

Works Ministry reports 17,670 beneficiaries from e-services

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Beneficiaries of the Ministry of Works 26 e-services reached 17,670 during the first half of this year, as reported by Eng Huda Al Salman, AUS of Technical Services at the Ministry.

These services were accessed either through the ministry's website or the national portal bahrain.bh.

Application Follow Up eService led the charge, Al Salman noted, attracting 10,501 users.

This service empowers citizens, residents, and municipal councils to submit requests and comments directly to the relevant department for online follow-up.

Following closely was the Traffic Diversion Request eService, with 3,069 submissions.

This platform allows individuals, private companies, and government bodies to request and manage traffic diversions for construction sites online.

Sound of violence

Loud snoring leads to assault, victim left with permanent disability

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A dispute sparked by loud snoring led to a violent assault, leaving a worker with a permanent disability.

The assailant, a 50-year-old Asian heavy vehicle driver, faces charges of assault causing permanent disability after he violently punched the victim in the mouth at their shared accommodation.

The victim, a 52-year-old man of a different nationality, recounted the harrowing incident.

He explained that he was attempting to sleep in the shared accommodation when the defendant's loud snoring became unbearable.

"It was impossible to rest," he said, "the noise was so loud and disruptive."

Feeling frustrated and desperate for sleep, the victim decided to approach the defendant.

"I politely asked him to lower his voice or seek medical attention," he explained. "I didn't want to cause any trouble, just



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get some peace and quiet."

However, his request was met with unexpected aggression.

The defendant, enraged by the victim's request, reacted violently.

He punched the victim in the face, causing him to lose several teeth. "I was completely shocked," the victim said, "I never expected such a violent

response to a simple request."

The defendant confessed to the assault during the investigation by the Public Prosecution, stating that he saw blood coming out of the victim's mouth.

"I was angry, but I didn't mean to hurt him that badly," he claimed.

However, a forensic report confirmed the severity of the

victim's injuries.

The report concluded that the victim's injuries were consistent with blunt force trauma and resulted in permanent disability, estimated at 2%.

The High Criminal Court is currently hearing the case. The next hearing is scheduled for August 5th, where the court will announce its verdict.



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Initial draft for new Lawyers' Law completed

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The Ministry of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Waqf has announced the completion of the initial draft of the new Lawyers' Law.

Counsellor Mohammed Ahmed Ali Muqbil, Assistant Undersecretary for State Cases and International Cooperation at the Ministry, indicated that the draft is now being distributed to all practising lawyers licensed before the Court of Cassation.

This move aims to strengthen the Ministry's engagement with lawyers and to gather a wide range of perspectives and recommendations.

Dr Muqbil emphasised that the Ministry recognises the essential role of lawyers within the justice system and seeks to incorporate their insights into this project.

The goal is to improve judicial and legal services in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The draft was developed after a thorough review.

Bahrain lauded for modern human rights system

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His Excellency Dr. Abdulatif bin Rashid Al Zayani, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Chairman of the National Human Rights Committee, praised the Kingdom of Bahrain for its modern and thorough system for respecting human rights and combating human trafficking.

He emphasised that these advancements are made under the wise leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

Dr. Al Zayani also highlighted the significant support and oversight of the government, led by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

Marking the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons, with the theme "Leave No Child Behind in the Fight Against Human Trafficking," Dr. Al Zayani elucidated Bahrain's strides in integrating its pioneering initiatives in child rights and human



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trafficking prevention.

This has culminated in a thor-

"Bahrain celebrates ongoing achievements in human rights and societal progress in combating human trafficking and upholding the rule of law."

- H.E. DR. ABDULLATIF BIN RASHID AL ZAYANI, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

ough framework for safeguarding children and preserving human dignity.

The system is underpinned by advanced policies and legislative

measures, including the Child Justice Law, the Protection from Abuse Law No. 4 of 2021, the Child Law No. 37 of 2012, and Law No. 1 of 2008 on combating

human trafficking.

These efforts align with the Government Plan and the National Human Rights Plan (2022-2026).

The Minister of Foreign Affairs expressed pride in the fact that this global observance coincides with Bahrain retaining its esteemed international status within the top category for combating human trafficking, as per the US Department of State report for the seventh consecutive year.

