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KUWAIT COMMITTEE REVOKES CITIZENSHIP OF 1,758 INDIVIDUALS

Women's wages intact post-citizenship loss

Job security extends to divorcees, widows

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28, (KUNA): Acting Prime Minister, Minister of Defense and Minister of Interior Sheikh Fahad Yousef Saud Al-Sabah, who chairs the Supreme Committee for Investigating Kuwaiti Nationality, announced today that women whose nationalities were revoked under Article 8 of the Nationality Law will retain their employment and salary status.

In a statement to Kuwait News Agency (KUNA), Sheikh Fahad Al-Yousef confirmed that this protection extends

to wives of Kuwaiti citizens, as well as divorcees and widows residing in Kuwait. These women will continue to work in their current positions and receive their usual salaries, despite the changes in their nationality status.

Furthermore, Sheikh Fahad Al-Yousef assured that retired women in similar situations will continue to receive their retirement pensions. This decision aims to mitigate the impact of recent amendments to the Nationality Law on affected individuals.

Meanwhile, the Supreme Committee to Investigate Kuwaiti Citizenship held a meeting on Thursday under the chairmanship of Acting Prime Minister, Minister of Defense and Minister of Interior Sheikh Fahad Yousef Saud Al-Sabah, who is also head of the committee. The Ministry of Interior said in a statement that the committee decided to strip 1,758 individuals of Kuwaiti citizenship, pending referral to the Cabinet.

AI eyes hit roads to nab traffic lawbreakers

By Munif Naif

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: Based on the directives of the Acting Prime Minister, Minister of Defense, and Minister of Interior Sheikh Fahad Yousef Saud Al-Sabah, the Ministry of Interior's Traffic and Operations Sector announced the launch of installation of automatic surveillance cameras using artificial intelligence to monitor traffic violations, including traffic obstruction and failure to adhere to designated road lanes.

The ministry urged all motorists to fully comply with traffic rules and regulations, follow lane discipline, adhere to the traffic signs, and avoid infringing on the rights of others on the road, as this is necessary for ensuring traffic safety and maintaining the smooth flow of traffic on all roads.

The ministry said this initiative is part of its comprehensive strategy to improve the traffic system and ensure the safety and security of road users.

It affirmed that non-compliance with traffic regulations will result in legal action against the violators.

Meanwhile, a security source revealed that the cameras will also monitor violations such as using a mobile phone at a traffic light intersection, adding that individuals wishing to use their phones must pull over in design-



Photo by Rezk Tawfik

Cars fill Kuwait roads amidst overcast skies. The Ministry of Interior announced Thursday the installation of AI cameras to enhance road safety and enforce traffic regulations.

nated public parking areas before doing so.

In a significant move to improve road safety, Kuwait's Council of Ministers, led by Acting Prime Minister, Minister of Defense and Minister of Interior Sheikh Fahad Al-Yousef, has approved amendments to Decree-Law No. (67) of

1976 regarding traffic regulations.

The draft decree-law, endorsed during a meeting Wednesday, will now be submitted to His Highness the Amir for final approval. The proposed amendments aim to curb dangerous driving behaviors by increasing fines and introducing alternative penalties.

Serious traffic violations, such as running red lights, reckless driving, unauthorized racing, exceeding speed limits and driving against traffic on highways, will now carry harsher consequences.

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Kuwait dismantles major residency scam operation

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: The Ministry of Interior announced Thursday the arrest of a gang involved in a large-scale residency fraud operation. The General Department of Residence Affairs Investigations apprehended several individuals who were allegedly running fictitious companies and forging official documents to facilitate illegal residency permits.

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Payment solutions expanded

KNPC completes maintenance on environmental fuel project

By Najeh Bilal

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff and Agencies

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: The Kuwait National Petroleum Company (KNPC) recently announced the completion of comprehensive maintenance work on the units of the Environmental Fuel Project at Mina Al-Ahmadi Refinery.

This marks the first major maintenance of its kind for this critical project. The refinery's Deputy CEO, Shujaa Al-Ajmi, highlighted that this maintenance operation was one of the largest in the refinery's history and it also included maintenance on the bitumen factory -- the only facility in Kuwait producing bitumen for asphalt roads.

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Media coverage measures for GCC summit ready: Information Ministry

162nd Ministerial Council holds key consultative session

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28, (KUNA): The preparatory consultative meeting of the 162nd session of the Ministerial Council of the 45th session of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Supreme Council was held on Thursday in Kuwait.

The meeting was chaired by Minister of Foreign Affairs Abdullah Al-Yahya in the presence of GCC delegations heads and Secretary-General of the GCC Jassem Al-Budaiwi.

The 45th GCC Supreme Council meeting is set to be held in Kuwait next Sunday.

Minister of Foreign Affairs Abdullah Al-Yahya affirmed on Thursday that the holding of the preparatory consultative meeting of the 162nd session of the Ministerial Council of the 45th GCC summit embodies depth of the brotherly bonds among the council member states and the joint keenness on strengthening the Gulf ranks' unity.

Minister Al-Yahya, the chair of the session, said in his keynote statement at today's meeting that it is a crucial step to pursue the strengthening of integration and a platform to follow up on regional and international developments that warrant deeper coordination and more unified stands. Moreover, "Today we are within grasp of a renewed opportunity to continue capitalizing on had been accomplished and draw up a future roadmap for more stability and prosperity for our region," he stated.

Minister Al-Yahya continued that the meeting coincides with a critical period in the region and the world, where challenges have been mounting and crises being aggravated, thus "we need to stand in a single line and act with the joint responsibility spirit to face the hazards threatening the regional security and stability." Al-Yahya alluded to, among other dramatic tragedies, the plights suffered by the Palestinian people.

He renewed the principled and unwavering support for the just Palestinian cause to ensure



KUNA photo

A group photo featuring Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Abdullah Al-Yahya alongside Their Highnesses, Excellencies, and heads of delegations from Gulf Cooperation Council countries participating in the recent meeting, highlighting regional collaboration and diplomacy.

the uncompromising rights of the Palestinian people namely their right to establish the independent state until the June 4th line, with Jerusalem as its capital.

The minister appealed to the international community to bear its humanitarian and legal responsibilities toward the unarmed Palestinian people and stop the brutal attacks on them. "We also stress on the necessity to dispatch humanitarian aid to Gaza quickly while establishing international protection for the Palestinian people," he emphasized.

Al-Yahya praised efforts undertaken by the ministerial committee of the extraordinary Arab-Islamic summit and its pivotal role under presi-

dency of Saudi Arabia in support of the Palestinian cause, as well as boosting the diplomatic and relief efforts to tackle the humanitarian crisis in Gaza. "We renew our backing for the blessed efforts masterminded by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in its command of the international coalition for supporting the recognition of the State of Palestine."

"We cannot ignore the continuing Israeli offenses on Arab territories notably Lebanon and Syria, as they constitute blatant breach of the international law and sovereignty norms," he said, acclaiming the cease-fire accord in Lebanon, hoping that this move would lead to implementing the UNSC resolution 1701. Moreover in this

regard, he underscored necessity to respect Lebanon's sovereignty and stability, rejecting any bids to encroach upon its lands and security. "We also renew our support for Syria's unity and stability and call for ending external meddling that aggravate conditions in the region," Al-Yahya continued.

Meanwhile, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Information Dr Nasser Muhaisen affirmed completing preparations to cover the 45th GCC Supreme Council meeting, to kick off in Kuwait on December 1.

Muhaisen made the statement to KUNA on Thursday, after concluding a visit to the summit's media center in Bayan Palace, with Minister of Information and Culture and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Abdulrahman Al-Mutairi, Minister of Public Works and head of the summit's coverage committee Dr Nora Al-Mashaan and secretary in the Amiri Diwan Sheikh Khaled Al-Abdullah Al-Sabah.

The ministry is coordinating with other bodies in charge of the event to receive over 80 Arab and international journalists and reporters to allow them to fully cover the summit, he noted.

Kuwait's media teams will facilitate arrival procedures for the visiting journalists and will also support them in presenting their media reports, the official said. He added that the ministry's media center for the summit will open on Friday.

The slogan of the media campaign (GCC ... United Journey) launched by the Kuwaiti Ministry of Information in preparation for the 45th GCC Summit, symbolizes the strong connection tying the GCC countries.

The slogan also carries a message of highlighting the deep ties between the countries and the ambitious visions for an honorable and promising future for the upcoming generations.

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8 KFH participates in 6th edition of 'Partners in Employing Them' initiative



9 NBK-Egypt reports EGP 5.2 billion (equivalent to KWD 82 million) in net profit by end of 3Q2024



9 Zain's IDEU recognized as 'Best People Development' program at MERIT Summit Awards

Kuwait welcomes Lebanon ceasefire, urges end to attacks on Palestinians



Displaced residents pause and hug as they stand in front of the rubble of their destroyed house in Baalbek, eastern Lebanon, Thursday, Nov. 28, 2024. (AP)

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28, (Agencies): The Kuwaiti Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Thursday welcomed the ceasefire in Lebanon, which took effect in the early hours of Wednesday, hoping that it would culminate in a permanent ceasefire and an end to the anguish of the Lebanese people.

In a press release, the ministry commended all international efforts to stop violence, being exerted under the umbrella of the UN and UN Security Council resolutions, the last of which was Resolution 1701.

However, it underlined that international efforts should be stepped up to halt the continued Israeli aggressions on the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank.

In New York, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) stated that Lebanon is in the midst of its most devastating humanitarian crisis in a generation and that the

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NewsWatch

KUWAIT CITY: Kuwaiti Deputy Foreign Minister Ambassador Sheikh Jarrah Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah on Thursday met with Iranian Ambassador to Kuwait Mohammad Totonji.

During the meeting, they looked into bilateral relations between both countries and the latest regional and international developments. (KUNA)

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VIENNA: Kuwait's Ambassador to Austria and permanent representative to the international organizations in Vienna Talal Al-Fassam said the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) plays a crucial role in maximizing benefit from the peaceful applications of the nuclear technology.

Al-Fassam reaffirmed Kuwait's commitment to the IAEA efforts to strengthen international peace and security, and realize the aspirations of all nations for development. (KUNA)

Kuwaiti heritage showcased in Katara

DOHA, Nov 28, (KUNA): Katara 14th Traditional Dhow Festival kick started on Wednesday with Kuwaiti participation.

Nawaf Al-Asfour, the head of the Kuwaiti mission partaking in the festival, said Kuwait Society for Revival of

Heritage has sent a team to promote the Kuwaiti heritage in this international event.

Kuwait has for years participated in the Katara festival displaying artifacts

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KUNA photo

Boats are seen during the Katara festival in Doha.

Prayer Timings

Fajr 04:58 Asr 14:30
 Sunrise .. 06:22 Maghrib .. 16:49
 Zohr 11:36 Isha 18:11

Local

Weather

Expected weather for next 24 hrs:
By Day: Rather cold with light to moderate freshening at times over coastal areas northwesterly wind, with speeds of 10-40 km/h and some high clouds will appear.
By Night: Cold with light to

moderate freshening at times over coastal areas northwesterly wind, with speeds of 12-42 km/h.
Station **Max Exp** **Min Rec**
 Kuwait City 18 09
 Kuwait Airport 18 10

Abdaly 17 06
 Bubyana 20 -
 Jahra 18 08
 Failaka Island 20 11
 Salmiyah 20 12
 Ahmadi 17 07
 Jal Aliyah 20 06
 Nuwaisib 21 10

Other Voices

Kuwait well-suited to launch GHO: Eltahir

Joint action through humanitarian diplomacy vital to tackle crises



Ghada Eltahir



By Ghada Eltahir

UN Resident Coordinator in Kuwait

As I reflect on the humanitarian landscape, I am reminded of the collective role that key actors — donors, UN agencies, and NGOs — play in addressing global crises. On the occasion of the launch of the 2025 Global Humanitarian Overview (GHO), I find it crucial to reflect on the current state of affairs globally and the vital importance of humanitarian diplomacy in addressing life-saving priorities.

