

**US ties stressed**



Royal Guard Commander Major General HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa yesterday received Commander of the United States Marine Forces Central Command Lieutenant General Carl Mundy and his accompanying delegation. They discussed boosting joint military co-operation, stressing strong historical ties binding the two friendly countries and their perpetual growth at all levels.

# Bahrain-UN projects reviewed

The Kingdom holds joint meeting with UN Agencies

● **Dr Shaikh Abdullah hailed the deep-rooted and developed relations between the Kingdom and the United Nations, expressing his appreciation for the existing co-operation between the two sides within the Strategic Partnership Framework.**

**Manama**

The Co-ordination and Follow-up Committee between the Kingdom and the United Nations Agencies held its third meeting at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' General Court yesterday chaired by the Undersecretary for International Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Shaikh Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Khalifa. The meeting was also held in the presence of the United Na-

tions Resident Co-ordinator and Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme, Amin El Sharkawi, Committee's members, and a number of relevant government agencies representatives.

The meeting reviewed new joint projects, in line with government plans, the Bahrain Economic Vision 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals 2030, within the Strategic Partnership Framework between Kingdom and the United Nations 2018-2022.

Dr Shaikh Abdullah hailed the deep-rooted and developed relations between the Kingdom and the United Nations, expressing his appreciation for the existing co-operation between the two sides within the Strategic Partnership Framework.

The Undersecretary for International Affairs stressed that the Kingdom, under His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, is keen on enhancing co-operation with the UN, noting that the Coordination



Dr Shaikh Abdullah chairs the meeting.

and Follow-Up Committee has prioritised strengthening institutional capacities and investing in humans to meet the needs of citizens, in accordance with the highest standards and international quality standards.

He also added that the Kingdom continues to achieve the developmental goals at an advanced level, which is stressed

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DR SHAIKH ABDULLAH

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The Undersecretary for International Affairs also point-

ed out that that achieving the Sustainable Development Goals 2030 is a top national priority, adding that the Kingdom has taken practical steps to integrate them into the Government Action Plan.

He stressed that the successive international accolades and awards that the Kingdom has received in various fields of development have not come from nothing, as they are in fact the result of a comprehensive national vision, the essence of which is to invest in humans.

For his part, Mr El Sharkawi stressed that the regular meetings of the Coordination and Follow-up Committee reflect the seriousness and commitment of both the Kingdom and the United Nations in activating the Strategic Partnership Framework as a model that provides best practices in the development of initiatives and implementation of projects as well as reviewing the UN's experiences according to the future needs of the Kingdom.

**Vat Savitri Pooja**



More than 40 Hindu women performed sacred rituals around the ancient banyan tree on the British Embassy premises on the occasion of 'Vat Savitri Pooja'. The worship of banyan tree holds great significance in the Hindu religion. The Shreenathji Krishna Hindu Temple Committee arranged the trip to the British Embassy for the women, who wanted to perform the ritual. They were greeted by British Ambassador Simon Martin and his wife Sophie Martin. The rituals were performed by Hindu priest, Shastri Vijay Kumar. Bhagwan Asarpota, Honorary Vice Chairman of the Hindu Temple, was present.

**Key meeting**



Interior Ministry Assistant Undersecretary for Ports, Search and Follow-up Brigadier-General Abdulrahman Saleh Al Sinan took part in the 33rd meeting of the GCC customs directors, being held at the GCC General Secretariat headquarters in Riyadh. The agenda of the meeting focused on training and exchanging expertise between member countries, as well as ways of benefiting from the programmes organised by the Naif Arab University for Security Sciences, regarding passports in particular.

**Graduates' gathering**



Ahead of its 10th Conferring Ceremony, the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland - Medical University of Bahrain (RCSI Bahrain) celebrated the graduating classes of 2019 during the annual School of Medicine and School of Nursing and Midwifery dinners. University faculty, staff and alumni joined senior students, as they took a look back at their journey through University, following the culmination of their final exams.