

HRH the Prime Minister praised on IDC initiative

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His Royal Highness the Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa received yesterday a number of congratulatory messages from all over the world on the occasion of the International Day of Conscience (IDC), which was adopted by the United Nations (UN) following an initiative by HRH the Premier.

World Health Organisation (WHO) director-general Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus lauded HRH the Premier for designating April 5 as the IDC, noting that the initiative carries noble goals that consolidate diversity, inclusiveness and collective action to keep the world safe.

The WHO chief stressed that, amidst the current situation the world is facing because of the coronavirus, it is "more pressing than ever to promote a culture of peace with love and conscience."

He expressed hope that everyone will seek to "champion diversity, inclusiveness and solidarity!"

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) marked the first edition of the IDC, considering it as a means to regularly mobilise the efforts of the international community to promote peace, tolerance, inclusion, understanding and solidarity, in order to build a sustainable world of solidarity, harmony and peace.



Meanwhile, Assistant Foreign Minister Abdullah bin Faisal bin Jabur Al Doseri noted that celebrating the IDC is another achievement to be added to the Kingdom's record in the fields of serving humanity and achieving international peace and secu-

urity through the promotion of religious, ethnic and cultural coexistence and diversity.

The Shura Council praised Bahrain's great success and accomplishments in the areas of tolerance, peace and coexistence. In a statement marking the IDC, the Shura Council said the initiative reflects the great interest of HRH the Premier in bringing together international efforts in the service of all societies.

Shura Council Chairman Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh extended his sincere congratulations to HRH the Prime Minister on the celebration of the IDC, which he said is a global appreciation of the Premier's tremendous efforts aimed at consolidating humanitarian efforts and promoting



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WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION DIRECTOR-GENERAL TEDROS ADHANOM GHEBREYESUS

global peace.

Council of Representatives Speaker Fawzia bint Abdulla Zainal pointed out that the UN's designation of April 5 as the IDC consolidates Bahrain's international status, and highlights the

tremendous efforts it is exerting to support global endeavours to promote peace, tolerance and co-existence, as well as the rejection of fanaticism, terrorism and extremism.

The Arab League also welcomed the initiative, which its secretary general says reflects an accurate understanding of today's world and the values that should be promoted to develop the mechanisms that regulate government and international action.

Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) secretary general Dr. Nayef Falah Mubarak Al Hajraf underlined the humanitarian aspects of the IDC, which he described as a new international achievement for GCC member states.

Success hailed in COVID-19 battle

HRH the Prime Minister lauds efforts of ministries in tackling repercussions of coronavirus pandemic

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His Royal Highness the Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa yesterday hailed the success of the Kingdom of Bahrain in tackling the repercussions of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

HRH the Premier stressed that this is thanks to the directives of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the follow-up of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier.

HRH the Prime Minister was speaking at his palace in Riffa during a work meeting with the Education Minister, the Labour and Social Development Minister, the Minister of Industry, Commerce and Tourism, the Minister of Health, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

HRH the Premier commended the efforts of all ministries in dealing with the current situation by taking the necessary precautionary measures that were highly appreciated by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and relevant international parties.

He thanked medical and nursing professionals for their distinguished national role on the



HRH the Prime Minister and other officials during their meeting yesterday

frontline in combating COVID-19. He stressed that they deserve every support and praise for their noble efforts, which have earned Bahrain an elevated status in handling the pandemic.

HRH the Premier affirmed that the Kingdom's success is owed to the solid and sound basis laid in the medical, educational and labour sectors, which helped contain the impact of the crisis.

HRH the Prime Minister listened to a briefing by Foreign Minister Abdellatif bin Rashid Al Zayani on what has been accomplished in carrying out his directives concerning the return of Bahraini nationals abroad and the efforts made in this respect, in accordance with

the government's keenness on citizens' safety wherever they are.

He was also informed by Education Minister Dr. Majid bin Ali Al Nuaimi about the educational situation and the ministry's plan to facilitate the students' academic acquisition and provide them with the best services.

HRH the Premier listened to a briefing on the Education Ministry's efforts, in coordination with the Foreign Ministry, to implement his directives regarding the evacuation of Bahraini students stranded abroad and ensure their return home. He was also informed about the Education Ministry's plan concerning the educational process



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HRH THE PRIME MINISTER PRINCE KHALIFA BIN SALMAN AL KHALIFA

in public and private schools, stressing the need to ensure that students' educational march is not affected.