With over 25 years of experience in humanitarian affairs and development, having held senior positions at OCHA (United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs), I feel compelled to stress that as we look toward the 2025 Global Humanitarian Overview, it is impossible to overlook the scale and complexity of the challenges humanity faces today.

From protracted conflicts and the escalating impacts of climate change to the rising needs of vulnerable populations, the global humanitarian landscape has never been more fraught. In 2024 alone, \$49 billion is required to assist 188 million people across 73 countries, yet only 42.4% of the funding requirements have been met to date.

The humanitarian needs we face today are deeply interconnected with the complexities of modern conflicts. These conflicts often involve multiple actors and non-traditional battlefields, making the response even more challenging.

Armed conflicts in countries such as Sudan, the occupied Palestinian territories, Yemen, and Syria have displaced millions, while the ongoing effects of climate change threaten entire regions with famine, floods, and droughts. This convergence of crises is forcing the international community to rethink how we approach suffering and insecurity.

However, there is also reason for hope. Collective action through humanitarian diplomacy has the potential to reshape the future of global response efforts. This is not just an aspiration but a necessity in our increasingly interconnected world. Governments like Kuwait, alongside the United Nations, NGOs, and donors, are crucial in leading this effort.

Challenges

Addressing these challenges requires more than providing food, shelter, and medical aid. We must adopt a multifaceted approach that includes conflict resolution, strengthening local governance, ensuring access to basic services, and promoting sustainable development. But none of this can be achieved in isolation.

It demands the alignment of political will, humanitarian action, and development strategies across borders, organizations, and sectors.

I am reminded of the words of UN Secretary-General António Guterres at the General Assembly in February 2024, where he said, "For millions of people caught up in conflict around the world, life is a deadly, daily, hungry hell. Record numbers are fleeing their homes in search of safety. They are crying out for peace. We must hear them, and act."

As we look ahead to the launch of the 2025 Global Humanitarian Overview, it is fitting that Kuwait, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, will host this year's key discussions. Kuwait has long been recognized for its leadership in humanitarian aid and diplomacy, and its commitment to alleviating human suffering on the global stage is a model for others.

Since the founding of the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development in the 1960s, the country has provided millions of dollars in humanitarian assistance to conflict-affected regions across the Middle East and beyond.

Kuwait's role in humanitarian diplomacy goes beyond financial contributions. The country has also played a pivotal role in facilitating dialogue and building bridges among conflicting parties, showing that humanitarian diplomacy can complement political efforts aimed at achieving peace. Kuwait's consistent support for UN humanitarian initiatives, as well as its hosting of major international donor conferences (such as those for Syria), highlights the country's commitment to fostering collaboration among all humanitarian actors.

As the host for this year's Global Humanitarian Overview, Kuwait will provide a unique platform to advance the conversation around collective action and emphasize the importance of multi-lateralism in tackling the world's most pressing humanitarian crises.

As we gather in Kuwait to launch the 2025 Global Humanitarian Overview, let this serve as a reminder that no single entity can tackle these crises alone. Humanitarian diplomacy, rooted in collaboration, mutual respect, and shared goals, is essential to not only meet the immediate needs of those affected but to work together to create a more sustainable, peaceful, and just world for all.

Wafra station launch to link Gulf's electricity with world

By Mohammad Ghanem

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: With the countdown to the Gulf Summit that Kuwait will host on Sunday under the slogan, "The Future is Gulf," and whose agenda includes the Gulf electrical interconnection project; the Wafra station — set to open at the end of this year — appears to mark the beginning of the Gulf electrical interconnection with the world.

This will be achieved by extending the network into southern Iraq, which will initially be supplied with 500 megawatts of electrical capacity, with future increases based on demand.

Studies in this field indicate that, following the expansion, the electrical interconnection capacity will exceed 3,000 megawatts. This will bring significant benefits, the most important of which is the reduction in installed capacity requirements, especially with the substantial increase in electrical loads during summer.

The studies also showed that Wafra station occupies an area measuring 62,000 square meters and connects Kuwait to the Gulf electricity grid through four overhead transmission lines, with a length of 256 kilometers from Kuwait to Fadhili station, which is affiliated with Saudi Interconnection Authority. This connection will provide a capacity exceeding 3,000 megawatts.

Moreover, the electrical connection will extend from Wafra to the Faw station in southern Iraq; serving as the link between the electricity grids of Gulf Arab countries, Iraq, and eventually, Turkey and Europe.

The studies revealed that the project, funded by Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED) and Qatar Development Fund, will help strengthen the national electricity grids of the member states of the authority, thereby, enhancing their reliability to ensure a sustainable supply of electrical energy at all times.

The project includes the construction of overhead lines from Wafra to Sabah Al-Ahmad 23 and 74 stations to connect with the Kuwaiti network, as well as a 400-volt overhead line network extending to Iraq.

This is in addition to the supply and installation of circuit breakers, electrical reactors, and measurement and control systems for the establishment and expansion of transformer stations in Wafra, Fadhili and Faw.

Rise above differences, focus on stability: Al-Yassin

Kuwait national confab opens on high note of unity, loyalty

By Mohammad Ghanem
 Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: The 24th National Conference, titled "From Kuwait We Begin ... and to Kuwait We End," opened with a powerful call for national unity and stability.

Attorney Yousef Al-Yassin, head of the Supervisory Committee, emphasized the importance of unity as a protective fortress against those who wish harm to the nation.

He urged Kuwaitis to rise above differences and focus on the country's stability for the greater good.

Speaking at the opening, Al-Yassin expressed his deep sense of loyalty and belonging to Kuwait, praising its rich history of generosity from past gen-

erations and expressing a strong commitment to its future.

He called on Kuwaitis to unite under the banner of the Kuwaiti flag, under the guidance of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Mishaal Al-Ahmad and His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled.

Al-Yassin noted that the conference serves as a national initiative from the people of Kuwait for the people of Kuwait, carrying the message of "nationalism... the authenticity of the fathers... an extension of the sons."

In her remarks, lawyer Kawthar Al-Jouan, head of the Women's Institute for Development and Peace, stressed that the conference is a message from past generations to the present, urging loyalty and faithfulness to the land.



Al-Yassin

She highlighted Kuwait's resilience, noting that it has been protected by divine intervention from sedition and treachery and reaffirmed the strength of the nation's political leadership in guiding the country through challenges.

The conference also honored several distinguished figures from Kuwait's history, recognizing their contributions to the nation, including Mohammad Darwish Al-Arabi, Abdul Hamid Ali Al-Qattan, Khalifa Talal Al-Jarri and others, all of whom played pivotal roles in Kuwait's development.

Kuwait opens center to treat sleep disorders in adults, kids

Snoring, sleep apnea, fatigue tackled: expert

By Marwa Al-Bahrawi

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: The Minister of Health Dr. Ahmad Al-Awadhi, and the Minister of Social Affairs, Family and Childhood Affairs Dr. Amthal Al-Huwailah officially inaugurated the Kuwait Center for Sleep Medicine, the first of its kind in the country, which was donated by the National Cooperative Projects Committee.

Dr. Al-Awadhi explained that the center reflects Kuwait's vision and the national health strategy for developing the country's healthcare infrastructure and enhancing the quality of medical services. It stands out by offering the latest medical technologies and bringing together various specialties to treat sleep disorders in both adults and children. The center not only provides medical care but also focuses on medical education and continuous development. It has a dedicated hall for training and scientific lectures.

Meanwhile, the Minister of Social Affairs, Family, and Childhood Affairs Dr. Amthal Al-Huwailah affirmed that the opening of the center highlights the important role played by the National Cooperative Projects Committee in supporting development projects that benefit the community.

She said the committee's donation to establish the center reflects its commitment to enhancing health and social services, in line with the state's vision to improve the quality of life.

The minister expressed the Ministry of Social Affairs' pride in contributing to this achievement, which showcases the close cooperation among government agencies in promoting sustainable development.

In this regard, Consultant of Internal Medicine, Chest Diseases, and Sleep Medicine, and Head of the Kuwait Sleep Medicine Center Dr. Iman Al-Anbaei explained that the center offers comprehensive solutions to treat sleep disorders. The center primarily treats conditions such as snoring, sleep apnea, excessive daytime sleepiness, and persistent fatigue. Delaying the diagnosis of these conditions, especially sleep apnea, can lead to serious complications, including heart and arterial diseases, strokes, and impaired vital functions.

The center is equipped with seven dedicated rooms for sleep studies, along with advanced devices for conducting home studies. Additionally, the center offers specialized outpatient clinics that include multidisciplinary teams to treat various types of sleep disorders.

The center's team consists of a group of consultant doctors specialized in sleep medicine, neurology, obesity, ear, nose, and throat, dentistry, and mental health.



A truck carrying an oil load overturned. No casualties reported.

KFF photo

All family members safe in flat fire

A fire broke out in a flat in Jleeb Al-Shuyoukh but no casualties were reported.

According to a press release issued by Kuwait Fire Force (KFF), when the KFF Control Room received information about the flat on fire, firefighters from Ardiya Fire Station and Al-Samoud Center rushed to the location and successfully extinguished the fire.

All family members were safely secured, and no casualties or loss of life were reported except for material losses. Investigations have been launched to determine the cause of the fire.

Meanwhile, a truck carrying an oil load overturned on King Fahad Expressway but no casualties or fatalities were reported.

According to a press release issued

by Kuwait Fire Force (KFF), when the KFF Control Room received information about the accident, firefighters from Al-Bairaq Fire Station and Support Fire Station rushed to the location. The scene was quickly cleared, and the site was handed over to the relevant authorities. Investigations have been launched to determine the circumstances that led to the accident.

'Move must not affect work routine'

Eye on exceptions to transfer, secondment

By Abdulrahman Al-Shammari

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: In view of earlier news regarding exceptions to the education minister's decision to ban the transfer and secondment of teachers and administrators in the public education sector, the Ministry of Education has started studying and implementing exceptions for transfer and secondment requests.

This follows a decision issued by the minister on Nov 7 to ban the transfer and secondment procedures in general.

According to the directives of Assistant Undersecretary for Public Education Affairs Mansour Al-Dhafiri; the exempted

cases are being carefully studied, while the necessary measures are being taken to make sure that such exemption does not interfere with work or exceed the allocated budget.

The newspaper obtained a copy of Al-Dhafiri's letter to the directors of educational districts; in which he confirmed that notifications related to transfers, cancellations or secondments are being thoroughly reviewed according to the criteria that balance employees' requests with the operational needs of the ministry.

He emphasized the importance of implementing the notifications approved by the competent authorities within the ministry; taking into consideration the preferences of the employees, provided they do not conflict with the core interests of the

work or the budget.

It can be recalled that the minister issued the decision to ban transfers and secondments in the education sector to organize administrative operations and guarantee the stability of educational staff in their positions.

Nevertheless, the ministry acknowledged the need to make exceptions in certain cases, based on work requirements and the unique circumstances of employees. This is in line with the ministry's commitment to be fair, provide a stable work environment, and maintain the efficiency of the educational process. The aim is to ensure the continuity of operations, address exceptional cases, and uphold the regularity of workflow in schools and educational administrations.

Incheon, TAV pass technical evaluation for T2 operation

By Mohammad Al-Enezi

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: In a recent development regarding the management of the new T2 passenger terminal at Kuwait International Airport, Incheon International and TAV have passed the technical evaluation process, while GMR has been excluded from the race.

According to informed sources, the Directorate-General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has communicated the results of the technical evaluation to the Central Agency for Public Tenders.

The results revealed that Incheon International, a Korean company, achieved a high rating of 91.4 percent, while TAV, a Turkish company, received 72.36 percent.

On the other hand, the Indian company GMR scored 62.84 percent, leading to its exclusion from the process.

