

INFO BOX



In view of the daily news updates on the local and international level relating to the COVID 19 virus, it is strongly advisable to avoid any unnecessary travel during the coming weeks as countries have started the process of closing down their borders and limited air travels to and from. We are expecting travel restrictions to increase (inbound/outbound) with more quarantine measures either in the Kingdom or from countries expecting travels from Bahrain, therefore, strongly urge our staff who have booked tickets for the upcoming break to check with their travel agencies on travel arrangements, status of flights, refund policies and further advise. Please stay safe.

You can always check the daily updates on COVID -19 CORONAVIRUS on the link bellow:

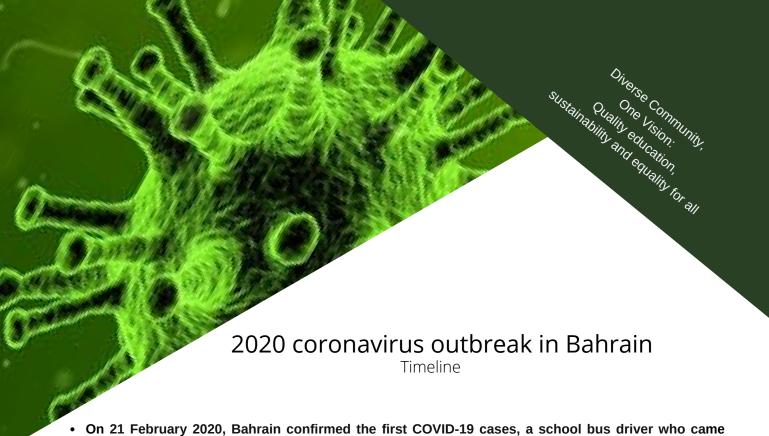
https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/







Manama, Mar. 4 (BNA): The World Health Organisation (WHO) has commended Bahrain's precautionary measures to combat the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) and protect public health. Supreme Council for Health (SCH) President, Head of the National Taskforce for Combating COVID-19 Lieutenant General Dr. Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdulla Al-Khalifa hailed the WHO appreciation, paying tribute to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al-Khalifa for his royal directives to heed citizens and residents' health. He lauded the follow-up of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al-Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, hailing the dedicated efforts exerted by the National Taskforce which contributed to containing the virus. He reiterated taskforce's keenness on pursuing strenuous efforts to promote the national interest and the safety of citizens and residents by implementing all world-standard precautionary measures to combat COVID-19. He welcomed the report which was issued by WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean, commending Bahrain's strenuous efforts and precautionary measures combat the coronavirus citing particularly the implementation of a comprehensive national strategy to contain and prevent the spread of the virus, led by HRH the Crown Prince.



- from Iran via Dubai.
- On 24 February, a Bahraini woman arriving at the Bahrain International Airport from Iran via Dubai was examined as part of the precautionary measures and tested positive for SARS-CoV-2. She had arrived from Iran with her husband and sister in-law. Everyone was moved to isolation.
- Bahrain suspended all flights from Dubai Airport and Sharjah Airport for 48 hours. It also announced a travel ban on Iran
- On 25 February, Bahrain confirmed nine new cases, raising the total count to 17 cases. The nine
 cases involved four Bahraini women and two Bahraini men coming from Iran via Sharjah, two Saudi
 women coming from Iran through Sharjah and one Bahraini coming through Dubai
- Bahrain suspended all schools, nurseries and universities for two weeks to curb the spread of COVID-19 infection.
- On 26 February, Bahrain confirmed nine new cases, raising the total count to 26 cases, including three new cases involving three women travelling to the country from Iran
- Civil Aviation Affairs in Bahrain announced that suspension of flights to and from Dubai International Airport was extended for an additional 48 hours. Flights to and from Iraq and Lebanon were suspended until further notice.
- The Health Ministry announced compulsory health check ups for all citizens and residents who traveled to Iran in February
- On 27 February, Bahrain confirmed seven new cases, raising the total count to 33 cases. Most of the new cases came from Iran via indirect flights. Infected individuals were taken to Ebrahim Khalil Kanoo Community Medical Center for isolation
- On 28 February, Bahrain confirmed 2 new cases, a Bahraini national and a Saudi Arabia national who had come from Iran via indirect flights.
- As of 28 February, there have been 38 confirmed cases in Bahrain.
- As of 9 March, there have been 71 confirmed cases in Bahrain.

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Bahrain Grand Prix goes behind closed doors in response to coronavirus

- Bahrain has reported more than 60 cases of Covid-19
- Ferrari: safety of staff and families the priority



This month's Bahrain Grand Prix will take place behind closed doors due to the coronavirus outbreak. The second round of the Formula One season, due to be staged on 20-22 March, has become the latest sporting event to close to the public because of the virus.

