Bahrain-based VKL Holdings and the Baby Memorial Hospital signed a deal on the sidelines of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier's visit to Kochi in Kerala, India. The deal, signed between VKL Holdings chairman Varghese Kurien and Baby Memorial Hospital chairman and managing director Dr K G Alexander, will see the latter managing two hospitals and a medical centre in Bahrain. The first, a 100-bed Middle East Hospital, is expected to open by the end of the year. Leader of a Bahrain business delegation, Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry first vice chairman Ebrahim Zainal and other members were present during the ceremony at the Le Meridian Hotel in Kochi. Above, Mr Kurien, third from right, and Dr Alexander, third from left, exchange documents at ceremony, watched by officials.

Shedding light on technology

A SEMINAR on the latest lighting technology was held at the Gulf

It was co-hosted by Y K Almoayyed and Sons Group's industrial and building systems and ETAP, a European lighting company.

More than 80 professionals from the construction sector took part in the seminar.

ETAP was represented by its international sales director Wim Sliepenbeek and export manager Koen Goos, who made presenta-tions about the company's developments in using optimum lighting systems to save energy.



■ Mr Sliepenbeek making a presentation at the seminar, watched by Mr Goos

Eskan Bank to fund four new malls

WORK on four community shopping malls is expected to be completed later this year.

Eskan Bank funding the four outlets in Hamad Town, Karzakan, Demistan and East Riffa.

They cover 1,784sqm and comprise 37 shops.

Similar community malls will be built in Salmabad, Samaheej and Budaiya.

YMCA choir to perform at **Passion Week**

YMCA Bahrain's choir will present its Passion Week cantata tomorrow Week cantata tomorrow at 6pm at the Abdulrahman Kanoo International School, Salmabad.

The 16-member choir has been rehearsing for the past couple of months.

This year's theme is based on "Come touch the Robe" and there will be a tableau representing the theme.

"The presentation is unique in concept and soaring in spirit, with music, text and narra-tion throughout," said YMCA Bahrain general secretary Jiju Verghese.

Preparation

"It is certain to prepare the audience for the forthcoming Passion Week," he said.

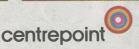
The choir will be accompanied by an instrumental ensem-

The choir is being directed by Ashley Philip Zachariah and trained by Shajimon Christudas.

Apostolic Vicar of Northern Arabia Bishop Camillo Ballin will deliver the message. The bishop was received by His Majesty King Hamad at Sakhir Palalce yesterday.

The event is open to all and doors open at 5.45pm.

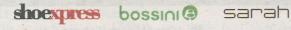
part



Mothercare Splash



Lifestyle







BAHRAIN • Oasis Centre (Muharrag) - Tel: 39590815 • Oasis Centre (East Riffa) - Tel: 17495088 Marina Mall - Tel: 17277800 • Bahrain City Centre, Level 1 - Tel: 17172350

Warm farewell for long-time **Bahrain resident**

RAMASAMY Kannan, a longtime resident of Bahrain, and his family were given a warm farewell by friends, colleagues and well-wishers at a dinner at the Delmon International Hotel, Manama.

Having worked as engineering division assistant manager with Bahrain Workshop Company, Manama for 18 years, Mr Kannan plans to set up his own consultancy services in Chennai, India.

"We wish to provide our children Nahkul and Nethra with the best education available in India," said Mr Kannan.

They will return home early next month.



■ Mr Kannan and his family at the farewell ceremony



Jason Parnell as Robbie Williams

Show tribute to Robbie Williams

PREPARE to be entertained by a Robbie Williams tribute show next week.

Jason Parnell will take on the persona of the legendary performer for shows on March 28 and March 29.

The first is taking place at Kicks, located on the seventh floor of Hotel Diva, Juffair, and the second is at Corners Sports Lounge, located at Dragon Hotel and Resort, Amwaj Islands.

Both shows start at 9.30pm. Entrance costs BD5 for both

Call Kicks on 39922583 and Corners on 16031113 to book tickets or for more information.