

AL TIJARA

MAGAZINE



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HE Mr. Abdulla bin Adel Fakhro takes constitutional oath before HM King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa as Minister of Industry and Commerce



Minister of Industry and Commerce: Continuing the efforts to achieve the greater development and benefit of the country and citizens



H.E. Mr. Abdullah bin Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry and Commerce met with H.E. Zayed R. Alzayani to take over the Ministry's duties. During the meeting, the Minister praised the loyal contributions of H.E. Zayed R. Alzayani and his efforts and achievements during his tenure at the Ministry, as the Industry and Commerce sector witnessed remarkable progress at various levels, keeping pace with the process of growth and development of the Kingdom of Bahrain under the leadership of HM King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, and the guidance of HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

The Minister affirmed his commitment to continue the tireless efforts in this promising sector and to launch more plans and initiatives that contribute to the implementation of programs and projects that enhance the advanced level of the Kingdom of Bahrain as a supportive environment for sustainable development, in a way that supports goals and objectives of the comprehensive development process towards the best interest of the country and the citizen. For his part, H.E. Zayed R. Alzayani expressed his sincere congratulations to H.E. Abdullah bin Adel Fakhro on receiving the royal trust, expressing his thanks to all employees of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce for the efforts they have made throughout the past period, wishing the Minister success in his duties and responsibilities.

The Minister Of Industry And Commerce Conducts an Inspection Visit to Manama Souq



H.E. Mr. Abdullah bin Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry and Commerce, accompanied by a number of Ministry officials, conducted an inspection tour of Manama Souq with a number of businessowners and members of the (BCCI) Commercial Markets Committee, as part of the continuous efforts to follow up with small businesses and businessowners' needs.



H.E. viewed projects offered by small business owners and confirmed the government's keenness to follow up on all issues related to the commercial sector, stimulating an economic and commercial environment that encourages growth, expansion and investment.

The Minister also praised the efforts of the private sector and the cooperation between business owners and the BCCI Commercial Markets Committee to enhance Manama Souq's business environment, affirming its historical status as one of the oldest markets in the region.



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BCCI Honors Former Member...Minister of Industry and Commerce



The Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) held a ceremony honoring H.E. Mr. Abdullah bin Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry and Commerce, former member of its Board of Directors, to appreciate his efforts during his membership, and congratulate him on the Royal Decree by HM King Hamad bin Isa bin Salman Al Khalifa, appointing him Minister of Industry and Commerce, wishing him a career full of achievements and success.

BCCI President Mr. Sameer Abdulla Nass conveyed the greetings of BCCI's 30th round Board of Directors to the Minister of Industry and Commerce, noting and praising His Excellency's achievements during his tenure on the Board of Directors.

Mr. Nass expressed his keenness to enhance cooperation and joint coordination between the Ministry and the Chamber, in order to achieve further progress and growth in the national economy and meet the needs and aspirations of the commercial sector.

The Minister expressed his appreciation for the great support provided by BCCI members of the Board of Directors, headed by H.E. Mr. Sameer bin Abdullah Nass, during his board membership, and stated: "We are working together for the country's economic development, the main axis that supports all aspects of national development, and I invite you to continue this joint effort to achieve goals and enhance the strength and durability of our national economy and its commercial environment."

The ceremony was attended by a number of members of the Board of Directors, in addition to the Chamber's employees.



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Launch of Al Ghadeer brand in collaboration with Lulu Hypermarket Under the patronage of the Minister of Industry and Commerce



H.E. Mr. Abdullah bin Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry and Commerce, affirmed the importance of developing local food industries to ensure food security, noting the Ministry's confidence and constant support to local commercial companies, for their significant contribution to advancing the national economy, pointing to the continuous efforts to promote local investments and attract competitive industries to serve the local, regional and global market.



This came during the launch of "Al Ghadeer brand", under the patronage of the Minister of Industry and Commerce, in the presence the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce Eman Ahmed Al-Doseri, and Mr. Isa Al Daaysi and a number of senior officials from Lulu Hypermarket and Al Daaysi Holding Company, at Lulu Hypermarket Market in Ramli Mall.

The Minister listened to a briefing on the various products offered by the brand and expressed his thanks and appreciation to Al-Duaisi Holding Company for their contributions to strengthening the local food sector and its diversity.

Registered as a Bahraini trademark since 1970, Al Ghadeer is one of the leading brands in the field of poultry, specializing in whole chicken, chicken cutlets and processed chicken, and seeking to participate in achieving Bahrain's food security goals by expanding local and global investment.



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Ministry of Industry and Commerce and BCCI Joint Economic Committee holds its 39th Meeting



The Joint Economic Committee between the Ministry of Industry and Commerce and the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) held its 39th meeting on Tuesday, December 13, 2022, at the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, the Ministry's side was chaired by H.E. Mr. Abdullah bin Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry and Commerce, and the BCCI side was chaired by BCCI Chairman Mr. Sameer bin Abdullah Nass, in the presence of BCCI First Deputy, Khalid Najibi, Second Deputy Chairman Mohammed Abduljabbar Al-kooheji, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce Ms. Eman Al-Doseri, and members of the Joint Economic Committee from both sides.

The Minister pointed to BCCI's great role in supporting industrial and commercial development in Bahrain, serving the comprehensive development process laid down by HM King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, under the guidance of HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

The meeting discussed the agenda and followed up on the implementation of topics raised in the previous Committee meeting.

