

REHC Maps Out Future Development Strategy

Sports, tourism and investment projects take centre stage at committee meeting

His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Minister of the Prime Minister's Court and Chairman of the Rashid Equestrian and Horse Racing Club (REHC) High Committee, today chaired a meeting of the REHC High Committee.



HH Shaikh Isa bin Salman Chairs REHC High Committee Meeting

HH Shaikh Isa bin Salman affirmed that the Kingdom's ongoing achievements in this sector underscore Bahrain's commitment to supporting and advancing equestrian sports, further consolidating its position as a leading international hub. His Highness attributed these successes to the support of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the directives of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

His Highness noted that the Kingdom's growing international presence in the sector the continued success of its championship races contribute to furthering Bahrain's position as a leading destination for equestrian sports. In this regard, His Highness un-

derscored the importance of building on the achievements through the implementation of development plans, strategic projects, and initiatives that support the sector's ongoing growth.

His Highness was briefed on the 2025-2026 horse racing season and commended the national workforce's efforts; their professionalism and dedication contributed to the successful organisation of races and championships throughout the season. His Highness also commended the contributions of partners and sponsors in supporting the season's success.

His Highness emphasised the importance of furthering efforts to enhance the sector's operations within the upcoming seasons.

The High Committee also

Bahrain International Trophy

- Bahrain's flagship international horse race.
- Attracts top horses, trainers and jockeys worldwide.

Bahrain Turf Series

- Prestigious international racing series.
- Boosts Bahrain's profile in global horse racing.

Committee Focus

- Enhance organisational and technical standards.
- Build on previous successes.
- Strengthen Bahrain's position on the international racing calendar.

reviewed the organisational aspects of the international races and championships hosted by the REHC, particularly the Bahrain International Trophy and

the Bahrain Turf Series. The meeting highlighted the importance of building on the success of previous editions and continuing to advance the organisational and technical standards of these events to strengthen their standing in the international horse racing calendar.

The High Committee also reviewed topics on the agenda and the latest developments related to sports, tourism, and investment projects included within the club's comprehensive development plan, which supports efforts to further establish the REHC as an integrated sports destination that contributes to the growth of the Kingdom's sports and tourism sectors.

In addition, the Committee reviewed matters relating to the racing programme, its regulations, and operational performance, as part of ongoing efforts to further enhance the quality and competitiveness of local and international horse racing in the Kingdom.

MPs seek new drug addiction treatment centre

TDT | Manama

Mohammed Darwish

A new state-run centre to treat and rehabilitate drug addicts has been approved by Parliament's services committee, after MPs said some families were being forced into costly private care.

The proposal, put forward by MP Maryam Al Dhaen, calls for a national centre with medical, mental health and social care units, along with rehabilitation and return-to-society schemes.

The centre would be staffed by doctors, psychologists and social workers trained to deal with addiction cases.

The committee approved the proposal by agreement of all members present, saying there were sound public grounds for sending it to Parliament.

MPs said addiction treatment centres run by the Health Ministry were not enough to meet need. This, they said, had left some families paying large sums at private clinics.

They also said direct state oversight was needed to keep care standards in check and deal with health and human concerns linked to addiction.

The proposal also seeks to help families living with addiction, widen public awareness and cut drug-linked crime.

The ministry said the unit is a specialist centre for the treatment and rehabilitation of people addicted to drugs and alcohol.

It said the unit works with



Maryam Al Dhaen, MP



The Health Ministry said treatment and rehabilitation for addiction patients are already offered through the Al Moayyed Unit at the Psychiatric Hospital, which falls under government hospitals.

consultants, psychiatrists, psychiatric nurses, psychotherapists, occupational therapists and rehabilitation staff.

The unit also runs outpatient clinics, a detox ward, a rehabilitation ward and a community follow-up programme aimed at helping former patients stay in recovery and return to society.

The ministry said the health sector would keep developing addiction treatment and rehabilitation services in line with science and sound health practice, in work with other bodies in prevention, treatment and rehabilitation.

Warns on AI Image Misuse

Legal experts highlight privacy protections amid rise of AI manipulation

TDT | Manama

Ghadeer Alkumaish

A senior official issued a strong warning about the legal risks surrounding the use, editing, and AI manipulation of personal images, stressing that individual consent remains essential under all circumstances.

Speaking during the Ministry of Interior's Al Aman Program, Colonel Dr. Osama Bahar emphasized that personal image rights are fully protected by law, even in the age of advanced artificial intelligence and digital editing tools.

"Everyone has the right to their own image. No one can film you without permission and no one can publish your photo without it. Agreeing to be filmed does not mean agreeing to publish it; each right is separate," Dr. Bahar said.

He explained that legal consent must be clear and specific, noting that permission to record a person does not automatically grant the right to publish or distribute the footage. He added that this principle has long existed in media practice, where broadcast approval was always required

separately.

