

Each of us makes **1.08** kg of waste per day!

TDI | Manama

Each individual in the Kingdom is producing 1.08 kilograms of waste per day, comfortably beating the world average of 0.74 kilograms per day, according to 2020 statistics.

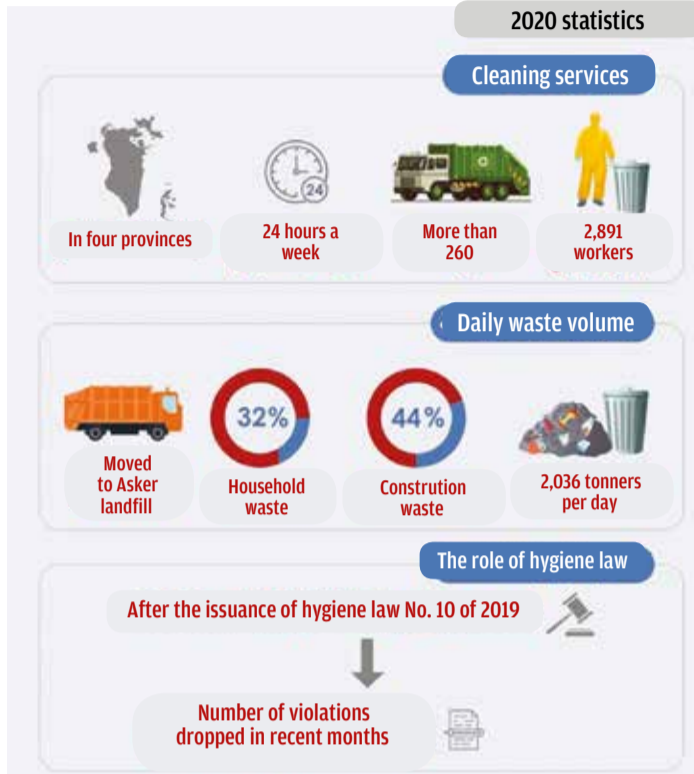
The concerning rise in waste production had also pushed domestic waste to occupy 44% of the total waste removed daily.

On average, municipality workers are removing 2036 tonnes of wastes per day, which includes domestic, commercial, agricultural, construction and household wastes, the latest data said.

The new data also says that construction waste accounts for 32% of the daily waste removed to the Askar landfill. For this, more than 2,891 cleaners, drivers, inspectors and officials are working 24 hours a day in all of the four governorates.

"They serve more than a million and a half people in the Kingdom through an integrated work mechanism that connects various cleaning companies."

Assisting them in the process are a fleet of automatic sweepers, small and large garbage col-



lecting trucks, waste transport trucks, towing vehicles, cranes, and other equipment.

Workers are also constantly monitored by hygiene departments in municipalities

and hold them accountable for faults. The hygiene department uses programmes to monitor performance, complaints and suggestions. All the vehicles are also tracked in real-time using

GPS systems to measure work volume and working hours.

A team of inspectors, both from municipalities and cleaning companies, work to implement daily plans in residential and commercial neighbourhoods, the coasts and open and agricultural areas.

The cleaning services also cover the parks, walkways and green areas, which is constantly expanding.

Cleaning companies are responsible for removing waste from these sites, sewage from where there is no sewage network, and siphoning out rainwater from streets.

The municipalities also have a team of emergency responders to act in times of crisis, especially during sandstorms.

Cleaning departments are also responsible for removing encroachments on public roads with government departments. The report also points out that the number of violations related to Public Cleanliness Law No: 10 of 2019 has reduced in recent months. Citizens and residents, the report added, cooperated with the inspectors in removing violations, especially cars for sale and scrap cars.

Coming together of the world

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Regardless, it marked a coming together of the world, with an audience of hundreds of millions around the globe and at various stages of the pandemic tuning in to watch the start of the greatest show in sport.

US first lady Jill Biden clapped the Americans as did France President Emmanuel Macron for the French team.

Tokyo also updated the Olympic oath, recited by the athletes at the end of the parade. Athletes swore their commitment to inclusion, equality, and non-discrimination for the first time at the Olympics.

The opening also featured fireworks in indigo and white, the colours of the Tokyo 2020 emblem, and gave a nod to Japanese tradition represented by giant wooden Olympic rings linked to the 1964 Games.

A vastly smaller number of athletes, about 20 per nation, marched in the teams' parade, with many flying in just before their competitions and due to leave shortly after to avoid infections.

Athletes marched to the music of some of Japan's best-selling video games such as Dragon Quest and Final Fantasy, as country names on placards were shown in speech bubbles often used in manga cartoons.



Up above us in the night sky, 1824 drones are being used to form the Tokyo 2020 emblem



Pita Taufatofua is shirtless again, bearing the flag of Tonga alongside Malia Paseka.



For the second time in its history, the Olympic Games welcomed the IOC Refugee Olympic Team! Leading the delegation into the stadium are the flagbearers, swimmer Yusra Mardini and marathon runner Tachlowini Gabriyesos.

Only 15 global leaders are in attendance. Emperor Naruhito, who formally opened the Games as his grandfather Hirohito did in 1964, clapped as the athletes marched.

The ceremony was marked by high-profile absences, including former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who wooed the Games to Tokyo.

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