

Arrest over child exploitation and sectarian content

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As part of ongoing monitoring efforts, the Anti-Cybercrime Directorate at the General Directorate of Anti-Corruption and Economic and Electronic Security has summoned and arrested an individual for misusing social media platforms by posting videos that exploited children to promote sectarian ideas and behaviours.

The Directorate stated that the necessary legal measures are being taken in preparation for referring the case to the Public Prosecution.

Awareness amid regional tensions

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The Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs (SCIA) has urged Bahraini citizens to remain vigilant and act with a strong sense of responsibility amid the current regional tensions.

In a statement issued yesterday, the Council underscored the importance of national unity and social stability, encouraging thoughtful conduct and a collective commitment to safeguarding public order.

It warned against being drawn into rumours or calls that incite division.

Teacher guilty of swindling funds

Jailed, fined, and facing deportation for forging classroom supply receipts

● Pocketing BD274 in petty cash

Mohammed Darwish
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A schoolteacher who forged receipts for classroom supplies to pocket BD274 in petty cash has been sentenced to three years in prison.

He was fined BD500 and ordered to repay the full amount, down to the last 35 fils.

The court also ordered his deportation once the sentence is served and ordered the confiscation of the forged material.

The First High Criminal Court found the 44-year-old Arab defendant guilty of swindling funds from his workplace over the course of 2023 and 2024.

Scheme

Working at a primary school, he carried out the scheme with the help of a well-meaning cash-



Image used for illustrative purposes only

ier who unknowingly processed fake invoices the teacher had submitted.

He claimed to have covered expenses for design and technology supplies using his own money.

The receipts told a different story. Some were invented from scratch while others were genuine but tampered with.

Money

He used the papers to withdraw sums in cash from the school and kept the money for himself.

Investigators found receipts for BD49,500, BD45,540, BD47,300, BD3,960, BD2 and BD22,250.

In one case, he added a zero to an invoice for BD1, turning it into ten. In another, he rewrote a BD45 receipt.

Some of the goods listed had

in fact been returned to the shop, yet the money was still paid out.

Fraud

The fraud came to light after the Education Ministry's risk and audit unit noticed irregularities in the petty cash accounts.

A review team examined the paperwork and picked out seven receipts linked to the teacher.

All were found to be fake or altered.

One shopkeeper confirmed that several of the receipts bearing his store's name had never been issued by him.

Records

The layout, paper and details did not match his records. He confirmed six of them were forged.

Prosecutors said the teacher knew full well what he was doing.

He submitted the papers to make off with school funds and got away with it for months.

His actions, they said, involved both theft and forgery.

Fake Saudi cash for lighter ends in suspended prison sentence

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A lighter worth just BD2 and a fistful of fake Saudi banknotes ended in suspended jail sentences for two GCC nationals after their bungled spending spree in a Muharraq shopping mall.

The High Criminal Court handed one of the men a year behind bars, then immediately suspended the punishment for three years.

The judges noted he had kept his nose clean for over seven years, with no past offences of a similar nature, and the victim had already withdrawn his complaint.

These factors persuaded the court to suspend the jail term under Articles 81 and 83 of the Penal Code.

Currency

The hapless duo came unstuck after one of them decided to flush the dodgy currency, amounting to 1,400 Saudi riyals, down the toilet.

But the cash refused to disappear and a security guard quickly grabbed it from the bowl, delivering the soaked evidence to the police.

Earlier, a commotion had drawn security guards at the Muharraq mall to one of its shops. The men had tried to pay with a counterfeit 500 riyal note.

Bahraini companies warned over fake tender email scam

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Companies and institutions across the Kingdom of Bahrain have been urged to remain vigilant following a surge in fraudulent emails impersonating reputable organisations and falsely claiming to offer official tenders.

According to the Cybercrime Unit of the General Directorate of Anti-Corruption and Economic and Electronic Security at the Ministry of Interior, the true objective of these emails is to deceive recipients into transferring money under the guise of "refundable registration fees."

The warning comes as part of ongoing efforts by authorities to combat cyber-enabled financial fraud and protect entities from



falling victim to such schemes.

Fraudulent messages

The Cybercrime Unit emphasised that these fraudulent messages are carefully crafted to mislead recipients into believing that large-scale tenders are being issued.

Victims are asked to pay a specific fee to register for the tender and are then instructed



Image used for illustrative purposes only

to transfer the amount to unauthorised bank accounts, often untraceable and not associated

with any official entity.

This deceptive process leaves companies vulnerable to finan-

cial fraud and direct monetary losses.

The Ministry has urged all businesses and institutions to exercise extreme caution and avoid being misled by such emails.

Authenticity

It stressed the importance of verifying the authenticity of any unsolicited offer or tender received via email.

This can be done by contacting the organization in question using official channels, such as verified phone numbers or websites, rather than relying on the contact details provided in the suspicious email.

The Cybercrime Unit advised companies to refrain from transferring any funds until the le-

gitimacy of the tender has been confirmed.

In cases where there is any doubt or suspicion, recipients are urged to delete the email immediately, inform their internal purchasing or cybersecurity teams, and report the incident to the Ministry of Interior's Cybercrime Unit without delay.

Awareness

The Ministry concluded its statement with a call to increase awareness among employees and stakeholders, urging all entities to share this warning across their organisations.

The message was reinforced with the slogan: "Share the warning - protect your budgets."

This warning aims to combat electronic fraud.

Fight against drug



Coinciding with the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, the Community Affairs of the Public Security Presidency organised a visit to the Drug Recovery Association, as part of its ongoing efforts to raise community awareness of the scourge of drugs.

Unlicensed dental clinic permanently shut down and equipment seized

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A dental clinic has been permanently shut and stripped of its tools after Bahrain's top criminal court upheld a ruling against a man found working without a licence.

The Public Prosecution said the case concerned a dental assistant caught practising without permission. He was fined BD5,000, the clinic was closed, and its gear seized.

The National Health Regulatory Authority reported the matter after discovering the



Image used for illustrative purposes only

man at work.

It had already moved to shut the clinic while the case made

its way through court.

Prosecutors brought charges. The Lower Criminal Court handed down the sentence. The man appealed, but the High Criminal Court dismissed the challenge and let the ruling stand.

According to the Public Prosecution, the authority has now carried out the court's instructions in full.

He added that the Public Prosecution would continue to see such rulings through and act to stop anyone offering medical services without the proper clearance.