

Bahraini women's development strides hailed

Manama

The Supreme Council for Women (SCW) will today mark the 18th anniversary of its establishment.

Council of Representatives Speaker Fawziya Zainal congratulated His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, hailing the farsighted royal vision which ensured Bahraini women's landmark strides.

She commended the efforts to Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, Wife of HM the King and Supreme Council for Women (SCW) President, hailing her cru-

cial role in launched a string of initiatives, projects and awareness campaigns, including the annual Bahrain Women's Day.

She paid tribute to the SCW president, stressing the importance of the national programme to achieve gender balance, enhance the proportion of women's participation in key sectors and move from the phase of "empowerment" to that of "advancement".

The Speaker stressed co-operation with the Government, chaired by His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, paying tribute to His Royal Highness



HRH Princess Sabeeka

Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier.

She extended congratulations to all Bahraini women on the 18th SCW anniversary, urging them to double their efforts and bolster their role alongside men in all fields and sectors to achieve comprehensive sustainable development.

She underlined the keenness of the Council of Representatives on promoting issued related to women's affairs and highlighting their achievements, contributions and successful projects.

NPRA online service set to be launched

Manama

The Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs (NPRA) has announced a new service to book appointments online.

The Skiplino, which will take effect on Sunday, will cover the nationality, passports and residence services.

The new application, which can be downloaded for free via smart devices enables users to book, rebook or cancel appointments.

Applicants still have the option to report directly personally to the NPRA headquarters and assess the advanced quality of services.

The new service was first launched early this year at Muharraq Security Complex, which enabled applicants to finalise their transactions easily and smoothly.

Internet speed rises

Bahrain ranked 55th in global broadband Internet speed

● Bahrain's position rose by 10 places in just one month, according to the report.

● The Kingdom is preparing to take a lead in making the best out of 5G technologies.

TDT | Manama
Mohammed Zafran

The Kingdom's Internet speed has improved considerably, according to findings of a new report.

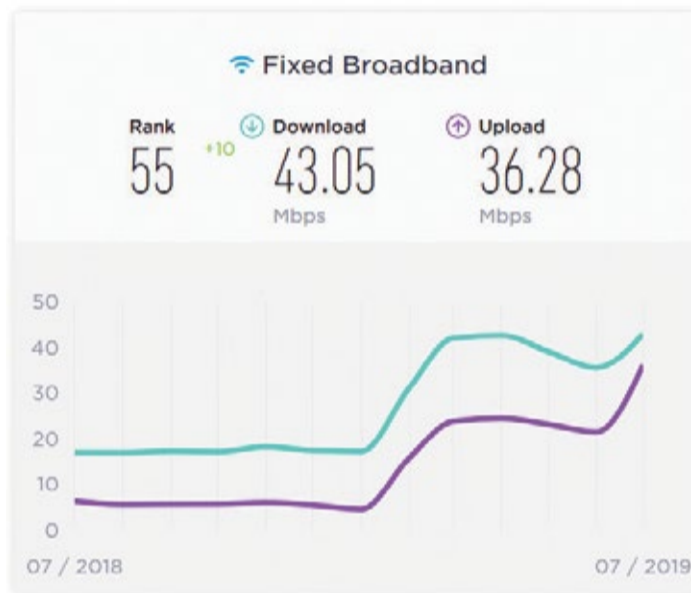
The latest Speedtest Global Index July revealed that Bahrain has the 55th fastest broadband Internet in the world.

Bahrain's position rose by 10 places in just one month, according to the report.

The monumental gain was made in July in comparison to June when Bahrain was placed 65th.

Qatar has ranked first in the Gulf region and fifth globally on the mobile Internet speed index at 59.90 Mbps.

In the region, Qatar is followed by the UAE at the third place globally at 55.12 Mbps, Saudi Arabia at the 58th place globally at 42.34 Mbps, Oman at the 94th place



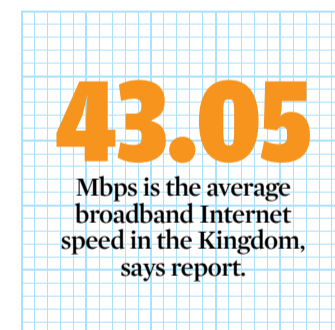
A graph comparing the download and upload Internet speed in the Kingdom.

at 22.91 Mbps and Bahrain at the 55th place at 43.05 Mbps, according to Speedtest Global Index.

The index ranks mobile and fixed broadband speeds from around the world on a monthly basis.

"Results are updated mid-month for the previous month. January 1, 2019 onward countries must have at least 300 unique user results for mobile or fixed broadband to be ranked in either category.

"Prior to January 1, 2019, we



required 670 unique user results for mobile and 3,333 for fixed broadband," Speedtest stated.

This comes as Bahrain prepares to take a lead in making the best out of 5G technologies.

"There were a lot of challenges along the way - ensuring spectrum availability as soon as possible was a big challenge, but overcoming these obstacles exemplifies the support and co-operation amongst Team Bahrain and demonstrates how Bahrain can move quickly, deliver enormous progress against an accelerated timeframe, and be a partner to technology leaders," said the Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications in Bahrain, Kamal Ahmed said about Bahrain's effort to launch 5G.

Batelco has selected Ericsson to launch 5G, while VIVA Bahrain has partnered with Huawei that has registered 1,529 5G patents, according to data analysis firm IPLYtics.

Last month Batelco launched Xiaomi Mi Mix 3, the first 5G network supported device in Bahrain at Batelco's City Centre Branch.

The Xiaomi Mi Mix 3 was tested on Batelco's 5G network by a professional gamer who commented on the speed of the device when connected to Batelco 5G network, as well as its practicality to use digital applications including social media apps, streaming services and online games as it features a large screen with fast mechanism to switch between apps.



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