

No By-elections for Empty Parliament Seats

TDT | Manama
Mohammed Darwish

No by-elections are planned for vacant parliamentary seats for now, Speaker Ahmed bin Salman Al Musallam said on Wednesday, adding that the empty constituencies would be dealt with under a special arrangement to be announced later.

Speaking at Parliament's press conference, Mr Al Musallam said the royal order extending the sitting had been issued in view of the current circumstances, which did not allow elections to be held during this period.

He said the loss of some seats did not mean by-elections must follow, as Parliament's internal rules allow such cases to be handled through the legal and organisational channels in force.

The Speaker also said in reply to a question from The Daily Tribune bills put forward individually by MPs whose membership had been revoked were no longer before Parliament



and had been withdrawn under the usual steps.

Measures brought jointly with other MPs, however, remain alive.

Mr Al Musallam said Parliament would carry on with its law-making and organisational work in line with the constitution and its internal rules.

He added that vacant constituencies would have their own arrangement, to be made public later. The constitution, he said,

states that an MP represents the people as a whole, rather than only the constituency that elected them.

For some organisational or service matters, he added, Parliament might turn to the MP nearest to the vacant constituency, either by geography or by administrative link.

Legal adviser Saleh Al Ghatheeth also said an MP represents all areas of Bahrain, not only one area.

MP Seeks Jail for Bank Data Theft

A proposal submitted to Bahrain's Parliament seeks tougher penalties, including jail terms, for anyone who unlawfully obtains, holds, or shares bank card or electronic payment data.

The draft law, introduced by MP Dr. Ali Al Nuaimi, would amend the Information Technology Crimes Law to criminalise access to credit card numbers, bank account details, and other digital payment information through electronic systems.

Under the proposal, offenders could face at least six months in prison if intent to misuse the data is proven, and a minimum of one year if financial theft occurs. The same penalty would apply to those who publish or redistribute such sensitive information.

The bill, currently under review by the Foreign Affairs, Defence and National Security Committee, aims to strengthen legal protections as financial transactions increasingly move online.



Dr Ali Al Nuaimi, MP

Dr. Al Nuaimi said the legislation is necessary due to the growing use of digital payment tools and rising cyber-related crimes, warning that such offences undermine both individuals and public trust in the banking system.

Coast Guard Captain Jailed in Fatal Collision

Fines and prison terms issued after detailed forensic investigation

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Rehab Mohammad

The High Criminal Court (First Circuit) sentenced the captain of a Coast Guard vessel and two others in a maritime collision case that led to the death of a young man, whose body was later recovered in Qatar.

The incident occurred when the Coast Guard attempted to stop a fishing boat for inspection, resulting in a collision between the two vessels. This caused the victim to fall into the sea while another boat fled the scene.

Investigations found that the Coast Guard captain operated

the vessel recklessly and at high speed without following safety procedures. The two others on the fishing boat fled despite the incident and violated maritime regulations, including using unlicensed equipment and failing to comply with navigation requirements. The boat owner was also charged with failing to provide essential safety equipment.

The court sentenced the Coast Guard captain to five years in prison and fined him BD500. The two others each received three years and three months

in prison, along with fines of BD1,000 for their roles in the incident that resulted in the fatality.



Screenshot from a video released by the Ministry of Interior showing a rescue operation carried out on October 22, 2025

Tradition Drives Gold Demand in Bahrain

Lighter pieces gain traction as consumer habits shift

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Ghadeer Alkumaish

Bahraini gold continues to retain its cultural and commercial appeal despite rising prices and changing consumer behaviour, gold traders and workers told The Daily Tribune during a field visit to Delmon Gate Souq in Saar.

Sellers said the metal remains deeply rooted in local and Gulf traditions, serving not only as jewellery but also as a form of investment and a symbol of identity that has endured across generations.

At Al-Esra Jewellery, gold seller Jawad Al Shajar said Bahraini gold stands out for its craftsmanship and purity standards, noting that the "875" hallmark on 21-karat gold remains a key reassurance for buyers.

He said traditional designs continue to attract strong demand, particularly during Ramadan, when gemstone-studded pieces become more popular.

Al Jishi Jewellery, gold seller Ahmed Ali Isa said rising global gold prices have reshaped purchasing patterns, with customers increasingly opting for lighter pieces compared to previous years when heavier designs were more common.

He said uncertainty in global markets has also contributed to periodic increases in demand for gold bars, particularly during major exhibitions and shopping seasons.

Sadaf Jewellery, gold seller Ahmed Makki Al Awami pointed to the strong cultural identity embedded in Bahraini craftsmanship, saying Gulf customers often travel specifically to Bahrain for its quality and detailing.



“The 875 hallmark on 21-karat gold gives buyers confidence in purity and quality.”
JAWAD AL SHAJAR, AL-ESRA JEWELRY



“Gold is both an ornament and a safeguarded treasure.”
AHMED ALI ISA, AL JISHI JEWELRY



“Rising prices have changed buying habits, with customers now preferring lighter pieces.”
AHMED MAKKI AL AWAMI, SADAF JEWELRY

He highlighted continued demand for traditional pieces such as “Kursi Jaber,” “Marta’asha,” “Sabah Al Khair,” and “Habbat Al Hail,” particularly during weddings and major celebrations.

Workers across the souq said Bahraini gold continues to evolve with modern styles, but traditional designs still carry stronger emotional and cultural value for many buyers.

Despite higher prices and

shifting buying habits, sellers said Bahraini gold continues to hold its identity as a blend of beauty, heritage, and investment value — a tradition that remains firmly rooted in the region's culture.

Customs Seize Capsules



Bahraini customs authorities foiled an attempt to smuggle suspected narcotics through Bahrain International Airport, the Interior Ministry said.

The ministry said officers from the Air Ports Customs Directorate became suspicious of two female travellers and referred them for body-scanning procedures.

Authorities later discovered 168 capsules containing a substance suspected to be narcotics concealed inside their bodies, including 100 capsules found with the first traveller and 68 with the second.

The seized items were handed over to the Anti-Narcotics Directorate, which has launched legal procedures and further investigations into the case.

Rainwater risks forum planned

TDT | Manama
Hasan Barakat

The Northern Municipal Council will host a public forum today to discuss environmental and health risks linked to rainwater pooling.

The “Hayyakum” programme will bring together specialists from the Northern Municipality, Supreme Council for Environment, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Works to review rainwater management procedures and safety measures. Discussions will cover envi-



ronmental and municipal requirements, legal frameworks and practical field measures aimed at reducing public health and environmental risks caused by rainwater accumulation.