

Royal Support Boosts Legislative Success

Rehab Mohammad
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Shura Council Chairman Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh said the fourth session of the sixth legislative term strengthened Bahrain's parliamentary and development process through intensified legislative work and cooperation with state institutions.

Speaking during Sunday's closing session, Al Saleh thanked His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa for continued

support to the legislative authority, saying it enabled the Shura Council to carry out its constitutional responsibilities effectively.

Bahrain's security and stability remain protected through the dedication of the armed forces and the unity of its people

H.E. ALI BIN SALEH AL SALEH

He also welcomed Royal Order No. 13 of 2026 extending the current legislative term, describing it as a reflection of the King's confidence in the legisla-

tive authority and a step that supports parliamentary stability and democratic progress.

H.E. Al Saleh condemned the recent Iranian attacks targeting

Bahrain's security and praised the Bahrain Defence Force, National Guard and Ministry of Interior for protecting the kingdom.

The chairman also highlighted the role of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister, in strengthening cooperation between the executive and legislative branches, noting that the session saw the approval of several key laws and initiatives supporting Bahrain's development goals.

\$200m Bahrain Gas Plan Approved



Dr Mohammed bin Daina, Minister of Oil and Environment

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A \$200 million oil and gas investment project in Bahrain's Field moved forward on Sunday after the Shura Council unanimously approved a decree-law ratifying a concession agreement for the Jubah and Pre-Tawil reservoirs.

The agreement, signed in August 2025 between Bahrain's government, Bapco Energies and EOG Resources Bahrain Awali, aims to boost gas production, attract advanced technology and expand private-sector participation in the energy sector.

Oil and Environment Minister Dr Mohammed bin Daina said around \$100 million had already been spent on drilling operations, with three of four gas wells completed and delivering "promising" results.

A further \$100 million is expected to fund the next phase of drilling.

He added that Bahraini workers were receiving specialised training, including programmes in the United States on modern gas extraction technologies.

The agreement also includes provisions for technology transfer, support for local suppliers, priority hiring for Bahrainis and the establishment of a social contribution fund for community projects.

Shura Approves Nationality Cases Court Bar

Mohammed Darwish
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Dalal Al Zayed, Head of the Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee



Dr Ebtessam Al Dallal, Shura Council member

Shura Council unanimously approved a decree-law on Sunday, by roll-call vote, removing nationality-related matters from court jurisdiction and classifying them as acts of sovereignty.

The amendment to the Judicial Authority Law states that decisions linked to nationality—including granting, revoking and with-

drawing citizenship—fall under the executive branch and cannot be challenged before the courts.

Shura's Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee said the move aimed to protect national security and public order, adding that nationality matters are closely tied to state sovereignty.

Committee chairwoman Dalal Al Zayed said the decree-law was introduced to prevent courts from hearing lawsuits

and appeals related to nationality decisions.

Member Dr Ebtessam Al Dallal said the amendment reflected the state's commitment to safeguarding Bahrain's sovereignty and security. The decree-law, issued in August 2024 during the parliamentary recess, also repeals a provision in the Bahraini Nationality Law requiring the Interior Ministry to be included in nationality lawsuits.

Commends Journalistic Contribution



Shura Council Chairman Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh honored Bahraini journalists during a ceremony marking Bahraini Press Day and World Press Freedom Day. He praised the local media for its key role in covering parliamentary work, explaining lawmaking processes to the public, and supporting Bahrain's democratic development under the leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

New Rules Target Charity Transparency



Osama Al Alawi, Minister of Social Development

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Bahrain's Shura Council approved amendments to the country's public fundraising law on Sunday, introducing tighter oversight and new transparency measures for charities and donation campaigns.

Under Decree-Law No. 39 of 2025, licensed fundraisers must disclose donation sources, spending details and submit documented financial reports to authorities.

Social Development Minister Osama Al Alawi said donation permits requested through electronic communication would now be issued within seven working days, while the review period for financial reports was extended from 15 to 30 days.

The amendments also introduce administrative fines for

certain violations and allow authorities to monitor fundraising activities based on risk levels.

Officials said the changes aim to strengthen oversight, prevent misuse of donations and ensure funds reach intended beneficiaries, while maintaining support for charitable and humanitarian work in Bahrain.

- Financial Reports: Review period extended from 15 to 30 days
- New Requirement: Fundraisers must disclose donation sources and spending details
- Oversight Model: Risk-based monitoring of fundraising activities
- Penalties: Administrative fines added alongside criminal sanctions



Bahrain-Pakistan Deal Eases Prisoner Transfers

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Convicted prisoners from Bahrain and Pakistan will be able to serve the remainder of their jail terms in their home countries after the Shura Council unanimously approved a bilateral transfer agreement.

The council passed the draft law ratifying the agreement attached to Decree No. 19 of 2026, following recommendations from the Foreign Affairs, Defence and National Security Committee.

Committee rapporteur Bassam Al Binmohammed said the pact sets out the legal framework and procedures for transferring inmates while preserving the validity of court rulings under the laws of the country enforcing the sen-



Bassam Al Binmohammed, Rapporteur for the Foreign Affairs, Defence and National Security Committee

tence.

He added that the agreement aims to support rehabilitation and humanitarian considerations by allowing prisoners to remain closer to their families during their sentences.

Bahrain has already signed similar agreements with India and Russia.

Jail Terms Approved for Fake Medics

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The Shura Council on Sunday approved amendments introducing tougher penalties for unlicensed medical, dental and allied health practice in Bahrain.

Under the changes, offenders could face up to five years in prison and fines of up to BD5,000 for practising without a licence, obtaining licences fraudulently, falsely claiming medical titles, or misleading the public through advertisements.

Services Committee rapporteur Hala Ramzi said the amendments aim to protect patients and strengthen safeguards against unlawful health practices that could endanger lives.

The amendments also give courts flexibility to decide on the closure of premises or confiscation of equipment based on each case, instead of making such measures mandatory.