

Civil Defence employee gets 10 years imprisonment for bribery

TDT | Manama

The Fourth High Criminal Court yesterday sentenced an employee in the Interior Ministry's General Directorate of Civil Defence to 10 years in prison and fined BD2,000 for accepting a bribe.

The public prosecution has charged the suspect with requesting and accepting a BD2,000 bribe from a private company to provide a service.

"The department was tipped off that the suspect asked for money from a company for a certain service, in which the investigation led to his arrest while taking the money," an Interior Ministry statement said earlier.



Representative picture

Announcing the court order, Chief Prosecutor Mohammed Jamal Sultan said the court considered witness testimonies and investigation reports in its judgement.

The defendant, arrested while taking the money, was red-handed while receiving the bribe, was remanded in detention since October 31 last year,

which was confirmed by the Interior ministry.

The prosecution completed the investigation into the case in December last year.

Court files say the arrest was made following a complaint filed by the General Directorate of Anti-corruption and Economic and Electronic Security

at the General Directorate of Civil Defence against the civilian employee for requesting bribe.

”
The department was tipped off that the suspect asked for money from a company for a certain service, in which the investigation led to his arrest while taking the money

INTERIOR MINISTRY

Customs duty evasion: Two get jail, BD14,250 fine



Representative picture

TDT | Manama

The Fourth High Criminal Court yesterday awarded a five-year jail term to an official in the Interior Ministry's Customs Affairs and another in connection with BD14,250 customs duty evasion.

The court also ordered them to pay a fine of BD14,250 each.

One of the defendant, a customs official, was charged with illegally exempting the second defendant from

paying a BD14,250 duty towards shipping vape juice (e-Cigarette juice) into the Kingdom.

Explaining the judgment, Chief Prosecutor Mohammed Jamal Sultan said the Public Prosecution was notified about the incident by the Customs Affairs.

Public Prosecution immediately heard witnesses' testimonies and interrogated the defendants, before referring them to court for trial.

Liquidity fund: Application period ends for large cos

● The application window for Small and Medium Enterprises will remain open until 19 March 2020

TDT | Manama

The Liquidity Support Fund yesterday closed applications for Large Enterprises with an annual income above BHD 3 million.

The BD 100m Liquidity Support Fund, launched following the instructions of His Royal Highness the Crown Prince during the 2019 Government Forum, supports private sector companies by offering credit facilities at a 2.5 per cent interest rate.

The fund will review all applicants against specified

eligibility. Credit application requests for large companies are capped at BD 1m, and BD 250,000 for SMEs, with a loan period of up to three years.

SMEs with an annual income below BD 3m may continue to apply at the Bahrain Development Bank's Sitra, Riyadat, Diplomatic Area, and the Hidd Industrial branches.

For SMEs

To qualify, SME's must meet certain application criteria including holding an active commercial registration, maintaining a minimum of 51pc Bahraini ownership, commercial activities operating in Bahrain, no requests for reorganisation or liquidation according to the Kingdom's bankruptcy law, financial statements available for the fiscal year 2018 and a positive gross profit margin for one of the past three years.



Enhancing Bahrain-Brazil ties

Chairman of the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) Sameer Nass with the President of the Arab Brazilian Chamber of Commerce Rubens Hannun accompanied by the Secretary-General Tamer Fawzy Mansour at his office in Bait Al Tijjar. The Brazilian side gave a brief about the revamped Arab Brazilian Chamber, and extended an invitation to the Bahraini business community to take part in the forthcoming Economic Forum titled "Brazil and Arab Countries: The Future is Now" scheduled 14th April 2020 in São Paulo. They also extended an invitation to take part in the First Arab International Fair (FIA), which will be held following the economic forum between 15th and 17th April 2020. BCCI's vice-treasurer Waleed Kanoo, executive bureau member Basim Al Saie, Chief Executive Officer Shaker Al Shater, Deputy Chief Executive Officer Dr Bader Al Sada, alongside members from the administration were present at the meeting.

ISB celebrates Punjabi Divas 2020 with pomp, gaiety



In pictures, celebrations on the occasion of Punjabi Divas 2020

TDT | Manama

Indian School Bahrain (ISB) celebrated Punjabi Divas 2020 in vibrant colours on Tuesday at the school's Jashanmal Auditorium.

Jhujhar Singh Minhas, Managing Director, Dashmesh Groups of Companies, was the chief guest.

Jhujhar Singh Minhas highlighted the contribution of Punjab state and Punjabi language, an Indo-Aryan language with more than 125 million native speakers in the Indian subcontinent and around the world.

He appreciated the efforts of the students and teachers to make the Punjabi Day a big success.

ISB Asst. Secretary Premalatha NS, Principal VR Palaniswamy, staff representative Johnson K Devassy, Vice-Principals Anand Nair, Satheesh G, Vinod S, Academic Coordinator MS Pillai, Head Teachers Jose Thomas, Parvathi Devdasan, Priya Laji, Head Teachers (Activity) Sreekanth S and Junith CM were present.

Trophies and certificates were awarded to all winners of different competitions by the chief guest. The programme,



organised by the ISB Punjabi Language Department, was a week-long celebration wherein many competitions were organ-

ised for Punjabi students. The main competitions were in handwriting, picture identification and poem recitation.



Apart from competitions, there were a variety of programmes such as Punjabi 'Gid-dha dance, Bhangra Dance, Pun-

jabi poems and songs. A slide presentation about the state of Punjab was presented by students of classes VI to X.