

UAE issues multilingual document on workers' rights

First pocket book on worker's rights will be issued in six languages

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Abu Dhabi: A multilingual booklet *The Worker: Rights and Duties* has been released by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, Shaikh Saif Bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

Lieutenant Colonel Salah Al Gul, Director of Office of Culture of Respect for Law, said the first pocket book on worker's rights will be issued in six languages: Arabic, English, Tagalog, Persian, Chinese and Urdu, and would be distributed to all federal government departments, concerned NGOs, labour accommodations, and media outlets.

He said the booklet explains the rights and responsibilities of the worker as the basis of freedom and justice and also as the key driver for fully integrated development of the individual and community in achieving excellence in delivering targets and aspirations of members of the community.

The booklet will also aim to spread awareness among individuals about their rights and duties towards community and the state.

The booklet, which primarily seeks to foster and heighten the culture of respecting law and public order, features rights and duties of the worker in pursuance of laws conforming with the UAE constitution.

Lt Col Al Gul hoped the legal manual would be a good friend of the worker, helping him to stay under the umbrella of the law. He reaffirmed the UAE's firm commitment to protecting and guaranteeing human rights whether for UAE citizens or for expatriate residents.

The UAE, he underlined, lends great attention to workers' rights according to Article 20 of UAE Constitution, which says: "Society shall esteem work as a cornerstone of its development. It shall endeavor to ensure that employment is available for citizens and to train them so that they are prepared for it. Legislation must uphold the rights of workers and employers consistent with advanced international standards."

Article 34 of the Constitution says: "Every citizen shall be free to choose his occupation, trade or profession within the limits of law. Due consideration must be given to regulations organizing some of such professions and trades. No person may be subjected

to force labour except in exceptional circumstances provided by the law and in return for compensation. No person may be enslaved."

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