

# MPs seek clarity on disability allowances and govt policies



H.E. Osama Al-Asfoor  
Compiled by Safna Mujeeb  
TDT | Manama

A wave of parliamentary inquiries has swept through the Kingdom of Bahrain as Members of Parliament (MPs) pose pressing questions to government officials, shedding light on critical issues affecting the nation.

Among the forefront queries is the submission by MP Mohamed



MP Ahmed Qarata

Yousif Al Maarafi, who has directed a parliamentary question to the Minister of Social Development, His Excellency Osama Al-Asfoor, delving into the state of disability support and policies in the country.

Al Maarafi seeks comprehensive data on the number of people with disabilities in Bahrain, their classifications, and the categories that have received disability allowances since January



MP Jalal Kadhem Hasan

this year.

The detailed question encompasses monthly statistics, distinguishing between severe, moderate, and mild disabilities, and inquiring about the specific disabilities falling within each category.

The criteria for eligibility, programs for employment and integration, access to education and vocational training, and training programs for specialists in dis-



MP Hasan Ebrahim Hasan

ability services are also under scrutiny.

## Coordination efforts

Additionally, the MP probes the coordination efforts to encourage the participation of persons with disabilities in sports and recreational activities, the existence of a decision prioritizing qualified individuals with disabilities for government jobs, and the



MP Mohamed Yousif Al Maarafi

percentage set by the Supreme Committee for Employing People with Disabilities in both private and government sectors.

Al Maarafi also seeks information on the plans and programs for the care, rehabilitation, and employment of people with disabilities approved by the Supreme Committee and its meeting outcomes since January this year.

The barrage of parliamentary inquiries extends beyond disa-



MP Dr. Hesham Al-Asheeri

bility concerns.

MP Ahmed Qarata investigates the implications of the free trade agreement between Bahrain and the United States, while MP Dr. Hesham Al-Asheeri explores the realm of taxi licenses.

MP Jalal Kadhem Hasan delves into commercial records, and MP Hasan Ebrahim Hasan examines the disbursement of disability allowances, overlapping with Al Maarafi's concerns.

## Trainee doctors' social security inclusion lauded by MPs

Compiled by Safna Mujeeb  
TDT | Manama

Several Members of Parliament (MPs) have welcomed the decision to register trainee doctors under the social security system.

MPs who proposed the inclusion of interns in the social security system welcomed the decision by the HR Department for Government Hospitals to provide insurance coverage for new interns in medical specialties programs.

They highlighted that the resolution aligns with their proposal, ensuring the rights of trained physicians and enabling insurance through the General Social Security Authority.

MP Dr. Maryam Al-Dhaen praised the approval of the law proposed in August, aiming to include interns in the social security system, highlighting its positive impact on job seekers in training programs and the financial sustainability of the pension system in Bahrain.

The decision by government hospitals aligns with the proposed law, demonstrating progress towards comprehensive inclusion of trainees in various fields, the MP stated.

Dr. Hesham Al-Asheeri, a prominent MP, lauded the decision, citing its alignment with a proposal put forth by several MPs.



“The decision by government hospitals aligns with the proposed law, demonstrating progress towards comprehensive inclusion of trainees in various fields.”

- MP DR. MARYAM AL-DHAEN



“This proposal aims at ensuring that government registers trainees in the social security system, safeguarding their rights and accounting for years of service loss during their training period.”

- MP DR. HESHAM AL-ASHEERI



“The efforts of Dr. Jalila bint Al-Sayed Jawad Hassan and Dr. Maryam Azby Al-Jlahma should be commended for empowering and supporting Bahraini staff and contributing to the development of the health sector.”

- MP MOHSEN ALI AL-ASBOOL

This proposal aims at ensuring that government registers trainees in the social security system, safeguarding their rights and accounting for years of service loss during their training period, the MP said.

Al-Asheeri emphasized that the decision is in line with parliamentary aspirations. The move enables trainee doctors to be affiliated with government

hospitals, with the General Social Security Authority providing insurance. This is made possible by allocating the monthly subscription amount from the monthly bonus paid to trainees.

## Gratitude

President of the Bahraini Doctors Association, Dr. Amer Al-Darazi, expressed gratitude

training under the social insurance system.

Al-Darazi acknowledged the continued parliamentary support and significant efforts in addressing doctors' concerns and involving the Association in developing medical services.

## Diligence

The Board of Directors of the Association echoed these sentiments, commending MPs for their diligence in following up on medical matters in the Kingdom. They extended deep gratitude for the proposal and appreciated the government's unwavering support for Bahraini doctors.

MP Mohsen Ali Al-Asbool praised the announcement of insurance coverage for new doctor trainees, emphasizing the importance of its retroactive application.

Deputy Al-Asbool indicated that the decision is expected to include all trainee doctors retroactively, beyond those in the new training program.

Al-Asbool commended the efforts of Dr. Jalila bint Al-Sayed Jawad Hassan, Minister of Health, and Dr. Maryam Azby Al-Jlahma, Executive President of Government Hospitals, for empowering and supporting Bahraini staff and contributing to the development of the health sector.

## 15-year jail term for father who tried to kill son with chainsaw

TDT | Manama

The Cassation Court has confirmed the jail time of 15 years in prison which was issued against a man accused of attempting to murder his son with a chainsaw.

The defendant was earlier sentenced to life in prison, but the High Appeals Court reduced it to 15 years behind bars which was approved by the Cassation Court.

The defendant was held guilty on grounds of premeditated assault. According to court files, the man reportedly tried to kill his son under the pretext that the teenager was on drugs and he was acting unstable. The victim's mother told prosecutors that the pair weren't seeing eye to eye.

## Caught smoking

“Before the incident, the school requested us to come because an issue arose involving our son. They told us he was caught smoking e-cigarettes. I managed to convince them to punish him by suspending him for two days,” the mother told prosecutors.

## Three 'human traffickers' to stand trial

TDT | Manama

The Public Prosecution has completed its investigations into a human trafficking incident and ordered to refer three Asian defendants to the Criminal Court with a session is scheduled for 12 December,

stated the Deputy Head of the Trafficking in Persons Prosecution.

Details indicated that a report was received from the first victim that the first accused had an intercourse with her by force kidnapped her.

The report stated that he

forcefully stole her money and kept her in a room all day and allowed her to go out only to exploit her in an illegal matter and then seizing what she earns from her work.

When the first accused was arrested, he was accompanied by the second victim.

## Commercial store ordered to pay BD6,000 in municipal fees

TDT | Manama

The High Administrative Court obligated a commercial store to pay BD6,000 to the Southern Municipality as earned municipal fees. The owner refused to pay the due amount despite being notified by the municipality.

The court clarified that its ruling was built on the provisions

of Articles (35 and 36) of Decree Law No. 35 For the year 2001, issuing the Municipalities Law, which included among the financial resources of the municipality are the “fees” it collects for utilizing the facilities and services that it manages or supervises in accordance with the provisions of this law or any regulation.

It also explained that the pro-

visions of Articles (47 and 54) of the executive regulations of the Municipalities Law stipulates that the monthly municipal fees are due on all leased sites is 10% of the actual monthly rental value approved by the municipality for the leased site. Whatever the nature of the activity in that location and whatever the lease period specified for it.