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Scrapyards "breeding grounds" for antisocial elements

Top municipal officials call for laws regulating scrapyards in the Kingdom

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he call to regulate scrapyards in the Kingdom lawmakers terming them as "haven" and "breeding ground" for criminal activities.

Thousands of dinars worth of metals and other objects make their way through scrapyards in the Kingdom each year, where ing them for a few-questionsasked source for fast cash.

Scrapyards allegedly also help spawn an endless cycle of theft, which law enforcement cannot keep pace with.

Municipalities also accuse the scrapyards of failing to maintain security and safety measures, despite falling under the aegis of the commercial registry.

"Their irresponsible acts also expose nearby localities to grave dangers, including fire."

Municipal officials state that such places have become a haven

inal elements to sell off stolen in the sector," he said. goods.

is gaining strength, with countability and monitoring." According to the Chairman of is responsible for them." the Southern Municipal Council, Bader Al Tamimi, "It's high a unified space for collecting time we intervene and fashion scraps to ensure accountability. them into markets that would serve the economy."

Several proposals in these recriminals are also allegedly us- gards went into the abyss, he for bringing scrapyards in the er to deal in illegal weapons, said, adding each of the queries Kingdom under a specific au- drugs, stolen cars and hazardis sent back with the answer we thority to ensure accountability ous chemicals with the place are "studying" them.

"Delaying actions are also tan- out of such yards. tamount to denying an opportunity to develop these places and help precreate job opportunities.

Chairman of Muharraq Mu- t h e nicipal Council Ghazi Al-Mor- enbati highlighted the need for regulations to organise the sector to create more jobs. "This would generate substan-

"Scrapyard, he wondered, ex- ate workers." "Only way out is ensuring ac- isted in the Kingdom for several

He also suggested developing fraud." Muhammad Saad Al Dosari, a

member of the Northern Municipal Council, stressed the need being used by "mafias" as covfor everything that goes in and seeing major fires that

Тhi serve

eas that employ several expatri-

"The presence of proper laws years, but it is not yet clear who will also ensure regular employment and eliminate commercial

Playground for mafias

There

Since 2016, there were frequent reports of scrapyards sometimes took up to would a day to extinguish.

for irregular workers and crim- tial income for Bahraini families vironment and safety of the ar- were also reports that the quar- the site's lifespan until 2025. ry area, located near to the scrapyard in Askar, had been repeatedly targeted in a spate of overnight raids by thieves who ing scrap vehicles and plastic hauled away stone by truckloads - the quarry resumed operations in 2015 after being shut down for eight years.

Urbaser Bahrain, which carries out waste management operations in the Northern and awarded a contract to run the distance. landfill site and set up sorting

and recycling facilities as part of a plan to extend

Two years ago, an inferno ripped through a scrapyard in Askar with flames engulfwaste as well as spreading across wooden cabins and other debris.

The blaze was so intense that black trails of smoke continued to billow into the sky for more than six hours and the thick plumes could be seen from as Southern governorates, has been far away as Sitra, 23km in the

Representative picture

Bahrain celebrates World **Humanitarian Dav** TDT | Manama

"Little Scholars Nursery"

Minister of Foreign Af-

gets ministry's approval

• For children below four years of age

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66Little Scholars Nursery" has received Education Ministry's approval to open doors in the Kingdom.

Education Minister, Dr Majid bin Ali Al Nuaimi, announced the approval in an Edict yesterday.

The establishment. the Edict said, is a "foreign nursery" for children below four years of age.

the regulations in force in the measures. Kingdom

mitment to the number of obtaining written approval.

follow an educational pro- dents in Kindergarten.



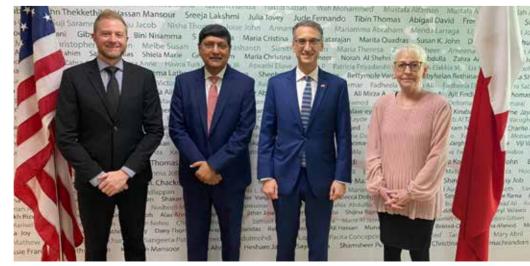
Education Minister, Dr Majid bin Ali Al Nuaimi

The new nursery will adhere gramme consistent with the to the Decree-Law (25) of 1998 characteristics of the children regarding Private Educational of the nursery, modern reand Training Institutions and quirements, and precautions

Reportedly, there are over The Edict stipulates com- 90 nurseries in the Kingdom. According to data released children authorised, collecting by the Ministry of Education, fees and not raising them or during the 2018-2019 period, adding any other fees without nurseries in the Kingdom had over 4,500 students, while Edict says the school should there were over 34,000 stu-



The inaugural meeting of the National Committee on the Prohibition of Weapons of Mass Destruction was held yesterday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The meeting was chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Abdullatif bin Rashid Al-Zayani, and attended by committee members representing the relevant ministries and government agencies. The Minister stressed that the development of the weapons of mass destruction file is evidence of Bahrain's commitment to security and peace and policies to prevent the dangers of arms proliferation



The United States Ambassador to the Kingdom of Bahrain Steven C. Bondy paid a visit to the American Mission Hospital. He was updated on the developments of the hospital and given a tour of the facility by Corporate CEO Dr George Cheriyan and Group CEO Julia Tovey.

airs. Dr Abdullatif bin Rashid Al-Zayani, yesterday praised the leading role of Bahrain in humanitarian work on the occasion of World Humanitarian Day observed on the 19th of August. The Foreign Minister extended his gratitude to His Majesty the King, and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

He commended Bahrain's humanitarian initiatives and charitable and development projects implemented by ministries and government agencies in partnership with the civil society inside and outside the Kingdom, including presenting international awards to support women, youth, education, sustainable development, and service to humanity.

Dr Al-Zayani lauded the efforts of the Royal Humanitarian Foundation and its pioneering contributions in caring for orphans, widows, the elderly and people with special needs, as well as providing social, health and educational assistance.