

Support sufficient

BD63m in business aid already covers bankruptcy concerns for Bahraini companies and factories

● Assistance available through Labour Fund, Tamkeen, schemes

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BD63 million of pandemic-era business support forms part of the safety net already in place for Bahraini companies and factories facing bankruptcy, the government has told MPs.

In a written reply to Parliament, it said it had reviewed an urgent request calling for state backing for commercial firms and local factories under threat of insolvency, but argued that support is already available through Labour Fund, Tamkeen, schemes, work with local banks and steps to update the law on reorganisation and bankruptcy.

The government said it backs the private sector as a partner in sustainable development and, through its agencies, works to clear hurdles facing Bahraini businesses and factories that support the economy and em-

ploy Bahrainis, provided they meet Tamkeen's terms and requirements.

Industry

It said the support on offer spans economic sectors, including industry, and includes grants to help businesses buy machinery and equipment, access to finance, and funding support arranged with a number of local banks.

It added that Tamkeen's programmes also provide training opportunities in the industrial sector, which it described as a priority area for support because of its role in growth and job creation for Bahrainis.

Tamkeen also engages with some distressed Bahraini companies that play a role in the Kingdom's commercial and economic activity, particularly those employing Bahrainis, the reply said.

Aim

The aim is to review support options that fit each case, help firms settle their positions, restore business activity and protect Bahraini jobs.

As an example of interven-



Image used for illustrative purposes only

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tion during a period of economic disruption, the government pointed to the financial package launched during the coronavirus pandemic to provide liquidity to the private sector and maintain business continuity.

It said Tamkeen introduced

the 'Business Continuity Support' programme in April 2020, injecting more than BD63 million to support more than 22,000 establishments, with grants aimed at covering operational needs for businesses affected by the

government said it later launched an Economic Recovery Plan for the post-pandemic phase from 2021, and reintroduced support programmes linked to business establishment and economic growth, alongside measures aimed at supporting employment and career progression for citizens.

It added that the Central Bank of Bahrain has expressed readiness to work with creditor banks to encourage them to study financial pressures and put forward solutions to protect Bahraini companies threatened with bankruptcy.

Updates

The government also said it is examining updates to the Reorganisation and Bankruptcy Law, Law No. 22 of 2018, in co-operation with the central bank and banks, including bank proposals linked to the request raised in Parliament.

In closing, the government said the aim of the request had been met, while stressing it would continue working with Parliament within the relationship between the executive and legislative branches.

Civil court upholds compensation after car theft

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A civil court has issued a decisive ruling in favour of a claimant seeking compensation following the theft of her vehicle, affirming that a final criminal conviction is sufficient to establish civil liability, particularly in cases involving abuse of trust between former spouses. The dispute arose between a woman and her former husband, who was later convicted under a final and enforceable criminal judgment.

Court documents show that the claimant had handed her vehicle to her ex-husband after he informed her that the car required repairs due to technical issues.

Relying on this assurance, she entrusted him with the vehicle, which was never returned. Instead, the defendant unlawfully retained the vehicle and proceeded to steal it.

Criminal proceedings further established that he had forged the claimant's signature in connection with the vehicle, an offence that was conclusively proven before the criminal court and became binding once the judgment acquired finality.



Dearest Mother,

No words can express the pain I am feeling right now. I have lost you forever my sweet mother, you were my life, my whole universe and now you are no more, gone forever and I miss you so much my dearest. You didn't leave me by choice but from a calling by the all mighty. I wish I could have done more to ease the pain you were experiencing. My only consolation my darling is knowing that you are now in a better place where there is no pain and no suffering.

My darling mother, you were the best mother anyone could ever ask for and all I can say is that I was blessed for having you in my life. I'll miss you, your gentle touch, your sweet soft voice and your beautiful smile and as hard as it is to say goodbye I have to end this by saying, rest my sweet mother, you are now with your mother, daughter, husband and those you loved the most who are no longer with us.

I love you and miss you mom

Your daughter

Mona Mubarak Kanoo

Delaying deportation 'opens door to abuse'

Rehab Mohammad
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The Supreme Council for the Judiciary has urged the Council of Representatives to reconsider a draft law that seeks to suspend the deportation of foreign nationals sentenced to prison, in order to allow them to repay their debts to citizens.

The Council stated that enforcing deportation orders serves the public interest, while postponing them for debt repayment reflects a private interest that may not always be fulfilled.

It warned that the proposed amendment could open the door to abuse, including the creation of fake enforcement documents, allowing convicted foreigners to claim repayment intentions merely to secure continued residence in the country.

Liabilities

The Council explained that suspending a deportation order would require the foreign convict to settle all civil liabilities arising from the judgment.

However, enforcement ultimately depends on the individual's willingness to pay, leave the country, or remain despite the risks posed by their presence.

It added that if a foreign convict does not have sufficient assets to cover their debts, keeping them in the country would be futile.

Sporting diplomacy



His Excellency Ambassador Mr. Vinod K. Jacob, the Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Bahrain, awards a trophy after a cricket match between the Embassy of India and ICICI Bank team. The event was part of Fit India initiative and 55 years of India-Bahrain diplomatic relations.

Private hospitals under fee oversight

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Private hospitals are already under government supervision, the government told MPs, as the cabinet argued that an urgent proposal to control healthcare service fees is covered by existing rules.

In a written reply to MPs, the government said private healthcare institutions are monitored through licensing requirements and ongoing checks on the standard of care.

It said providers must keep to the terms of their licenc-

es, maintain required health standards, and meet technical and safety requirements.

The government said it also requires medical devices and equipment used by private providers to meet approved international standards and specifications, in line with Bahrain's legal framework, citing Decree-Law No. 21 of 2015 on private healthcare institutions, as amended by Law No. 1 of 2019.

The framework supports patients' freedom to choose the private healthcare institution that suits their needs.