

Government resists plan to extend court appeal time from week to month

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A draft law before Parliament would give defendants 30 days to object to criminal orders issued by the Minor Court, up from the current seven.

The government is urging MPs to reconsider.

The change would amend Article 277 of the 2002 Criminal Procedure law. Public prosecutors would have 30 days from the date the order is issued.

Other parties would have 30 days from the date they are notified.

If an objection is filed at the court registry, the criminal order is set aside and the case proceeds under the usual procedure, as though the order had not been issued.

In its written memorandum accompanying the bill, the government argues that the criminal order system is meant to be a summary route for minor cases, handled without a hearing unless an objection is submitted within the deadline.

It says seven days is sufficient because an objection does not need reasons or legal argument.

A simple request to contest the order and have the case heard is enough.

Price stability

Cabinet reviews market conditions to ensure availability of essential goods during Ramadan

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The Cabinet reviewed the availability of consumer goods in the market and the stability of their prices ahead of the Holy Month of Ramadan.

It commended the efforts of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and the commercial sector, recognising their role in maintaining price stability and ensuring a steady supply of consumer goods during the holy month.

The Deputy King, His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, yesterday chaired the weekly Cabinet meeting at Gudaibiya Palace.

The Cabinet commended the address delivered by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, during His Majesty's visit to the General Command of the Bahrain Defence Force (BDF), on the BDF's 58th anniversary.

It highlighted the importance of the bilateral defence agreement between the Kingdom of Bahrain and the French Republic, which was signed during



HRH the Deputy King chairs the weekly Cabinet meeting

the talks held between HM the King and His Excellency Emmanuel Macron, President of France, during His Majesty's official visit to France at the invitation of President Macron.

The Cabinet extended its congratulations to His Majesty the King on the anniversary of the National Action Charter, and congratulated Bahraini citizens on this national occasion.

The Cabinet then commended the outcomes of His Royal Highness's official visit to the State of Kuwait, during which

meetings were held with HH Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, the Amir of Kuwait; HH Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah, Crown Prince of Kuwait; and HH Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, Prime Minister of Kuwait.

It expressed its appreciation to Kuwait, its leadership, government, and people, for the hospitality and warm welcome extended to His Royal Highness and the accompanying delegation.

18 illegal workers detained, 93 other violators deported

● LMRA carries out 1,596 inspection campaigns and visits

● Legal measures taken over violations

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Eighteen violating and irregular workers were detained and 93 others deported following 1,596 inspection campaigns and field visits carried out by the Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) between February 1 and 7.

The inspection campaigns and visits also resulted in monitoring several violations related to the provisions of a number of regulating laws, especially the LMRA and the Residency Laws in the Kingdom of Bahrain, noting that legal measures were taken regarding the observed violations.

A total of 1,559 inspection visits were carried out on various shops in all governorates, in addition to 37 joint inspection campaigns, 15 campaigns in the Capital Governorate, 8 campaigns in the Muharraq Governorate, 7 campaigns in the Northern Governorate, and 7 campaigns in the Southern Governorate.

The government entities

that participated in the campaigns are the Ministry of Interior, represented by the Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs (NPRA), the Governorate's respective Police Directorate, and the General Directorate of Crime Detection and Forensic Science, and the General Directorate of Verdict Enforcement and Alternative Sentencing, as well as the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, the Social Insurance Organisation (SIO), and Bahrain Tourism and Exhibition Authority (BTEA).

Coordination

The LMRA affirmed the continuation of joint coordination with government agencies to intensify inspection campaigns in all governorates of the Kingdom, and to address any violations or practices that negatively affect the stability and competitiveness of the labour market or harm the economic and social security of the Kingdom.

It renewed its call on all members of society to support the efforts of government agencies in addressing illegal labour practices, by reporting violations via the electronic form on the authority's website www.lmra.gov.bh or by calling the authority's call centre on 17506055 or via the government's Suggestions and Complaints System (Tawasul).

Royal support



His Excellency Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Commander-in-Chief of Bahrain Defence Force (BDF), received His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Minister of the Prime Minister's Court. The Commander-in-Chief commended the efforts exerted by HH Shaikh Isa bin Salman through the responsibilities he undertakes in support of the Kingdom's course of modern development, under the leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, and with the support of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, and Prime Minister.

5,000 reusable cotton bags for greener Bahrain on Ramadan

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As shoppers enter bustling supermarkets across Manama this Ramadan, they will be greeted not just by groceries, but by a small yet powerful step toward sustainability - reusable cotton bags handed out as part of the new community initiative, "Impact for Good."

Launched by the Rotary Club of Manama, the programme aims to reduce single-use plastic and encourage eco-friendly habits among residents.

In collaboration with Al Jazira and LuLu, the bags will be distributed at supermarket entrances as part of a three-month campaign beginning at

“Impact for Good is designed as a platform for sustained community action.”

— ROBERT TIMMERS, PRESIDENT OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF MANAMA

the start of Ramadan.

This first Impact for Good activation aims to tackle the widespread overuse of plastic bags, a global environmental pollutant that remains difficult to recycle at scale.

In Bahrain, plastic bags are

commonly used for everyday shopping, yet many end up in landfills or as litter, contributing to long-term environmental damage and threatening marine ecosystems.

Reducing their use has become an increasingly important step toward sustainability.

To offer a practical alternative, the Rotary Club of Manama has designed and produced 5,000 reusable cotton grocery bags.

Durable, washable, and suited for daily use, the bags are intended to make sustainable choices easier and more accessible, helping individuals and families reduce reliance on single-use plastics and adopt more responsible habits.

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