

BIG STORY

big story

Adieu to homeless life

Relief finally for stranded expatriate, Sulaiman Kuju, who is flying back today to his native with the help of authorities and social service organisations here, after fighting years' long battle with adversities



Sulaiman Kunju was living on the terrace of a building in Manama for the last four months

TDI | Manama

Ending up on the streets of Bahrain, after losing his job and enduring a series of setbacks, Sulaiman Kunju, an Indian national by birth, can finally breathe a sigh of relief.

Thanks to the efforts of media and social service organisations in the Kingdom, Sulaiman will fly back to his homeland today, after landing in Bahrain almost 10 years ago as a construction worker.

Fate, however, had other plans for Sulaiman and finally left him stranded on the terrace of a building here in Manama without a roof to escape the scorching Sun.

Indian National Suleiman's shocking situation garnered public attention only when 4 PM News, a sister concern of *Tribune*, published a story seeking help.

Learning about his situation, the authorities here quickly intervened to clear his travel ban and a fine imposed for staying illegally.

He was also granted immigration clearance.

The Immigration Directorate

has worked with the India Embassy of Bahrain to expedite the process.

The unfortunate happenings in Suleiman's life began with him failing to renew his visa, after losing his job as a construction worker.

The situation worsened further when he also failed to retrieve his passport from his sponsor who passed away, which left him with a CPR as the only identification document.

When contacted, Sulaiman earlier told *Tribune* that it took him almost two years just to settle the debts, which he incurred back home to pay for the visa. The visa cost his BDI,000.

"After two years, I had no money to renew my visa and since then I have been an illegal resident in the Kingdom," he told *Tribune*.

Despite winning his ticket to the homeland, Sulaiman's problems are far from over as he is still in financial distress.

The family of Sulaiman, who hails from the Indian state of Kerala, includes his wife and three children.

He requests help from capable hands. To help, contact Suleiman on +973 36451199 or Badushah on +973 33311919



Sulaiman Kunju with his well-wishers after receiving his immigration clearance

OTP fraudsters strike, this time from Pakistan

TDI Manama
Mohammed Zafran

An expatriate has claimed to have fallen victim to a One Time Password (OTP) theft to fraudsters in Pakistan.

A Manama resident claimed cybercriminals stole his OTP, which was then used to transfer money from his account.

"A total of BDI0 was taken from my prepaid Sim card account by fraudsters," said Indian national Reghu.

Money, he said, was transferred from his account to a phone number in Pakistan on multiple occasions.

According to him, the fraudsters initiated the transaction and subsequently stole the OTP to authorise the money transfer.

"This happened a few days ago," he said adding: "At first, they took BD 2 and later another couple of dinars and repeated until it reached BDI0."

"This is strange because the money was transferred to an ac-

count in Pakistan, where I have no business."

He said the telecommunication company was informed of the situation. "I contacted the telecommunication company and informed them of the situation. They send me an email yesterday stating that they are investigating the issue. I hope that they will be able to reach the bottom of this very soon."

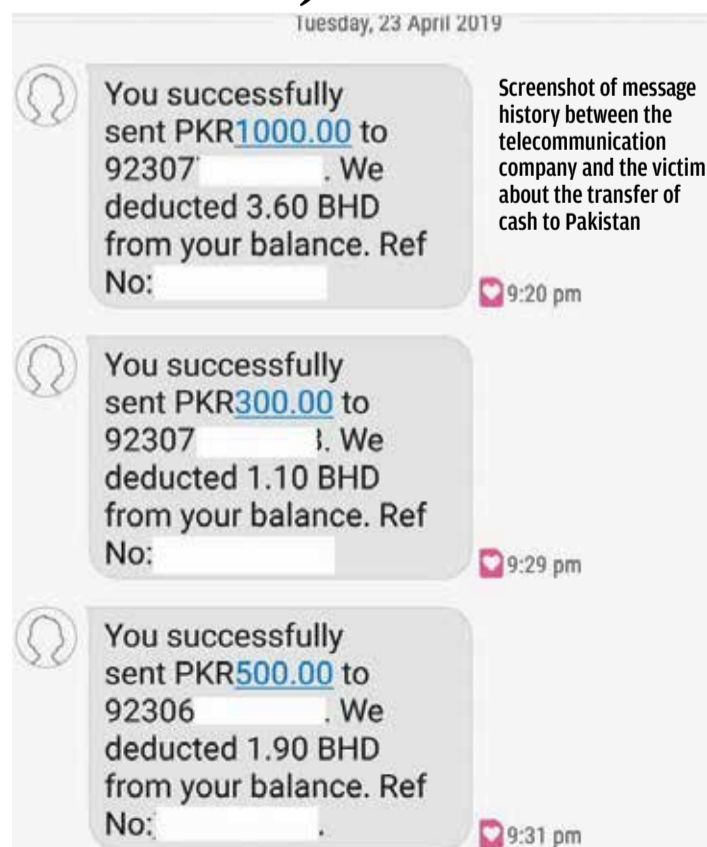
"I am extremely worried at the moment as the phone number is also tied to my bank account here.

"If they use any sort of OTP fraud in my bank account, I will be in huge trouble.

"I will be going to the bank now to alert them about the situation and ask them not to transfer any money without my authorisation.

"I don't know how they are able to access my OTP," Reghu said without hiding his concern.

"My phone, I had never given it to anyone," he said.



Screenshot of message history between the telecommunication company and the victim about the transfer of cash to Pakistan

OTP theft can happen in two ways



Representative picture

According to experts, OTP theft can happen in two ways.

The first method involves fraudsters posing as bank employees and convincing

the victims to give away the OTP.

The second method involves infecting the victim's phone with a malware which is then used to forward the OTP to the perpetrators.