Upon receiving the Chairman and CEO of Universal Rolling Factory Minister of Industry and Commerce: increase of investment projects and international factories based in the Kingdom



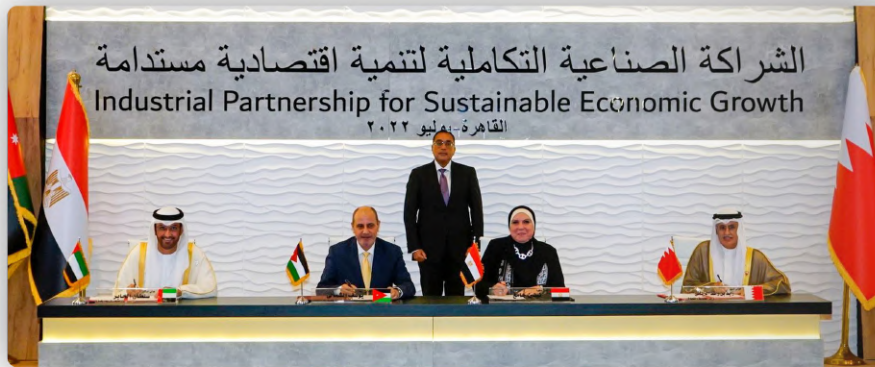
H.E. Mr. Abdullah bin Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry and Commerce, affirmed the Kingdom of Bahrain's pride in the growth of investment projects and international factories based in the Kingdom of Bahrain, noting the facilitations provided by the Government to enhance the Kingdom's investment position as a gateway for business in the region, and ensuring a friendly industrial environment for these projects to thrive in, which contributes to attracting major international projects to the Kingdom.

This came during a meeting between the Minister of Industry and Commerce and Mr. Maher Abu-Ghazaleh, Chairman and CEO of Universal Rolling Factory, where they reviewed a number of topics of common interest and developments and mechanisms of work in the factory.

During the meeting, H.E. Fakhro praised the new steps taken by the management of Universal Rolling Factory to transform the facility into an advanced environment-friendly facility, and their work to increase productivity according to local and international standards, noting factory's significance as one of the largest steel factories in the Kingdom of Bahrain for rebar production.

For his part, Mr. Maher Abu-Ghazaleh, Chairman and CEO of Universal Rolling Factory, noted the keenness of the Kingdom of Bahrain to promote and develop partnership between the public and private sectors and raise the contributions of the private sector to the economy and national development.

Bahrain signs Industrial Partnership Deal with Egypt, Jordan and the UAE



The Kingdom of Bahrain has joined the “Integrative Industrial Partnership for Sustainable Economic Development”, launched by Egypt, Jordan and the UAE in late May.

The Minister of Industry and Commerce at the time, H.E Mr. Zayed R. Alzayani signed the industrial partnership agreement, on the sidelines of the first higher committee meeting of the integrated industrial partnership, being held in Cairo. The signing ceremony took place in the presence of Egyptian Prime Minister, Dr. Mostafa Madbouly, and the concerned representatives of the three participating countries.



Minister Al Zayani affirmed that the industrial sector is an integral component of the Kingdom of Bahrain’s comprehensive development efforts. He highlighted that this partnership will further strengthen the well-established relations between the participating countries, providing more investment opportunities and solidifying strategic collaboration among them.

The Minister stressed that this partnership supports the objectives of the Industrial Sector Strategy “2022-2026” and will contribute to strengthening the economic position of the Kingdom of Bahrain, by supporting it in advancing a developed industrial sector that anchors on innovation and creativity.

Minister of Industry and Commerce at the time Chairs the Bahraini Side in 4th Meeting of the GCC Ministerial Committee for Standardization Affairs



H.E. the Minister of Industry and Commerce at the time , Mr. Zayed R. Alzayani, headed Bahrain's delegation in the 4th meeting of the GCC Ministerial Committee for Standardization Affairs, held this morning at the headquarters of the General Secretariat in Riyadh, with the participation of H.E. Dr Nayef Falah Al Hajraf, (GCC)Secretary General, and Heads of delegations of member countries of the GCC Ministerial Committee for Standardization Affairs, in the presence of H.E. Mr. Saud bin Nasser Al Khusaibi, Secretary General of GCC Standardization Organization(GSO), the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Ms. Eman Ahmed AlDoseri, and the Assistant Undersecretary for Local and Foreign Trade, SH. Hamad bin Salman Al Khalifa.



The Minister affirmed that the Ministry of Industry and Commerce in the Kingdom of Bahrain, in implementation of the directives and visions of GCC leaders, believes in cooperation with the standardization bodies of the GCC countries, as part of their general cooperation in various fields, noting the gains and advantages from robust solidarity in the various fields of standardization that will support the Gulf economy by emphasizing the importance of the imported and exported products meeting the technical requirements and the conformity assessment procedures aimed at protecting safety, health and the environment, facilitating intra-GCC trade procedures and streamlining the passage of commercial products according to internationally applicable regulations and laws.

Israeli President Receives Minister of Industry and Commerce at the time



Israeli President Isaac Herzog received Minister of Industry and Commerce at the time H.E. Mr. Zayed R. Alzayani, as part of the visit of the Bahraini economic delegation to Israel.

The Israeli President welcomed the Minister and members of the economic delegation and discussed the growing economic relations between the two sides. The Minister of Industry and Commerce affirmed that the developments of these relations will develop opportunities for investment cooperation between the two sides to positively benefit bilateral trade exchange.

The meeting was attended by the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the State of Israel, Khaled Yousef Al Jalahma, and members of the economic delegation, which included a number of Bahraini businessmen and women and a number of senior officials from both sides.

