

Highlighting community, regional and international partnership

● International Anti-Corruption Day set for today

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Legislative committees marked International Anti-Corruption Day, observed annually on December 9, by emphasising Bahrain's ongoing efforts to strengthen integrity, enhance transparency, and combat corruption in all its forms.

These efforts are carried out under the leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, with the follow-up of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

The Shura Council's Financial and Economic Affairs Committee, chaired by Khalid Hussain Al Musallam, highlighted the government's integrated framework of legislation and oversight mechanisms that reinforce financial and administrative integrity.

The committee noted the role of the General Directorate of Anti-Corruption, Economic and Electronic Security in combating financial and economic crimes, enforcing the law, applying modern technologies to detect violations, and building institutional partnerships to safeguard public funds and strengthen confidence in regulatory and security bodies.

The Council's Financial and Economic Affairs Committee stressed that advanced legislation and effective oversight procedures have boosted institutional efficiency and accountability.

Traffic ease

Muharraq Municipal Council revives BD12m bridge and coastline upgrade plans



Muharraq Municipal Council meeting in progress

Mohammed Darwish
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A proposed bridge between Muharraq and Arad, expected to cost about BD12 million, was returned to the agenda by the Muharraq Municipal Council yesterday.

The council also approved a recommendation to proceed with feasibility work for upgrading the Al Dair and Samahej coastline.

Deputy chairman Saleh Bu-Hazza said the bridge would help ease movement between the two areas and reduce congestion on Muharraq's roads during peak hours.

Plans

He said engineering designs and technical plans should be prepared so the project can be presented to the relevant bodies.

The idea, he added, has been raised for years, with traffic growth adding weight to calls to move it forward.

On the coastal scheme, the Council approved the Services and Public Utilities Committee's recommendation after reviewing earlier updates stating that financial and technical feasibility studies are being prepared in coordination with the Ministry of Finance, ahead of presenting the project through



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- SALEH BUHAZZA, COUNCIL DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

the Government Investment Platform.

Aim

The aim is to set aside public waterfront spaces for leisure, support domestic tourism and attract investment tied to the development of coastal areas.

Members also discussed a request to allocate a park on a vacant plot in Arad to provide space for families within residential neighbourhoods, and considered setting aside an adjacent plot for car parks to serve residents and ease local

congestion.

Council member Ahmed Al Moqahwi called for better use of vacant land for parks and parking.

Control

He also urged closer control of leasing agricultural plots near housing, saying some had been turned into livestock pens.

Al Moqahwi said violations had been recorded and referred to the competent authorities.

In East Hidd, council member Mohammed Al Moqahwi called for new access points and streets, especially in Block 118 on Road 20, to reduce traffic queues linked to population growth following housing projects and new apartment buildings.

Routes

He said the limited number of current entry and exit routes has led to clear congestion during peak periods.

The councillor also called for an added access point to support emergency vehicles, including police, ambulance and Civil Defence.

Al Moqahwi further urged maintenance and resurfacing of Road 20 in the Bu Shahin neighbourhood, citing heavy daily truck traffic and the need to improve drainage and road quality in line with the area's growing needs.

25 illegal workers detained, 57 deported

● LMRA conducts 1,352 inspection campaigns, visits

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Twenty-five violating and irregular workers were detained and 57 others deported following 1,352 inspection campaigns conducted between November 30 and December 6, the Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) announced.

Inspection teams also monitored several breaches of regulatory laws, particularly those related to the Labour Market Regulatory Authority and Residence Laws in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Legal measures were taken against all recorded violations.

Shops

A total of 1,321 inspection visits were carried out across shops in all governorates, along with 31 joint inspection campaigns.

These included 17 campaigns in the Capital Governorate, four in Muharraq, four in the Northern Governorate and six in the Southern Gov-

ernorate.

Participating government entities included the Ministry of Interior, represented by the Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs (NPRA), the respective Police Directorates in each governorate, and the General Directorate of Crime Detection and Forensic Science.

