

(Translated from Arabic)

Reply of the Kingdom of Bahrain concerning the allegations of detention and judicial proceedings against Ms. Ghada Jamsheer

The Ministry wishes to inform you that Ms. Ghada Jamsheer was detained in the Correctional and Rehabilitation Centre for Women because she was a suspect in the following four cases:

1. [REDACTED], in which bail was set at 100 Bahraini dinars and she was sentenced to a term of 3 months' imprisonment. Her appeal was rejected and the sentence upheld.
2. [REDACTED], in which she was sentenced to a term of 1 year's imprisonment. The sentence was subsequently reduced, on appeal, to 2 months' imprisonment.
3. [REDACTED], in which bail was set at 100 Bahraini dinars and she was sentenced to a term of 2 months' imprisonment. Her appeal for commutation of the penalty was rejected.
4. [REDACTED], in which she was sentenced to a term of 3 months' imprisonment. Her appeal for commutation of the penalty was rejected.

Accordingly, a warrant for her arrest was issued pursuant to the judgement handed down by the Third Lower Criminal Court under which she was sentenced to a term of 3 months' imprisonment on the charge of misusing telecommunications devices, which is a punishable offence under the Bahraini Criminal Code. In conformity with the customary procedures in cases in which arrest warrants have been issued, the security directorates and passport control offices were duly notified. When she entered the Kingdom of Bahrain, through Bahrain International Airport, at around 10.30 p.m. on 15 August 2016, she was found to be the subject of an arrest warrant and therefore, at 11.30 p.m., a police patrol vehicle in which female police officers were present was dispatched to take her into custody so that the legal proceedings against her could be completed. She underwent a medical examination by a competent physician and was transferred to the women's section of Isa City Correctional and Rehabilitation Centre in order to serve the sentence imposed on her in the above-mentioned case.

The Ministry also wishes to inform you that the Ministry of the Interior of the Kingdom of Bahrain, through its Directorate General of Correction and Rehabilitation, is endeavouring to ensure a proper, healthy environment for all inmates of correctional and rehabilitation centres and has taken various measures to that end. Under the terms of the Correctional and Rehabilitation Facilities Act No. 18 of 2014 and Decision No. 131 of 2015 promulgating the implementing regulations therefor, every such centre must have a clinic staffed by one or more physicians, under the direction of the centre's chief medical officer, and fully equipped to provide medical care free of charge for prisoners and persons held in pretrial detention. Each centre must also have one or more qualified sociologists/psychiatrists on its staff to oversee and monitor the conduct of prisoners and persons held in pretrial detention, all of whom undergo an examination by the centre's chief medical officer at the time of their admission to the centre in order to determine their state of health.

The centre's chief medical officer has a responsibility to take the measures needed to safeguard the health of prisoners and persons held in pretrial detention by inspecting their living conditions, checking the quality of the food served to them and recommending any action that he might deem necessary to protect public health within the centre. He must also perform any other duties or functions required of him under the Correctional and



Rehabilitation Facilities Act No. 18 of 2014 or the implementing regulations issued pursuant thereto.

In the light of the above, we can confirm that, at the time of her admission to the women's section of the Correctional and Rehabilitation Centre, the said person being held in pretrial detention was examined by a competent physician, whose medical report stated that [REDACTED]. She was given [REDACTED], which was deemed sufficient to treat her condition. She underwent the requisite tests at the Ministry of the Interior's Public Security Medical Centre before [REDACTED] on a regular basis and she was supplied with [REDACTED] at her own request. She received the following medical services:

1. Examination by a competent physician at the time of her detention on 16 August 2016 when a medical report was issued on her state of health and the ailments from which she was suffering.
2. Consultations at the Correctional and Rehabilitation Centre's clinic on 17, 18, 21, 22, 24, 25 and 28 August 2016.
3. Consultations at the Correctional and Rehabilitation Centre's clinic on 7, 15, 18, 20 and 26 September 2016.
4. Consultations at the Correctional and Rehabilitation Centre's clinic on 3, 7, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 22, 23 and 29 November 2016.
5. A consultation at the Royal Medical Services Hospital on 15 November 2016.
6. A consultation with an [REDACTED] on 1 December 2016.
7. An appointment at the Department of Internal Medicine of the Royal Medical Services Hospital was scheduled for 5 January 2017.

The Kingdom wishes to reaffirm that regular and timely treatment is provided free of charge in order to safeguard the health of all prison inmates.

An examination of the said person's file showed that she enjoyed all the rights to which she was entitled under the Correctional and Rehabilitation Facilities Act, including provision of the best available medical services on a periodic and regular basis for all inmates, without any discrimination. The personal circumstances of all inmates are taken into consideration in accordance with the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners.

On 7 November 2016, the lower court's judgement was set aside on appeal and the said person's sentence was commuted to community service.
