

# The Business



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■ Dr Fakhro opens the centre

## Centre opens

**MANAMA:** A new Lazer Auto Service Centre was opened in Sitra yesterday under the patronage of Industry and Commerce Minister Dr Hassan Fakhro.

The minister toured the centre and was briefed on its advanced equipment.

It offers lubricants, filters, spark plugs and other car care products besides full wash and steam wash service, radiator flushing and injector cleaning, polish waxing and many other services.

The minister praised efforts of the private sector and their initiatives to enhance the economy.

Company chief executive Huda Hejres thanked the leadership and the government as well as the Industry and Commerce Ministry for supporting the private sector.

Lazer Car Services, established in 1995, is now one of the leading car service companies in Bahrain.

# ASRY SUPPORT FOR GULF INDUSTRY FAIR

**MANAMA:** Asry will be a strategic supporter of Gulf Industry Fair (GIF) 2014.

The event will be held in Bahrain from February 4 to 6 next year.

The shipyard will support the Ports and Maritime Zone at the fair, widely considered the leading business-to-business industrial trade show of its kind in the Northern Gulf.

The show is organised by Hilal Conferences and Exhibitions (HCE).

"The strategic support of a maritime company of Asry's global stature and pedigree is integral to our goal of raising the profile of the fair's Ports and Maritime Zone," HCE managing director Jubran Abdulrahman said.

"Asry's involvement will highlight the capacities, capabilities and competitive advantages of Bahrain and the GCC for ship repair and maritime industries, and the importance of the sector to regional economies," he added.

Asry acting chief executive Nils Kristian Berge said Gulf Industry Fair has traditionally and consistently provided the company an excellent plat-



■ Asry's facilities ... world-class

form to not only promote its services, but also demonstrate its support for the kingdom's industrial sector.

"This year our strategic support for the fair will place greater emphasis on the potential of the region's maritime sector, and Asry's leadership position thereof," he added.

Asry has been at the forefront of the ship and offshore rig repair market for more than 35 years, and is the undisputed regional hub for marine expertise delivered through its four divisions: Ship Repair Services, Offshore Services, Consultancy Services, and Energy Services.

Headquartered in Bahrain, Asry's facilities and capabilities are world-class and includes a 500,000dwt dry dock, two floating docks 252m and 227m long respectively, 15 repair berths approximately 4,000m long in total, twin 255m slipways, as well as a full range of workshops and service centres.

## Economic issues are reviewed

**MANAMA:** Famed economist Nouriel Roubini, known for predicting the global economic crisis and David Blanchflower, a former member of the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee, shared the spotlight at the 38th Interarab Cambist Association (ICA) conference in the kingdom.

Held at the Ritz-Carlton Bahrain, Hotel and Spa, the event also featured Central Bank of Bahrain Governor Rasheed Al Maraj, Gulf Investment Bank chief executive Dr Yahya Alyahya and Pinebridge Investments Middle East chief executive Talal Alzain,



■ Mr Ahmed

participating in lively sessions that examined changes in the economic order.

"The ICA conference has a longstanding reputation for informed discussion on the global economy," Transportation Minister and Economic Development Board (EDB) acting chief executive Kamal Ahmed said.

"Bahrain, with its decades of experience as a finance hub in the region, was a fitting venue for this year's discussions on issues which are central to the global economy."

The ICA conference, which was sponsored by the EDB, looked at four themes over three days.

In the first session, delegates examined how the new economic realities have changed the operating models of key international institutions.

Islamic finance was the key topic in the second session.

The third session, where EDB chief economist Dr Jarmo Kotilaine spoke, looked more closely at how the global economic crisis has impacted on the economic order.

In the final session, speakers discussed how investors should operate in the current 'age of uncertainty'.



■ As part of the US Embassy's "Global Entrepreneurship Week Programme," American Professor Danny Warshay led an interactive entrepreneurship course titled 'Entrepreneurship boot camp' at the Bahrain Institute for Banking and Finance yesterday. The session was organised by the embassy in partnership with the Bahrain SMEs Society. Above, participants at the venue.