

110 warnings issued to education institutes for flouting rules

Education Ministry plans strict steps including cancellation of licences if violations are not rectified

● Among other developments, the ministry has begun stepping up efforts to ensure the safety of students at public schools.

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Mohammed Zafran

The Ministry of Education has issued 110 warnings to private schools and educational institutions after discovering violations while

carrying out inspection visits, sources said.

Unsafe electrical connections, employees residing on school campus and changing buildings without permission were among the violations found at the educational institutes, the sources added.

“One hundred and ten warnings were sent out to private schools and institutions in the country after the authorities made nearly 850 follow-up visits.

“Out of the inspection visits, 811 were made to private schools while 41 visits targeted educational institutions under the Ministry of Education itself.

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Strict action will be taken against those who commit violations. They could even lose their licences.

MINISTRY OFFICIALS

The visits were made during the period from January 2018 to February 2019.

According to the Ministry of Education officials, a number of violations were noted and the concerned schools and institu-

tions were warned.

The ministry is taking every required measure to end all violations across all educational institutions of the Kingdom, they said.

“The inspection teams could spot many violations including unsafe electrical connections, employees residing on school campus as well as some schools changing buildings without permission.

“The violations noted also included lack of proper emergency exits, poor storage facilities, and the construction of facilities without proper permits,” a ministry representative said.

“The Ministry of Education will continuously implement measures to ensure high performance of private educational institutions in the Kingdom.

“Strict action will be taken against those who commit violations. They could even lose their licences,” the ministry officials said.

Among other developments, the ministry has begun stepping up efforts to ensure the safety of students at public schools.

It recently warned that firm action will be taken against anyone who attempts to harm the safety of students at schools

811
inspection visits were carried out by the Education Ministry teams to private schools.

across the country.

Two students were reportedly suspended from a public school in Hamad Town after it emerged that they sold drugs to their classmates.

Quack jailed for six months

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An Asian man who illegally ran a clinic at a residential apartment in the Capital Governorate, has been sentenced to six months in jail along with a fine of BD1,000 by the Eighth Minor Criminal Court yesterday.

Ministries and Public Bodies Prosecution Chief Prosecutor Adnan Al Weda'ee announced this yesterday, adding that the court also ordered to close the apartment that was used as a clinic and to confiscate all the medicines and equipment used by the defendant.

The man was caught red-handed in February this year while offering medical services at an apartment that was set up as a clinic, without obtaining the necessary permits and authorisation.

At the time of his arrest, eight individuals (patients) were at the illegal clinic, awaiting their turn to be treated by the defendant, according to the prosecutor.

The police force that raided the apartment and confiscated medical equipment and tools, and medicines from the apartment.

It was also proven that the



Many medicines, injection syringes and other medical equipment were confiscated from the illegal clinic.

defendant had issued prescriptions to patients.

On February 17, 2019, the Public Prosecution interrogated the man and ordered to detain him for seven days pending further investigations.

He was accused by the Prosecution of managing an unlicensed clinic, practising med-

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At the time of his arrest, eight patients were at the illegal clinic, awaiting their turn to be treated by the defendant.

MR AL WEDA'EE

icine without a licence, pretending to be doctor, importing drugs and medications without a licence, practising pharmaceutical activities without a licence and conducting a business without a licence.

The court found him guilty of all the above-mentioned charges.

Businessman acquitted in tax evasion case

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A businessman has been acquitted by the Second Minor Court of evading tax, more than three years after the Bahrain Customs accused him of not paying BD86.1 in customs fees.

This was confirmed by the defendant's lawyer Mohammed Bumtai'e, who explained that his client had imported 500,000 electric switches from China in 2014, and the invoices proved that he paid USD83,888.8 to purchase the items and that he also paid the customs fees.

The lawyer said that more than three years later, precisely on December 21, 2017, Bahrain Customs found an invoice, during its auditing processes, showing that the defendant has paid more for the imported items than what was shown in the documents he provided by around BD5,000.

The Customs filed a complaint against the defendant to the Public Prosecution, which accused the latter of violating the Customs Law by providing false documents and bills with the intention of evading taxes (customs fees).

In the trial, the lawyer told the judges that the previously presented documents by his client only included the price of the imported goods, exclud-

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It is unreasonable for an honest businessman, who's known for importing goods worth thousands of dinars or dollars, to commit a criminal offence to evade paying a tax of only BD86.1.

MR BUMTAI'EE

ing the one per cent marine insurance fees and CNY20,000 as a return insurance for the logo template that is stamped on the manufacturer's products.

Mr Bumtai'e said the document the Customs has discovered includes the total amounts paid to the manufacturer.

The lawyer also said the complaint was filed three years after the incident took place, which drops the plaintiff's right to complain, in accordance with Article 1/18 of the Kingdom's Code of Criminal Procedure.

“It is unreasonable for an honest businessman, who's known for importing goods worth thousands of dinars or dollars, to commit a criminal offence to evade paying a tax of only BD86.1,” Mr Bumtai'e added.

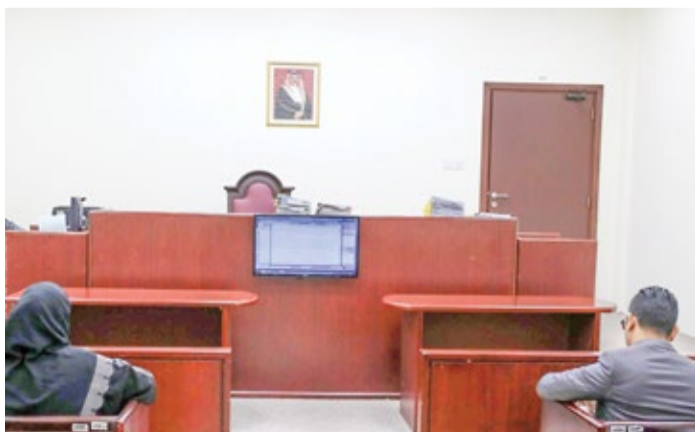
LCD screens installed at courts

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LCD screens have been installed at all court halls in the Kingdom in a bid to facilitate reviewing and documenting trial records, it was announced yesterday.

Supreme Judicial Council Secretary General Judge Ali Ahmed Al Kaabi confirmed in a statement that the screens have been fixed at all civil and criminal court rooms, adding that the recorded sessions could be reviewed directly.

Judge Al Kaabi explained that



An LCD screen installed at a courtroom.

the screens allow lawyers and the parties involved in the case to review everything in detail, including pleadings, arguments and verbal statements made at the session.

“This comes within the framework of supporting the technical structure for electronic transformation, which enhances the efficiency of performance, and contributes to the dedication of the principle of public hearings and guarantees of litigation,” Judge Al Kaabi added.

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