



جمعية حماية العمال الوافدين
Migrant Workers Protection Society
[MWPS]

MIGRANT VOICE

EMPOWERING COMMUNITY
NEWSLETTER | VOLUME 02 | EDITION 03 | JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2025

MISSION STATEMENT

**TO CREATE A COMMUNITY
WHERE EXPATRIATE
RIGHTS ARE PROTECTED
AND TO RAISE AWARENESS
OF THESE RIGHTS AND
RESPONSIBILITIES**

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DONATIONS

MWPS successfully distributed 77 dry ration bags to support vulnerable community members including domestic workers, part-time workers, and the unemployed across various locations. The initiative was made possible through generous donations from St. Christopher's School who provided the ration bags, along with valuable support from Livintis W.L.L, Gulf International Bank, National Evangelical Church, and Mr. Aditya Dugar. This collective effort provided crucial support to those facing economic challenges in our community.



EDITORIAL

A New Seat At the Table

For years, my contribution to the Migrant Workers Protection Society has been through the dual lenses of journalism and social work, reporting on systemic issues and supporting individuals directly. Being elected to the Board is a privilege that fills me with immense gratitude. This new role, however, significantly shifts my vantage point from observing and assisting to shared governance.

While my connection to the mission remains personal, my responsibility has expanded in scope.

The view from this seat - as the head of Media and Publicity Committee - is different. It is one of strategy, governance, and long-term planning. My duty is no longer just to the individual in front of me, but to the entire community we serve and to the future sustainability of the Society itself. It is a weighty, but welcome, change.

I am committed to channelling my on-the-ground experience into effective oversight. I will work to ensure our strategies are not only well-intentioned but are also practical and truly responsive to the needs on the front lines. I am eager to collaborate with my fellow Board members, and I thank you for this opportunity to serve in this new, vital capacity.

Happy reading!

RAJI UNNIKRISHNAN

EDITOR - MIGRANT VOICE

COMMUNITY HEALTH CHECK-UP

On Friday, July 25, 2025, MWPS organized a Women's Health Awareness and Check-up Event at the Al Hilal Hospital Muharraq Branch from 8:30am to 12 noon. The event was designed to support unemployed individuals and those from domestic and low-income backgrounds. In collaboration with Al Hilal Hospital, the initiative provided essential health services including blood pressure and sugar tests, creatinine, SGPT, total cholesterol, and uric acid tests, along with doctor consultations based on test results. A specialist doctor also delivered an awareness talk on women's health. All attendees received Al Hilal Hospital vouchers for free specialist consultations and discounts on additional services. Dry ration packages donated by St. Christopher's School Bahrain were also distributed to participants. As a token of appreciation, Al Hilal Hospital was presented with a memento in recognition of their valuable support for community initiatives.

MORE PICS ON PG 07



FROM THE CHAIRPERSON...



The past three months have been a period of significant and positive transition for the Migrant Workers Protection Society. As we welcome this new fiscal quarter, we also usher in a renewed sense of purpose with the inauguration of our newly constituted board of twelve members. This dynamic assembly skilfully merges the wisdom of seasoned experts with the innovative spirit of new voices, creating a formidable team poised to guide our mission.

I am personally thrilled to welcome our four newly elected members: Rhea Abraham, George Asong, Zuhair Ahmed Katib, and Raji Unnikrishnan. The passion and professional expertise they bring will be invaluable as we address the evolving challenges faced by the migrant community. Their decision to dedicate their time and talent is a powerful endorsement of our shared goals.

I am profoundly honoured by the confidence that the board members have shown in re-electing me as the Chairperson. This role is a responsibility I undertake with immense respect and a clear focus on the path ahead. My heartfelt thanks go to every member of this Board for their pledge to serve. Our collaborative efforts in the coming months will be crucial as we strive to enhance our outreach, strengthen our advocacy, and implement more impactful support programmes for the migrant workers who rely on our Society.

Let's work towards the cause that we are committed to...

MONA ALMOAYYED

CHAIRPERSON, MWPS



IOM-LMRA COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

On Saturday, 26 July 2025, MWPS took part in the Community Majlis organized by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in collaboration with the Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) at their Sanabis headquarters. The meeting served as an important platform for dialogue on migrant-related issues, fostering collaborative engagement between stakeholders and community representatives.

