

# Traffic dept to implement services on fast-track mode

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**Minister of Interior** Lt General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa has ordered the speeding up of the privatisation of the processing of minor traffic accidents and technical inspection of vehicles.

An office will be opened at the Security Complex in

Muharraq to provide all traffic related services. "Work is also in progress to open two similar offices in Sitra Mall and Saar to reduce the waiting periods and speed up the processing of paperwork," said Acting Director-General of Traffic Col. Abdulrahman bin Abdulwahab Al Khalifa.

The department will also



Col. Abdulrahman bin Abdulwahab Al Khalifa

open an office in the Southern Governorate near Alba in early 2017 to inspect heavy, transportation vehicles and cars of the area's residents. It is expected to reduce the workload of the Technical Inspection Section.

There is also a plan to increase traffic patrols on roads, especially those with high accident rates. Strict and immediate legal action will be taken against those performing car stunts.

The traffic law allows for the imposition of up to six months of jail term and/or a fine of between BD50 and BD500 on offenders.

Reckless driving and car stunts on public roads are punishable with five penalty points for a driver under to the points system.

The points will double in the case of new drivers i.e. those who got licences in a year.

He said the law allows the

**Strict and immediate action will be taken against those involved in illegal car races and performing car stunts**

suspension of a driver's licence for 30 to 60 days for holding illegal car races or performing car stunts.

If the offence is repeated within six months, the licence can be suspended for 90 days and for a third-time

offence, one year.

Abdulrahman said the smart cameras introduced had helped reduce the number of accidents by 20pc compared to July 2015.

He added that traffic patrols were deployed round the clock to ensure road safety and enforce traffic rules and people can report traffic violations by contacting the department on the phone or through email.

The Director-General also highlighted the importance of the traffic e-service to facilitate the processing of paperwork through the website [www.traffic.gov.bh](http://www.traffic.gov.bh).

He also thanked the media for their role in spreading traffic awareness.

**The setting up of new offices will reduce the workload of the Technical Inspection Section. It will also help in reducing the waiting period and speeding up the paperworks**

## Research and Scholarly Activity Awards given away

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**Twelve Polytechnic** staff members were awarded for their research on how to enhance the Polytechnic academically at the "Research and Scholarly Activity Awards" organised by Bahrain Polytechnic.

This comes under Bahrain Polytechnic's plan to enhance the value of research and encourage researchers to strengthen the position of the Polytechnic among other high education institutions locally, regionally, and internationally.

Dr. Brian Bennison, Chair of the Bahrain Polytechnic Research Committee, stated in his opening speech during the launch: "The Polytechnic is committed to developing and nurturing a research culture, and engaging with industry in collaborative research partnerships involving entrepreneurship and education. By doing



so, Bahrain Polytechnic is positioning itself as a Centre of Excellence in Applied Research."

Dr. Bennison expressed his thanks to the support and motivation received from Acting CEO Dr. Mohamed Al Aseeri. He added that these awards would motivate the researchers for further research.

Dr Christina Georgantopoulou and Dr Eric

**Researchers awarded during the launch of the "Research and Scholarly Activity Awards" alongside Acting CEO of Bahrain Polytechnic, Dr. Mohamed Al Aseeri (left)**



**Bahrain Polytechnic has positioned itself as a Centre of Excellence in Applied Research, thanks to its collaborative research partnerships**

Corthay were awarded The Chief Executive Officer Award for Exceptional Research. Philippe vande Wiele, Dr Christos Gatzoulis and Dr Dimitrios Liarokapis got the

Bahrain Polytechnic Award for Teaching and Research Integration.

The Bahrain Polytechnic Award for Research Excellence in Partnership went to Dr

Owen Gallagher and Dr Vasileios Paliktzoglou while Nedal El-Ghattis bagged the Bahrain Polytechnic Award for Entrepreneurship and Research Integration.

Oonagh McGirr, Clare Walsh, Raghda Zahran and Nikolaos Gazepidis were presented with the Bahrain Polytechnic Award for Contribution to the Development of a Research Culture.