

Regulator dismisses majority of medical negligence complaints over 'inaccuracy'

Only 42 complaints, out of 228 cases filed, were accurate

● **Health Ministry consistently following up on cases of medical negligence.**

● **Over a thousand violations were found at healthcare facilities during the past year by teams sent by NHRA.**

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Mohammed Zafran

Of the 228 alleged medical negligence complaints filed with the health reg-

ulator last year, only 42 have been proved to be accurate, it was revealed.

According to Bahrain Medical Association, a good majority of medical complaints "was not really substantiated upon leading to dismissals".

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Health yesterday stated that it is following up the case of a Bahraini patient, who allegedly suffered multiple complications following a surgery.

Claims were made on social media that the patient suffered severe complications due to medical negligence.

However, investigations have not yet confirmed whether it was a case of medical negligence.



The hospital authorities are in constant contact with the family, updating them on the patient's medical condition.

HEALTH MINISTRY

"The ministry has passed over the information regarding the incident to the National Health Regulatory Authority (NHRA), which is investigating the case."

According to sources, the patient is currently in the Intensive Care Unit, receiving the required treatment.

"The hospital authorities are in constant contact with the family, updating them on the patient's medical condition.

"There are a series of reported cases of medical negligence, although official statistics about how many of those have been proven true is yet to be revealed," the ministry said.

Over a thousand violations were found at healthcare facilities during the past year by teams sent by NHRA.

Violations ranging from medical waste disposal to improper sterilisation were noted at healthcare facilities across the Kingdom, according to NHRA.

The NHRA said that 697 inspection visits were made last year.

697

inspection visits were made by the NHRA teams to healthcare facilities last year.

"Among the violations, 384 were noted during inspections, 111 were related to new healthcare facilities, 62 deal with auditing errors and remaining were linked to delivery of services," the regulator had said.

The NHRA pointed out that

majority of the violations were related to facility structure (267), followed by devices failing safety tests and improper waste disposal.

Other forms of violations include those related to engineering, fire and safety, licensing and the maintenance of patient records.

The inspection teams also discovered 40 violations committed by different pharmacies across the Kingdom. The violations were related to sale of banned medicines, medicine prices and licensing.

Close to 600 inspection visits were made by the NHRA inspectors to pharmacies last year, it was learnt.

Private power plants 'ready to handle summer load'

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Chief Executive Officer of the Electricity and Water Authority (EWA) Shaikh Nawaf bin Ibrahim Al Khalifa visited Al Dur Electricity and Water Company to inspect the main power grid and the private electricity and water production stations.

The visit came as part of preparations of the EWA and private plants to meet the growing demand for electricity during the summer due to the high temperature.

Shaikh Nawaf reviewed the network readiness and production stations to cover the demand for energy and water during the summer.



The total production capacity of private plants is 3096 MW and 138 million gallons per day of desalinated water.

Officials of Al Dur confirmed their readiness to meet the demand for electricity and water

during the summer, the EWA said in a statement issued.

They briefed Shaikh Nawaf on the operation and maintenance of the plant production units and the preparations made by the company to meet all requirements.

The Chief Executive Officer stressed the necessity of readiness and reliability of the company to serve Bahrain's main electricity network, especially during the summer, according to energy and water purchase agreements between the two.

He also discussed the performance of the station, stressing the importance of taking all necessary measures to provide the required

service in electricity production.

The total capacity of the power and water production plants in the Bahrain represents 80 per cent of the generation capacity.

The total production capacity

of these companies is 3096 MW and 138 million gallons per day of desalinated water.

The agreement aims at achieving a high level of readiness and performance by ensuring compliance with the

standards of electricity production within the framework of international standards in this field, which include high maintenance procedures and safe and economical operation, the EWA added.



Shaikh Nawaf with other EWA officials at Al Dur Electricity and Water Company.

Sinai attack condemned

Manama

Bahrain yesterday strongly condemned the terrorist attack that targeted a governmental building near El Arish airport in Egypt's Sinai province, resulting in the death and injury of several people.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs extended its condolences

to the families of the victims and wished those injured a speedy recovery.

It affirmed Bahrain's full solidarity with Egypt in its relentless efforts to enhance security and stability and stressed its unwavering support for its endeavours to counter terrorism at the regional and international levels.

The ministry in a statement reiterated Bahrain's stance in rejecting all forms of violence, extremism and terrorism, regardless of its motives and called for the enhancement of co-ordination and international co-operation to eradicate the scourge and cut its funding sources.



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