

Three Bahrain Companies Win Anti-Trafficking Excellence Award

Bapco Refining, Alba and Talabat honoured for outstanding efforts in safeguarding labour rights



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Bahrain has honoured Bapco Refining, Aluminium Bahrain (Alba) and Talabat with the Best Practices Award in the Private Sector for Combating Human Trafficking, recognising their efforts in protecting workers’ rights and promoting responsible workplace standards.

The awards were announced during the third edition of the Anti-Human Trafficking Forum, held under the theme “National Partnerships in Combating Human Trafficking.”

The event was opened by Nibras Talib, Chief Executive Officer of the Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) and Chairman of the National Committee to Combat Trafficking in Persons, in the presence

of Shaikh Khalifa bin Salman bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Labour, diplomatic representatives, committee members, officials and specialists.

Talib emphasised that sustaining efforts and mechanisms to combat human trafficking remains a key priority for Bahrain, stressing that cooperation between government entities, the private sector and civil society is essential to strengthening these efforts as a shared national responsibility.

He highlighted that Bahrain’s approach is based on a comprehensive framework that ensures continuous evaluation and development of anti-trafficking measures in line with changes in the labour market, while protecting the rights of workers and employers.

During the forum, the new identity of the Regional Training Centre for Combating Human Trafficking was launched. Operated by the LMRA, the centre provides specialised “training of trainers” programmes, conducts research, develops guidelines and delivers training initiatives focused on victim protection and prevention strategies in co-operation with the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Talib noted that Bahrain continues to strengthen cooperation through initiatives including a recent memorandum of understanding with the Institute of Public Administration, aimed at developing training programmes, building capabilities and promoting best practices in rights protection and combating trafficking.

Anti-Trafficking Research Competition Opens

New National Competition Seeks Solutions to Human Trafficking

General Directorate of Criminal Investigation and Forensic Science has announced the opening of participation in the National Research Competition on Combating Human Trafficking, launched following an announcement by Interior Minister General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa on the occasion of the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons.

The competition aims to encourage researchers, academics and postgraduate students to conduct specialised scientific studies on human trafficking issues and enrich Bahrain’s research landscape with peer-reviewed studies addressing current and emerging challenges related to the crime.



bodies in Bahrain.

The initiative reflects Bahrain’s continued efforts to maintain its leading global position in combating human trafficking and preserving its Tier 1 ranking internationally.

The competition is open to academic researchers, university faculty members, postgraduate students pursuing master’s and doctoral degrees, legal and security professionals, as well as interested participants from government entities, private organisations and civil society institutions.

Research papers must be submitted in Arabic. They should demonstrate originality, follow recognised

- The research topics include:**
- Developing Bahrain’s legal framework to combat human trafficking in line with international developments.
 - Early detection mechanisms and investigation methods.
 - Victim protection, rehabilitation and social reintegration.
 - The role of security media and public awareness campaigns.
 - Combating cross-border trafficking through regional and international cooperation.
 - Emerging crimes linked to digital fraud and online trafficking.
 - The role of modern technologies and artificial intelligence in detecting and combating trafficking crimes.

academic standards, and include practical recommendations supported by implementation strategies or action plans.

Individual and joint research submissions are accepted, with a maximum of two researchers per study. Each research paper should

From The Court

TDT | Manama
Rehab Mohammad

Verdict Set in BHD 22,250 Money Laundering Case

Judge rules claimant was a business partner, not an employee

The Labour Court dismissed a lawsuit filed by an Arab woman seeking BD1,200 in unpaid salaries, end-of-service benefits and compensation after ruling she was a business partner rather than an employee.

The woman claimed she had worked as a Pest and Epidemic Control Specialist for a monthly salary of BD400. However, the company argued that the employment contract

was created only to secure her residency while she awaited investor status.

After reviewing witness testimony, WhatsApp messages and emails, the court found that the claimant had not performed actual employment duties and that the relationship between the parties was a business partnership. The lawsuit was dismissed, and the claimant was ordered to pay legal costs and lawyers’ fees.

Man Ordered to Repay Ex-Wife BD50,000

Court finds woman solely funded property despite husband’s name on title

High Civil Court ordered a Bahraini man to repay BD50,000 to his ex-wife after ruling she fully financed a property registered in his name during their marriage.

The court found that the woman purchased the property using proceeds from selling her own land along with bank financing; registering it in her husband’s name was only for administrative convenience.

After the property was sold, the husband kept half of the



proceeds without proving any financial contribution. Relying on witness testimony, bank records and an expert’s report, the court ordered him to return the remaining BD50,000 and pay the legal costs.

Nearly Half of Bahrain’s Animal Species Unclassified



Nearly half of Bahrain’s 1,953 recorded animal species remain unclassified, while 15 face some degree of extinction risk, new state figures show.

The total has grown by 23 species since 2018, rising from 1,930 to 1,945 in 2022 and then to 1,953 in the latest count published on Bahrain’s Open Data Portal.

Birds rule the list. Some 682 species have been recorded, making up 34.9pc of the total.

Fish come next with 483 species, or 24.7pc, followed by 368 types of mollusc, equal to 18.8pc. The count also includes 140 invertebrate species, 126 crustaceans, 64 insects, 46 mammals, 42 reptiles and only two amphibians.

Among the 15 species facing risk, five are classed as critically endangered. They include two invertebrates and one species each of mammal, fish and reptile.

Five others are listed as vulnerable: two bird species and one each from the amphibian, mammal and reptile groups.

A further two species from the reptile and bird groups are classed as endangered, while two fish and bird species are near threatened. One bird species falls within the lowest-risk category named in the data.

The figures classify 976 species as known, equal to 49.97pc of the total. Birds again form the largest share, with 341 known species. They are followed by 241 fish, 184 molluscs, 70 invertebrates, 63 crustaceans, 32 insects, 23 mammals, 21 reptiles and one amphibian. Another 962 species, or 49.26pc, have yet to be classified.

They include 336 birds, 240 fish and 184 molluscs, as well as 68 invertebrates, 63 crustaceans, 32 insects, 21 mammals and 18 reptiles.

Online Apps Fuel Human Trafficking Risks, Says MP

Calls for stronger laws, specialised training and public awareness to tackle cyber-enabled exploitation

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Mohammed Darwish

Traffickers are turning phones, apps and online platforms into tools of abuse, forcing Bahrain to keep its laws one step ahead, MP Hassan Ibrahim has warned.

He said online fraud and digital exploitation now posed some of the fastest-growing threats to people at risk, with criminals using new ways to find, deceive and trap victims.

Mr Ibrahim called for regular legal reviews, stronger training for police and judges, and wider public awareness of the tricks used by gangs online.

He said Bahrain had built firm laws and state bodies to fight human trafficking, protect workers, track abuse rings and aid victims. Marking World Day Against Trafficking in Persons, he said the crime crossed borders and demanded close work between the state and the public.



Hassan Ibrahim, MP

The aim, he said, was to shield victims, cut off routes used by abusers and teach people how to spot fraud before harm was done.

Mr Ibrahim said Bahrain had kept pace with new technology while protecting rights and freedoms through the work of Parliament, the Government and other state bodies.

He said the country’s record stemmed from the leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the follow-up of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al

Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

Bahrain has remained in Tier 1 of the US State Department’s Trafficking in Persons Report for eight years in a row.

Mr Ibrahim said the ranking showed the strength of the country’s work against trafficking and its efforts to protect workers, pursue gangs and improve the handling of cases.

He said the Council of Representatives would keep supporting laws and steps aimed at groups most at risk, as traffickers make growing use of social media and other online platforms to reach victims.