

FM takes part in Saudi-led Coalition meeting on Yemen

Efforts of King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre efforts in Yemen lauded

DT News Network
Riyadh

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, took part in the meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the member states of the Coalition Supporting the Legitimacy of Yemen.

The session was held yesterday in Riyadh to announce the plan of comprehensive humanitarian operations in Yemen.

The minister expressed his sincere thanks to Saudi Arabia for hosting this important meeting on the Comprehensive Humanitarian Operations

Plan in the Republic of Yemen and deeply appreciating the great role played by the Kingdom, under the leadership of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, in strengthening the role of the Coalition for the Support of Legitimacy in Yemen and in providing all kinds of humanitarian assistance and facilitating its access to the Yemeni people.

He expressed appreciation to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques for depositing two billion dollars in the Central Bank of Yemen account to enhance the financial and economic situation in the Republic of

Yemen.

He affirmed the keenness of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al-Khalifa to continue to provide various humanitarian and relief assistance to the Yemeni people in accordance with the benefits of restoring hope and continuing communication and coordination on providing technical support through training programs in the fields of banking, medical assistance and treatment of Yemeni patients in the Kingdom of Bahrain, in addition to providing possible relief through the urgent support of the assistance of the Royal Charity Foundation, noting the directives of His



Minister of Foreign Affairs, Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa addressing the meeting

Majesty the King to allocate one million dollars to build an integrated health center in Yemen.

The Foreign Minister praised the efforts of the

King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre and its humanitarian role in cooperation with the Red Crescent Societies and other humanitarian organizations

in treating the wounded and supporting governmental health facilities throughout Yemen as well as providing medical equipment and medicines.

MP demands retroactive compensation to citizens

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Manama

A Bahraini legislator has demanded the Government to compensate citizens retroactively for the increase in prices and fees during recent months.

In a time when MPs seek legal alternatives for the ever-increasing taxes, fees and financial burdens on citizens, MP Abdulhameed Al Najjar called for compensating Bahraini citizens for the increased fees since the day it was implemented.

This includes the increase in electricity and water tariffs, gasoline prices' hike, the general increasing cost of living and the recently implemented taxes on certain commodities.

Al Najjar paid tribute to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al-Khalifa for stressing the importance of consensus between the executive and legislative branches of government. Council of Representatives Speaker Ahmed bin Ibrahim Al-Mulla hailed the royal directives given by HM the King, as he received His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa on Sunday.



MP Abdulhameed Al Najjar

As reported on DT News yesterday, HM the King stressed that consensus on subsidy restructuring should be given priority to ensure that government subsidies benefit the citizens who are affected by fee increase, affirming that there will be no fee hike until the joint executive-legislative committee completes its work, and until the National Audit Office makes sure that the process is in line with the laws and criteria in force in the kingdom.

Al Najjar said in a statement issued yesterday that his demand to compensate citizens should be given priority, "even before the committee completes its work".

He added, "The supportive

stances of HM the King reaffirms on the importance of consensus between the Legislative (Parliament and Shura councils) and Executive (Government) authorities. We hope that subsidies could be granted to citizens retroactively to compensate them for the recent price hike."

The demand to compensate citizens should be given priority, "even before the panel completes its work"

Economy on right track: Govt

DT News Network
Manama

The weekly Cabinet meeting held yesterday reviewed the latest economic indicators, which showed that the national economy as measured by gross domestic product (GDP) is growing at a rate of 3.5 per cent compared to the same period in 2016.

Figures also indicated that non-oil exports had increased by 17 per cent compared to the same period last year, with the trade deficit decreasing by about 5 per cent compared to the second quarter of 2016.

The same period also witnessed the issuance of 15 industrial permits and the generation of 778 job opportunities, a memorandum submitted by the Minister of Industry, Commerce and Tourism said.

Security measures lauded

Referring to a presentation by the Minister of Interior on Sunday, HRH Premier, who chaired the weekly cabinet session, lauded the minister's meeting with various social segments for strengthening community partnership on issues related to the nation and the citizens.

HRH Premier hailed the security efforts that resulted in carrying out a successful pre-emptive security operations that led to foiling of a number

of crimes which the terrorists were intending to commit across the Kingdom.

In this regard, the session stressed the importance of national responsibility in safeguarding comprehensive security in the Kingdom, commended the efforts of the security authorities and condemned, in the strongest terms, the criminal terrorist acts, and those planning and committing them.

The cabinet discussed amending the Court of Cassation Law in order to unify appeal procedures of civil and family verdicts, as outlined in the memorandum presented by the Minister of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments, and decided to refer the matter to the Ministerial Committee for Legal Affairs.

The session agreed to create a new directorate at the Ministry of Finance to be in charge of following up on the implementation of the government's policies and procedures regarding the management and structuring of the public debt according to best international practices as recommended by the Civil Service Bureau in the memorandum presented by the Deputy Premier and Deputy Chairman of the Civil Service Council.

The Cabinet approved the ratification of two agreements

between the Bahrain and Egypt on cooperation in the field of commercial maritime navigation and on the avoidance of double taxation and prevention of tax evasion and referred two draft-laws on them to the Legislative Branch.

The session also endorsed the ratification of a cooperation agreement between Bahrain and the Government and Cyprus on the fight against terrorism, organised crime, trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, illegal migration and other criminal offences stipulated in the Convention, and referred the ratification bill to the Council of Representatives.

Bills reviewed

The cabinet reviewed two bills, drafted based on proposals by the Council of Representatives, including a draft-law on amending Article (56) of the Traffic Law promulgated by Law 23/2014, and another on amending Article (1) of Law 32/2010 with regards to Financial Disclosure.

The bills were referred to the Representatives Council, along with two memoranda including the government's opinions on them and highlighted by the Deputy Premier and Chairman of the Ministerial Committee for Legal Affairs.