

Many cafeterias 'continue to violate' rules for food outlets

Action sought against cafeterias flouting legal norms

● The Cabinet move aims to preserve the health of citizens and residents, as well as protect society from communicable diseases.

● Cafeterias selling Indian and Arabian sweets have become a common sight.

TDT | Manama
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Many tea shops and cafeterias across the Kingdom continue to flout rules by selling food items that they are not permitted to prepare.

Tribune has many a time reported against this rule violations.

Food safety is another concern as many safety norms are flouted by these cafeterias.

The Cabinet chaired by Deputy Prime Minister, His Highness Shaikh Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, on Monday, approved four draft resolutions stipulating that workers in the food and sectors related to public health should undergo compulsory medical check-ups every two years, starting from August 2020.

The move follows a recommendation by the Government Executive Committee, chaired by HRH the Crown Prince.

The move aims to preserve the health of citizens and residents, as well as protect society from communicable diseases.

According to sources, inad-



A tea shop in Manama, where breakfasts are served.



Many sweets kept for sale, flouting rules, at a cafeteria in Manama.



Many cafeterias and tea shops are selling breakfasts and other meals, which they are not allowed to do.

SOURCES

cafeterias and business.

A restaurateur had told Tribune: "We have a restaurant that has been operating since many decades. We have always followed the rules and are earning a halal income."

"A tea shop launched near our shop four months back is greatly

qu岸 spaces without required permits are being used to prepare food and in many cases the conditions are unhygienic as well.

"Many of the shops here are not operating as per law. Some of the cafeterias are preparing sweet items such as zalabia even though it is not allowed."

"In case of tea shops, they are selling breakfasts and other meals which they are not allowed to do," the sources added.

This has drawn the ire of restaurant owners in the area, who say their business have been adversely affected because of such

affecting our revenues as they have started selling food items for breakfast and other meals.

"They are paying a small rent so they are able to sell food items cheaper. Moreover, they are unhygienic and take little care in food preparation."

"In our case, we are paying a high rent to be able to get the permits to be a restaurant, but these shops are operating out of a small space, which is not a good thing."

Another restaurateur earlier told Tribune that he has complained to the authorities about one of the shops operating illegally.

"I have notified the authorities about one of the shops that have been operating illegally."

"It is important that action is taken against these shops because it is harming people's health."

Hussain, a resident in the area, said that cafeterias selling Indian and Arabian sweets have become a common sight.

"Many cafeterias are selling sweets. I don't advise to buy food items from these shops because they do not look hygienic."

"I hope authorities take strict action against these tea shops and cafeterias that are operating illegally."

46th Bahrain Annual Fine Arts Expo begins today

Manama

Under the patronage of His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, the 46th Bahrain Annual Fine Arts Exhibition, will kick off here today and run until February 15.

Sixty-eight artists will participate in the event, organised by the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities (BACA) at the Bahrain National Museum and the Bahrain National Theatre.

The expo is part of BACA's programme for 2020, themed "Dilmun Density Citadel".

Bahraini and resident artists will showcase their works belonging to different artistic schools and trends and varying between sculpture, photography, graphic arts and drawing using different materials and shapes, in addition to video works.

Pioneers of the Bahraini art movement and the Al-Riwaq Art Space, as well as those from the Contemporary Art Platform (CAP) from Kuwait will also participate in the exhibition.

During the opening ceremony, BACA will announce the three winners of its "Al-Dana Award", supervised by a high-profile jury comprising founder and director of the Al Riwaq Art Space, Bayan Kanoo, in addition to art professor Dr. Effat Abudlla Fadag, from Saudi Arabia, and artist Mohammed Al-Merbaty, from Morocco.

Held under the auspices of HRH the Prime Minister since 1972, the event evolved into a yearly artistic gathering that brings together artists belonging to various artistic schools.

GCC duo held for stealing gold

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Police announced yesterday that it successfully apprehended two GCC nationals who were involved in a series of gold shop robberies in different parts of the Capital.

This came as the Director-General of Capital Governorate Police announced that both men, aged 33 and 35, were arrested on Monday.

The official said the men were suspected of stealing jewellery, mobile phones and damaging houses and cars in Juffair area.

He added that an investigation into received cases led to the identification and arrest of the suspects within a few hours.

The Director-General also confirmed that stolen items worth BD12,000 were confiscated upon the arrest of the duo, adding that all legal proceedings are being taken to refer the suspects to the Public Prosecution.

realme launches three premium products



realme, the fastest growing smartphone brand, has announced its official entry into the UAE with three premium products: realme X2 Pro - 64MP Quad Camera Full-Speed Flagship, realme 5 Pro - 48MP Quad Camera SpeedMaster, and realme C2 - Entry-Level King with mega display and mega battery. With realme X2 Pro and 5 Pro, the brand will bring Leap-to-Quad-Camera experience. Inspired by Dare-to-Leap spirit, realme has made it to the top seven in 18 months and has already achieved 25 million users since its founding in May 2018. Josef Wang, President of realme Middle East and Africa, along with other top executives attended.

Association to host Pongal celebrations

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Bharathi Association will organise Pongal festival celebrations on January 17 on the premises of Indian Club.

Nearly 3,000 people are expected to take part, according to the organisers.

The celebration starts at 10 am with Kalam decorations, Pongal rituals, Tamil cultural dances, sports event such as "Uri Adithal", tug of war, sports and games for all ages.

Traditional cultural events will be presented by the members



Raja King

Faridha

Guru Ayyadurai

choreographed by renowned dance teacher Hansul Gani.

Pongal feast will be arranged for the members and guests with a variety of Tamil cuisine vegetarian dishes served in traditional banana leaf, the organisers said in a statement issued.

The musical extravaganza

will start at 6.30 pm. Director and playback singer Raja King,

playback singer Faridha and folk songs celebrity Guru Ayyadurai will be entertaining the audience. The entrance is free of charge. For more details contact: 33447111, 39239654, 39403909 or 34154655.

Man gets three years jail in assault case

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The First High Criminal Court yesterday sentenced a man to three years imprisonment for punching another man in the face and breaking his teeth in Riffa last year.

The defendant was previously charged by the Public Prosecution with assault after investigations showed that he, the defendant, had punched the victim on the back of his head and his mouth, breaking his front teeth as shown in the medical reports,

which also mentioned that the assault caused a two per cent permanent disability to the victim.

Court files showed that the case was first reported to East Riffa Police Station on September 18, 2019, by the victim's brother, who informed that his brother, the victim, was attacked by a group of people in East Riffa area.

The brother told the cops that the incident took place near the police station and that his brother lost his conscious and was rushed to the Military Hospital.

The brother told the cops that the victim remained unconscious for some time.

"My brother told me that three individuals, travelling in a white vehicle, stopped and suddenly attacked him on his head using a sharp object before he could realise what was going on."

"He said he fell on the floor and they repeatedly punched him and kicked until he fainted," the victim's brother told the cops.

No further details on the other two suspects were available.