Lack of parking space hits vendors at Central market

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Manama

The lack of parking space has affected business at Manama Central Fish Market, the Kingdom's largest fish market, with dwindling sales.

"There are no space for customers to park their vehicles near the market which is affecting our business," said a Bahraini vendor at the market said yesterday.

"The issue of the limited parking space for customers has always been there. But in recent years, the shipping trucks delivering fruits and vegetables to the nearby



Fish vendors at the Manama Central Fish Market. Lack of parking space for customers has affected sales at the market vegetables market have overtaken whatever tiny space our customers had to park their vehicles. We also have

customers coming in from Saudi Arabia who repeatedly complain about the lack of regulation of traffic here," said

Mohammed Mirza, who has been in the business for over 50 years.

"If no adequate parking spaces are provided for them, the customers won't come to our market anymore," he said, adding that the authorities have given them several promises to develop the market in the past, but with no action taken.

"Fruits and vegetables are given the priority here, that's why the trucks had slowly overtaken the parking space allocated for our customers through the years. Additionally, traffic police patrols deal strictly

drivers who double park. Our customers complain that they pay traffic fines when they

of buying fish. Many of them stopped coming here and go to Jidhafs Central Market," said Abdulaziz another vendor.

It's noteworthy that some of the trucks drivers, who travel for long distances from Oman, Jordan and Saudi Arabia, spend a night or two in their trucks that are parked near the market.

Capital General Secretariat (formerly municipality) had stated earlier that it's coordinating with Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning Ministry to commence road maintenance in the parking lots allocated to trucks as well as market traders and visitors.





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Lecture held on 'Women and violent extremism'



From Left- Dr Nelly Lahoud, Baria Alamuddin and Dr Elisabeth Marteu DT News Network Fellow for Political Islamism Dr Manama

he IISS Middle East hosted The 1188 Minute Later In a lecture by award winning journalist and Al Hayat Foreign Editor, Baria Alamuddin. The lecture on 'Women and Violent Extremism', focussed on accounts of more than a thousand Saudi women at home and abroad. The lecture, was chaired by IISS Consulting Senior Fellow for Middle East Policies Dr Elisabeth Marteu, and introduced by IISS Senior

Nelly Lahoud. She denounced extremism and violence while supporting social rights movement in an acceptable way. Women surveyed showed an understanding of terrorist groups' methods of demeaning women through sex trafficking, whether Muslim women, or abducted non-Muslim minority women and highlighted the travails of kidnapped Yazidi girl Nadia Murad, an ISIS survivor.

Alamuddin also shed light on the militant attitudes of some Muslim women who are based in the West or are Western converts. Measured by the numbers and nationalities of the so-called ISIS jihadi brides, conservative lifestyles clearly do not mark the motive behind radicalised thinking. The lecture was attended by Simon Martin British ambassador to Bahrain, U.S. Ambassador William Roebuck and other dignitaries.