

Kingdom's investment opportunities highlighted at roundtable discussion

Bahrain has successfully attracted FDIs in the past few months

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Washington

Industry, Commerce and Tourism Minister, Zayed Al Zayani, has highlighted the available opportunities for the private sector in Bahrain and the US to boost trade relations between the two countries.

This came as Mr Al Zayani participated, along with the Chief Executive Officer of the Economic



Mr Al Zayani speaks at the roundtable meeting in Washington.

Development Board (EDB), as a key speaker in the round-table-panel discussion organised by the Bahrain-US Business Council, in co-operation with the US Chamber of Commerce here.

During the panel discussion, Minister Al Zayani highlighted the fertile ground provided by the Government of Bahrain to promote direct foreign investment ac-

cording to a modern and advanced economic environment in its infrastructure and legislative system.

In this regard, he cited the existence of infrastructure development projects totalling more than \$32 billion, and the strategic location of the Kingdom as a gateway to commercial opportunities in the GCC market and neighbouring countries worth more than 1.5 tril-



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MR AL ZAYANI

lion dollars.

He also stressed that Bahrain boasts high-quality qualified and trained human resources.

Mr Al Zayani also shed light on the opportunities provided by the non-oil sectors and their growth and remarkable development in recent years, citing the tourism sector and the increase of its contribution to the GDP by more than

6 per cent during 2017 and 2018.

He also presented the ambitious plans of the strategies to attract tourism and promote its growth.

The minister also underlined Bahrain's success in coping with developments in all fields, most importantly the digital economy, noting that the Kingdom has succeeded in attracting major international companies to expand their business in the region from Bahrain, including the Amazon Web Services (AWS).

He also shed light on the government's efforts to move to cloud computing, adopt the best international practices in the field of financial technology, and host the Bahrain FinTech Bay as an important interface for investment and opportunities to promote the spread of startups locally and internationally.

During the panel discussion, the Bahraini delegation invited US investors and businessmen to participate in similar investment conferences in Bahrain, including the Gateway Gulf Investor Forum, which is expected to be held in Bahrain in 2020.

Paedophile jailed for two months

TDI | Manama

The Lower Criminal Court has sentenced a Bahraini paedophile to two months for attempting to have sex with a minor.

The defendant is said to have been attempting to befriend the boy, offering him BD5 to have dinner in an effort to lure him into having sex with him.

"He did this to me twice. But in the last attempt, he gave me BD5," the boy told prosecutors.

The defendant was arrested after the father went to the police and filed a case against the suspect, according to prosecutors.

The defendant was identified by the boy after the police lined up suspected criminals.



The defendant was arrested after the father went to the police and filed a case against the suspect.

PROSECUTORS

"I was giving him money and constantly encountering him in a bid to have sex with him. I tried to lure him by giving him BD5," the Bahraini suspect revealed during questioning.

The Lower Criminal Court said in its ruling that the defendant exposed a child to delinquency, as a result of which it was decided to jail him for two months in punishment for his offence.

Co-operation discussed



A delegation from the General Directorate of Traffic headed by the Director of Traffic Culture visited the Abu Dhabi Police and the Dubai Police in the United Arab Emirates. The delegation met Brigadier Hamad Dhahi Al Hamri Director of Traffic and Patrols Directorate, Central Operations Sector, Abu Dhabi Police and Major-General Abdullah Khalifa Al Marri Commander in Chief of Dubai Police. The delegation was briefed about traffic-related media practices and expertise and awareness programmes for the public, along with plans to protect general safety.

BRCS to enhance co-operation with Al Sanabel Society

TDI | Manama

The acting secretary-general of the Bahraini Red Crescent Society, Mubarak Al Hadi, held a meeting with Shaikh Adnan Abdulla Al Qattan, the chairman of the Al Sanabel Orphan Care Society and discussed the mechanisms for promoting joint co-operation in various aspects of humanitarian, voluntary and charitable work.

Mr Al Hadi confirmed, during the meeting, the readiness of the Bahrain Red Crescent to offer the necessary support on the level of experiences and volunteers to Al Sanabel society.

He also affirmed the importance of strengthening joint cooperation especially on the level of humanitarian and voluntary work organisations and institutions outside the Kingdom of Bahrain.

In this context, he pointed out that

the Bahraini Red Crescent is always ready to exploit its position and regional and international relations to support charitable and voluntary work in Bahrain.

Mr Al Hadi valued the role played by the Al Sanabel Charitable Society including the care for orphans in need, follow-up upbringing them properly to be good and productive citizens and effectively contribute to the growth and prosperity of the community.

Besides, providing educational, health and social care for those orphans in need, strengthening their relationships with their family members and deepening their interaction with their social environment, thus allowing them to psychological harmony, social adaptation and a closer relation and cooperation with public and private institutions working in the area of orphan's service.



Mr Al Hadi, Shaikh Adnan and other society members at the meeting.

On his part, Shaikh Adnan Al Qattan confirmed that Al Sanabel Society was keen to open more channels of co-operation with the Bahraini Red

Crescent and launch joint programmes and initiatives that serve the neediest in Bahraini society, such as orphans, widows and others.

He singled out the active co-operation of the Bahraini Red Crescent Society in providing an ambulance, a paramedic and a driver to the Bahraini pilgrimage mission over the past 15 years.

Shaikh Al Qattan praised the role played by the Bahraini Red Crescent on the level of relief and humanitarian work and lend a helping hand to the vulnerable, the distressed and victims of disasters and conflicts inside and outside Bahrain.

Moreover, training and qualifying many Bahraini youths in different fields of humanitarian and voluntary work for the good of the Kingdom of Bahrain and all humanity was emphasised at the meeting.