



MP, Ahmed Qarata

## Selling illegal drugs online: NHRA takes down several online shops

DT News Network  
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**H**ealth authorities have taken legal and administrative actions against several online vendors selling unapproved medicines and supplements in the Kingdom.

"The authority has taken legal steps against six violating ads posted on the social media networks," said Dr Mariam Al Jahalma, CEO, National Health Regulatory Authority (NHRA).

The violators were referred to the General Directorate of Anti-corruption and Economic and Electronic Security in the Interior Ministry.

Dr Al Jahalma explained that five of the advertisements were for

unpermitted supplements, while one of them was for dentistry products.

"The authority shall monitor all advertisements related to medical products and devices," said Dr Al Jahalma adding; "Most of them found were unlicensed, which will be referred to legal authorities for necessary actions."

The authority has taken legal actions against online vendors in the past too with the most recent case being that of miscarriage related drugs.

In a message, NHRA has also urged citizens and residents to be aware of the dangers of using illegally sold medicines and supplements that aren't approved by the authority.



Dr. Al Jahalma

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**A**s businesses in the Kingdom brace for the newly introduced Commercial Registration (CR) fee hike, a Bahraini MP yesterday warned that the concerned minister will be held responsible for "harming the national economy".

Al Ayam daily quoting Ahmed Qarata, the House of Representatives' Economic and Financial Committee member, said that the parliamentarian would question Zayed bin Rashid Al Zayani, the Industry, Commerce and Tourism Minister, in the upcoming legislative session over the issue.

The Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) also raised the issue recently in an official letter sent to His Royal Highness, Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, the Prime Minister. The Chamber requested the Premier to revoke the CR fee hike, which would enter into force on 22 September 2017, citing its negative impact on the businesses here.

The Chamber claimed that the businesses here "might go bankrupt or exit the market as a result".

No	Activity	Amount in BD
1	Industrial activities	1000
2	Construction / Real Estate Activities	1000
3	Commercial activities	300
4	Activities support industry	200
5	Activities support construction and real estate	100
6	Service activities	100
7	Logistics activities	100
8	Agricultural activities, animals, hunting	50
9	Small Business	25

**"The new CR fees are unstudied and will harm the national economy".**

Challenging the fee hike, Qarata, in his comments to the daily, said: "The new CR fees are unstudied and will harm the national economy".

"The ministry had introduced 270 new fees in

the past two years targeting traders," Qarata said adding: "These actions would only push the economy into recession".

He also warned that the fees hike might generate some

additional revenues in the short-term, but would fail in the long run.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism invited commercial establishments, individuals, companies and other institutions to verify the fees for their activities by visiting the portal: [www.sijilat.com](http://www.sijilat.com). This, according to the Ministry, is necessary to continue their commercial activities.

## Family escape fire

DT News Network  
Manama

**A** Bahraini family had a miraculous escape after a fire broke out in their house in the Jidhafs Housing

Project, Capital Governorate, yesterday.

Civil Defence firefighters, who reached the scene immediately, rescued the family and doused the fire.

## Accident: Driver burnt to death

DT News Network  
Manama

**I**n a horrific incident, a driver was burned to death on Wednesday after the vehicle involved in the mishap caught

fire after hitting a lamppost. The accident occurred on the highway near Isa Town, the Interior Ministry said in a statement. All relevant procedures were taken.