

Winners of 2019 Government Innovation Competition named



The competition winners were named yesterday.



Many ministers and senior government officials attended the event.

Manama

The Government Innovation Competition 'Fikra' yesterday announced the winners of the 2019 competition.

Launched by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister

during the Government Forum, Fikra offers public sector employees the opportunity to put forward their suggestions on innovation and development of government services via a digital platform.

The Ministerial Committee selected two ideas: Virtual Employment Centre by Eman Al Sammak and Ebtihal Al Shihabi from the Labour Market Regulatory Authority

and "Mahakim Platform" Submitted by Ahmed Alaraifi from the Office of the First Deputy Prime Minister.

Members of the public selected "EParkBH - Replacement of parking meters with an application" by Alia Al Qahtani from the Ministry of Interior and Nouf Al Qahtani from the Ministry of Youth and Sports.

The Ministerial Committee was deeply encouraged by the

extraordinary range of talents represented in the application pool, noting that applicants' aptitude for innovation will help achieve greater operational efficiency in the public sector.

Winners will be given an opportunity to present their innovations to the Government Executive Committee, chaired by HRH the Crown Prince, to ensure successful project implementation.

Fikra accelerates development through a citizen-centred approach that is participatory and sustainable in addition to fostering a culture of innovation in which government employees put forward breakthrough solutions, in line with Bahrain's Economic Vision 2030 and the Government Programme 2019-2022.

The Ministerial Committee consisted of Mohammed

Al Mutawa, Minister of Cabinet Affairs, Jameel Humaidan, Minister of Labour and Social Development, Kamal Ahmed, Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications, Basim Al Hamer, Minister of Housing, and Faeqa Al Saleh, Minister Health, Ayman Al Moayyad, Minister of Youth and Sports Affairs, and Wael Al Mubarak, Minister of Electricity and Water Affairs.

Gym management walks free in swimming pool death trial

High Appeals Court accepts plea; quashes BD40,000 compensation ruling

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With regard to the appointment of a lifeguard, the lawyer said the swimming pool only had a depth of 1.3 metres.

Lawyer Islam Ghunaim, who appeared for the gym management, at the appeals court, argued that the allegations were baseless.

The High Appeals Court has cancelled the ruling issued by a lower court asking a gym management to compensate for the death of an individual who died within the facility.

The lower court had asked the gym management to pay BD40,000 in compensation to the family of the deceased.

The man is said to have died while swimming in the pool attached to the gym facility and the family alleged that the death happened because

safety measures were not followed at the facility.

The family also argued that a lifeguard should have been appointed at the facility to

The deceased was a longtime customer at the gym and he knew the working timings of the staff there.

MR GHUNAIM

handle such cases.

Lawyer Islam Ghunaim, who appeared for the gym management, at the appeals court, argued that the allegations were baseless.

"The victim used the facility during Ramadan and that too Iftar time. It would have been known to him that there was none to help him in case of any emergency.

"He himself should be held responsible for the consequences," the lawyer argued.

"The deceased was a longtime customer at the gym and he knew the working

timings of the staff there. It means he was well aware that there wasn't anyone there to help him if anything bad happened."

With regard to the appointment of a lifeguard, the lawyer said the swimming pool only had a depth of 1.3 metres. "No lifeguard was needed for such a small pool."

The court accepted the lawyer's argument. It stated that the video footage showed that lights were switched off at the facility, which meant he was using it when there were no staff in attendance.

'Terrorists planned to bomb ATMs'

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Eleven men are accused of joining a terrorist cell, which targeted bombing ATM machines, the High Criminal Court heard.

According to court files, the defendants are said to have joined the terrorist cell and were eyeing to murder police officers and destroy gas pipes as well as the ATMs after receiving funds from wanted fugitives in terror cases.

The defendants' plot was dismantled after police received confidential information revealing their plans. It was discovered that the first defendant recruited the third defendant and he ordered him to examine banks located in Sanad area as the cell aimed to bomb the ATMs there.

"He also requested me to observe the gas pipes, telling me that they were part of the plot to bomb them," the third defendant told Prosecutors.

It's said that the cell bombed a gas pipe but the explosive failed to cause any damage.

CBB issues five silver commemorative medals set

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The Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB) has issued five silver commemorative medals set to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Financial Services, Educational Services, Security Services, Health Services and Municipality Services in the Kingdom of Bahrain.



of Manama Municipality.

Five medals, each includes a picture of: Building of the Central Bank of Bahrain, Building of Al Hedaya Al Khalifa School, Building of the Police Fort, Building of Salmaniya Medical Complex and Building

The silver medals set can be purchased from the Currency Issue Directorate at the Central Bank of Bahrain in Diplomatic Area. Starting from the 30th of December 2019 for BD 120.

Writers' role hailed



Information Affairs Ministry Undersecretary Dr Abdulrahman Mohammed Bahar yesterday received members of Bahrain Writers Association headed by poet Ibrahim Bu Hindi. Dr Bahar congratulated the association on celebrating their Golden Jubilee, stressing its leading role to enrich creativity, intellectual and literary productions with the support of Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities (BACA) under the patronage of Shaikha Mai bint Mohammed Al Khalifa. He praised the growth of the media, culture and art, as well as the intellectual and literary knowledge in light of the civilised era of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa. The Undersecretary stressed the ministry's keenness, under the directions of the Information Affairs Minister Ali Al Romaihi, to consolidate the partnership with official and private cultural institutes to spread knowledge, art, culture, and to motivate writers, thinkers, artists. The delegation hailed the Undersecretary's continuous support for the association's programmes and its work to raise cultural and societal awareness, and to promote the movement of writing and literary creativity.