

Training institutions given green light

Set for September three reopening, precautionary measures announced, violators will face legal action

TDT | Manama

Training institutions in Bahrain's private sector can resume their activities starting 3 September 2020, as the Kingdom continues to ease its coronavirus (COVID-19) restrictions.

Jameel Humaidan, the Minister of Labour and Social Development, announced this in a circular released to training institutes yesterday.

As per the circular, Institutes are allowed to resume their activities, after a long hiatus, adhering strictly to virus precautionary measures recommended by the National Medical Team.

"Owners of the training institutions, trainees, administrative as well as training staff" should strictly commit themselves to the precautionary measures for their own and others safety, the circular reads.

Endorsed by the Government



Jameel Humaidan, the Minister of Labour and Social Development

Executive Committee, chaired by HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, the reopening measures are as recommended by the National Medical Task Force to Combat the Coronavirus (COVID-19),

headed by Lieutenant-General Dr Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, President of the Supreme Council of Health.

Periodic inspections

The Ministry of Labour and Social Development will conduct regular inspections to en-

sure compliance with health requirements, while warning legal actions against violators.

"Resumption of training activities is important for skill development and for sectors that require continuous training activities such as aviation, engineering, electrical and industrial technologies to name a few.

Humaidan said the government attaches prime importance for vocational training for it integrates Bahraini citizens to the labour market.

The current reopening decision, he said, follows a meeting held with the representatives of the owners of the private training institutions in the Kingdom.

In this context, the minister said the authorities have identified and approved a set of provisions to ensure the smooth functioning of virtual training and constant monitoring by authorities.

Mandatory requirements

Training institutions should provide protective face masks to all employees and trainees, who are also obliged to use them.

No individuals should be allowed to enter the premises of the institution without wearing facemasks.

Care should be taken to limit the number of students, so that distance between trainees in a classroom should not be less than 2 meters.

The circular requires the institutions to sterilised all shared tools and equipment daily as well as mandates employees, training staff, and trainees to undergo regular temperatures checks.

Entry should be denied to a person in case of higher temperature and should notify authority by calling 444.

The institutions should also alert authorities when detecting symptoms of potential infection or if a person happened to be in contact with an infected person.

Owners of the training institutions are also encouraged to continue virtual training and utilise the possibilities of merging classroom and online training sessions.

Training institutions are also allowed to hold international examinations individually or for a limited number of candidates, not exceeding five persons, including the observer.

Proactive measures boosted coronavirus battle

TDT | Washington

Proactive measures adopted by the Kingdom, well before detecting a coronavirus case, were instrumental in raising Bahrain's recovery rate as highest in the region, said Bahrain's envoy to the US.

The 98 per cent recovery rate, Shaikh Abdullah bin Rashid Al Khalifa said, is a testament to the Kingdom's innovative approach to contain the spread. Death rate here is 0.36pc.

He was speaking during a discussion on innovation for responsible governance during the COVID-19 pandemic.

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa treated citizens and residents alike in the battle, while also taking care to boost the number of tests conducted, Shaikh Abdullah said adding that HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, acted as a guiding force.

Bahrain, Shaikh Abdullah said, acted responsibly and with

Bahrain dealt with the pandemic responsibly and with full transparency on the basis that public health is linked to the security and safety of all citizens and residents

SHAIKH ABDULLAH BIN RASHID AL KHALIFA



"full transparency" in its battle against the COVID-19 pandemic with Kingdom's public health remaining committed to the "security and safety of all citizens and residents."

On Bahrain's strategies, Shaikh Abdullah said the Kingdom made several innovative approaches to contain the spread, citing "BeAware" app as one amongst them.

Others include "converting car parks to intensive care units, establishing temporary housing

for foreign workers who live in overcrowded areas and launching mobile examination (bus) units."

Economy to improve

When it comes to innovation, there are many opportunities for the government to join hands with the private sector, he said adding that the economic situation of Bahrain and the countries of the region will be in better shape next year, citing international reports.

He noted that Bahrain is expected to achieve 3 per cent growth in real GDP, as government spending has been reduced by 30pc to avoid exceeding this year's budget of expenses.

"Bahrain has always been aware of the importance of diversifying sources of income," the envoy said.

Financial sector contributes 16.7pc of the GDP. Closely following is the manufacturing and government services sector, Shaikh Abdullah said noting that the Economic Development Board had succeeded in attracting 134 foreign companies up to 2019.

30pc

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Southern Municipality, in association with the Municipal Council, launched an awareness campaign on building violations and unlicensed additions to new housing units dubbed "Your Building Permits". The campaign which began at Khalifa City educated citizens on the need to apply for various building permits virtually as well as encouraged taking necessary legal procedures before starting construction to avoid violations. The campaign distributed gifts to citizens and thanked them for responding positively. Officials said the campaign would continue in the housing localities of the southern regions.

Two more COVID-19 deaths

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Two more deaths yesterday took Bahrain's coronavirus (COVID-19) casualties to 161.

A 53-year-old expatriate man and a 64-year-old Bahrain citizen are the latest victims of the deadly pandemic, Bahrain's Ministry of Health announced on its twitter handle yesterday.

The deaths were announced separately, with health officials tweeting condolences to the families of the deceased.

As of yesterday, there were 89 COVID-19 patients in the Kingdom receiving treatment, out of which 36 patients are under critical care.

Some 2,919 active cases are there in the Kingdom, of which 2,883 patients are in a stable condition.

The ministry also announced conducting 6,831 COVID-19



tests yesterday increasing the total number of test conducted till date to 892,926

New 322 patients were detected yesterday of which 126 are expatriates patients, 192 are contacts of active cases, and four are travel-related cases.

The ministry also announced 273 recoveries from COVID-19 infection yesterday, bringing the total number of people cured of their infection to 40,549.

Authorities shut a restaurant in Adliya

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Authorities yesterday shut down a restaurant in Adliya, classified as tourist service, for violating coronavirus (COVID-19) precautionary measures.

The facility was shut following an inspection conducted by officials of the Department of Food Control Department, Inspection Department with the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism, and the Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions authorities.

Legal procedures are taken.

Officials said the facility violated multiple norms set as per Ministerial Resolution No. 51 of 2020 related to allowing reservation for customers and also failed to provide data on reservations. The restaurant's managers, officials found, also attempted to conceal information from the officials.



Officials sealing a restaurant in Adliya for violating coronavirus protocols