The sources further explained that while the representatives of civil aviation presented their findings to the CAPT, the agency decided to postpone its final decision for further study at a later meeting.

Kuwaiti killer of spouse arrested by Iraqi police

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: A Kuwaiti citizen who had fled to Iraq after allegedly murdering his Syrian wife has been arrested by Iraqi security forces, reports Al-Seyassah daily quoting informed security sources.

They explained that the accused had allegedly strangled his wife at their home in Nahda and then fled to Iraq via the Abdali border crossing in October. After reaching Iraq, he had called his son and asked him to check on his wife. When the son arrived at the house, he was shocked to find that his Syrian stepmother was dead. He immediately reported the crime to the Ministry of Interior.

The authorities in Kuwait acted swiftly after discovering the crime. They contacted their Iraqi counterparts and provided them with the accused's details.

Following the arrest by the Iraqi security forces, the accused will soon be handed over to Kuwaiti authorities for trial.

Co-ops to oust members with revoked nationality

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: The Department of Membership Affairs and the Publication of Associations and Unions in the Cooperative Sector will start taking legal action against any board member of a cooperative society against whom a decree of revocation of citizenship is issued, reports Al-Jarida daily quoting reliable sources from the Ministry of Social Affairs.

They explained that membership will be immediately revoked for failing to meet one of the main eligibility conditions outlined in resolution No. 166/T/2013, which governs the model bylaws for cooperative societies. Specifically, article 44 of the bylaws stipulates the revocation of board membership in several cases, especially when a member breaches any of the conditions required for acquiring membership. Considering that one of the most important conditions is that the member must be a Kuwaiti national, members will automatically lose their membership if they lose their nationality for any reason.

'Tap young, hidden talent to put nation on progress rung'

"THE decision by US President-elect Donald Trump to appoint a minister dedicated to enhancing government efficiency offers a compelling example for countries worldwide, including ours," columnist **Nasser Al-Abdali** wrote for **Al-Qabas** daily.

"Such a move urges us to reconsider the traditional, stereotypical approach to government formation that has persisted since the ratification of the Constitution in 1962.

"Institutions should be established based on necessity, not luxury or formality, as has been the case in many nations during recent decades.

"While it remains to be seen whom Trump will appoint to this role -- whether it's influential businessmen like Elon Musk, the visionary behind X (formerly Twitter), or Vivek Ramaswamy, a prominent entrepreneur -- the underlying goal is clear: improving outcomes.

"This approach underscores the urgent need for a similar initiative in our country, one that takes reform seriously and redefines the governmental landscape to deliver tangible benefits.

"There are ministries and entities that do not justify their existence, a reality well-known to officials. Often, such bodies are created or maintained to accommodate individuals aligned with influential power centers.

"For instance, consider whether a dedicated body for printing the Holy Quran, with a bloated budget and workforce, is essential. This is especially true when printing the Quran is not among its primary priorities.

"The same inefficiency applies to sectors like public works, electricity, water and landlines, where resources are mis-allocated.

"The government efficiency is a pressing issue acknowledged by senior and junior officials alike. What is required is a transformative effort -- one that resists the influence of entrenched power centers that benefit from the status quo.

"A crucial step in this process is revitalizing the Prime Minister's Office, transforming it into a hub of innovative young talent. This office should focus on generating fresh, actionable ideas, moving beyond the repetitive recycling of outdated concepts that threaten progress.

"Engineer **Mohammad Bushehri** stands out as a prime example of how innovation can drive progress. As Undersecretary and later Minister of Electricity and Water, Bushehri introduced reforms that significantly improved service delivery in a short time.

"His leadership extended to the Municipal Committee, where he successfully reorganized the council's agenda, addressing longstanding inefficiencies and delays. His approach demonstrates that national talent exists -- it simply needs to be actively identified and empowered.

"To emulate the success of initiatives like Trump's proposed efficiency ministry, we must embrace bold, forward-thinking strategies.

"Eliminating redundancy, resisting the influence of entrenched power dynamics and fostering innovation at the highest levels of government are critical steps. By doing so, we can transform our public institutions into agile, efficient bodies that meet the needs of the people they serve.

"The time for change is now and the path forward requires courage, creativity and a commitment to excellence."

Also:

"The diverse and distinctive programs aired by Kuwait's first and second news channels showcase innovation and creativity, particularly in their recent strides to attract talented Kuwaiti professionals of both genders, especially the youth," columnist, **Dr. Laila Al-Sabaan** wrote for **Al-Anba** daily.

"This trend has become increasingly evident and is a testament to the energy and determination of young talents moving forward with calculated steps towards development and excellence.

"These youth demonstrate a deep understanding of Kuwait's critical cultural and media role, which is especially significant in an era defined by rapid technological advancement and intense competition in the media landscape.

"Recognizing this, Kuwaiti media has taken proactive measures to reorganize and modernize the nation's media sector. By leveraging the expertise of skilled Kuwaiti professionals across production, preparation and presentation, as well as curating content with care, the media has successfully contributed to education and awareness.

"Notably, the news channel stands out by keeping pace with advancements, documenting past and present issues and addressing significant political topics.

"Kuwait's media sector has thus emerged as one of the most progressive institutions, aligning its programming with the nation's sustainable development goals.

"It focuses on addressing citizens' needs through awareness, educational and entertainment programs that span

various fields.

"Drawing upon its rich history, Kuwaiti media has developed strategic cultural and youth-centered plans tailored to different levels and perspectives, acting as the state's voice to clarify and address pressing issues and current events of national concern.

"However, one critical observation must be noted: culture, as a broad domain, encompasses media and all forms of art, including music, theater, exhibitions, festivals and literary creativity.

"To better address these diverse fields, it would be more practical to separate the Ministry of Information and establish a dedicated Ministry of Culture. This restructuring would allow each sector to function in its appropriate capacity and ensure optimal development and focus.

"Kuwaiti talents, male and female alike, have seized opportunities across various specializations, including the most intricate fields. Their dedication to precision, hard work and dynamism builds a strong bridge between media and citizens.

"Today, viewers are drawn to the first channel, spending long hours captivated by its engaging, innovative and relevant content.

"We commend the Ministry of Information and Culture for its tireless efforts in advancing Kuwait's cultural and media landscape and nurturing its youth. We wish them continued success in their endeavors. May the leadership and expertise within Kuwaiti media further prosper and flourish."

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"Personal moral hypocrisy refers to the contradiction between a person's declared commitment to certain moral principles and their actual behavior. It involves double standards in personal morality, where individuals fail to apply the same moral standards to themselves that they expect of others. Due to the prevalence of moral hypocrisy in one's character, moral blind spots can develop, leading individuals to overlook their own obvious flaws while directing harsh criticism toward others," columnist **Dr. Khaled Al-Janfawi** wrote for **Al-Seyassah** daily.

"One of the most prominent signs of moral hypocrisy is the phenomenon of double moral standards. For example, a moral hypocrite often applies strict standards to evaluate and criticize the words and actions of others, but they disregard their own blatant behavioral flaws. These signs can include:

- False religiosity or the outward appearance of piety without genuine adherence.

- Pretending to be liberal while upholding discriminatory beliefs or actions.

- An excessive eagerness to offer moral advice to others, while neglecting personal accountability.

- Focusing on the faults of others while forgetting one's own or the faults of close associates.

- Consuming my goodness and thanking others," where one takes credit for virtuous acts while seeking external validation.

- Rigidity in outward religious practices, while secretly embracing tribalism or sectarianism.

- Quickly blaming others for personal mistakes or shortcomings.

- Harboring negative psychological biases against those who differ from oneself.

- Pathological indulgence in lusts or pleasures while ignoring the moral consequences.

- Wishing well only for oneself or one's immediate family.

- Polytheism, which is considered one of the most severe forms of moral hypocrisy.

- Claiming to be civilized or cultured in public while treating others in a barbaric or brutal manner in private or public life.

- Wearing a mask of intellectual freedom while secretly harboring sectarian or exclusionary views against those who differ from oneself.

"Some individuals promote resonant moral slogans in their environment, even though they do not truly believe in them. For many, their interactions with others are driven primarily by the pursuit of narrow self-interests at the expense of others.

"The factors contributing to personal moral hypocrisy include:

- Falsifying academic qualifications and underestimating the intelligence of others.

- The entrenchment of dishonesty, manipulation, lying, and stealing in the individual's mindset and character.

- The corruption of the surrounding environment, where hypocrisy is prevalent and reinforced.

- A lack of self-awareness and a refusal to improve or develop one's personality for the better.

- Negative family upbringing, where parents fail to instill values of self-respect and integrity in their children.

- Overindulgence in materialism, and prioritizing material gain over moral considerations.

- A misguided admiration for Western materialistic morals, which may be detached from deeper ethical principles and focus more on surface values."

— **Compiled by PFX Fernandes/ Mahmoud Attiyeh**



KFF photo

Kuwait Fire Force personnel ready to meet any eventualities.



KFF photo

KFF participates in Jahra cultural activities at the Red Palace.

KFF prepared for securing diplomatic missions

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: The Kuwait Fire Force (KFF) announced Tuesday that it has completed all necessary preparations and arrangements to secure the venues for the upcoming Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Summit, which is scheduled for Sunday, December 1, 2024.

In a press release issued by KFF, Director of KFF's Public Relations and Media Department Brigadier General **Mohammad Badr Al-Gharib** affirmed that KFF has taken all necessary precautions, in co-

ordination with all relevant authorities in the country.

He explained that, as part of the security measures, KFF units will be deployed at key locations for rapid response, including the accommodations of diplomatic missions and media teams from the participating Gulf countries. These units will be equipped with vehicles and personnel, and they will be present at various hotels throughout the duration of the event.

And, Kuwait Fire Force (KFF), repre-

sented by the Public Relations and Media Department, participated in the events of the Jahra Cultural Season at the Red Palace on Tuesday morning.

According to a press release issued by the Kuwait Fire Force (KFF), Jahra Governor **Hamad Jassim Al-Habshi** visited the KFF booth at the Jahra Cultural Season and expressed his appreciation for the modern technologies and advanced equipment that the Kuwait Fire Force has implemented.

Int'l gangs detected targeting Kuwait for e-fraud and scams

Banks set up virtual room to safeguard clients interests

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: The central virtual room, which was established by Kuwaiti banks to receive customer reports on financial fraud, has detected efforts by cross-border criminal gangs to target individuals in Kuwait. These gangs are luring people into helping them open new electronic bank accounts through online authentication. Students, in particular, are among the most targeted groups for these schemes, reports **Al-Rai** daily quoting informed sources.

The sources explained that the Department of Combating Financial Crimes has issued a warning about international gangs targeting Kuwaiti banks in particular, and engaging in electronic fraud and scams. Several complaints have been received through the virtual room and the Public Prosecution, detailing how these gangs deceive victims by getting them to open electronic accounts in their names. The fraudsters exploit the speed and ease of opening accounts via electronic authentication, then add phone numbers unrelated to the legitimate account holder.

The sources explained that the hackers are exploiting this service for fraudulent activities, as they use victims' personal data without their knowledge. The gang directs the opened accounts as platforms for their fraudulent schemes and illegal operations.

The Anti-Money Laundering and Financial Crimes Department highlighted that the gang has been targeting students, taking advantage of their limited security awareness regarding the authentication procedures. Once the electronic accounts are opened, they are used in fraudulent operations. In these cases, the account holders are unwittingly transformed from victims into perpetrators. Their accounts are then used to collect illicit funds, which places the account holders under suspicion, often without their knowledge of the source of the money.

The sources said the department has recommended tightening the procedures for opening electronic accounts via authentication in order to prevent criminal gangs from exploiting the service for fraudulent activities.

Virtual room

They explained that the "virtual room" actively monitors and analyzes all aspects related to fraud cases, including target groups, used channels, and techniques and methods used for fraud operations. The goal is to enhance customer awareness about the latest fraud tactics and the ways to protect against them.

