

Service delays

MPs push action on unpaid fees in housing apartment blocks

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Parliament voted yesterday to back changes to the rules governing residents' associations in Ministry of Housing apartment blocks.

The move follows complaints that some residents have failed to pay maintenance fees, leading to delays and shortcomings in shared services.

The motion was submitted by MPs Hassan Ebrahim, Bader Al Tamimi, Hamad Al Doy, Abdulwahid Qarata and Maryam Al Sayegh.

Rules

It calls for clearer rules and workable steps for beneficiaries' associations that manage and maintain shared parts of housing buildings, with fee arrears raised as a key source of disputes and deterioration.

During the debate, Ebrahim argued that the current frame-



Some residents have failed to pay maintenance fees, leading to delays and shortcomings in shared services.

work relies on a ministerial decision that lacks bite, saying it is "organised on paper" but without the force needed to make non-payers meet their obligations.

He gave a practical example of how the gap plays out in daily life, describing a resident on an upper floor who pays on time but still suffers when basic ser-

vices stop.

Treatment

"Why is the person who pays treated unfairly?" he asked, pointing to older residents, patients and people with disabilities who may be left struggling when a lift breaks down and repairs stall.

The Ministry of Housing and



"The current framework is organised on paper but without the force needed to make non-payers meet their obligations."

- MP HASSAN EBRAHIM

Urban Planning told MPs it has been working over recent years on changes linked to the management of shared parts in vertical housing projects.

It said it has regulated the formation of associations, the selection of boards for each building, and guidance for boards through ministerial decisions issued from 2010 up to Decision No. 97 of 2014, later amended in 2016.

Review

It added that it has been working with Eskin Bank since the second half of 2023 to review the full set of rules and standards related to beneficiaries' associations.

The review includes testing the updated framework through newer vertical housing models, including a pilot linked to the Madinat Salman residential buildings project, ahead of issuing a revised regulatory decision.

Call to Bahrainise vehicle inspectors

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Parliament yesterday agreed to an urgent proposal urging the Bahrainisation of the vehicle technical inspector post.

MPs argued the role should be held by citizens because of its link to road safety and the right to work.

The proposal was put forward by MPs Bader Al Tameemi, Hassan Ebrahim, Mohammed Mousa, Dr Ali Al Nuaimi and Hamad Al Doy.

Request

Speaking during the sitting, Al Tameemi said the request rested on constitutional principles that support citizens' access to work, and on policies aimed at replacing expat labour with Bahraini staff in key sectors.

He said the vehicle inspector job is a "sensitive technical" role tied to the safety of lives and property.

The lawmaker added that, when the post was created under the General Directorate of Traffic, it was reserved for



MP Bader Al Tameemi

citizens and placed on a higher job grade.

Privatisation

Al Tameemi said privatisation later expanded the number of posts filled by non-nationals, which he said reduced job chances for Bahrainis in the field.

The proposal calls for restricting the inspector post to citizens, and for the relevant bodies and private firms to adopt a clear timetable for a gradual changeover, backed by approved training and qualification schemes to prepare Bahrainis to carry out the role to the required professional standards.

Recognition for academic, scientific contributions

American Mission Hospital announces Dr. Jameela Al-Salman's promotion to Professor from Arabian Gulf University

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American Mission Hospital announced that Her Excellency Dr. Jameela Al-Salman, Member of the Shura Council, Consultant in Internal Medicine, Infectious Diseases, and Geriatric Medicine, and Head of the Quality and Infection Control Department and Director of Internships at the hospital, has been awarded the academic rank of Professor by the Arabian Gulf University.

This recognition comes as a culmination of nearly two decades of distinguished academic and scientific contributions, including extensive involvement in university teaching across specialized programs and the publication of numerous re-



Dr. Jameela Al-Salman has extensive involvement in university teaching across specialized programs and the publication of research studies.

search studies in leading international peer-reviewed medical



H.E. Dr. Jameela Al-Salman

and scientific journals.

Pride

American Mission Hospital takes great pride in this prestigious achievement, which reflects the excellence of its medical leadership and reaffirms the hospital's commitment to supporting academic advancement, scientific research, and the highest standards of healthcare quality.

On this occasion, the hospital extends its sincere congratulations to Her Excellency Dr. Jameela Al-Salman, wishing her continued success in her academic and professional journey, in service of the healthcare sector and the academic community in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Southern Governorate honours key supporters of programmes, initiatives



Deputy Southern Governor Colonel Hamad Mohammed Abdullah Al Khayyat with the honorees

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The Southern Governorate hosted its annual ceremony to honour the key entities supporting its 2025 programmes and initiatives, with the support and guidance of His Highness Southern Governor Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa.

It was held in recognition of an outstanding year of collaborative success.

The event was attended by Deputy Southern Governor Colonel Hamad Mohammed Abdullah Al Khayyat, and senior representatives from government, civil society, banking, and private institutions, at the Police Officers' Club.

On this occasion, HH the Southern Governor stated that its purpose was to honour leading sponsors and contributors whose efforts were fundamen-

tal to a series of achievements in security, development, and social fields.

He praised the impactful initiatives that met diverse citizens' needs, underscoring that these successful models of cooperation highlighted the vitality of sustained partnership throughout the year.

The Governor further emphasised the governorate's commitment to exemplary public

service, culminating in its recent accreditation as a Healthy Governorate, representing a significant milestone in its ongoing developmental progress.

On behalf of the honourees, the Vice President of the Bahrain Diabetes Society extended gratitude to HH the Southern Governor for cultivating sustained community partnerships and commended the enhanced cooperation.

Grade 10 Merit Scholarship Test set for launch next year

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Amrita Edge, in collaboration with Zephyr Future Academy, has announced the launch of the Amrita Edge Grade 10 Merit Scholarship Test - 2026, marking the first time the initiative will be conducted for Class 10 students across Kerala and GCC countries.

The MCQ-based examination is scheduled for January 4, 2026, and aims to strengthen Class 10 board preparation while assessing students' conceptual understanding and readiness for higher studies.

The initiative is designed to familiarize students with MCQ-based evaluation, enhance analytical thinking, speed, and accuracy, and introduce them to preparation pathways for competitive examinations

such as NEET, JEE, CUET, Olympiads, and other national and international scholarship tests.

Awareness

It also seeks to raise awareness of merit-based academic opportunities available to students.

Open to students from Amrita Vidyalayams as well as other schools in Kerala and abroad, the examination serves as a platform to identify and nurture academically promising students within Amrita's value-based educational environment.

The scholarship test will also act as a selection gateway for Amrita Edge's upcoming residential integrated entrance coaching programmes for NEET, JEE, and Kerala Entrance examinations.