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## Firm fined Dh10m for Emiratisation fraud

**ABU DHABI**

**BY KHITAM AL AMIR**

Chief News Editor

**ALI AL HAMMADI**

Reporter

A private company has been fined Dh10 million by the Abu Dhabi Misdemeanor Court for violating Emiratisation regulations. The firm was found guilty of appointing 113 citizens fictitiously to meet Emiratisation targets.

Investigations revealed that the company had issued work permits for employees and registered them under the company without real employment. Based on the investigation outcome, the Abu Dhabi Public Prosecution ordered referral of the violating company to the competent court, which issued a ruling convicting the company.

The Ministry of Human Resources and Emiratisation (MoHRE) had earlier warned private sector companies against committing violations related to the wages of citizens. The ministry had stressed the need to avoid two main types of violations: Granting a citizen a lower wage than his colleagues in the same post; and reducing a citizen's wage on the pretext of benefiting from the Nafis programme.

**SEE ALSO P2**



WAM

## UAE, CHILE SIGN ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

The UAE and the Republic of Chile yesterday signed a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) in Abu Dhabi, paving the way for deeper economic collaboration between the two countries. The signing was witnessed by President His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Zayed Al Nahyan and Gabriel Boric, President of Chile. **SEE ALSO P4**

**SPORT**

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## Lebanon on edge as Israel weighs strike

SEVERAL EUROPEAN AIRLINES CANCEL  
FLIGHTS; UAE FLIGHTS UNAFFECTED

**DUBAI**

**BY STEPHEN N. R.**

Senior Associate Editor

Several airlines yesterday suspended flights to Beirut and some countries told their citizens to leave Lebanon as world powers sought to prevent Israel and Hezbollah's conflict turning into a full-blown war after a rocket attack killed a dozen young people in the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights.

Israeli ministers late on Sunday authorised Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to decide on the "manner and timing" of a response to the rocket strike.

"The State of Israel won't and can't let this go by. Our response will yet come, and it will be harsh," Netanyahu said yesterday while visiting the site of the attack, the town of Majdal Shams.

Lebanese Foreign Minister Abdullah Bou Habib said a flurry of diplomatic activity has sought to contain the anticipated Israeli response.

Amid rising tensions, several airlines suspended flights to Beirut. Lufthansa, along with its subsidiaries Swiss International and Eurowings, Air

France and Transavia will halt Beirut services until August 6, while Greece's Aegean Airlines has cancelled some flights.

Leading UAE carriers, however, said that their operations to Beirut remain unaffected.

**Countries ask citizens  
to leave Beirut**

US, Italy and Germany called on its citizens in Lebanon to leave quickly. Israeli news outlets reported the government was seeking a "limited but significant" action that would send a strong message to Hezbollah but not spiral out of control.

AFP quoting a source said Hezbollah has evacuated positions in south and east Lebanon. "Hezbollah has evacuated some positions in the south and in the Bekaa valley that it thinks could be a target for Israel," the source said.

"There must be a retaliation," said Amos Yadlin, a retired air force general and former chief of military intelligence. "But that doesn't mean it has to take place when anticipated. There's nothing wrong with keeping Hezbollah in a state of alert for days or even weeks."

**SEE ALSO P8**

**NATION**

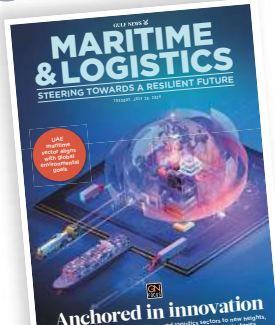
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