

Crackdown on businesses encroaching roads underway

● Previously five shops selling furniture were warned, and nine cafes were notified of the violation.

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Mohammed Zafran

The Southern Governorate is carrying out an intense campaign to crack down on violations related to road-side businesses.

It is learnt that the Inspection and Licensing Inspection Department has begun carrying out many inspection visits.

According to reports, the violating businesses have been using the space in front of their shops to either sell their products or to use it as a workspace after encroaching the road.

"The campaign aims to ensure the municipality's efforts to enforce the law and to limit practices that are contradictory to the law. Several complaints were received from citizens and



A municipality official pastes a violation notice on the shutter of a washing machine repair shop.



Many furniture shops as well committed the violation.

residents who expressed their displeasure at the actions of the owners of the shops.

"Several violations were noted and action has been taken against them," a representative from the municipality said.

Recently, 17 violations were uncovered on Al Hajiya Street in Riffa. "It is found that many businesses offering maintenance of washing machines, air-condi-

tioners, sale of iron and aluminium products and tyre retreading had encroached the road in the governorate. The items were confiscated and action was taken against them."

The municipality has informed the owners of these shops the need to respect the law and conduct commercial activity in accordance with the procedures in force in the Kingdom.



Several complaints were received from citizens and residents who expressed their displeasure at the actions of the owners of the shops.

MUNICIPALITY OFFICIAL

The businesses that do not comply with the warning will face further action, the representative added.

The municipality, as part of the campaign, has also been conducting awareness campaigns. Following complaints received from residents, authorities have recently conducted campaigns in Nuwaidrat area as well.

Previously five shops selling furniture were warned, and nine cafes were notified of the violation.

"The owners of the shops are asked to abide by the municipal laws and regulations and avoid encroaching the road with furniture, tables, chairs and any other kind items because this impedes the movement of traffic in these streets," the municipality stated.

Ex-minister jailed in dud cheque case

Defendant allegedly borrowed BD50,000 from plaintiff and never returned

● The plaintiff said he was informed by the bank that the cheque couldn't be cashed because there was no fund in the account.

● After he failed to reach out to the accused, the plaintiff lodged the complaint to the authorities and the case was referred to the First Low Criminal Court.

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An ex-Bahraini minister was sentenced to three years in prison for issuing dud cheques.

He was prosecuted after a Bahraini citizen lodged a complaint against the former minister for handing over dud cheques for BD50,000 in guarantee after allegedly taking money from



I repeatedly attempted to reach out to the ex-minister to inform him about the incident, but in vain.

PLAINTIFF

him.

The plaintiff, who is a businessman, filed a complaint with the Financial Intelligence Directorate within the Interior Ministry, claiming he had lent the ex-minister BD50,000 and the cheque was received in guarantee.

The plaintiff said he was informed by the bank that the cheque couldn't be cashed because there was no fund in the account.

He told the prosecutors that he repeatedly attempted to reach out to the ex-minister to inform him about the incident, but the latter would avoid him.

After he failed to reach out

to the accused, the plaintiff lodged the complaint to the authorities and the case was referred to the First Low Criminal Court.

On the flip side, the accused denied the plaintiff's claims, stating that the bounced cheque was not issued by him and that he is not aware of it.

The plaintiff also told the prosecutors that his relations with the accused were good and that they had no disagreements before this incident took place.

The former minister's defence attorney claimed that his client didn't issue the cheque, but the fraud and counterfeiting expert at the General Directorate of Physical Evidence confirmed that the signature on the cheque belonged to the accused.

The Public Prosecution accused the defendant on May 1, 2018, of intentionally providing a dud cheque to the victim knowing that there are no funds in the account.

Political figure sentenced for insulting Sudan Prez

● The defendant was one of 21 men convicted in 2011 in connection with a plot to overthrow the government with help from abroad.

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A political figure, who was the former Secretary-General of the

dissolved opposition party, Wa'ad, was sentenced to six months behind bars for defaming Sudan President Omar Al Bashir.

The defendant is said to have published insulting tweets against Al Bashir in the wake of the protests which broke out in the country.

The defendant was earlier sentenced to one year behind bars after he was tried in connection with a speech he gave in July 2015 during an event,

where he encouraged the public to overthrow the government.

He was only released from jail in June, 2015, after serving four years of a five-year prison sentence.

The defendant was one of 21 men convicted in 2011 in connection with a plot to overthrow the government with help from abroad.

Some were jailed for life, but the defendant was only jailed for five years.

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