



وحدة التحقيق الخاصة
Special Investigation Unit

Special Investigation Unit **Statistics** **2024**





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Acting Advocate General
Head of the Special
Investigation Unit

In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

The Kingdom of Bahrain is committed to strengthening and promoting human rights as a fundamental part of its comprehensive strategy to build a society founded on equality and justice. The Kingdom has taken pioneering steps in human rights by developing legislation, establishing specialized national institutions, and maintaining continuous cooperation with international bodies. In this context, the Special Investigation Unit (SIU) was established as a significant achievement in the criminal justice system to enhance transparency, accountability, and the prompt administration of justice in cases related to human rights violations.

Over the past thirteen years, SIU has carried out its work with utmost dedication and professionalism, adhering to relevant international standards. It has demonstrated its essential role in promoting human rights by acting as an independent judicial authority that effectively investigates and documents allegations of crimes involving torture or ill-treatment. This has significantly contributed to a continuous decline in the rate of such crimes, which has decreased by approximately 87%.

Believing in the importance of capacity building and committed to improving performance to enhance the protection of public and private rights and freedoms, SIU recognizes that achieving higher levels of efficiency and professionalism is only possible through training and knowledge acquisition. Therefore, it has consistently undertaken the responsibility of raising awareness and fostering a legal and human rights culture among personnel in relevant institutions. This is achieved by organizing various events and training programs aimed at establishing the principles of human rights, protecting human dignity, and upholding the rule of law.

As the Special Investigation Unit presents this report, which includes statistical data, a comprehensive and detailed overview of its work, and an account of its achievements for the past year (2024), it seizes this opportunity to extend its sincere gratitude and appreciation to His Excellency the Attorney General, Dr. Ali bin Fadhul Al Buainain, for his continuous support and attention. His unwavering commitment has served as a driving force, enabling SIU to exert its utmost efforts in protecting human rights and upholding the rule of law.

May Allah grant success.

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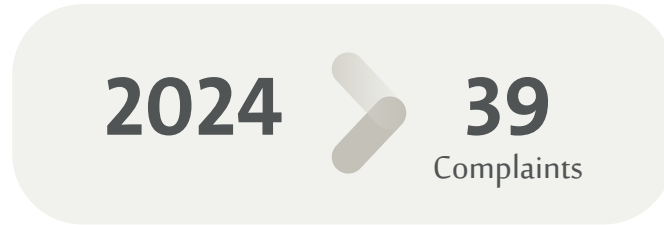


PART ONE

Complaints Received by
SIU During the year 2024

First

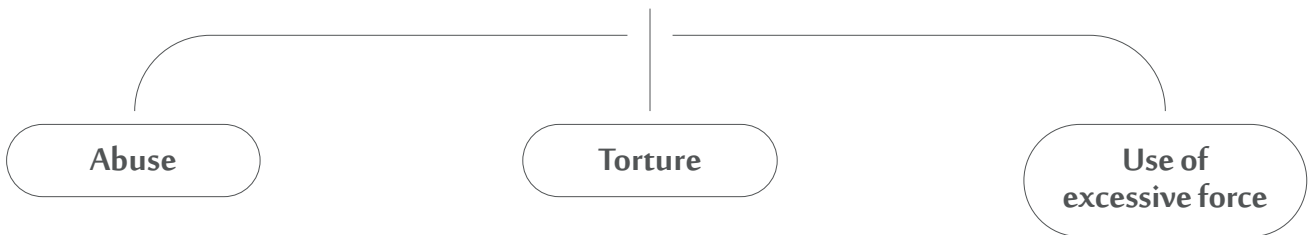
Total Complaints Received by the Unit



Second

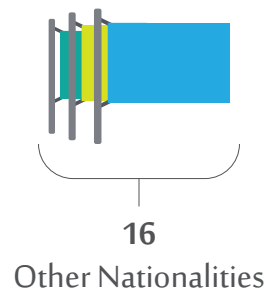
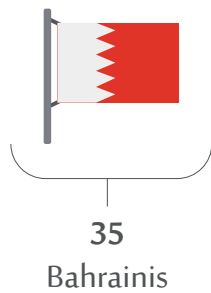
Classification of Complaints