Doctor, accomplice sent to jail for BD20 drug deal

10-year sentence

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A seemingly BD20 drug deal has resulted in a 10-year prison sentence for a doctor and his accomplice.

The case, which unfolded after a tip-off about suspicious activity, exposed a wider network of drug dealing and consumption.

The High Criminal Court first sentenced the doctor, 29 years old, and his accomplice, 24 years old, to 10 years in prison and a BD5,000 fine each. They were found guilty of selling and using cannabis.

A third defendant, 34 years old, was sentenced to six months in prison and a BD100 fine for drug use. The court also ordered the confiscation of all seized materials.

The investigation began with a report about a vehicle and suspicious objects being placed in a drainage pipe in Riffa.

The vehicle was traced back to the third defendant, who was subsequently arrested.



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During interrogation, he confessed to using drugs and obtaining them from the doctor and his accomplice.

He agreed to help police apprehend them and made a phone call to the doctor, requesting a quantity of "CBD" for BD20. The deal was to take place near the hospital where the doctor worked.

Police, accompanied by the third defendant, arrested the doctor at the designated location.

General manager charged with Value-Added Tax evasion

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A 52-year-old Bahraini man, the general manager of an individual establishment, has been charged with evading value-added tax (VAT).

The High Criminal Court commenced the hearing of the case, and scheduled the next hearing for August 4th for further investigation and response.

The defendant allegedly evaded paying VAT on services subject to the tax from 2021 until the present date.

Despite the legally mandated 120-day period for payment, he failed to pay a total of BD35,327,319.

The National Bureau for Revenue (NBR) provided evidence to the Public Prosecution that the defendant's establishment had been registered for VAT since July 1, 2019, and had submitted six tax returns, but failed to pay the corresponding amounts after the legal deadline.

The NBR confirmed that the defendant's establishment submitted six tax returns between October 31, 2021, and January 31, 2023, without paying the required VAT.



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Consequently, the case was referred to the collection department and then to the legal affairs department for further legal action.

A letter from the NBR dated March 24th requested the initiation of criminal proceedings against the defendant for VAT evasion.

The total amount of VAT evaded was confirmed to be BD35,327,319.

The defendant admitted to the charges during the investigation by the Public Prosecution, stating that he was unable to pay the amount to the NBR due to non-payment for work he had undertaken during the COVID-19 pandemic.

NBR record confirmed the defendant is the owner of the individual establishment.

Competitive bids across various major projects

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The envelopes of 10 tenders for various ministries and government entities were opened yesterday by the Tender Board.

Bapco Energies received three bids for a Request for Proposal (RFP) aimed at engaging employees during their transition into the energy sector.

The project involves designing, administrating, analysing, and reporting on survey results.

The lowest bid, at BD200,596, came from Korn-Ferry (Schweiz) AG.

In another RFP, Bapco Energies sought serviced apartments in Manama, Bahrain, to house consultants for Project Harmony.

The ARCH Hotel offered the lowest bids, one at BD28,000 and another at BD33,000. The second lowest was from FRASER Suites Al Liwan, at BD32,000.

The Electricity and Water Authority (EWA) issued a tender to outsource customer services and customer account directorates.

Silah Gulf offered the lowest bid at BD744,174,000.

The Bahrain Authority for Culture & Antiquities (BACA) released an RFP for professional cleaning services for two buildings, which includes specialised services like maintaining wooden floors and pressure washing panels. Unskills submitted the sole bid of BD174,240,000.

Five firms are vying for a pre-qualification tender from Bapco Refining to supply fire and safety equipment and personal safety clothing.

The Primary Health Care Centre is looking for a company to provide comprehensive maintenance for all autoclaves and water distillers across its locations from 2025 to 2028.

The lowest bid, at BD44,990,000, was submitted by Gulf Pharmacies W.L.L.

BAPCO Refining issued an RFP for the purchase of new tank trailers for local marketing, including third-party inspection to ensure specifications are met.

Sayed Kadhem Al Durazi & Sons BSC submitted the lowest bid at BD1,358,500,000.