

Al Romaihi: Keep abreast of media developments

Information Minister attends 15th session of Arab Media Forum in Kuwait

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Media forums in the Arab world are an important platform to exchange experiences on various issues pertaining to the media and telecommunication sector, Information Minister Ali bin Mohammed Al Rumaihi has said.

Addressing the 15th session of the Arab Media Forum held under the patronage of Kuwaiti Prime Minister Shaikh Jaber Al Mubarak Al Hamad Al Sabah, he said an in-depth study is required on fast-paced media developments, pointing out the role of media forums and their contribution to working out effective solutions in this respect.

He thanked the Kuwaiti

Prime Minister for patronising the event and the Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaikh Sabah Al Khalid Al Hamad Al Sabah for his presence and interest in such Arab media gatherings. He also thanked the organisers, including the forum Secretary General Madhi Khamis, for the good organisation and hospitality.

During his participation in a panel discussion, held under the theme "Media in a Changing World", the Information Minister spotlighted a number of issues pertaining to the media and telecommunication sector in the Arab world, pointing out the increasing role of the Internet in disseminating information. He underlined the need to change continuously

the media approaches in the Arab world in order to cope with ongoing and rapid changes in this sector. He also affirmed the importance of raising awareness of the existence of non-specialised analysts, pointing out the role of training in boosting competence.

The Information Minister underscored the importance of maintaining communication to face rumours, pointing out the recent misuse of social media networks.

Responding to a question on the Arab societies' vision about the West, he explained that the western mass media have a lot of problems, especially regarding the ethics of the profession, credibility and corruption.

He also warned of the role and danger of social media networks in shaping

personality and identity, stressing the need for parents to step up control on their

children and deal scientifically with technological progress to foster national unity.



Information Minister Ali bin Mohammed Al Rumaihi addressing the Arab Media Forum in Kuwait

Southern Governor chairs security meeting

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Southern Governor, Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, chaired a security meeting, in the presence of officers representing relevant security departments, yesterday.

The governor welcomed the members of the security committee, highlighting the directives issued by the Interior Minister, Lieutenant-General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa, while chairing a meeting with governors, on the need to follow up on security matters, as well as to cooperate with the competent authorities in this regard.

He lauded the constant support enjoyed by the Southern Governorate from the Interior Minister in undertaking its security tasks, affirming the governorate's



Southern Governor HH Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa with officials during the security meeting

readiness to translate the minister's directives into the ground.

Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali discussed with the committee members issues related to traffic safety and ways to enhance them through intensifying traffic patrols and campaigns in Riffa and Zallaq to address the wrong practices by some drivers there.

The meeting also discussed tightening traffic control on

motorcycles allocated to the land areas to ensure that they are not used in the roads across the Southern Governorate.

Representative of the General Directorate of Traffic expressed readiness to address the issues discussed during the meeting to ensure the safety of road users.

The governor also discussed the security preparations for the holy month of Ramadan, including ensuring the

security of mosques and places of worship, and reducing the negative practices, such as the phenomenon of begging in the vicinity of mosques and some vital areas.

Brigadier Hamad Ali Al-Mari expressed the Southern Governorate Police's readiness to put in place the necessary plans to ensure the safety and comfort of worshippers.

The governor was then

briefed about the security work carried out by the General Directorate of Civil Defence, including preventive and precautionary plans to ensure the safety requirements in the petrol stations across the Southern Governorate.

Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali commended the efforts exerted by the members of the security committee to strengthen the pillars of security in the Southern Governorate.

Verdict in spying case on June 21

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The High Criminal Court will deliver its verdict in the Qatar espionage case on June 21, Advocate General Osama Al Oufi has said.

In the case, Ali Salman Ali Ahmed, Hassan Ali Jumaa Sultan and Ali Mehdi Ali Al Aswad are accused of sharing intelligence with Qatar.

The accused are facing charges of sharing intelligence to carry out hostile acts against Bahrain, undermine its political and economic status as well as its national interest to overthrow the political system.

The suspects are also facing charges of passing defence secrets to a foreign country, accepting money from a foreign country for providing it with military secrets and information about the internal situation if the country, spreading tendentious rumours and fallacies abroad to weaken the Kingdom's economy and undermine its prestige.

The court yesterday heard the case in an open session as per the law. The first defendant attended the trial accompanied by his lawyers. The second and third defendants did not attend.

The prosecution presented its reply, commented on the defence of the first defendant and refuted his argument. The prosecution also presented additional evidence.

Maintenance of 25 public schools to begin in May

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The planning and designs required for the maintenance of 25 government schools in various Governorates, costing BD1,800,000, has been completed, Building Maintenance Director at the Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs &

Urban Planning Huda Mirza has said.

The maintenance works are part of the complete 2018 maintenance programme, agreed upon with the Ministry of Education.

Mirza stated that the Ministry has prepared a detailed work scheme for the project, in addition to completion of the engineering

designs for the 25 schools, in coordination with specialised persons from the Ministry of Education.

The maintenance works are to commence early in May and are scheduled for completion before the start of the new academic year 2018-2019.

According to Mirza, the Ministry seeks to gradually transform all government

buildings, including schools, into environment-friendly buildings in order to preserve energy and natural resources in the Kingdom.

The maintenance works comprise civil, mechanical and electrical works, internal and external painting works, revamping toilets, fixing doors and windows, replacing electricity and water

extensions and damaged health tools. In addition to these, the old lighting system at some schools have to be replaced with power-saving lighting.

Maintenance works are to be implemented by qualified and experienced contractors registered at the Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs & Urban Planning.