

Gasoline price hike: Court to examine complaint on Feb 11

Complaint filed against govt stating the implementation of fuel price hike violates Law 52 of 2006

DT News Network
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A case filed against the sudden decision of gasoline price increase will be examined by the Supreme Administrative Court on February 11, DT News has learnt.

According to *Al Ayam* daily, the court has set the date to see the complaint lodged by a group of attorneys in Bahrain against the government for implementing the gasoline price hike decision two weeks ago without publishing it in the Official Gazette.

The attorneys announced on January 10, two days after the sudden increase of gasoline prices, that they have complained to the court

rejecting the implementation decision, which they said: "Violates Law 52 of 2006 and is against the Kingdom's constitution".

They insisted that "no authority has the right to individually take a decision without following the proper legal and constitutional channels", adding that "the complaint isn't related to the national economic strategies but is to ensure legal procedures are strictly followed and that no similar actions reappear in the future".

As reported on DT News on January 9, the National Oil and Gas Authority raised the prices of gasoline in the country without any prior announcements. The price of Jayyid fuel (91-octane) was increased to 140fils/litre after

The court will see the complaint lodged by attorneys against the government for implementing the gasoline price hike decision

it was sold for 125fils/litre and Mumtaz fuel (95-octane) price was also increased from 160fils/litre to 200fils/litre. This is the second time gasoline prices are increased in the Kingdom within two years after a similar decision was implemented in January 2016.



Works Ministry releases data on requests received

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Communications Director at the Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning Fahad Buallay revealed that the Communications Directorate received 975 requests during the fourth quarter of 2017.

Buallay added that year 2017 witnessed a leap in the performance of the directorate, which resulted in them winning 'Best Practice in Community Participation's Award' of the 2017 eGovernment Excellence Award.

The event was organized by the eGovernment under the patronage of Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the Supreme Committee for Information Technology and Telecommunications Shaikh Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa. Buallay explained that the Works Affairs is keen to keep pace with the modern technology and social media in order to be able to relate to all parties in the community.

The award reflects the Ministry's success in fields related to information technology and telecommunications, which aims to serve citizens and residents.

Buallay explained that the Ministry pays attention to all requests and applications. The number of requests, which the Ministry responded to within 10 days from the date of receipt, or less, amounted to 331 requests out of the total number of requests.

According to Buallay, the figure reflects the active interaction between the Ministry, citizens, and residents, especially with the up-to-date communication means and channels by which the Communications Directorate of the Ministry stays in touch with the people and attend to their needs.

During the fourth quarter of last year, the Roads Sector received a total of 733 requests and complaints, while the sanitary sector received 158 requests and complaints during the same period.

Buallay explained that November targeted the highest number of requests, with 374 requests, then came October with 304 requests and finally December with 216 requests.

According to Buallay, most requests were directed to the Ministry via Tawasul System (641 requests), then came the phone with 276 requests, personal visits (29 requests and



Fahad Buallay (17 requests), then the radio with five requests, newspapers and Twitter with three requests, and one written request.

The most repeated applications in the roads sector centered around roads paving and maintenance, roads revamp and expansion and construction of new roads, while applications for the sanitary sector included construction and maintenance of sewerage networks, construction of storm water drains and manholes and sewerage networks maintenance. The Ministry is keeping up with the recent and most modern social media technologies in order to stay in touch with all groups of the Bahraini society, through both the Twitter and Instagram account @Bahrain_works.

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