

Shura Panel Backs Economy

Financial Committee praises recent economic directives under national leadership

Rehab Mohammad
TDT | Manama

The Financial and Economic Affairs Committee of the Shura Council, chaired by Khalid Hussain Al-Maskati, has commended the recent economic directives issued under the leadership of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister. The committee said Bahrain continues to demonstrate a strong model of strategic governance that supports sustainable growth and strengthens economic resilience.

The committee noted that, under the leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa



and the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Bahrain has adopted a proactive and forward-looking approach to economic management, focused on preparedness, stability, and effective response to challenges.

It welcomed the Cabinet's decision to begin legal and constitutional procedures for a draft law requiring the payment of April

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Bahrain's continued economic strength reflects a clear vision of proactive governance

H.E. KHALID HUSSAIN AL-MASKATI

salaries for Bahraini employees in private sector firms through the Unemployment Insurance Fund. The committee said the move supports private sector stability while protecting national employment and sustaining economic activity.

The committee also praised the Central Bank of Bahrain's announcement of a BD 7 billion liquidity support package, which

includes a loan deferral scheme.

It described the measures as a comprehensive response aimed at strengthening financial stability and supporting the national economy.

It further highlighted the decision allowing individuals and businesses to defer loan and credit card payments, including installments and interest, for three months. The committee said this would help ease financial pressure, especially in light of the domestic loan portfolio estimated at BD 11.3 billion.

It also noted that flexibility granted to financial institutions in loan classification would support risk management while maintaining stability.

Parliament flags alleged pressure on fraud complainants



MP Hamad Al Doy

Hasan Barakat
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Parliament raised concerns after allegations emerged that complainants in a fraud case were pressured to withdraw their statements following the suspect's arrest.

MP Hamad Al Doy said that individuals involved in an electronics instalment fraud case were allegedly contacted after the arrest, with claims that a lawyer representing the suspect urged them to drop their complaints.

Al Doy described the situation as unacceptable, particularly because it involves victims who had already come forward after suf-

fering significant financial losses.

He stressed that the legal profession must remain grounded in ethics and integrity, noting that lawyers are expected to uphold justice rather than influence or intimidate complainants.

According to him, many of the affected families continue to face serious consequences from the case, including mounting debts, loss of income, and in some instances, the risk of losing their homes.

The MP also called on all affected individuals to report any similar incidents, emphasising their cooperation is important for preventing further harm and ensuring accountability.

Parliament approves legal profession law after 45 years



From left to right: Nawaf Al Maawda, Minister of Justice, Hassan BuKhammas, MP, Salah Al Madfa'a, Chairman of the Bahrain Bar Society, Ali Saqer Al Doseri, MP, and MP Mahmood Fardan during parliamentary debate and Bahrain Bar Society reaction session.

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Parliament approved a new law regulating the legal profession, replacing legislation in place since 1980, as a major step toward modernising the sector.

The approval came during the 26th ordinary session following a detailed review by the Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee, which held multiple meetings and consultations with the Ministry of Justice and

The new law establishes a tiered lawyer registration system according to court levels, designed to raise professional standards and ensure that only qualified lawyers can appear before higher courts.

the Bahrain Bar Society.

Lawmakers said the updated framework reflects developments in the legal field, expanding lawyers' roles beyond court representation to include legal advisory and dispute prevention

services.

The new law introduces a tiered system for lawyer registration based on court levels, aimed at improving standards and ensuring only qualified practitioners appear before

higher courts.

MPs also discussed provisions related to non-Bahraini lawyers, with officials clarifying that their participation would remain limited and subject to strict conditions and approval.

The law is expected to strengthen regulation of the profession, improve service quality, and support Bahrain's broader efforts to develop its legal sector and position itself as a regional hub for legal and arbitration services.

MPs approve new support measures for unemployment

Hasan Barakat
TDT | Manama

Parliament approved urgent measures to support job seekers who lost unemployment benefits due to technical issues in the Ministry of Labour system.

Lawmakers said the disruptions led to interruptions in application processing and, in some cases, the suspension of benefits for individuals who were still actively seeking employment.

MP Hanan Fardan said many affected applicants met eligibility requirements and continued attending interviews and fulfilling obligations, but were impacted by system errors or administrative delays beyond their control.

MPs also raised concerns about reliance on older rejection

decisions to determine current eligibility, calling for a more updated and flexible approach in assessing cases.

During discussions, members highlighted that some job seekers face additional challenges such as illness, pregnancy, and family responsibilities, which are not always fully accounted for in existing procedures.

The approved proposal includes restoring support to affected individuals, reviewing suspended cases linked to technical issues, and strengthening safeguards to prevent similar disruptions in the future.

Lawmakers said the decision aims to ensure continued assistance for those dependent on unemployment support, particularly during unforeseen system failures.

Fishermen, drivers to receive financial aid

Hasan Barakat
TDT | Manama

Fishermen, taxi drivers and other affected private sector workers will receive wage support for April after Parliament approved an urgent proposal during its twenty-sixth ordinary session.

The decision extends support from the unemployment fund to cover groups whose income has been directly impacted, including professional fishermen, driving instructors, taxi drivers and bus operators.

MP Mohammed Al Alaiwi said the measure reflects national solidar-

ity during a challenging period, noting that many workers have seen their daily income disrupted.

He highlighted the wider national response, pointing to leadership engagement with citizens and directives to provide financial support to those affected.

The MP expressed hope that assistance would reach all impacted individuals, helping them manage the immediate financial pressure.

The approved proposal aims to provide direct relief to workers who rely on daily earnings, ensuring continued support during the current period.



Wage support serves as a lifeline for fishermen

Sharia graduates for court representation

Hasan Barakat
TDT | Manama

MP Mohammed Mousa called for allowing Sharia graduates to represent clients in Bahrain's Sharia courts, saying the move could expand employment opportunities and better reflect the judicial system's nature.

Mousa said Sharia court judges are typically trained in Islamic jurisprudence, suggesting that aligning court representation with similar academic backgrounds could support legal proceedings.

He pointed to Saudi Arabia as an example, where Sharia graduates are permitted to plead before Sharia courts.