

Forged school invoice scheme

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

A Ministry of Education employee, who investigators say admitted contracting with his wife's company, will stand trial with two Asian nationals on 22 September over an alleged forged-invoice scheme tied to a school's budget.

Prosecutors have sent the trio to the High Criminal Court on charges that include seizing and helping to seize public funds, altering data in the ministry's electronic system, and forging and using private documents.

The case began after the ministry filed a complaint based on an administrative inquiry at a school.

Bills

The committee found suspect bills attributed to commercial entities that trade with the school and said the school's head of administrative and financial affairs had tampered with the ministry's finance system and falsified invoices.

The Financial Crimes and Money Laundering Prosecution took testimony from the inquiry chair and asked the National Audit Office (NAO) to check if the school's contracts followed proper steps, to assess any loss to school funds, and to identify who was responsible and how the papers were forged.

Prosecutors also obtained an order to lift bank secrecy.

Bahrain Achieves Record Compliance

Inspections and awareness drive boost worker safety

35,050 inspections conducted

Only 10 firms violated ban

First three-month extension enforced

Mahir Haneef
TDT | Manama

Bahrain has wrapped up its extended midday work ban with an unprecedented compliance rate of 99.97 percent, underscoring the Kingdom's drive to safeguard workers during the harsh summer season.

High compliance

The Ministry of Labour announced yesterday the end of the enforcement period for Ministerial Resolution No. 3 of 2013, as amended by Resolution No. 11 of 2025. The regulation barred outdoor work from noon to 4 pm between June 15 and September 15. For the first time, the ban stretched across three months instead of two, reflecting heightened concern over



H.E. Yousef bin Abdulhussein Khalaf
extreme heat and humidity.

Enforcement drive

His Excellency Yousef bin Abdulhussein Khalaf, Minister of Legal Affairs and Acting Minister of Labour, said the policy shift forms part of efforts to align national labour practices with international standards. During the three-month period, inspectors carried out 35,050 visits across the Kingdom. Only 10 establishments were found in breach, with violations involving 18 workers.

Awareness push

Alongside enforcement, the Ministry mounted awareness campaigns, workshops and training sessions for occupational safety supervisors in the private sector. A hotline was also made available to the public to report violations, reinforcing the protective framework.

H.E. Khalaf praised the cooperation of employers, describing the high level of adherence as proof of a shared commitment to "a safe and healthy produc-



The midday work ban in Bahrain was first introduced in 2007 before being formalised under Resolution No. 3 of 2013. For the first time, the ban stretched across three months instead of two, reflecting heightened concern over extreme heat and humidity.

tion environment." He said the ban carried humanitarian value by shielding workers from heat stress, sunstroke and other summer-related illnesses.

The campaign concluded on September 15, but officials stressed that the Kingdom remains committed to developing its labour laws to ensure worker safety in all seasons.

Three on trial for smuggling marijuana

Rehab Mohammad
TDT | Manama

The High Criminal Court has opened the trial of three Asian nationals accused of attempting to smuggle more than three kilograms of marijuana into Bahrain by concealing the drugs inside a suitcase.

The hearing was adjourned to September 22 to allow the court to hear the defendants' pleas.

According to case files, customs officers at Bahrain International Airport intercepted a suspicious suitcase belonging to the first defendant.

The bag, which had been delayed for eight days after his arrival, contained green herbal material later confirmed through forensic analysis to be marijuana.

Investigations indicated that the defendant had been recruited by the second and third accused, alleged members of an organised drug trafficking network overseen by an individual based in another Asian country.

Customs officers testified that the suitcase appeared suspicious during scanning, and upon inspection, more than three kilograms of marijuana were discovered.

The Public Prosecution said the first defendant admitted to possession of the drugs, with laboratory tests confirming traces of cannabis in his system. Images of suspected narcotics were also retrieved from his mobile phone.

MP backs Tamkeen plan and digital programme

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Tamkeen will draw up a 2026–2030 strategy on directions from His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Minister at the Prime Minister's Court and chairman of the Labour Fund, Tamkeen.

MP Hassan Ebrahim said the plan tracks with the royal vision led by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the guidance of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and



MP Hassan Ebrahim

Prime Minister.

The aim is to build on the 2020–2025 cycle and keep support flowing to Bahraini job-seekers and private firms.

Figures shared by Tamkeen's

CEO set out support for more than 14,100 Bahrainis to enter work, a further 17,800 Bahrainis in career-development programmes, and assistance for 5,900 enterprises across sectors.

Ebrahim said the launch of the 'Digital Enablement Programme' adds a new strand to help local institutions meet the demands of the digital age.

He added that the programmes led by HH Shaikh Isa place investment in Bahraini talent at the centre and keep the private sector as a main partner in long-term growth.

Court reviews appeal in COVID-19 forgery case

Rehab Mohammad
TDT | Manama

The First High Criminal Court has begun hearing the appeal of a 36-year-old Asian woman sentenced to one year in prison, fined BD500, deported, and stripped of the forged document after being convicted of falsifying a COVID-19 medical certificate to miss work for 14 days.

The court adjourned the case to September 21 to appoint a defense lawyer.

During the hearing, the defendant admitted to the charg-



es, citing financial hardship and emotional distress.

She told the court she had not received her salary for over a month and had fallen into depression following the death of her daughter.

Prosecutors charged the woman with forging an official

electronic record by fabricating a COVID-19 isolation certificate allegedly issued by the Ministry of Health.

The case surfaced when her Bahraini employer, who owns a beauty supply shop, received a WhatsApp message from the defendant on December 23 claiming she had tested positive for the virus.

The message included images of a positive test result and an isolation notice.

Suspicious of the documents, the employer contacted the health hotline and was informed they were falsified.



London
South Bank
University



ASU
جامعة العلوم التطبيقية
APPLIED SCIENCE UNIVERSITY

Turn Your Hard Work Into an Opportunity!

Apply Before
September 31st
2025, and Secure
up to a **35%**

scholarship in our prestigious dual award British degrees

College of Engineering

➤ BEng (Hons) Civil Engineering

➤ BEng (Hons) Architectural Engineering

➤ BEng (Hons) Mechanical Engineering

➤ BEng (Hons) Electrical and Electronic Engineering

College of Administrative Sciences

➤ BA (Hons) Business Management

College of Law

➤ LLB (Hons) Law

GET YOUR
DUAL AWARD

 (+973) 17728777

 66633770

 www.asu.edu.bh

HEC Approval No: 7 / 2025 / ع ب ت