

Crown Prince holds majlis



His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, yesterday held his weekly majlis at Riffa Palace. Members of the royal family, senior government officials, members of the Shura Council and Council of Representatives, members of municipal councils, religious and community leaders, journalists and diplomats attended the majlis. His Royal Highness welcomed the broad range of visitors at the weekly majlis, which demonstrates Bahrain's commitment to rooted traditions and values that are underpinned by His Majesty's aspirations to maintain a strong bond amongst Bahrain's society.

Prosecution witnesses set to testify in gambling joint case

Police officers raided the Muharraq house converted into a gambling joint, in May

● Investigations revealed that one of the five would visit the house every day to collect his share from the profits generated.

● Aged between 33 and 54, the defendants are said to have managed the place illegally and were inviting guests to come and gamble their money.

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Ali Tarif

The hearing of five Bangladeshi men who converted a Muharraq house into a gambling joint has been adjourned until October 1, 2018, to hear prosecution witnesses.

Aged between 33 and 54, the defendants are said to have managed the place illegally and were inviting guests to come and gamble their money.

Their activities were revealed after the police received a tip-off. An undercover officer was put in charge of monitoring the house and it was found that many people were visiting there at different times daily,



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COURT SOURCES

starting from 10:00 pm until 3:00 pm.

Investigations revealed that one of the five would visit the house every

day to collect his share from the profits generated.

Police officers raided the house last May and four men were arrested while they were playing cards and money was kept in front of each one of them.

They revealed the identity of fifth co-defendant, accusing him of running the place.

They even helped police officers to arrest him as one of them called him, asking to come to his house.

He is said to have resisted arrest and attacked police officers.

The first defendant was also charged with assaulting cops.

The defendants had earlier pleaded not guilty before the High Criminal Court.

Man pleads not guilty in kissing case

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A Bahraini manager accused of attempting to kiss two female colleagues, pleaded not guilty yesterday before the High Criminal Court.

Two female colleagues have accused the man of attempting to kiss and molest them on different occasions.

After hearing the pair's statements, the High Criminal Court decided to adjourn the case until September 18, 2018, for the closing arguments. The manager, however, was ordered to remain in police custody, pending the outcome of his trial.

The defendant's criminal history showed that there were several similar cases lodged against him, including rape for which he was sentenced to one year behind bars.

He is also an accused in many fraud cases, it is learnt.

Tribune reported yesterday that the defendant was put on trial after he was accused of harassing two women during their first 30 days of joining the company.

"He called me to his cabin to complete some tasks. He locked the door and began kissing and molesting me. Somehow, I managed to escape," the first victim had told prosecutors.

UN forum to discuss new data collection methods

● The forum which is in its second edition will be held in from 22 to 24 October 2018 in Dubai.

● The UN World Data Forum will bring together major producers and users of data, to collaborate and launch innovative initiatives that will deliver better data on various topics.

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Key governmental and non-governmental organisations from the Kingdom are expected to participate in a global forum hosted by the United Nations to discuss ways of advancement in the field of innovative data solutions.

Bahraini participation has been confirmed for UN World Data Forum 2018 that will probe innovative initiatives that will help deliver better data on health, migration, refugees, education, income, environment,



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MR SCHWEINFEST

human rights, and other aspects of sustainable development.

The UN World Data Forum will bring together major producers and users of data, to collaborate and launch innovative initiatives that will deliver better data on various topics. The forum which is in its second edition will be held in from 22 to 24 October 2018 in Dubai.

The topics to be discussed during the conference will include, 'strengthening statistical capacity and financing better data for development'; 'spurring innovation and synergies across the data field among official statistical systems'; 'geo-spatial information and the scientific communi-

ty', and 'utilizing new data sources' (e.g. big data); 'Data principles and governance', 'including openness and transparency vs. privacy and confidentiality'; and 'Implementing the Cape Town Global Action Plan for Data'

Responding to a query from Tribune, Stefan Schweinfest, Director of the United Nations Statistics Division said that said that event will help Bahraini officials upgrade the data collection aspects in the government.

"Government statisticians coming to the event will benefit from connecting to other government statisticians from around the world and learning from over 80 sessions where they will be

exposed to new methodologies and how other countries are solving the problems.

"They may also be inspired by other government officials from the academia, civil society and the private sector and the data initiatives that they have," he said.

"The previous edition of the event which was held in Cape Town set the frame for the issues that we should work on in the next couple of years and that resulted in the Cape Town global action plan. Now we can improve data flows and how we can improve financing and funding of statistics of data. This forum will be primarily about those issues, the technological improvements and issues of data privacy," he added.

"Despite big strides in data collection, huge data gaps remain: e.g. over 100 countries still lack comprehensive birth and death registration data. At the same time, new digital data sources are growing rapidly.

"By bringing together data leaders from the public and private sectors and NGOs to collaborate, the Forum aims to spur solutions that harness the power of the data revolution to address the data needs of the 2030 Agenda and to achieve sustainable development," organisers said in a statement.

Terror cell 'aimed to kill officers'

● According to court data, the main purpose of the cell was to supply terrorists with weapons and explosives as well as target police officers.

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Twenty-one people formed a terror cell in an effort to murder police officers and attack vital places in Bahrain, it is learnt. The cell was dismantled last April and 15 of its members were arrested while the rest are still at large.

The arrested suspects were in possession of weapons and explosives.

It's said that the group was created by one of the fugitives who is living in Iran and he recruited one of the other suspects to operate it and invite others to join it.

According to court data, the main purpose of the cell was to supply terrorists with weapons and explosives as well as target police officers.

Prosecutors said that the organisation members received a big volume of weapons and explosives which they stored in their homes to hand them over to other terrorists.

The court files say several suspects involved in the cell were trained on how to use bombs and arms in Iran.

The High Criminal Court heard yesterday their case, and adjourned it until September 18, 2018, for the closing arguments.

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members of the terror group are accused in the case.