

MP Calls for 24-Hour Dental Emergency Clinics

TDT | Manama
Mohammed Darwish

A proposal by MP Jalal Kadhem to open 24-hour dental emergency clinics across Bahrain would give patients an affordable lifeline when pain strikes outside normal hours, he has argued, as the Government said the present system already meets that need.

Mr Kadhem called on the Health Ministry to provide round-the-clock dental emergency care at health centres in every governorate, citing packed daytime clinics, scarce appointments and the high cost of private treatment.

He said some dental cases cannot wait for a routine appointment and patients are often left with little choice but to turn to private clinics, where fees can weigh heavily on lower-income families.

A free 24-hour dental service, he said, would give those patients somewhere to turn and ease the strain caused by long waits for government appointments.

Mr Kadhem also said the plan could open jobs for unemployed Bahraini dentists and called for



“The proposal supports efforts to ensure round-the-clock access to primary healthcare services across all governorates.”

- JALAL KADHEM, MP

enough funding to hire local staff and run the service across the governorates.

He cited Bahrain’s Constitution, which gives citizens the right to healthcare and requires the state to provide treatment and preventive care through hospitals and other health institutions.

The MP also pointed to his earlier call for higher health



spending during debate on the state budget.

He said the proposal was in keeping with moves to keep primary healthcare centres open around the clock in each governorate and extend evening hours at other centres.

The Government, however, said it had studied the proposal and found that the care sought by Mr Kadhem was already available.

Dental clinics at health centres across Bahrain work morning and evening shifts, including those at nine centres that stay

open 24 hours a day. Those centres also operate at weekends and on public holidays.

When dental clinics are closed, general practitioners at the 24-hour centres can deal with urgent dental cases, prescribe medicine and send patients needing specialist treatment to emergency departments at government hospitals, the Government said.

It added that doctors working at those centres were qualified to treat dental emergencies and decide which cases required hospital care.

Shops cannot reserve public parking spaces

‘Customers only’ signs have no legal force unless the space is privately allocated or officially permitted



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Hasan Barakat

Being outside a shop does not give its owner legal rights over nearby public parking. Shop owners cannot reserve public parking spaces for their customers simply because the spaces are located outside their businesses, lawyer Abdulkareem Al Ahmed has said.

Cones, chains, barriers or signs placed on public roads, pavements or parking bays to prevent others from parking are not permitted unless the area is privately owned or officially allocated to the business under its site plan and licence, or the owner has obtained a permit from the competent authority.

Al Ahmed said the location of a parking space in front of a shop does not give the business any special claim over it. What matters is whether the space is public or privately designated.

Under the Traffic Law’s implementing regulations, public roads include roads and public areas open for general use,

“Unauthorised barriers blocking public parking can be removed at the violator’s expense.”

- LAWYER ABDULKAREEM AL AHMED

while pavements are primarily designated for pedestrians.

The law prohibits occupying roads or pavements in a way that obstructs traffic or pedestrian movement. Temporary occupation requires official permission, and authorities may remove unauthorised barriers at the violator’s expense.

Official traffic signs and road markings determine where parking and waiting are permitted. A homemade “customers only” sign therefore does not create a legal right to reserve a public parking bay.

Businesses also have a responsibility to provide sufficient parking for their own vehicles and visitors, where required by law. However, this does not give them the right to take over public parking spaces outside their premises.

FROM THE COURT | TDT | Manama Rehab Mohammad

Man jailed for burning woman’s car over BD800 debt

Court appoints lawyer as defendant challenges three-year sentence

The High Criminal Court appointed a lawyer to represent a man challenging a three-year prison sentence issued against him in absentia for burning a woman’s car.

The Public Prosecution accused the man of intentionally setting fire to the vehicle in circumstances that could endanger lives and property.

The woman told investigators she met the defendant

through Instagram and later received several payments from him totalling BD800 after seeking financial help. She said he demanded repayment after learning she was getting married and later threatened her over the debt.

Her car was subsequently set on fire, and she told police that CCTV footage identified the defendant as the person responsible.

The defendant denied set-

ting the car on fire, saying he had lent the woman BD800 over several months and had only asked her to repay the money. He claimed he was in the area with friends when the incident occurred but committed no offence.

The court set August 16 to bring the defendant from custody and appoint a lawyer to represent him in his appeal against the in-absentia judgment.

Egyptian manager jailed over Pregabalin

40-year-old sentenced to five years and permanent deportation

The High Criminal Court sentenced a 40-year-old Egyptian customer services manager to five years in prison and fined him BD3,000 for possessing Pregabalin with intent to sell.

The court also ordered the seizure of the confiscated items and the defendant’s permanent deportation from Bahrain.

The case dates to February 10,

2026, when customs officers at Bahrain International Airport found 193 Pregabalin tablets hidden among dietary supplements in the defendant’s luggage.

A further 162 tablets were discovered inside another supplement container in his trouser pocket.

According to investigators, the defendant said he brought the

tablets from Egypt for a friend in return for BD250. Further investigations found that he had purchased the medication abroad at a lower price and intended to sell it in Bahrain at a higher price.

Laboratory tests confirmed that the seized tablets contained Pregabalin, a psychotropic substance.

Three Asians jailed over 700kg wire theft

Security guard assaulted and locked inside room during warehouse robbery

The High Criminal Court has sentenced three Asian men to five years in prison and ordered their deportation after convicting them of taking part in a robbery involving 700kg of electrical wires.

The men, aged 36, 36 and 24, were convicted of assaulting and restraining a company security guard before stealing property from a warehouse in Ras Zuwayed.

The 37-year-old guard told investigators that two masked

men attacked him inside the security room before four others joined them. The group tied him to a chair, took the main gate key and entered the company’s warehouse.

They broke the warehouse lock and removed electrical wires before leaving the guard locked inside the security room. He remained trapped from around 2am until 7am, when a company employee found him.

Police later received information that several Asian men

were attempting to sell a large quantity of electrical wires at a scrap shop. Officers arrested three suspects when they returned to the location, while a fourth escaped.

The seized wires weighed around 700kg and were reportedly being sold for BD1,800 per kilogram. Police also found that the bus used by the suspects had been fitted with a different number plate in an apparent attempt to avoid detection.

Darker windows proposed to beat heat

Some GCC states already allow higher tinting levels, the proposal notes.



● The move aims to reduce heat and direct sunlight inside vehicles.

● Higher tinting could improve comfort for drivers and passengers.

● 50% window tint proposed for vehicles in Bahrain.



MP Hamad AlDoy

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Drivers in Bahrain could be allowed to tint their car windows up to 50 per cent under a proposal submitted by MP Hamad AlDoy.

The proposal calls for a study to increase the maximum permitted tinting level, aiming to reduce heat inside vehicles and improve comfort for drivers and passen-

gers.

Its explanatory memorandum states that Bahrain’s high temperatures make window tinting an important way to limit direct sunlight and reduce cabin heat.

The proposal notes that some GCC states already permit higher tinting levels while maintaining security and traffic requirements.



A proposal suggests that Bahrain consider allowing vehicle window tinting of up to 50 per cent to reduce cabin heat.

AlDoy said raising the limit to 50 per cent could improve driving conditions and reduce reliance on full-power air conditioning, while remaining within the security and traffic controls set by the competent authorities.

The proposal seeks to balance road users’ comfort with security and road safety requirements.