Regarding his directives to intensify inspection and mon-

itoring campaigns to control prices and fight monopoly, HRH the Prime Minister listened to a briefing by Minister of Industry, Commerce and Tourism Zayed R. Al Zayani on what has been done in this respect. He was also informed about plans put in place to monitor prices of mainly basic commodities and ensure availability of those commodities on the market.

As for provision of social assistance, HRH the Premier listened to a briefing by Minister of Labour and Social Development Jamil bin Mohammed Humaidan on the services provided by the ministry to help people who have been affected by the outbreak of the coronavi-

rus. He was also informed about the steps taken to follow on the situation of expatriate workers, in coordination with the Ministry of Health and ensure their commitment to preemptive measures.

HRH the Prime Minister was also informed about the Health Ministry's plan to combat COVID-19 and follow up on the implementation of health regulations adopted according to the WHO's standards.

The ministers expressed their sincerest congratulations to HRH the Premier on his safe return to the Kingdom of Bahrain after his full recovery, lauding his efforts to boost development in Bahrain and serve the Bahraini people.

Capital Governorate launches survey

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A survey is being conducted by the Capital Governorate in an effort to gather information on the current business status and needs of entrepreneurs and small and medium enterprises, in light of the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

The Capital Governorate said that the information collected can help in better supporting local businesses.

"In light of the outbreak of the coronavirus (COVID-19), we are all concerned about the current business status and needs of entrepreneurs," said the Capital Governorate in a message prior to taking the survey. "We trust that through research and accurate information we can better advocate for our local businesses."

Hussaini Processions gives full support to COVID-19 battle

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The General Authority of Hussaini Processions yesterday lauded the directives of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa to all state institutions within the framework of the National Taskforce for Combating Coronavirus (COVID-19), to provide all means of support to medical facilities and public agencies for the safety and welfare of citizens and residents.

The authority commended the close follow-up of His Royal Highness Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, the Prime Minister, and the care and diligence of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, as well as his continuous support of the efforts of the national taskforce.

Such support, along with proactive measures, have placed Bahrain among the most advanced countries globally on the health, economic and social levels, the authority said.

It also expressed its pride in the medical

and nursing teams working in the health sector, who proved their great merit and ability in managing the repercussions of the virus on the health of Bahrain's citizens and residents.

The authority attributed the success to the one-team spirit and the sense of shared responsibility, resulting from advanced levels of awareness and mindsets in Bahrain, a country that embraces all people without prejudice or bias.

In its statement, the authority affirmed its support for all the measures taken by the various agencies in the Kingdom to limit the spread of the coronavirus and stressed that joint responsibility will result in health and wellness in Bahrain and the rest of the world.

The authority added that it deeply values the unlimited cooperation by all officials of community centers through full compliance with the official instructions and working in accordance with the requirements of the true Islamic religion.

"It gives us great pride to stand and cooperate closely with the state against this virus," the authority said.

Marine Control inspectors seize illegal shrimping nets

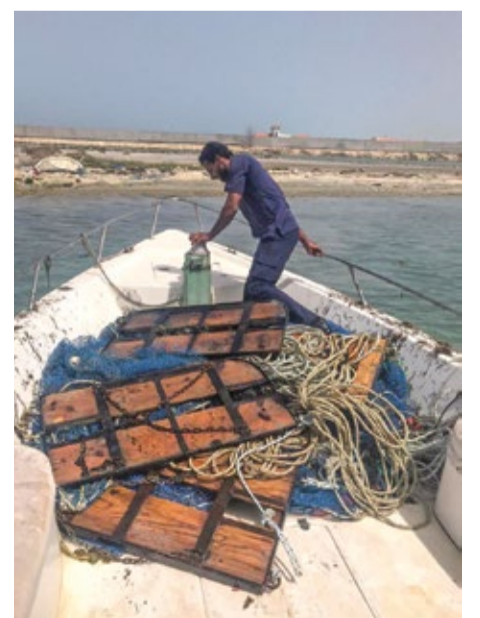
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Inspectors from the Marine Control Department at the Agriculture and Marine Resources Affairs seized yesterday a number of illegal shrimping nets.

This came during an inspection tour of the west coast of Bahrain.

The department indicated that the nets and other fishing equipment violated certain regulations that have been put into place to help protect the Kingdom's marine life.

The department calls on all fishermen to adhere to the Kingdom's fishing laws to ensure the sustainability of important resources, in terms of achieving food security in Bahrain.



An inspector checking on one some fishing equipment