

High elections committee formed

Elections to parliament and municipal councils will commence on November 24

Manama

Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments Minister, Shaikh Khalid bin Ali Al Khalifa, yesterday issued an edict, forming the High Committee to oversee the integrity of the elections of the members of the Council of Representatives.

Under the edict, the panel, chaired by the Justice Minister, comprises Judges Abdulrahman Al Sayed Ahmed, Masooma Abdulrasool Isa, Khalid Hassan Ajaji, Judge Mohammed Hassan Al Buainain, Chancellor Wael Al Bualai, Chancellor Osama Ali Al Afi and Judge Mohammed Said Al Aradi.

The minister also issued a second edict, appointing the President of the Legislation and Legal Opinion Commission (LLOC), Chancellor Nawaf Abdullah Hamza, as Director of the Executive Committee of the High Elections Committee.

In a third edict, the minister formed the elections' supervisory centres for the parliamentary elections.

The Capital Governorate Supervisory Centre will be located at the Khawla Secondary Girls School and chaired



Shaikh Khalid

by Judge Fatima Faisal Hubail while Muharraq Governorate Supervisory Centre will be located at the Al Hidayat Al Khalifa Secondary Boys School and will be chaired by Advocate General, Dr Ahmed Al Hammadi.

According to the Edict, the Northern Governorate Supervisory Centre will be located at the Hamad Town Primary Girls' School, and will be chaired by Judge Mohammed Mirza Aman.

The Southern Governorate Supervisory Centre will be located at the Al Mustaqbal Primary Girls School, and

Capital Governorate

- 1- Ahmed Al Omran Secondary Boys School
- 2- Huteen Primary Boys School
- 3- Al-Sanabis Intermediate Girls School
- 4- Um Al Hassam Primary Boys School
- 5- Halima Al Saadia Intermediate Girls School
- 6- Al Ettihad Club
- 7- Al Wafa Secondary Girls School
- 8- Sitra Primary Girls School
- 9- Garnata Primary Girls School
- 10- Al Taawon Secondary Boys School

Southern Governorate

- 1- Isa Town Primary Boys School
- 2- Isa Town Secondary Girls School
- 3- Imam Malik bin Anas Primary Boys School
- 4- East Riffa Intermediate Girls School
- 5- East Riffa Secondary Boys School
- 6- Oqba Bin Nafea Primary Boys School
- 7- West Riffa Secondary Girls School
- 8- East Riffa Primary Girls School
- 9- Zallaq Primary Girls School
- 10- Durrat Al Bahrain

chaired by Judge Ibrahim Sultan Al Zayed, the Edict adds.

Voting centres

Northern Governorate

- 1- Karranah Primary Girls School
- 2- Jaber Bin Hayan Primary Boys School
- 3- Shaikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Khalifa Primary Boys School
- 4- Jidhafs Intermediate Boys School
- 5- Saar Primary Boys School
- 6- Aali Intermediate Girl School
- 7- Saar Secondary Girls School
- 8- Hamad Town Primary Boys School
- 9- Ghazi Al Qusaibi Secondary Girls School
- 10- Al A'hd Al Zaher Secondary Girls School
- 11- Ibn Tufail Primary Boys School
- 12- Al-Malkiya Intermediate Girls School

Muharraq Governorate

- 1- Sh. Khalifa Bin Salman Institute of Technology
- 2- Busaiteen Primary Girls School
- 3- Muharraq Secondary Girls School
- 4- Hassan bin Thabet Primary Boys School
- 5- Ruqaya Primary Girls School
- 6- Al Dair Primary Intermediate Girls School
- 7- Al Khawarizmi Primary Boys School
- 8- Hidd Secondary Girls School

The minister also issued a fourth edict, determining the voting and voting-counting centres in the constituencies.

Region's first biometric payment network to be launched soon

TDT | Manama
Mohammed Zafran

Amidst Bahrain making huge advancement in the implementation of different technologies in the financial sector, the region's first ever biometric payment network will be soon launched in the country, it was announced.

Ithmaar Bank and Eazy Financial Services, with the support of Tamkeen, will soon be launching the biometric payment network in Bahrain. Once implemented, Ithmaar Bank customers will no longer be required to use their bank cards at ATMs.

Instead, they will be able to use their fingerprint along with their PIN to process financial transactions. The implementation is expected to add convenience and stronger security in financial transactions.

