

Qatar's terror list proves Quartet's claims: Gargash



DT News Network
Manama

The new terrorism list issued by Qatar confirms the quartet's stance that the current crisis is the product of Qatar's support for "extremism and terrorism", said a top UAE Minister.

The terror blacklist published by Doha on

the official website of its National Counter-Terrorism Committee on Thursday terms 11 Qataris, four Egyptians, two Saudis and two Jordanians as terrorists. The list also adds six entities from Qatar, Daesh Sinai branch and Al Ihsan Charitable Society from Yemen to its blacklist.

"Ten of them have already

been blacklisted by the four boycotting countries," Dr Anwar Gargash, the United Arab Emirates Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, wrote on his *Twitter* handle.

"Apart from its obstinacy, Qatar is confirming the evidence against it and that its support for extremism and terrorism is at the heart of its crisis," wrote Dr Gargash.

The quartet, including Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Egypt, has boycotted Qatar since June 5 for supporting extremists and funding terrorism and maintains a terror list of 72 people and organisations having links to Doha.

According to a report by *Gulf News*, Abdul Rahman Al

Nuaimi who was designated as terrorist by the US government in December 2013 and the UN in September 2014 for providing financial support to terrorist organisations is on the list.

He formerly served as the head of the Qatar Football Association, was a founder and board member of Eid Charity in Qatar (also placed on the

terror list), and served as a top advisor to the government of Qatar on charitable donations, the report points out.

While the Arab Quartet welcomed the issuance of the list, it pointed out that Qatar has procrastinated in submitting it, which has been a demand of the Quartet since the crisis broke out. (*With input from agencies*)

IS claims terror attack in France

(Continued from page 1)

Collomb said three people were wounded. He said that before the attacker seized hostages he killed one person while stealing a car with a bullet in the head in the nearby historic town of Carcassonne. He then shot at police officers before taking hostages at the supermarket.

President Emmanuel Macron said the incident appeared to be a terrorist attack and security forces were securing the area.

BFM TV reported that he claimed allegiance to Islamic State. Collomb said the man had demanded the release of Salah Abdeslam - the prime surviving suspect in the Islamic State attacks that killed 130 people in Paris in 2015.

Abdeslam, a French citizen born and raised in Brussels, went on trial in Belgium last month. He is accused of "attempted murder in a terrorist context" over a Brussels shootout in March 2016, four months after he fled Paris on the night of the carnage during which his brother was among the suicide bombers.

A 45-year-old lieutenant-colonel swapped himself in exchange for one of the hostages, Collomb said.

France is part of a U.S.-led coalition fighting Islamic State in Syria and Iraq and has thousands of soldiers in West Africa fighting al Qaeda-linked militants. (Reuters)

Alert issued

Manama

The Embassy of Bahrain in France yesterday called upon Bahraini citizens there to follow the instructions of French security authorities.

The embassy, on its official Twitter page, wrote: "In light of the current events in the south of France, all citizens are urged to be cautious and abide by the instructions of the French security authorities."

All Bahraini citizens, currently in the southern parts of France, especially Trebes City, should contact the embassy on 0033147234868, 0033755170131, 0033640420878 or the follow-up office in Foreign Affairs Ministry on +97317227555 in case of emergencies.

Arson suspects arrested over police patrol attack



The charred remains of the attacked patrol vehicle near Deraz

DT News Network
Manama

Seven suspects wanted over an arson attack at a police patrol in the Northern Governorate on Wednesday were arrested, said an Interior Ministry statement.

The attack, according to the Director-General of Criminal Investigation and Forensic Science Colonel Abdullaziz Al Rumaihi, occurred at the entrance of Deraz on March 21 causing a minor injury to a policeman.

Al Rumaihi said the investigators seized footages of the attack from the suspects showing various phases of the attack along with other vital pieces of evidence.

An investigation team, involving crime scene specialists and other security teams, lead to identifying and arresting the suspects, said the Director-General. He said that legal proceedings are being taken to refer the case to the Public Prosecution.

Wednesday's attack is also the first since an on-duty policeman, Abdulsamad Haji, 31, was killed in a similar attack near one of the entrances of Deraz. Two other policemen were also critically injured in the attack which targeted a police patrol vehicle.

Investigations later led to arresting the attackers and identifying the mastermind, who is also a wanted terrorist, currently seeking refuge in Iran.

Parliamentary committee calls for tighter visa supervision

DT News Network
news@dt.bh

A parliamentary committee yesterday called upon the authorities here to tighten the visa allocation procedures to protect the society from criminal and immoral activities.

The move follows a proposal, approved by the Foreign Affairs, Defence and National Security Committee in the House of Representatives, asking the government to reconsider granting entry to people from those countries who were found frequently involved in "immoral" activities in the Kingdom.

The proposal was tabled by Second Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives MP Abdhaleem Murad in February 2017.

Explaining the move, he told the Parliament that the proposal would help boost efforts to combat vice and immoral activities in the country.

"The authorities should reassess the entry procedures to protect the Bahraini society," Murad stressed.

Citing reports, he pointed out that people from mainly "European and Asian" countries are misusing procedures to secure easy entry into the country "to run

prostitution rackets and engage in other illegal activities.

Bahrain offers entry to nationals of over 100 countries, with less requirements.

The proposal was reviewed by several authorities, including Interior Ministry, which is in charge of the General Directorate of Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs.

After reviewing the proposal, the General Directorate told the committee that the "crimes and immoral activities committed by certain nationalities are individual cases and don't represent the nationalities they're holding".

"This is not a phenomenon that requires the reconsideration of entry for visitors to the Kingdom

"Such a measure, if adopted, would affect the interests of the Kingdom and its diplomatic relations with friendly and brotherly states and the possible application of the principle of reciprocity by these states," the directorate added.

The committee members, however, passed the proposal, which will be reviewed, along with a report issued by the committee, before the 40-member council on Tuesday.