The allegations contained in the complaints varied between



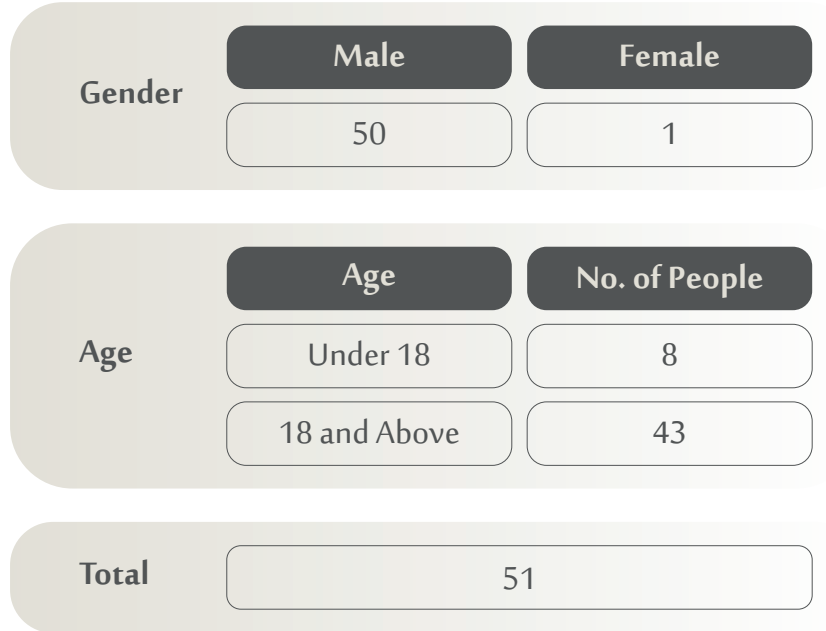
Third

Nationalities of Complainants



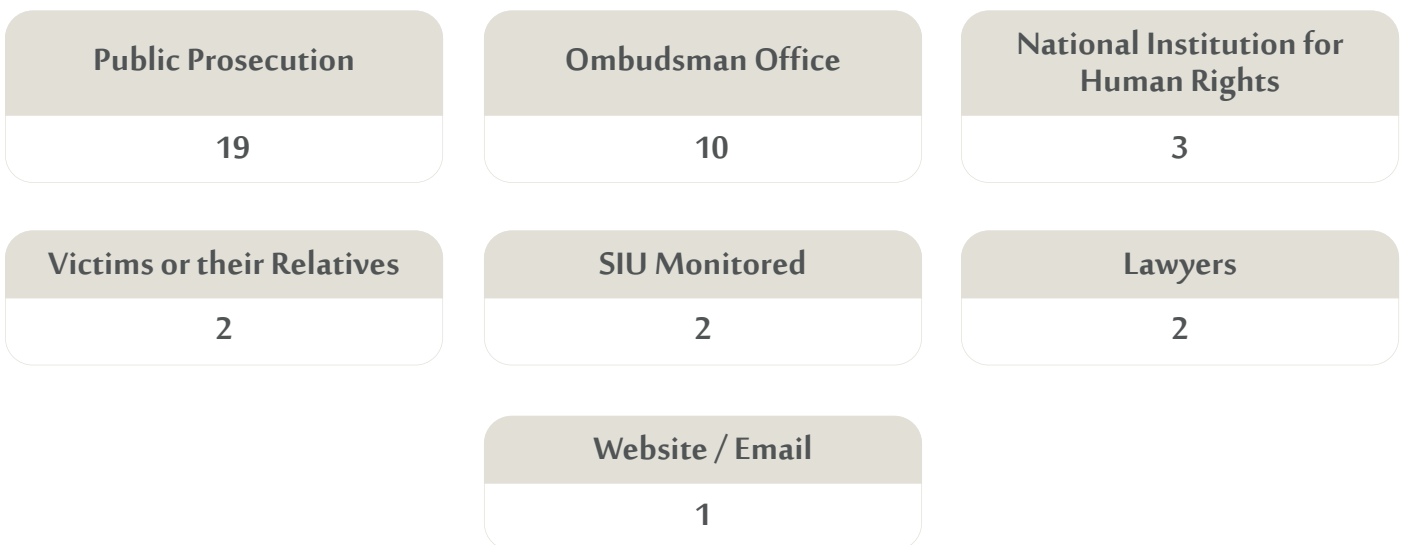
Fourth

Gender and Age of Complainants

