

DT NEWS

DAILY TRIBUNE

Tuesday, October 17, 2017 Issue No. 7537

News of Bahrain

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2017 Govt Forum to be held on Oct 22

DT News Network Manama

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al-Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander

and First Deputy Prime Minister, has announced that the 2017 Government Forum will be held on October 22 under the patronage of HRH Prime Minister, Prince Khalifa bin

Salman Al Khalifa. The Forum will review the 2015-2018 Government Action Plan as well as policies and procedures of various government bodies. By addressing a series of

critical areas and topics related to the Kingdom's growth, the Forum will act as an important platform for discussing the role of the public sector in delivering the Kingdom's

vision of comprehensive development led by His Majesty the King. The Forum will build on the success of 2016 Forum, which resulted in significant advancements.

Wait finally over for stranded expat

Manama

Wait is finally over for Udair Karuppaiah, the Indian expatriate who has been living illegally here for the past two years after his Saudi sponsor stranded him in the Kingdom. He will be returning to his home country on October 18, sources said. "I am really thankful to the media for raising the issue and so delighted to be heading back home after years of misery. The Indian embassy has confirmed me that they would send me back though I still have no clue whether my dues would be settled. The Saudi sponsor still hasn't got in touch with me and I just hope that what happened to me shouldn't ever happen to anyone else," said Karuppaiah

Crown Prince attends opening session of the three-day exhibition



HRH Crown Prince taking a tour of the Bahrain International Defence Exhibition and Conference which began yesterday

DT News Network Manama

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister attended the opening session of the Bahrain International Defence Exhibition and Conference (BIDEC 2017) which began here yesterday.

Over 3000 delegates are participating in the expo including high profile military, government and industry figures. The event, held under the patronage of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, will run until October 18, featuring 180 exhibitors from 60 countries showcasing the latest technology, equipment and hardware across land, sea and air. Alongside the Expo, BIDEC will host the Middle East Military Alliances & Coalitions Conference - a new military forum for dialogue on the importance of international coalitions to addressing global and regional security challenges. The conference will feature delegations from NATO, UN Peacekeeping Operations, The Arab Coalition to support legitimacy in Yemen and the Islamic Military Alliance to Fight Terrorism.

In a statement following a tour of BIDEC, His Royal Highness the Crown Prince

said that BIDEC reflects the Kingdom's commitment to supporting those strategic alliances that are successfully combatting terrorism across the world, noting the Bahrain Defence Force (BDF)'s proud role supporting the Saudi-led coalition to support legitimacy in Yemen and the international coalition's campaign against Da'esh. His Royal Highness spoke of the importance of forums such as BIDEC to enhancing political and military cooperation in pursuit of regional stability as well as advancing military technology capacities.

Upon arrival at the event, HRH was received by Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Commander-in-Chief of the Bahrain Defence Force, Brigadier HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Commander of the Royal Guard and Chairman of the Supreme Organizing Committee of BIDEC, Major HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Commander of the Royal Guards' Special Force and senior officials. HRH Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa said that BIDEC is testament to the Kingdom's diversified economy, integrated infrastructure and advanced legislation and the spirit of creativity that characterizes Bahraini society.

(See also Page 4, 5)

Intl. defence expo opens

11th Hour

Iraq forces enter Kirkuk Bagdad

Iraqi government forces have entered central Kirkuk after taking key installations outside the disputed city from Kurdish fighters. Thousands of people fled the city ahead of the Iraqi advance, reports said.

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