

Ex-employees made redundant and not paid 'promised payout'

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TDT | Manama

For many people, migrating to a different country for the hope of a prosperous life and career is a want.

In a sorrowful admission, three people here relayed to The Daily Tribune, that they are owed a hefty amount of money after being made redundant from a big company in the Kingdom causing them financial distress.

"We were promised the world," they told The Daily Tribune.

One of them (names withheld) said he was paid a monthly salary; however, started to see 'red flags' when in December 2021, all staff were paid 15 days late.

The second victim relayed the "red flags" he noticed, saying: "I noticed various red flags; however, I felt comforted as the company held a strong backing since 2020. Despite the hopeful thoughts I used to ease my mind, the backing of the company had started to become a big question mark as the months went on."

He claims he was offered the job by a friend who had joined the company and became excited for the future after successfully receiving the job. However, quickly, employees at the company noticed that everything was not as it seemed.

"After joining in March 2022, I had only received a couple of paychecks, and I have not been paid since August 2022. They owe me the payroll from September to January along with the final settlement that has not been paid."

The first victim noted that after the first late paid salary, all salaries following were also paid late. "This is where I started noticing the worrying signs that something wasn't right, and shortly after from September 2022, the company stopped paying our salaries fully."

Luckily, the first victim in this story said that he had already left the country, as he was worried of what was to come, signing a final settlement slip by the CEO, assuring him he will be paid the sum of money he is owed by the company. However,



The employees beg their employers for their hard-earned money, but they have not received it yet until now (Image used for illustrative purposes only)

this sum of money has not been paid yet.

Another person spoke to The Daily Tribune, a third victim, accounting his stressful experience in all of this and relaying his desperate wishes to get the money he was promised back so he could leave the country.

"The last time I received my full salary was at the end of September 2022. Around the end of November, I received a partial salary for the month."

Although many were hopeful that these issues were tem-

porary, and they would receive their full salaries soon, they were met with more concerning news.

"I was called for a group meeting where the company explained to us that they are going to retrench us as soon as they receive approval from the LMRA," explained one of the victims.

"In December, I received my notice and the week after, I went for my exit interview where I received some documents, including my final settlement letter, where they stated my last working day, and I would be paid

the full amount owed by them." Despite the false promises they were told, after being made redundant, no money has been paid to them since, the victims claim.

"There have been multiple times we have pleaded with the company to pay our hard-earned money; however, these honest demands fall to deaf ears."

Not only have the victims not received their money; however, many were trapped in Bahrain, not containing the funds to leave, hence no payout was given, they allege.

"There have been numerous times where I have demanded my money, and many times, I do not even receive a response. I even asked the company to book me a flight back to my home country where I can begin my life again," the second victim claimed.

"Thankfully, I was able to send my family back to our home country, but I have been battling to survive here on my own," he said.

"I have not been able to find work here or in my home coun-

try, and I stayed here as I was hopeful to one day receive my money back."

The second victim who came forth to The Daily Tribune relayed that many are living off their savings from their previous job.

"I am living off of my savings, only spending money on basic necessities to get by," he said.

Unfortunately, he faced further disparity as he has not been able to find a job after being made redundant, only receiving one interview in the past three months. "I am also owed a large sum of money, and have not received any of it after I left the company."

The Daily Tribune tried contacting the unnamed company; however, they did not want to comment on the story.

The victims allege there are approximately 30 employees affected, as they claim the company had rid of around 75 per cent of the workforce. The ex-employees are still waiting to receive their promised money; however, their requests have not been granted.

ILA holds free medical camp for women workers



Event organisers and supporters with women workers at the event



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The Indian Ladies Association (ILA) has expressed its love and concern for the low-income group women workers' segment of society by organising a free medical camp for them.

It included Blood Sugar, Cholesterol, URIC ACID, SGPT (liver test), Blood pressure, BMI, free Doctor Consultation, Dental Screening, and Loyalty Card.

The free medical camp was held at Dar Al Shifa Medical Center, Hooraa. It was supported by MegaMart, which sponsored refreshments for 50 house helps, and for others the hospital provided breakfast.

In the end, Loyalty Cards giv-

ing various discounts to them were distributed and the correct use of them was explained to all attendees.

The free medical camp was attended by 120 female house helps, receptionists, cashiers, cleaners, cleaning staff from various nationalities like in the Philippines, Egypt, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bahrain, India, Bangladesh and Ethiopia

ILA extended thanks to Mega Mart for supplying the refreshments for all, and to Radio Mirchi 104.2 FM for spreading the word for this initiative extensively in the past two days and 973 Show for media coverage.

This wouldn't have been possible without the extensive support from Dar Al Shifa Medical

Centre.

A memento was presented to the Hon. President and Executive Committee by the Dar Al Shifa Medical centre as their Token of Appreciation. The happiness and contentment on the faces of all the attendees was a real gift for ILA Excom 2022.

ILA is proud to create and pass on the legacy of this beautiful initiatives of giving love not only in the month of February, but throughout the year by conducting workshops and free medical checkups for this section of society that is often taken for granted.

For a full one year, ILA focuses on getting the much-required attention and support for low income group female workers in the society.

FilCreatives teams up with FilWrite in cultural exhibition



Filipino artists and writers
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The Filipino Creatives Bahrain art group teams up with the Filipino Writers Circle for this year's art and cultural exhibition.

It will be held at the Sentro Rizal of the Philippine Embassy this month.

The exhibition will highlight the life and works of the Philippines' national hero, Dr Jose

Rizal, to the Filipino people and the country.

Rizal's works as a doctor, novelist, artist, linguist, and his many other expertise, will be presented. Most especially, how his novels became the instrument of Philippine independence.

Artworks and literature in the exhibition will also feature the rich and vibrant culture of the Philippines. This aims to showcase the talent of the Fili-

pino artists and writers who are living in the Kingdom of Bahrain. This is a wonderful opportunity to share internationally the beauty of the Philippines.

FilCreatives artists will present this theme through artworks, painting and sculpture. Filwriters will present their poems about Rizal and the Philippines. Filipino communities, and other nationalities are also invited to visit this event.

Students get a feel of Bahrain TV studios



The students being briefed about live-broadcasting

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Bahrain School video communication students had their wish come true after they took an exciting guided tour in Bahrain Television studios,

gained insights into preparations for a live program and watched parts of it.

The 14 students from Josh Dinkler's Video Communications 2 and Video Communications 3 courses walked through the BTV sets, observed the con-

trol room in operation as a live show was being recorded, and visited the archives.

"At Bahrain School, students can earn a special seal on their diploma when they take three years of Video Communications classes," Dinkler said.