

Medical robots aiding COVID-19 fight

Health Ministry trials use of AI-powered robots at coronavirus isolation, treatment centres

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The Ministry of Health announced yesterday the use of new medical robots to help combat the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Health Ministry undersecretary Dr. Waleed Al Manea revealed that this first-of-its-kind experiment is being conducted in Bahrain's coronavirus isolation and treatment centres.

The Health Ministry intends to determine the benefits and extent of using Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology within Bahrain's healthcare system. Through these landmark trials, the ministry will assess their efficacy and study the need and scope for these smart robots to help support future work and services of health personnel.

The Health Ministry, in cooperation with a French company in the Kingdom, has provided two robots for the trial.



Health Ministry officials in a presentation of the new medical robots

Ministry of Health Resources and Services assistant undersecretary Professor Fatima Abdul Wahid Al Ahmed said that one of the robots is tasked with examining a patient's body temperature, providing medicine, serving meals, and tracking the patient

through facial recognition while also being able to communicate in 12 different languages.

Al Ahmed added that the second is to sterilise surfaces, rooms and buildings. The Health Ministry stated that these robots are equipped with sensors and cam-

eras that enable them to adapt to their surroundings, move from one location to another, and communicate with patients and medical staff.

"We hope that using the robots to provide nursing care will make a quantum leap in the health ser-

vices in the Kingdom of Bahrain," said Professor Al Ahmed.

She also emphasised the role of the Health Ministry's stakeholders in finding advanced technical solutions, like the smart robots, to provide automated nursing services.

Meanwhile, Dr. Al Manea praised the Health Ministry's persistent perusal of the latest developments and technologies for the diagnosis and treatment of COVID-19 globally.

In noticing the new trend of using medical robots within the health sector, the Health Ministry is quick to provide high-level medical advancements to the country. This latest move aims to utilise the AI technology to help local doctors and nurses in their ongoing battle against COVID-19.

Professor Al Ahmed explained how the latest modern technology is used to reduce direct exposure between active cases and health care providers. This helps to ensure the health and safety of frontline medical staff working to fight the coronavirus.

She reaffirmed that the Health Ministry seeks to provide the highest levels of protection and safety for their personnel.

Southern Governorate officials inspect house damaged by a recent fire



The Deputy Southern Governor and other officials during the house inspection

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Deputy Southern Governor Brigadier General Issa Thamer Al Dossari visited a house of a number of migrant workers in Riffa, which had recently caught fire.

This followed the directives of Southern Governor HH Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali bin

Khalifa Al Khalifa,

The Deputy Governor affirmed the keenness of HH the Southern Governor to directly follow up on cases of this nature, in order to ensure the security and safety of citizens and residents in the governorate.

During the visit, the Deputy Governor inspected the damage that resulted from the

fire. He stressed that the authorities will begin the necessary procedures to ensure the safety and maintenance of the house.

He praised the efforts and speedy response of the General Administration of Civil Defense and the Southern Governorate Police Directorate in dealing with the fire, in which there were no casualties.

Ministers discuss houses of worship in new towns



The officials at their meeting

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Sites allocated for houses of worship at new housing projects and towns were highlighted in a meeting between Minister of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments Shaikh Khalid bin Ali Al Khalifa and Minister of Housing Eng. Basim bin Yacob Al Hamer.

Sunni Endowments Council Board of Directors chairman Dr. Shaikh Rashid bin Moham-

med Al Hajeri and Jaffari Endowments Council Board of Directors chairman Yousef Saleh Al-Saleh were also present.

The Housing Minister spoke about the sites, which are in line with the standards approved by the Urban Planning and Development Authority.

Board chairmen of the Sunni and Jaffari endowments councils praised the constant interest of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa to build and care for houses of worship, so

that they can perform their noble mission. They pray to Allah the Almighty to protect HM the King and to guide him on the right path for the best interests of the nation and its people.

Others in attendance during the meeting were Housing Ministry undersecretary Shaikh Abdulla bin Ahmed Al Khalifa and Justice Ministry Planning, Family Reconciliation and Alimony undersecretary Dana Al Zayani.

Two women rescued from Muharraq house fire

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Two women were saved from a house fire in Muharraq last night, the Ministry of Interior announced on its official account on social networking service Twitter.

The Interior Ministry reported that the Civil Defence extinguished the fire with four firetrucks and 16 firemen.

A preliminary investigation indicated that the cause of the fire was short circuit.

No other information was available.

Five fined for flouting COVID-19 regulations

● The Public Prosecution launched a prompt investigation after receiving notifications from the Public Health Directorate against 19 people who did not commit to their home confinement orders.

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The Lower Criminal Court has fined an owner of a commercial outlet BDL,000 for flouting health regulations.

These consist of taking the temperature of customers and workers before entering the outlet, directing customers to leave one metre between

each other for social distancing, cleaning and sterilising trolleys before and after use, and ensuring workers wear gloves for protection.

The court has also fined four defendants BDL,000 each for breaching the home quarantine rules imposed on them to curb the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

The Public Prosecution launched a prompt investigation after receiving notifications from the Public Health Directorate against 19 people who did not commit to their home confinement orders.

It also conducted an investigation with 10 defendants who opened their commercial outlets in violation of a ministerial decision to close certain non-essential businesses as part of measures put in place to prevent the spread of the virus.

The defendants were questioned and released on bail, pending investigation.

Bahraini man arrested for stealing, crashing car

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A Bahraini man suspected of stealing a car has been arrested, the Ministry of Interior announced yesterday.

According to the Muharraq Governorate Police director-general, the 35-year-old committed the crime after the owner of the car kept its engine running while going into a money exchange outlet in Muharraq to make a transaction.

The director-general said that an investigation into the case led to identifying and arresting the suspect within 24 hours of its report. The car was

eventually seized.

It had also emerged that the suspect was also involved in a traffic accident while driving the car in Tubli.

The department is coordinating with the General Directorate of Traffic for the required procedures.

Legal proceedings have been taken and the case was referred to the Public Prosecution.

In light of this incident, the Director-General urged drivers to switch off their engines and lock their cars should they leave them unattended at any time.