

Noise controls

Call to set fixed hours for noisy building work in residential areas

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

A formal decision to rein in noisy construction and maintenance work in residential areas has been sought by a Northern Municipal Council member.

The move follows complaints that building, demolition and digging activities are taking place late at night and on public holidays, disturbing residents.

Council member Abdulla Ashour asked for rules to fix the hours when works that cause loud noise can be carried out within the Northern Municipality's jurisdiction.

Recommendation

The council agreed to refer a recommendation to the Minister of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture, urging a ministerial decision on the issue.

Ashour said the lack of a clear legal rule has left some contractors and workers starting building, demolition and excavation at 'unsuitable times', including during public holidays and leave periods, and in late-night hours.



Image used for illustrative purposes only

He said constant exposure to noise can harm residents' comfort and has led to neighbour disputes in some areas.

Fines

He said there is no legal text that names the body responsible for setting work hours, tracking breaches and issuing fines against those behind nuisance linked to construction activity.

The Building Regulation Law, issued under Decree-Law No. 13 of 1977, does not contain an ex-



“Constant exposure to noise can harm residents' comfort and has led to neighbour disputes in some areas.”

- ABDULLA ASHOUR, COUNCIL MEMBER

PLICIT provision that deals with such limits, he added.

Ashour also pointed to an earlier step in the Shura Council, where the Services and Public Utilities Committee put forward a draft law to add a new Article 21 (repeated) to the Building Regulation Law.

Decision

Under that proposal, the minister, in coordination with municipal councils, would issue a decision that lists the days and times when building, demolition and excavation would be banned in residential areas, along with any exceptions.

He said the public interest calls for a decision that sets out the barred hours for certain works in housing areas, to shield residents from noise and to support their comfort, as building activity expands across the kingdom.

Ashour said the reasons behind the proposal include creating a quieter setting for people living in nearby homes, supporting safety away from sources of disturbance, and cutting neighbour disputes linked to noisy works during weekends and official holidays.

‘Make Gergaoon bag’ workshop



Learning and fun for children

Blending heritage and creativity

Hasan Barakat
TDT | Manama

Laughter, colour and the scent of fresh fabric ink filled the rooms of Al Riwaq Art Space as families gathered to design their own Gergaoon bags in a workshop that blended heritage with hands on creativity.

Led by renowned Bahraini artist Ali Hussain, the session transformed a simple tote bag into a canvas of memory, identity and Ramadan spirit.

Families gathered for a vibrant and hands-on artistic experience as artist Ali Hussain led an engaging workshop dedicated to designing and creating Gergaoon bags using printmaking techniques and Ramadan-inspired patterns.

Participants

The workshop invited participants of all ages to explore the art of printing and drawing while celebrating the cultural significance of Gergaoon.

Blending tradition with creativity, attendees experimented with various printmaking methods, learning how to transfer intricate Ramadan

motifs and decorative patterns onto fabric tote bags.

Under Ali Hussain's guidance, participants were introduced to foundational printmaking techniques, including pattern cutting, stamping, layering, and applying textile-safe ink.

The session encouraged creative expression while honoring the visual language of Ramadan, from geometric Islamic designs to crescent moons, lanterns, and traditional motifs associated with the festive season.

The event created a welcoming environment for families to bond through art, allowing children and adults alike to collaborate, experiment, and produce their own unique Gergaoon bags.

Creation

Each participant left with a personalized creation that reflected both cultural heritage and individual artistic flair.

By combining hands-on learning with the spirit of Ramadan, the workshop successfully fostered community engagement, cultural appreciation, and artistic exploration.

The initiative highlights the growing interest in interactive cultural programming that brings traditional celebrations to life through contemporary creative practices.

Council pushes for solar power to cut utility costs

Hasan Barakat
TDT | Manama

The Capital Municipal Council has voted unanimously to install solar panel systems on its buildings and facilities, signalling a practical shift towards cleaner energy and long-term savings.

Members said the proposal

was about responsibility, not symbolism.

