

# New BD3.5m House on way

The four-storey building be ready in 14 months, says Secretary-General

● **Al Dosari pointed out that the new parliament building will exclusively rely on solar energy.**

TDT|Manama  
Ali Majid

The House of Representatives will soon get a new building. This was announced by Secretary-General Abdullah bin Khalaf Al

Dosari yesterday, following the foundation stone laying ceremony.

Mr Al Dosari said that the new premises have better facilities and provide more comfortable environment to the members of the House.

The cost of the new premises is estimated to be BD3.5 million, it was learnt.

The new building will consist of four floors. The ground floor will have meeting rooms, a large hall and a theater to hold seminars and events, in addition to the offices of the committee heads and a women's prayer room and



another for men.

The first floor will host the offices

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**The new building will be inspired by the traditional Bahraini architecture. It will be ready in 14 months. A company has been offered the contract and work on the building will start soon.**

MR AL DOSARI

of the Secretary General, the assistant secretaries and their employees.

The second floor will include offices for all the 32 MPs, as well as the supporting secretariat for them, while the third will be the offices of the president, his two deputies, their staff and advisors.

Al Dosari pointed out that the new parliament building will exclusively rely on solar energy.

“The new building will be inspired by the traditional Bahraini architecture. It will be ready in 14 months. A company has been offered the contract and work on the building will start soon,” he added.

## Delegation attends UNWTO meeting



Manama

A delegation of the Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority led by Director of Tourism Facilities and Services, Hisham Al Sakan, participated in the 108th session of the UN World Tourism Organisation held between May 23 and 25 in San Sebastian, Spain.

The session focused on ways to develop the

global tourism sector.

Al Sakan said the BTI participation reflects Bahrain's commitment and active role as a member of the WTO Committee for the Middle East.

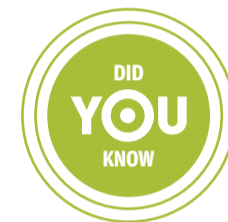
He noted the BTI endeavour to contribute to promoting partnerships and cooperation among the WTO council members to reach the best solutions.

## Top honour for Royal University for Women

Manama

The Royal University for Women has received the Andrew Heiskell International Award for Innovation in International Education, 2018, from the Institute for International Education in the United States of America.

The honour recognises the efforts of the University's strategic, comprehensive and innovative international partnership as part of its endeavor to implement its vision of providing the highest standards of quality in higher education and leadership of women through its specializations and international cooperation.



**The Andrew Heiskell Award is one of the prestigious awards awarded annually by the Institute for International Education to recognize the most important initiatives undertaken in the international higher education by member universities and colleges.**

The award was received by the President of the Royal University for Women along with Dr. Gordon Gee, President of West Virginia University, from the President of the Institute for International Education Award, Dr. Alan Goodman, at the Institute's New York headquarters.

Reflecting on the award, the President of Royal University for Women stated, “I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Higher Education Council for this award.”

## Shura passes law to protect personal information

● **The law gives the new authority jurisdictions to handle cases and crimes related to unlawful disclosure of personal information and introduces punishments that vary between one-year imprisonment sentences and fines not exceeding BD20, 000.**

TDT|Manama  
Muhannad Mansour

Shura Council members yesterday voted in favour of establishing an official authority concerned with the protection of personal data.

This comes as the majority of council members approved a bill that's aimed at the protection of personal and private information.

The bill instructs the issuance of the Personal Information Protection Law, in line with Legislative Decree 30 of the year 2016.

It was first approved by the Council's Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee, which reviewed it with the concerned official authorities over the past few months and recommended the council members yesterday to pass it.

The eight-member committee informed the Council in a written statement that the bill would provide legal protection of individual's privacy, which is a “right guaranteed by the Kingdom's constitution”.

Committee Chairperson Dalal Al Zayed affirmed to her fellow council members yesterday that “the new law is



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**The new law is significant to protect personal privacy, especially at a time when electronic means are widely utilised to issue and exchange documents and transaction, posing a threat to private life and individual freedoms.**

MS AL ZAYED

significant to protect personal privacy, especially at a time when electronic means are widely utilised to issue and exchange documents and transaction, posing a threat to private life and individual freedoms”.

“This law is one of the most important laws that have been put in place to ensure the protection of the rights of individuals. It serves the development of the Kingdom's legislative system to improve the protection of



Shura in session

personal information. The law is in line with international principles in the field of protection of personal information and several countries have recently approved similar laws,” Al Zayed said.

The law gives the new authority jurisdictions to handle cases and crimes related to unlawful disclosure of personal information and introduces punishments that vary between one-year imprisonment sentences and fines not

exceeding BD20, 000.

According to the law, these punishments will be applied against “anyone who unlawfully and contrary to the provisions of this law discloses any information available to him/her because of their work position for their benefit or others, leaked personal information outside the Kingdom to a country or territory or processed information without notifying the Authority in violation of the rule of law”.

The law allows the use of personal information for journalistic, artistic or literary purposes, “provided that the information is correct, accurate and subject to updating and correction, and that measures are in place to ensure that it isn't used for any purpose other than for journalistic, artistic or literary purposes, without violating the applicable legislation on the regulation of the press, printing and publishing”.