

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Feeding Care, Not Chaos



As authorities in Bahrain move to tighten enforcement against feeding birds and stray animals in public spaces, I find myself asking: Is there a better way?

Current laws prohibit placing food on streets to maintain cleanliness. Yet cities like Dubai and Istanbul have taken a different path, installing designated feeding stations that support both animals and public health instead of implementing a full ban without an alternative.

Such an approach could work here. Instead of searching through waste bins, strays would find clean food in safe areas, which reduces disease risks.

Perhaps it is time to rethink not restrict!!!

Fasal

Balance Hygiene with Humanity

I appreciate the latest waste management proposals and the continued efforts to improve public hygiene, including introducing warning stickers on residential bins to discourage improper disposal and trash being left outside. Cleaner neighbourhoods are something we all value, and these steps reflect a positive and proactive approach.

That said, the restriction on feeding animals does raise some concern. While I understand the intention, preventing the feeding of birds and stray animals may feel a little too strict, especially since these vulnerable creatures often depend on community care for survival.

At the same time, I recognise the challenges involved - uncontrolled feeding can lead to litter, attract pests, and create hygiene issues. This is why a more balanced solution could work better for everyone. For example, introducing designated feeding areas would allow people to help animals responsibly without affecting public cleanliness.

It would also be encouraging to see stronger support for animal welfare groups through regulated feeding programmes, sterilisation drives, and awareness campaigns. Such steps would help address the root issue of overpopulation more sustainably.

Ultimately, it's encouraging to see progress in maintaining cleaner streets, and with a thoughtful approach, this can go hand in hand with compassion for animals as well.

John Mathew

A Meal That Became a Memory

My first taste of a Kerala feast on Vishu day began not with food alone, but with people.



Sitting with friends around a banana leaf filled with carefully arranged dishes, I quickly realised this was more than just a meal. Each item had its place and its purpose. My friend Anchallo guided me through every bite, explaining what to mix, what to expect, and why it mattered.

Without that guidance, it would have been just flavours. With it, the experience became meaningful.

What stayed with me most was the food, the laughter, the conversations, and the sense of sharing something deeply rooted in culture.

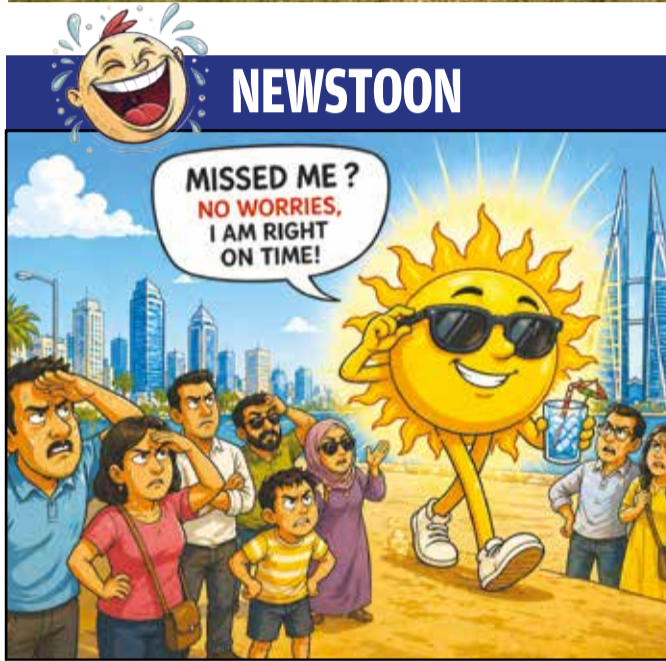
Some meals fill you. Others stay with you.

Hassan

PICTURE OF THE DAY



Photo : Neethu



Small Changes for a Greener Tomorrow

We recently observed Earth Day again, which, as always, included reminders about protecting the environment. Around the same time, I read an article in your newspaper that made a very simple but important point: caring for the planet shouldn't be limited to a single day, but reflected in our everyday habits.

This thought stayed with me, so I began observing one such daily practice during routine grocery visits. At most supermarkets and local stores, staff routinely pack purchased items into multiple plastic bags after billing. While the continued use of plastic is itself a concern, what stood out to me even more was the number of bags used per transaction.

It's not unusual to see just a couple of items placed in separate bags, even when they could easily be combined. I understand there may be some basic sorting, like separating food from household items, but from a sustainability point of view, the usage still feels a bit excessive.

If replacing plastic entirely is difficult right now, then at the very least, reducing its use seems like a practical step forward. Even small changes, like packing more thoughtfully and using fewer bags, could make a real difference over time.

While I personally do request the helpers at billing counters to use as few bags as possible, I do wonder how much impact it would have if everyone followed the same approach, instead of going home with five or more plastic bags, sometimes each carrying just one or two items.

Sometimes, it's these simple everyday choices that add up the most.

Pamela George



No more messy streets : New bin rules coming soon

The Northern Municipal Council has officially backed a new move to keep our streets cleaner. You'll soon see warning stickers on residential bins across the district, targeting improper waste disposal and the habit of leaving trash outside the bins. These stickers aren't just for show they carry clear instructions on disposal rules and serve as a final warning before fines are issued.



TOP COMMENTS

smf_2004

Do not feed birds and animals is equal to animal cruelty. If the govt takes initiative of feeding them that's a different scenario. They coexist with humans and have the right to live on this land just as much as we do and as citizens and residents it's our duty to care for them.

aaa_aisha_888_4

Why is it so cruel to animals??? How can you not feed animals??? It's not their fault they're homeless ... Do you want them dead?? Where is humanity?? There are already nothing but problems in the world... ordinary people are going through stress... What kind of rule have you established.

meeenai

That's too uncompassionate not to feed birds and strays but at least keep a designated areas where can feed exactly these poor souls rely on us, I do understand the main purpose preventing public hygiene and safety but authorities should look into the solution and give supports to the animal group programs to avoid overpopulation or create regulated feeding systems instead of banning just saying.

dhixiel3

It is truly disheartening to hear this news. As an animal lover, I have always made it a point to feed stray cats and provide them with water, especially during the extreme heat. These small acts of kindness can make a significant difference in their survival. If people are no longer allowed to care for and feed these animals, it raises an important question who will take responsibility for their well-being? It is essential that we find a balanced approach that ensures both public order and the humane treatment of animals.

riazbk

Most of the bins are being placed on the road, which is dangerous for drivers. There should be a properly designated safe area along the roadside for them.

babychu88

Starve the stray animals to death? Trash / garbage bins are their means to survive, aside from some kind hearted humans feeding them. Any initiatives to save innocent voiceless? So sad about it

sigma.motive

Okay, if we are not allowed to feed animals then make a policy where you feed them. Serious animal abuse.

