

Don't Register SIM Cards for Others, Police Warn

MOI warns that lending your identity for mobile numbers could lead to an investigation if those numbers are used in criminal activities.

TDT | Manama
Neethu V

Bahrain's Interior Ministry has renewed its warning against registering SIM cards on behalf of others, stating the practice could have serious legal consequences if the numbers are later used in crimes.

The latest episode of the Interior Ministry's Al Aman social media programme focused on the risks of registering SIM cards for others, with Hidd Police Station Head Colonel Dr. Osama Bahar urging the public to protect their digital identity.

He explained that mobile numbers are often linked to bank accounts, social media platforms and digital services, making them a key piece of evidence in investigations involving fraud, cyber-crime and suspicious financial transactions.

"If a number used in a crime is registered in your name, you will naturally be called in for questioning," he said, noting that investigators first trace the registered owner before determining who actually committed the offence.

He warned that allowing someone else to use a SIM card



“Why give a criminal cover to commit a crime? Why give someone the opportunity to harm people while using your identity?”

COLONEL DR OSAMA BAHAR

registered under your identity effectively gives criminals a layer of protection while placing the registered owner under suspicion.

He urged residents to review all mobile numbers registered under their names and immediately contact their telecommunications provider to disconnect any numbers they no longer use or control.

Parents were also advised to monitor SIM cards issued under their names and ensure they are used only by family members.

"Protect yourself and protect the country," Col. Dr. Bahar said, stressing that verifying registered SIM cards can help prevent fraud, protect personal reputations and support efforts to combat cybercrime.

Seven in 10 Insured Expats Earn Under BD200

New SIO Report Highlights Income Divide in Bahrain's Workforce

TDT | Manama
Mohammed Darwish

Seven in ten insured foreign workers in Bahrain earned less than BD200 a month at the end of March, while only one in four insured Bahrainis took home BD1,000 or above, new figures show.

The pay gap runs through the Social Insurance Organisation's first-quarter data for 2026, which covered 158,322 Bahraini workers and 478,707 non-Bahrainis.

Bahrainis earned BD931 a month on average, though the median wage was far lower at BD618. Among foreign workers, the average was BD269.

The private sector employed 105,780 Bahrainis, roughly two thirds of all insured Bahraini workers. Government employed 52,542. Yet public-sector pay remained higher. The average monthly salary was BD970 in government and BD912 in private firms.

Some 42,105 Bahrainis, or 26.6pc, earned BD1,000 or above. Another 37,168, or 23.5pc, were paid between BD400 and BD599, while 34,794, or 22pc, earned between BD200 and BD399.

Only 2,221 insured Bahrainis received less than BD200 a month. Men made up 90,830 of the Bahraini total, compared with 67,492 women. The largest age group was 30 to 39, with 63,991 workers, or 40.4pc. Those aged 20 to 29 made up 27pc, while 22.8pc were aged between 40 and 49.

The average Bahraini worker was 36 years old, had spent



12 years in work and had begun service at 23. All 478,707 insured foreign workers were in the private sector. They included 427,414 men and 51,293 women. Of these, 339,472, or 70.9pc, earned less than BD200 a month. A further 13.7pc received between BD200 and BD399, while only 4.6pc were paid BD1,000 or above.

Their average age was 38 and their average length of service was nine years.

The figures also show a wide pension gap between former public and private-sector workers.

Bahrain had 86,861 pensioners at the end of March, made up of 55,044 men and 31,817 women. The average monthly pension, including the social allowance, was BD857, while the median stood at BD638.

The 36,462 government pensioners received BD1,085 a month on average. The 50,399 private-sector pensioners received BD692.

Pensioners were 58 years old on average. They had retired at 48 and had spent an average of 10 years drawing a pension.

- 70.9% of insured expatriate workers earn less than BD200 per month.
- One in four Bahrainis earns BD1,000 or more.
- Bahraini workers earn more than three times the average monthly salary of insured expatriates (BD931 vs. BD269).
- Government-sector employees continue to receive higher salaries and pensions than those in the private sector.

Expats earning under BD200 - 339,472 (70.9%)

Bahrainis earning BD1,000+ - 42,105 (26.6%)

Expats earning BD1,000+ - 4.6%

Government Bahraini Salary - BD970/month

Private Bahraini Salary - BD912/month

Government Pensioners - 36,462

Private-sector Pensioners - 50,399

Proposal to Bar Expats from Vehicle Inspector Jobs

TDT | Manama
Mohammed Darwish

A proposal would bar foreign workers from vehicle inspector jobs and reserve every post for Bahrainis.

MP Bader Al Tamimi has called for private vehicle testing firms and state bodies to replace overseas staff with trained Bahraini workers under a clear timetable.

He said the job carried a heavy duty because inspectors rule on the roadworthiness of cars and help protect drivers, passengers and property.

The post was once reserved for Bahrainis at the General Directorate of Traffic and came with a high job grade, he said. But the growth of privately run testing centres has seen many roles go to foreign workers, leaving fewer openings for citizens.



Bader Al Tamimi, MP

Mr Al Tamimi called for a Bahraini-only rule across all vehicle testing centres.

His proposal also seeks approved training schemes to give citizens the skills needed to carry out checks to the required safety and work standards.

He said the move would uphold citizens' right to work and put Bahrainis into skilled

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