## news of bahrain

#### CAPTAINS CORNER

Taking the pulse of healthcare sector



**CAPT. MAHMOOD AL MAHMOOD** 

That a wonderful contrast our compassionate leaders have set as a standard for the world. While healthcare frontliners in the rest of the world fought lack of PPEs, non-payment of salaries and overwork, in Bahrain, our Prime Minister HRH Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa has issued a thoughtful stay on collection of fines or financial dues for non-renewal of licences as of February 2020.

This comes over and above stimulus packages designed to cushion healthcare heroes from the financial pain COVID-19 outbreak.

Even in the so-called advanced and developed nations, hospitals and healthcare personnel have been scrambling for testing kits against the pandemic and

The Kingdom is giving priority to skilled Bahraini medical inflicted by the personnel and seeking to push Bahrainisation of the sector to over 80% just like the banking and finance sector.



PPE for frontliners. Bahrain, by contrast, was among the first countries of the GCC. to purchase testing kits in large numbers even before the crisis hit full-blown proportions and there is a strict pandemic protocol to protect frontliners.

Spurred by the example of our leaders, the private sector too has time and again shown special respect for healthcare frontliners. At the Lulu Hypermarket, for example, there are priority checkout counters for healthcare personnel. Even in small cold stores, the neighbourhood nurse or doctor is treated with awe these days as they battle to keep us all safe.

At the turn of the 20th century, around the 1930s, Bahrain's healthcare system was manned by a handful of Western and Indian doctors and nurses who braved disease and death to bring the blessing of modern healthcare to the people of Bahrain and neighbouring countries, travelling across to Basra and to the Eastern Province on dhows to meet patients. With time, many inspired Bahrainis joined the medical profession and today many nationals hold responsible posts as doctors, surgeons, nursing teams and paramedics. We have pioneering doctors and even a Bahraini Florence Nightingale – Dr Naima Al Qaseer - the highest-ranking nursing expert who is in charge of WHO in Egypt. The Kingdom is giving priority to skilled Bahraini medical personnel and seeking to push Bahrainisation of the sector to over 80% just like the banking and finance sector. Bahrain has now instituted a timely award under the patronage of and in the name of our PM for doctors and medical personnel who contribute significantly to the Kingdom's healthcare improvement. We thank our leaders for so wisely taking the pulse of the times and boosting our vital healthcare sector.

### Turning marble into heritage

TDT | Manama

#### Here artists are busy!

They are chiselling away chunks of solid matter from the huge blocks of marble before them, transforming them slowly into compositions depicting Bahrain's heritage, culture, and closely knit societal fabric.

The venue is Bahrain International Airport Marble Sculpture symposium.

Watching the proceeding carefully among others are Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications and Bahrain Airport Company (BAC) Chairman, Kamal bin Ahmed Mohammed.

He was at the three-week project to review the progress of the work which will transform BIA into a world-class boutique symposium. airport and a key driver of national economic growth.

event is taking place in a fully equipped facility with 10 leading Bahraini sculptors near the airport as part of Airport Modernisation Programme (AMP).

The minister said: "This symposium is an opportunity to showcase the talent of Bah-



Minister Kamal bin Ahmed Mohammed during his visit to the Bahrain International Airport Marble Sculpture

in local and international exhibitions, have Organised by BAC and Hind Gallery, the displayed their work at several world-famous which will regularly display Bahraini antiques venues.'

"Every element of the new facility has been carefully selected to reflect Bahrain's culture lection of local products, food and beverage popular attraction for tourists."

raini artists who, through their participation week project expressed pride in the initiative. side the airport.

The new terminal will house two galleries and art

Souq Al Qaisarya will feature a broad seand heritage and envisioned to become a outlets, Bahraini jewellery, an art gallery, and a theatre, enabling passengers to experience The sculptors participating in the three- the Kingdom without having to set foot out-

# **Police registers 10,866 cases for not wearing face masks**

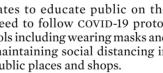


#### TDT | Manama

Bregistered 10,866 cases Administration of Ports Security public places and shops. against those failing to recorded 84 violations related to He also warned strict in wear face masks in public settings non-usage of face masks. since the implementation of COV-

Of the total cases, 2,989 were re- ifa, Assistant Chief of Public Secu- lines, including continuous hand corded in Muharraq Governorate, rity for Operations and Training washing and social distancing, are active participation of women 2,643 in Northern Governorate, Affairs, said the Interior Ministry equally important. "It is important to wear face awareness among female citizens 2,096 in Capital Governorate and is pressing on with awareness 1,808 in Southern Governorate campaigns in various governo- masks properly to curb the spread and residents

Police Directorate. Besides, the rates to educate public on the of the virus, as most of the people Operations Department head- need to follow COVID-19 proto- are currently wearing it under ed by General Security record- cols including wearing masks and their nose." ahraini authorities have ed 1246 violations, and General maintaining social distancing in



against any such violations in this various languages to help spread Brigadier General Dr Sheikh regard. In addition to wearing the information among foreign ID-19 preventive measures began. Hamad bin Muhammad Al Khal- face masks, other health guide-

Police personnel are currently educating the public on the cor-He also warned strict measures rect way of wearing a mask in workers and communities.

The Assistant Chief hailed the police personnel in enhancing

In pictures, officials during a campaign held to ensure the proper following of coronavirus precautionary measures

(Captain Mahmood Al Mahmood is the Editor-in-Chief of The Daily Tribune and the President of the Arab-African Unity Organisation for Relief, Human Rights and Counterterrorism)



Starting on April 9, as per **Government of Bahrain's** official efforts to combat the spread of Covid-19, everyone must wear a facemask in all public venues.

The Government of Bahrain has stated that anyone subjected to guarantine must comply or face up to three months in jail and a fine of up to 10,000 BHD



In pictures above are Busaiteen Walkway, one of the preferred destination of people here in Bahrain and an ideal location for a weekend family getaway. The walkway is also a favourite location for photographers, thanks to the charming view of the sea it provides. The walkway, which was opened in conjunction with Bahrain Sports Day. has 80 fitness devices and uses clean and renewable energy. With over a parking space for 400 cars, the location is also easy to approach. According to Minister of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning, Essam Khalaf, the project is one of the prominent development in Bahrain that forms part of Vision 2030. The 1.829 million dinars project which enjoys a length of 2 kilometres includes a public square, green spaces, restaurants in over more than 43 thousand square metres. The walkway is also the first of its kind in Bahrain that works on renewable energy.