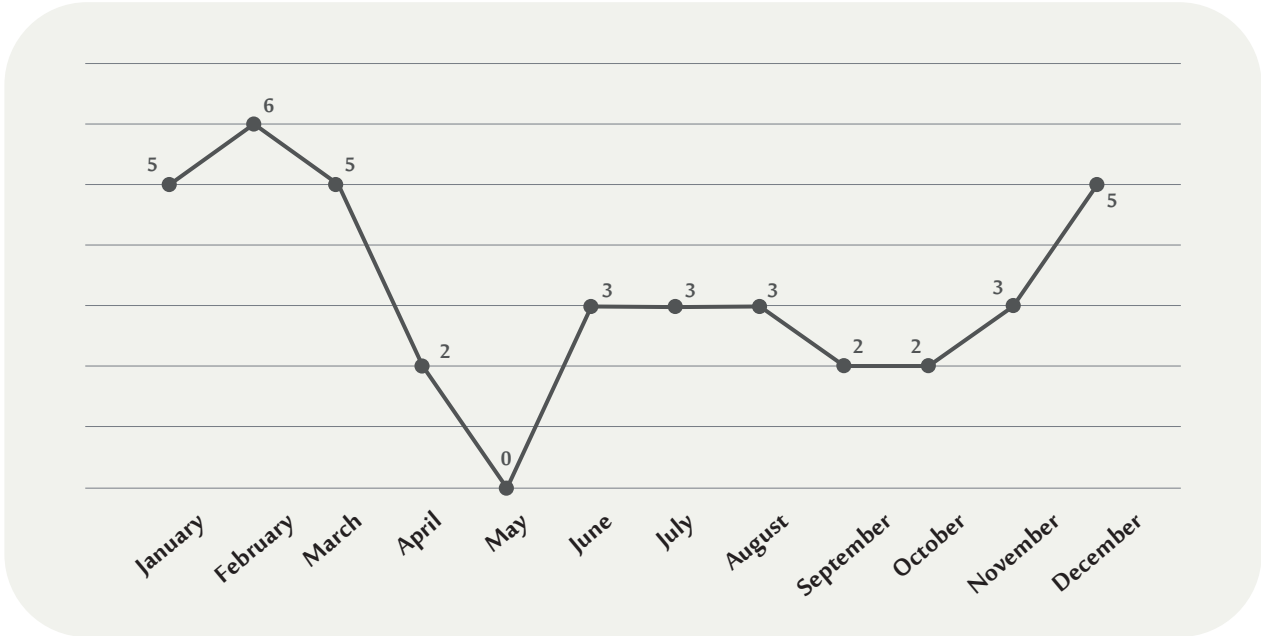


Fifth

Sources of Complaints



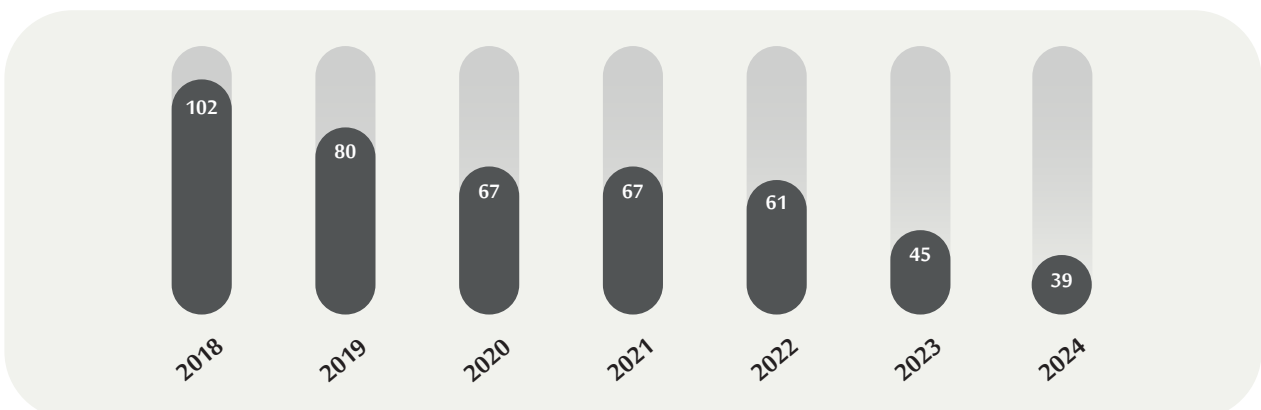
Sixth Complaints by Month



January	February	March	April	May	June
5	6	5	2	0	3
July	August	September	October	November	December
3	3	2	2	3	5

