



Minister of Finance and National Economy Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa yesterday met with Russian Ambassador to Bahrain Igor Kremnev. He welcomed him lauding strong relations between the two friendly countries and their perpetual growth in various fields. The Minister of Finance and National Economy stressed continuous economic and investment cooperation between Bahrain and Russia, praising advanced relations between both countries. He also reviewed with the ambassador the latest international economic developments.

Glimpses from the past



The first fleet of the Firefighting Directorate was introduced in the 1930s. It was then affiliated to Manama Municipality. The firefighting vehicle had bells, which rang loudly, while moving to attend to emergency cases. These bells were later replaced by sirens.

Media sector urged to adopt 'latest technologies' to win survival battle

'Media should rediscover to preserve its vital role as channels of communication'

Riyadh

The Saudi Media Forum opened yesterday in Riyadh under the theme "Media Industry: Opportunities and Challenges".

Addressing the two-day event, His Majesty the King's Advisor for Media Affairs Nabeel Al Hamer, warned against the de-

clining confidence in writers, journalists, press and media institutions, which would impact their financial revenues.

"The success of media institutions stems directly from trust, credibility and professionalism and the level of institutional organisation and professionalism of those in charge," he said.

He highlighted the current

difficulties and challenges facing the media industry and the press, citing particularly the emergence of new technologies, artificial intelligence and financial and human resources to sustain the media and press industry.

He stressed the need for the media and press to keep abreast of modern technological shifts to

survive and preserve their vital role as channels of communication in fast-changing world.

The current regional and global economic volatile situation, he said, took a heavy toll on the media and press sectors amid declining financial resources, which pushed press and media institutions to make drastic cuts.

He underlined current threats

confronting countries in the region, citing mainly the scourges of terrorism, sectarianism, tribalism, political Islam and external flagrant interference, in addition to rampant corruption and financial challenges, amid looming global economic recession.

He stressed the necessity for the Gulf Cooperation Council



Mr Al Hamer speaking at the Saudi Media Forum.

(GCC) member states to step up co-operation and deepen the Arabian Gulf citizenship.

He saluted the media and the press which are striving to withstand challenges and risks and pursue their mission despite lack of resources and dented capabilities.

GFH sets aside \$200m to tap into private education sector



GFH top executives with EDB, UNDP and other government and Education Ministry officials.

Manama

GFH Financial Group (GFH), has announced the launch of Britus Education, a K-12 education platform designed to take advantage of value opportunities in the fragmented trillion-dollar global private education industry.

In line with the launch of Britus Education, GFH has already secured seed K-12 schools in the Middle East for the platform, developed a robust deal pipeline and plans to conclude various acquisitions in the coming months with an initial target asset of \$200 million.

In line with the strategy Britus Education will employ, the forum will look at a number of key themes and opportunities including education for the many not the few; government in partnership with the private sector; and delivering returns to all.

A roundtable held in this regard was attended by senior representatives from the Bahrain

Economic Development Board, UNDP, Ministry of Education of Bahrain, Ministry of Education of Oman, Education Quality Authority of Bahrain, among others.

"I am pleased to unveil our Britus Education platform in line with GFH's strategy to deliver further value for our investors and shareholders and create a positive impact on the quality of education in the Middle East and globally," Hisham Alrayes, CEO of GFH Financial Group, said.

"The strength and significance of the experts and partners that will join us for our forum underscores the importance of investment in the education space and GFH's position as one of the most active private equity players in the regional education sector with a track-record of consolidating valuable partnerships and creating value for schools and investors alike. Developed and emerging markets have both seen a surge in private education during the last decade, where population growth and macro-

economic gains have supported the upward trend."

The establishment of Britus Education, with an industry leading team of experts will allow to capitalise on these factors and help investors benefit from the industry's growth via structured investments that take advantage of attractive opportunities we have and will continue to identify, he added.

Britus Education will focus on investing in performing schools that can be further improved through maximising student capacity, enhancing student academic outcomes, and optimising fee structures to be affordable for the rapidly-expanding mid-market.

Britus Education will create for GFH and its investors a pipeline of strong, income-generating opportunities in a defensive sector. It also provides exposure to a sector with high growth prospects and the resilience to deliver steady results regardless of volatility in the investment cycle.

Car number plate sold for BD76,000

TDT | Manama

A unique car registration was recently sold for a whopping sum of BD76,000 at an auction held.

Mazad revealed that a grand total of BD564,000 was received at the auction.

The event was the fourth public auction organised by Mazad in co-operation with Arabian Auction.

The organisers stated that the auction was a great success.

The registration (655555) was the highest earning number, which was sold for BD76,000. It was sold after an intense competition from participants.

Participants from various GCC countries were part of the auction. The number 644444 came second with a value of BD67,000, followed by the number 650000, which went for BD65,000.

On this occasion, Talal Al Arafifi - Chief Executive Officer of Mazad, congratulated all the winners of the special numbers.

He praised the efforts of Arabian Auctions and for their close co-operation for the success of the event.

The auction that aims to cater to a variety of collectors' tastes, comprised 25 numbers from a new set of unique vehicle licence plates starting from 640000 and 650000.

PRESENT

TFC Sama SAYA KAPAMILYA

DEC. 7, 2019
CROWNE PLAZA BAHRAIN
GATE OPENS @ 6:30 PM

WITH KYLA

Organized by: PERFECT SOLUTIONS ADVERTISING

**"HALINA, MAKISAYA AT MANALO"
SA BARRIO FIESTA SA BAHRAIN**

FREE RAFFLE TICKETS AND WIN LOTS OF LOTS OF PRIZES!

WIN THESE PRIZES FOR FREE!

Tara na Kapamilya!

Free Raffle Tickets will be given away from 2:00 pm - 4:00pm only

ACTIVITIES | 2-6pm :
Photobooth | e-Games | Hena Face Painting | Parole Making
Charcoal Sketching | Bazaar
Food stalls and many more...

For details please contact any Filipino Club ExecCom
39997288 | 66337114 | 36181083
39964364 | 33934177 | 37700409
39778560 | 39475508 | 33933437