

Psychiatrist spread false news by accusing girls of consuming drugs

HRH the Premier has ordered a high-level probe into the incident

● Capital Governorate Chief Prosecutor Nawaf Al Awadhi confirmed that the Public Prosecution has completed its investigations into the case.

● The psychiatrist is accused of defaming the complainants, spreading false news and misusing means of communication.

TDT | Manama

A Bahraini female psychiatrist, who stirred a countrywide controversy over the alleged drugs abuse and

sexual activities at public girls' schools, was yesterday accused by the Public Prosecution of defamation and spreading false news.

The psychiatrist made headlines and the topic became the most trending discussion online, after she broadcast an interview with a seventh grader who was apparently expelled from Hamad Town Intermediate School for consuming and peddling prescription pills in school.

The doctor's 50-minute recording included serious revelations, accusations and claims of organised drug peddling and immoral activities among teenage girls in the school, alerting the highest authorities in the Kingdom to take action.

This led to the formation of a high-level committee, as per the directives of the Prime Minister HRH Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, to probe the claimed



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MR AL AWADHI

incident.

Several authorities also commented on the matter, including the Education Ministry, the Interior Ministry, the Public Prosecution and a number of MPs and legislators.

In a press statement issued yesterday, Capital Governorate Chief Prosecutor Nawaf Al Awadhi confirmed that the Public Prosecution has completed its investigations into the case.

He said the investigations included looking into the complaints received by the people mentioned in the footage against the psychiatrist, interrogating the individuals heard speaking in the video including the psychiatrist and reviewing the results of the investigations launched into the alleged incident by the Education Ministry and the Interior Ministry.

Mr Al Awadhi mentioned in

the statement that "the drug that was said to be traded is not among the narcotics listed, but is a medicine forbidden to be sold unless prescribed by a doctor" adding that "the drug was not caught from any of the students at any time".

The official confirmed that it accuses the psychiatrist of defaming the complainants, spreading false news and misusing means of communication.

"The use of social media to address this issue and discuss it in this way without resorting to the competent authorities to verify the authenticity of what has been raised, is in fact an act of abuse and contrary to the law, especially since it has affected people's reputation.

"What the main accused (the psychiatrist) has committed by broadcasting the video and the dialogues included in it through her personal channel on social

media networks is an action that's contrary to the nature, traditions and values of her profession," Mr Al Awadhi said.

He also emphasised the responsibility of the psychiatrist of preserving the confidentiality of individuals and "not behaving lightly and recklessly in the affairs of those who resort to her as such".

Mr Al Awadhi added that the psychiatrist should have committed to the law by reporting to the concerned authorities that are responsible of investigations.

During the conversation between the psychiatrist, the expelled student and her family, several names of students accused of peddling drugs in the school and carrying out sexual activities in its restrooms, were mentioned, an act that's considered defamation as per the Kingdom's laws.

Mentally-ill patient 'assaults health centre staff'



Many equipment at the centre were allegedly damaged by the patient.

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Mohammed Zafran

A patient suffering from a mental disorder allegedly assaulted a health centre staff member yesterday after 'losing control', it emerged.

The incident occurred at Hoora Health Centre, according to sources.

The centre was closed for the day after the incident as the accused allegedly broke many equipment there.

According to sources, he stormed into the reception area and began throwing and breaking various equipment.

He also attacked the workers at the centre and attempted to break the doors, the sources added.

"Though the security guard tried to bring the situation under control, he was beaten up

by the patient and sustained injuries."

"Soon afterwards officers from the Ministry of Interior arrived and handled the situation. They began their investigations and took the necessary measures," the Ministry of Health said in a statement issued.

Subsequently, the patient was transferred to the psychiatric hospital.

Health centre officials said that the patients undergoing treatment at the centre were transferred to Naim Health Centre "following chaos".

Meanwhile, the Health Ministry confirmed that the Hoora Health Centre will function as normal.

"The Ministry of Health deeply regrets the occurrence of such an incident. The safety of the patients and medical staff is a priority," the ministry stated.

Traffic jam after school bus collides with two vehicles

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Mohammed Zafran

A school bus collided with two other vehicles yesterday, causing a huge traffic jam on a major highway at around 11 am.

The accident occurred on the turn between Shaikh Khalifa bin Salman Highway and Shaikh Isa bin Salman Highway, according to the Interior Ministry. No injuries were reported.

Another traffic jam was reported after a truck rammed into a traffic signal on Shaikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah Street. No injuries were reported.

Many accidents were report-



Traffic jam on Shaikh Khalifa bin Salman Highway.

ed this week from across the Kingdom.

An 18 years old boy died in a tragic accident a few days ago after the car he was driving

rammed into a cement barrier.

The boy had obtained his driver's licence only a few days before the accident occurred.

In another development, the

General Directorate of Traffic said that it had arrested six individuals for performing motorbike stunts on roads in Hunainiya Area.

Career expo showcases 1,150 opportunities

Manama

The Labour and Social Development Minister yesterday opened a career expo organised by the Labour and Social Development Ministry at the ministry's building.

The event was attended by members of the Representatives Council, social and economic personalities and representatives of the business community.

The exhibition is part of the National Employment Programme to carry out the directives of His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier to showcase suitable job opportunities in the private sector and speed up integration of jobseekers in attractive sectors with rewarding salaries.

A total of 50 private sector establishments are taking part in the expo while the total number of exposed job vacancies reached 1,150 in various specialties, including 650 offered by participating



Mr Humaidan with other Labour Ministry officials tours the expo.

parties and 500 by the Labour and Social Development Ministry's Vacancies Bank.

The fair also showcased quality training opportunities for jobseekers from various disciplines and with different academic qualifications.

The Labour and Social Development Minister stressed the ministry's continuous initiatives to provide suitable job opportunities for citizens, accelerate integration of newly recruited workers in the job market and promote citizens' employment in the private sector.

He pointed out the efforts to

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keep the employment rate at its secure level, describing the expo as a platform to accelerate the employment movement.

He also emphasised vitality of the job market in Bahrain and its capability to generate job opportunities for citizens thanks to the facilities provided by the government for the private sector.

The Labour and Social Development Minister toured the exhibition and met with exhibitors and jobseekers.

He listened to their views and remarks on the ministry's expos and ways of upgrading the employment mechanisms according to the job market needs for qualified competencies in various specialties.