

Ensuring marriage wellness

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Parliament's Services Committee is reviewing a bill to widen pre-marital screening to include mental-health assessments and tests for drug use alongside existing checks for genetic and infectious diseases.

Proof of testing would be required before a marriage contract is concluded.

Specialist doctors would advise couples, and the minister could order further tests by decision.

The draft shifts the scheme from a narrow medical check to a fuller assessment of both parties.

Review

It keeps the current screens for hereditary and communicable conditions, adds a review of mental health, and requires testing to detect the use of illegal medicines or narcotics.

Those empowered to conclude marriage contracts would have to verify that both sides have completed the examination.

MP Basema Mubarak, one of the sponsors, said the measure aims to help couples start family life on sound footing.

She said the goal reaches beyond infectious and genetic



“The goal reaches beyond infectious and genetic disease to include mental wellbeing and social stability.”

- MP BASEMA MUBARAK

disease to include mental wellbeing and social stability.

Mubarak said early detection of substance use can decide if a marriage is viable.

Treating the issue lightly, she added, can carry consequences that reach children and contribute to family break-up and divorce.

Supporters note that the cur-

rent law focuses on hereditary and communicable disease alone.

They cite regional practice, including Saudi Arabia's pre-marital screening programme, which they say cut high-risk marriages by about 60 per cent over six years.

They also point to studies linking drug or alcohol use by one partner to severe strain, poor communication and relationship decline, which raises the chance of separation or divorce.

Figures cited in the proposal state that more than 321,000 children in the United States lost a parent to drug overdose between 2011 and 2021.

Care and protection

According to the explanatory memorandum, the Constitution stresses the care and protection of the family as a foundation of a healthy, stable society.

The memo says public health now extends beyond genetic disease to include mental health, and that wider pre-marital screening is needed to assess psychological stability and addiction risks.

It says the changes aim to found Bahraini families on firm, healthy bases, support social stability and avoid family fractures that carry negative social and security effects.

Pakistan Club marks Pakistan's Independence Day



H.E. Ambassador Mr. Saqib Rauf with Chairman Pakistan Club Mr. Mohammad Afzal Bhatti and Executive Board members in the cake-cutting ceremony



Volleyball tournament winners, participants and volunteers receive shields and trophies

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The Pakistan Club in the Kingdom of Bahrain continued its Pakistan Independence Day celebrations on the evening of 14 August 2025 with a grand community gathering featuring cultural, sports, and health initiatives.

The evening festivities were graced by the Chief Guest, H.E. Mr. Saqib Rauf, Ambassador of Pakistan to the Kingdom of Bahrain, who joined with Chairman Pakistan Club Mr. Mohammad Afzal Bhatti and Executive Board members in the cake-cutting ceremony to mark

the nation's 78th Independence Day.

A highlight of the program was the All Bahrain Volleyball Tournament, which brought together teams from across the Kingdom.

Dedication and contribution

Shields and trophies were awarded to the winners, participants, and individuals who volunteered their services for the Pakistani community, recognizing their dedication and contribution.

The Ministry of Labour, Kingdom of Bahrain representative Mr. Hussain Al-Hussaini actively participated by

promoting its Summer Health and Safety Awareness Program, educating attendees on staying safe during the hot season.

Al Hilal Hospital set up a medical camp offering free health check-ups, ensuring accessible healthcare for the community during the celebrations.

Sponsors

The event was proudly sponsored by BFC (Bahrain Financing Company) as the main sponsor, with additional support from Zain Bahrain and Pocari Sweat (Hydration Partner).

Their contributions played a vital role in making the celebrations a resounding success.

