

“I was treated like a criminal”



Picture courtesy of AlAyam

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“I was treated like a criminal or a smuggler, forgetting the fact that I am a gulf citizen.”
 “I was also asked to remain mum when I reminded them that I was, indeed, a fisherman.”
 “But thanks to His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister and His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, I know Bahrain does not abandon her children, whatever the circumstances are,” he said.
 Amid the happiness, he, however, had no clue on how to support his family. The boat he had is still in the captivity of Qataris and is in Doha.
 Interior Ministry early said Qatar had not released the boats, and Banooshs (traditional boats) captured, taking the number of captured vessels to 50 since the dispute began.
 Meanwhile, Bahraini officials are mulling various options, including legal measures.
 The General Department of Investigation and Criminal Evidence had said they would talk to Sami Ibrahim Al-Haddad, Muhammad Yusef Al-Dossary and Habib Abbas on the arrest.

Meanwhile, Bahrain had reopened its airspace to Qatar on 11th January 2021 according to a deal signed earlier this month. The accord ends a long-standing dispute in which Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Egypt severed ties with Qatar in mid-2017. As of now, all four nations have resumed air links with Qatar.
 Following trio’s release, Bahrain’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs said it considers the release of Bahraini citizens by Qatari authorities as a positive step towards addressing the unresolved issues between the two countries to enhance cooperation between the GCC states.
 The ministry also called on Qatar to release the Asian sailors who are still in captivity, considering their humanitarian situations.
 Meanwhile, the Bahrain Human Rights Group, the European Gulf Centre for Human Rights, the Bahrain Society for Human Rights Watch and a group of independent human rights activists strongly condemned Qatar for torturing Bahraini citizens.
 The General Coordinator of the Four Organizations, Faisal Foulad, said the organisations will approach international bodies against Qatari behaviour.

Pfizer-BioNTec delays won’t affect ongoing inoculation: Ministry

● Ministry said the vaccine was scheduled to arrive this month but has been postponed to another date.

TDT | Manama

There will be a delay in the arrival of vaccines manufactured by Pfizer-BioNTec in Bahrain, said the Ministry of Health.

The ministry said the vaccine was scheduled to arrive this month but has been postponed to another date.

“This is due to delay in production and supply process from the manufacturer’s side,” the ministry statement said.

The pharmaceutical giant earlier said it is reducing the deliveries of its Covid vaccine to the UK and Europe, starting next week, while it upgrades its production capacity.

The upgrades, the company said, will allow it to produce 2 billion vaccine doses per year,



Bahrain aims to vaccinate all above 18 years of age at the rate of 5,000 people per day, which will be raised to 10,000 at a later stage.

up from 1.3 billion currently.

The US company has also warned that estimated volumes of doses delivered to each country “may need to be adjusted.”

Bahrain’s Health Ministry said that the rescheduling of the delivery of Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine doses will not disrupt the ongoing inoculation programme.

Bahrain aims to vaccinate all above 18 years of age at the rate of 5,000 people per day, which will be raised to 10,000 at a later stage. Vaccines will reach a total of 1.4 million people.

The vaccination is available free of charge to all citizens and residents.

The ministry also affirmed that delay will not affect “citizens and residents receiving the second dose of the vaccine.” There, however, is no confir-

mation available on the new delivery schedule.

The company, the ministry said, has informed countries that it has expanded its production and manufacturing of vaccines to cover global demands.

Bahrain was one of the first countries globally to order vaccines from Pfizer-BioNTech, in line with comprehensive national efforts to combat COVID-19.

Britain has ordered 30m doses of the Pfizer vaccine – enough to vaccinate 15m people – while the EU last week upped its order to 600m doses of the jab. There is no information available on the number of doses Bahrain has ordered.

Bahrain had also granted emergency-use authorisation for a Chinese vaccine made by Sinopharm.

1.4m
 Bahrain is to vaccinate nearly 1.4 million of its citizens and residents free of cost

Muharraq



Muharraq municipality announced completing a beautification project of the intersection of Sheikh Isa bin Salman Bridge and Al Ghouss Street. The works included planting (100) Indian jasmine trees, 30 bougainvillea shrub with irrigation network and developing green surface in the two areas.



364 motorcycles seized



The General directorate of traffic seized 364 motorcycles for violating traffic rules and regulations while delivering food for restaurants. Necessary legal measures are taken.