As part of this initiative, awareness messages and videos are regularly shared on all social media platforms and media outlets of the Central Bank of Kuwait, the Kuwait Banking Association, and the local banks, as well as on the social media channels and media of the national awareness campaign "Let's Be Aware".

One of the most common forms of financial fraud locally involves hacking a person's WhatsApp account, and then sending an invitation to all the contacts in the hacked individual's phone list. The message urges recipients to accept a request to join a newly created group, supposedly to include close friends. In the process, the fraudster asks the recipient to resend the number and a special code after clicking on a provided link, which constitutes a fraudulent trap.

Once the fraudsters receive this information, they proceed to hack the communication devices of everyone who responds. They then search the devices for any sensitive images or files that could be used for extortion, and they may even send financial links to the contacts, with the hope that one of them will "panic" and make a payment, unaware that their friend's phone has been compromised.

It is worth mentioning that the Kuwait Banking Association and the Kuwaiti banks, based on their keenness and that of the Central Bank of Kuwait to protect their valued customers and safeguard their assets, established a central virtual room, in collaboration with relevant authorities, to receive customer reports and address them with the required efficiency and speed.

MoD removes shanties set up in remote areas

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28, (KUNA): The Ministry of Defense (MoD) has taken part in removing illegally built dwellings and other constructions in the non-developed regions in the south and north of the country.

The ministry said in a statement on Wednesday that the department, including the military, administrative and financial divisions, have taken part in the campaign that kicked off on October 7.

The campaign, aimed at enforcing laws and protecting public lands, has been carried out in coordination with the Ministry of Interior, the Environment Public Authority, the Public Authority for Agriculture and Fisheries and Kuwait Municipality.

The Ministry of Defense has formed field teams including personnel from the supplies authority and military installations engineering department, it said, indicating that the efforts partially targeted unlicensed camps and abandoned objects and remains littering the state land plots.

Probe underway as bodies of two women found in Ardhiya

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: The **Al-Seyassah** daily has learned that the Kuwaiti security authorities are in the process of establishing the cause of death of two unidentified women in bizarre circumstances.

The daily quoting Criminal Investigations Department personnel said the department responded to a report about the discovery of the two corpses inside a house in the suburb of **Al-Ardhiya**.

According to a security source, the remains of the two individuals were promptly transferred to the Forensic Medicine Department to determine the exact cause of death.

The source clarified there were no apparent signs of torture or criminal activity at the scene, though the authorities are awaiting the official forensic report for further details.

The two deceased individuals have been identified as a Kuwaiti citizen born in 1964 and her 'special needs' daughter, born in 1994.

The investigations are ongoing and the authorities are working to gather more information in order to understand the circumstances surrounding their deaths.

It is not known if there were any other people staying in the house.

MoCI cancels licenses of 19 mobile food truck vendors

By **Marwa Al-Bahrawi**

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: Days after the daily published a report titled "MoCI and Municipality discuss conditions for transferring or waiving food truck licenses," the Minister of Commerce and Industry **Khalifa Al-Ajeel** has issued ministerial decision No. 225/2024 for canceling the commercial licenses of 19 mobile food truck vendors.

The decision was made due to non-compliance with designated locations, failure to

meet licensing requirements, and violations of article 14 of ministerial resolution No. 426/2019 regarding regulations for mobile food vehicles.

The minister's decision affects companies involved in selling cold and hot drinks, bakery products, snacks, sweets, and ice cream.

The licenses affected by the cancellation range from the oldest, issued in 1999, to the most recent in 2022. Of the 19 companies, 12 were licensed prior to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 or as far back as 2019.



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HH Crown Prince and Prime Minister send similar cables

HH Amir congratulates Albania and Mauritania on national days

Kuwait Food Union affirms govt's efforts in stabilizing food prices

Food Expo opens under patronage of Minister Al-Ajeel

By Marwa Al-Bahrawi
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: Deputy Chair of the Board of Directors of the Kuwait Food Union Azara Al-Hussaini says the government of Kuwait is working hard to combat rising prices through its relevant agencies, and ensure the stability of food prices in Kuwait despite the increasing costs of raw materials and primary goods from exporting countries.



Al-Ajeel

In a press statement issued during the opening of the Kuwait Food Expo in Al-Rai under the patronage of the Minister of Commerce and Industry Khalifa Al-Ajeel, Al-Hussaini highlighted the state's efforts to support

and sponsor companies in the food sector, as well as the companies that are working on developing and enhancing national products. These efforts aim to secure a stable strategic food stock for the long term. He reassured that both the stock and food prices are currently stable.

Al-Hussaini explained that Kuwait's strategic geographic location in the region makes it one of the most stable countries in terms of importing raw materials, despite global price fluctuations. While food prices are directly influenced by global conditions, the Kuwaiti government is taking extensive measures to curb price increases. Local food companies are keen about

keeping prices as stable as possible, with only minimal adjustments when necessary.

He commended the efforts exerted by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry in tackling the rising prices. He highlighted the proactive role of the ministry's leadership and its inspection teams, who conduct intensive campaigns to monitor and deal with any price escalation of strategic goods.

Al-Hussaini called on all Kuwaiti investors and businessmen to focus on investing in the local market and to repatriate their investments from abroad, as Kuwait offers the best and safest environment for investment, and has strong potential for generating profitable returns.

Meanwhile, the acting CEO of Livestock Transport and Trading Company Ahmed Al-Majed said the company's participation in the Kuwait Food Expo aligns with its national responsibility to provide meat products, which are a basic component of the local food market.

He outlined the company's future plans, stating that its strategy aims to

expand its products to meet the growing demands of local consumers.

Al-Majed assured that all of the company's products are produced in accordance with international quality standards, halal slaughtering methods and latest techniques for slaughtering, preserving and freezing meat.

He stated that the Livestock Transport and Trading Company is actively working to implement its future plans using all available resources to ensure a steady supply of meat at affordable prices.

Al-Majed affirmed that the company plays a crucial role in protecting the market from increase in prices, as it is the largest producer and distributor of meat in Kuwait.

He explained that the company offers meat products at competitive prices, which reflects its ability to deal with challenges such as rising costs of raw materials that are either imported or locally produced. This enables the company to stabilize meat prices in the market and ensure continued supply despite global price fluctuations.

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28, (KUNA): His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent on Thursday a cable to President of Albania Bajram Begaj, congratulating him on the National Day of his country.

His Highness the Amir expressed wishes of good health to the president, and further growth and prosperity for Albania and its people.

His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah also sent a cable to President Bajram Begaj, congratulating him on the National Day of his country.

His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah sent a cable of congratulations to President Bajram Begaj on the occasion of his country's National Day.

Meanwhile, His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber sent Thursday a cable of congratulations to President of Mauritania Mohammad Ould Cheikh Ghazouani on his country's National Day.

In the cable, His Highness the Amir wished the president good health and further development and prosperity for Mauritania and its people.

His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled also sent a cable of congratulations to President Mohammad Ghazouani on the occasion of his country's National Day, wishing him good health and wellness.

His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah also sent a congratulatory cable to President Mohammad Ghazouani on the occasion of his country's National Day.



Ahmadi Governorate photo

Ahmadi Governor Sheikh Hamoud Jaber receiving Ambassador Makgonatsutli.

Ahmadi governor receives Botswana envoy

Ahmadi Governor Sheikh Hamoud Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah received in his office at Ahmadi Governorate the Ambassador of Botswana to Kuwait Augustine Ntshumani Makgonatsutli.

According to a press release issued by Ahmadi Governorate, the meeting included friendly discussions on the strong bilateral relations between Ku-

wait and Botswana. They also explored ways to enhance cooperation in various fields.

The governor expressed his sincere wishes for the ambassador's success in his duties. In turn, Ambassador Makgonatsutli expressed his deep appreciation for the warm reception and hospitality extended to him.

PAAET extends deadline for accessing 'E-Form'

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: The Deanship of Admission and Registration at the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (PAAET) announced an extension for accessing the 'E-Form' registration problem-solving system for the

second semester, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

This extension applies to graduate students with 23 credit hours or less remaining in their academic programs.

The system will now remain

open until end of working hours on Nov 29 and the deanship has urged students facing issues with early registration to promptly complete and submit their E-Form.

This will allow the registration offices to address and resolve their

issues efficiently.

Students are encouraged to act quickly to ensure their registration process is completed smoothly, ensuring they remain on track for graduation in the second semester.

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Farwaniya Governorate photo

Farwaniya Governor Sheikh Athbi Nasser with Assad Al-Anzi and Abdullah Al-Haifi.

Farwaniya governor meets with former mayor and asst. undersecretary of MPW

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: Farwaniya Governor Sheikh Athbi Nasser Al-Athbi Al-Sabah received in his office the acting Assistant Undersecretary for Maintenance Engineering at the Ministry of Public Works Eng. Assad Al-Anzi, and former mayor of Ardiya Abdullah Barrak Al-Haifi.

According to a press release issued by Farwaniya Governorate, the meeting focused on the ongoing and upcoming development projects in the Farwaniya Governorate, as well as the Ministry of Public Works' preparations for the rainy

season.

Sheikh Athbi affirmed the importance of improving infrastructure maintenance as a key factor in enhancing the level of services provided to residents.

Eng. Al-Anzi outlined the ministry's plan for maintaining roads in the governorate, and highlighted the focus on road sustainability and the use of high-quality materials.

He expressed his gratitude to Governor Sheikh Athbi for the warm reception and the valuable guidance provided during the meeting.

Ambassadors focus on bilateral ties

Qatari & Russian envoys highlight role of Kuwait in hosting 45th GCC Summit

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: Qatar's Ambassador to Kuwait, Ali bin Abdullah Al-Mahmoud, has emphasized the significance of Kuwait hosting of the 45th GCC Summit, which reflects the enduring historical relations and shared goals among the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, reports Al-Seyassah daily.



Al-Mahmoud

He highlighted the summit's role in strengthening cooperation and accelerating progress across various sectors, with the aim of fulfilling the aspirations of both the leaders and peoples of the Gulf states.

In his remarks, Ambassador Al-Mahmoud addressed the major challenges currently facing the GCC, particularly geopolitical issues in the Middle East.

He pointed to the region's ongoing security concerns, especially the Israeli attacks on the Gaza Strip and Lebanon and stressed the GCC's collective efforts to halt the escalation between Israel and Iran to prevent further regional instability.

The ambassador also noted the economic and technological challenges con-

fronting the Gulf countries, including the diversification of economies, infrastructure development, cybersecurity and the promotion of renewable energy.

He emphasized that the GCC leaders would take a unified stance on these pressing regional and international issues at the summit, aiming to establish peace and security in the region while advancing mutual cooperation for the benefit of their peoples.

In the same vein, the Russian Ambassador to Kuwait, Vladimir Geltov, commented on the significance of the upcoming Gulf Summit to be hosted by Kuwait on December 1, noting that it coincides with the ongoing political and economic challenges faced by the Middle East.

Geltov emphasized that Kuwait's leadership is playing a critical role in steering the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) efforts to find solutions to the region's conflicts.

In a press statement, the ambassador underscored Kuwait's commitment to continuing coordinated development plans aimed at revitalizing the Gulf Arab states.

He also highlighted the strong bilateral relations between Kuwait and Russia, emphasizing that Kuwait was the first partner in the Gulf region for Russia and their cooperation continues to grow despite global tensions.



Ahmadi Governorate photos

Ahmadi Governor Sheikh Hamoud Jaber in a group photo during the celebration.

Wafra Cooperative Society

Cooperative organizes celebration to honor 102 outstanding children of shareholders

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: Ahmadi Governor Sheikh Hamoud Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah honored 102 outstanding male and female students from the Al-Wafra residential area during a celebration organized by the Wafra Cooperative Society for the children of shareholders.

According to a press release issued by Ahmadi Governorate, Sheikh Hamoud affirmed Kuwait's commitment to supporting and motivating its exceptional students at all educational levels.

