

Rely only on accurate information: Al Derazi tells rights organisations

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The National Institution for Human Rights stressed the importance of foreign human rights organisations in obtaining accurate information to avoid disseminating information contrary to the truth. Ali Ahmed Alderazi, the Chairperson, National Institution for Human Rights, said: "Anyone who wants to know the facts on the ground should derive them from their sources." Alderazi explained that health care is one of the constitutionally guaranteed rights for everyone without exception. The National Institution

for Human Rights periodically conducts visits to reform and rehabilitation centres to check the quality of health services provided to inmates.

Bahrain, he said, had more than one institution for human rights to perform these tasks.

"These include the Prisoners and Detainees Rights Commission and the Ombudsman at the Ministry of Interior."

Al-Darazi pointed out Bahrain has not arrested anyone for exercising peaceful political activity. "Article 23 of the constitution guarantees the freedom of expression, which includes the right of assembly and organising rallies."

SEA, MAETEL discuss renewable energy investment

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Sustainable Energy Authority (SEA) President, Dr Abdulhusein bin Ali Mirza, and officials of Spanish MAETEL company yesterday held discussions on renewable energy investments in Bahrain.

The discussions held remotely highlighted Bahrain's renewable energy achievements and key projects, initiatives and investment opportunities.

Dr Mirza also shed light on national efforts to become carbon neutral and achieve national renewable energy goals.

Spanish MAETEL company is an offshoot of the ACS Group, a subsidiary of Liwa Investment Corp.



Dr Mirza commended MAETEL's contributions to mega energy projects worldwide, spanning more than twenty years.

The SEA President also hailed the company's interest in investment opportunities in the Kingdom.

Works Minister tours projects in Capital Governorate

● Focus on developing walkway projects in all governorates: minister

● Umm Al-Hassam walkway project completed 98%

● Third phase of the Prince Saud Al-Faisal Walkway on way

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Essam Khalaf, the Minister of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning, yesterday held a field visit to review the progress and feedback of various development and service projects ongoing in the Capital Governorate.

The projects are being developed based on approvals from the government headed by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

The minister stressed the government's keenness to collect feedback from officials and people to develop the facilities with the highest standards and make maximum use of the available resources.

He explained that work is un-



Works Minister during a tour to review projects in Capital

derway within the ministry's strategy to implement several development projects in the capital governorate, including the Umm Al-Hassam walkway.

Umm Al-Hassam walkway

Umm Al-Hassam walkway project, the minister said, achieved 98% completion and is expecting completion in the first quarter of this year.

The minister also pointed out that the project includes

solar-powered lighting to save energy and reduce the cost of maintenance and operation.

"We also installed shaded chairs and seating as well as planted evergreen trees to increase the green area."

He added: "The focus was on planting environmentally friendly trees."

Prince Saud Al-Faisal Walkway

On the third phase of the Prince Saud Al-Faisal Walkway,

the minister said that works had begun and would hopefully complete in the first quarter of this year.

"The project includes tracks for walking, running and cycling, green spaces, tourist and recreational facilities, restaurants and services."

The project extends between Juffair and King Faisal Corniche over 14 kilometres.

He further stressed that the development of Prince Saud Al-Faisal Walkway (Phase III) would kick-start the urban development of the Manama waterfront.

"This project aims to improve the appearance of the landscape and increase the green spaces in the area to reduce pollution and use the empty spaces of the road as safe walkways and bike paths."

The minister said the current walkway has a length of 1.7 kilometres and a width of 4.5 meters. The total area estimated for the use of bicycles and pedestrians is 7,600 square meters, which will be re-allocated for walking.

The minister explained that the effort is to link projects having waterfronts, central parks and public roads to walkways that serve citizens and residents to practice sports.

"The ministry is keen to launch walkway projects in all

governorates of the Kingdom."

Road development in Juffair

Essam Khalaf said the ministry is to launch projects for road development, sewage network, and landscaping at Block 324 in Juffair. The project calls for developing sidewalks, bicycle paths, parking lots, landscape, rainwater and sewage networks and street lights.

Lighting poles

Works Ministry, the minister said, had also completed two projects to increase the number of lighting poles in Complex 373 in Bou Ghazal, which included the installation of 65 lighting poles and replacing 60 lighting units with an LED system.

"The ministry also completed a lighting project in Complex 324 in Al-Fateh, which included installing 30 new lighting poles and replacing 89 lighting units with LEDs."

MP Ammar Al-Bannai, Ahmed Al-Khayat, Undersecretary for Works Affairs, Sheikh Mohammed bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Undersecretary for Municipal Affairs, Saleh Tarada, Chairman of the Capital Municipality Council, Mohammed Saad Al-Sahli, Director General of the Capital Municipality, Kazem Abdul Latif, Assistant Undersecretary for Roads, and ministry officials were present.

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ESSAM KHALAF

MoH updates booster protocols: Fourth dose after three Sinopharm jabs



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Health Ministry announced updating the booster dose protocol for vaccinated and recovered individuals.

Sinopharm -fourth dose

Accordingly, those who received three doses of Sinopharm will get the second booster dose (fourth dose) three months after the first booster shot. Jabs will be either Pfizer-BioNTech or Sinopharm.

Citizens and residents who are vac-

inated, recovered and received two doses of Sinopharm should obtain their first booster dose three months after the second dose. However, those 40 years and over, or under 40 years and suffering from obesity, immunodeficiency diseases or chronic diseases should get the third dose a month after the second. Those between 12 and 17 years can get their booster six months after the second dose.

Covishield-AstraZeneca, Pfizer, and Sputnik

Those who had received two doses of the "Covishield-AstraZeneca, Pfizer-BioNTech, and Sputnik vaccines and above 18 years of age can receive the first booster dose three months after the second dose.

The Ministry also allows those who are "recovered" and received two doses to get their booster dose six months from the date of infection and the passage of the specified time from the second or first booster dose. They can obtain a booster dose of Sinopharm, Pfizer, or Sputnik.

Ministry shuts a restaurant in Capital

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Health Ministry yesterday announced closing a restaurant administratively in the Capital Governorate for violating Yellow level COVID-19 precautionary measures on Thursday evening.

The closure came during inspection visits carried out by the ministry in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Industry,

Commerce and Tourism, and the Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority.

Officials visited 183 restaurants and cafes and booked 16 for not adhering to COVID-19 measures.

The officials also visited 43 men's salons, of which 22 salons are facing legal actions for COVID-19 violations. Of the 13 women's salons inspected, three are facing actions.