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Muharraq Bridge Project 'on track'

The fourth bridge will address the traffic problems north of Muharraq

TDT | Manama **Tamer Taifoor**

he work on Muharrag Bridge, which will connect Busaiteen with north of Manama, is on right track, said Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning Minister Essam Khalaf.

"The cost of this strategic project is BD94 million and it is being financed by the Saudi Development Fund and includes dams, four-lane bridge and roads.'

The work contract has been awarded to Boskalis Westminster Al Rushaid Company Limited and Boskalis Westminster Contracting Limited.

the bridge will connect the economic, tourist and development facilities on Muharraq Island in the capital Manama to the north.

It will also provide access to the new Busaiteen, Al Saya area, Diyar Al Muharraq, Amwaj Islands, Al Deir, Samahij and Qalali, he added.

He said that the project is an extension of Al Muharraq Ring Road (extension of the Dry Dock Road to the north), starting from the intersection of Al Muharraq



The minister pointed out that The project includes four-lane bridge and roads.

It will also provide access to the new **Busaiteen, Al Saya** area, Diyar Al Muharraq, Amwaj Islands, Al Deir, Samahij and Qalali. MR KHALAF



A graphically created image of the bridge.

Ring Road in Smahij / Diyar Al Muharraq, passing through Al Deer, Al Busaitin and Al Sawaya area. "The second phase of the

North Manama Bridge, which starts from this intersection to the waterfront area in the Seef area to Shaikh Khalifa Bin Salman Street at the intersection of Farouk.

Mr Khalaf said that the fourth bridge will make a quantum leap

in addressing the traffic problems north of Muharraq.

"It will carry a high traffic density on the eastern side of the island, from Al Had, through the villages of Qalali, Samahij, Deir and Muharraq."

The minister revealed that the fourth bridge will be a modern landmark of the features of Bahrain and that was selected and approved by the Prime Minister.

Governorate to host 'Japanese Village'

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he Southern Governorate will host the first Japanese Expo from February 7 to 9 at the Bahrain International Circuit, under the name "Japanese Village"

The head of Bahrain-based Business and Friendship Association Nasser Al Arayed said trade exchange between Bahrain and Japan exceeded \$1.2 billion annually, according to the latest statistics published in 2015.

Mr Al Arayed said that the diplomatic relations between Japan and the Kingdom of Bahrain dates back to 1934, when Bahrain's first shipment of oil was sent to Japan following the discovery of oil in Bahrain in tronage of His Highness 1932, and the number of Japa- Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali Al nese citizens living in Bahrain Khalifa, Governor of the now stands at around 250. Mr Al Arayed explained that Japanese companies have com- has become a centre of global pleted many projects in Bahrain, events, a destination for all including the petrochemical. family events and meetings. aluminium, gas and telecommu- and the Japanese village will nications industries.

The Southern Province has become a centre of global events. a destination for all family events and meetings, and the Japanese village will be a family entertainment activity, and we aim to differentiate and show the extent of

celebration as well as Japanese competitions and games.'



million Bahraini dinars

is the cost of the

project, according to

Works Ministry.

Governorate officials at the Press conference.

"The Japanese village is ac- itage and cultural centre, daily and daily special programmes Japanese cooking, and other companied by a Japanese her- accompaniment programmes such as Japanese calligraphy, family activities," she added.



Recently, projects have been tivity, and we aim to differenheld, such as the steel plant tiate and show the extent of project, which will be based in friendship between Bahrain Haddad

According to the head of the Bahraini-Japanese Business partment of Social Proand Friendship Association, the grammes and Community number of Japanese companies Affairs in the Southern Provhaving offices in Bahrain is 16; ince Fatima Al Ghatam, said: five companies operate in the "There will be a textile and financial sector, three in the clothing corner, a ceremony commercial sector and eight in corner, a corner of the tools the industrial sector.

of social and community pro- Japanese tea corner, and how grammes in the Southern Gov- to drink it. ernorate, said: "The Japanese

friendship between Bahrain and Japan.

MS GHATAM

Southern Province."

"The Southern Province be a family entertainment acand Japan."

The Director of the Deused by the people during Fatima Al Ghatam, director the era of Japanese Empire, a

"There will also be Japvillage will be held under the pa- anese bands to attend the