

HM King returns following visits to UK, UAE

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa yesterday returned to Bahrain following visits to the United Kingdom and the United Arab Emirates. HM the King also visited the UAE, where he met President His Highness Shaikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

UAE selects Bahrain's 'AMAN' for PHI-1 satellite mission



Circular: Sunni Endowment tells candidates to take leave until end of elections



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● AMAN aims to secure communication between the satellite and the ground station

● MBRSC is providing Bahrain with a 5U slot within the 12U modular setup of PHI-1

● UAE is also providing Nepal with a slot for its "Danfe Space Mission"

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From left, Niklas Hedman of UNOOSA, Janardhan Silwal Antarikchya Pratisthan of Nepal, Mohamed Al-Aseeri of NSSA and Salem Humaid AlMarri Director General of MBRSC

'AMAN' conceptualised by Bahrain for testing 'Advanced Encryption Standard' was awarded a slot on the United Arab Emirates PHI-1 satellite under its Payload Hosting Initiative.

Under PHI, engineers at the Mohammed bin Rashid Space Centre (MBRSC) would construct two small satellites each year, allowing companies or university students to add their technology for testing in space.

Accordingly, AMAN, developed by a team from Bahrain, aims to secure communication between the satellite and the ground station.

MBRSC is providing Bahrain with a 5U slot within the 12U modular setup of PHI-1 built in partnership with the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs.

The move follows an MoU

Mission" to study the operation of PX4 Autopilot, a middleware for drones in space.

Both the winning payloads, MBRSC said, will provide practical experience, knowledge, and skills to the teams and contribute to capacity-building in space technology.

This 'Access to Space for All', PHI-1 initiative will facilitate the end goal that no one is left behind on the path to space exploration and sustainable development on Earth.

Salem Humaid AlMarri, Director General of MBRSC, said: "We have made tremendous progress in the year, since the initial announcement of the Pay-

load Hosting Initiative. Today we are congratulating the entities that have been selected to participate in the PHI-1 mission."

UNOOSA Acting Director, Niklas Hedman, said: "The Access to Space for All initiative has been ground-breaking for the 21st-century capacity-building in space science and technology. I already look forward to seeing the results of the PHI programme boosting the space industry in Bahrain and Nepal."

Abbas Maskey, the Founder of Antarikchya Pratisthan Nepal, said: "If Nepal is to progress as a spacefaring nation, the coun-

We are delighted and honoured that the "Aman" project was selected by UNOOSA and MBRSC in the first round of the PHI initiative. Aman is considered the first Bahraini payload fully designed, integrated, and tested by NSSA. This opportunity is unprecedented in our quest to contribute meaningfully to the global effort towards sustainable, peaceful use of outer space and building national capacity in the space field

MOHAMED AL-ASEERI, THE CEO OF NSSA

try has to take each and every opportunity available to develop self-reliance, perform R&D and build capacity for space. I strongly believe that Nepal's involvement in PHI-1 will be a small step toward future potential collaboration for Vision 2050, a vision to launch our nation's first astronaut in space by 2050. Space is the new limit, even for Nepal."

"This initiative will further raise awareness to utilize the space sector as a driver for economic and social development and look at it as a long-term driver for innovation and strengthening international cooperation on an all-inclusive basis."



Aman is the first Bahraini payload fully designed, integrated and tested by NSSA

Preachers, imams, and muezzins wishing to run for the upcoming parliamentary and municipal elections were asked to take official leaves starting the 10th of October and until the end of the electoral process.

This is according to a circular issued by the Sunni Endowments based on the directives of the Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments Minister, Nawaf bin Mohammed Al-Maawda.

The circular also forbids candidates from using mosques and their annexes in electoral campaigns.

Violators will be held legally accountable, warns the circular.

The ministry also prohibits delivering statements or sermons before and after Friday prayers, except for the translation of sermons in the authorised mosques.

"Lessons or sermons shall not be given in mosques unless official approvals have been obtained from the Sunni Endowments Directorate," the circular said.

Celebrating Saudi National Day



Bahrain yesterday turned green marking the 92nd Saudi National Day and the anniversary of King Abdulaziz forming the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in 1932.



Indian Ambassador, Shaikh Salman hold talks

The President of the Court of the Crown Prince, Shaikh Salman bin Ahmed bin Salman Al Khalifa, yesterday received Indian Ambassador, Piyush Srivastava. Shaikh Salman welcomed the Ambassador, highlighting the strength of Bahrain-India relations. For his part, the Ambassador of India expressed his appreciation to the President of the Court of the Crown Prince wishing Bahrain further progress and development.