

# Brigadier General Shaikh Khalid named to Supreme Defence Council

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His Highness Brigadier General Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Commander of Special Operations at the Royal Guard, has been named a member of the Supreme Defence Council.

The appointment, published in Royal Decree No. (10) of 2026 issued by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, takes effect from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.



HH Shaikh Khalid



H.E. Al Saleh

HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa is a senior officer in Bahrain's Royal Guard and plays

a key role in special operations command. Separately, the Speaker

of the Shura Council, Ali bin Saleh Al-Saleh, congratulated Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa following the Royal Decree. He said the appointment reflects his strong military capabilities, leadership skills and dedication to serving the nation.

Al-Saleh added that the trust placed in him underscores his continued contributions to supporting Bahrain's development, progress and national achievements under His Majesty's leadership.

## Fuel card scam unravels as 10-year term faces appeal

Rehab Mohammad  
TDT | Manama

A senior public sector employee sentenced to 10 years in prison for fuel card fraud and embezzlement of public funds will have his appeal heard by the First High Criminal Court of Appeal on Sunday.

Case files show that the defendant carried out repeated unauthorised fuel card withdrawals without actual refuelling, with the proceeds shared among those involved.

Investigations revealed that the total misappropriated amount reached BD7,280.75, involving 212 government vehicles. The fraud was uncovered during a routine semi-annual audit, which flagged irregular fuel transactions and invoices exceeding the fuel capacity of official vehicles.

The case also involves 11 other defendants, including fuel station employees, who received prison sentences ranging from six months to three years. The court also imposed fines equal to the misappropriated amounts, while five defendants are to be deported after serving their sentences.

The Anti-Corruption and



Representative picture

Economic and Electronic Security Directorate confirmed the coordinated nature of the scheme, describing it as a sustained abuse of official positions to siphon public funds over time.

The Public Prosecution had earlier ordered the defendants' pre-trial detention before referring the case to the criminal court, which issued the initial rulings. The upcoming appeal will offer a final opportunity to contest the verdicts, although prosecutors say the evidence is extensive and conclusive.

## Actress duped in repair ruse, man gets two years

Rehab Mohammed  
TDT | Manama

A routine car repair turned into a case of betrayal, as a man in his forties was sentenced to two years in prison for breach of trust and embezzling BD450 from a well-known actress.

The Third Minor Criminal Court heard that the actress had entrusted him with repairing her Hyundai Tucson in 2025, transferring the amount in two instalments. However, he spent less than BD100 on minor repairs and misused the remaining funds for personal purposes.

He also delayed returning the vehicle despite repeated requests. Authorities confirmed that he is a repeat offender with a history of similar crimes, including forgery and previous breach of trust cases.

The court based its ruling on the defendant's confession, the victim's testimony and his criminal record, while referring the related civil claim to the competent court.



Representative image



## Bahrain envoy briefs French MPs on security concerns

Issam Abdulaziz Al Jassim, Bahrain's Ambassador to France, held talks with members of the French National Assembly in Paris. During the meeting, he briefed them on recent regional developments, including Bahrain's concerns over escalating security threats. Discussions also addressed ways to strengthen bilateral cooperation and France's continued support for regional stability.

## Bahrain urges end to attacks on aid workers, warns of rising risks in conflict zones

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Bahrain has called for an end to attacks on humanitarian and UN personnel, warning that such acts amount to "an attack on humanity itself."

The remarks came as Bahrain chaired a UN Security Council briefing on protecting aid workers under Resolution 2730 (2024), led by Ambassador Jamal Fares Alrowaiee.

The Kingdom said emerging

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risks for personnel in conflict zones. It also noted that despite global commitments, 2026 continues to see serious incidents involving aid workers across multiple regions.

Bahrain, a co-sponsor of the resolution, stressed the need for stronger protection measures and warned that recent regional attacks and violations of UN resolutions have further disrupted humanitarian efforts worldwide.

## Sand theft scheme ends in jail and deportation for two workers

Rehab Mohammad  
TDT | Manama

Stealing sand and gravel from a Ministry of Works project site has landed two contracting company employees in jail, after their appeal was rejected.



Representative picture

The Court of Cassation upheld a three-month prison sentence and permanent deportation for both men.

The defendants, a project engineer and a manager, had agreed to sell the materials at BD30 per truck despite knowing they were government-owned.

They were caught in the act after authorities were alerted while the materials were being loaded. Both men confessed to the charges. Earlier rulings by the Lower Criminal Court and the Court of Appeal were upheld, bringing the case to a final close.

## Nasser centre launches AI-powered platform to boost crisis readiness

● Allows employee tracking, and workforce forecasting tools

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The Nasser Scientific and Technical Center has

launched a new "Smart Crisis Management Platform" aimed at boosting preparedness, resilience and business continuity using advanced artificial intelligence.

The platform features AI-powered virtual assistants that provide real-time safety guidance, monitor staff availability and support workforce

planning for critical roles. It also combines AI with the Internet of Things (IoT) to deliver intelligent alerts and user-friendly dashboards for decision-makers.

In addition, the system enables predictive management of energy and water use, while offering instant AI support during emergency situations. By link-

ing systems, sensors and communication tools, it improves coordination and streamlines crisis response across organisations.

The centre has invited interested entities to benefit from the platform as part of its efforts to support institutional development and continuity planning.



Chief Executive Officer Dr Abdullah Nasser Al Nuaimi said the platform reflects the centre's in-house AI expertise, describing it as a forward-looking solution that strengthens innovation and resilience across institutions.

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