



Female employees of A A Bin Hindi Group celebrated Bahrain Women's Day. The staff members were presented with roses and thanked for their valuable contributions by group chairman Abdulla Bin... hosted a lecture to mark the day under the patronage of acting chief executive Dr Mohamed Al Aseeri. The "Bahraini Potentials" lecture was delivered by Ahli United Bank private banking and wealth ma... row centre, alongside female employees and other officials. Right, officials, guests and speakers at the Bahrain Polytechnic

Pilot fails to turn up in court

A PILOT, who had lodged an appeal against a BD200 fine for allegedly trying to smuggle sex toys into Bahrain in his socks, failed to turn up in court yesterday. The High Criminal Appeals Court adjourned the case to January 21 for a ruling on the appeal.

Honour for women in banking sector

A CEREMONY will be held tomorrow at the Bahrain University's Sakhir Campus to honour 100 Bahraini women working in the banking sector. Securities and Investment Company chief executive Najla Shirawi will be the guest of honour at the event which marks the annual Bahrain Women's Day. Bahrain University president Dr Ibrahim Janahi said the event will be a tribute to woman bankers.

Workshop promotes healthy eating habits

A WORKSHOP promoting healthy eating habits was held at ART Rotana Hotel in Bahrain marking the World Diabetes Day. Health Ministry Under-Secretary Dr Aisha Bu Unq attended the event along with other officials. The incidence of diabetes in Bahrain has reached 21.3 per cent.

Experts in end energy

A GATHERING of experts in Bahrain could shape energy policies in the Middle East, as world leaders debate concerns about global warming at the Paris Climate Change Conference.

The second Energy Management Conference and Exhibition started yesterday at the Gulf Hotel's Gulf Convention Centre and continues today.

Discussions could result in a roadmap setting out better management of the region's natural resources, according to Energy Minister Dr Abdulhussein Mirza.

"During the past decades of fast economic expansion the Gulf countries have stressed more on energy diversification than productivity," he said.

"Our high growth rates have come at a high price, an increased share of internal fuel consumption.

"With fossil fuel exports still constituting the main source of income for the GCC countries, a balance between economic growth and energy consumption is critical for sustaining our development programmes.

"Enhancing energy productivity through efficiency measures is our best bet for maintaining such balance."

More than 600 people are taking part in the event, which is being held under the theme "sustainable energy for developing



Solar energy is becoming a more viable option



Delegates at the conference

countries". It is jointly organised by the National Oil and Gas Authority (Noga) and the Bahrain Society of Engineers. Dr Mirza, who opened the

event, highlighted the establishment of a sustainable energy unit in Bahrain, which is committed to energy conservation and the utilisation of renewable and new energy resources to complement fossil fuel, while at the same time promoting clean energy.

"Energy security is a core element in any national development plan and energy management is the vehicle to transport nations to prosperity," he said.

The minister added the theme

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An event was held at the New Millennium School-DPS campus in Manama to explore creativity and linguistic talents of students in... students from grade two to 12 taking part in poem recitation, poem writing, essay writing and poster making contests. Above,



in Hindi and director and vice chief executive Khalid Bin Hindi. Elsewhere, Bahrain Polytechnic also management chief executive Sawsan Abulhassan. Above, Abdulla Bin Hindi and Khalid Bin Hindi, front Women's Day lecture.

bid to woes



possible could not be overstated. "Energy management and the development of renewable resources is no longer a luxury, it is a necessity for securing the energy needs of the future," he told the GDN on the sidelines of the event.

However, despite needing to better harness alternative energy, oil and gas would continue to be important.

"Oil and gas resources will remain a vital part of our energy mix," he said.

"However, the Energy Ministry will strive to lengthen the life of the oil and gas reserves as long as possible in addition to introducing alternative energy options that are being piloted for future commercial applications such as solar and wind energy.

"Alternative and renewable energy will definitely represent higher percentages of the energy basket over the coming years."

He acknowledged limited space in Bahrain was an obstacle given "the large surface areas needed" for alternative energy solutions.

However, he said falling costs and technological advances could help overcome this.

"Solar energy technology advancement coupled with the cost reduction has definitely made solar power the first choice for our region," he said.

of the conference opened up discussions on a wide range of topics, including unified regional energy policies, the role of energy regulators, energy security, air quality in Gulf Cities, oil spill contingency plans, hazardous waste management from oil industries and private sector financing.

Dr Mirza's adviser and conference technical committee chairman Anwar Khalaf said the importance of ensuring oil and gas reserves lasted as long as



Arabic, Hindi, Sanskrit and French. The three-day celebration saw kindergarten students take part in a poetry competition.

Two political societies dissolved

TWO political societies in Bahrain have been dissolved at their own request by the Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments Ministry.

Members of Al Watan (The Homeland) Society and Justice Development Movement (JDM) confirmed to the GDN yesterday that they were no longer active.

Al Watan Society was founded just last year by Bahrain's present ambassador to Russia Ahmed Al Saati.

The 70-member society was unveiled in October with a view to contesting the national elections in November, however it only gained approval from the Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments Ministry in February this year.

Mr Al Saati announced his resignation in April and it is understood that the remaining members agreed to dissolve the society soon afterwards.

JDM, meanwhile, was founded in September 2011 following that year's unrest.

It faced legal action in July last year for "irregularities" in the way it was run and according to a previous member who wished to remain anonymous, was dissolved due to a lack of interest among members who were busy with other commitments.

Bahraini on trial for attempt to serve terrorists

A 25-YEAR-OLD Bahraini man is on trial in the UAE, accused of trying to supply food supplements and hormones to Islamic State (IS) members.

He is one of 11 people, including eight Emiratis, a Syrian and a Mauritanian, facing various charges relating to the terror group, says a report on *The National* newspaper's website.

According to a witness, the Bahraini, identified only as A A A, is said to have arranged a shipment of a protein supplement "that was to be sent to Syria to aid in the body-building and muscle development of the recruits".

Only six defendants appeared in the court yesterday after denying the charges at an earlier hearing.

The case was adjourned to December 21.

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