

**Bahrain-Oman ties lauded**

His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa yesterday received Oman's Ambassador to Bahrain, Abdullah bin Rashid Al Medailwi, who presented to His Royal Highness an invitation to attend a reception marking the Sultanate's 48th Renaissance Day. HRH the Premier praised the relations and co-operation between the two countries and their steady growth in various areas thanks to their aspiration to promote them. HRH the Premier lauded the Sultanate's advancement, progress and prosperity under the leadership of Sultan Qaboos Bin Said, stressing Bahrain's keenness to further consolidate the co-operation and open new areas to serve the shared aspirations of both countries. The ambassador praised HRH the Prime Minister's continuous interest in boosting the advanced Bahraini-Omani co-operation.

# Conference stresses benefits of more women entering politics

HRH Princess Sabeeka highlights the active role of women in the Kingdom's political scenario

TDT | Manama  
Harpreet Kaur

With an aim to promote women's participation in politics, legislative process and decision-making, the Supreme Council for Women (SCW) yesterday hosted an international conference on the importance of women's political participation in achieving overall development and justice.

Held under the patronage of HRH Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, Wife of HM the King and SCW President, the conference will run until today and will emphasise on the nature of challenges that women still face in the field of politics.

Speaking on the occasion, HRH Princess Sabeeka highlighted that the Kingdom is witnessing an unprecedented increase when it comes to the participation of women in politics.

"Women have become an integral part of the workforce in almost all fields and even many have achieved successful leadership positions in the private sector



HRH Princess Sabeeka with senior government officials and dignitaries at the conference.



**Women's presence in legislature is one of the most important steps to address the issues faced by women in any country.**

MS CLARK



Ms Al Ansari speaks at the conference.

and public sector," HRH Princess Sabeeka pointed out.

"The efficiency of Bahraini women qualifies them to lead in

all national fields, including the field of political work. They have

proved their capabilities through their active participation in almost

all sectors that they can work professionally and competently.

"With the legislative and municipal elections fast-approaching, we have seen an increased

number of participation of women in the political process.

"The Council will continue its efforts in the field of policy formulation, renewing legislative frameworks and following up on the implementation of gender-specific plans aimed at achieving gender balance at the national level."

Hala Al Ansari, Secretary-General of the Supreme Council for Women, stressed the importance of allowing women in decision-making positions and further supporting them in order to make more effective.

Helen Clark, Former Prime Minister of New Zealand and Princess Sabeeka Bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa Global Award for Women's Empowerment jury panel member, said women's presence in legislature is one of the most important steps to address the issues faced by women in any country.

"In my experience in the New Zealand Parliament, it wasn't until we had a women minister who could make a real difference. As a minister of health, I was able

to pick up issues that were never on the agenda until there were

women to push them. I think that is the key thing parliaments, that don't have women are missing out on a momentum that is to address issues, which are particularly of interest to them," she told Tribune.

"With the elections around the corner here, I am really hoping for more women to make it into the legislature. I believe women are as qualified as men to enter politics.

"There are many challenges faced by the women across the world. When I speak about breaking a glass ceiling, I am very conscious of my experience in a Western democracy with well-established women rights."

Dr Amal Al Qubaisi, President of the Federal National Council, the UAE, said education is the baseline when it comes to women empowerment.

"Education has opened many new areas of excellence for women in my country. Women must be given an opportunity to work in all areas including active participation in politics."

## NIHR to observe polls

Manama

Chairperson of the National Institution for Human Rights (NIHR), Maria Khoury, yesterday received the Senior Adviser of the European Union Delegation, Alexis Konstantopoulos, in the presence of Vice-Chairman, Abdulla Ahmed Alderazi, and Secretary-General, Dr Khalifa bin Ali Al Fadhel.

Khoury stressed the impor-

tance of further strengthening relations with the EU, expressing appreciation of the efforts being exerted by Alexis Konstantopoulos, and the role he is playing.

The two sides, while tackling the upcoming parliamentary and municipal elections, highlighted the NIHR's role in observing them.

In this regard, Khoury said that the NIHR, in line with its mandate, will observe the elections

through field presence in a number of polling centres to ensure the elections' fairness and integrity and smoothness, as well as to issue its report on them after the end of the second round.

Alexis Konstantopoulos expressed appreciation of the tremendous efforts exerted by the NIHR to consolidate and protect human rights in the kingdom, lauding the progress in the NIHR's work recently.

## Much-awaited premiere



Cinephiles were spellbound with excitement at the exclusive Bahrain premiere of the much anticipated film *Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald*. Hundreds of fans, competition winners and esteemed guests were treated to the electrifying screening of the blockbuster movie held at Mukta A2 Cinemas.

## Charm Pageant set



A selection round was held at the Elite Grande Hotel for the Charm Pageant organised by the Indian Ladies Association. Many men and women from diverse backgrounds took part in the selection process. Participants were judged on the basis of overall personality, talents and communication skills. The final round of the contest will be held tomorrow at the Crowne Plaza from 6.30 pm onwards. Famous Indian comedienne Anu Menon, popularly known as Lola Kutty for her character show in Channel V, will headline a laughter session to be held as part of the event, which aims to raise funds for the Sneha Recreation Centre for Differently-abled Children. To know more, give a ring on 36310050 /36611041 or shoot a mail to ilabahrain@gmail.com.

## NOTICE OF COMPLETE CEASING OF ALL SERVICES

(Article 50 of CBB Law)

Pursuant to Article (50) of the Central Bank of Bahrain and Financial Institutions Law No. (64) of 2006, **Money on Demand Mode Bahrain W.L.L** hereby gives notice that an application has been submitted to the Central Bank of Bahrain for the purpose of announcing their intention to cease all financial services licensed by the Central Bank of Bahrain in accordance with the Commercial Registration No. 69732 issued on 27/8/2007. Details of the business to which this application relates can be obtained from Liquidator, Address, Villa 12 - Road 3201 - Block 332 Manama/ Bu Ashira Tel: (+973) 17822440 - Mob: (+973) 39333324.

Persons wishing to object to the said cessation of business should submit their objections in writing to the Central Bank of Bahrain (Director of Financial Institutions Supervision Directorate) within thirty days of the date hereof on P.O. Box 27 - Manama- Bahrain or Fax (+973) 17531636