He stressed the need to continue encouraging these students to strive towards their goals and ambitions, and ultimately serve their country Kuwait in various fields and locations.

The ceremony, held under his patronage and in his presence, took place on Tuesday at Moudi Sultan Al-Essa School in the Al-Wafra residential area.

During the ceremony, students were recognized for their academic achievements during the 2023/2024 school year.

The governor honored 102 outstanding students from the elementary, intermediate, and secondary levels, along with three school principals, eight assistant principals, and five exemplary teachers.

He wished them continued success and progress in their educational journeys.

Meanwhile, the Chair of the Board of Directors of Wafra Cooperative Society Suleiman Al-Rashidi expressed his gratitude for the governor's generous gesture, which he said reflects strong support for young citizens and serves to inspire them to continue their path of excellence and achievement.

He extended his thanks to the teaching staff in Wafra schools and to the parents, affirming his full support for all initiatives aimed at the development and betterment of society.

On behalf of the outstanding students, Saud Al-Mutairi revealed that the moment is the culmination of years of hard work by students, teachers, parents, and mothers.

He extended his gratitude to everyone who contributed to and supported these efforts, affirming that this excellence marks the beginning of a journey filled with challenges and achievements.

In addition, an excellent student Sheikhha Jassim shared her happiness and pride at being honored, stressing that ambition and determination are the keys to success.

She described the recognition as an unforgettable moment, filled with pride and gratitude, and concluded by saying, "Hard work never goes to waste. We promise to continue striving for even greater excellence and accomplishments."



Top and above: Some of the honored outstanding children.

CSC okays appointing 40 staff to collect debts at airport, borders

Employees to work 24 hours a day in 6 offices

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: The Civil Service Commission (CSC) has approved the appointment of approximately 40 employees at Kuwait International Airport and the land borders, reports Aljarida daily quoting informed sources at the Ministry of Electricity, Water, and Renewable Energy.

They explained that this move was aimed at streamlining the process of collecting the ministry's debts from travelers before they leave the country, as well as to handle the disbursement of allowances owed to them.

These employees will work 24 hours a day in six offices, three of which are located at Kuwait International Airport and the other three at the land borders.

Initially, CSC had rejected the appointments due to the absence of ministry offices in these areas within its official structure. However, the CSC granted an exemption for one year, allowing the ministry time to include these offices in its structure through an amendment.

This step is aimed at facilitating procedures for travelers and providing high-quality services that ensure the prompt settlement of the ministry's outstanding dues.

The offices have been equipped with modern systems to facilitate debt inquiries and payment processing in just a few minutes.

These measures are part of the ministry's strategic plan to improve collection efficiency and safeguard the state's financial interests, all while ensuring that travelers experience no delays or disruptions to their flights.

The sources affirmed the importance of settling outstanding debts promptly to avoid any delays, highlighting that this new service reflects the government's commitment to providing innovative solutions that streamline debt collection and keep pace with modern developments.

It is worth mentioning that the Ministry of Electricity, Water, and Renewable Energy has previously introduced several initiatives to ease debt payments, including electronic applications, online payment services through its website, and payment options via customer service offices in various governorates. This latest measure represents a significant addition to the ministry's efforts that enhances collection efficiency and alleviates the burden on debt holders.



ABK logo



Part of the interview.

ABK supports Diraya campaign by participating in podcast on Kuwait TV

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) is actively committed to supporting the Diraya banking awareness campaign in collaboration with the Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) and Kuwait Banking Association (KBA). The Bank participates in various events and activities aimed at promoting the campaign's themes and raising awareness among customers about their rights and responsibilities when dealing with banks. Furthermore, ABK emphasizes the benefits of the banking solutions and products available to them, while highlighting the significance of the banking sector.

As part of its efforts, Ali Bu Hamad, Head of Complaints and Customer Protection at ABK, participated in a podcast show on Kuwait TV where he discussed the importance of the Diraya campaign and its significant positive impact on achieving financial inclusion in Kuwait. During the podcast, he addressed various topics related to the campaign, including loan conditions, the risks associated with loan encashment, and the measures the Bank has implemented to protect customers from financial and banking fraud.

ABK urges customers to avoid dealing with illegal intermediaries when seeking loans. He pointed out that engaging in such practices is unlawful and can lead to customers becoming victims of fraud or incurring amounts that exceed their ability to repay monthly. He noted that ABK regularly shares videos across its social media platforms to educate customers about the risks associated with these practices and warns them against responding to offers from unauthorized individuals or entities. Bu Hamad reiterated the importance of utilizing legal meth-

ods to fulfill their various financial needs.

Furthermore, ABK provides consumer and housing loans to customers according to CBK's terms and requirements. Customers may submit loan applications within the Bank's branches, through the website, or the mobile app. The client's financial situation is studied in order to offer the most appropriate advice on the best loan for them.

ABK also provides its customers with a two-day period to thoroughly review the loan terms before officially signing the contract. He urged customers to report any changes in their financial situation, whether due to a job change or unemployment. This allows the Bank to take the necessary measures to protect them and offer the best banking and financial services that continuously meet their needs.

ABK organizes a series of events and activities aimed at promoting financial and banking literacy. These initiatives include introducing various types of accounts, loans, cards, digital services, and specialized services for individuals with special needs, along with a range of other products. This effort reflects the Bank's ongoing commitment to leveraging all its resources to ensure the success of the Diraya campaign, which is distinctive in both the Kuwaiti market and the GCC countries.

This initiative aligns with ABK's ongoing collaboration with CBK and KBA. The aim is to generate new ideas that contribute to the campaign's objectives while attracting more customers to utilize the various services, solutions, and products offered by the Bank. These offerings are designed to meet the needs of all segments of society within the local market.

AI eyes

Continued from Page 1

- Key amendments include:
- Running red lights: Fine increased from KD 50 to KD 150.
- Reckless driving: Fine increased from KD 30 to KD 150.
- Unauthorized racing: Fine increased from KD 50 to KD 150.
- Not wearing a seat belt: Fine increased from KD 10 to KD 30.
- Annoying car noises: Fine increased from KD 10 to KD 75.
- Using mobile phones while driving: Fine increased from KD 5 to KD 75.

The law also incorporates non-monetary penalties aimed at promoting accountability and education such as community service; repairing or compensating for damages caused by violations; mandatory attendance at awareness and rehabilitation programs.

The Assistant Undersecretary for Traffic and Operations Affairs, Major General Yousef Al-Khudah, announced that the new regulations would come into effect three months after their publication in the Official Gazette.

The changes reflect Kuwait's commitment to enhancing road safety and reducing traffic-related incidents through stricter enforcement and education initiatives.

Kuwait dismantles

Continued from Page 1

According to the ministry's statement on their social media account, the gang charged between 300 and 500 Kuwaiti dinars per worker for their services. The investigation also uncovered that the group illegally transferred workers already in the country to these fictitious companies.

The accused have been referred to the competent authorities for legal action. The Ministry of Interior emphasized its commitment to firmly applying the law without exception, stating that security forces remain vigilant against anyone attempting to violate Kuwait's laws.

This case highlights ongoing efforts by Kuwaiti authorities to combat residency fraud and maintain the integrity of the country's labor market and immigration system.

KNPC completes

Continued from Page 1

The maintenance involved an impressive 1,500 pieces of equipment, with insulation work covering 20,000 insulation points across production lines.

A total of 4,500 specialized and trained workers participated in this extensive effort, which took 779,076 working hours to complete.

Al-Ajmi noted that the operation was carried out without any accidents or injuries, reflecting the refinery's strong commitment to health, safety and environmental regulations.

Several innovative initiatives introduced by the refinery's engineers helped reduce the maintenance duration, which ultimately lowered the overall costs of the operation.

The company also prioritized the well-being of its workers by providing rest areas, a daily rewards program and a field health clinic during the maintenance period.

Al-Ajmi expressed his gratitude to all the teams involved and praised the national workforce for their dedication

to fulfilling the company's goals.

In another significant development, KNPC has opened a new fuel filling station in the West Abdullah Al-Mubarak area as part of its expansion plan.

The station features modern design elements and incorporates advanced solar energy technology, which generates 30 percent of its electricity needs.

In addition to providing fuel, the station offers a variety of services, including a mini central market, an ATM, car maintenance and water and air filling points.

Customers can also enjoy the convenience of paying for fuel through user-friendly electronic technologies and apps.

Sources have revealed that KNPC is focusing its efforts on expanding its network of fuel stations that rely on modern technologies and clean energy solutions.

Future stations will be designed to offer a wide range of services, including mini central markets and will feature solar energy systems that meet the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation's vision of promoting clean energy and sustainability.

In other news, Kuwait National Petroleum Company on Thursday launched the payment system with credit and visa cards and Gulf banks' cards at all fuel stations throughout the country.

The KNPC said in a statement that the new service would provide the clients with broader payment opportunities at the 67 filling stations.

The new service is an addition to existing services such as the banking KNET, electronic coupons and e-Petrol payments.

162nd Ministerial

Continued from Page 1

The Ministry of Information, in cooperation with government, private and civil sectors, offered their capabilities for this media campaign through billboards throughout the roads around the country with the aim of promoting and enhancing awareness of the GCC Summit.

The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) has witnessed over the past 43 years major achievements in various fields that reflected on Gulf citizens and leaders in regional and international arenas.

Since the first GCC summit was held in Abu Dhabi on May 25 1981, where the council was established, the meetings contributed to strengthening the relation between the GCC countries by keeping pace with the rapid developments and the exchange of expertise and achieving the desired goals.

Gulf integration has contributed over the past decades to achieving the visions of the council, aiming at enhancing their various achievements, projects, initia-

tives, agreements and MoUs signed in all fields.

The council's most prominent achievement is their unified positions on political issues of common concern, within the Arab, regional and international agendas.

Politically, the council's most important objective during the 1980s was to maintain the security and stability of member countries by confronting the sources of instability, mainly the Iran-Iraq war, which required collective action to prevent the spread and expansion of the war.

During the 1990s, the council's top priority was the liberation of Kuwait from the aggression of the former Iraqi regime, as it was the most serious security challenge since the establishment of the council.

Another achievement was ending the dispute between the UAE and Iran, over Iran's illegal occupation of the three UAE islands of Abu Musa and the Greater and Lesser Tunbs in 1971.

In regards of the Arab action, the council consistently worked to support Arab issues, most notably the Palestinian issue, as well as Islamic issues, and support the peace in the Middle East while adhering to Arab rights.

The council has also achieved various goals in economic fields, as well as enhanced the joint military actions by implementing their shared agreements.

In the field of education, the council paid great attention by establishing the Arab Bureau of Education for the Gulf States (ABEGS) in 1975, aimed to promote cooperation and coordination in the fields of culture, education, science, information and documentation.

The council's achievements include environmental work in protecting natural resources by spreading awareness through media platforms, training programs and holding environmental weeks and annual environmental forums for the youth.

Among the most important achievements in the health field are the treatment of GCC citizens in providing health services, the establishment of a committee to monitor medicine in the GCC, and the adoption of a unified system for managing healthcare waste.

The council has also achieved important goals in media, including the adoption of a unified media strategy, the establishment of a joint program production institution, the exchange of radio and television materials and programs, and cooperation between news agencies.

The council has also achieved judicial cooperation goals by protecting integrity, combating corruption, combating money laundering and financing of terrorism and human rights.

The GCC states have signed a number of agreements aimed at enhancing cooperation in all fields, noting that the Gulf countries occupied the first Arab positions and achieved advanced positions globally in government efficiency.

Kuwaiti heritage

Continued from Page 1

and shipbuilding techniques and tools, particularly those used in the construction of the old dhows.

The society chair, Fahad Al-Abduljelil, said the society is engaged in the event with a broad delegation to bring to life crafts of the ancestors.

Participants in the festival are Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Bahrain, Oman, Kuwait, Palestine, Iraq, India, Tanzania, Iran and Qatar.

