

Greetings sent

HIS Majesty King Hamad yesterday sent cables of congratulations to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and his Syrian counterpart Dr Bashar Al Assad, marking the October 6 victory. Prime Minister Shaikh Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and Crown Prince and Deputy Supreme Commander Shaikh Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa sent similar cables.

Thanks cable is received

THE Prime Minister yesterday received a cable of thanks from Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz Al Saud in reply to a cable of congratulations marking the opening of the King Abdullah University of Sciences and Technology in Jeddah, which coincided with the Saudi National Day.

840 join new polytechnic

A TOTAL 841 students have so far joined the newly-established Bahrain Polytechnic. The updated figures were released as Deputy Premier Shaikh Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa yesterday chaired a key meeting to discuss plans to promote education and training. He praised Bahrain University's College of Engineering which was awarded and acknowledged by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and technology. The National Committee to Promote Education and Training also discussed a report on Bahrain Teachers' College.

Projects are reviewed

WORKS Minister in-charge of Electricity and Water Authority Fahmi Al Jowder yesterday met MPs Hamad Khalil Al Muhannadi and Abdulhalim Murad and Southern Municipal Council chairman Ali Al Muhannadi and discussed roads and lighting projects.

Civic fees relieve for families

MUNICIPALITIES and Agriculture Minister Dr Juma Al Ka'abi yesterday slashed fees for 223 Bahraini tenant families. The municipal fee-reduction scheme, ordered by the Prime Minister, has benefited 16,598 Bahraini households so far.

Care home tribute to Al Zamil

AN ELDERLY care home will be founded in tribute to the late philanthropist and businessman Mohammed Al Zamil. Social Development Minister Dr Fatima Al Balooshi also unveiled plans to launch an annual charity award as a posthumous tribute. She was speaking as she chaired the meeting of the National Committee for the Elderly. The Municipalities and Agriculture Ministry will be requested to study naming an avenue after the late businessman who died recently.

Training programmes in focus

LABOUR under-secretary Jamil Humaidan yesterday met Bahrain Institute for Public Administration assistant director Mohammed Al Sabe'a and discussed planned visits to ministries and government departments to assess employees' training needs.

Rights vow for expat labourers

FOREIGN Ministry under-secretary Abdullah Abdullatif yesterday received the Indonesia's senior adviser to the minister of co-ordination of economic affairs, Irfan Habibi and his delegation. He briefed them on Bahrain's treatment of expatriate labour in accordance with laws that guarantee their rights. Mr Abdullatif also stressed the kingdom's keenness to ensure labour rights. The delegation praised Bahrain's care for expatriate labour in general and Indonesian workers in particular.

Media role in women's rights key

A WORKSHOP on violence against women and the role of media concluded yesterday. The two-day event was organised by the Supreme Council for Women in co-operation with the UN-ESCWA. Discussions aimed at making youngsters aware of all forms of violence



■ Prime Minister Shaikh Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa yesterday received Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa who thanked the Premier for attending his wedding to the daughter of UAE Vice-President, Premier and Dubai Ruler Shaikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum. Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa and Shaikh Khalifa bin Rashid Al Khalifa attended.



■ Deputy Premier Shaikh Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa yesterday hosted a lunch banquet in honour of Aseela Forum secretary-general Mohammed bin Isa.



■ Foreign Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed Al Khalifa yesterday received AI Menbar Society members led by MPs Dr Abdullatif Al Shaikh, Nasser Al Fadhala, Mohammed Khalid, Sami Qambar and Ibrahim Al Ha'adi. They discussed the situation of Bahraini detainees abroad and the ministry's efforts to bring them back, developments in the occupied Arab territories and latest Al Aqsa Mosque incidents.



■ Oil Minister and National Oil and Gas Authority chairman Dr Abdulhussain Mirza yesterday received MP Haidar Al Sitri and municipal councilor Sadoq Ahmed Rabea and discussed key issues relating to people's standard of living. The minister separately received Shura Council member Ali Al Asfoor, right, and discussed key issues.



■ Health Minister Dr Faisal Al Hamer yesterday chaired a meeting of World Health Organisation's East Mediterranean region committee in Fez, Morocco. He highlighted Bahrain's efforts to promote immunisation programmes and reduce mortality rates among infants and mothers.



■ Shura Council chairman Ali Saleh Al Saleh yesterday received outgoing Chinese Ambassador Li Zhiguo and highlighted his efforts to promote co-operation.

Bahrain joins anti-war push

MORE than 50 people marched in Bahrain yesterday as part of a global campaign against war and poverty.

The Bahrain leg of the 90-day World March for Peace and Non-Violence started at the Al Fateh Mosque (Grand Mosque) and finished alongside the Al Fateh Corniche.

Non-governmental organisations, private companies as well as peace loving members of the public attended the event, organised locally by Amnesty International.

Pigeons were released to mark the day while a Bahrain Youth Marching Band performed rousing tracks during the march.

Almost 10 million people worldwide are expected to take part in the march over the next three months, demanding an end to all conflict and the dismantling of all nuclear weapons.

The global event began in New Zealand last

week and will last for 90 days, with 98 countries taking part.

Amnesty International's Bahrain campaign head Fawzia Rabea, one of the volunteers in charge of the Bahrain leg of the march, said earlier that it was vital for people to take responsibility

■ Participants at the march yesterday for the world around them.

The global march began last Friday, October 2, as it coincides with the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, which has been declared the UN International Day of Non-Violence. It will conclude in the Andes Mountains in Punta de

Vacas in Argentina on January 2.

The World March for Peace and Non-violence was launched during the Symposium of the World Centre for Humanist Studies held at the Park of Study and Reflection in Argentina on November 15 last year.

Crown Prince set to launch skills project

AN ambitious national training and employment project for university graduates will be launched on Wednesday.

Crown Prince and Deputy Supreme Commander Shaikh Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa will patronise the ceremony at Beit Al Tijjar.

The Crown Prince, who is also Economic Development Board chairman, will address more than 350 jobless university graduates and meet leading businessmen at the ceremony.

Impact

Labour Minister Dr Majeed Al Alawi will hold a Press conference after the opening ceremony to highlight the project's technical and procedural aspects.

A campaign to promote and market the scheme will be given the go-ahead.

Unemployment features among the top national priorities, due to its detrimental social, economic and political repercussions, labour under-secretary Jamil Humaidan said.

"Unemployment has also a direct impact on development, particularly efforts to reform the labour market and promote national workforce," he said.