| CONDENSED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION As at 30 June 2025 (In thousands of Bahraini Dinars) | | | CONDENSED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME For the six months ended 30 June 2025 (In thousands of Bahraini Dinars) | | | CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS For the six months ended 30 June 2025 (In thousands of Bahraini Dinars) | | |
|---|------------------------|-----------------------|---|------------------------|------------------------|--|---------------------------|------------------------|
| | 30-Jun 2025 (Reviewed) | 31-Dec 2024 (Audited) | | 30-Jun 2025 (Reviewed) | 30-Jun 2024 (Reviewed) | | 30-Jun 2025 (Reviewed) | 30-Jun 2024 (Reviewed) |
| Assets | | | Interest income | 3,457 | 3,705 | Cash flow from operating activities | | |
| Cash and balances with the Central Bank of Bahrain | 19,667 | 17,794 | Interest expense | (2,073) | (2,097) | Profit for the period | 521 | 828 |
| Placements and balances with banks | 3,114 | 3,700 | Net interest income | 1,384 | 1,608 | <i>Adjustment for:</i> | | |
| Investments | 28,235 | 26,341 | Other income | 222 | 205 | Depreciation and amortization | 67 | 46 |
| Loans and advances | 62,058 | 62,458 | Total operating income | 1,606 | 1,813 | Charge for impairment provision – net | 239 | 75 |
| Equipment | 514 | 352 | Staff expenses | (473) | (476) | Profit before changes in operating assets and liabilities | 827 | 949 |
| Other assets | 1,569 | 1,905 | Depreciation and amortization | (67) | (46) | <i>Working capital adjustments:</i> | | |
| Total assets | 115,157 | 112,550 | Other operating expenses | (306) | (388) | Mandatory reserve with the CBB | 140 | (95) |
| Liabilities and head office funds | | | Total operating expenses | (846) | (910) | Loans and advances | 161 | (1,545) |
| Liabilities | | | Profit before impairment provision | 760 | 903 | Other assets | 227 | (253) |
| Deposits from other offices of the Bank | 17 | 27 | Charge for impairment provision - net | (239) | (75) | Deposits from customers | 920 | 6,580 |
| Deposits from customers | 96,337 | 95,417 | Profit before tax | 521 | 828 | Deposits from other offices of the Bank | (10) | (217) |
| Short-term borrowings from banks | 566 | - | Tax expense | (78) | - | Other liabilities | (61) | 75 |
| Other liabilities | 3,464 | 3,359 | Profit for the period | 443 | 828 | Placements with original maturity of more than 90 days | 1,284 | 6,257 |
| Total liabilities | 100,384 | 98,803 | Other comprehensive income | | | Net cash generated from operating activities | 3,488 | 11,751 |
| Head office funds | | | <i>Items that are or may be reclassified in subsequent periods to profit or loss:</i> | | | Cash flow from investing activities | | |
| Capital contribution | 2,754 | 2,754 | Net change in fair value of debt investments at fair value through other comprehensive income | 583 | 2,934 | Purchase of investments | (1,632) | (5,203) |
| Reserve | 1,500 | 1,500 | Total comprehensive income for the period | 1,026 | 3,762 | Proceeds from maturity of investments | 461 | - |
| Unremitted profit | 8,071 | 7,628 | CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN HEAD OFFICE FUNDS | | | Purchase of equipment and intangibles | (127) | (4) |
| Fair value reserve | 2,448 | 1,865 | For the six months ended 30 June 2025 (In thousands of Bahraini Dinars) | | | Net cash used in investing activities | (1,298) | (5,207) |
| Total head office funds | 14,773 | 13,747 | 2025 - (Reviewed) | Capital | Reserve | Unremitted profits | Fair value reserve | Total |
| Total liabilities and head office funds | 115,157 | 112,550 | As at 1 January 2025 | 2,754 | 1,500 | 7,628 | 1,865 | 13,747 |
| | | | Comprehensive income | | | | | |
| | | | Profit for the period | - | - | 443 | - | 443 |
| | | | Other comprehensive income for the period | - | - | - | 583 | 583 |
| | | | Total comprehensive income for the period | 2,754 | 1,500 | 443 | 583 | 1,026 |
| | | | At 30 June 2025 | 2,754 | 1,500 | 8,071 | 2,448 | 14,773 |
| | | | 2024 (Reviewed) | Capital | Reserve | Unremitted profits | Fair value reserve | Total |
| | | | As at 1 January 2024 | 2,754 | 1,500 | 6,282 | (1,527) | 9,009 |
| | | | Comprehensive income | | | | | |
| | | | Profit for the period | - | - | 828 | - | 828 |
| | | | Other comprehensive income for the period | - | - | - | 2,934 | 2,934 |
| | | | Total comprehensive income for the period | 2,754 | 1,500 | 828 | 2,934 | 3,762 |
| | | | At 30 June 2024 | 2,754 | 1,500 | 7,110 | 1,407 | 12,771 |

Note: The above figures have been extracted from the condensed financial information for the six-month period ended 30 June 2025 which were approved and issued by management on 17 August 2025 and were reviewed by KPMG Fakhro.