## In Udmurtia, local residents charged with trafficking women abroad for prostitution



The Udmurtia Office of the Investigative Committee together with the RF Ministry of the Interior have broken up the activity of a criminal group who recruited, transported and trafficked women for prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation to Bahrain. Four members of the group have been held, two of them have been charged with human trafficking under Part 2, item "d" of Article 127.1 of the RF Penal Code.

According to investigators, the suspects have sought out young women in Udmurtia since 2015 to persuade them to become prostitutes abroad promising high rewards and in some cases offering employment. In November, the 44-year-old accused and her 27-year-old daughter recruited a 22-year-old resident of the town of Izhevsk to become a prostitute in Bahrain. On 16 November, one of the accused was detained by police on a train en route from Izhevsk to Moscow while she was accompanying one of the victims.

In addition, 56-year-old and 39-year-old women from the town of Votkinsk are suspected of trafficking two victims for sexual exploitation in Bahrain where controlled by unidentified individuals they were forced into prostitution.

The residences of the suspects have been searched, witnesses and victims questioned. Operations are underway to identify all the members of the criminal group and their crimes. The investigators are going to ask courts to take the suspects in custody. The investigation is ongoing.

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