

Strengthening freedoms and right to information

Amendments to Law on Press, Printing and Publishing provisions referred to parliament

● **Move is in line with HM King's directives regarding the issuance of a more comprehensive and advanced law for media**

● **It keeps pace with digital transformation and the huge communication and information boom in Bahrain**

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Amendments to provisions of the Law on Press, Printing and Publishing have been referred to the parliament.

The Cabinet in its weekly session chaired by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince

and Prime Minister, approved the memorandum presented by the Ministerial Committee for Legal and Legislative Affairs regarding amending provisions of the Law on Press, Printing and Publishing promulgated by Decree-Law 47 of 2002.

The move is in line with the directives of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa regarding the issuance of a more comprehensive and advanced law for the press and publishing.

This step is a highly significant response to developments in the media sector and it was taken following consultation with the stakeholders who shared their observations, views and recommendations.

The aim was to contribute to strengthening free expression and to consolidate the organisation of the activities of the media in all its forms in accordance with an advanced legislative vision where rights and protection are enhanced and which keeps pace with digital transformation



The amendments will boost responsible media freedoms

and the huge communication and information boom in Bahrain.

The amendments give way to licensing and regulating the websites of media companies, including publishing houses and print outlets and online platforms; online individual and private accounts and social networks are not covered by the law.

The amendments ensure many rights and civilisational gains, including the emphasis on not imprisoning journalists, which would contribute to enhancing media freedoms.

They also reinforce the potential of media professionals in exercising their duties and disseminating facts freely and with a high sense of awareness, security, independence and impartiality.

In order to protect the rights, values and principles of society, the amendments to the press law emphasise the importance of adhering to professional and ethical standards in the media.

The media should ensure accuracy, credibility, objectivity, transparency, honesty and responsibility in expressing opinion in accordance with the



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constitution and regional and international rights and media charters.

The media should also adhere to the standard ethics of respect-

ing the rights or reputation of others, protecting national security, public order, public health and public morals, and avoiding advocacy of any form of racial or religious hatred that incites discrimination, enmity, violence and terror.

Amending some provisions of the press and publishing law and referring them to the parliament represent an embodiment of the royal vision to boost responsible media freedoms within a modern democratic climate and an advanced constitutional and legal system.

It also reflects the keenness of the government headed by HRH Prince Salman to consolidate transparency, the right to information, and media openness.

The media can enhance its national role as a partner in preserving the cultural and civilised identity of the nation, and safeguarding its security and stability while enhancing its development and democratic achievements.

Lulu Hypermarket offers healthy Ramadan food at affordable prices

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Lulu Hypermarket has announced a healthy selection of Ramadan food as the Kingdom's families get set for the holy month.

With households preparing for the emphasis on sharing and carefully prepared home food, savvy shoppers will find plenty at Lulu to choose wisely and well.

Watch out for a Meat Festival that will offer the choicest prepared cuts of lamb, goat, buffalo, chicken and beef over an eight-day period starting 7 April.

To offer balanced diet choices, there will also be a Fresh Fruit Fair with delicious seasonal fruits from around the world - apples, oranges, berries from different countries and a wide variety of juicy watermelon as well as exotic fruits.

These will be complemented with a Dates and Nuts Special Promotion that will bring nutrient-packed dates in popular varieties such as Khudri and Safawi, apricots, figs, prunes, raisins, walnuts, almonds, cashews, pistachios and other delicious nibbles for the Ramadan table.

From staples like rice, flour, milk and milk powder, pasta and biscuits to Ramadan favourites such as fruit syrups, cheese, caramel custard and jelly and ready-prepared food such as kebabs, there is something for every food table in this promotion.

There are also great deals on kitchen equipment such



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as smart pots, food processors and air fryers, which can ease the rush in the meal preparation and keep food healthy.

Alongside the Ramadan shopping, you can also multiply your chances of winning big till July 7 with the Lulu 'Shop Big, Win Big' promotion.

For every BD5 that you spend, you get an e-affle to enter a draw to win over BD175,000 worth of Lulu shopping vouchers ranging in denomination from BD25 to BD100. There will be 400 lucky winners every fortnight, taking away BD25,000 worth of valuable Lulu vouchers.

What is more, there are bonus points for a big basket of brands and if you buy those, you get two e-affle tickets instead of one. So, make the most of your shopping and increase your chances of winning.

It's all available at Lulu - plan a healthy and fulfilling Ramadan at your favourite Hypermarket.

Bahrain, Serbia share keenness to boost youth and sports cooperation

● **HH Shaikh Nasser is pushing for exchange of expertise and experiences in youth and sports**

Belgrade

His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Representative of His Majesty the King for Humanitarian Works and Youth Affairs, has affirmed Bahrain's keenness to strengthen cooperation with Serbia in the areas of youth and sports.

HH Shaikh Nasser was speaking during a meeting in Belgrade



HH Shaikh Nasser with Minister Udovicic

with Serbia's Youth and Sports Minister Vanja Udovicic.

HH Shaikh Nasser praised the depth of the relations between the two countries in various fields, including sports and youth.

His Highness indicated that

Bahrain and Serbia have a distinguished relationship in the vital aspects of youth and sports consolidated by the regular meetings between the two sides, the latest of which was between the Kingdom's Youth and Sports Minister Ayman bin

Tawfeeq Al Moayad, with his Serbian counterpart.

HH Shaikh Nasser indicated that many joint initiatives will be launched soon through framing the bonds of youth and sports activities, which will contribute to strengthening cooperation, stressing that the two countries will benefit fully through the exchange of expertise and experiences in these two fields.

Udovicic welcomed the official visit of HH Shaikh Nasser to Serbia, praising the strong relationship between the two countries and the growing significance of the youth and sports aspects in light of the remarkable efforts exerted by HH Shaikh Nasser.

RCSI Bahrain holds Annual Research Conference

● **Virtual event highlights latest research projects**

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Under the patronage of His Excellency Lieutenant General Dr Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdulla Al Khalifa, Chairman of the Supreme Council of Health, the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland-Medical University of Bahrain (RCSI Bahrain) recently hosted its Annual Research Conference.

The event provided an oppor-



Dr Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdulla



Professor Atkin

tunity to review and discuss the latest research projects of its faculty and clinical colleagues, as well as peers from the Arabian Gulf University (AGU) and the University of Bahrain (UoB).

The virtual conference featured an opening address from Dr Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdulla and a welcome address from Professor Fergal O'Brien, Director of Research and Innovation, RCSI, Dublin.

Woman sues ex-husband

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The Court of Urgent Matters has rejected the case filed by a woman who was demanding her former husband to pay BD400 for a laptop and Internet service for their child, citing lack of competence.

The court had earlier ordered the father to pay BD40 monthly for the child's stationery and transportation for the 2020-2021 academic year, but rejected the woman's new demand to cover the cost of a laptop as well as BD13 monthly for Internet service.