

Arab suspect  
remanded over  
BD14,100 charged  
via stolen cards

Mohammed Daugther  
TDT | Manama

An Arab suspect is on remand after BD14,100 went through a car showroom's online payment link using stolen bank cards issued by foreign financial institutions, the Public Prosecution announced yesterday.

The case began with a report from an electronic payments firm of suspicious activity on its website.

The Anti-Economic Crimes Directorate at the General Directorate of Anti-Corruption and Economic and Electronic Security opened enquiries, identified the suspect and tied him to the transactions.

Payment link

Prosecutors said he admitted working with a person abroad to exploit the showroom's payment link to pay part of a vehicle's price.

Eight bank cards from banks inside the Kingdom were seized from him.

Witnesses told investigators that, after the payment was processed, complaints arrived from cardholders who denied authorising the charges.

# From Meetings to Mobile

BTEA links partnerships with tech rollout

● Private sector collaboration

● Digital tools for visitors

● Strategy 2022–2026 focus

Mahir Haneef  
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The Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority (BTEA) has put both partnerships and digital innovation in the spotlight, hosting a major meeting for industry stakeholders while unveiling new tools to enhance visitor experience.

The session brought together more than 150 hotel representatives and travel agents, in what officials said was part of the Authority's ongoing drive to strengthen strategic ties and support the growth of the tourism sector.

Dana Osama Al Saad, Deputy CEO of Resources and Projects at BTEA, stressed the importance of the private sector as a key partner in diversifying tourism



Dana Osama Al Saad and other BTEA officials at the event



offerings. She noted that closer cooperation with operators would help position Bahrain as a destination of choice across multiple markets, with positive knock-on effects for the national economy.

Strategy and campaigns

Al Saad also reviewed upcoming promotional campaigns and outlined highlights of the tourism events calendar, while reaffirming the pillars of the sector strategy 2022–2026. She pointed to cultural and historical assets, as well as distinctive national identity, as anchors for sustained tourism development.

In a nod to the sector's evolving needs, Al Saad highlighted the Authority's new smartphone application and revamped website. Both tools are designed to make tourism information and services more accessible to visitors, while delivering a smoother, digitally integrated experience.

By linking face-to-face industry engagement with technology rollout, the Authority signalled that the next phase of tourism growth will be defined by stronger partnerships and smarter platforms.

## GCC's First Ambassadors Graduate

Initiative hailed as Gulf first



H.E. Abdulla bin Adel Fakhro with the graduates

● GCC's first programme

● Public-private partnership

● Youth empowerment focus

Mahir Haneef  
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Bahrain has celebrated the graduation of the first batch of "Consumer Protection Ambassadors," marking the Gulf's first initiative of its kind aimed

at training and empowering youth in consumer rights.

The programme, run in coordination between the Ministry of Industry and Commerce and the Ministry of Youth Affairs, was held in July and August 2025. It combined theoretical and practical training in commercial law and complaint handling to foster a responsible consumer culture among young nationals.

Landmark initiative

H.E. Abdulla bin Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry and Commerce, praised the graduates' readiness to serve society, adding that their work would help

strengthen trust between consumers and authorities. He also pointed to the strong private sector involvement, with Y.K. Almoayyed & Sons and Jahez International providing field visits and training opportunities. Several graduates were later recruited by these companies, underscoring the programme's practical benefits.

Youth leadership

Rawan bint Najeeb Tawfiqi, Minister of Youth Affairs, stressed that the initiative goes beyond training to build leadership capacity. She noted that graduates are now equipped to represent Bahrain regionally

and internationally, highlighting the Kingdom's commitment to youth empowerment.

Public-private impact

Officials said the programme underlined the value of public-private cooperation in supporting national development, while showing how targeted training initiatives can yield immediate opportunities for young Bahrainis.

By graduating its first ambassadors, Bahrain has established a new benchmark for youth involvement in consumer protection, one that could inspire similar initiatives across the GCC.

## Interior Minister inaugurates advanced research vessel 'Al Mesaha 2050'

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On behalf of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, His Excellency General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, Minister of Interior, inaugurated the advanced research vessel "Al Mesaha 2050".

The inauguration of the vessel marks a key milestone in the National Strategy of the Survey and Land Registration Bureau (SLRB), which aims to develop a reliable national data system to support strategic decision-making and serve economic development programmes.

Gen. Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah expressed pride in the achievements of the development and modernisation process led by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, with the support of the government led by HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

He affirmed that Bahrain's security and stability constitute a cornerstone for attracting investment and advancing sustainable development objectives in line with the Government Programme.

The Interior Minister highlighted that the launch of Al Mesaha 2050 reflects the adoption of the latest systems and AI-supported technologies to monitor and protect the marine environment, enhance the safety of navigation routes, and support sustainable development.

Gen. Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah emphasised that Bahrain provides a safe and attractive environment for both local and foreign investments, supported by stable and flexible legislation, while developing mechanisms that sustain the national economy through the preservation of natural resources, strengthening marine reserves, and implementing programmes that ensure a secure maritime environment.

## Paulsson takes part in talks on global dispute resolution

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Professor Marike Patrani Paulsson, Secretary General of The Council for International Dispute Resolution of the Kingdom of Bahrain, participated in a dynamic panel on "Compulsory Mediation for International Disputes" during the American So-

ciety of International Law (ASIL) Abroad Meeting in Singapore.

The meeting, held 3–4 September 2025, continued the theme of ASIL's 119th Annual Meeting, "Traditions and Transitions in International Law."

The panel moderated by Professor Shahla Ali, from the University of Hong Kong, included



Prof. Marike Patrani Paulsson with participants  
Professor Paulsson, alongside Professor Tomoko Ishikawa,

from Nagoya University and independent arbitrator Cameron Ford.

The discussions centered over mediation in investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS), mandatory mediation, and the Singapore Convention on Mediation.

It also explored the interplay between treaty-based dispute

settlement and emerging mediation frameworks, pointing to both opportunities and limitations of integrating compulsory mediation into ISDS structures.

As part of the outcomes of this session, the panel agreed to work with ASIL on a follow-up project to present the "ASIL Singapore/Michael Hwang Protocol".