

Stop throwing used masks and gloves on the ground

Southern Municipality issues advisories, places small wayside containers

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The Southern District Municipality has issued advisories against throwing masks and gloves on the street and public places.

The unlawful littering, the Southern District Municipality officials said, is endangering public health and causing concerns for people, an *Al Ayam* report said.

To end this practice, the authority said they are now placing small containers to help public dispose of their used masks and gloves securely.

Do not 'throw them out in open places' to protect public health, the officials urged.

"Lot of people are throwing down their masks and gloves irresponsibly at public places," officials at the authority said. "This has led us to come up with the idea of placing small containers."

The bin, officials said, are placed at multiple points at commercial streets and popular public destinations such as markets and supermarkets, in a way that allows locating it easily.

The authority this year has launched an awareness campaign under the slogan (Ramadan Giving) to encourage the public to adopt the correct practices to maintain the safety and health of the



Small bins are placed to throw away used masks and gloves (Picture courtesy of Al Ayam)

community.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has earlier warned, "If medical masks are worn, appropriate use and disposal is es-

sential to ensure they are effective and to avoid any increase in the risk of transmission associated with the incorrect use and disposal of masks."

Trio in the dock for human trafficking

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The Public Prosecution has completed investigations in a case involving three Asian nationals who're accused of human trafficking.

The suspects, two males and a female, will stand trial before the High Criminal Court on 31 May 2020.

This was confirmed by Capital Governorate Prosecution Chief Prosecutor Mohammed Salah, who explained that the defendants lured the victim, a fellow Asian national, and forced her to work into prostitution.

According to the defendants' confession and victim's testimony, the victim was working as a domestic worker in Bahrain when she was contacted by the female suspect through a popular social media platform.

The suspect convinced



Representative picture (Courtesy of lone star legal aid)

the victim to move out of her employer's house with promises of a better job and better pay.

After leaving her current employer, the trio then brought her to an apartment in Hooraa area in the Capital Governorate.

However, upon reaching the place, the trio locked her up and took her mobile phone denying any contact with the outside world.

She was forced to practice prostitution in return for amounts that the de-

fendants collected.

The incident came to light, only when the victim managed to obtain a phone from another lady, who was with her and informed the police.

Police following a raid freed the victims and arrested the suspects.

The defendants were referred to the Public Prosecution.

During interrogation, the trio confessed to their crimes. The prosecution ordered to keep them in custody until the next court session.

Eight private hospitals allowed to conduct COVID-19 tests: Al Ayam reports

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Eight private hospitals in the Kingdom have so far granted permits to conduct tests for Coronavirus, according to an *Al Ayam* report.

Those who are not infected or suspected to have an infection and who do not have any symptom but wish to conduct a test are eligible to take the test.

"Al Salam Hospital, American Hospital, Royal Hospital, Awali Hospital, Specialist Hospital, Canadian Hospital, Ibn Al Nafees Hospital and Dr Tariq Saeed Hospital" received the permits, the report said citing unnamed sources.

The report further said that curative health services, including continuous examination, quarantine and treatment, are free of charge in all precautionary quarantine centres, isolation and treatment centres for citizens and residents in the Kingdom.

While the tests are provided free of charge at government facilities, *Al Ayam* quoting sources said it might range between 40 and 50 fifty dinars in a private hospital.

Top Bahraini official urges international cooperation in fighting virus outbreak

Foreign Affairs Assistant Minister takes part in Human Rights Working Group virtual meeting

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Bahrain yesterday urged international cooperation in respecting human rights while implementing measures to combat the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

The world nations have a crucial role to play "in facing these challenges and respecting rights," Abdulla bin Faisal bin Jabur Al Doseri, the Foreign Affairs Assistant Minister, said.

He was speaking during the fifth meeting of the Human Rights Working Group held virtually with the European Union's External Action Service (EEAS).

Bahrain, the Assistant Minister said, is battling the outbreak by implementing a balanced approach that gives "utmost priority to the rights of the individuals and safety of the society."

The Kingdom is taking care "not to impose any unnecessary and disproportionate restrictions" and is "motivating citizens and residents to stay at their homes".

Bahraini Ambassador to Belgium, Dr Bahja Jawad Al Jishi, was present during the meeting chaired by Gabriel Vinales, Director General of the Middle East and North Africa at the Foreign Employment Authority. Also present was Head of the European Union (EU) Delegate accredited to Bahrain, residing in Riyadh, Ambassador Michele Cervone



Abdulla bin Faisal bin Jabur Al Doseri

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Further explaining Bahrain's approach, the assistant minister said: "Besides providing free medical care and services to all citizens and residents, Bahrain also suspended the fees for foreign patients at government health centres."

Al Doseri said, His Majesty the King, on March 12, also granted amnesty to 901 prisoners on humanitarian grounds.

Al Doseri also highlighted the success attained by the National Taskforce for Combating Coronavirus led by His Royal Highness the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa.

Al Mana reviewed the efforts made by the Health Ministry in raising the absorptive capacity of isolation and treatment centres to 4,257 beds.

The European side praised the level of cooperation and coordination between the Kingdom and the EU.

Just for money!

Bahraini man marries Arab woman to pocket Govt financial support; Shaira Court approves divorce

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Bahrain's Sharia Court has dissolved the marriage of couple accepting the wife's plea that the marriage was just a coverup for her husband to pocket the government's financial assistance.

The wife, an Arab woman in her early twenties at the time of marriage, told the court that the man, a Bahraini citizen abandoned her once he received all documents required to applied for the government's aid.

The woman was brought to Bahrain by her husband after the marriage.

She, however, told the Sharia Court that he left her at her family home after a year-and-a-half when he managed to get the documents.

The woman's lawyer Khulood Mathloom told the court, "As soon he received the formal paperwork of the marriage he dumped her at her uncle's house."

"He didn't even bother to visit her at least once, even though she tried calling him many times, causing her deep mental trauma, as she was also

As soon he received the formal paperwork of the marriage he dumped her at her uncle's house

LAWYER KHULOOD MATHLOOM



Representative picture

new to the place.

"He continued ignoring her calls and messages and failed to support her in times of distress," Khulood Mathloom told the court.

"He caused to her huge mental damage with his acts," she added.

Accepting the arguments, the court allowed the couple to part their ways.

Peddling drugs: Hairdresser gets 10 years in jail

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The Fourth High Criminal Court awarded a hairdresser, an Asian national, 10 years in jail and a fine of BD5,000 for selling drugs.

The man, who was also blacklisted from reentering Bahrain, was caught red-handed while selling hashish oil in the Capital Governorate, last February.

A tip-off received at the In-



Representative picture (Courtesy of walesonline)

terior Ministry Anti-narcotic department led to the investigation and arrest.

The police then verified the information received and laid a trap for the accused.

On 9 February 2020, the department recruited a secret informer to contact the suspect and made a deal to buy BD50 of hashish oil from him at an open yard in the Seef District.

Based on the inputs, a team of

undercover cops then reached the spot and waited for the suspect to arrive. As the suspect reached the spot and handed over the substance, cops in plainclothes apprehend him.

The suspect was taken into custody and referred to the Public Prosecution after completing the investigation.

The prosecution charged him with conducting illegal trade in drugs.