Seventh

Comparison of Complaints Received by the Unit During 2024 with Previous Years



A large, stylized number '2' is the central graphic element. It is composed of two overlapping shapes: a white shape on the right and a light beige shape on the left, creating a sense of depth and movement. The number is positioned in the upper right quadrant of the page.

PART TWO

SIU work During the
year 2024

First

Complainants and Witnesses Interviewed



January
4
1

February
4
1

March
6
1

April
1
0

May
13
3

June
4
0

July
3
1

August
2
1

September
3
3

October
2
1

November
4
3

December
9
1

Total	
Complainants	55
Witnesses	16

Second

Accused and Suspects Interviewed



January
3
1

February
0
0

March
1
0

April
0
0

May
2
1

June
5
4

July
7
7

August
2
2

September
2
2

October
1
6

November
1
5

December
0
2

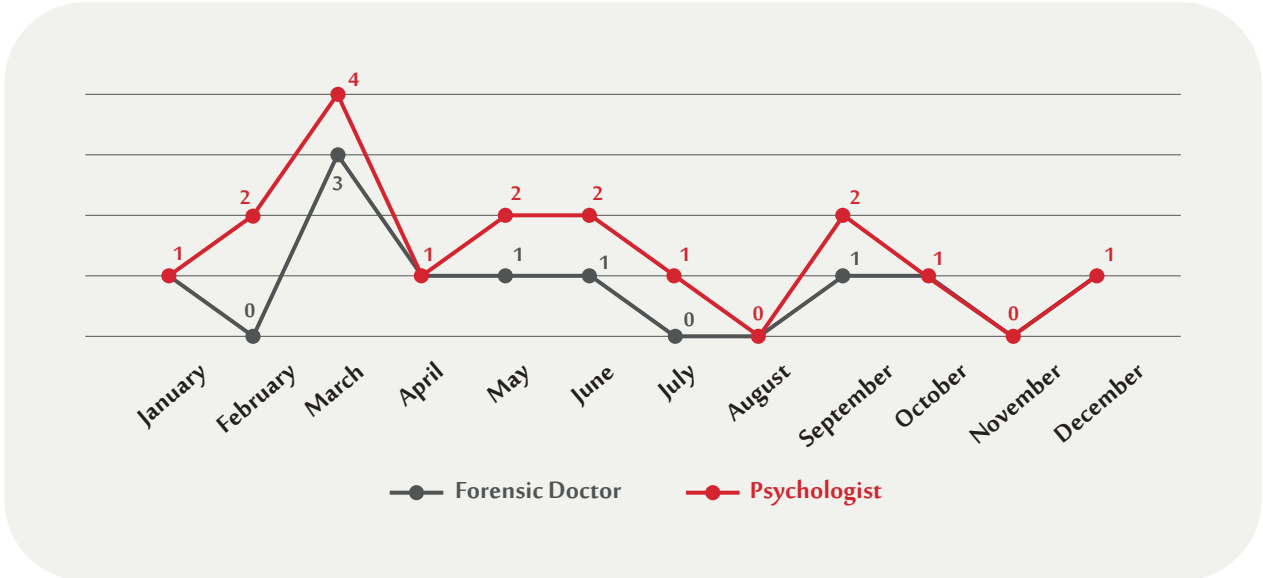
Total

Accused > 24

Suspects > 30

Third

Complainants Referred to Forensic Medicine and Psychological Support



January
1
1

February
0
2

March
3
4

April
1
1

May
1
2

June
1
2

July
0
1

August
0
0

September
1
2

October
1
1

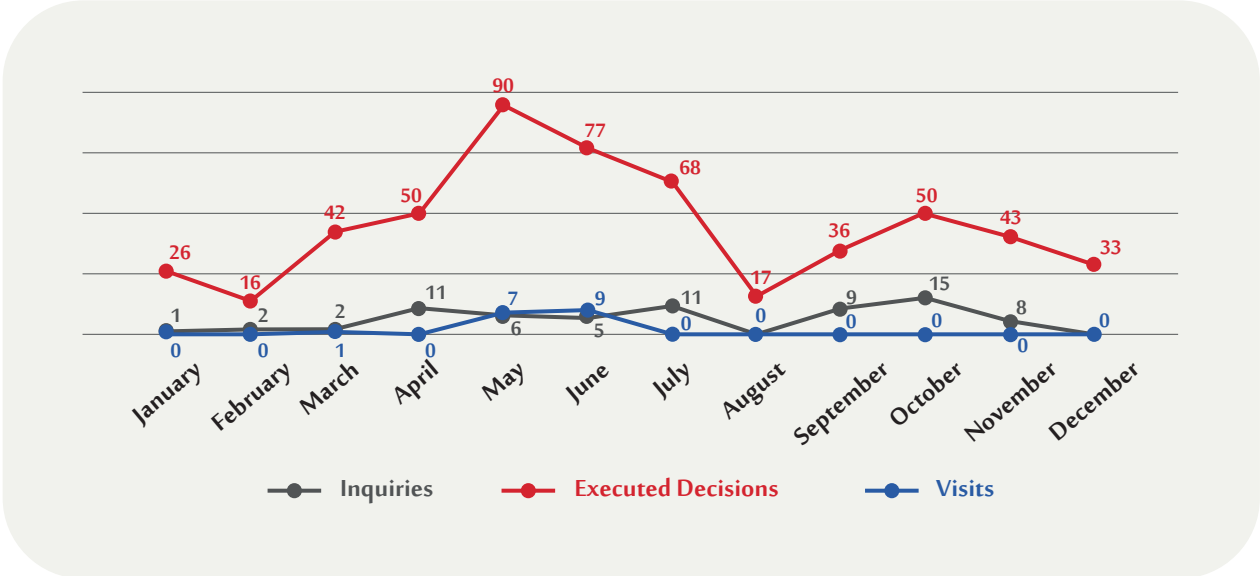
November
0
0

December
1
1

Total	
Forensic Doctor	10
Psychologist	17

Fourth

Judicial Police Division



January
1
26
0

February
2
16
0

March
2
42
1

April
11
50
0

May
6
90
7

June
5
77
9

July
11
68
0

August
0
17
0

September
9
36
0

October
15
50
0

November
8
43
