

Social media influencers in Bahrain make 'less money'

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TDT | Manama

The social media influencers' income issue was revealed at the economic council, organised by the Bahrain Businesswomen's council, on June 4 at its site in the Mahooz area.

It was held under the title "The size of the market for influencers on social media and its impact on the economy".

The council was attended by a group of influencers on social media, a representative from the Labour Fund, Tamkeen, and a number of businesswomen and businessmen.

The President of the Businesswomen's Society, Ahlam Janahi, said: "The economic council is one of the most important events that we have been organising in the Businesswomen's society for years, and we strive to make it continuous to always keep up with the economic developments in the Kingdom."

Janahi explained that the society was keen to invite these influencers and Tamkeen and representatives of the private sector to display all means of cooperation between them,



Bahrain Businesswomen's economic council

present examples of their work, and how their activity can be utilised. Additionally, Tamkeen provides training courses for influencers and displays other means of support.

The First Deputy of the Businesswomen's society, Shaikha Aisha bint Mohammed Al Khalifa, welcomed everyone, emphasising the importance of holding this economic council every month and presenting a topic that concerns the economic sector in the presence of officials and stakeholders in this important sector.

During her speech, she listed the names of the influencers who participated in the council, including Ahmed Al Maghribi, Amina Boussif, Reem Ali, Zeinab Akbar, Sawsan Tahir, Malak



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AHLAM JANAH, BUSINESSWOMEN'S SOCIETY PRESIDENT

Noor Maghmool, Farah Abdul Kareem, and Iman Al-Ghawas.

The President of the Media Club for Social Media, Ali Sabkar, stated that influencers and bloggers are classified according to their specialties, whether as advertisers, opinion leaders, influencers, content creators, media personnel, or presenters,

including both male and female. Sabkar pointed out that the monthly income of these influencers in Bahrain is low compared to Gulf countries because of the fewer number of followers.

For example, the monthly income for an influencer in Bahrain ranges from BD500 to BD10,000, with no upper limit.

In Kuwait, the income is much higher due to the difference in society and the increase in the number of social media users, reaching millions in some countries.

The Head of the Evaluation Department at Tamkeen, Noha Suleiman, said, "We are honoured today to be present at this event and present the support provided by the Labour Fund to this category of influencers on social media, realising the impact of this sector on the national economy."

She emphasised the importance of having Tamkeen as an assistant factor in developing the work of those working in this field and providing programs to develop their skills.

Sustainable housing success highlighted at UN Summit Nairobi

Housing and Urban Planning Minister Amna bint Ahmed Al Romaihi stressed Bahrain's strides in achieving sustainability in the housing sector.

She highlighted the role of the ministry in spearheading programs in partnership with the private sector, citing the housing finance program, the government land rights development program, which aim to guarantee citizens immediate access to housing service without waiting periods.

Addressing the 2nd session of the UN-Habitat, being held on June 5-9 in the Kenyan capital, Nairobi, Al Romaihi noted that the Government gives full priority to providing decent housing for citizens through innovative and optimal programmes and initiatives.

"These initiatives are based on extensive studies that take into account the challenges facing the housing sector", she said, citing mainly demographic growth, rising number of applications and the need to optimize the budget allocated to the social housing sector.

Feeding animals in public places raises 'serious concerns'

Zahra Ayaz
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In a residential area like Hoora or Gudaibiya, feeding birds and other animals is a serious concern that has been brought up by a local.

Nithin claims that people purchase food from cold stores and discard it next to trash or on the streets for stray animals to consume, but this results in unpleasant odours.

"Throwing food items that are damp and smelly draws a lot of rodents and pests that carry a lot of diseases," Nithin said.

"Not only is it unsanitary to live with stray animals, but they also disrupt our sleep by making noises late at night."

He further said, "We feel that complaining about this situation would hurt the feelings of animal lovers, so we are unable to do so. However, we would like to ask that the streets be kept clean and hy-

gienic."

Fathiya Al Bastaki, a well-known animal lover in Bahrain and the founder of Bahrain Strays, told The Daily Tribune: "Individuals can feed stray animals and birds, but they shouldn't be dumped in busy streets or in neighbourhoods. They can feed the animals away from populated areas, perhaps close to an industrial region."

Muharraq Municipality launched a campaign to punish people who feed animals in the streets and public spaces with fines of BD300.

This action was taken after receiving complaints from locals that feeding birds and animals attracts pests and vermin.

Officials have pointed out that leftover food and waste of birds and animals on the sidewalks of roads, streets and vacant lands can pollute the environment, emit unpleasant odours and distort the general view.

'Early intervention' for autism

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Although talked about heavily, autism may be one of the most misconceived stereotypes that are talked about.

The current estimation worldwide is that 1 per cent of any population, both adults and children, has a diagnosis of autism.

To get a better understanding of autism, The Daily Tribune went down to the Alia Center for Early Intervention in A'ali, which promotes lifelong access and opportunity for all individuals with behavioral and communication difficulties.

When touring the center, it was revealed that children and adults have access to gardening classes, basic-skill classes, printing workshops, laundry classes, cooking classes, gyms, and much more.

Educators at the center relayed that teaching individuals with autism basic life skills helps them build an independ-



Art room



Cooking



Workshop

ent future.

Giving children the opportunity to take matters into their own hands, the printing workshop allows individuals at the center to work with big corporations like McDonald's by designing postcards for the company. Showing that people with autism can be a part of the community and contribute to society.

Also exceeding expectations, the center provides the ASDAN certificate, a UK qualification, which allows young people with autism to achieve meaningful learning outcomes, which elevates them to go on to further

education and venture out into the job market.

In an interview with Dr. Rania Ali Alkhalifa, President of the Bahrain Society for Children with Behavioral and Communication Difficulties, she highlighted that early intervention and parent training are the key factors to help those with autism develop ably.

Haidy Wadie Halim, deputy director at the Alia Center, also highlighted the importance of parents' awareness of their child's behaviour. "Parents should be educated on the early warning signs of autism, as early

intervention can most definitely shape the child's future."

The main signs to look out for are communication delay, no eye contact, social withdrawal, and behavioral problems that can appear as early as 12 months.

Both Dr. Rania and Haidy said that if parents do not take necessary action when symptoms arise, this can delay the child's development tremendously.

But, if the child is taken to a specialist at an early age, Dr. Rania, said that there have been cases where individuals with autism are able to live fully independent lives.

Highway lane set for closure

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The Ministry of Works has announced that the resurfacing works on Shaikh Khalifa bin Salman Highway between Wali Al Ahd Flyover and Roundabout 6 Un-

derpass necessitate closure of the slow lane for southbound traffic to Zallaq and two lanes will be provided for traffic movement.

The closure will be effective from tomorrow at 11pm for five days.

Health facilities inspection



The Protection and Safety Directorate of the General Directorate of Civil Defence has inspected several sites of radiation materials at health facilities. The visits inspect radiation safety requirements and procedures, alarm systems and firefighting systems

Cleanup campaign



The General Directorate of Verdict Enforcement and Alternative Sentencing has held a cleanup campaign at Al Malikya Beach for beneficiaries of the open prisons programme. The campaign was held in coordination with the Supreme Council for Environment to mark World Environment Day. It aimed to reintegrate the beneficiaries into society and promote nationalism values.