Minister of Industry and Commerce at the time Meets Israeli Minister of Finance



On the sidelines of the official visit of the Minister of Industry and Commerce at the time and the delegation of the Kingdom of Bahrain to Israel, H.E. Minister Zayed R. Alzayani met with Israel's Minister of Finance Avigdor Lieberman, in the presence of a number of senior officials from both sides.

During the meeting, bilateral relations between the two countries were reviewed, and ways to strengthen mechanisms of cooperation between them in all fields, especially economy and investment, considering the joint job opportunities in promising sectors, in addition to discussing issues of common interest.

Minister of Industry and Commerce at the time Opens First Danube Supermarket branch in Bahrain



The Minister of Industry and Commerce at the time , H.E Mr. Zayed R. Alzayani, opened the first branch of the Saudi Danube Supermarket in the Kingdom of Bahrain at Al Liwan complex in Hamala, in the presence of Chairman of the Board of Directors of Bin Dawood Holding Company Dr. Abdulrazzaq bin Dawood and a number of senior officials.

The Minister affirmed the government's commitment towards further cementing Bahraini-Saudi economic relations, through facilitating procedures for private investments in the Kingdom.

The Minister highlighted the quality services and products offered by the Danube Supermarket chain.

The 5000 square metre Liwan branch is the 55th store of Danube chain, and the 82nd of Bin Dawood Holding Company.



Minister of Industry and Commerce at the time Visits Alba



Minister of Industry and Commerce at the time H.E. Mr. Zayed R. Alzayani, visited Bahrain Aluminium Company (Alba), in the presence of the Chairman of Alba's Board of Directors, Shaikh Daij bin Salman bin Daij Al Khalifa, and the Chief Executive Officer of Alba, Ali Al Baqali on Tuesday.

Minister Alzayani highlighted the major contributions of national companies to the economy, noting the influential part played by Alba in escalating growth in the industrial sector, and increasing the demand for Bahraini aluminum globally.

The Minister stressed the government's commitment to continue to support national companies, to reach the set national economic development objectives.

During the visit, Minister Alzayani inspected the sixth smelting line expansion project and was briefed on the progress of operations. He also toured the rest of the factory and listened to an explanation of all stages of manufacturing and production processes.

For his part, Shaikh Daij bin Salman bin Daij Al Khalifa noted that this visit reflects the government's care to the industrial sector in general and to the aluminum sector in particular.

The Chairman affirmed that Alba constantly seeks to explore further expansion projects, upgrades and new facilities for the company's operations, thus enhancing its competitiveness in the global aluminum industry and achieving the objectives of the Kingdom of Bahrain's Economic Vision 2030.



On behalf of the Minister of Industry and Commerce at the time..Undersecretary Attends Tech Camp Closing Ceremony



On behalf of the Minister of Industry and Commerce at the time, H.E. Mr. Zayed R. Alzayani, H.E. Ms. Eman Al Doseri patronized the closing ceremony of the second edition of “The Annual Young Entrepreneur Tech Camp” at the Diplomat Hotel on Sunday.

H.E. Al Doseri affirmed the government's commitment to continuing to invest in human capital through various training programs, highlighting that the tech camp serves the national objectives of transformation to a digital economy.

Al Doseri added that the camp will further encourage entrepreneurship and creativity among Bahraini youth, strengthening the Kingdom's position as a regional hub for technological development and tech-related investments.

The second edition of the camp was held between 17 July and 7 August, and hosted university students specializing in technology-related fields.

For his part, the chairman of the camp's organizing committee, Ahmed Buhazza, highlighted that this year's camps saw the participation of 20 university students, over the course of three weeks.

Buhazza added that the Tech Camp offered various training programs on topics related to business solutions and self-development. The camp also provided students with networking opportunities through visits to various industry-related entities and companies.

The ceremony began with the national anthem, followed by speeches and honoring of students by Her Excellency, who also received an honorary award and concluded the ceremony with a tour around the programs, praising such projects for their initiatives in promoting Bahraini Youth.



The Minister of Industry and Commerce at the time Announces the Launch of “Al Tajar” App



Following the "Partnership with the Private Sector" event, which was held under the patronage of HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister, where various tools and means that support the private sector were emphasized, H.E. Mr. Zayed R. Alzayani, Minister of Industry and Commerce at the time, announced the launch of "Al-Tajar" application through the e-government app store “bahrain.bh/apps”, the first integrated application that offers services for business owners from various ministries and authorities. The announcement of AL-Tajar app comes in cooperation with Information & eGovernment Authority, Social Insurance Organization, EWA, Bahrain Tender Board and Tamkeen.

This came during a press conference held at BCCI building, with the participation of H.E. Eman Ahmed Al-Doseri, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, on behalf of H.E. Minister of Industry and Commerce Zayed R. Alzayani, Mr. Mohamed Ali Al Qaed, Chief Executive Officer of the Information and eGovernment Authority, Mrs. Nouf Jamsheer, Chief Executive Officer of the Labour Market Regulatory Authority, Dr. Abdul Razzaq Al Qahtani, Acting Deputy Chief Operating Officer, Social Insurance Organization, Mr. Ali Al Neama, Vice President of Distributions and Subscriber Services.

Their excellencies elaborated on the advantages and services offered by this application from several government entities to facilitate many procedures and transactions needed by business owners.

The conference was also attended by Acting CEO of "Tamkeen", Mrs. Maha Mufeez, and a number of senior officials from the public and private sectors and government IT departments' members contributing to the launch of the application.

Speakers in the press conference affirmed that the launch of this application confirms the Kingdom's role as an incubator for trade and investment, and constitutes a qualitative leap in the field of providing modern services and systems that support the commercial field, supporting the objectives of the ICT and digital economy sector strategy (2022-2026), as one of the prominent electronic initiatives that support and enhance technical infrastructure, which reflects positively on the private sector in the commercial field and in a way that contributes to the revitalization of business, attracting investments and supporting the national economy.