A statement from race organisers said: "In consultation with our international partners and the Kingdom's national health taskforce, Bahrain has made the decision to hold this year's Bahrain Grand Prix as a participants-only event.

"As an F1 host nation, balancing the welfare of supporters and racegoers is a tremendous responsibility. Given the continued spread of Covid-19 globally, convening a major sporting event which is open to the public and allows thousands of international travellers and local fans to interact in close proximity would not be the right thing to do at the present time. "But to ensure that neither the sport, nor its global supporter base, is unduly impacted, the race weekend itself will still go ahead as a televised event."

Bahrain has reported more than 60 cases of the coronavirus. Officials said the race would take place amid a series of rigorous sanitation measures in the country, including "social distancing". The statement added: "Bahrain's own early actions to prevent, identify and isolate cases of individuals with Covid-19 has been extremely successful to date. "The approach has involved rapid, proactive measures, identifying those affected by the virus, of which the overwhelming majority of cases relate to those travelling into the country by air. "Bahrain's decision is the latest setback to the Formula One calendar after the Chinese Grand Prix, scheduled to take place in Shanghai in April, was postponed indefinitely last month.





Manama, Mar. 8(BNA): A press conference was organised this evening by the National Taskforce for Combating the Coronavirus (COVID-19), at the Crown Prince Center for Training and Medical Research at the Bahrain Defence Force Hospital, to provide updates on the precautionary measures taken by the Kingdom of Bahrain to combat COVID-19 and safeguard the health of citizens and residents.

During the conference, Infectious Diseases Consultant & Microbiologist at the BDF Hospital and Member of the National Taskforce for Combating the Coronavirus, Lieutenant Colonel Dr. Manaf Al Qahtani, highlighted the following points:

- The Kingdom's efforts and comprehensive strategy to combat COVID-19, led by HRH the Crown Prince, is designed to ensure citizens and residents health remains the top priority.
- The Kingdom has taken all preparatory measures to combat COVID-19, in line with international guidelines. The recent WHO report commending Bahrain is testimony to the global recognition of the Kingdom's efforts.
- The Kingdom's commitment to combating the spread of the virus has set a good example to other countries. Health professionals, a crucial component of Team Bahrain, should be commended for their tireless work to ensure the health and safety of citizens and residents is safeguarded.



- The surge in active COVID-19 cases over the last 24 hours have been cases flagged at Bahrain's entry points. There remain no local cases (community) in Bahrain.
- Four cases have been identified among individuals in direct contact with active COVID-19 patients. These four cases have been transferred for direct isolation and treatment, in line with international medical guidelines.
- A total of 7131 individuals have been tested so far, of which 79 have tested positive and 75 of the 79 cases are from individuals arriving from abroad.
- Four cases out of the total 79 active cases are among individuals who have interacted with active COVID-19 patients arriving from abroad.
- To date, ten patients have been treated successfully, discharged, and are being
 monitored by a specialised medical team to ensure they remain healthy. An
 additional 68 individuals who had been quarantined have been discharged after,
 testing negative for the COVID-19, and completing the 14 day quarantine period.
- All individuals returning from Iran during February before the country announced the current outbreak of COVID-19, have been tested by mobile testing units. The individuals tested had scheduled their medical examinations via contacting the hotline no. 444 or through visiting the Ministry of Health's website.
- Nine individuals from those returning from Iran before the country declared the COVID-19 outbreak have tested positive for COVID-19, of which are four that have interacted with individuals that have tested positive. All indviduals have been transferred for isolation and treatment.
- All individuals returning from Italy, South Korea, Egypt or Lebanon during the past two weeks are urged to isolate themselves for 14 days, avoid contact with others, and schedule their medical examination by contacting hotline no 444 or visiting the Ministry of Health's website
- The Consultant of Infectious and Internal Diseases at Salmaniya Medical Complex, Dr. Jameela Al Salman concluded by providing a summary on all active cases, which include 78 stable cases and one critical case. Dr. Al Salman added that there are further patients that have received successful treatment and will be discharged soon.
- Dr. Al Salman concluded by reiterating the importance of abiding by guidelines to ensure the safety and health of community, particularly with regards to self-isolation.



No Events



BIRTHDAY WISHES

On behalf of the Bayan Community, we wish you a year full of health, success,love and happiness!

Gisele Elie G <mark>hattas</mark>	10/03	
Fatima Al Ban <mark>na</mark>	12/03	
Augusto Fernandes	18/03	
Zainab A. Nabi AlSairafi	18/03	