the spirit of competition and highlight youth initiatives in the implementation of outstanding projects to serve the community.

Participants may fill in a form on the SCW's website ([www.scw.bh](http://www.scw.bh)), or call the Awards and Initiatives Department at the SCW's Secretariat General on 17417171.

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