

# Shura Panel Reviews 24 Laws and Treaties

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Mohammed Darwish

The Shura Council's Foreign Affairs, Defence and National Security Committee completed 24 reports in the fourth session of the sixth legislative term, covering decree-laws, draft laws, treaties and one proposed cybercrime amendment.

The committee, chaired by Dr Ali Al Rumaihi, held 16 meetings during the session. Its work covered five decree-laws, 18 draft laws and one proposed law.

It said the measures dealt with traffic rules, the Penal Code, criminal procedure, public security, identity cards, reform and rehabilitation, anti-money laundering, terrorism financing, GCC road transport, tax treaties, air services, investment protection and international legal co-operation.

The committee said it had kept its work focused on laws tied to Bahrain's foreign affairs, defence and security, as well as the country's regional and overseas links.

It added that it would keep working with government bodies and other parties on laws linked to Bahrain's security, interests and development plans, under His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, and with the support of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

Among the decree-laws reviewed was Decree-Law No. 30 of 2025 amending parts of the Traffic Law issued by Law No.



Dr Ali Al Rumaihi, Head of Shura Council's



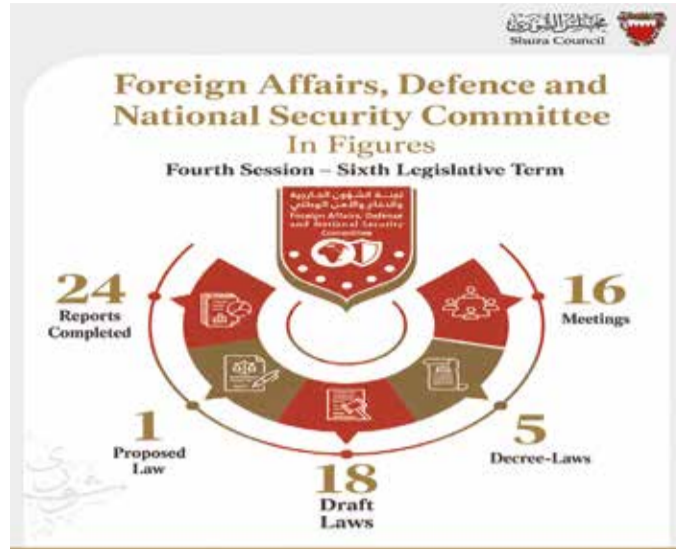
Bahrain has reviewed international agreements covering justice cooperation with Pakistan, marine pollution control, and global financial transparency standards.

23 of 2014.

The committee also completed reports on Decree-Law No. 31 of 2025 amending the Penal Code, Decree-Law No. 32 of 2025 amending the Criminal Procedure Law, and Decree-Law No. 36 of 2025 amending the law on banning and fighting money laundering and terrorism financing.

A fifth decree-law, No. 35 of 2025, dealt with Bahrain's approval of the unified GCC law on international road transport.

The draft laws reviewed by the committee included Parliament's



decision on the Shura Council's decision over a bill amending Article 56 of the Traffic Law.

It also examined a draft law amending the Public Security Forces Law, attached to Decree No. 26 of 2025, and a draft law amending Article 3 of Law No. 46 of 2006 on identity cards.

Further bills dealt with amendments to the Penal Code, attached to Decree No. 68 of 2025, and to the Reform and Rehabilitation Institution Law, attached to Decree No. 69 of 2025.

Traffic law amendments also took up part of the committee's work. It reviewed a bill adding a new Article 19 bis to the Traffic Law, as well as a separate bill amending Article 19 of the same law.

The committee said treaties and overseas agreements formed another part of its work, with

several reports tied to Bahrain's diplomacy, trade and legal links.

These included the draft law ratifying the Makkah Al Mukarramah Convention for OIC member states on co-operation in enforcing anti-corruption laws.

The committee also completed reports on double taxation agreements with Saudi Arabia and Jersey, air services agreements with Kyrgyzstan, the establishment of the International Dates Observatory's headquarters in Bahrain, and a host country agreement with the Permanent Court of Arbitration.

Other agreements reviewed included an amendment to the treaty establishing the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries and accession to the Locarno Agreement on international classifications for industrial designs.

# National Cohesion Strengthened

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Minister of Labour and Minister of Legal Affairs, Yousif bin Abdulhussain Khalaf described the recent address by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa as a "national roadmap" aimed at strengthening internal unity and advancing the country's national development efforts.

Mr. Khalaf said Bahrainis took pride in the King's praise for the patriotic spirit shown by citizens as well as public and private in-



stitutions. He added that the remarks highlighted the close relationship between the leadership and the people, which he described as being built on mutual trust and loyalty.

He said the King's emphasis on national unity and solidarity represented a key pillar in confronting challenges and safeguarding the country's achievements.