MWPS was represented by Vice Chairperson Mrs. Evone Bhaskaran and Assistant General Secretary Mr. Mohammed Gayazullah Amanullah, who actively contributed to discussions aimed at addressing community needs through open dialogue and shared responsibility. This engagement marks a significant step in strengthening community partnerships and advancing constructive dialogue on matters affecting migrant communities.





OUTREACH



Over the past three months, MWPS covered the cost of seven powers of attorney issued in favour of the lawyer engaged by the organisation. These authorisations supported legal action in cases involving travel bans, unpaid settlements from employers, retrieval of personal belongings from a building manager, and securing relief in an unjustified case filed against a worker by his employer. The following summary highlights some of the most prominent cases from July through September, showcasing the direct impact of our collective work.

—MWPS Outreach Team

Case 01

A woman from Cameroon arrived in Bahrain on a visit visa in April 2022. Since her arrival, she faced significant challenges, including difficulty securing stable employment, and had to rely on the support of friends and family. Over the past three years, her situation remained precarious, marked by financial instability and declining health. Eventually, she needed to return to Cameroon, but her passport had expired and, being on a visit visa, she was unable to secure assistance for travel expenses. She also lacked a valid travel document. MWPS stepped in to support her by facilitating the issuance of a travel document, clearing her overstay fines, and arranging a one-way flight ticket—enabling her to return home with dignity and peace of mind.

Case 02

A Sri Lankan national, who was residing in Bahrain for two years and five months was working as a housemaid for one year and one month under extremely difficult conditions, working long hours

daily from 8am to midnight. Her responsibilities included serving her sponsor's family, working for three additional families, and wrapping 300 to 400 sets of cutleries at home for her sponsor's restaurant. She was paid a monthly salary of only BD 150. The sponsor's wife was rude and threatened her once. During her work, she fell twice from the stairs, resulting in difficulty for her to continue working. She requested the sponsor's permission to leave the job and return to Sri Lanka due to her physical condition, but the sponsor refused, withheld her passport, and did not pay her half of her final month's salary. She eventually left the sponsor's home and approached the LMRA to recover her passport. Also, the sponsor had filed a runaway case against her. LMRA directed her to the Sri Lankan Embassy, which in turn referred her to the police station, where she filed a case for passport recovery. Meanwhile the sponsor cancelled her visa making her situation even more difficult. Without a valid visa or passport, she became homeless and unemployed. She approached MWPS and with the support of the authorities, the sponsor handed over the passport to the authorities

Case 03

A Cameroonian national, arrived in Bahrain on a visit visa but was unable to convert it into a work permit due to legal restrictions. With the assistance of MWPS, he submitted a request to the Cameroonian Embassy for the issuance of the necessary travel document. Once the document was received, MWPS arranged and provided a one-way flight ticket to facilitate his return to Cameroon.

Case 04

A Nigerian national who had to undergo brain surgery at Salmaniya Medical Complex was discharged but was unable to travel back to her home country immediately, as she required at least two months of rest. Due to the sensitivity of her condition, arrangements were made for her to stay in a shared flat with a volunteer from the local Nigerian community who assisted with her care. MWPS verified the situation and provided essential support by covering her share of the rent for the accommodation and supplying dry ration kits to ensure she had access to basic food items during her recovery.

GALLERY



OUTREACH

CONTD FROM PAGE 04

Case 05

A Cameroonian national, who was detained, was on an expired flexi visa and had no job, which made him unable to renew his visa. Due to the high cost, and urgency of repatriating him, MWPS reached out to Sri Sathya Sai Global Council who agreed to cover half of the ticket cost and the other half was paid by MWPS.

Case 06

A Sri Lankan national approached MWPS seeking legal assistance to resolve a travel ban he had been previously unaware of. He discovered the ban when he was stopped at the airport while attempting to travel for vacation. The ban had been imposed by his former landlord due to unpaid room rent. Prior to contacting MWPS, he had paid BD 105 to an agent to verify his status, and was incorrectly informed that no travel ban existed. Unemployed and suffering from dementia, he urgently needed to return to Sri Lanka for medical treatment and family support. He arranged a short-term visa; however, his employer later requested that he either transfer his visa to another sponsor or leave the country. Unable to secure alternative employment, he faced further difficulty when the employer refused to release his passport until he provided a copy of his flight ticket. MWPS intervened to recover his passport and, with the support of the MWPS legal team, successfully lifted the travel ban. MWPS also arranged a one-way flight ticket to facilitate his repatriation.

