

Shaikh Nasser launches "Response" Programme

DT News Network
Manama

HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Representative of His Majesty the King for Charity Works and Youth Affairs, Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, President of Bahrain Olympic Committee, launched a programme to develop the youth and sports sectors in the Kingdom of Bahrain, namely "Istijaba" (Response).

The programme represents an initiative to implement a key part of Bahrain's Reform Programme, which is spearheaded by HM King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the vision of HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First



HH Shaikh Nasser and HH Shaikh Khalid during the meeting

Deputy Prime Minister.

The programme was officially unveiled during the meeting of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, which was chaired

by HH Shaikh Nasser in the presence of HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, First Deputy President of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports

President of the Bahrain Athletics Association and Shaikh Isa bin Rashid Al Khalifa, Second Deputy President of the Supreme Council for Youth and

Sports and a number of their Excellencies, members of the Council.

The Response Programme came under Decree 1 for the year 2018 to form a

Committee for coordination, implementation and follow-up, that is specialised in preparing periodic reports and recommendations to develop and to find required solutions to achieve the Council's ambitions.

Composed of Abdullah Jihad Al Zain, Ayman Tawfiq Al Moayyed, Anmar Ahmedi and Ahmed Abdulghani, the Committee will work hand in hand with the President of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, the Ministry of Youth and Sports and Bahrain Olympic Committee and all the government agencies involved in this sector.

HH Shaikh Nasser confirmed that the launch of the Response Programme aims to organise and better manage the government budgets.

Kittel beats Peter Sagan to win Stage 6



Marcel Kittel celebrates

Tyrrhenian, Italy

Marcel Kittel (Katusha-Alpecin) edged out Peter Sagan (Bora-Hansgrohe) to claim stage 6 of Tirreno-Adriatico, while Team Sky's Michal Kwiatkowski retains the overall lead.

Fernando Gaviria clipped the wheel of a Quick-Step Floors team-mate with 10km to go to decimate the peloton, but, somehow, Pete Sagan, who was on the wheel of the Colombian, managed to avoid the carnage to chase down those at the front.

However, Kittel was able to hold off the challenge of the

three-times world road race champion to take the stage, his second of the seven-stage race.

Gaviria's lead-out man Maximiliano Richeze claimed third. Kwiatkowski finished safely in the peloton to retain his overall lead going into the final stage time trial on Tuesday. BMC's Damiano Caruso is second some three seconds back with Movistar's Mikel Landa a further 20 seconds back.

Geraint Thomas endured more problems as he suffered a puncture towards the end of the stage. (Eurosport)

Askar confidence of 'Response' success

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General secretary of the Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC) Abdulrahman Askar commended the step taken by HH Shaikh Nasser in Hamad Al Khalifa, representative of His Majesty for Charity Works and Youth Affairs, Supreme Council for Youth and Sports

chairman and BOC president to launch a new programme titled 'Istijaba' (Response), to develop the youth and sports sectors in Bahrain.

Askar affirmed the importance of such initiative, which will undoubtedly add more progress to both sectors and is one of several programmes recommended by Shaikh

Nasser in recent years. He stressed that the program, which aims at optimizing the investment of sports facilities in accordance with an integrated plan that contributes to enhancing the financial resources of youth and sports sectors.

It also looks for new sources of financing, and is considered a distinguished national project.



Abdulrahman Askar



Valtteri Bottas (file pic)

Mercedes' qualifying pace still 'unknown'

London

Mercedes Formula 1 driver Valtteri Bottas says the team's one-lap pace is "unknown" going to Australia because it did not feel the need to discover it during pre-season testing.

Lewis Hamilton set Mercedes' fastest time over two weeks at Barcelona but was 1.3 seconds slower than Sebastian Vettel's pacesetter Ferrari, with Bottas another tenth behind.

But Mercedes came out on top during the race simulations and Bottas said its focus on long runs means it will not have an indicator of its pure pace until qualifying for the Australian

Grand Prix in two weeks.

"The long runs and race simulation was very positive," said Bottas.

"We don't think we're anyway near one second ahead of everyone - that's not the case. [But] it was positive.

"It's nice to get some race simulation under my belt and feel the tyres and the car in the long run.

"There's so much more time in testing to try different things in the car and get comfortable in there. Lewis was pretty much doing the same.

"For us, I have to say the pure one-lap pace is unknown, but I guess we'll find out in a couple of weeks." (Autosport)