The launch of "Al-Tajar" application also reflects the Kingdom's commitment to invest in innovative and smart solutions that enable people, including record owners, to access services and complete their transactions with ease, which helps improve the experience of the private sector in government services.

The application is a comprehensive platform for business owners, through which they can complete various transactions, including payment services, order tracking services, search, and information services and more. The app provides a fast payment feature, through which a businessowner can pay all government transactions to several entities at the same time, such as renewing records, work permits and bills. Noting that necessary technical links were made between those various systems to achieve the desired interconnection, and the various entry mechanisms used in those authorities were linked with e-key to activate a single sign-in feature for application services, in addition to approving the upgrade of payment systems and including unified payment features in different government systems in one transaction.

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce Celebrates World Standardization Day

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce, represented by the Inspection and Metrology Department, participates with global standardization bodies in celebrating the World Standardization Day, celebrated annually on the 14th of October.

On this occasion, H.E. Assistant Undersecretary for Domestic and Foreign Trade, SH Hamad bin Salman Al Khalifa, stated that the Ministry is holding an event entitled (Common Vision for a Better World), which includes a number of awareness videos and interviews that mainly aim to raise awareness and knowledge of the most important national legislations it has issued and will be issued to keep pace with global legislations related to the goals of sustainable development and preserving the environment. The event will host a number of speakers starting Friday, 14 October 2022, and covers a number of important themes such as renewable energy and the implementation of the ministerial decision on single-use plastic bags, as well as the Gulf Conformity Mark, specifications of electric cars, the process of preserving the environment, energy efficiency and other axes that serve the goal of this global celebration.

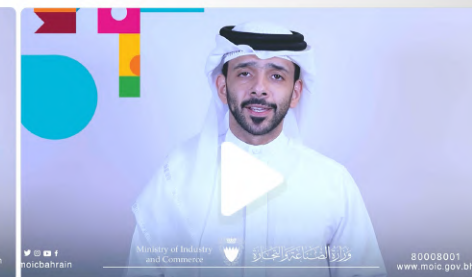
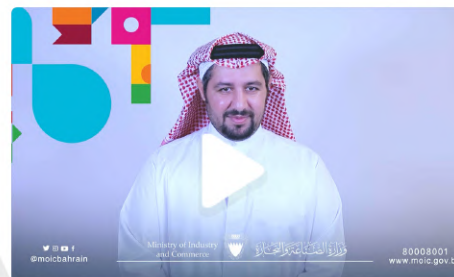
A group of specialists in various industrial and commercial fields such as oil, environment, electricity and water, and university professors will participate in this event, and these awareness videos will be published on the Ministry's social media accounts.

This event aims to enhance the role of standardization in achieving sustainable development goals and the government's work program, where the role of standards in providing proven and authentic solutions to environmental challenges will be highlighted, and their contribution to the exchange of experiences and technical knowledge on a large scale between developed and developing countries alike, as standards cover all aspects of life, noting that international, Gulf and national standardization bodies develop unified protocols and measurement methods that help their users reduce the environmental impact of industrial production and consumption processes and facilitate and reuse resources and strive to improve energy efficiency.

In conclusion, H.E. Assistant Undersecretary stressed that the standardization authority in the Kingdom will spare no effort in developing the necessary specifications and legislations and coordinate their implementation with relevant partners to preserve the environment, in an aim to eventually achieve carbon neutrality in the Kingdom.




Sh. Hamad Bin Salman Al-Khalifa
Assistant Undersecretary for Domestic
& Foreign Trade





Industrial Sector Strategy 2026- 2022

Vision:

 Towards an advanced industry built on innovation and sustainability

Objectives:


Increasing the sector's contribution to the overall GDP








Increasing the sector's national origin exports


Creating additional job opportunities for citizens in the sector

Pillars:

-  Adopting the "Fourth Industrial Revolution"
-  Adopting a "Circular Carbon Economy" approach
-  Encouraging investments in digital infrastructure
-  Improving regional supply chains

Targeted Industries:

-  Downstream aluminum
-  Renewable energy
-  Food and pharmaceuticals
-  Petrochemicals
-  Blue and green hydrogen
-  Micro-electronics

Strategic Axes:

-  Promoting local industries
-  Improving investor's experience
-  Updating regulations and legislations
-  Providing career guidance for Bahrainis
-  Investing in infrastructure

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) by 2026:

	65,291 Total workers in the sector	25.3% Percentage of Bahrainis from overall workers
	2.544 Billion BHD GDP to contribution	14.5% Percentage of contribution
	2.475 Billion BHD value of industrial sector exports	80.1% Percentage to total exports contribution

LEGAL CONSULTATION

LEGAL AFFAIRS DIRECTORATE

Corrupt and Falsified Goods

Goods are defined as all kinds of basic and complimentary products, some of these goods are called falsified goods, which the law defines as all goods that have been altered or tampered with in some way, causing them to lose some of their material or moral value, whether by addition or reduction, or by a change their nature, type, characteristics, shape, elements, weight, size, number, energy, caliber or origin. Goods are also considered fraudulent if they violate national technical regulations, or if the data on their packaging contravenes their actual installment facts, or if their corruption or damage is concealed or their shelf life expired.

We also find among those goods, corrupt product, goods of which properties have changed as a result of chemical or microbial decomposition, or if they contain larvae, worms, insects, waste or animal residues, or if they have expired for use. In view of the fact that commercial fraud through corrupt and fraudulent goods is a serious social and economic scourge that causes serious damage to market participants, the law states that the provider may not import, export, produce, manufacture, display, sell, store, transport, market, trade, promote, dispose of or even possess counterfeit or corrupt goods with the intention of selling.

