

# Calm departures

Expats leaving Bahrain cite personal emergencies, planned travel and medical needs, not panic

**Neethu V**  
TDT | Manama

While some expatriates have recently left Bahrain on chartered flights, community leaders say the departures are largely due to personal emergencies, pre-planned travel and medical needs rather than panic over current regional tensions.

Community organisations across Bahrain have been helping coordinate repatriation flights in cooperation with airlines and volunteers, assisting residents who need to travel urgently.

Groups including the Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam, the Kannada Sangha Bahrain, and Nav Bharat have been actively organising chartered flights and assisting passengers with travel arrangements.

**Travel**

Many of those leaving, community representatives say, had already planned trips or faced urgent circumstances that made travel necessary.

“Those leaving are mostly stranded visitors on transit



**P V Radhakrishnan Pillai**

visas, short-term visa holders, elderly residents, people with medical needs, and families who had already planned trips for Eid or the festival season,” said P. V. Radhakrishna Pillai, president of Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam.

“Most of those travelling had already planned their journeys. Panic departures are very minimal – probably less than five per cent,” he said.

**Flights**

Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam has already helped organise two flights and is planning additional departures in the coming days, while also assisting residents who need financial support for emergency travel.



**Senthil GK**



**Deepika Nambiar**



**Residents board buses to Dammam, arranged by BKS**

Similarly, Kannada Sangha Bahrain arranged three fully booked repatriation flights on March 15-16, prioritising passengers with medical needs,

senior citizens, and those in urgent situations.

Nav Bharat has also coordinated additional charter flights to Mumbai, Hyderabad, and Kochi,

many of which are already full.

In a discussion with The Daily Tribune, Senthil GK, President of Annai Tamil Mandram Bahrain, said priority is being given to children whose parents are in India, pregnant women, new mothers with infants, and the elderly.

The organization has arranged a flight to Chennai on March 18, with more in the pipeline.

“We have also accommodated 10 laborers free of cost, including one whose father passed away and others with medical issues,” he added.

**Reasons**

Many residents cite employment commitments, school-going children and long-standing ties to the country as reasons for staying.

“We have lived and worked on this island for many years, and it is not easy for us to leave and start again elsewhere,” said Deepika Nambiar, a long-time expatriate resident.

Despite the recent departures, community leaders say the majority of expatriates remain in Bahrain and continue with their work and daily routines.

## Suspects detained for glorifying terrorist acts

● **Investigation begins**

**Rehab Mohammad**  
TDT | Manama

The Chief of the Terrorism Crimes Prosecution announced that the Public Prosecution has ordered the pretrial detention of several suspects accused of promoting and glorifying hostile terrorist acts targeting the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The Public Prosecution received multiple reports from the Cybercrime Department, indicating that several social media accounts were publishing and broadcasting videos that glorify, promote, and encourage terrorist acts carried out against Bahrain, including attacks by Iranian-backed groups.

The content also included incitement to undermine internal security and stability.

Investigations began immediately after the reports were received.

The suspects were interrogated and confronted with the unlawful content found on their accounts.

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