

Thai chef who smuggled drugs in shoes loses plea

13 plastic bags of narcotics were seized from the defendant

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● **Laboratory examination proved that the seized substance was methamphetamine, a drug that is locally known as 'Shabu'.**

● **The court reviewed his appeal, rejected it and decided to uphold the previously announced judgement.**

A Thai chef got his five years imprisonment upheld by the First Supreme Criminal Court of Appeal this week.

The 27-year-old man has been sentenced earlier and was fined BD3,000 for attempting to smuggle narcotics from Thailand into the Kingdom by hiding it in his shoes and luggage.

The defendant has been arrested at Bahrain International Airport upon his arrival, coming from Thailand, on December 18, 2018.

At the airport, he raised the suspicions of customs officers, who referred him to a detailed inspection.



The defendant confessed that he was attempting to smuggle the substance into the Kingdom with the intention of selling it.

PROSECUTORS

There, 13 plastic bags of narcotics were found professionally hidden in his luggage, while another bag was found stashed in his right shoe.

Laboratory examination proved that the seized substance was meth-

amphetamine, a drug that is locally known as 'Shabu'.

In the interrogation, the defendant confessed that he was attempting to smuggle the substance into the Kingdom with the intention of selling and peddling it, according to Prosecutors.

He added that he received it from a friend back in Thailand to deliver it to a woman here in return of BD750.

He was sentenced by the court earlier to the aforementioned sentence, but he appealed against the verdict.

The court reviewed his appeal, rejected it and decided to uphold the previously announced judgement.

'11 saboteurs made 96 bombs to murder cops'

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The High Criminal Court has begun hearing the case of 11 defendants accused of attacking police officers with firebombs in Sitra.

Shockingly, the court files revealed that the suspects made more than 96 Molotov cocktails before proceeding with their assault as they attempted to murder cops stationed at checkpoints in Sitra.

The defendants were arrested after police investigations uncovered their identity.

According to court files, they admitted to their plan to murder police officers using the firebombs which they used after causing riots in the area in an effort to lure cops.

Prosecutors said that the defendants were found to be in possession of tools being used in vandalism acts.

"I received a call from a co-defendant who informed me of their plot. I agreed and I participated with them," one of the defendants told prosecutors, confirming that they made 96 firebombs for the assault.

Key conference 'will focus on Bahrain's growth story'

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Pradeep Puravankara

The Kingdom's growth story will be the main area of focus at the upcoming international conference of the Bahrain Chapter of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (BCICAI).

The conference will be held on November 29 and 30 at the Diplomat Radisson Hotel, Manama.

Former Indian Cabinet Minister and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's sherpa for the G7 and G20 summits, CA Suresh Prabhu, also a chartered accountant, will be one of the lead speakers at the conference.

Mr Prabhu will address the topic of disruption and growth, built around the theme, 'Disruption, A Catalyst for Growth'.



The press conference in progress.

At a press conference held yesterday, BCICAI Chairperson CA Maheshkumar Narayan announced that over 350 delegates as well as distinguished speakers are expected to participate in this conference including Kris Gopalakrishnan, Chairman of Axilor Ventures, current Chair-

man of Manipal Global Education, a Padma Shri Awardee, educationist and thinker CA Mohandas Pai, entrepreneur Venkatesh Iyer and star feature includes Academy and Oscar winner Resul Pookutty.

Held under the patronage of the Minister of Industry, Com-

merce and Tourism, Zayed Al Zayani, the conference will explore the technological changes and workplace structural progress that have disrupted old ways of working and living lifestyle. The quest of the conference is to tap into disruption as a means for growth.

Mr Maheshkumar said: "Chartered accountants are increasingly seen globally as harbingers of change management in large establishments, companies and also in government policy-making. We seek to create a platform to share ideas and update our members

and delegates about how they can stay ahead of the curve in professional developments that are shaping their workplace and also their lifestyle in these annual conferences. This year, 2019 is our 11th consecutive annual conference, which was started in 2008."

The BCICAI Annual Conference will be attended by the Who's Who of the Indian accounting fraternity in the region. This event also attracts CEOs, CFO and Chartered Accountants who have made their mark as entrepreneurs and have business lessons to share.

The conference is expected to see the presence of the ICAI President CA Prafulla Chhajed and ICAI Vice-President CA Atul Gupta, addressing delegates and putting professional changes in perspective.

Defunct toilet



The only public toilet in Manama has remained defunct for over two months now. The authorities haven't taken any steps to get the required repairs done, most often forcing the people to compromise with their privacy, which is a blatant violation of the recently proposed Cleanliness Law. The global community marks World Toilet Day today, which is an inspiring action to tackle the global sanitation crisis.

Judges' efforts in boosting courts' effectiveness stressed

Manama

President of the Court of Cassation and Deputy President of the Supreme Judicial Council Chancellor Abdullah bin Hassan Al Buainain thanked members of the judicial branch for their valuable contributions and tireless efforts to promote judicial work and justice.

At a meeting held yesterday with the judges at the Secretariat General building of the Supreme Judicial Council, at the Diplomatic Area, he praised the judges' efforts to develop the judicial



Mr Al Buainain speaks at the meeting.

system.

He pointed out the global progress achieved by the Kingdom of Bahrain in the Enforcing Contracts Indicator in commercial courts according to the World Bank report.

The Kingdom's judiciary has taken up a prestigious regional and international status in the World Bank's Enforcing Contracts Indicator moving up 69 places to rank 59th internationally and second at the Arab level according to the World Bank's ease of doing business index.

Expatriate artist found dead

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Biju Kuttho, a prominent expatriate artist and sculptor in the Kingdom, was found dead yesterday at his workplace in Hidd.

He was 49 and hailed from Kozhikode district in the Indian state of Kerala.

Mr Kuttho had created a coin portraying Modi out of fibre glass, which was gifted



Mr Kuttho



The coin created by Mr Kuttho.

to the Indian Prime Minister during his visit to the Kingdom last August.

Mr Kuttho also designed the national emblem structure, which is being erected in Hawali Roundabout.

The death news came as a shock to many among the expatriate community as Mr Kuttho was quite active in social circles.