The supplier in violation of laws and regulations shall be obliged to withdraw falsified or corrupt goods from markets and warehouses and inform the competent authority thereof, and the competent authority shall take the appropriate measures by destroying or disposing of the goods at the expense of the provider, and in the event that such falsified or corrupt goods are sold by the supplier, the supplier shall be obliged to refund the value of the goods to the buyer. The law also states penalties prescribed for the perpetrators of commercial fraud in various forms.



Bahrain Radio
Stages of Development and Renewal
 By : Mr. Mahmoud Ahmed Ali Mujbel

Under the patronage of the late Shaikh Hamad bin Isa bin Ali Al Khalifa, Ruler of Bahrain, Bahrain's First Radio was launched on Monday, 4th of November 1940, and was affiliated with the British Intelligence, it used to broadcast its programs by a telegram transmitter, for one hour a day, from its headquarters in the Telegraph Center in Houra.

The radio broadcast was live, and included recitation of the holy Quran, Hadiths, poems and folk songs performed by local singers in the courtyard of the Telegraph building. This radio station occupied a room in the building, where elite Bahrainis gathered, namely the first broadcasters: Mohammed Dweiger, Salem Al-Arayedh, Ahmed Al-Omran, Abdulrahman Al-Shamlan, Ibrahim Kanoo, Ali Taqi, Hassan Al-Omran, and Jassim Al-Kadhawi, and its director was George Talabeh. The goal of the radio station was to air news of World War II. The radio continued to operate from 1940 until it ceased after the end of World War II in 1945, as the Allies no longer needed to broadcast news of the war.

Bahrain Radio programs:

First: General Program (broadcast 24 hours)

The public program is the cornerstone of the radio, it broadcasts 90% of the local programs that include heritage, social, cultural, political, religious, musical, family and children's programs.

The general program offers six daily news broadcasts, as well as hourly brief news bulletins.



Second: Bahrain Radio (broadcasts 24 hours)

Bahrain Radio began broadcasting its programs in English on the 2nd of April 1977 with the aim of introducing foreign communities in the region to Bahrain's political, economic, and social activities through local and international news, focusing on social activities like culture, arts, and sports.

Bahrain Radio broadcasts its programs to cover the Gulf region on FM and medium and to most of the world on shortwaves.

The purpose of establishing the radio station:

Establishing this radio station came to attract members of non-Arab speaking communities who speak English, to allow them to communicate with Bahraini society and interact with it positively as well as receive awareness and educational content, to achieve the desired benefit from media campaigns launched by various government agencies from time to time.

Bahrain Radio is a division of Bahrain Radio station, and has around 50 employees and officials, and it includes following units:

1- News Unit:

This unit includes supervisors, editors and translators who work on shifts from six in the morning to midnight, as well as part-time broadcasters or collaborators.

News reports are broadcasted hourly from six in the morning to midnight and include major bulletins, brief news bulletins and headlines.

2- Live Music Broadcasting Unit:

This unit is responsible for broadcasting live music programs from six in the morning to midnight, each program lasts three hours, and these programs are broadcasted on waves 96.5 and 101 (FM) until 7 pm. The two waves then separate from each other, so live music programs continue to broadcast on 96.5 (FM) and wave 101 (FM) begins broadcasting cultural, religious, scientific, and historical recorded programs that are either imported or locally produced, from 7 pm to midnight.

3- Library and Coordination Unit:

This unit archives, classifies and prepares radio materials for broadcasting, and re-records old programs of documentary and cultural value on CDs as part of a plan to modernize the radio library.

4- Coordination Unit for Administrative, Financial and Advertising Affairs:

This unit coordinates between the Bahrain Radio Department and other departments of the Radio and Television Corporation and follows up the process of advertising reservations.

Bahrain Radio focuses on providing various live services to listeners, encouraging various local charitable, sports, social, cultural and artistic events by announcing them in advance and covering them live by reporters. Bahrain Radio also interacts with political, economic, and other events inside and outside the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Bahrain Radio has been able to add to its foreign audience a large audience of Bahraini and Arab citizens residing in the Kingdom of Bahrain and has also been able to change the percentage of Bahrainis working in it from 5% at the beginning in 1977 to 100% full-time employees, and 80% part-time employees, without losing listeners, on the contrary, the percentage of listeners increased in comparison.

On the 25th anniversary of the establishment of Bahrain Radio, on the 2nd of April 2002, the radio began live broadcasting on the Internet through the website of the Ministry of Information.

In order to provide the best radio services to its listeners, Bahrain Radio has signed an agreement from the beginning with the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) to purchase the latest musical, dramatic and scientific programs. Bahrain Radio has also concluded agreements with music production companies such as RETSAM CISUM, YNOS, IME, GMB to obtain the latest productions by these companies in Western music free of charge. In addition, the radio receives free programs from international radio stations such as Voice of Germany, Radio Netherlands and Radio France Internationale, which are mostly classical or artistic music programs.

5- Bahrain FM Radio (24 hours) LM 93.3 MHz wavelength:

This radio station provides a radio service for local and Arabic music lovers, the experimental broadcast of the Bahrain Wave (FM) began on the 1st of May of 2001 at a rate of six hours per day, which now turned to 24 hours, interspersed with brief news bulletins every two hours, and relying on advanced computer technology for recording and radio broadcasting.

The radio station offers various weekly youth programs, and provides special programs at special occasions, which receive notable interest from listeners.

