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HM King receives new Minister of Tourism

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa received at Safriya Palace yesterday, in the presence of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister, newly appointed Minister of Tourism, Fatima bint Jafar Al Sairafi, who took the legal oath before HM the King. His Majesty congratulated her, wishing her every success in performing the national responsibility of serving the nation and citizens, and praising her wealth of experience and competence. The Tourism Minister extended most sincere thanks and gratitude to HM the King for the royal trust, stressing that his noble directives will serve as a beacon in performing her national missions.

HM King Hamad to welcome Egyptian President in Bahrain today
 TDT | Manama

500 more to benefit from 'Mazaya' housing scheme

HRH Prince Salman calls on Housing Ministry to offer additional financing services to Bahrainis

Cabinet commends Unesco King Hamad Prize winners for use of ICT in education

TDT | Manama

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, has ordered the inclusion of 500 additional beneficiaries in the "Mazaya" housing programme, bringing the total number of recipients to 2,500. This comes as the Cabinet yesterday reviewed a memorandum submitted by the Minister of Finance and National Economy, Chairman of the Ministerial Committee for Financial and Economic Affairs and Fiscal Balance, on the achievements of various housing programmes provided to Bahraini citizens, including the "Mazaya" housing programme, which has supported 10,629 beneficiaries. HRH Prince Salman, who chaired the weekly meeting, called on the Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning to offer additional financing schemes for



HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister chairs the weekly Cabinet meeting at Gudaibiya Palace

housing services, and reiterated the Ministry's and supporting authorities' efforts in this regard. His Royal Highness stressed the importance of furthering efforts to develop innovative solutions for housing services that will accelerate the pace of delivery, in partnership with the private sector.

Education sector

The Cabinet highlighted His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa's continued support to the Kingdom's education sector, and commended the winners of the Unesco King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa Prize for the use of information and communication technologies (ICT) in the field of education.



Mazaya scheme allows mid-income Bahrainis to get a finance up to BD81,000 in collaboration with a local bank to buy a house ready for habitation, while paying only a quarter of their monthly salary.

The Cabinet noted the important role of the award in the Kingdom's commitment to advancing UNESCO's objectives by encouraging the use of ICT to further develop education and its outputs.

Bahraini leadership

It welcomed the Kingdom's presidency of the World Customs Organisation (WCO) Council for a third consecutive term for the year 2022-2023, which reflects the global recognition of Bahraini citizens' leadership in global organisations.

The Cabinet commended Shaikh Ahmed bin Hamad Al Khalifa's efforts in his presidency of the WCO during his last two terms which led to his re-election for a third consecutive term. The Cabinet congratulated students who completed the academic school year, expressing their gratitude to the parents, teachers and administrators of the Ministry of Education for their contributions to the exceptional achievements and success across all academic levels.

Support for pilgrims

HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister highlighted the importance of providing the necessary support to Bahraini pilgrims during their Hajj pilgrimage. He praised the efforts of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia under the leadership of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, and the support of His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, the Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence of Saudi Arabia, for their commitment to facilitating services for Hajj pilgrims attending from across the world.

Jordan port tragedy

12 dead, 250 injured in Jordan toxic gas explosion

Amman

At least 12 people died and more than 250 were injured yesterday when a tank of toxic chlorine gas plunged from a crane and exploded at Aqaba port in Jordan. Eight of the casualties were Jordanian, with the other four

coming from other nations. The force of the blast sent a truck rolling down the harbor-side, while clouds of yellow gas billowed overhead and dock workers ran for their lives. Nearby areas were evacuated and residents told to close and seal doors and windows and to

avoid going out. Public Security Department spokesman Amer Sartawy said "specialists and the hazardous substances team in the civil defense" were dealing with the incident. Prime Minister Bishr Khawneh and Interior Minister

Mazen Al-Faraya immediately headed to the scene, visited a hospital where some of the injured were being treated, and formed an investigation team into the incident. The accident happened when a tank filled with 25 tons of chlorine gas being exported to

Djibouti fell while being transported. Video footage showed a crane hoisting the tank from a truck, and then the tank falling on to the deck of a ship and exploding. The injured were transported to two state hospitals, one private facility and a field hospital.

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