



■ Works Minister Essam Khalaf inspected East Riffa sanitation project and gave directions to speed up the work by increasing field visits and the workforce. He was accompanied by sanitary engineering assistant under-secretary Khalifa Al Mansoor and the sanitary projects and planning director Asma'a Murad. They were informed that 40 per cent of the project was completed.



■ An agreement was signed between the Kerala Engineers Forum (Keen4) and the Bahrain Society of Engineers. It aimed to increase level of co-operation between the two associations to help engineering students, who are originally from Kerala, India, and are part of Keen4. Above, officials of both organisations at the signing ceremony.

Strip terrorists of citizenship call

PARLIAMENT yesterday condemned a car bomb attack on worshippers at a mosque and called on the government to strip bombers and terror masterminds of their citizenship.

Bahrain's parliamentary blocs issued a joint statement urging the Interior Ministry to do whatever necessary to bring the terrorists to justice following the blast targeting Shaikh Isa bin Salman Mosque in West Riffa on Wednesday, which sent shockwaves across the nation.

The MPs called for the law on terror to be enforced on the perpetrators as

well as their backers and the masterminds behind the blast.

"The people have had enough," they said, warning against the dangerous escalation in terrorism in Bahrain.

Parliament chairman Dr Khalifa Al Dhahrani urged a strong stance to deter parties seeking to fuel sectarian strife in Bahrain.

"It is no longer possible to keep silent as terror attacks and acts of violence have crossed the Rubicon," he said.

Dr Al Dhahrani said there was full GCC support for measures taken by Bahrain to maintain national security and stability and fight terrorism.

He urged authorities to bring law-

breakers to justice and adopt an iron-fisted approach to root out the scourge of terror.

He called on all citizens to confront calls inciting violence and sectarian strife.

The MPs in their statement said the bombing was a dangerous attempt to drive the country into sectarian conflict.

They accused the same parties which rejected dialogue of harbouring and condoning terror with the aim of pushing the country down a dark tunnel.

They called on the Justice Ministry to enforce the law on political societies and religious platforms inciting terror, violence, sabotage and sectarianism.

The statement was signed by MPs Abdulla bin Huweil, Ali Al Durazi, Mohammed Al Emadi, Salman Al Sheikh, Abdulhalim Murad, Khamees Al Romaihi, Ahmed Al Mullah, Hassan Al Dosary, Adnan Al Malki, Abbas Al Madi, Adel Al Asoomi, Hassan Boukhammas, Sameer Khadim and Abdulrahman Boumajeed.

Meanwhile, Egyptian Embassy yesterday condemned the terror blast. In a statement, it expressed deep sorrow and grief over the spate of attacks.

It affirmed confidence in the ability of the security authorities to hold the bombers accountable and root out the scourge of terror which is alien to a peace-loving and tolerant society.

Prominent personalities and institutions worldwide joined the chorus of outrage over the terrorist act.

Support

The Arab Inter-Parliamentary Union strongly condemned the cowardly bombing and announced its strong solidarity and unconditional support for all actions taken by Bahrain to ensure security and stability in the region and provide security and tranquillity for the people of Bahrain.

Former Iranian crown prince and official of the National Iranian Council Prince Reza Pahlavi condemned the terror bombing on his official website and said it was aimed at fuelling sectarian strife not only in Bahrain, but also across the region.

The Future Movement in France strongly condemned the blast. It denounced the terror attack, describing it as a dangerous assault on innocent citizens in Bahrain and a flagrant affront to all norms and human values with the aim of sowing division among Bahrainis.

In a statement, it urged Bahrainis to stand united and foil attempts by terrorists to fuel sectarian strife, spread hatred and spark violence for the sake of foreign designs.

■ Greetings cable is sent

HIS Majesty King Hamad yesterday sent a cable of congratulations to Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos Calderon on his country's Independence Day.

■ Forum on Islam

A FORUM spotlighting political tolerance in Islam will be held on Thursday at 9.45pm at the InterContinental Regency Bahrain. The Bahrain Institute for Political Development is organising the symposium as part of efforts to build bridges with all components of the social spectrum. Al Azhar Grand Imam's dialogue affairs adviser Dr Mahmoud Azab and Labanese Jaafari Court judge Shaikh Maarouf Rahal will address the forum.

■ Rights meeting

THE Civil and Political Rights Committee at the National Institution for Human Rights held its sixth meeting yesterday under the chairmanship of Jameela Ali Salman. Member Fareed Ghazi Rafea was present. During the session, the panel approved minutes of the last meeting and reviewed the latest developments regarding its recommendation to hold a workshop on civil and political rights. It also continued discussions on raising the age of minors in the child law to 18, and reviewed a number of remarks and recommendations regarding the National Childhood Strategy.

■ LuLu winners

ZAHARIAS Ahmed Mohammed and Batool Ali each won a BMW car in LuLu Hypermarket's mega summer promotional campaign. The winners were announced at a raffle draw held at the hypermarket's Rami Mall branch yesterday. LuLu Hypermarket is offering eight BMW cars to customers as part of the campaign and four winners were earlier announced in draws held at the Dana Mall and Riffa outlets. The last two winners will be selected in the final draw to be held at the Hidd branch today.



■ Twenty university students have taken part in a two-month summer internship programme at Khaleeji Commercial Bank. They learned about operations at the bank's various departments. The programme, in its 12th year, accommodates students from universities including Bahrain University, Bahrain Polytechnic, University of Wales, Henley Business School, Leeds Metropolitan University, University of Northampton, University of Exeter, University of Surrey and University of California. Above, the students with bank officials.



■ More than 18 tonnes of food items, worth BD6,000, were donated by the Lions Club of Riffa to the Bahrain Red Crescent Society (BRCS). It was part of the club's annual Ramadan food donation drive and included sugar, tea, oil and rice to help 1,000 needy families. Club president Veena Arora presented the donation to BRCS executive director Mubarak Al Hadi. Above, Ms Arora, eighth from left, presenting the donation to Mr Al Hadi.