FM.98.40 Wave: Started broadcasting on 14 Feb 2000. This wave broadcasts Bahrain Radio news programs twenty-four hours a day through computers. News broadcasts start from 12:00 p.m until 12:00 a.m, after which the authentic Arab songs broadcast for 12 hours a day. This wave provides detailed political, economic, sports, cultural, scientific and diverse newsletters, interspersed with independent news programs that cast light on local, Arab and international press, the reports of radio correspondents in the Arab world, the reports of news agencies, economic affairs, and local, Arab and international sports news.

6- Radio folk songs

FM95 Wave: Began broadcasting on February 14, 2002 and broadcasts twenty-four hours a day, through computers, folk popular Bahraini songs only, without any other programs at present.

7- Holy Quran Radio

FM106.1 Wave: Began broadcasting on February 14, 2002 and broadcasts twenty-four hours, through computers, readings of the Holy Quran without any other programs at present.

8- Hindi Songs Radio

FM2.104: Began broadcasting on July 1, 2003. This wave broadcasts twenty-four hours a day through computers, airing a diverse and distinguished collection of the latest historical and modern Indian songs for the Indian and Pakistani audience residing in Bahrain and the Gulf region, where it received a good resonance and achieved great popularity.

9- Radio Tarab

FM 96.6 Wave: Started broadcasting on July 29, 2003, this wave broadcasts twenty-four hours through computers, a variety of old Arab songs by leading Arab singers to satisfy many lovers of authentic Arab music, and iconic singers.



Interview with the Director of Industrial Areas Mr. Khalid Ali Alqallaf

1 Tell us about the industrial zones currently supervised by the Ministry. Are there new areas among them?

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce oversees seven industrial zones in the Kingdom of Bahrain including Salman Industrial City (Bahrain International Investment Industrial Zone and Hidd Industrial Area), Salman Port Industrial Zone, Sitra Industrial Zone, Ma'ameer Industrial Zone, Al Lahsi Industrial Area, Al Muzraa Industrial Area and Hafira Industrial Area. In February 2022, it was also announced that the US Trade Zone (USTZ) will be inaugurated in Salman Industrial City, which will contribute to enhancing economic, trade and industrial cooperation, and push bilateral trade between the two countries towards greater horizons. The USTZ is part of the investment and strategic projects' package announced in the Industry Sector Strategy (2022-2026), which comes within the economic recovery plan, with an area of approximately 110,000 square meters, which reaches 1.11 million square meters with future expansion.

The strategy of the industrial sector (2022-2026) also included the announcement of the aluminum sector manufacturing zone, with an area of 477,000 square meters, where the Ministry is currently preparing preliminary plans for the project.

As for the long-term strategic and investment projects, the most prominent of which is the area of Fisht Al-Adhem, which is estimated at an area of 104 million square meters and is planned to be one of the largest industrial zones in the Kingdom of Bahrain, located in East Sitra.

2 Are there specified industries to each region or are their industries diverse?

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce studies applications and allocates industrial plots according to the activities submitted, approvals are then obtained from specialized authorities according to the held activity, and the most prominent licensed bodies include the Ministry of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture, the Ministry of Oil and Environment, the Ministry of Health and others. Industries in the regions are diversified by specific requirements and standards that are verified by all licensees in order to maintain the health and safety of the region and tenants.

3 Are there new industrial lands to accommodate new investment demands?

Spaces for rent are currently available, although they are limited due to the occupancy rate exceeding 90% of the total industrial plots. In addition, the ministry continuously assesses the use of leased spaces for the purpose of increasing opportunities to host new investment projects. The Ministry also signed an agreement in early 2021 with the Arab Auction Company to lay troubled projects in industrial zones in order to transfer the ownership of these facilities to new investors to benefit from them and establish new projects and conclude lease contracts for these plots with the Ministry. This step comes within the framework of offering investment opportunities available in industrial zones to the largest segment of local and foreign companies, in order to transform troubled projects in industrial zones into new projects that contribute to the economic growth of the industrial sector and enhance the contribution of this sector to the GDP.

4 What are the activities of the industrial sectors provided by the leased companies in the Ministry's industrial zones?

The number of its tenants is approximately 730 companies, which vary to include industrial, logistical and commercial activities, the percentage of industrial activities in industrial zones reaches 77% of the total number of activities. Industrial sectors also vary to include engineering, aluminum, petrochemical, plastic, furniture, wood, food, pharmaceuticals, clothing and textiles. The engineering and aluminum sector accounts for the largest proportion of industrial activities at 55%.



Interview with the supervisor of Consumer Protection Center Ms. Amna Bushaqer

1 Tell us about the new Consumer Protection Center and what services it provides?

The Consumer Protection Center at the Ministry of Industry and Commerce includes many services for beneficiaries of the Department of Consumer Protection, most importantly, receiving subsidized flour requests from popular and mechanic bakeries, issuing licenses for promotional campaigns, issuing licenses for discount offers, in addition to receiving and processing consumer complaints from citizens and residents of the Kingdom of Bahrain. Offering services through smart and innovative methods using the latest technologies like smart screens that provide electronic services to customers with high professionalism and perfect quality. The Consumer Protection Center works innovatively according to well-thought-out customer service plans and strategies that include all scenarios and mechanisms to always deal with developments and crises in order to ensure the normal functioning of provided services and to ensure the continuation of their provision as accustomed to in normal times.

2 What is the capacity of the center?

The capacity of the Consumer Protection Center is estimated at 12 clients per hour and 80 clients during the day for the various services provided by the Center in the front offices, noting that the Center receives support from the Department's staff in the back offices of the Department of Consumer Protection.