Speaking during a press conference held at Four Seasons Bahrain Bay yesterday, Eazy Financial Services CEO, Khaled Al Ahli said that customer needs were carefully studied before deciding on the technology.

"I think the payment process has never been about having an exciting experience, but we expect it to be convenient and practical with a good user experience as well as to have a secure way to transact."

"The world is changing quickly; there are cutting edge technologies and solutions coming out rapidly. We took a step back for a moment to understand the market and the behavioral changes. We found that people just wanted a practical and convenient way to transact," he said.

"What we found was that fingerprint would make that difference. We are all already conformable with using biometric technologies, so we decided to take this to the banking and financial



From left, Yousef Al Khan, Assistant General Manager, Head of Information Technology and Administration; Abdul Hakeem Al Mutawa, DCEO, Banking Group, Ithmaar Bank; Fahad Yateem, Director - Islamic Financial Institutions Supervision, Central Bank of Bahrain; Ahmed Abdul Rahim, CEO, Ithmaar Bank; Khalid Al Rumaihi, CEO, Economic Development Board Bahrain; Khaled Al Ahli, CEO, Eazy Financial Service; Nayef Al Alawi, Vice Chairman, Eazy Financial Services; Dr Jarmo Kotilaine, Chief Planning and Monitoring Office, Tamkeen, at the event.



sector," he said.

"With this you can use your fingerprint to make any payment or banking transaction. Whether you want to withdraw your cash from the ATM or make a transaction at a branch or make a purchase at a shop, all you would need is your fingerprint and PIN."

The agreement is a result of the financial support of Tamkeen, with the

support of the EDB and CBB, and will see the new Biometric Payment Network available in phases for Ithmaar Bank customers as early as Q1 2019.

Ithmaar Bank CEO, Ahmed Abdul Rahim, said: "As part of our Digital Strategy, we continue to invest heavily in technology that provides our customers a more convenient, simpler and more secure way to conduct their financial transactions. Our customers are tech-savvy and expect friction-less access to banking services - and the introduction of biometrics is another major step that direction. We are leading the financial industry with this new, tangible solution which is a real-time example of how we put innovation and our customers at the forefront of everything we do."

Bahrain Economic Development Board (EDB) Chief Executive, Khalid

Al Rumaihi, commented: "With this announcement Ithmaar Bank and Eazy Financial Services are truly showcasing Bahrain as a hub for innovation, specifically in the financial services industry. This partnership comes in line with our strategy to encourage innovation that supports high value job creation in the Kingdom. Bahrain's forward-thinking regulatory approach provides an attractive environment for FinTech - particularly in areas such as Islamic finance and payments. We look forward to welcoming more home-grown initiatives such as this."

Praising the initiative, Tamkeen Chief Executive Dr Ebrahim Janahi said: "Tamkeen's support for the FinTech industry comes as part of our efforts to support enterprises across stages of development and making the private sector a key driver of economic

growth. We believe Ithmaar Bank and Eazy are both well ahead of the curve and this strategic initiative will result in a major positive change in the Kingdom's economy and capital market"

Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB) Executive Director, Khalid Hamad, said: "This very forward-looking partnership is proof that FinTech initiatives are delivering tangible, real-world results - ahead of similar initiatives across the region - while maintaining the overall safety and soundness of the financial system in Bahrain."

The platform, developed by Eazy Financial Services, is built on an Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) one of the most reliable and trusted biometric engines which is deployed and implemented in many countries around the world for both civil and forensic applications.

Bahraini 'kicked out 74-year-old wife to marry young Asian woman'

TDT | Manama
Ali Tarif

A Bahraini man in his seventies kicked out his 74-year-old wife after he got married to an Asian woman in her mid-thirties, the court heard.

The woman had to resort to the Court of Urgent Matters in bid to return to the house and judges ruled in her favour, according to her lawyer Manar Al Tamimi.

"The Court of Urgent Matters issued an order with immediate effect to allow the woman return to her house because she has a valid marriage

My client spent her money on building and furnishing this house and it's unacceptable for her to be kicked out, especially considering her age.

MANAR AL TAMIMI

contract with him, although he expelled her from the house after his marriage with an Asian woman.

"My client spent her money on building and furnishing this house and it's unacceptable for her to be kicked out, especially considering her age," Al Tamimi said.