

Life sentence for Asian expats convicted of smuggling drugs

The gang members were charged with bid to smuggle in drugs with an intention to sell

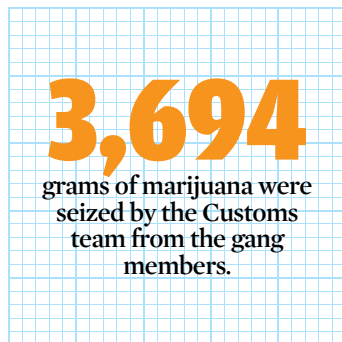
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● The gang members were charged with bid to smuggle in drugs along with an intention to sell, the Public Prosecution added.

The First High Criminal Court has handed down life sentences to two Asians found guilty of smuggling marijuana into the Kingdom.

The convicts were also fined BD 5,000 each.

According to court details,



they were arrested at the Bahrain International Airport by a special team from the Customs Department.

The other two members of the gang were as well sentenced. The third and fourth accused were handed down one year imprisonment and BD 1,000 each in fines.

According to Public Prosecu-

tion, 3,694 grams of marijuana were seized by the team from the gang members.

The gang members were charged with bid to smuggle in drugs along with an intention to sell, the Public Prosecution added.

The convicts will be deported upon the completion of their sentences.

Batelco adopts Amazon Web Services technology

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Batelco announced that it has adopted the cloud-based email service, Amazon WorkMail, from Amazon Web Services (AWS) to power email services for both corporate and retail customers.

Amazon WorkMail is a secure, managed business email and calendar service with support for all mobile devices and desktop email clients.

Alba achieves \$102m savings in project Titan-Phase III

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Aluminium Bahrain (Alba), now amongst the One Million-Club metric tonnes smelters in the world, launched Phase IV of Project Titan with the objective to reduce cash-cost of US\$100 million by the end of 2020 and announced that it has achieved US\$102 million savings in Phase III of Project Titan.

Alba's Project Titan - Phase IV is a 24-month Program and aims to achieve US\$40 million in 2019 and US\$60 million in 2020.

Commenting on the launch of Project Titan - Phase IV, Alba's Chief Executive Officer Tim Murray said: "As Alba is progressing to be trans-

Bahrainis lose appeal in boy kidnapping case

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The First Appellate Court has upheld the sentences issued against four Bahrainis for kidnapping a boy.

Three of the convicts were handed down seven years imprisonment by the lower court after being found guilty of committing the crime.

According to Public Prosecution, the four-member gang kidnapped the boy after becoming suspicious that he was a police informant.



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PUBLIC PROSECUTORS

The convicts took the victim to a remote place and took videos of him, in which he admits to being a police informant, the

prosecutors said.

After being rescued, the boy told the investigating team that the gang members hit him in the head using wooden sticks and forced him to confess that he was a police informant in the video "The video was shared on many websites."

The victim had suffered serious injuries during the attack.

The fourth defendant was handed down a lesser sentence as he was only convicted of helping the other gang members.

Appeals court set to hear vice gang case

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The Higher Appellate Criminal Court will hear the appeals of vice gang members sentenced for forcing Bahraini and Russian women into prostitution.

The Court of First Instance had sentenced three accused to 10 years in jail along with a fine of BD2,000.

According to court details,

the victims were brought to the Kingdom to work as waitresses at restaurants after promising to pay salaries between BD400 and BD500.

"The victims were forced into prostitution upon their arrival in the Kingdom. They were held captive at an apartment and were beaten up many a time whenever they objected to the demands," the Public Prosecution said.

Key regulators to discuss RegFact innovation

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Harpreet Kaur

To be held under the patronage of the Central Bank of Bahrain, RegFact Conference 2019, is all set to bring together local and global key regulators, and policy advocates to find solutions, and promote best innovative RegTech practices in a collaborative, open and transparent manner.

The event will bring together leaders in the regulatory technology industry to discuss the



The event will include a set of programmes which will promote best innovative RegTech practices.

MR AL SAAD

Bahrain Regulatory Landscape, regulation transformation, adoption and implementation within the region on February 25. The one-day event will pro-

vide financial service players insightful perspectives, and highlight the significance of the processes relating to regulatory compliance in a collaborative, open and transparent manner.

Khalid Al Saad, CEO of Bahrain FinTech Bay told Tribune, "Bahrain FinTech Bay is set to organise its second biggest conference RegFact, an event dedicated exclusively to the regulation and compliance ecosystem targeted at regulators, senior executives responsible for risk, compliance, financial institu-

tions, technology vendors, and industry thought leaders and consultants."

"RegFact will bring leaders leading the way in RegTech innovation and adoption to discuss the Bahrain Regulatory Landscape, regulation transformation, adoption and implementation within the region, and much more. The event will include a set of programmes which build on RegTech including interactive panels, speakers, country case studies, and an in-depth Technical and business training track."



We must challenge ourselves in every aspect to stay competitive and ahead of the curve.

MR MURRAY

bwallet payments launched



bwallet, the Kingdom of Bahrain's leading digital mobile wallet and the first of its kind to provide peer-to-peer money transfer, has joined forces with Al Hilal Hospital. Patrons of any of the hospital's three branches across Bahrain can now enjoy fast, convenient and secure cashless payments via any smartphone instead of cash or card. bwallet is a consumer-friendly digital wallet that was launched in 2018 by Arab Financial Services (AFS), the region's foremost FinTech enabler, in partnership with Batelco, Bahrain's leading digital solutions provider.

formed to become the world's largest aluminium smelter with a production of 1.5 million metric tonnes, we must challenge ourselves in every aspect to stay competitive and ahead of the curve especially amidst the weak sentiment hovering around LME price."

Through Project Titan, Alba achieved benefits of US\$143 million in Phase I (2-year Program), US\$36 million in Phase II (2-year Program), US\$102 million in Phase III (one-year programme). Alba Operational Excellence team will conduct awareness sessions for Alba employees over the course of 1-week to highlight the key elements behind Phase IV of Project Titan.