

Putting Bahrain on the Map

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Manama

It was not an ordinary initiative, but an effort to provide the special needs kids a normal day to day life by giving them a chance to know the mother nature. The results were magical and this happened in Bahrain at the Al Jasra Rotary Farm.

The project called 'Green House' by the Rotary Club of Sulmaniya received special recognition and was also awarded by the Rotary International.

"This is a big achievement for us as this is the first time where a rotary club in Bahrain has been awarded, been recognised internationally and further been featured at the International magazine," Ameera Ismail Past President of Rotary club of Sulmaniya, while talking about the project to DT News.

The initiative, which received many global accolades was also featured in the July 2017 issue of the Rotarian magazine, which is distributed globally to all Rotary clubs.

Commenting on the project, Sebhath Isik present vice president said, "The green house project was extremely beneficial as it was an amazing learning experience



Children and club members harvesting the vegetables

for the special need kids. We are constantly aiming towards working with various stakeholders to benefit the society and further we have many other projects coming in the future where we could give back to the society."

"The main idea behind this project was to make the special needs kids lead a normal day to day life, bring them out of the closed doors and give them a new experience," said Ameera Ismail.

The project took almost nine months to complete. It started with the seeding in the

month of September 2016 at the Al Jasra Rotary Farm.

Around 50 special needs children from the Society For The Blind, the Al Rahma Centre, and the Bahrain Down Syndrome Society took part in the project and planted vegetables like tomatoes, cucumber, cabbage, pumpkin and bell peppers at the farm.

"On the day of harvest, we took the kids back to the farm and it was such an amazing feeling to see them so delighted with this experience," she added.

The produce, following the harvest in January 2017, were sold in the local farmers market by the children.

"We went to the farmers market for four consecutive Saturdays, with a few kids from these societies. The kids were happy as they were selling the products, dealing with people and welcoming them," she said.

The club managed to sell the products for more than BD2000 which in return was donated back to these societies.



The children planting the seeds



The harvest stage



The children and club members at the local farmer's market with their produce

IT roles in future to be more challenging

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IT roles in the future will be more challenging, according to IT service management (ITSM) professionals who responded to a recent survey.

The survey, conducted by ManageEngine in collaboration with ITSM.tools, showed that ITSM professionals are expecting the industry to become more challenging.

The survey conducted in Bahrain consisted of ten questions that focused on the opportunities and challenges ITSM will see in the future. Eighty-two per cent of ITSM professionals believe that the IT roles of tomorrow will be more challenging — and the majority of the workforce currently feels undervalued by management.

Cloud technology continues to enjoy positive feedback from ITSM professionals in spite of a major outage. Artificial intelligence (AI) isn't seen as a major job disruptor yet, with only 16 per cent of respondents



Rajesh Ganesan, director of product management at ManageEngine

saying it will affect IT jobs. With an incoming millennial workforce, 77 per cent of ITSM professionals believe that IT teams will have to do more to manage the expectation gap between younger and older employees.

"With a total of 82 per cent of respondents believing that working in IT will get harder over the next three years.

Only 15 per cent of survey respondents didn't think that their life would get harder. As to why there's a higher response for "Yes, for some IT roles" than "Yes, for all IT roles" - this might reflect that some IT roles are getting harder, or it might just be the very-human assumption that "the grass is always greener on the other side of the fence." With respondents thinking that they are in a particularly difficult role versus their peers. For instance, service desk agents are usually under far greater scrutiny (and pressure) in terms of performance metrics and targets than most other, if not all, IT roles. Whereas in some areas, such as the management of legacy IT systems, roles might be viewed as being under less pressure and less likely to change," the report stated.

"The ITSM industry is continually evolving in response to its micro and macro influencers, like technology, people, practices and government regulations. Being aware of potential future challenges and opportunities

helps ITSM professionals stay relevant and responsive to changing landscapes in IT and business, giving their organizations a competitive edge," said Rajesh Ganesan, director of product management at ManageEngine.

"It's interesting — and worrying — that 82 per cent of survey respondents believe that working in IT will get harder over the next three years. There are multiple root causes, including: nearly two-thirds of respondents think that the current local and global political climate is adversely affecting IT recruitment; only 24 per cent of respondents think that existing ITSM best practices have kept up with the changing IT and business landscapes; and 77 per cent of respondents think that there is still more to be done to meet the expectations of millennial employees. Ultimately, as an industry, we still need to invest more in getting modern IT support right," said Stephen Mann, principal analyst and content director at ITSM.tools.

BKS begins Onam, Eid celebrations

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Bahrain **Keraleeya** Samajam (BKS) will commence its Onam and Eid celebrations on August 25, it was announced yesterday.

Highlights of this year's activities will be a grand feast prepared by Indian chef Pazhayidom Mohanan Namboothiri for 5000 people and entertainment programmes by 50 artists from India including playback singers Dr K.J. Yesudas, KS Chitra, G. Venugopal, Cine actress Aparna Balamurali and Devi Chandana.

Indian MP NK Premachandran will inaugurate the activities officially on September 1. Musical concert led by KS Chitra will follow, BKS organising committee, announced BKS President P.V. Radhakrishna Pillai and General secretary N.K. Veeramani during a press conference.

Kerala Legislative

Assembly speaker P. Sreeramakrishnan will be the chief guest of the finale on September 8, following which Dr K.J. Yesudas will perform live.

The programme committee is spearheaded by a 250-member committee led by General Convener Sankar Palloor and General Coordinator Babu Suresh. For details call 3336 4417 / 33115886.

Children's wing inauguration

The children's wing of BKS will hold its formal inauguration of its activities on Thursday at 8pm at the Diamond Jubilee hall. Popular Malayalam Film script writer and Actor Renji Panicker will be chief guest. Various cultural and entertainment activities will be held on the occasion by club members. Entry is free. For details contact Tiji on 39775584 or Karthik on 38033644.