

Bahrain's development on right track: Premier

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Manama

Bahrain is on right track to achieve more development and modernisation under the leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, said His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa yesterday.

"Despite the huge regional and global challenges at the economic and security levels, the government is more determined and resolved to achieve its goals of comprehensive development that serves the citizens most and foremost, and consolidate Bahrain's status at various fields and gatherings," said HRH Prime Minister while receiving senior state officials, Speaker of the Council of Representatives, former Speaker, MPs, businessmen, media and press figures as well as citizens.



HRH Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa with Speaker of the Council of Representatives and others

Executive and Legislature, which has become a distinctive feature of Bahrain's political process, will strengthen the government's resolve and give it more support to boost growth and optimise achievements in light of a parliamentary, legislative and supervisory support that strengthens its policies towards improving performance and enhancing areas of economic development, HRH Premier said.

HRH Premier praised the Bahraini people's

characteristics of love and fraternity among its components, as well as acceptance of the other and commitment to cultural, religious and sectarian pluralism, which, he said, has entitled the kingdom to be distinctive in this field, stressing that these features have become one of the sources of the Bahraini society's strength and unity.

"Bahrain is strong with its citizens, men and women, who are connected by a united social fabric based on

solid bases of communication and love that reflect the authenticity and civilisation of its society," he said, noting that Bahrain will remain faithful to whoever supported the nation when it needed that.

The Prime Minister reiterated the government's keenness on providing the requirements of decent living for the citizens in various fields through a comprehensive vision aimed at ensuring high-quality services.

HRH Premier lauded the

role played by the members of the Legislative Branch, citing their major contributions to supporting the development process, and fruitful efforts to achieving the kingdom's progress and prosperity.

HRH Premier praised the honourable patriotic stances expressed by the members of the Council of Representatives and the Shura Council at various regional and international gatherings in defence of the kingdom's security and stability, hailing their keenness on informing

the world about the reality of the comprehensive development process currently witnessed by the nation across various sectors.

"Members of the Legislative Branch have proved, through their proposals and discussions, the extent of their keenness on fulfilling the aspirations of the citizens, as well as on supporting the kingdom's security and stability," he said, stressing the importance of strengthening the spirit of cooperation between the Executive and the Legislature to enrich the development process in the country.

HRH the Prime Minister lauded the key role played by the press and media personnel through their articles and visions aimed at enlightening the public opinion and raising social awareness on local and national issues.

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Won't launch nuke if Trump's order illegal: Nuclear General

Washington
The top U.S. nuclear commander has said that he would resist President Donald Trump if he ordered an "illegal" launch of nuclear weapons.

Air Force General John Hyten, commander of the U.S. Strategic Command (STRATCOM), told an audience at the Halifax International Security Forum in Nova Scotia, Canada that he had given a lot of thought to what he would say if he received such an order.

"I think some people think we're stupid," Hyten said in response to a question about such a scenario. "We're not stupid people. We think about these things a lot. When you have this responsibility, how do you not think about it?"

Hyten, who is responsible for overseeing the U.S. nuclear arsenal, explained the process that would follow such a command. As head of STRATCOM "I provide advice to the president, he will tell me what to do," he said in his remarks, retransmitted in a video posted on the forum's Facebook page.



"And if it's illegal, guess what's going to happen? I'm going to say, 'Mr. President, that's illegal.' And guess what he's going to do? He's going to say, 'What would be legal?' And we'll come up with options, of a mix of capabilities to respond to whatever the situation is, and that's the way it works. It's not that complicated."

Hyten said running through scenarios of how to react in the event of an illegal order was standard practice, and added: "If you execute an unlawful order, you will go to jail. You could go to jail for the rest of your life." The Pentagon did not immediately respond

to a request for comment on Hyten's remarks. They came after questions by U.S. senators, including Democrats and Trump's fellow Republicans, about Trump's authority to wage war, use nuclear weapons and enter into or end international agreements, amid concern that tensions over North Korea's nuclear and missile programs could lead to hostilities. Trump has traded threats with North Korea's Kim Jong Un and threatened in his maiden United Nations address to "totally destroy" the country if it threatened the United States. - Reuters