Kuwait welcomes

Continued from Page 1

ceasefire is the greatest hope for bringing an end to the immense suffering.

This came during a press conference held by Deputy Spokesman for the Secretary-General Farhan Haq late Wednesday.

He added that OCHA noted that humanitarian needs in Lebanon remain unprecedented, and that swift, safe and unhindered access is needed so that aid can reach those in need.

Haq said that the conflict has devastated lives, with more than 3,800 people killed, 15,800 injured and nearly 900,000 displaced internally, alongside over half a million fleeing across borders, according to authorities.

This morning, on the first day of the ceasefire, 11 trucks from the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) delivered emergency supplies to more than 3,000 people in Baalbek.

For its part, UNICEF continues to support children who have been heavily impacted by the conflict and is providing emergency psychological support to thousands of children and caregivers.

Earlier on Wednesday, Lebanon's ceasefire agreement came into effect, prompting Lebanese internally displaced people to return to their homes.

Since September 23, Lebanon has been facing air raids launched by the Israeli occupation forces on several areas, causing great human and material losses.

Meanwhile, at least two people were wounded by Israeli fire in southern Lebanon on Thursday, according to state media. The Israeli military said it had fired at people trying to return to certain areas on the second day of a ceasefire with the Hezbollah militant group.

The agreement, brokered by the United States and France, includes an initial two-month cease-fire in which Hezbollah militants are to withdraw north of the Litani River and Israeli forces are to return to their side of the border. The buffer zone would be patrolled by Lebanese troops and U.N. peacekeepers.

INTERNATIONAL



Volunteers feed ballots into ballot machines as Mecklenburg officials hold a recount in North Carolina's Supreme Court election on Nov 21 at Valerie C. Woodard Community Resource Center in Charlotte, NC. (AP)

North Carolina election board certifies 2024 results, except for few key races

RALEIGH, N. C., Nov 28, (AP) — The North Carolina State Board of Elections certified the results of the presidential election and many statewide and legislative races on Tuesday, while a state court seat and a handful of other races remain in limbo amid ongoing recounts.

Among the key seats awaiting confirmed results due to ongoing recounts or filed election protests is a tight state Supreme Court race between Democratic incumbent Allison Riggs and GOP opponent Jefferson Griffin. Riggs currently leads, and if she clinches the seat, Republicans would

still have a majority on the bench. It's the only statewide race under recount.

A handful of General Assembly seats — including one state House seat that could break the GOP legislative supermajority if it remains in Democrats' favor — are also outstanding.

That crucial seat resides in Granville County and parts of Vance County, where Republican Rep. Frank Sosamon is the incumbent. He was last shown trailing Democratic challenger Bryan Cohn by 233 votes, but the race is undergoing a recount, and Sosamon has filed an election protest.

Harris' campaign leaders say there's 'price to be paid' for shortened campaign against Trump

NEW YORK, Nov 28, (AP) — The leaders of Kamala Harris' presidential campaign insist they simply didn't have enough time to execute a winning strategy against Donald Trump, pointing to "ferocious" political headwinds that were ultimately too much to overcome in the 107-day period after President Joe Biden stepped aside.

Harris' leadership team, speaking on the "Pod Save America" podcast that aired on Tuesday, defended strategic decisions over the campaign's closing days, some of which have faced scrutiny in the weeks since Trump's decisive victory. Specifically, they defended Harris' outreach to Republican voters, her unwillingness to distance herself from Biden, her silence on Trump's attacks on her transgender policies and her inability to schedule an interview with popular podcaster Joe Rogan.

"In a 107-day race, it is very difficult to do all the things you would normally do in a year and a half, two years," said Harris campaign senior adviser Jen O'Malley Dillon.

David Plouffe, another senior adviser, added, "There was a price to be paid for the short campaign."

The pointed reflections on Harris' loss came just before she declared she was "proud of the campaign we ran" during a conference call with supporters as the party begins a painful



US second gentleman Doug Emhoff, (from left), Vice President Kamala Harris and First Lady Jill Biden attend the National Veterans Day Observance at the Memorial Amphitheater at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Va. on Nov 11. (AP)

process of self-examination. Trump won every swing state and made gains among key voting groups traditionally aligned with Democrats — young voters and voters of color, among them. Backed by the resounding win, the Republican president-elect is claiming a mandate to enact his populist agenda as he prepares to return to the White House on Jan. 20.

Harris acknowledged her defeat during the conference call, but praised the political organization her team built that featured more than 408,000 volunteers who knocked on nearly 20 million doors and made over 219 million phone calls.

"What we did in 107 days was unprecedented," she said, noting that her campaign also raised more than \$1.4

billion, which marks a record for U.S. presidential campaigns.

Still, Harris' campaign finished the election in debt. And none of the Harris advisers acknowledged any mistakes during the wide-ranging podcast interview hosted by former Democratic operatives. Instead, they indicated that Harris had few options given the compressed timeframe and the broad anti-incumbent headwinds that have challenged elected officials across the world.

They also gave Trump's team some credit.

They specifically pointed to Trump's closing attack ad, which highlighted Harris' support for taxpayer-funded sex reassignment surgeries for transgender prisoners.

"Obviously, it was a very effective ad at the end," said Harris deputy campaign manager Quentin Fulks. "I think that it made her seem out of touch."

The campaign tested several potential response ads but, in the end, decided it was best to avoid a specific rebuttal.

"There's no easy answers to this," O'Malley Dillon said.

Plouffe said he thought the Trump attack ad against "Bidenomics" was even more effective, but he acknowledged that the transgender attacks were not helpful.

Sheinbaum suggests no change

Trump claims win on immigration after a call with Mexico's president

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla., Nov 28, (AP) — US President-elect Donald Trump declared a win on stopping illegal immigration through Mexico on Wednesday after talking with that country's leader. But Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum suggested Mexico was already doing its part and had no interest in closing its borders.

The two spoke just days after Trump threatened to impose sweeping new tariffs on Canada and Mexico as part of his effort to crack down on illegal immigration and drugs.

Trump said Sheinbaum "agreed to stop Migration through Mexico." Sheinbaum indicated separately on social media that she told Trump that Mexico is already "taking care of" migrant caravans, calling it an "excellent conversation."

"We reiterate that Mexico's position is not to close borders but to build bridges between governments and between peoples," Sheinbaum added.

While the state of the proposed tariffs remained unclear, Trump said in a post on his Truth Social account that this was "effectively closing our Southern Border." He called it a "very productive conversation."

The exchange between the two leaders appeared to confirm for Trump the value of threatening to disrupt trade with import taxes. His initial social media post moved financial markets and gave him a response he was quick to describe as a win. Even if the proposed tariffs fail to materialize, Trump can tell supporters that the mere possi-



US President-elect Donald Trump speaks during a meeting with the House GOP conference on Nov 13 in Washington. (AP)

bility of them is an effective policy tool and continue to rely on tariff threats.

Sheinbaum wrote on social media that the leaders "discussed Mexico's strategy on migration issues, and I told him the caravans are not reaching the northern (U.S.) border, because Mexico is taking care of them."

"We also talked about reinforcing cooperation on security issues, within the framework of our sovereignty, and the campaign we are carrying out to prevent fentanyl consumption," she said.

Illegal migration across the Mexico border is down in part because the

Biden administration secured some stepped-up cooperation from Mexico — the sort Trump seems to be celebrating.

Arrivals at the U.S.-Mexico border have dropped 40% from an all-time high in December. U.S. officials mostly credit Mexican vigilance around rail yards and highway checkpoints.

Driven by mounting pressure from the U.S. to block migrants going north, in the past few years Mexican authorities have turned to rounding them up across the country and sending them to southern Mexico, in a strategy seen by experts as an attempt to wear migrants

out until they give up.

Neither side clarified the status of the tariffs. But their implementation could fuel higher prices and slow economic growth, potentially blowing up the trade agreement among the U.S., Canada and Mexico that was finalized in 2020 during Trump's previous time in the White House.

Trump on Monday said he would impose a 25% tax on all products entering the country from Canada and Mexico as one of his first executive orders upon taking office on Jan. 20. He also proposed an additional 10% tariff on China tied to its exporting of materials used in the production of fentanyl.

In announcing his plans, he railed against the flow of fentanyl and migrants crossing into the U.S. illegally, even though southern border apprehensions have been hovering near four-year lows.

On Wednesday, Trump also posted that he plans a large scale ad campaign to explain "how bad Fentanyl is for people to use," predicting it would educate people on "how really bad the horror of this Drug is."

The dangerously powerful opioid was developed to treat intense pain from ailments like cancer but has increasingly been mixed with other drugs in the illicit drug supply.

Through September, the United States has imported \$378.9 billion in goods from Mexico, \$322.2 billion from China and \$309.3 billion from Canada.



Cyprus' soldiers on a military vehicle pass during a military parade marking the 63th anniversary of Cyprus' independence from British colonial rule, in divided capital Nicosia, Cyprus, on Oct 1 2023. (AP)

Cyprus could become a member of NATO when conditions permit: Christodoulides

NICOSIA, Cyprus, Nov 28, (AP) — Cyprus could apply to become a member of NATO once its armed forces receive the necessary training and equipment with U.S. help to bring them up to the standards of the world's premier military alliance, the president of the Mediterranean island nation said Thursday.

President Nikos Christodoulides put Cyprus on a trajectory for possible NATO membership, ending weeks of media speculation about his government's intentions following his meeting with U.S. President Joe Biden in Washington last month. The development goes against Cyprus' long-held policy of neutrality harking back to the Cold War era, when it walked a political tightrope between Washington and Moscow.

Christodoulides said although Cyprus can't join NATO at this time because of objections that Turkey would raise to its potential membership, the Cypriot National Guard shouldn't be denied the opportunity to upgrade its defensive capabilities with US assistance.

Turkey, which maintains more than 35,000 troops in the breakaway Turkish Cypriot northern part of ethnically divided Cyprus, doesn't recognize the island's government, which is based in the Greek Cypriot southern part.

Christodoulides didn't elaborate on how Turkish objections could be side-stepped. But the U.N. is currently work-

ing to prepare for a resumption of peace talks between the rival sides in Cyprus, which was split in 1974 when Turkey invaded following a coup by supporters of uniting the island with Greece.

"And because we don't want the National Guard to lose such opportunities, we're in talks with the U.S. -- and we thank them for their positive response -- on how the Cyprus Republic can make the best use of these opportunities, so when everything is in its place, the Cyprus Republic can become a member state of NATO," Christodoulides told The Associated Press.

"The strengthening of the Cyprus Republic's deterrent capabilities is of the utmost importance, and we take advantage of every opportunity, both in the direction of the United States and NATO, but also the European Union."

Christodoulides said Cyprus' geographic location -- it's the closest EU member state to the Middle East at just 182 kilometers (114 miles) from the Lebanese capital, Beirut -- has given impetus to planned upgrades to its military infrastructure. He said the government is currently in talks with the U.S. for upgrades to a key air base and with the EU for a naval base.

Following his meeting with Biden, Christodoulides told the AP of his government's commitment to expanding defense and security cooperation with the U.S.

Another Russian missile and drone attack targets Ukraine's energy infrastructure

KYIV, Ukraine, Nov 28, (AP) — Russia conducted a "massive" attack against Ukraine's energy infrastructure on Thursday, firing nearly 200 missiles and drones and leaving more than a million households without power, Ukrainian officials said.

Russia's second major aerial attack on Ukraine's power grid in less than two weeks amplified fears that the Kremlin aims to cripple the country's power generation capacity before winter.

"Attacks on energy facilities are happening all over Ukraine," Energy Minister Herman Halushchenko said in a post on Facebook. He added that emergency power outages were implemented nationwide.

In some regions, Kalibr cruise missiles with cluster munitions smashed into civilian targets, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said, calling it "an insidious escalation." Trump munitions release numerous small bombs over a wide area, making them dangerous to civilians both during and after an attack.