3 Tell us about the special needs and translator services you provide to clients

The staff were trained in sign language in order to provide the best services to clients with special needs in this category, and we conducted a training workshop for the center's staff on how to serve customers with disabilities. We also have staff experienced in several languages to communicate with clients who are not fluent in Arabic such as English, Hindi, Urdu and Turkish.

4 How does this center benefit citizens and residents?

It improves the level of services provided to citizens and residents of the Kingdom of Bahrain with ease in a sophisticated ideal work environment in record time, aiming to extend services to the largest segment of Bahraini society.





Interview with Holy Quran Memorizer Mr. Saud Al-Saeed

1 In which center did you memorize the holy book? How long did it take to memorize the entire Quran?

In (Wahat AlQuran AlKareem) the Holy Quran Oasis Center in Riffa, from 2013 to 2021 (9 years).

2 How old were you when you memorized the Qur'an? What difficulties did you face during the conservation process?

26 years old, the process of memorization began from a young age and I participated in many Quran centers. I started memorizing short verses along with some scattered longer verses. Until I reached the age of 18 in 2013 and I decided to memorize the entire Holy Quran and review it from the beginning (Surat AlNass to AlFatiha). I memorized 15 chapters from 2013 until 2020, and in 2021 during the pandemic and all the free time in my hands I memorized the last 15 chapters

3 How is impact of the holy Qur'an on your work and social life?

The Holy Quran has a positive impact on the personal aspect of my life besides my social life and career. As it opens your heart to understand everything in life differently. As for the social aspect, I did not expect the reactions of people around me, because they react differently to Quran memorization than they do to any other occasion in a person's life. I'm thankful that the blessing of holy Quran is noticeable in my career and relationships as well, Quran helped me to significantly develop my work and achieve my goals.

4 What advice and steps have you followed and given to young people to encourage them to memorize?

First of all, memorizing the holy Quran is a goal that requires time, determination and passion, just like any other goal in a human's life. I dedicated a certain time each day to memorizing the Quran, approximately half an hour a day to memorize one page. There is no doubt that studying Tajweed and obtaining a certificate in it helped me in memorization as it made it easier for me to read and understand. The method I used was listening to one page through YouTube and then repeating it with correct enunciation until memorizing it, then recording my voice to make sure that there are no errors. My advice to my colleague is: don't get bored and don't say that my time and age has passed and I'm too busy to achieve this goal. Start with small steps and gradually complete the journey. Little continuous effort is better than a lot of temporary effort.



Interview with Holy Quran Memorizer Mrs. Aisha Alawadhi

1 In which center did you memorize the holy book? How long did it take to memorize the entire Quran?

At the Abu Bakr Al-Siddiq Center of (Wahat AlQuran AlKareem) the Holy Quran Oasis, I have memorized on and off for 20 years.

2 How old were you when you memorized the Qur'an? What difficulties did you face during the conservation process?

25 years old, the most important difficulties were the lack of continuity in memorization, which forced me to re-review and repeat the parts every time I stopped memorizing.

3 How is impact of the holy Qur'an on your work and social life?

The Holy Qur'an has countless great positive effects at all levels of social and practical life, as it gives you mental stability and tranquility, it helps to strengthen memory and memorization, develops perceptions and the ability to assimilate and understand, and it also enhances your Arabic language and linguistic skills. As well as granting you good faith and trust in God's judgment and the path he planned in your life, and that eliminates fear, sadness, anxiety and attachment.

4 What advice and steps have you followed and given to young people to encourage them to memorize?

Have sincerity of intention and pray to God to aid and support you throughout this journey. From my point of view, I found that the commitment to recite what you memorize in the memorization center is the most important motivation, as having capable teachers who follow up with you on the progress of memorization increases your commitment, the teacher will also correct your reading errors during memorization and recitation. As well as the importance of setting small and large goals for gradual achievement.



Eng. Ebtisam Isa AlShinoo
Chief, Industrial Operations section

Industrial Indicators... Open opportunities

Today, the world is invoking a set of global indicators that determine the ranking of countries on the map, and answer questions of those interested in the level achieved and aimed for, towards the advancement of countries in various fields. There are economic, social, educational, and infrastructural indicators, among other types. In this article, I will address two important indicators of the industrial sector, particularly considering rapid technological and industrial developments. Noting that the index usually symbolizes several variables we can theoretically define but cannot directly measure, such as productivity and intelligence.

(CIP) Competitive Industrial Performance:

An indicator that assesses the industrial competitiveness of countries' economies based on economic and industrial outputs, where the assessment is carried out on an annual basis and a report is issued by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). UNIDO defines industrial competitiveness as the ability of a country to increase its presence in international and local markets while developing its industry and activities to contain added value and higher technology.

Economies are assessed in three main axes: production capacity and export of manufactured goods, technological advancement, and the country's impact on global economy. In turn these axes are divided into eight sub-axes. The Kingdom of Bahrain came in the 52nd place out of 152 countries in 2021, and of course this ranking is topped by the major industrial countries.

One of the interesting challenges in this indicator is that reaching global competitiveness can be achieved in many ways; a country can adopt a path that differs from the path taken by another country to improve its ranking in the index, by focusing on a particular sub-axis to lead to a high rating in its main axis.

