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Taghreed Almahmeed, Consultant General Surgeon at Al Zahra Hospital, explains



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Using your phone while driving? Car will be seized

DUBAI
BY AGHADDIR ALI
Senior Reporter

If you are caught using your mobile phone while driving in Dubai, your car will be impounded for 30 days, as part of stricter penalties introduced by police yesterday.

The move is part of Dubai Police's efforts to reduce accidents. A new list detailing the revised period of impoundment for select violations has come into effect, following amendments reviewed by the Commander-in-Chief of Dubai Police.

A month-long impoundment penalty also applies to sudden deviation of the vehicle on roads in a manner that poses a danger to lives, property, or traffic safety. The same 30-day seizure is also for not leaving a sufficient safety distance between the vehicle and the vehicle in front. It also applies to heavy vehicles' failure to adhere to the mandatory lane discipline.

The cases of administrative and permissive impoundment of a vehicle and the maximum impounding period in each case are determined based on a decision issued by the Commander-in-Chief of Dubai Police, in coordination with the relevant authorities.

SEE ALSO P2

Blinken pushes for ceasefire as Israel pounds Lebanon

EFFORTS TO END WAR GATHER PACE, CONCERNS RISE FOR TRAPPED CIVILIANS

DUBAI
BY ALEX ABRAHAM
Senior Associate Editor

Talks to reach a truce in the Middle East conflict were back in focus yesterday as US Secretary of State Antony Blinken made his 11th visit to the region since the October 7, 2023 attack, in the backdrop of Israel keeping up its bombing of Lebanon.

Blinken urged Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to seize on the killing of Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar to work towards a Gaza ceasefire.

Blinken also pressed for more aid into the Palestinian territory as concerns rise for tens of thousands of civilians trapped by fighting in the north.

Blinken "underscored the need to capitalise on Israel's successful action to bring Yahya Sinwar to justice by securing the release of all hostages and ending the conflict in Gaza in a way that provides lasting security for Israelis and Palestinians alike," State Department spokesman Matthew Miller said after the talks in Jerusalem.

Diplomatic resolution

On Lebanon, where Israel kept up its bombing yesterday, Miller said Blinken again called for a "diplomatic resolution" and compliance with UN Security



AFP

■ Smoke rises after an Israeli air strike targeting Beirut's southern suburb of Shayah yesterday, amid the ongoing war between Israel and Hezbollah that has killed at least 1,550 people.

Council Resolution 1701 of 2006 which called for the long-term disarmament of Hezbollah but also a withdrawal of Israeli forces from its northern neighbour.

On Monday, US envoy to Lebanon Amos Hochstein said his administration was seeking an end to the war "as soon as possible" as he pushed for a

ceasefire based on a UN resolution that ended an earlier Israel-Hezbollah war.

18 killed near Beirut hospital

Israel kept up its bombing of Lebanon yesterday after a late night strike that killed 18 people near a Beirut hospital, as its war on Hezbollah approached

the one-month mark. The latest deaths brought the overall toll in Lebanon since September 23 to at least 1,550. The UN rights chief said he was "appalled" by the deadly Israeli strike on a south Beirut hospital, demanding a "prompt and thorough investigation".

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