**Nasser S. Al Hajri (NSH) response 22.09.2021**

We are very concerned and disappointed to see the article published in Migrants-Rights.org dated 14th September, 2021 captioned “Protesting migrant workers in Bahrain’s O&G sector face abuse and threat” mentioning about “poor working and living conditions, unsafe working conditions, unhygienic and crowded accommodation, non-payment of wages, and substandard food” which is not true and has been published without conducting a proper investigation or enquiry.

It was neither a strike nor a protest, but an emotional outbreak based on some agitation created by small group of people with an intention to  defame NSH, BAPCO and the Kingdom of Bahrain. Chaos was created among the employees while one of the worker fainted in the mess hall, followed by circulating a fake video amongst the workers claiming 35 recent deaths and gas leak at the camp. Baseless and false allegations were raised through these videos.

It was so unlikely that the videos became viral and it was presented in such a manner that everyone were made believed, creating panic, fear and agitation amongst the workers. Please refer herewith the video link for your kind reference.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n1J9jvPAQtM](https://secure-web.cisco.com/1P63zmhEU4Kacvg2L5bkrN8d1BRDduhFmjDg9XxAcNSt8yy8sqx4ii-xOiL3fyxIOiGdEuaqTa8DgodELDWbUGP1ni5BTz_viGkqdM0KgtoHk9DQ3O-6q35I4x5pn2yuGJmW3hpgCjWMbFtDAcXO33rvg6iWiNC6btK2xDbJwP6YT_XboBOZIFrQd1vSuqXMRjuuwCaCQT2BlTw0iFmqtaYr9-9erpjyJ7mmTtXnoiiVxDMYKXYL_qqDBTsoZemxoDBe-LxFyQf503Dp3QaHeSl-NUSpshzn_65NX1hyrfVrnjyDkTJ1mtvXjcCZcozNVCMWwO_PgQS_yFiuq82A9dZgl0sBLJnSGuML7kkziGrtZ0CO6McZvStvIb7kXWPDvYGKeEpF1BdYR3k8g3NhULtEnDlVfWQIJvrHksn9uDm0/https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3Dn1J9jvPAQtM)

Even we have lodged complaint against the fake videos in General Directorate of Anti-corruption and Economic & Electronic Security, Kingdom of Bahrain.

Nasser Saeed Al Hajri Corporation (NSH), one of the leading construction contractors in the Kingdom of Bahrain, operating mainly in the field of Oil & Gas and Petrochemical Projects. NSH has been executing the major projects of strategic importance for the government in Kingdom of Bahrain in recent past.

In Bahrain, NSH is engaged in the Bapco Modernization Programme, one of the most prestigious projects with strategic importance for the Kingdom of Bahrain, as a major subcontractor for the main contractor TTSJV and are also engaged in other projects. NSH is privileged to be able to use four decades of expertise, towards playing a role in His Majesty’s Economic Vision 2030 for Bahrain and all our projects have set new benchmark with regard to safety and quality.

The baseless allegation raised in your article with regard to intimidating, harassing and injuring the workers are pure myths and the source of any such informations needs to be validated from your end.

We consider our workforce as most valuable assets and treat them with full dignity & respect. We have many workers who have been working with us from the date of Company’s inception till date. Utmost care is taken at all levels to ensure safe working and living conditions for our workforce.

We are a well reputed company operating in oil and gas sector over past four decades. We have set standards for our accommodation, related amenities and grievance mechanism which are well recognized and approved by our client and related government authorities. Apart from the said, each Project has set standards and specifications based on which accommodation facilities and related procedures are set. The standardization of facilities and procedures are purely based on international guidelines and clearly details the requirement with regard to rooms spacing, occupancy, recreational facility, dining halls and related amenities.  Periodical audits are conducted by BAPCO, Client and Third Parties for ensuring compliance in operations. From 2019, NSH is engaged in the BAPCO BMP Project and since then, we are compliant in all requirements of the project of the Project which is well acknowledged by BAPCO BMP Project governing authorities. The stated facility is approved by Ministry of Labour & Social Development, Ministry of Health, Directorate of Civil Defence, BAPCO and our clients.

From the date of incorporation, the salaries are paid on time with no arrears, which is an evident proof of our track record. We have been complying all the requirements of the Wage Protection System (WPS) in the Kingdom of Bahrain. The Kitchen facility is operated based on international standards and the food quality is inspected & certified by approved third party agency on regular basis. We have been organising periodical food committees meetings incorporating the workers to assess the quality and taste.

Kingdom of Bahrain is considered as one of the safest place to work and the governing authorities of the country are particular and keen in ensuring the implementation of Labour Law. The facilitation centres opened in nuke and corner of the country facilitates the labours an easy access to meet Ministry officials and they are provided with translators to express their concerns. Above, BAPCO is always focused on the welfare issues and have various mechanism & platforms for ensuring compliance at all levels. As NSH, our experience over Four decades, provides us with an competing edge for managing the welfare of our workers and every passing day is considered as lesson learned for incorporating the observations and making the existing system further stronger. We have the best systems in place with regard to welfare, quality and safety.  We have been the best company in the industrial construction sector providing long term job opportunities to many employees.

Even there was no police interference and the workers were given the complete freedom to express themselves.

In order to have more transparency, NSH invited the Ministry of Labour and Social Development, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Health, Supreme Council of Environment, Embassy of India, Embassy of Nepal from the first day of incident to ensure more clarity in proceedings to the concerned authorities and to the outer world. The Government authorities and Embassy officials are well aware about the incident and they have clearly understood the ground reality.

It’s quite unfortunate that the social media is dominating the media world by spreading fake news and even the leading Medias are following & believing these information without conducting a proper enquiry and study. At last we are the victims and are the one who have to face with the after effects. One of the leading newspapers in India, The New India Express have recently published an article with regard to 2000 harassed AP workers in Bahrain. We conveyed the real facts to The New India Express chief editor mentioning the ground reality based on which they have published our version in their daily. Details with regard to the correspondence with The New India Express chief editor has been attached with this letter.

Since 2017, NSH has been patronizing many prestigious projects in the Kingdom of Bahrain of high national importance. We have been a part of major projects like ALBA Potline 6, Banagas CGP III, Al Dur Phase II IWPP and ongoing BAPCO BMP Project. We are holding successful track record in all areas at our completed and ongoing projects, which is well recognized by our clients and owners. We have always thrived and succeeded in maintaining the highest level of standards in executing the projects and related facilities.

We are hereby inviting the officials of Migrants-Rights.org for visiting our facilities to understand the ground reality. Our humble appeal to all concern to clearly understand the real situation and help us to bring the real culprits in front.

Thanks & Regards

Unni / Business Director

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