Ukrainian officials have warned recently that Russia was stockpiling cruise and ballistic missiles, presumably for another pre-winter aerial

campaign against Ukraine's power grid. Ukrainian officials have in the past accused Russia of "weaponizing winter."

Around half of Ukraine's energy infrastructure has been destroyed during the almost three years of war with Russia, and rolling electricity blackouts are common. Kyiv's Western allies have sought to help Ukraine protect power generation with air defense systems and funds for rebuilding.

Russia in previous years has targeted Ukraine's electricity generation, aiming to deny civilians critical heating and drinking water supplies during the bitter winter months and break Ukrainian spirits. The attacks also seek to hobble Ukraine's defense industry that is now producing missiles, drones and armored vehicles, among other military assets.

The war has been going in Russia's favor in recent months as its bigger army uses its advantages in manpower and equipment to push Ukrainian forces backward in eastern areas, though its offensive has been slow and costly.

Explosions were reported in Kyiv, Kharkiv, Rivne, Khmelnytskyi, Lutsk, and many other cities in central and western Ukraine.

Zelenskyy urged Western countries to accelerate delivery of promised air defense weaponry. Ukrainian officials in the past have grumbled that military aid is slow to arrive.

"Each such attack proves that air defense systems are needed now in Ukraine, where they save lives, and not at storage bases," Zelenskyy said on the Telegram messaging app.

The head of Ukraine's presidential office, Andriy Yermak, said in a Telegram post that Russia had stockpiled missiles to strike Ukrainian infrastructure and wage war against civilians during the cold season. "They were helped by their crazy allies, including

from North Korea," he wrote.

Western governments and South Korea say North Korea in recent months has intensified its military support for Russia.

The head of the Lviv region in western Ukraine, Maksym Kozlytskyi, said the attack left more than half a million households without electricity.

Over 280,000 households in the northwestern Rivne region were without electricity because of the attack, according to regional Gov. Oleksandr Koval. Running water supplies were also patchy in affected areas. Some schools in Rivne city switched to on-line classes.

America

Cabinet nominees 'targeted':

Several of US President-elect Donald Trump's Cabinet and administration picks were targeted by bomb threats and "swatting incidents," the Trump transition team said Wednesday.

"Last night and this morning, several of President Trump's Cabinet nominees and administration appointees were targeted in violent, un-American threats to their lives and those who live with them," Trump transition spokeswoman Karoline Leavitt said in a statement.

"Those attacks ranged from bomb threats to 'swatting,'" she continued, without offering specifics about who was targeted.

Swatting incidents involve falsely reporting an emergency to law enforcement, usually police or SWAT (Special Weapons and Tactics) teams, with the aim of triggering a massive, heavily armed response at an innocent person's location.

Law enforcement and other authorities acted quickly to ensure the safety of those who were targeted, according to the statement posted on X. (Xinhua)

Golfer fatally beaten:

A Florida golfer has died after he was beaten with his own clubs and choked in what police believe was a random attack by a man with a history of violence whose family had just kicked him out of their home.

Brian Hildebeitel, 65, was playing Monday afternoon at the Sandhill Crane Golf Club when Palm Beach Gardens police say he was attacked by 36-year-old Junior Boucher, who had been reported missing an hour earlier by his family. Court records show that earlier Monday, members of Boucher's family had filed an eviction notice to remove him from their house.

According to a police report, witnesses heard Hildebeitel scream, "He's trying to kill me," and then saw Boucher beating him with a club on the first fairway. Hildebeitel tried to run away, but Boucher retrieved another club from Hildebeitel's bag and chased him into a pond, where he jumped on top of him, choked him and again beat him, police said.

Police Chief Dominic Pape said no connection has been found between Hildebeitel and Boucher nor is there any immediate evidence of a confrontation or argument before the attack. (AP)



In this photo taken from video released by the Russian Defense Ministry on Nov 28, pilots of an Su-34 bomber of the Russian air force fly at an undisclosed location in Ukraine. (AP)



Biden

INTERNATIONAL

Landslide triggered by rain in Indonesia's Sumatra island kills at least seven people

SIBOLANGIT, Indonesia, Nov 28, (Agencies): Seven people have died in a landslide triggered by torrential rains in Indonesia's Sumatra island, officials said on Thursday, adding to the death toll from landslides in the region this week.

Rescuers recovered the bodies of the victims, including a driver and passengers, from a tourist bus that was covered by trees, mud, and rocks in the landslide on the road from Medan city to Berastagi town in Indonesia's North Sumatra province. The route is the main access from the capital Medan to other districts in the region.

The bus was among vehicles that had been cut off by landslides on the road since Wednesday morning.

More than 10 people were also injured and have been evacuated to the hospital in Medan city.

Muji Ediyanto, traffic director of the North Sumatra Regional Police, said in a video messenger distributed by Indonesia's National Search and Rescue Agency on Thursday said that some vehicles remain trapped between the

landslide locations along that road.

"It will take at least two days to evacuate them from the landslide. Several vehicles are still trapped by piles (from the) landslides. There are also fallen trees at several points and landslides and the vehicles have not been able to get out of the locations," Ediyanto said.

Earlier this week, 20 people died after flash floods and landslides at four locations in the mountainsides of North Sumatra province, including in Karo regency that is located less than 20 kilometers from the most-recent landslide location.

Seasonal rains from around October through to March frequently cause flooding and landslides in Indonesia, an archipelago of 17,000 islands where millions of people live in mountainous areas or near fertile flood plains.

Meanwhile, Indonesia's Meteorology, Climatology, and Geophysics Agency (BMKG) urged the public to remain vigilant about the potential impacts of the La Nina phenomenon.

La Nina is a global climate pattern characterized by the upwelling of cool waters from deep in the eastern Pacific Ocean, resulting in a pool of cooler-than-average water along the eastern and central equatorial Pacific.

BMKG Head Dwikorita Karnawati warned on Monday that La Nina could increase rainfall intensity by 20 percent to 40 percent and trigger extreme weather, increasing the likelihood of hydrometeorological disasters such as floods, landslides, strong winds, and tornadoes.

"We are closely monitoring weather developments and issuing early warnings to mitigate the risks of disasters during this period. However, we also urge the public to prepare themselves, especially those residing in hilly areas, mountain slopes, highlands, and along riverbanks, as this phenomenon can significantly affect weather conditions," Karnawati stated in an official release.

She added that the La Nina phenomenon is expected to persist until April 2025.



Rescuers remove the body of a victim from the wreckage of a vehicle after it was hit by a landslide that killed multiple people in Deli Serdang, North Sumatra, Indonesia, on Nov 28. (AP)



Miao Hua, China's director of the political affairs department of the Central Military Commission arrives at the Pyongyang Airport in Pyongyang, North Korea on Oct 14, 2019. (AP)

High-ranking military official in China under investigation: Defense Ministry

BEIJING, Nov 28, (AP): China has suspended a high-ranking military official while he is being investigated, its Defense Ministry announced Thursday.

The official, Miao Hua, is director of the Political Work Department on the powerful Central Military Commission that oversees the People's Liberation Army. He is one of five members of the body that oversees the world's largest standing military, in addition to China's leader Xi Jinping, who heads the commission.

Defense Ministry spokesperson Wu Qian said Miao is under investigation for "serious violations of discipline," which usually alludes to issues of corruption.

This is the third recent major shake-

up for China's defense establishment. In June, China announced that former Defense Minister Li Shangfu and his predecessor Wei Fenghe were accused of corruption and expelled from the party. They were being investigated for corruption and bribery, after initially facing suspension.

In Xi's first term as Party Secretary, he was known for a multi-year campaign against corruption that has brought down numerous high-profile political rivals, and thousands of officials. This has led some to allege a widespread purge of officers suspected of conspiring with outside forces or simply being insufficiently loyal to Xi.

China releases 3 Americans it imprisoned for yrs and Beijing says US returned 4 people to China

WASHINGTON, Nov 28, (AP): Three American citizens imprisoned for years by China have been released and are returning to the United States, the White House said Wednesday, announcing a rare diplomatic agreement with Beijing in the final months of the Biden administration.

The Chinese government also announced Thursday that the U.S. had returned four people to China, including at least three Chinese citizens who it said had been held for "political purposes," and a person who had been sought by Beijing for crimes and had been living in the United States. It did not identify the four.

The three Americans released by Beijing are Mark Swidan, Kai Li and John Leung, all of whom had been designated by the U.S. government as wrongfully detained by China. Swidan had been facing a death sentence on drug charges while Li and Leung were imprisoned on espionage charges.

"Soon they will return and be reunited with their families for the first time in many years," the White House said in a statement.

The release comes just two months after China freed David Lin, a Christian pastor from California who had spent nearly 20 years behind bars after being convicted of contract fraud.

US-China relations have been roiled for years over major disagreements between the world's two larg-

est economies on trade, human rights, the production of fentanyl precursors, security issues that include espionage and hacking, China's aggressiveness toward Taiwan and its smaller neighbors in the South China Sea, and Beijing's support for Russia's military-industrial sector.

The release of Americans deemed wrongfully detained in China has been a top agenda item in each conversation between the U.S. and China, and Wednesday's development suggests a willingness by Beijing to engage with

the outgoing Democratic administration before Republican President-elect Donald Trump's return to the White House in January.

Trump took significant actions against China on trade and diplomacy during his first term. He has pledged to continue those policies in his second term, leading to unease among many who fear that an all-out trade war will greatly affect the international economy and could spur potential Chinese military action against Taiwan.

Still, the two countries have main-

tained a dialogue that has included a partial restoration of military-to-military contacts. President Joe Biden and Chinese leader Xi Jinping met this month to discuss potential improvements.

In a separate but related move, the State Department on Wednesday lowered its travel warning to China to "level two," advising U.S. citizens to "exercise increased caution" from the norm when traveling to the mainland. The alert had previously been at "level three," telling Americans they should "reconsider travel" to China in part because of the "risk of wrongful detention" of Americans.

The new alert removes that wording but retains a warning that the Chinese government "arbitrarily enforces local laws, including exit bans on U.S. citizens and citizens of other countries, without fair and transparent process under the law."

The Biden administration had raised the cases of the detained Americans with China in multiple meetings over the past several years, including this month when Biden spoke to Xi on during the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in Peru.

Politico was first to report the men's release, which it said was part of a prisoner swap with the U.S. The White House did not immediately confirm that any Chinese citizens in American custody had been returned home.



Harrison Li holds a photo of his father, Kai Li, as he poses for a photo, Jan 23, 2024, in Palo Alto, Calif. (AP)



Relatives of detainees release balloons during a vigil calling for the freedom of political prisoners near the headquarters of the National Intelligence Service (SEBIN) in Caracas, Venezuela on Nov 27. (AP)

US sanctions more allies of Maduro over 'post-election crackdown' in Venezuela

CARACAS, Venezuela, Nov 28, (Agencies): The United States has imposed sanctions on an additional 21 allies of Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro, accusing them on Wednesday of perpetrating some of the repression with which officials in the country responded to July's disputed presidential election.

The security and cabinet-level officials sanctioned by the Department of the Treasury include the head of the nation's corrections agency, the director of an intelligence service and the minister of Maduro's Office of the President. They joined a list of dozens of sanctioned Venezuelans that includes the head of the country's high-

court, ministers and prosecutors.

The Biden administration last week recognized opposition candidate Edmundo González as Venezuela's president-elect. The US also on Wednesday placed visa restrictions on additional individuals it accused of repressing Venezuelans after the July 28 election.

While Maduro declared victory in the election, he and his government have refused to show vote tallies backing his claim.

González left Venezuela in September for exile in Spain after a warrant was issued for his arrest in connection with an investigation into the publishing of vote tallies. The former diplomat, who represented the main opposi-

tion parties, claimed to have won the presidential election by a wide margin.

