

Ready to serve!



■ The Premier with the ministers at yesterday's cabinet session

MANAMA: Bahrain stands on the threshold of a new era of prosperity, security and justice, said Prime Minister Shaikh Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa yesterday.

Its future lies in embodying the spirit of the age and creating a society in which every competent and qualified citizen has a place.

The Premier, who was chairing the first meeting of the new Cabinet, said the government would be guided by the spirit of democracy with its stress on the principles of freedom, equality, equal opportunities and the rule of constitutional law.

The Premier said the parliamentary process depended on public participation in decision-making based on the collective will and devoted

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service to the nation.

He said the priority of the government would be to work as an active team with members of the new Shura Council and parliament.

"We also need to fully interact with various civil and professional bodies with the aim of formulating better policies and perceptions so that we can achieve our hopes of a more prosperous future for our nation and for the generations to follow," he continued.

"We must work as an active team and speed up plans for modernising the administrative mechanism to ensure transparency and achieve higher levels of growth, both economically and socially.

"We are convinced that real stability is established on the strong pillars of prosperity, fairness and a dignified living for each citizen."

Race for F1 blasts off



■ Bahrain blasted its way into the future yesterday with the start of excavation work on a project which will bring Formula One motor racing to the country. Experts will be clearing 500,000 cubic metres of rock to build the Bahrain Racing Circuit in Sakhir. The first two explosions were staged between noon and 1pm, at the 300 hectare site. F1 work begins - Page 11



■ *The Public Relations Society, which is under establishment, held a meeting last night at the Sheraton Hotel. The meeting was held to raise awareness of the society. At the event are Minister of State Abdulnabi Al Sho'ala, officials and guests*