

Legislative role lauded

HRH the Premier receives House Speaker, Shura Chairman

● HRH the Prime Minister discussed with the Representatives Council Speaker and the Shura Chairman the co-ordination between the executive and legislative branches to meet the needs of the current phase.

● The speaker extended thanks and respect to His Royal Highness the Premier for his constant keenness on promoting co-operation with the Representatives' Council.

Manama

His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa yesterday stressed the government's keenness to boost co-operation with the legislative branch, lauding the role of the Representatives and Shura Council



HRH the Premier receives Ms Zainal, Mr Al Saleh.

members in serving the citizens and the nation as well as highlighting the Kingdom's political and democratic achievements at international gatherings.

This came as HRH the Premier received at Gudaibiya Palace House of Representatives Council Speaker Fawzia Zainal and Shura Council Chairman Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh.

HRH the Premier hailed the

role of the legislative branch and its importance in backing the complementary efforts to achieve the best for the nation and citizens.

He stressed the government's continuous support to co-operate with the parliament to serve the democratic and national march in the prosperous era of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

HRH the Prime Minister dis-

cussed with the Representatives Council Speaker and the Shura Chairman the co-ordination between the executive and legislative branches to meet the needs of the current phase, including mainly boosting security and stability.

The Speaker extended thanks and respect to His Royal Highness the Premier for his constant keenness on promoting co-oper-

ation with the Representatives Council, describing him as a role model in dedication for the nation.

The Shura Council Chairman expressed appreciation of HRH the Premier's constant support to the Shura Council, stressing that he laid the bases of co-operation between the executive and legislative branches, which is yielding its dividends by back-

ing the democratic march in the Kingdom.

Separately, Representatives Council Speaker Fawzia Zainal received Minister of Works, Municipality Affairs and Urban Planning Essam Khalaf, in the presence of the ministry Undersecretary for Municipal Affairs Dr Nabeel Abul Fatah, Southern Municipality Director General Assim Abdullatif and the minister's office Director Mohammed Ashir.

The Representatives Council Speaker stressed that Bahraini citizens are the core of development and all national efforts are directed towards boosting their welfare and improving the services provided for them, in line with the directives of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

She pointed out that co-operation between the executive and legislative branches represents a pillar to attain national goals and tackle issues in a very consensual way.

The meeting cast light on projects implemented by the ministry to develop the infrastructure and cope with the fast-paced urban and investment growth undergone by Bahrain.

Bangladeshi man gets five years for smuggling marijuana via post

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The First High Criminal Court has sentenced a Bangladeshi man convicted of attempting to smuggle marijuana into the Kingdom in a mail package, to five years in jail.

The 30-year-old was caught redhanded while receiving the package.

He was additionally ordered to pay a fine of BD3,000 and will be deported once he completes the sentence.

According to court files, the Anti-Narcotics Department within the Interior Ministry received a tip-off about a mail package containing marijuana to be delivered in the Kingdom from Bangladesh.

3,000
Bahraini dinars in fine was imposed on the convict for smuggling marijuana into the Kingdom.

The department alerted the Customs, which detected the package once it arrived. After the package was inspected, quantities of marijuana were found.

In co-ordination with a private post company, a trap was set and the addressee was contacted.

The accused agreed to receive the package near a car showroom in Hamala area in the Northern Governorate, according to prosecutors.

An officer from the Anti-Narcotics Department disguised as an employee at the post company and handed a fake package to the suspect, who paid him an additional amount of money (BD17) in tip.

The officer immediately arrested and searched the suspect. Methamphetamine tablets were found in his possession.

On September 22, 2018, the Public Prosecution accused the suspect of illegally importing marijuana and drugs, before referring him to the criminal court, which announced the verdict.

Final plea verdict date set in policemen murder case

● The defendants appealed against the verdicts previously issued against them by the High Criminal Court, which were rejected by the High Court of Appeals.

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A group of 58 defendants accused of killing two policemen and assisting convicts to escape from jail, will learn their fate on May 6.

This was announced by the Court of Cassation yesterday.

Fifty-eight defendants, including two women, previously received sentences varying between capital punishment, life in prison, citizenship revo-

“**The group was found guilty of attacking police officers apart from carrying out terror strikes.**”

PROSECUTORS

caution and imprisonment sentences.

The defendants were responsible for the killing of an on-duty policeman Abdulsalam Al Yafye'a, who was guarding the Reformation and Rehabilitation Centre (Jau Prison), when some of the defendants attacked the facility with firearms and assisted ten convicts in escaping from it.

They were also found guilty

of assassinating off-duty police officer Hesham Al Hammadi on January 28, 2017, in Bilad Al Qadeem village, in addition to a series of terrorist attacks during the same period in Sitra, Bani Jamrah and Nabeeh Saleh.

This also includes the smuggling of firearms, assisting wanted fugitives in escaping abroad, mainly Iran, and co-ordinating the military training of group members abroad with the aim of carrying out terrorist attacks here.

The defendants appealed against the verdicts previously issued against them by the High Criminal Court, which were rejected by the High Court of Appeals and they pleaded not guilty again.

The case is now with the Court of Cassation, which yesterday announced that it would declare the final verdict on May 6.

Kestrels rescued by animal rights group members

● The Supreme Council of the Environment has already announced that it would prosecute anyone who violates law to hunt or catch animals or birds.

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Mohammed Zafran

An animal rights group has rescued three kestrels after a group of men used traps to catch the birds.

Kestrels, which are a protected species of birds, was



A kestrel trapped by a law violator.



A seized net trap that was used to catch birds.

captured by a group of men using traps.

However, the Bahrain Socie-

ty for the Prevention of Cruelty towards Animals (BSPCA) came to its rescue and released all

three birds.

According to sources, a group of people had set up traps to

catch birds near the Bahrain International Airport in Galali.

BSPCA Chairman Mahmoud Faraj said that it was a concerned citizen who reported the incident to him.

Mr Faraj carried out an investigation and found that bird traps were set up at four different places in Galali.

Subsequently, he contacted Samahej Police and reported the finding.

"I spoke with Lt Col Issa Al Sulaiti, Head of Al Samahej Police Station," Faraj said.

He added that the authorities were able to catch the group that trapped the birds.

"We released the birds and confiscated six traps that were

in the possession of the poachers.

"They promised not to repeat their actions, and we accepted their affidavit that they would not repeat these actions.

"Should they repeat this, they will be arrested and will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

"Bahrain has signed international agreements that prohibit the hunting and trafficking of birds and animals listed on various ban lists," he added.

The Supreme Council of the Environment has already announced that it would prosecute anyone who violates law to hunt or catch animals or birds.