Illegal workers cannot get new work permits, they should leave: LMRA CEO

LMRA conducts 10,000 inspection visits and 100 joint campaigns in 2021

- Arrested hundreds of violating workers
- Closed establishments supplying domestic workers without a license
- Registered eight violations of labour laws during inspection campaigns
- Conducted more than 10,000 inspections to detect more than 900 criminal violations, despite the pandemic.

"These inspections last year were in addition to the 100 joint inspection campaigns the authority held with relevant agencies," Al Alawi added.

The campaigns, he said, resulted in the arrest of hundreds of illegal workers and the detection of eight cases of forced labour.

The CEO also announced developing a comprehensive plan to intensify inspection campaigns to address illegal practices and enhance the competitiveness and stability of the labour market.

For this, the authority is working closely with the Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs of the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism, the Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning, the Ministry of Health, and security directors in the governorates, he added.

"These campaigns will be in addition to the daily inspection visits carried out by the legal control sector in commercial establishments in various sectors.

On the joint campaigns in 2021, he said 41 were with NPRA and 66 were with other government agencies. Joint campaigns with the General Department of Investigation and Criminal Evidence and NPRA resulted in closing 13 establishments engaged in supplying domestic workers without a license.

Foreign workers employment reached 331,447 workers by the end of the first quarter of 2021. Non-Bahraini employment decreased by 9.4% annually compared to 56,874 workers in the same quarter last year.

The number of new employment work permits issued by LMRA during the first quarter of 2021 was 36,730 decreasing at an annual rate of 10.6%.

The share of small organizations, employing less than 10 workers, of employment work permits issued during the first quarter of 2021 was 47.7%.

According to Jamal Abdulaziz Al Alawi, the only option left for them is to leave the Kingdom with no return again.

AMH supports Bahrain's National Down Syndrome Soccer team

A merican Mission Hospital is supporting Bahrain's First downs syndrome soccer team by providing free health checks and wellbeing assessments to all the footballers.

The new team was welcomed to the American Mission Hospital, Manama, a hospita in which they were individually assessed by a team of specialists to determine their fitness level to be a part of the team.

Group CEO Julia Tovey, who was present at the occasion, said, "At American Mission Hospital, we believe that we must strive to support the community on the whole and specifically the special needs community with the chance to enhance their quality of life and become valued members of society.

"Keeping that in mind, the opportunity to support the first National Downs Soccer team is a matter of both honor and privilege for us. We are looking forward to seeing the team achieve their best, and AMH will always be on the sidelines providing medical support when needed."

Farmers’ market a huge hit, gets international visitors

Market’s popularity growing beyond borders, says top Works Ministry official

Bahraini Farmers’ Market has witnessed a substantial turnout since its opening on 25th of December last year, said a top Works Ministry official.

"In addition to Bahraini citizens and residents, visitors from other Arab Gulf countries also visited the market in large numbers," said Dr Abdallah Almohammed Abdulkarim.

"This reflects the growing popularity of the market, and it is no longer a local event limited to citizens and residents here but rather goes beyond the borders of the Kingdom," said the Assistant Undersecretary for Agriculture Affairs at the Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning.

The ninth edition of the Bahrain Farmers’ Market, ongoing at the Budaiya Botanical Gardens, opened doors after a one-year hiatus owing to the COVID-19 pandemic. This year’s edition has the participation of 37 farmers and four farming companies.

Dr Abdulkarim, who also chairs the Organising Committee of the Bahraini Farmers’ Market, said the entry to the market this year is only for those having Green Shield on the Bayanera application.

"Visitors also have to maintain social distancing and wear masks at all times, he added.

The market, he said, is an ideal opportunity for Bahraini farmers to market their agricultural produce in attractive ways while also enhancing Bahrain’s food security.

Farmers, nurseries, agricultural companies, productive families, and agricultural production, modern soilless farming systems, agricultural pest control, and the safe use of pesticides.

"This step comes out of the keenness to develop and add diversity to the market’s activities and remain attractive to visitors interested in supporting local Bahraini production," he said.

The Farmers’ markets, he said, is also serving as a recreational outlet for visitors, especially during the winter.

Markets are open from 7:00 AM to 1:00 PM every Saturday until the end of the season in February.