

Indian CA programme to accept Bahrainis, foreign students soon

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There will be major changes in the chartered accountancy course offered by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) which will impact would-be chartered accountants globally.

Making the announcement, Aniket Talati, the Vice President of the ICAI said that besides changes in number of exams, there will be a move to facilitate more self-study and also enable articleship to be undertaken with CA firms anywhere in the world instead of just India. This opens the doors for Bahraini and other foreign nationals to now take up the course which they could not do earlier.

(Dr.) Debashis Mitra, the ICAI President and Aniket Talati were among the key speakers on the concluding day of the BCICAI's annual conference.

Other important topics covered were the growth of digital remittances and cybersecurity concerns. Roberto Mancone, the CEO of Beyon Money, Bahrain's leading fintech app, said that digital remittances are growing globally in usage and acceptance but legacy money changers in the GCC have not effectively



In pictures, scenes from closing day of the 14th Annual International Conference of the Bahrain Chapter of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India

tapped the trend and are losing ground.

He said that remittances have overtaken FDI, private capital flows and aid as the most significant inflow of capital to emerging economies, helping to boost countries' balance of payments. They are especially effective in crisis situations such as the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ukraine conflict or natural disasters when they help families back home to supplement government cash transfer programmes.

Mancone said that the future of digital banking would be shaped by the millennial tech-savvy generation.

"They will ask for something that doesn't already exist and we need to create that kind of demand," he said. "Payment methods will evolve to embrace stable coins, central banks, digital currency etc. and the Bahrain market, because of the combination of strong regulation and freedom to innovate, holds plenty of opportunity."

On a related subject, Nishith

Saxena, Director, IT Advisory at Grant Thornton, said that Bahrain had one of the most proactive cybersecurity and privacy regulatory frameworks but that most people on a personal level were still lax about ensuring that they set up the proper security frameworks for their devices.

"The CBB has done a fantastic job of setting up the National Cybersecurity Framework and also revising and enhancing the rulebook this October. The expert said the ever-present

danger from cyber threats has been amplified as companies accelerate digitisation, shifting their business to hybrid model, and move quicker than before to enhance efficiency and to stay relevant."

"Bahrain is a forerunner in implementing the Personal Data Protection Law in 2019 which offers privacy to your data - but the last-mile integrity rests with users across the spectrum - corporate or individual - and how effectively they implement the protection that Bahraini

laws give them," Mr Saxena said.

The event concluded with a motivational talk by noted TV star and dancer Sudha Chandran.

"We have had an action-packed two days and the response from delegates has been terrific," said BCICAI Chairperson Sharmila Shet. "We have been able to listen and talk about new ideas impacting the work of chartered accountants and prepare for future changes with expert inputs."

"Effects Real Estate" launches electronic platform

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"Effect Real Estate" announced launching an electronic platform which brings together the most traded real estate in Bahrain. The launch was at the company's headquarters in the presence of General Manager Anwar Asaad and a group of investors, developers, media and employees.

Asaad said: "The platform allows the presentation of real estate projects with private information and details of pictures and maps, which enables the researcher, individuals, institutions, investors and housing applicants to benefit from the advantages and facilitation program and those wishing to own real estate to reach the desired goal accurately, quickly and easily."



<https://www.effectsbh.com/>

The platform allows investors, developers and property owners, individuals and institutions for the first time in Bahrain to place their properties without publishing fees.

The General Manager of "Effect Real Estate" said the "Effect Real Estate" platform is characterized by providing accurate information and accurate market data through the

(search for a property) feature on the platform, as well as providing accurate information on prices in the market with accuracy and reliability.

The platform includes all types of real estate in the Kingdom, whether for sale or rent, with all its details (the type of property was land, villa or building), location, price and area.

Investigators, cleanup crews begin scouring oil pipeline spill in Kansas

Reuters | Washington, Kansas

Emergency crews on Friday were preparing to labour through the weekend to clean up the largest US crude oil spill in nearly a decade, with workers descending on this farming community from as far away as Mississippi.

A heavy odour of oil hung in the air, according to a Reuters witness, as tractor-trailers ferried generators, lighting and ground mats to a muddy site. Federal investigators were at the scene trying to help determine what caused a leak of some 14,000 barrels of oil from Western Canada, an official said.

Pipeline operator TC Energy (TRP.TO) on Friday said it was evaluating plans to restart the line, which carries 622,000 barrels of oil per day to US refineries and export hubs. It did not



Emergency crews work to clean up the largest U.S. crude oil spill in nearly a decade, following the leak at the pipeline operated by TC Energy in rural Washington County, Kansas

provide details of the breach or when a restart could begin.

The outage could affect oil inventories at the Cushing, Oklahoma, storage hub and cut crude supplies to refining centres in the Central US and Gulf

Coast, analysts said. The spill has not threatened the local water supply or forced local residents to evacuate, Washington County Emergency Management Coordinator Randy Hubbard told Reuters.

Promote human capital development to boost job opportunities, says Al Jishi

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The Chairman of the Bahrain Society of Private Training Institutes, Nawaf Al Jishi, stressed the importance of promoting the Kingdom's inclusion in the Global Talent Ranking 2022 for the first time by the Global Competitiveness Center of the International Institute for Management Development (IMD).

Bahrain ranks 35th globally and is among the top 15 countries in the world in 13 indicators.

Mr Al Jishi said the highly skilled human capital in Bah-



Nawaf Al Jishi

rain would attract investors and encourages them to open new businesses in Bahrain and employ national competencies.

"Bahrain is also ranked fifth globally in the skilled labour index, which also points towards the importance of directing more efforts towards developing vocational education and training," Mr Al Jishi stressed.

The Chairman further pointed out the prominent role of Bahraini training institutes in developing national cadres and competencies.

He said the development of the training sector makes it a prominent supporter of the state's efforts in developing human capital to meet the current and future needs of the labour market.

Kipina gets 92% satisfaction in survey

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Kipina Bahrain nursery said it received an outstanding rating of 92% in a parent satisfaction survey conducted by the parent company, Kipina, as part of the annual audit programme on its subsidiaries around the world.

"Kipina Bahrain" said it is the first nursery in Bahrain to adopt the Finnish curriculum, known to be one of the leading educational systems worldwide.



witnessed during the past period, as the average percentage in this sector does not exceed 45%.

The principal of the nursery, Arienne Zegla, said: "We are pleased and honoured to obtain the level of excellence in parental satisfaction, which is a testament to our continuous efforts to provide the best educational services in the nursery."

Kipina Bahrain nursery is the fourth branch in the Gulf region and the tenth internationally.

The survey touched on the quality of education and quality of services provided by the nursery. The survey, Kipina Bahrain nursery said, indicate the growth and development