

# Works on Shaikh Zayed Highway sewage network progressing fast: Works minister

● Shaikh Zayed Highway Development Project achieves 45pc completion

● Project funded by Abu Dhabi Fund for Development

TDT | Manama

The construction works of a Sewage transmission line linking Ramli housing project and the Buri and Aali regions are going on as planned, Works Minister said.

Essam Khalaf, the Minister of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning, said these works are part of the first stage development of \$6 million Shaikh Zayed Highway Development Project which began in August last year.

The sewage network project upon completion will give a qualitative upgrade to the sanitation services and ensure a healthy environment for the citizens in line with the Government work programme and Economic Vision 2030.

## 53,000

When completed, Shaikh Zayed Highway will have a capacity to accommodate 53,000 vehicles per day in two directions



The minister during a visit to the project site. Picture courtesy of ALAYam

The current first phase of the project planned in four stages includes the construction of a main 1.6km transmission line from Ramli Housing Project to Sheikh Isa bin Salman Street, and the construction of a sewage lifting station. It will have a depth of 13 meters and a pumping capacity of 950 litres/sec.

The Ministry has also constructed a sewage line from Ramli housing project to the existing sewage network in Salmabad, temporarily until the current project reaches completion.

The minister said this as he visited the project site accompanied by Assistant Undersecretary for Sanitation, Ibrahim Hassan Al-Hawaj, and the Director of the Sanitation Planning and Projects Department, Fathi Abdullah Al-Farea, several engineers, and the project con-

tractors.

### 45pc completion

Essam Khalaf said the Shaikh Zayed Highway Development Project, which also includes the sanitation project, has achieved a 45 per cent completion.

"It is one of the important strategic road network development projects in the Kingdom connecting the villages of Aali, Salmabad and Madinat Zayed towards Sheikh Khalifa bin Salman Street to Manama and vice versa," the minister said.

The project aims at providing easy access to the Isa Town, and ease traffic jams in front of the Bahrain National Stadium. The project will expand the Sheikh Zayed Road into three lanes in each direction from December 16 Highway to Shaikh Khalifa bin Salman Highway and from the western roundabout of A'ali to Shaikh Isa bin Salman Highway.

Four roundabouts along the Shaikh Zayed Highway will be converted into intersections with traffic lights with the

project also including lighting work, roadblocks, traffic signs, beautification and landscaping as well as rainwater drainage, the minister said.

### To reduce congestion

Upon completion, the highway will have a capacity to accommodate 53,000 vehicles per day in two directions and will help reduce traffic congestion in the A'ali and Salmabad areas.

It is worth noting that the project was awarded to the Western

Baynunah Group Company by the Tender Board, where work began in August 2019 and is expecting completion in mid-2021. The total value of the project is 23,400,000 BD (twenty-three million and four hundred thousand BD) and funded by a fund Abu Dhabi Development.

Yet another part of the mainline is also being completed. That project includes the extension of 1.8 km of pipelines, which costs 1,518,825 dinars. Work began last March will end in the first quarter of 2021.

Upon completion, Sheikh Zayed Highway's road capacity will increase from 4,000 vehicles per hour to 6,000 per hour, with corresponding daily numbers rising from 50,000 to 80,000.



# 2,386 municipal violations in eight months

Bahrain "mobile monitoring system" detects an 80pc jump in violations

TDT | Manama

The "mobile monitoring system" launched to detect municipal violations here has identified 2,386 violations during the period from January to September, a top works ministry official said.

The number translates to a staggering 80 per cent increase in violations from a year ago. In the same period of 2019, the online system detected 1,322 violations, said Sheikh Muhammad bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, the Undersecretary for Municipal Affairs at the Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning.

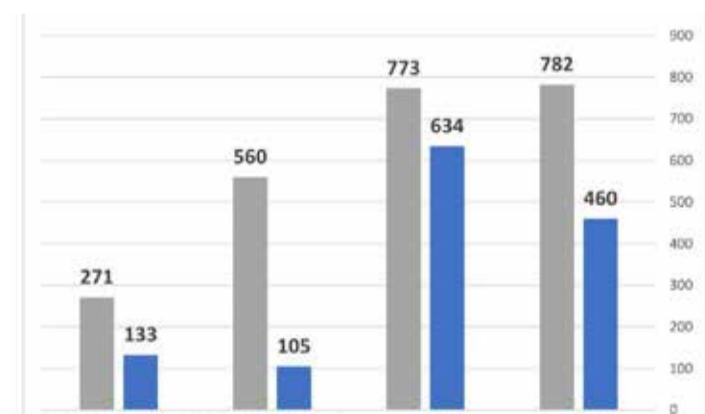
The system which works using a single electronic portal provides an integrated database about violations allows inspectors to access them through an electronic portal and smart devices.

The digital system monitors and keeps track of violations of municipal laws regarding building regulation acts, laws allowing reconstruction, public road works, advertising, public-hygiene and housing laws.



## 1,322

violations were detected by the system during the eight months in 2019



A graphical representation comparing the various types of violations recorded this year against the prior-year period in 2019

"Road works related violations emerged at the top spot in the eight-month evaluation period," said the official. Ramshackle real-estates, illegal constructions,

buildings without a permit, advertisements past their expiry dates were the others.

When it comes to Cleaning services Department, the Un-



Representative picture showing an abandoned car on a street

dersecretary said the majority of the violations were for "leaving or placing discarded vehicles on streets, sidewalks, public squares and beaches."

Inspectors also booked people for dumping wastes in places other than designated for them and washing vehicles or similar actions turning public-places into swamps.

Authorities, Sheikh Muhammad, said, also dealt with violations related to illegal street encroachments, illegal parking of vehicles with for sale or rent

stickers in public places, cleanliness of public-places during the periodic followup.

Since the launch of the mobile monitoring system under the patronage of Sheikh Khalid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, the Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the Ministerial Committee for Development Projects and Infrastructure, on January 19, 2020, the ministry has distributed 49 devices and provided the necessary training to employees on their usage.

The ministry has also created

a specialised team to evaluate the system and solve technical issues that may arise.

All of the municipalities in the Kingdom are currently using the mobile monitoring system to detect municipal violations.

"The new violation registration system constitutes a qualitative leap in rectifying violations by helping inspectors to retrieve all required information with ease at any time," said Sheikh Muhammad.



The mobile monitoring system which works using a single electronic portal provides an integrated database about violations allows inspectors to access them through an electronic portal and smart devices.