

Fatal negligence

Crossing yellow light costs Asian driver six months in jail after pedestrian’s death

● Accident caused by defendant’s lack of caution and disregard for traffic rules

Rehab Mohammad
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The High Criminal Court sentenced an Asian man to six months in jail and fined him BD100 after finding him guilty of causing a fatal traffic accident that claimed the life of a pedestrian.

The accident occurred when the defendant’s vehicle struck the victim as he was crossing the road, due to the driver’s negligence and failure to pay attention while running a yellow



Image used for illustrative purposes only

The victim was attempting to cross the road and had already passed two lanes when he was hit by a pickup truck driven by the defendant.

traffic light.

According to the case details, the victim was attempting to cross the road and had already passed two lanes when he was hit by a pickup truck driven by the defendant.

The impact caused severe injuries that led to the victim’s death at the scene.

Investigations revealed that the accident was the result of the defendant’s lack of caution and disregard for traffic rules, as he failed to exercise due care while driving and ran the yellow light, endangering pedestrians and causing damage to public property.

The Public Prosecution charged the defendant with causing the death of the victim by negligence, driving without due care and attention, and violating traffic safety regulations.

Husband and wife jailed for one year over forgery case

● Dispute over women’s salon partnership

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The High Criminal Court sentenced a husband and wife to one year in prison and ordered the confiscation of the forged documents, while referring the civil aspects of the case to the competent court.

The case stemmed from a business partnership between an Arab woman and her partner to open a women’s salon, which later turned into a forgery incident.

The Arab defendant used her partner’s electronic signature without her knowledge to appoint herself as the manager of the commercial registration, and then granted her Asian husband signing authority over the same registration – prompting her partner to file a criminal complaint.

According to case details, the victim and the first defendant had agreed to establish a joint business officially registered in the commercial registry.

However, when the victim accessed the “Sijilat” online system for commercial records, she discovered that her access had been restricted and she could no longer perform any actions.

Upon contacting the relevant ministry, she learned that a forged authorization carrying her signature had been uploaded to the system, granting the second defendant (the husband) powers over the business record.

Further investigation revealed another forged document, also bearing her signature, appointing the first defendant as manager of the commercial registration.

Man held for stabbing teen on Malkiya Beach

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The Interior Ministry announced that the Northern Governorate Police Directorate arrested a 25-year-old man for

stabbing a 19-year-old following a fight on Malkiya Beach.

The directorate explained that upon receiving the case, the police rushed

to the scene and arrested the suspect.

Initial investigations revealed that the incident was a result of personal disputes between the two individuals.

The Northern Governorate Police Directorate confirmed that the necessary legal procedures have been taken, and the case has been referred to the Public Prosecution.

Parliament approves advertising law with BD20,000 fine for violators

Mohammed Darwish
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Parliament yesterday approved tougher advertising rules carrying fines of up to BD20,000 or jail for unlicensed adverts, with the Minister of Ministry of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture, His Excellency Eng. Wael Al Mubarak, saying the 1973-era BD50 penalty ‘does not suit our time’ and citing ‘around 11,000’ breaches in the capital over five years.

Al Mubarak said penalties are judicial, allowing a judge to choose between a fine and imprisonment: “Imprisonment is not mandatory, and the judge may suffice with a financial penalty. The aim of tougher penalties is to reduce violations.”

Lives

He added: “Unlawful adverts can spoil the urban scene and endanger pedestrians and road users and, in some cases, lives.”

He said: “The Capital Municipality alone recorded around 11,000 advertising violations over five years.”

The amendments also authorise the Ministry to inspect adverts, remove those that breach the law after at least fifteen days’ notice, revoke licences for a period or permanently, and order restoration at the offender’s expense.

References

Textual edits replace references to the ‘Ministry of Municipalities and Agriculture’ with ‘the Ministry’ and to the ‘Minister of Municipalities and Agriculture’ with ‘the Minister’.

The definitions are reworked



H.E. Wael Al Mubarak with the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, H.E. Ghanim Al Buainain

“Imprisonment is not mandatory, and the judge may suffice with a financial penalty. The aim of tougher penalties is to reduce violations.”

- H.E. WAEL AL MUBARAK, MINISTER OF MINISTRY OF MUNICIPALITIES AFFAIRS AND AGRICULTURE

so an ‘advertisement’ covers messages to the public or a defined group by image, symbol, sound or light, across materials from wood and metal to plastic and glass.

Prior approval from the relevant authority is required for the subject of any advert.

Licence

Article 16 sets fines between BD1,000 and BD20,000 or imprisonment for advertising without a licence, breaching a licence, providing false information, obtaining a licence by unlawful means, or blocking inspectors or withholding re-

quired records, with each unlawful advert drawing its own penalty.

Article 17 fixes a fine of up to BD1,000 for removing, breaking, tearing, defacing or damaging a licensed advert or any part of it.

On scope, Al Mubarak said: “It targets the commercial companies that place these adverts and the contractors who install them.”

On outsourcing urgent removals, he said: “We assign urgent removals to specialised companies where an advert obstructs movement, confuses traffic or breaches content rules; the experience has proved effective.”

Risk

He concluded: “Judicial proceedings can take time, whereas a particular advert may pose an immediate risk. In such cases, we take quick administrative action.”

A new Article 14 bis allows the Minister, with Cabinet approval, to assign duties under the law to other bodies.

Article 5 of the 1973 decree-law, which had formed a committee of concerned entities to oversee application, is repealed.

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