

## HM the King receives governors and citizens on Ramadan's last 10 days

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His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa yesterday met remotely, at Al Safriya Palace, Southern Governor His Highness Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Muharraq Governor Salman bin Isa bin Hindi Al Mannai, Capital Governor Shaikh Hesham bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa and Northern Governor Ali Abdul Hussein Al Asfoor.

HM the King also met remotely citizens from the four governorates, marking the last 10 days of Holy Month of Ramadan, as part of HM the King's meetings with leading Bahraini personalities.

HM the King delivered a speech on this occasion, congratulating the audience and all the people of Bahrain on the holy month of Ramadan and the last 10 days of fasting, wishing Bahrain and its loyal people, the Arab and Islamic nations many happy returns.

He expressed delight at meeting the audience during these blessed days of Ramadan, taking pride in Bahraini longstanding traditions which mark the holy month and embody the noble Islamic values.

He praised the loyal people of Bahrain, expressing delight at their congratulations and good wishes marking the Holy Month of Ramadan.

He commended their keenness on reviving longstanding traditions during this blessed month of fasting despite these



HM the King

challenges times.

HM the King prayed to Allah the Almighty to lift the pandemic, bless the infected people with speedy recovery and the deceased with mercy in vast paradise and protect Bahrain and all countries in the world from any harm. HM the King extended greetings to all loyal citizens countrywide, appreciating their dedication to their families, homeland and nation

Southern Governor HH Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa congratulated HM the King on the last 10 days of the Holy month of Ramadan, reiterating full allegiance to HM the King and the homeland.

He praised HM the King's sound directives, lauding the vision and support of the Government, chaired by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

## Oil and gas sector investments discussed

● **HH Shaikh Nasser receives Oil Minister, ASRY Chief Executive**

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Representative of His Majesty the King for Humanitarian Work and Youth Affairs and Board Chairman of the Oil and Gas Holding Company (Noga-holding), His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, received Oil Minister Shaikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, and Arab Shipbuilding and Repair Yard Company (ASRY) Chief Executive Mazen Matar.

HH Shaikh Nasser expressed appreciation of the remarkable efforts of ASRY in promoting investments in the oil and gas sector, in line with the visions of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the aspi-

rations of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

HH Shaikh Nasser affirmed the importance of boosting the role of the oil and gas sector in supporting the national economy, in line with the kingdom's Economic Vision 2030.

He said the efforts of ASRY company will maximise achievements in the two vital sectors.

He discussed with the Oil Minister and ASRY Chief Executive various economic and investment issues pertaining to the oil and gas field. He was also briefed about ASRY's plans and programmes to further develop the two sectors.

Matar expressed thanks and appreciation to HH Shaikh Nasser for his efforts to upgrade the oil and gas sector and enhance the economic momentum, wishing him every success.

# 'Work as one team'

HRH Prince Salman calls on newly appointed officials to continue process of developing government agencies

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His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, yesterday met remotely with a number of newly appointed officials.

HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister said that developing government agencies is an ongoing process to ensure citizens continue to receive quality services.

His Royal Highness commended Bahraini citizens' excellence, adding that their aspirations and passion for suc-

cess, as well as their endurance in meeting challenges, are unmatched.

He emphasised the importance of continuing to work as one team, in support of the government's strategic plans and achieving the Kingdom's comprehensive development goals, led by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

His Royal Highness congratulated the recently appointed officials, wishing them success in their new positions serving the Kingdom and its citizens.

His Royal Highness noted that achievements are a meas-



HRH Prince Salman

ure of success, expressing his confidence in Bahraini citizens' ability to driving creativity and

excellence in the implementation of government plans, programmes and projects directed for the benefit of the Kingdom and its citizens.

The newly appointed government officials expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to meet His Royal Highness, and expressed their pride in being appointed by Royal Order to their positions.

The officials further noted His Royal Highness's continued support for the Kingdom's workforce, and for his continued commitment to further develop government workstreams.

## Protecting worker's financial rights

● **BFC Payments offers easy Employee Salary Account Opening compliant with Wage Protection System**

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The Kingdom of Bahrain has launched Wage Protection System (WPS) along with the collaborative effort of the Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) and Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB).

WPS will require employers to pay their employees through any medium facilitated by entities licensed by the CBB, protecting worker's financial rights which are governed by their contracts of employment. WPS is to be implemented as a three-phase programme with the first phase having commenced on 1 May.

BFC Payments, the Fintech arm of BFC Group, delivers digital payments services for Corporates, SMEs, Proprietors and Consumers. BFC Payments offers Salary Accounts for the workers to receive their salary and manage the salary using a mobile app.

The service provided by BFC Payments ensures WPS compliance for the corporates who disburse the salary through our straightforward process. The product will also help to boost the digital financial inclusion to the underserved and unbanked segment in the Kingdom.

Davis D Parakal, Head of Business Development, Strategic Partnerships and Innovation of BFC Payments said: "We are proud to be part of the LMRA's wage protection system. It ensures the timely transfer of wages to workers and at the same time brings simplicity and



A timely digital transfer of wages for workers



**BFC Payments, the Fintech arm of BFC Group, delivers digital payments services for Corporates, SMEs, Proprietors and Consumers.**

transparency to businesses.

"Currently our systems are WPS compliant and are processing salaries for multiple enterprises in the Kingdom. Our fast account opening process for businesses along with mobile wallet and cards for the workers make it a unique proposition in this market."

BFC Payments offers a mobile wallet that considerably reduces the customer dependency on cash, welcoming them to the mobile payment's ecosystem in the country. BFC Payments App also enables users to remit money back home at great rates quickly, safely and conveniently.

The App can be downloaded

by employees on the App Store and Google Play Store.

BFC Payments is a part of BFC Group which is one of the financial leaders in the region that includes an international network of money exchanges across four countries.

The history of the companies that are incorporated under the Group date back over 100 years, with Bahrain Financing Company (BFC) trading in gold bullion and continually growing its services.

For more information on BFC Payments, please visit [www.bfcpayments.com](http://www.bfcpayments.com) or contact a BFC Payments' business development officer on +973 1700 4548.

## Shura committee hails Ambassadors' visit to reformation centre

● **It reflects Interior Ministry's transparency and openness**

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The Shura Council's Human Rights Committee, chaired

by Ahmed Mahdi Al Haddad, has praised the positive outcome of the visit made by several Ambassadors to Bahrain to the Reformation and Rehabilitation Centre in Jau upon an invitation from the Ministry of Interior.

The Interior Ministry's initiative consolidates the principles of transparency and openness to which it is committed while

enforcing the law, implementing approved human rights standards, and providing great care and attention to inmates in the Centre, in addition to providing them with protection, and preserving their health and safety within the national measures to address Coronavirus (COVID-19), the committee said in a statement.

The committee indicated that the visit reflects the landmark achievements attained by the kingdom in developing the human rights system and delivering advanced services and programmes to inmates.

The panel pointed out that the visit to the centre is not the first of its kind, noting that many independent human rights or-

ganisations are keen to monitor the reformation and rehabilitation centres, in cooperation with the relevant authorities, as well as meet inmates to make sure that they enjoy their rights and basic needs, in accordance with the law.

The Shura committee lauded the health care and treatment services provided by the General

Directorate of Reformation and Rehabilitation to all inmates, citing its pioneering initiative to provide vaccines against COVID-19 for all inmates wishing to take them.

The panel added that the tremendous efforts exerted by the Interior Ministry embody its commitment to carrying out its national duty.