iGA, EWA integrate services app

MyGov App

TDT | Manama

The Information & eGov-**⊥** ernment Authority (iGA) and the Electricity and Water Authority (EWA) announced that the Electricity & Water Services App will be officially discontinued starting from tomorrow, following the successful integration and transfer of all its services to the unified MyGov app.

This step supports the commitment towards the government's mobile apps merger plan, which aims at integrating existing government apps into three main platforms: MyGov app for individuals, Al Tajir app for businesses and investors, and Bahrain app for visitors.

The electricity and water eServices now available on MyGov app include bill and connection fee payments, inquiries and payments for current and past bills, viewing of previous payments, consumption summaries, average consumption calculations and comparisons, and access to EWA service center locations.

MPs back medicine price cap proposal

Mohammed Darwish TDT | Manama

arliament yesterday approved a proposal to fix medicine prices, backing the Services Committee's recommendation even as the regulator said pricing is already set in law and pharmacy owners pointed to falls of up to 70 per cent since 2014.

The measure seeks firmer control so patients pay broadly in line with prices in other Gulf states, with import costs taken into account.

Bader Al Tamimi said many Image used for illustrative purposes only citizens and residents struggle conditions.

century," he said. "Prices for the lower."



with rising and uneven prices, same item can differ between especially those with chronic pharmacies, even paracetamol. Many patients cannot find their "We have gone 25 years with- medicines at health centres, so out revising medicine prices. they buy from private pharmaunchanged for a quarter of a Arabia because prices there are

margin comparisons.

"In Bahrain, medicine profit margins run between 25 and 30 per cent. In the UAE they are Is it reasonable that prices stay cies, and many cross to Saudi 20 to 28 per cent, in Oman 19 to 24 per cent, and in Jordan band and rely on unified GCC 19 per cent. Is it reasonable for lists or official import invoices. consider the proposal.

"Many citizens and residents struggle with rising and uneven prices, especially those with chronic conditions."

- MP BADER AL TAMIMI

a small market like Bahrain to have higher margins than these countries," he said.

latory Authority (NHRA) says same shelf price across outlets, the plan is difficult to apply be- taking into account whether a MP Al Tamimi also set out cause Bahrain already prices product is originator or generic medicines under Article 86 of and when it was registered. Decree-Law No. 18 of 1997 and Decision No. 32 of 2020.

port cost, set ceilings by price hammed Al Rafai.



The authority says it sets prices through a published guide, inspects public and private The National Health Regu- pharmacies and requires the

The proposal was put forward by MPs Al Tamimi, Hamad Al Those rules link profit to im- Doy, Najeeb Al Kuwari and Mo-

The government will now

MPs demand 'urgent' infrastructure fix for Muharraq's Block 254



Al Shoroug area in Muharrag

Mohammed Darwish TDT | Manama

Years without sewerage or Al Shorouq's Block 254.

Streetlights have pushed The request was subinfrastructure upgrades in Muharraq's Block 254.

urgent proposal asking the gov- bodies to start comprehensive entrance that can slow emer-

vant authorities to begin a full MPs cited the near absence overhaul of sewerage, street of basic services and years lighting and internal roads in of delay, which have left res-

Parliament to demand urgent by Khalid Buanaq with the sup- a sewer network. port of four other MPs.

MPs yesterday approved an tres on directing the competent lighting after dark and a single ernment to instruct the rele- works in the neighbourhood.

idents relying on temporary, The request was submitted unhealthy stopgaps in place of

They also pointed to safe-Buanaq said the proposal centry issues on the roads, weak gency access.

Parliament backs 10-year utility bill instalments

Mohammed Darwish TDT | Manama

Ten-year instalments for 1 overdue utility bills won urgent parliamentary backing yesterday, in a recommendation urging the ministry to lift the current four-year cap.

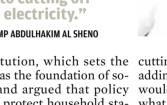
The non-binding move was proposed by MP Abdulhakim Al Sheno with four colleagues, asks the Ministry of Electricity and Water to offer longer Constitution, which sets the cutting off electricity," he said, where settlements are in place. should protect household sta- what they owe over time.

"Electricity and water bills bility and avoid extra costs. can pile up to the point that

Foundation

"The ministry should put forward more solutions that serve citizens and avoid resorting to cutting off

- MP ABDULHAKIM AL SHENO



He also urged practical steps families have no choice but to that trim bills, including easier pay by instalments; in many rooftop solar installation and ply to keep services running noting that summer charges ofwithout interruption," Al Sheno ten jump compared with other the full amount is cleared. months.

He cited Article 5(a) of the citizens and avoid resorting to recommendation into effect.



repayment plans to citizens' family as the foundation of so- adding that a 10-year schedule homes and to keep power on ciety, and argued that policy would help households settle

Approach

Under the approach outlined, arrears would be repaid on an cases an heir pays the bill sim- steady advice on peak hours, agreed timetable between the ministry and the customer until

> It is now for the government "The ministry should put for- and the ministry to decide ward more solutions that serve whether and how to carry the

Celebrating resilient voices of Filipino educators



The Philippine Teachers **Association Bahrain** (PTAB) hosted its 7th Educators' Convention and Awards Night at the Ramada Hotel, Seef bringing together 90 Filipino educators, school leaders, and distinguished guests from various educational institutions. The event was held to mark the global celebration of World Teachers' Day.