Dr. Bahar warned that the same protections now extend more critically into the digital era, where images can be altered, recreated, or animated without a person's knowledge.

The warning also covered the misuse of artificial intelligence tools, stating that editing, modifying, or generating AI-based images or videos of real individuals without explicit consent could lead to legal conse-



"The law provides clear protection against unauthorized publication, manipulation, or misuse of personal images."

AMINA BUKHAMMAS, LEGAL EXPERT



"The owner of the image has rights to it. Your photo is still your photo; the rights stay with you."

COLONEL DR. OSAMA BAHAR

quences, including criminal liability and civil damages.

"You cannot edit an image without specific permission. You cannot animate it without permission either," he said, urging the public to treat personal images with caution and respect.

Separately, legal expert Amina Bukhammas, Associate at Manal Dhahi Legal

Group, reinforced the legal position, stating that image rights are closely tied to privacy and human dignity.

"The right to one's image is a personal right closely linked to human dignity and privacy. Permission to take a photograph does not automatically imply permission to publish it," she said.

Bukhammas noted that violations may carry penalties including imprisonment and fines ranging from 500 to 1,000 Bahraini dinars, depending on the severity of the infringement.

From The Court

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Rehab Mohammad

48 Marijuana Packets Seized: Asian Man Jailed for 5 Years

An Asian man has been sentenced to five years in prison, fined BD 5,000, and ordered deported after serving his sentence, following the Court of Appeal's decision to uphold his drug trafficking conviction.

The case stemmed from information authorities received that the accused was selling drugs. Investigations confirmed the tip, leading to an undercover operation where an informant

arranged to purchase marijuana worth BD 130 from the suspect.

Police arrested the man during the transaction and recovered marked cash along with additional money in his possession. Officers also discovered 48 packets of marijuana, further quantities of cannabis, and hashish after searching his residence.

The accused admitted during questioning that he obtained the

drugs from multiple locations arranged by another individual. He was charged with supplying marijuana for payment without authorization and possessing illegal drugs.

The court ordered a five-year prison sentence, imposed a fine, confiscated the seized substances, and ruled that the defendant be deported after completing his sentence. The Court of Appeal later upheld the verdict.

Appeals Court Cancels BD14,987 in Fees in Time-Barred Rental Dispute

The High Rental Appeals Court canceled nearly BD14,987 in maintenance and service fees claimed by a property owners' association, ruling that the amount was time-barred under the five-year statute of limitations.

The case involved a claim exceeding BD40,000 in unpaid charges accumulated between 2011 and 2023. The apartment owner challenged part of the

claim, citing provisions of the Civil Code related to prescription periods.

The court ruled that periodic service charges are subject to a five-year limitation and found that amounts due before November 9, 2015, could no longer be legally claimed. It also noted that a previous lawsuit had interrupted the limitation period for eligible dues.

After reviewing payments

and applicable periods, the court determined that BD14,987.199 of the claim was time-barred, while the remaining valid amounts could still be recovered.

The court therefore overturned the claim only in relation to the expired portion and ordered the appellant to bear legal costs, while allowing recovery of dues not affected by the limitation period.

Inside Bahrain's Space Drive

Engineers Trained on Arab 813 Satellite Mission



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Hasan Barakat

Engineers and specialists took part in a hands-on workshop organised by the Bahrain Space Agency, where they were introduced to Arab 813, one of the Arab world's most advanced collaborative satellite missions.

The session was led by senior space data analyst Aisha Ali Al Hajri, who guided participants through the practical applications of satellite technology and how space-based data is used to better understand environmental challenges on Earth.

At the core of the workshop was the Arab 813 satellite project, a regional initiative led by the United Arab Emirates with contributions from scientists and engineers across the Arab world. The mis-

DO YOU KNOW

- Bahrain's space milestone
- "Al Munther" nano-satellite (3.2kg)
- Launched via Falcon 9 (Transporter-13 mission)
- Equipped with AI, imaging, and cybersecurity systems

sion focuses on climate monitoring and environmental analysis, providing high-resolution data to support research and policy decision-making.

Participants were briefed on the satellite's advanced systems, including hyperspectral imaging technology capable of capturing highly detailed information across the Earth's surface. The satellite operates in a sun-synchronous low Earth orbit and is equipped with SWIR and VNIR sensors, as well



Launch of Bahrain's satellite "Al Munther" in March 2025

as a high-resolution panchromatic camera to deliver multi-layered environmental observations.

Beyond technical training, the workshop placed strong emphasis on human capital development. Attendees were introduced to the Arab Space Pioneers programme, which aims to nurture a new generation of Arab researchers by linking academic study with real satellite mission experience.

The initiative provides postgraduate students and young professionals with practical exposure, research opportunities, and specialised training, enabling them to contribute directly to ongoing space missions rather than purely theoretical study.

Officials said the workshop reflects Bahrain's long-term strategy to build local expertise and deepen participation in regional and global space initiatives.