

Municipality 'hiding' 120,000 garbage bags: Municipal councilor

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Unearthing a major scam, a Muharraq Municipality councilor has revealed that the municipality is 'hiding' around 120,000 waste bags in its warehouses that are supposed to be given to citizens.

The revelation comes in the wake of the municipality's claim that "there are no garbage bags available" for use of its citizens.

Interestingly, Muharraq Municipal Council's Financial and Legal Committee Chairman Ghazi Al Murbati recently posted a footage showing the stocked bags inside the municipality's stores.

The video also showed a big poster on the authority's doors stating "there no



Ghazi Al Murbati

garbage bags available now".

"It has been a long time since citizens were provided with the bags, which they are entitled to on a monthly basis. What the municipality did is unacceptable, especially that it's a matter related to public health and the environment. It can only be explained as the bureaucracy aiming to halt

the interest of the nation and its people," Al Murbati said in a statement.

He also demanded the technical services directorate in the municipality to immediately distribute the bags among beneficiaries and prevent a possible environment disaster in Muharraq.

The municipality, on the other hand, explained in a statement that "the bags are kept at the warehouses as per certain administrative procedures".

A total of 4600 bags were distributed on Thursday as a temporary procedure to cover the current shortage while the procedures are completed, the statement read, adding that the distributed bags were only given to Muharraq residents.

Councilor Al Murbati has posted a footage showing bags at municipality's stores



(Left) A poster at the Muharraq municipality saying no bags are available for distribution; (Right) bags stacked at the municipality's warehouse

Coast Guard rescues 1,171 people in 2016



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More than 1000 people were rescued from Bahraini waters last year, the latest figures have showed.

Interior Ministry's Coast Guard has carried out various search, rescue and assistance

operations in 2016 which included 1171 individuals and 464 boat, stated, Coast Guard Commander Brigadier Alaa Siyadi, yesterday

"The Coast Guard also dealt with 57 accidents and issued 259 maritime ban violations, 630 registration and licencing violations, 437 fishing violations and 118

residency violations," Brig. Siyadi confirmed. The official also noted various efforts taken by the Coast Guard to improve its performance, mentioning the recent launch of the landing ship 'Safra 1' and the 36 training courses conducted last year, benefiting 317 coast guards from Bahrain and GCC countries.

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