

TDT | Manama

The Public Prosecution yesterday announced the arrest of a drug ring in Muharraq Governorate involving a doctor, pharmacists and military personnel.

According to Muharraq Governorate Chief Prosecutor Ahmed Abdullah Al Ramadhan, the gang is headed by a doctor who misused his authority to issue fake prescriptions so that his accomplices would have access to prescription pills and sell it in the black market to addicts.

Mr Al Ramadan explained that the ring was busted when the Military Police of Bahrain Defence Force (BDF) informed the Anti-Narcotics Department in Interior Ministry that it arrested a military staff and two civilians while selling narcotics.

Large quantities of narcotics and amounts of money collected from selling them were found in the arrestees' possession.

The Chief Prosecutor said the prosecution launched its investigation into the incident, interrogated the arrestees, heard witnesses' testimonies and reviewed a report prepared by the technical committee, which inspected the computers in a number of public and private hospitals, and ana-

Major drug ring busted

Gang headed by doctor; large quantities of narcotics seized

lysed the entered data in them.

Explaining further in a press statement that was circulated yesterday, Mr Al Ramadhan said it was proven that the doctor issued fake prescriptions and reports stating that the individuals mentioned in them had undergone the necessary medical examination.

He was able to do this after his companions provided him with copies of identity cards so he could prepare the reports and write the prescriptions.

The other suspects would buy



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MR AL RAMADHAN

the narcotics from certain pharmacies, where the pharmacists are also involved in their plot, and later sell the pills to drug addicts for higher prices.

Mr Al Ramadhan confirmed that the Public Prosecution yesterday ordered to detain the suspects pending further investigation, while it referred the military staff member to the Military Judiciary and issued an arrest warrant against other suspects who're abroad, in order to refer the case to the concerned criminal court.

Man loses appeal in cold store robbery case; sentence upheld

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The Court of Cassation recently upheld a five-year imprisonment sentence previously issued against a man who was convicted of robbing a cold store in Sanad area back in 2014.

The man was initially sentenced, among other defendants, by the High Criminal Court to 10 years imprisonment.

He appealed against the verdict twice before it was reduced to five years.

However, he appealed for the third time to the Court of Cassation, claiming innocence, but the court decided to uphold the last sentence issued against him.

According to court files, the crime took place on May 17, 2014, when the convicts robbed the cold store after threatening the worker there using a gun.

Police reports showed that four masked individuals, including the appellant, riding a black vehicle, committed the crime at 3:30 pm.



The men held the worker at gunpoint and threatened to kill him if he resisted the robbery.

PROSECUTORS

The men held the worker at gunpoint and threatened to kill him if he resisted the robbery, according to Prosecutors.

The victim told the prosecutors that one of the defendants held the gun to his forehead, while another one held a knife to his back.

He also mentioned in his statements that he fell on the floor while the men stole BD60 from the cash register and escaped, adding that the robbery lasted for around three minutes.

Police inspected the crime scene and further investigation led to the arrest of two of the defendants who were prosecuted and sentenced by the High Criminal Court.

Jidhafs Maternity Hospital project 'on track'



Ms Al Saleh being briefed on project progress.

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Health Minister Faeqa Al Saleh yesterday made an inspection visit to Jidhafs Maternity Hospital, where she was briefed on the progress of work.

The project expenditure is estimated to be about BD222,200 and it aims to provide best health services to patients.

The maintenance work began

in October 2018, and included the expansion of the patient admission area, the separation of the emergency door from the patient admission unit, the renovation of the operating room, the renovation of labour rooms consisting of seven beds, and the renewal of nursing and observation rooms for newborns.

In addition to that, the storage and waste rooms are being renovated, the bathrooms are

renewed, and all engineering and technical services, including air conditioning, electrical and mechanical services, communications and lighting, are being replaced.

The revamped hospital is expected take a little burden off Salamaniya Medical Complex.

The Health Minister thanked the workers and contractors for their efforts to complete the project on time.

Municipal development projects inspected

Manama

Council of Representatives Speaker Fawzia Zainal and Minister of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning Essam Khalaf visited the fifth constituency in the Southern Governorate and inspected progress on revamping the Mohammed bin Faris Public Garden, located in bloc 927.

The visit is in line with the directives issued by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier

The Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning Essam Khalaf has started implementing of development projects, which aim enhance services for citizens as part of municipal schemes that contribute to the achievement of the sustainable development goals, in the prosperous era of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

The Speaker hailed HRH the Prince's directives in support of legislative-executive coop-



Mr Khalaf, Ms Zainal along with other officials review the project.

eration, which would benefit Bahrain and citizens and bolster the development process, led by HM the King.

She hailed the string of development projects being carried out nationwide, commending the Southern Governorate, Southern Municipality and Southern Municipal Council for their efforts to serve Bahrain and citizens.

The minister shed light on the project which consists in building a playground, a walkway, in addition a café, kiosks, arcade games, a service build-

ing and other facilities.

He announced that bids would be invited soon for the project which covers 10,240 square metres. Other development projects were also inspected.

Present were Undersecretary for Works Affairs Ahmed Al Khayyat, Undersecretary for Municipal Affairs Shaikh Mohammed bin Ahmed Al-Khalifa, Assistant Undersecretary for Joint Municipal Services Rawya Al Mannai, Assistant Undersecretary for Roads Huda Fakhro and other officials.

Saudi military opens first women's section

Jeddah

Saudi military chief of staff, Gen Fayyad Al Ruwaili, launched the first military section for women in the Saudi Arabian Armed Forces on Sunday.

The director general of admission and enlistment, Maj Gen Imad Al Aidan, explained the regulations of acceptance, and allocated locations where the female staff will be stationed.

Under the initiative to incor-

porate more women into the field, previously announced in October 2019, women can now join the military as lance corporals, corporals, sergeants, and staff sergeants in the Royal Saudi Land Forces, Air Force, Saudi Arabian Navy, Air Defence Forces, Strategic Missile Forces and Armed Forces Medical Services.

The initiative is the first to allow women to climb the ladder towards senior ranks.

Former Shura Council member Haya Al Muni'I previously told Asharq Al Awsat that these

new laws support women's rights and capabilities in the Kingdom's military.

"Naturally, they will enter a new sphere of work. It's a reflection of a national belief in the equality between women and men," she said.

The initiative is part of Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 Programme, pushing for the empowerment of women and giving them more leadership positions, and highlighting the significance of their involvement across different fields.



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