With Bahrain enjoying high levels of sunlight throughout the year, councillors stressed that it makes sense for public institutions to benefit from this readily available natural resource.

Behind the technical language lies a simple idea: reduce reli-

ance on the national grid and lower annual operating costs.

Every dinar saved on electricity, members noted, can be redirected towards projects that residents see and feel in their neighbourhoods.

The council recommended conducting a detailed technical and economic feasibility study to identify suitable buildings

and ensure the project delivers measurable financial and environmental returns before implementation begins.

Councillors described the move as part of a broader responsibility to lead by example.

If public institutions adopt renewable energy solutions, they said, it sends a clear message to businesses and households alike.



State Bank of India, Retail Bank (Branch Office), Kingdom of Bahrain

State Bank of India, the largest commercial bank in India, with its presence across the globe is looking at recruitment for the following position for its Retail Bank (Branch Office) in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Assistant / Customer Service Executive (Compliance Department)

a. Eligibility

- **Age** : Minimum – 18 years; Maximum – 30 years. (However, age is not a bar for suitable candidates)
- **Qualification**: Minimum – Intermediate (XIIth std) / HSC. Bachelor's Degree/ Graduation/ relevant professional qualification in Compliance/AML CFT will be an added advantage.
- Excellent communication skills (both spoken & written) in English.
- Knowledge of Arabic will be an added advantage.
- Proficiency in Computers.

b. Experience: Minimum 1 year work experience in Anti-Money Laundering or Anti-Money Laundering related role is preferable.

c. Job Description:

- AML Analyst/ Compliance Assistant.

d. No. of vacancies : 1* (*Bank reserves the right to change the number of openings.)

Interested candidates may mail their application (format available at our website <https://bh.statebank/web/rbb/careers>) along with the details of present employer, current salary drawn and expected salary etc. on the below given address

The Chief Executive Officer, State Bank of India, Retail Branch, PO Box No. 10763, Building No. 701, Road No. 1708, Block No. 317, Diplomatic Area, Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain.

All applications have to be sent only in hard copy form. E-mails would not be accepted. Last date of application: 03 March 2026

KFBI-BH leads Year 3 Ramadan Iftaar distribution



Filipino volunteers take part in the outreach activity

TDT | Manama

The Kaisahan ng mga Filipino Balik Islam sa Bahrain (KFBI-BH) successfully conducted its Ramadan Iftaar Distribution Program – Year 3 at the Adliya Masjid, distributing approximately 800 iftaar packages to fasting individuals.

The initiative was organized in collaboration with the Philippine Nurses Association – Bahrain (PNAB) and supported by several community organizations.

Around 100 volunteers from nine groups participated in the meaningful outreach activity.

Each iftaar package contained water, dates, laban or juice, and ma'amoul biscuits, providing nourishment for those break-

ing their fast at sunset.

According to Julius Jude P. Mamaclay, President of KFBI-BH, the project was inspired by the organization's mission to strengthen ties within the Muslim community.

“One of the projects of KFBI-BH is to reach out to the Muslim community and develop strong camaraderie. In 2024, one of the officers from Bahrain Noble Eagles approached me about a possible collaboration for an Iftar distribution. During Ramadan 2024, we started this project,” Mamaclay shared.

“As I live next to the Adliya Masjid and am acquainted with the Imam, it was quite easy for me to seek permission for the proposed project,” he said.

Salmabad garage robbers jailed

Rehab Mohammad
TDT | Manama

The High Criminal Court of Appeal upheld the first-instance ruling sentencing two appellants – along with three others – to five years in prison in a robbery case that took place inside a garage in Salmabad.

The crime was reportedly motivated by the intention to seize money and narcotics.

According to the case details, the plan was formed at the home of the second defendant, where the fourth defendant suggested robbing an Asian man believed to be staying at a garage and allegedly in possession of drugs.

The idea was accepted by those present.

The first defendant was contacted, arrived at the house, and agreed to participate.

Late at night, the group headed to the location in a car driven by the first defendant.

He and the fifth defendant remained inside the vehicle.