0

December
0
33
0

Total					
Inquiries >	70	Executed Decisions >	548	Visits ¹ >	17

¹ Visits: the visits of members of the Judicial Police to any location in execution of the decisions issued by SIU.

Fifth

Victim and Witness Affairs Division

Procedure Type	No.
Communicate with victims and their families and inform them of the legal procedures taken	16
Psychological support for victims	0
Protection requests	16

Sixth

Responses to Local and International Inquiries and Reports

12
Reports

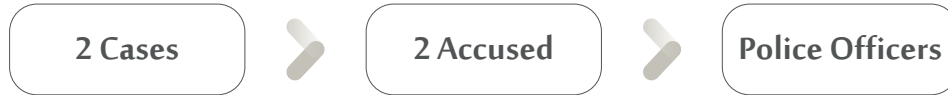
SIU prepared 12 reports in response to inquiries received during the year.



PART THREE

Complaints Referred to Competent
Courts During the year 2024

First
Referral to Criminal Courts



Second
Referral to Military Courts Department of the Ministry
of Interior for Disciplinary Sanctions



Third
Criminal Judgments

Accusation	No. of Accused	Court & Ruling Date	Ruling
Assault	1	Minor Criminal Court 04/07/2024	The court sentenced the defendant to three months, suspending execution with 100 Bahraini Dinars bail.
		Appeal 31/07/2024	The court upheld the judgment, rejecting the appeal on the merits.
Unintentional harm to another's physical safety	1	Minor Criminal Court 13/11/2024	The court sentenced the defendant to six months, suspending execution with 100 Bahraini Dinars bail.
		Appeal 03/12/2024	The court upheld the judgment, rejecting the appeal on the merits.

