

Redouble efforts to get the deal to the people: Minister Al Zayani

Minister of Foreign Affairs takes part in talks on Abraham Accords anniversary

● Bahrain envoy to Israel will have full role in developing ties

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Dr Abdul Latif bin Rashid Al Zayani, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, yesterday called for redoubling efforts to show people in the Middle East what interdependence and prosperity can practically mean in their daily lives.

“We need a real impetus to resolve the basic issues affecting the region, most notably reaching a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict,” said minister Dr Al Zayani.

Dr Al Zayani was speaking during a virtual symposium organised in Washington at the invitation of Anthony Blinken, the Secretary of State for the US, on the first anniversary of Abraham Accords establishing diplomatic ties between Bahrain, Israel and the United Arab Emirates.

Nasser Bourita, Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccans. Yair Lapid, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Israel, Dr Anwar Gargash, Advisor to the President of the UAE for Diplomatic Affairs, Shaikh Abdullah bin Rashid Al Khalifa, the Ambassador of Bahrain in Washington, took part.

Dr Al Zayani told the meeting that the past year clearly showed the world, change is



The virtual meeting on Abraham Accords anniversary



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DR ABDUL LATIF BIN RASHID AL ZAYANI

possible in our region despite the challenges, “and there can be a path towards security and cooperation for all.”

“The cooperation between our countries are also beginning

to bear the fruit of signing a set of agreements and cooperation projects.”

“Last year, we in the Kingdom of Bahrain moved quickly to consolidate our new relations

with Israel and seize the new opportunities it created.”

The minister further told the meeting that the first ambassador of Bahrain to Israel presented his credential to President Isaac Herzog this week in Tel Aviv.

“This step will have a full role in developing Bahrain-Israel relations,” the minister added.

The minister also expressed pride in being at the forefront of this process.

“All of this requires the real participation and support from our friends and allies around the world, not only from those involved in the Abraham Accords but all countries having a real interest in building the Middle East of peace, security and stability.”

The minister welcomed the strong support of the administration of US President Joe Biden and thanked Blinken for his close participation in the ongoing historical process.

Integrated strategy for municipalities on way



Works Minister during a meeting with officials

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Essam Khalaf, the Minister of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning, yesterday announced launching a project for developing an integrated strategic plan for municipal affairs, agriculture, marine resources and livestock in the ministry.

A tender to study the project, the minister said, was awarded to a national company.

The study aims at creating a road map to translate the strategies to goals reinforced by performance measures, initiatives, work plans and projects in line with Vision 2030.

The minister said the project also aims at creating a system for the ministry in the field of

planning and implementing strategies to contribute effectively and vitally to strengthen food security.

This study will focus on three sectors - the Municipal Affairs, which includes the Capital secretariat and three municipalities.

The Assistant Agency for Joint Municipal Services, the Assistant Agency for Resources and Information, the Agriculture and Marine Wealth Sector, which includes fisheries and marine control, plant wealth, agricultural engineering, water sources, and the livestock sector, are also part of the project.

“The project will enable us to define our performance and define our goals,” the minister added.

Bahrain’s accident rates lowest in region: Traffic Director-Gen.

● Accident rates are down to 35% from August last year to August 2021

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Accidents rates in the Kingdom are now at the lowest in the region, said a top official, even as vehicles plying on the roads increased considerably.

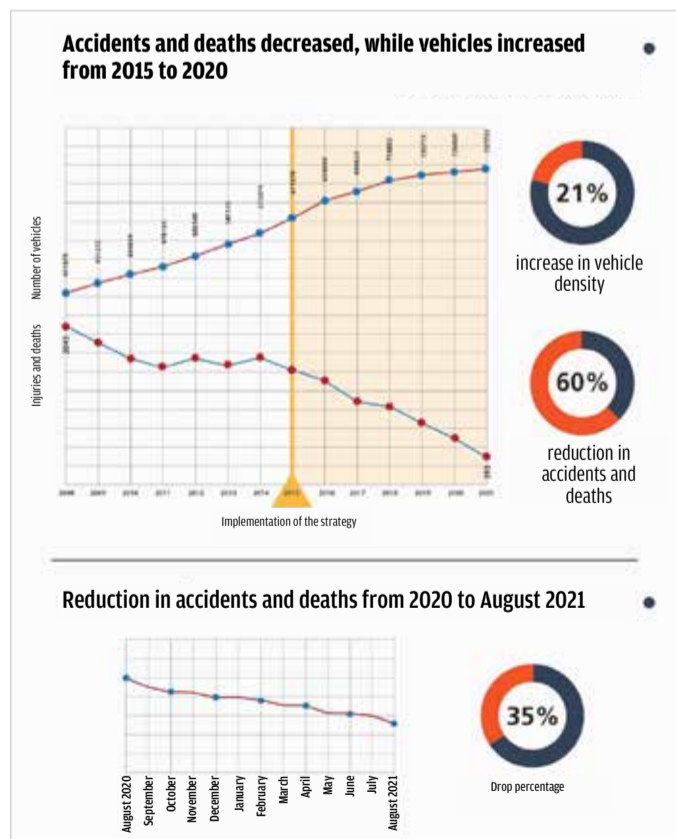
Thanks to the comprehensive traffic strategy launched in 2015, the accidents and fatalities had decreased by 60%, said Brigadier Shaikh Abdulrahman bin Abdulwahab Al Khalifa, the Director-General of Traffic.

The data, Shaikhabdul Rahman said, is for the period from 2015 to 2020.

The rates are down to 35% from August last year to August 2021, he added.

“This makes the Kingdom’s accident rates the lowest at the regional level,” said the Director-General.

The achievement is tremendous, Shaikh Abdul Rahman said, especially when viewed in the backdrop of a 21% increase in the vehicles plying on the



roads of Bahrain.

“The construction of new cities as part of urban development, including the Salman City, East Hidd City, Khalifa City and other investments on the islands and the increasing

length of roads are all adding up to the traffic woes,” he said.

The Director-General stressed the importance of developing the traffic system, using technology, monitoring through the foot and mobile pa-

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BRIGADIER SHAIKH ABDULRAHMAN BIN ABDULWAHAB AL KHALIFA, THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRAFFIC

trols, studying street locations that need engineering changes, and addressing other challenges in cooperation with relevant authorities.

Shaikh Abdulrahman said the rate of road accidents is proportional to the level of awareness of road users, compliance with traffic regulations and rules, dangerous traffic behaviours such as using phones while driving, non-adherence to speed limit and defensive driving.

Muharraq municipality removes encroachments on government property



Municipal workers clearing encroachments

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Muharraq Municipality announced removing illegal construction from one of the streets in the Arad region, following a court order.

The demolished buildings, Municipal officials said, had encroached on the government property.

The Court order followed the failure of the owners of the violating buildings to correct the situation.

The encroachments were on a property adjacent to a housing project of the Ministry of housing meant for building a corridor.

Some of the violating structures were on the property,

while others were partly encroaching.

“Despite serving notices and warnings, the homeowners refused to budge, attracting legal action,” the municipality said.

The actions were in line with Decree No. (13) of 1977 regarding Building Regulations Law and Law No. (42) of 2014, amending some provisions of the Regulation Law Buildings and Decree-Law No. 2 of 1996 regarding public road works.

The Muharraq Municipality also called on citizens and residents to adhere to municipal regulations and report violations through 17984027 or social media or Tawasul on 80008001.