



His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister yesterday received Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Commander-in-Chief of the Bahrain Defence Force (BDF), at Riffa Palace. HRH the Crown Prince commended the Commander-in-Chief's commitment to further developing the operational readiness of the BDF.

195 worksite accidents in first six months this year

Labour officials blame flouting of safety norms at construction sites for maximum number of accidents

TDT|Manama
Harpreet Kaur

Labour inspection authorities have recorded 195 worksite incidents in the first six months of the year 2018.

According to the Ministry of Labour and Social Development, the number of worksite accidents reported last year stood at 388, which was an increase, compared to 2016 statistics wherein 341 cases were recorded.

This year the authorities reported 195 incidents in the first six months of 2018 including eight deaths caused by accidents.

Speaking to Tribune, Ahmed Alhaiki, Director of Inspection and Labour Union at the Ministry of Labour and Social Development, said, "There are a total of 195 accidents that were reported, out of which 83 were minor accidents and 52 involved fall from heights.

"Out of the eight death cases, seven occurred at construction sites."



Many safety awareness programmes are being conducted by the Labour Ministry for workers.

Mr Alhaiki said that most accidents occurred because of the violation of safety norms. "We urge all the project managers, employers, the safety foreman, to be aware of safety measures and to further adhere to it strictly especially at construction sites."

Mr Alhaiki said that the Labour Ministry has been investigating into all worksite accidents to find out the reasons.

"There is a zero tolerance policy when it comes to deaths caused by accidents and a maximum penalty would

be applied to the person who is found guilty."

Khatib Zuhair, Head of Labour Safety and Welfare Committee at Migrant Workers Protection Society said safety awareness classes should be regularly conducted for labourers in different

languages. "Authorities should step up inspections at worksite to reduce violations at worksites. Safety officers should be given more power to force companies implement safety norms at worksites," he said.

Tribune reported a worksite accident in the last week of May in which Muhammed Nauser, a security guard lost his life. The family of the deceased alleges that the Indian expat lost his life only because the company flouted safety norms at the worksite.

"The company was using unskilled labourers to get the work done. It is because of their negligence we lost Muhammed," the family had said.

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MR ZUHAIR

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We urge all safety officers to strictly implement safety norms at construction sites.

MR ALHAIKI

Six Bahrainis face trial over attempt to murder officers

TDT|Manama
Ali Tarif

Six men burned tyres in a bid to lure police officers into an area in Nuwaidrat in order to kill them, court files revealed.

Aged between 16 and 26, the Bahrainis are said to have planted an explosive device before the police officers arrived, purposely to kill maximum police officers.

"We were called to go to Nuwaidrat because a riot broke out in the area. There were 20 to 25 masked rioters when we reached," an officer who was among the teams dispatched recounted the events occurred prior to the explosion.

"Suddenly, a blast occurred and one officer was wounded, while our patrol car got damaged. The officer was taken to the hospital for treatment," he added.

According to court files, po-

lice officers combed the area and found eight firebombs and 22 bottles which were intended to be used as Molotov cocktails.

Police investigations established the involvement of the six men in plotting the attack.

The second defendant, however, admitted to taking part in the riot but ruled out the connection between him and the blast.

"When I met the third defendant I was told that they would attack police officers. And I met the other defendants one hour before the assault. We were given iron rods and firebombs. Then we headed to the area where we were expecting police officers to arrive," the second defendant said.

The six men will be tried before the High Criminal Court on charges of attempting to murder police officers, rioting, possessing firebombs as well as bombing.

Revamp work on track at Muharraq Central Market

● The revamped facility is part of a strategy drawn up by the Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning to modernize and upgrade central markets across Bahrain.

Manama

The revamping of the Muharraq Central Market is nearing completion, said Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning Minister Essam Khalaf.

He announced the progress of work on the project as he paid a field visit to the development site, accompanied by Undersecretary Dr Nabil Mohammed Abul Fateh, Muharraq Municipality director-general Ibrahim Al Jowder, Southern Municipality director-general Asem Abdullatif and other officials.

The minister said that the main construction work on the



Mr Khalaf along with other ministry officials review revamp work at Muharraq Central Market.

BD6.2 million-facility would be completed this month, adding that shops would be handed over at the beginning of September.

He announced that the project would be inaugurated officially in December as part of festivities marking Bahrain's national days.

The revamped market is part of development projects ordered by His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa to be carried out in Muharraq.

The three-storey development facility which covers 28,000 square metres features

a hypermarket covering 3,000 sqm and 106 outlets for the meat, fish and vegetables sections.

Khalaf underlined the ministry's keenness on fast-tracking work on the central market in Muharraq, in compliance with the directives of HRH the Premier to inaugurate the milestone before the third quarter of this year.

The revamped facility is part of a strategy drawn up by the Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning to modernize and upgrade central markets across Bahrain.

Corrigendum

Arianne Deseree Viardo was the winner of the second preliminary round of Mutya Ng Pilipinas Bahrain 2018 and not the title winner as reported by Tribune on Sunday. The contest is ongoing and the title winner will represent the Kingdom at the upcoming Mutya Ng Pilipinas. The Mutya Ng Pilipinas Pageantry is a Filipino foundation that organises the event every year.