On 18/08/2024, the High Criminal Court of Appeal rejected the appeal filed by one of the complainants -the civil claimant- against the decision of the Special Investigation Unit to dismiss the criminal case regarding his allegation of ill-treatment during his arrest by members of the Public Security Forces. In its decision to reject the appeal, the court stated that SIU's investigations were thorough and impartial and that all necessary procedures had been completed to ascertain the truth of the alleged claim.

Fourth

Disciplinary Sanctions

SIU received disciplinary sanctions issued by the Military Courts Department at the Ministry of Interior in five different cases against six members of the Public Security Forces. SIU had previously ordered their referral to the Military Courts Administration to impose an appropriate disciplinary sanction on them. The disciplinary penalties were as follows:

Reprimand

Warning

Termination of Service

Postponement of
Promotion Consideration

Conviction Rate



100%

A large, stylized number '4' is the central graphic of the page. It is composed of white and light beige geometric shapes. The top part is a white trapezoid, the middle is a white vertical rectangle, and the bottom is a white horizontal rectangle. The background is a solid light beige color.

PART FOUR

Training Programmes and
Activities During the Year 2024

First

Seminars and Training Programmes



16 January

The participation of the Head of the Special Investigation Unit in a roundtable discussion titled "Drafting National Reports for International Mechanisms," organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as part of the Kingdom of Bahrain's Diplomatic Forum activities.



6 February

The participation of the Head of the Special Investigation Unit in the introductory seminar organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs through virtual communication, focusing on the mechanisms and achievements of human rights in the Kingdom of Bahrain for Bahrain's diplomatic missions abroad.



23 and 24 April

The participation of the Head of the Special Investigation Unit as part of the Kingdom of Bahrain's delegation in the discussion of the second periodic report submitted to the Arab Charter on Human Rights Committee at the League of Arab States in Cairo.



29 October

SIU in collaboration with the General Secretariat of the Shura Council, organized an introductory seminar. The seminar was attended by several esteemed members of the Shura Council. The seminar covered the SIU's role in protecting human rights within Bahrain's criminal justice system, the international standards relevant to its work, and the latest efforts to uphold the rule of law and ensure accountability. Additionally, it highlighted the SIU's effectiveness in training and capacity building, as well as its contributions as a member of the National Human Rights Committee.



10 December



The Special Investigation Unit organized a panel discussion in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) under the title: "Human Rights in Bahrain's Criminal Justice System - Perspectives, Lessons Learned, and Future Outlook." The event coincided with International Human Rights Day and the 40th anniversary of the UN's adoption of the Convention Against Torture. Around 60 participants attended, including officials and members of national institutions, mechanisms, and agencies responsible for protecting human rights in the criminal justice system, law enforcement officials, and civil society organizations. The discussion focused on Bahrain's efforts to safeguard human rights within the criminal justice system following international standards, the development of national legislation, and the lessons learned by national institutions and mechanisms. Participants also explored challenges, ways to enhance communication, and strategies for improving future initiatives.

Second Visits



5 February

Visit of Mr Philip Wardle, Legal Advisor at the Asia-Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions, to the Special Investigation Unit, in the presence of Eng. Ali Ahmed Al-Derazi, President of the National Institution for Human Rights.



14 February

Visit of Advisor Jaber Saleh Al-Marri, Chairman of the Arab Charter on Human Rights Committee, and his accompanying delegation to the Special Investigation Unit.



21 April

Visit of Ms. Emily Bilson, Foreign Affairs Officer at the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor of the U.S. Department of State, to the Special Investigation Unit.



9 May

Visit of Ambassador Sheikha Jawaher Ibrahim Al-Sabah, Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs for Human Rights Affairs of the State of Kuwait, and her accompanying delegation to the Special Investigation Unit.



9 July

Visit of Mr. Mazen Shuqoura, Regional Representative of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) for the Middle East and North Africa, to the Special Investigation Unit.



11 September

Visit of Ms. Fiona Walker, Deputy Head of Mission at the British Embassy in the Kingdom of Bahrain, and her accompanying delegation to the Special Investigation Unit.



3 December

Visit of an official delegation from the Ombudsman's Office of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the Special Investigation Unit.



