

diplomacy remark



We don't mind appointing ten employees at each embassy, but we are committed to the limited budget of the ministry. It would be appreciated if the MP (Qarata) could secure these amounts in the upcoming state budget



150 instructors issued permits

DT News Network
Manama

Manama
More than 150 driving instructors were issued licenses in the past two years in a bid to enhance the driving learning process in Bahrain, Captain Khalid Bugais, Legal Affairs Head at the General Directorate of Traffic, has said.

The number of Bahraini instructors at the country's only driving school in Aali was also increased from 400 in 2015 to 554 now.

"We reconfirm that the numbers of driving instructors was and will be increased as requested by the council," Capt. Bugais who spoke at the weekly meeting of the House of Representatives yesterday, said.

"There are 554 instructors in Bahrain now. As a result of increasing the numbers of instructors, there are no delays now in receiving driving learning services," the official said while discussing the directorate's replies to a couple of parliamentary proposals and queries. Explaining further on the improvement of driving learning services, Capt. Bugais said, "As per the directives of Interior Minister Lieutenant General Shaikh Rashid bin Abudlla Al Khalifa, the ministry is currently working



Capt. Khalid Bugais on privatising this important sector in cooperation with the private sector. Taking such a step requires extensive study to protect all the related parties, including learners and instructors." Capt. Bugais also confirmed that the directorate had met the Driving Instructors' Society and heard, reviewed and fulfilled their suggestions and requests.

While discussing the directorate's reply to a proposal to establish a new technical inspection centre in Muharraq, Capt. Bugais announced that work has commenced on a new centre for trucks located near Aluminium Bahrain (Alba) factory in the Southern Governorate. The proposal, which was passed earlier by the council, calls for opening a new centre in Muharraq Governorate.

Need transparency on fiscal health status: MP

DT News Network
Manama

Manama
Bahraini parliamentarians are "crippled" as they are unaware of the financial status of the country, an MP claimed yesterday. Demanding Finance Minister Shaikh Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa to "open-up" about the economic and financial challenges the Kingdom is witnessing, MP Isa Al Kooheji called for more transparency about financial status of Bahrain.

The parliamentarian urged the Government to follow the footsteps of Saudi Arabia in revealing economic strategies

The MP has urged the Government to follow the footsteps of Saudi in economic strategies and publishing it in the local media



Al Kooheji and publishing it in the local media. Al Kooheji commented on the replies of the government to 20 proposals that were reviewed yesterday saying, "All the ministries in their replies to the proposals are demanding one thing, which is funding."


"A little knowledge is a dangerous thing. Until this day we haven't heard any comment from Finance Minister on the economic situation of the country. All we know is that financial conditions aren't at their best, but no explanation was provided by the minister and we are kept in the dark. As representatives we don't know

what the economic situation is. If everything is clarified, we wouldn't submit proposals that aren't achievable," Al Kooheji commented. He also mentioned the upcoming Value Added Tax (VAT) that will be implemented next year stating that most citizens aren't aware of what it is.

"VAT affects all citizens, poor and rich. Why didn't the minister explain the effects of implementing these taxes," the MP questioned.

The legislator said that MPs are accused by citizens of being "useless" as they haven't achieved any of their demands. "How would the representatives do anything if they're not aware whether there are sufficient funds or not to implement projects," Al Kooheji added. As reported earlier, Al Kooheji had submitted various proposals in a bid to tackle the tough financial situations of the country and to increase the State's revenues. The former head of the council's Financial and Economic Affairs Committee had demanded to suspend MPs' salaries (and to add it to the coffers.

Capt. Bugais said that the number of instructors at Aali driving school has been increased to 554 at present



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NOTICE FOR MOVING OF BRANCH

This is to notify the public that operations of the Riffa branch of AXA Insurance (Gulf) B.S.C.(c) located in Lulu Centre, 1st Floor, Bldg 302, Road 2513, Block 925, Riffa / Bukawarah will be moved to the A'ali branch located in Ramli Mall, Basement floor, Shop No:4, Building 1723, A'Ali.

The company will continue to service its customers through the main branch at Seef and the AXA shops listed below. For further enquiries, please call the customer service centre on 1060 8000 or visit the [website www.axa-gulf.com](http://www.axa-gulf.com)

Branches of AXA Gulf in Bahrain

<p>Seef Main Branch, Building 177, Seef District 428, Opposite Ritz-Carlton Hotel</p> <p>Hidd Lulu Centre, Ground floor, shop 1, Bldg. 166, Road 3, Block 109, Hidd</p> <p>Mahooz Al Hayat Shopping Center, Ground Floor, Bldg. 514, Road 2810, Block 328, Mahooz</p>	<p>A'ali Ramli Mall, Basement floor, Shop 4#, Building 1723, A'Ali</p> <p>Saar Nakheel Centre, Unit 106, Building 789, Road 1322, (opposite St Christopher's Junior School), Block 513, Saar</p> <p>Manama Bahrain City Centre, Ground Floor, Block 346, Sh. Khalifa Highway, Manama</p>
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