

## Guard's finger broken in building entry row

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A man who tried to force his way into a building was jailed for a year after breaking a guard's finger and leaving him with a 4 per cent permanent disability.

The First High Criminal Court also ordered the 37-year-old Asian defendant to be deported after serving his sentence.

The case stems from an assault on 10 September 2025.

### Injuries

Prosecutors said the defendant attacked the victim, also Asian, and caused the injuries recorded in the forensic report.

The court heard that the assault led to a lasting injury, though there was no intent to cause a permanent disability.

The victim, 56, told investigators he had been working as a guard at his sponsor's building when the defendant arrived and tried to go inside to turn on a gas cylinder at his workplace. He said he stopped him from entering on his sponsor's orders.

He said the defendant then tried to push his way in and twisted the fingers of his left hand.

# Payment relief

MP calls for deferring loan repayments and government fees amid regional uncertainty

● Proposal aims to safeguard social, economic stability

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MP Hassan Ebrahim called for loan repayments, state fees and money owed to firms by government bodies to be deferred as Bahrain and the wider region go through what he described as an exceptional period.

He told MPs yesterday the pressure on households and firms called for urgent economic steps to help keep economic and social stability in place.

"The current stage requires greater cooperation between all sectors," he said, adding that such action would help protect stability on both the economic and social front.

### Interest

Among the steps he called for was a pause in citizens' loan instalments, with no extra interest added during this period.

He said this should cover personal loans, housing loans and other borrowing by citizens, and



"Banks should stand with citizens and give them the relief they need, starting with deferred instalments at no added cost."

— MP HASSAN EBRAHIM

would ease financial strain on Bahraini families.

Ebrahim said banks should play a bigger part in that effort, noting that the banking sector had been among the most profitable in Bahrain in recent times.

That, he said, placed a national and social duty on it in such conditions to stand with citizens and give them the relief they need, starting with deferred instalments at no added cost.

He also called for state fees charged to citizens to be postponed until this phase has passed, saying that would cut financial pressure and help families cope.

The MP went on to press for faster payment of outstanding sums owed to companies by government bodies.

He said that would improve cash flow for firms, help them carry on with their economic role, and support business con-

tinuity and jobs in the private sector.

### Support

The lawmaker also called for an economic and financial support package for the private sector, drawing a comparison with the package brought in during the coronavirus pandemic.

He said those measures had proved their worth in backing the economy and helping firms and institutions keep going.



The proposed pause in citizens' instalments, without additional interest, would cover personal loans, housing loans and other borrowing, easing the financial strain on Bahraini families.

## Praise for crisis coverage

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Bahraini journalists and media workers have been praised by the Bahrain Journalists Association (BJA) for their careful coverage during the regional unrest and the Iranian attacks against the Kingdom's security and stability.

In a statement, the association said the press in Bahrain had once again shown it was up to the task, carrying out its professional and national duty with care as events unfolded.

It said media staff had shown a clear grasp of the weight on them, passing on information with accuracy and credibility while dealing with fast-moving developments in a responsible national spirit.

That, the association said, helped deepen public awareness and strengthen trust in official sources of information.

The statement also praised the Bahrain Defence Force for its work in protecting the country and keeping it secure, and thanked the security services for their continued work to keep the public safe.

It also thanked the Ministry of Information and the National Communication Centre for providing accurate information.

# Parliament approves dangerous animals regulation law

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Parliament approved a draft law regulating the keeping and handling of dangerous animals, introducing strict controls and heavy penalties, including life imprisonment for attacks that result in death.

The legislation, attached to

Decree No. 15 of 2025, aims to regulate the possession, sale, import, export and breeding of dangerous animals in Bahrain while addressing growing concerns over public safety.

Under the draft law, individuals or companies will be prohibited from keeping or trading dangerous animals without a licence from the relevant au-

Anyone who uses a dangerous animal to attack another person and causes permanent disability could face a prison term of three to seven years.

thorities.

Licensed activity will be restricted to specific entities such as zoos, animal parks, circuses,

research centres and similar establishments authorised by the ministry responsible for livestock affairs.

Dangerous animals are defined as those capable of causing harm to people or other animals, including predatory species and so-called semi-dangerous animals that may become aggressive under certain conditions.

The specific species falling under this category will be determined by ministerial decision following Cabinet approval.

The law introduces severe penalties for using animals as a weapon.

Anyone who uses a dangerous animal to attack another person and causes permanent disability could face a prison term of three to seven years.

If the attack results in death, the penalty could rise to life imprisonment.

## Defendant denies robbing driver of car at knifepoint



Rehab Mohammad  
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The First High Criminal Court has begun hearing the case of a 26-year-old man accused of stealing a car by force after threatening the victim and stabbing him with a knife.

During the hearing, the defendant appeared in court and denied the charge of robbery by force, claiming that he had gone out with others and was arrested while sleeping in the back seat of the car.

He also admitted that he had

been intoxicated.

The court adjourned the case to March 17 to appoint a defense lawyer, while ordering the defendant to remain in custody.

According to the Public Prosecution, the incident dates back to October 2025, when the defendant allegedly stole a vehicle by force after brandishing a knife and stabbing the victim in the shoulder, forcing him to get out of the car. The suspect then fled with the vehicle. He was also found in a clear state of intoxication in a public place.



### Home at last

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has stepped up efforts to ensure the safe and smooth return of Bahraini citizens abroad through land border crossings, in light of ongoing regional developments. The ministry reaffirmed its commitment to safeguarding the welfare and security of citizens at all times. These measures are being implemented in close coordination with relevant authorities within the Kingdom and their counterparts across Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, as well as through direct engagement with Bahraini embassies abroad. The Kingdom's missions are actively monitoring the situation of Bahraini residents in the region, providing guidance and support to facilitate their passage through land ports and ensure a safe return home.