

Society hails new walk-in visas policy

A GOVERNMENT decision to grant 'walk-in visas' to Indian nationals has been welcomed by the Bahrain India Society (BIS).

Society chairman Abdulnabi Al Sho'ala sent a letter of thanks to Interior Ministry Under Secretary for Nationality, Passports and Residence, Shaikh Rashid bin Khalifa Al Khalifa.

"The letter was sent on behalf of the BIS board of directors and the members, thanking him for the government decision to grant visas on arrival to Indian visitors and businessmen," said Mr Al Sho'ala.



■ Mr Al Sho'ala

"The decision will help promote tourism in the kingdom and have a very positive impact on the economy."

"It will ensure a flow of investment which will, in turn, contribute to the economic growth in the kingdom."

The decision is a reflection of strengthening the already existing friendly relationship between India and Bahrain, he said.

No date has been fixed for implementing the decision.

Shaikh Rashid told the *GDN* last week that it would come into force very soon.

Under the decision, India and Russia will be added to the list of countries whose nationals are granted visa on arrival in Bahrain.

Currently 35 countries enjoy this facility.

He warned that people who misuse the facility would face hefty penalties.