

New National Award to Drive Anti-Trafficking Research

Kingdom retains Tier 1 status for eighth year running; 84 victims protected in 18 months

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Bahrain marked the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons with a national workshop and a series of high-level statements reaffirming the Kingdom's commitment to eradicating human trafficking, as officials highlighted eight consecutive years at the top tier of global anti-trafficking rankings.

Interior Minister, General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, has reaffirmed the Kingdom's dedication to combating human trafficking through regional co-ordination, modern technology, and artificial intelligence, marking World Day Against Trafficking in Persons today.

The minister said Bahrain's record in the field reflects directives from His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the support of Crown Prince and Prime Minister His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa. He also announced the launch of a new scientific research award dedicated to combating human trafficking, aimed at encouraging national studies into the crime.

Yousif bin Abdulhussain Khalaf, Minister of Labour and Minister of Legal Affairs stated that Bahrain's progress in combating human trafficking reflects its continued efforts to develop legislative and regulatory measures and strengthen institutional coordination through the National Committee to Combat



“Combating human trafficking requires innovation, regional cooperation and an unwavering commitment to protecting every individual.”

- GENERAL SHAIKH RASHID BIN ABDULLAH AL KHALIFA

Trafficking in Persons, reinforcing the sustainability and effectiveness of national efforts.

He said the occasion underscores the importance of strengthening cooperation and coordination at the national, regional and international levels, expanding the exchange of expertise and best practices, and supporting joint efforts to combat this cross-border crime.

Steps Up Anti-Trafficking Fight

The General Directorate of Criminal Investigation and Forensic Science held a national



“We remain committed to advancing Bahrain's national initiatives and building on our achievements to reinforce the Kingdom's leadership in this domain.”

- YOUSIF BIN ABDULHUSSAIN KHALAF

workshop entitled “The Crime of Human Trafficking and the Kingdom's Efforts in Combating It,” attended by 102 specialists from nine national and international bodies.

Opened by Brigadier Abdulwahab Rashid Bunashi, Director of the Anti-Human Trafficking and Public Morality Protection Department, the workshop covered four pillars: legislation, prosecution, protection, and prevention.

Speakers included the Head of Public Prosecution, Abdulrahman Hamad Al-Mannai, who highlighted Bahrain's distinction as one of the first countries to establish a specialised human trafficking prosecution office. Judge Mohammed Hisham Al-Maawda represented the Supreme Judicial Council, while Major Yousef Ahmed Jamal addressed crime detection and victim protection on behalf of the Directorate.

70 reports, 84 victims protected

Statistics from the Anti-Human Trafficking Directorate show 70 reports were handled between 2025 and the first half of 2026, with 84 victims protected and legal action taken against 92 suspects.



Nibras Mohammed Talib, CEO - Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA)

Bahrain has maintained its Tier 1 classification in the US State Department's Trafficking in Persons Report for the eighth consecutive year – the first Arab country to achieve and sustain the ranking.

Digital threats top this year's global theme

This year's UN theme – “Trafficked on the Dark Web: Exploiting Technology for Human Trafficking” – was highlighted by multiple officials, including Foreign Minister Dr. Ab-



Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh, Shura Council Chairman

dul Latif bin Rashid Al Zayani and Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) CEO Nibras Mohammed Talib.

Talib, who also chairs the National Committee to Combat Trafficking in Persons, said Bahrain's national strategy rests on five pillars: prevention, victim protection, law enforcement, international partnerships, and coordinated national policy.

The Foreign Minister praised Bahrain's integrated legislative and judicial system, pointing to the region's first specialised trafficking prosecution and court, the Centre for the Protection and Support of Migrant Workers, and established victim referral mechanisms as benchmarks for the wider region.

Shura Council Chairman Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh said the achievement reflects the effectiveness of the Kingdom's laws and institutional frameworks under royal leadership.

Einride to Support Bahrain's Future Freight Vision

Partnership to explore digital, electric and autonomous heavy transport solutions

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Bahrain has signed a cooperation framework with Swedish technology company Einride to strengthen collaboration in digital, electric and autonomous heavy transport, supporting the Kingdom's drive towards a smarter and more sustainable logistics sector.

The agreement was signed via videoconference on Wednesday by Shaikh Abdulla bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications, and Robert Falck, CEO of Einride.

The cooperation framework focuses on exploring advanced technologies for heavy transport, including digitalisation, electri-



fication and automation, while supporting the continued development of Bahrain's transport and logistics sector in line with the goals of Bahrain Economic Vision 2030.

The minister said the agreement reflects Bahrain's commitment to keeping pace with global developments in transport and logistics by embracing innovative technologies that improve efficiency and sustainability. He

noted that the initiative further strengthens the Kingdom's position as a leading regional logistics hub.

He added that the partnership demonstrates Bahrain's openness to emerging technologies while highlighting the importance of conducting technical and regulatory studies to ensure future projects meet national priorities and maintain the highest standards of efficiency, safety and sustainability.

Three Convicted for Bribing Government Official

Court sentences defendants to two years in prison and BD 1,400 fine each

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Rehab Mohammad

The court has convicted three people for attempting to bribe a government employee to secure a job for one of their sons.

The First Lower Criminal Court handed each defendant a two-year prison term and a BD 1,400 fine. The first defendant will also be deported from Bahrain upon completing the sentence.

The government employee reported the approach to the Anti-Corruption Directorate after being offered money to use his influence in the hiring process. When the defendants later met him in person and offered BD 1,400, he again refused.

Public prosecutors immedi-



ately launched an investigation, obtaining authorisation to monitor and record the meeting. The recording confirmed all three defendants made the offer.

Prosecutors arrested, questioned, and detained the defendants before referring them

to court.

The Public Prosecution reaffirmed its commitment to fighting corruption, warning that bribery undermines public trust in state institutions and will be met with the full force of the law.

Korean Students Discover Bahrain

Embassy event highlights Kingdom's history, culture, economy and diplomacy for 120 young participants

The Embassy of the Kingdom of Bahrain in Seoul hosted an educational event introducing Korean students to Bahrain's rich history, cultural heritage, economic achievements and diplomatic values. Organised in cooperation with the Young Ambassadors Academy for Diplomacy of the Korean Cultural Association, the event brought together 120 middle and high school students to promote greater understanding of Bahrain while encouraging cultural exchange and awareness of diplomacy.

Bahrain's Ambassador to the Republic of Korea, Saud Hassan Ali Al-Nisf, delivered a

presentation tracing the Kingdom's journey from its historic role in the gold and pearl trade and its renowned pearl diving heritage to its modern economic transformation.

The ambassador highlighted Bahrain's economic diversification and its growing position as a regional hub for business, technology, tourism and investment.

He also spoke about the importance of diplomacy in strengthening international relations, fostering mutual understanding and building bridges between nations, stressing the value of introducing young people to different cultures and global experiences.



Saud Hassan Ali Al-Nisf, Bahrain's Ambassador to the Republic of Korea