Other participating bodies were the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, the Ministry of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture, the Bahrain Tourism & Exhibitions Authority (BTEA) and the Social Insurance Organisation (SIO).

Coordination

Joint coordination with government agencies will continue, with efforts intensified to conduct inspection campaigns across all governorates and address practices that undermine labour market stability or impact the Kingdom's economic and social security.

The authority also renewed its call for public support in reporting illegal labour practices through the electronic form on www.lmra.gov.bh, the call centre at 17506055, or the government's Suggestions and Complaints System (Tawasul).

LMRA-stc partnerships



His Excellency Nibras Talib, CEO of the Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA), has emphasised the authority's commitment to strengthening partnerships with the private sector to maintain Bahrain's role in the labour market and protect workers' rights. Also Chairman of the National Committee for Combatting Trafficking in Persons, Talib met with Khalid Al Osaimi, CEO of stc Bahrain and Chairman of stc Pay Bahrain. The LMRA official commended stc Pay for aligning its digital wallet services.

Fashion Meets Indonesian Heritage

Ghadeer Alkumaish
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The Ambassador Ballroom at the Diplomat Radisson Blu Hotel has hosted a refined cultural gathering.

Organized by the Bahrain Indonesia Business and Friendship Society (BIBFS) and supported by the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia to the Kingdom of Bahrain, the event brought together guests for a colorful fashion show, and a vibrant bazaar that highlighted the richness of Indonesian craftsmanship.

It featured a variety of booths, and one of the participating vendors showcased a selection of authentic Indonesian products, most notably Batik, one of Indonesia's most iconic cultural textiles.

Many of the items were handmade, including wooden hand fans, necklaces, lanyards, kaffans, and Japanese-inspired Obi belts, all crafted using Batik fabric.

Booth

The booth also displayed bags



Colourful products on display

made from Pandan leaves as well as others produced from recycled plastic, each item sourced directly from Indonesia and reflecting the country's rich artisanal tradition.

A collection of several designers, each presenting their own creative vision on the runway, were featured in a fashion show.

Among them was Bahraini designer Najma Fulath, with

whom we conducted an exclusive interview.

Her brand, Najma Line, takes its name from the Arabic word "Najma," meaning "star," reflecting her belief that every woman deserves to shine with confidence and elegance.

Founded in 2015, the brand is known for its refined simplicity, distinctive details, and timeless aesthetic.

Collections

Najma's collections feature high-quality materials such as pure linen, Indian linen, and pure silk velvet, all crafted to give her designs a graceful and unique presence.

The event ultimately served as a cultural bridge, celebrating the heritage of Indonesia while highlighting Bahraini creativity.

Through the bazaar and the fashion show, guests experienced the intersection of two artistic worlds, where traditional Indonesian craftsmanship met contemporary Bahraini design in an atmosphere that celebrated friendship, culture, and shared appreciation for artistry.

Advancing shared priorities between Bahrain and India



Prof. Marike Patrani Paulsson with H.E. Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, Dr. Pinky Anand and Mr. Mahdi Jaafar

● Promoting modern frameworks for international dispute resolution

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Professor Marike Patrani Paulsson, Secretary-General of the Council for International Dispute Resolution of the Kingdom of Bahrain, had a high-level meeting in New Delhi with Indian leadership

focused on strengthening bilateral cooperation across legal, judicial, and investment-related instruments.

On the Indian side, the meeting was led by H.E. Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, Hon'ble Minister of Law and Justice and Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs of India, and was attended by Dr. Pinky Anand, former Additional Solicitor General of India and Judge at the Bahrain International Commercial Court (BICC), along with Mr. Mahdi Jaafar, representative of the Embassy of Bahrain in New Delhi.

Discussions focused on advancing shared priorities between Bahrain and India, including investment promotion, legal and judicial cooperation, and the continued development of modern frameworks for international dispute resolution.

Both sides also explored ways to support cross-border investment, deepen institutional and legal ties, and identify next steps for enhancing cooperation following the successful official launch of the Bahrain International Commercial Court (BICC) in November 2025.