# Inclusive Education Through "Hand in Hand" Initiative

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Ghadeer Alkumaish

Al-Ahd Al-Zaher Secondary School for Girls has highlighted the impact of its "Hand in Hand" initiative, which aims to strengthen inclusive education and support students with disabilities during the 2025-2026 academic year.

Launched by the school's Academic Guidance and Career Counselling Office, the programme focuses on integrating students more fully into school life and enhancing their academic and social participation.

School principal Dr. Noor Muneer Al-Subaie said the initiative has already produced encouraging outcomes, pointing to student Layla Ali Abdaljalil, a



first-year secondary student with autism, who has shown strong academic performance and active engagement in school activities.

She praised the work of the guidance and counselling team, alongside student peer supporters who assist students with disabilities, saying their efforts have helped create a more inclusive learning environment.

Layla's mother also welcomed the initiative, saying it had improved her daughter's English language skills, particularly in reading and speaking, and boosted her confidence and communication abilities.

## From The Court

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Rehab Mohammad

### Drunk Driver Jailed Two Years

A Bahraini appeals court upheld a two-year prison sentence against a young man who caused a fatal car accident while drink-driving. The defendant had been drinking by the sea before getting behind the wheel with two friends, travelling at 30 percent above the speed limit.

He lost control of the vehicle, veered into oncoming traffic and struck a curb. His female passenger was thrown from the car and died from her injuries, while the other passenger was wounded.

The Public Prosecution charged him with causing death and injury through negligence, drunk driving, and speeding. He admitted to all charges in court, though he denied exceeding the speed limit.

### Man Faces Trial for Blackmailing Teen Girl

A defendant has been referred to criminal trial after allegedly blackmailing a 17-year-old girl through social media, threatening to leak intimate images unless she paid money and handed over her gold jewellery.

The case began when the victim's mother filed a complaint with authorities. Investigators from the Ministry of Interior's Child Protection Unit identified and arrested the suspect, who confessed to the charges. Incriminating images were found on his mobile phone. A court hearing is scheduled for June 22, 2026.

The Head of the Family and Child Prosecution urged parents to monitor their children's online activity, warning that the Public

Prosecution will pursue firm legal action against anyone involved in child exploitation or cyber extortion.

### Doctor Fined for Missing Brain Tumor



### Public Prosecution

Bahrain's Court of Cassation upheld a BD 200 fine against a neurology consultant found guilty of medical malpractice after failing to order essential scans, resulting in a six-week delay in diagnosing a patient's brain tumour.

The patient presented with vomiting and head pain at a private hospital. The consultant dismissed her condition as neck strain without requesting a CT scan or MRI. Six weeks later, a second doctor ordered the scans, which revealed a large cancerous tumour. Her condition had deteriorated significantly by that point, and she was ultimately transferred abroad for surgery.

The Court of Cassation endorsed findings by the Technical Committee for Medical Errors, ruling that the physician committed a professional error. The patient's civil compensation claim was referred to a civil court.

### Drug Dealer Gets 10 Years for Trafficking Marijuana



A Bahraini appeals court upheld a 10-year prison sentence and BD 5,000 fine against a man convicted of trafficking marijuana and possessing multiple narcotics including heroin, methamphetamine, hashish, LSD, and prescription drugs.

Authorities received a tip that the defendant was distributing drugs using "dead drop" hand-offs in areas including East Riffa and Hamad Town. Following surveillance, he was arrested and a search of his home uncovered a range of substances. He told investigators he had been recruited by two individuals in September 2025, receiving drugs and cash via BenefitPay in return for distributing shipments he collected seven times.

The court also ordered the confiscation of all seized items. A urine test confirmed the defendant had consumed cannabis and methamphetamine.

# New mosque project begins in Hamad Town

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Hasan Barakat

A new mosque project has entered its first phase in Hamad Town, set to serve hundreds of residents in a densely populated area.

Municipal Council member Abdulla Mubarak Bilal Al Qubaisi, representing the Ninth Constituency in the Northern Governorate, highlighted the start of work following the completion of approvals and site preparations.

He praised the cooperation of the Ministry of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments and the Sunni Endowments Directorate, noting their role in facilitating procedures for the project.



Abdulla Mubarak Bilal Al Qubaisi

Al Qubaisi also commended the donor and his family for funding the construction, describing the initiative as a reflection of Bahrain's strong culture of community support

and charitable giving.

The mosque will be built on a 1,349.4-square-metre plot in Block 1205, with a total built-up area of 396.74 square metres.

It will include a main prayer hall accommodating around 200 worshippers, a separate section for women with a capacity of 45, ablution facilities, modern amenities, and a residential unit for the muezzin.

The project follows the removal of a temporary prayer structure on the site, paving the way for construction to begin.

Officials said the development will enhance access to religious services and support the needs of residents in the surrounding area.



The first phase of the mosque's construction