(SIRI) Smart Industry Readiness Index:

This indicator aims to identify the extent to which advanced technology is being adopted in the industrial sector by evaluating industrial facilities in the country. In an attempt to link this indicator with the Fourth Industrial Revolution, SIRI covers three elements of the revolution: processes (integration of supply chains and product life cycle), technology (automation, connectivity and intelligence of the industrial facility) and enterprise system (institutional structure and readiness of human resources to adopt solutions of the Fourth Industrial Revolution). The index works through a framework that helps industrial establishments, regardless of their activity, size, and classification, to start, scale and maintain digital transformation. The evaluation journey includes setting a plan for each industrial facility within its capabilities to increase productivity and raise operation efficiency of in smart ways. This way, we can identify opportunities, challenges, initiatives, and incentives appropriate to the industrial reality.

I liked how a local described indicators as similar to medical consultation with a color X-ray image, enabling us to see healthy, fragile and strong joints. We must maintain the strength of the healthy ones and develop the fragile ones to elevate the industrial sector for the sake of Bahrain.



The Ministry of Industry & Commerce celebrates its female employees on Bahraini women's day

Part of the Ministry of industry and Commerce's celebration of Bahraini women's day.



Ministry of Industry and Commerce Celebrates Bahrain National Day



On the occasion of Bahrain's national day on December 16-17, in commemoration of the establishment of modern Bahrain during the era of founder Ahmed Al-Fateh in 1783, and the anniversary of its accession to the UN as a full member country, and the anniversary of HM King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa's accession. The Ministry of Industry and Commerce held a celebration on this national occasion, under the patronage of the Minister of Industry and Commerce, H.E. Mr. Abdullah bin Adel Fakhro, with the participation of a number of officials and ministry employees.

The ceremony included speeches delivered by senior officials and employees of the Ministry, national shows, entertainment activities and national heritage performances.





Rawan Mahmood Mujbel, daughter of Mr. Mahmood Ahmed Mujbel graduated from the Modern Knowledge School and obtained the American high school (Diploma) with an A- average



Bader Hani Helal, son of Mr. Hani Ibrahim Helal, graduated from high school with a 94.5 average



Abdulla Hani Helal, son of Mr. Hani Ibrahim Helal, graduated from primary school with a 97 average
Sara Hani Helal, daughter of Mr. Hani Ibrahim Helal, graduated from Intermediate school with a 98 average



Zeinat Mohamed AlSaegh, daughter of Mrs. Zahra Saeed Al-Rahma, graduated from the KG2 from Modern Knowledge School



Ahmed Waleed AbdulHussain, son of Mrs. Kawther Ali Baker, graduated from high school from AIRaja School



Academically Outstanding Children of Ministry of Industry and Commerce Employees



MEMORABLE MOMENTS



MEMORABLE MOMENTS



EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



The Month of July
Employee Mohamed Husain Alqayem
Human and Financial Resources Directorate



The Month of August
Employee Khawla Abdulrahman Bubshait
Companies Control Directorate



The Month of September
Employee Abdulla Abdulmunem Almahmood
SME's Development Directorate



The Month of October
Employee Rawan Ali Janahi
Consumer Protection Directorate



The Month of November
Employee Bara Hasan Alraees
Communication and Awareness Directorate



The Month of December
Employee Amani Abdulhameed Alkuwaiti
Foreign Trade and Industrial Property



Director of Communication and Awareness

The annual initiative launched by the Supreme Council for Women, instructed by Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, Consort of His Majesty the King and President of the Supreme Council for Women, to name the first of December every year, Bahraini Women's Day, to honor and recognize the role played by women, which reflects their distinguished position as contributors to change and creativity.

This annual initiative which carried a renewed ambition for women to be the competent partners in leading the country, has become a national occasion celebrated by the Kingdom of Bahrain to emphasize the effective role women have in Bahraini and global society, and the depth of their unique experience, which become an example to be emulated in various work fields due to their prominent contributions.

The Kingdom of Bahrain took pioneering steps in the field of women empowerment, developing their capacities and activating their participation in society under the leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, and under the supervision of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister, the first supporters of Bahraini women and the greatest catalysts for their development in various fields of work and life. H.E. Mr. Abdullah bin Adel Fakhroo, Minister of Industry and Commerce, has always stressed the role of Bahraini women in development, emphasizing that the female component constitutes a great addition to the Ministry in all its departments and directorates, noting that all employees of the Ministry work with determination, dedication and sincerity in a distinct partnership that builds a sustainable competitive society and transforms challenges into achievements that match the aspirations of citizens and residents and encourage development.

Sincerely

Mr. Mahmoud Mujbel

Director of Communication and Awareness

Tijara Magazine contest winners



PAMBAVASAN NAIR



Mr Pambavasam Nair is the first expatriate in Bahrain & first Indian expatriate in Saudi Arabia to establish a full-fledged switchgear manufacturing factory

Ascon Control WLL, a full-fledged Switchgear Manufacturing Company in Bahrain, has been Mr. Nair's dream project. The factory in the year 2021 relocated to its own premises at Al Mazraa Industrial Park, Bahrain. Ascon Control WLL Bahrain is the first switchgear manufacturing factory by an expatriate in Bahrain wherein he has invested BD.1.6 Million. The new building premises was inaugurated by Minister of Industry & Commerce at the time, HE Mr. Zayed R. Alzayani & the Indian Ambassador HE Piyush Srivastava. Mr Pambavasam Nair fulfilled his one more aspiration of starting a full-fledged factory in Saudi Arabia & thus Ascon Control in Saudi became fully operational in the year 2010.

It was in the year 1998 that he decided to venture into business and along with his close friend Mr Radhakrishnan Khalayil. He started a trading company Amad Al Baeed Trading Est. in Saudi Arabia. The company within a short span of 2-3 years was well established in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. As a part of expansion, the management started its operations in Kingdom of Bahrain in the year 2001. Amad was a small shop at Shaikh Hamad Avenue with just 2 employees.



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