Case 07

A domestic worker from India arrived in Bahrain in January 2024 with a valid work permit arranged through an agent to work for a local family. She faced a heavy workload with minimal rest, and after six months, her employment was terminated due to health issues. Following her dismissal, she managed to find part-time work; however, her earnings were insufficient to support herself and her family back home. Without a valid visa or stable employment, she was unable to afford the immigration penalties or the cost of a flight ticket to return to India. She sought assistance from MWPS, which helped her by covering the immigration fine and arranging a one-way flight ticket, enabling her safe and dignified repatriation.

MWPS RECEIVES AUGUST LOVE OFFERING FROM NEC

In August, the Embrace Ministry of the National Evangelical Church selected MWPS as the beneficiary of their monthly Love Offering, recognizing our organization's community service work. Ayuk Ndumne, Head of the Action Committee, presented MWPS's work during the Friday service on August 1st, while Assistant General Secretary Mohamed Gayaz Ullah delivered a similar briefing on August 3. MWPS newsletters were distributed to congregation members, who contributed donations through the church. The church expressed appreciation for MWPS's ongoing community support, and the collected Love Offering was transferred to our organization to further our humanitarian initiatives.





IN FOCUS

MWPS ELECTS NEW LEADERSHIP

The Migrant Workers Protection Society (MWPS) has announced its newly elected leadership team for the coming term, with Mona Yousuf Khalil Almoayyed unanimously elected as Chairperson of the Board of Directors.

The complete leadership team includes:

- Chairperson: Mona Yousuf Khalil Almoayyed
- Vice Chairperson: Evone Vijayavani Bhaskaran
- Secretary: Madhavan Kallath
- Assistant Secretary: Mohamed Gayazullah Amanullah
- Treasurer: Kavithasree Suvarna
- Assistant Treasurer: Daniel M Ambrosio

"We are energized and united in our purpose," stated Mrs. Almoayyed. "This diverse and dedicated team is poised to significantly expand our efforts in protecting the rights and welfare of migrant workers in Bahrain."

The board has established five specialized committees to advance its mission:

Action Committee: Head: Ayuk Arrey Ndumne

Assisted by Evone Bhaskaran

Members: Zuhair Ahmed Katib and Karthikeyan Arumugam

Finance Committee: Head: Mrs. Kavithasree Suvarna

Assisted by Daniel Ambrosio

Member: Benit Mary Joseph

Fund Raising Committee: Head: Mohamed Gayazullah

Assisted by Ayuk Arrey Ndumne

Members: Evone Bhaskaran, Daniel Ambrosio, Karthikeyan Arumugam, Zuhair Katib, Kavithasree Suvarna, and Raji Unnikrishnan

Labour Safety and Welfare Committee: Head: Zuhair Katib

Assisted by Karthikeyan Arumugam

Members: Mohamed Gayazullah and George Asong

Media and Publicity Committee: Head: Raji Unnikrishnan

Assisted by Rhea Abraham

Members: Madhavan Kallath, Benit Mary Joseph

MWPS BOARD MEMBERS 2025-2027



MONA ALMOAYYED
CHAIRPERSON



EVONE BHASKARAN
VICE CHAIRPERSON



MADHAVAN KALLATH
GENERAL SECRETARY



MOHAMED GAYAZULLAH
ASST. GENERAL SECRETARY



KAVITHASREE SUVARNA
TREASURER



DANIEL AMBROSIO
ASST. TREASURER



AYUK ARREY NDUMNE
ACTION COMMITTEE HEAD



ZUHAIR KATIB
LABOUR SAFETY & WELFARE
COMMITTEE HEAD



RAJI UNNIKRISHNAN
MEDIA & PUBLICITY
COMMITTEE HEAD



KARTHIKEYAN ARUMUGAM
MEMBER



RHEA ABRAHAM
MEMBER



GEORGE ASONG
MEMBER