In September, the US government imposed sanctions against 16 allies of Maduro, accusing them of obstructing the vote and carrying out human rights abuses.

The effect of the individual sanctions and visa restrictions announced Wednesday is unclear. Previously punished Maduro loyalists still hold powerful in Venezuela's government.

Venezuelan lawmakers on Tuesday continued the debate over a bill that would catalogue economic sanctions as a crime against humanity and allow the prosecution of anyone who expresses support for the measures.

Pakistani police issues charges against Khan and his wife Bibi for inciting violence

ISLAMABAD, Nov 28, (AP): Pakistani police have levelled multiple charges against imprisoned former premier Imran Khan, his wife and others for inciting people to violence, officials said Thursday, following days of protests and clashes in which at least six people were killed and scores more were injured.

Khan's wife Bushra Bibi led thousands of people from the country's northwest to march on the capital Islamabad to demand the release of Khan, who has been behind bars since August 2023. Khan already has more than 150 cases against him but supporters say they are politically motivated.

Bibi, a spiritual healer, fled when police launched a midnight raid Tuesday to disperse thousands of demonstrators. She was out of prison on bail in a graft case when she led the protest from northwest Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

Authorities said police arrested nearly 1,000 demonstrators since Sunday in and around Islamabad.

At least six people, including four security personnel, were killed when a vehicle rammed into them, according to Islamabad police which has blamed Khan supporters for the deaths.

Police issued charges against Khan, Bibi and others in Islamabad and the city of Rawalpindi under Pakistan's anti-terrorism laws. Authorities accuse them of inciting people to attack security forces and disrupting the peace.

Khan faces more than 150 cases against him but his political party, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf or PTI, says

it will continue to push for his release.

On Thursday, Planning and Development Minister Ahsan Iqbal and Information Minister Attaullah Tarar told international media that Khan supporters "wanted to take over the capital" and that some of them were carrying weapons. These were seized when the midnight raid was under way, they said.

Iqbal said security forces used tear gas and batons to disperse crowds. He dismissed the PTI's claim that some Khan supporters died from police firing live bullets. He added that it was not a peaceful rally because the protesters used guns.

The rally came after 42 Shiites were

killed in the northwestern Kurram district earlier this month when gunmen opened fire on convoys of buses and cars. Retaliatory attacks in Kurram also left dozens more people dead.

Also on Thursday, eight people were killed in new sectarian clashes in Kurram, local police official Salim Shah said.

Meanwhile, Islamabad police filed terrorism charges against a journalist, Matiullah Jan, on Thursday after his family said he was abducted by unknown men. Police say Jan, who is now in police custody, refused to stop at a checkpoint and he had snatched a gun from an officer. Police also alleged that Jan was "drunk" when arrested, a charge he denied.



Bushra Bibi, (center), wife of imprisoned former premier Imran Khan and leaders of Khan's party lead their supporters during a rally demanding Khan's release, in Islamabad, Pakistan on Nov 26. (AP)

Landslides in Uganda kill at least 13 people

NAIROBI, Kenya, Nov 28, (AP): At least 13 people have died in eastern Uganda after landslides buried 40 homes in six villages, relief officials said Thursday.

The Uganda Red Cross Society said 13 bodies have been recovered and the rescue effort is continuing.

Local media reported that authorities expect the death toll could rise to 30. The landslides happened after heavy rains on Wednesday night in the mountainous district of Bulambuli, where landslides are common.

A journalist in the area told The Associated Press that local officials said an excavator would be brought to assist in the rescue efforts, but the roads were covered in mud and the rain was still falling.

The affected area is about 50 acres (20ha) with homesteads and farmlands spread downhill.

The prime minister's office issued a disaster alert on Wednesday stating that heavy rains across the country had cut off major roads.



Rescue workers and people search for bodies after landslides following heavy rains buried 40 homes in the mountainous district of Bulambuli, eastern Uganda on Nov 28. (AP)

Asia

Car crashes into PM vehicle: A police car collided with the rear of an official limousine transporting New Zealand's Prime Minister Christopher Luxon and Finance Minister Nicola Willis and no one was hurt, officials said Thursday.

The minor crash occurred Wednesday afternoon on the main road to the airport in Wellington, New Zealand's capital, where the parliament is located. Police are investigating the crash.

The Department of Internal Affairs - the agency that manages official ve-

hicles - says the rear of the limousine was damaged.



Luxon

Luxon told reporters in Auckland on Thursday that the crash was a "bit of a shock" but he was "fine."

The prime minister said he did not know if the car would be writ-

ten off. (AP)

Thailand departs 6 activists:

Six Cambodian activists charged with treason over Facebook comments criticizing their government have been deported from Thailand to stand trial, a pro-democracy group said Thursday.

The Khmer Movement for Democracy, a movement formed by opposition leaders in exile, criticized the decision to return the four women and two men, saying they will face "inhuman and degrading treatment" in Cambodia's prison system. (AP)

		Change	Closing pts			Change	Closing pts
PAKISTAN	- KSE 100	+0.68	100,171.69	PHILIPPINES	- PSEI	-0.96	6,638.54
JAPAN	- Nikkei 225	+0.56	38,349.06				
DUBAI	- DFMGI	+0.38	4,823.38				
EGYPT	- EGX 30	+1.33	30,242.13				
SAUDI	- TASI	+0.44	11,641.31				

Business

176 km network set to revolutionize urban mobility

King Salman inaugurates landmark Riyadh Metro Project



KUNA photo

Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz inaugurates Riyadh Metro Project.

RIYADH, Nov 28, (KUNA): On a momentous occasion, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud officially launched the Riyadh Metro Project on Wednesday, a transformative initiative for the city's public transportation network.

This ambitious project boasts a cutting-edge design, featuring six train lines that extend across 176 kilometers and connect 85 stations, including four critical main stations.

King Salman watched an engaging introductory film about this monumental undertaking, according to the Saudi Press Agency (SPA).

Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman, chairman the Royal Commission for Riyadh City, emphasized that this integrated public transportation project, which combines train and bus systems, builds upon the visionary groundwork laid by King Salman during his previous development initiatives in Riyadh.

Thorough studies examining the existing urban landscape and transportation needs of Riyadh drove the crea-

tion of the public transport project.

These insights were pivotal in formulating a comprehensive public transport plan designed to establish a sustainable and effective transportation system that caters to both current demands and future growth.

With the approval of three consortiums comprised of over 19 major international companies from 13 countries, the Riyadh Metro represents a significant leap forward in enhancing the city's transportation infrastructure, ensuring it meets the needs of Riyadh's vibrant and rapidly expanding population.

The Public Transport Project in Riyadh stemmed from extensive studies that evaluated the city's existing conditions and transportation needs.

These findings guided the creation of a comprehensive public transport plan to develop a sustainable transportation system that fits the city's urban landscape and future growth.

Kuwait oil down to USD 73.21 pb

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28, (KUNA): The price of Kuwait oil dropped by 27 cents to USD 73.21 per barrel (pb) on Wednesday as opposed to USD 73.48 pb on Tuesday, said the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) on Thursday.

At the global level, the Brent crude went up by two cents to USD 71.83 pb, while the West Texas Intermediate went down by five cents to USD 68.72 pb.

Kuwait's industrial financing sees record 140% surge in October '24

Banks allocate 258 million dinars to industry

By Mahmoud Shendi

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: In October 2024, local banks significantly boosted their financing for Kuwait's industrial sector, marking a noteworthy rise both monthly and annually.

The value of financing increased by 150.5 million dinars or a remarkable 140 percent to reach 258 million dinars; compared to 107.4 million dinars in September.

This surge was even more impressive on an annual basis, with financing growing by 182.6 million dinars, or 242.4 percent, from 75.3 million dinars in October 2023.

Looking at the first 10 months of 2024, local banks provided a total of 938 million dinars in financing for the industrial sector.

The accumulated balance of financing for the sector saw a monthly increase of 217 million dinars, rising from 2.587 billion dinars in September to 2.804 billion dinars in October.

On an annual basis it increased by 2.3 percent or 63 million dinars, as compared to 2.741 billion dinars in October 2023.

October 2024 marked the highest level

of financing for the industrial sector in 2024, with August following closely behind at 118.7 million dinars. The lowest financing level was recorded in April, with just 25.3 million dinars.

This surge in industrial sector financing contrasts with a challenging year for the sector in 2023 as the total monthly financing for the industrial sector fell by 31 percent during the fiscal year, dropping by 466 million dinars from 1.499 billion dinars at the end of 2022 to 1.033 billion dinars by the end of 2023.

Despite these challenges, financing for the sector reached its highest point in December 2023, with 198.9 million dinars.

The industrial sector faced numerous challenges over the past few years. It was one of the hardest-hit sectors during the COVID-19 pandemic, with companies' activities suspended and disruptions in supply chains and production.

Moreover, the sector struggled with limited demand and a lack of new projects. Local industrial projects, in particular, were affected, reflected in the significant decline in financing during 2023 compared to 2022.

Some of the sector's most pressing challenges include the shortage of developed industrial plots for new projects, bureaucratic delays in completing industrial transactions, insufficient reliance on national products and the lack of export

facilities for Kuwaiti products.

Additionally, high factory rental prices and a continued dependence on imported goods have contributed to the sector's struggles.

Alongside these developments in the industrial sector, local banks also saw a substantial increase in the total loans granted to both residents and non-residents.

By the end of October 2024, loans had grown by 2.81 billion dinars, bringing the cumulative balance of credit facilities to 56.37 billion dinars, a 5.2 percent increase from 53.55 billion dinars at the end of December 2023.

Loans granted to residents amounted to 49.06 billion dinars by the end of October 2024, reflecting a 2.9 percent increase, or 1.38 billion dinars, compared to 47.67 billion dinars at the end of 2023.

Meanwhile, loans granted to non-residents saw a more substantial rise of 24.3 percent, reaching 7.31 billion dinars by the end of October, an increase of 1.43 billion dinars from 5.88 billion dinars at the end of 2023.

This growth in credit facilities came as loans to all economic sectors saw significant increases, including housing loans. By the end of October 2024, housing loans reached 16.44 billion dinars, marking a 2.66 percent increase, or 427 million dinars, from 16 billion dinars at the end of 2023.



The all-new Infiniti QX80 at the new showroom.

A Japanese masterpiece

INFINITI Al Babtain officially launches the all-new QX80 in Kuwait

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: Abdulmohsen Abdulaziz Al Babtain Co. (AABC), the exclusive dealer for INFINITI cars in Kuwait, hosted the grand unveiling of the all-new Infiniti QX80 in a luxurious launch event in the Regency Hotel. Where they announced the arrival of the car to Kuwait in an event attended by AABC management, Infiniti Middle East (IMEA) executives, social media influencers, media representatives, esteemed customers.

The launch event at the Regency Hotel in Al Bidda was distinguished by its luxury and sophistication along with segments of Japanese heritage and culture presented by playing the Hand pan instrument, and in a beautiful moment, the dazzling car was also revealed in conjunction with playing the piano, as the rear lights were inspired by the keys of this wonderful musical instrument.

The all-new INFINITI QX80 redefines the luxury SUV experience with a bold exterior, highlighted by aerodynamic lines, dark chrome detailing, and a two-tone roof that exudes confidence, underscoring INFINITI's evolved design language, Artistry in Motion. Crafted to capture attention, the QX80's chassis and suspension deliver both rugged durability and refined elegance for all on board. New 22-inch wheels and an advanced electronic air suspension system enhance the ride by adapting to road conditions for optimal comfort and control.

Inside, the QX80's cabin offers ultimate comfort paired with intuitive technology. Semi-aniline leather seats and fine open pore ash wood with metal inlays emphasize a commitment to luxurious craftsmanship. INFINITI InTouch with Google built-in provides effortless access to navigation and entertainment on the go. Additionally, ProPILOT Assist 1.0 supports the driver during extended journeys by combining intelligent cruise control with steering assistance for added comfort and peace of mind. The cabin also introduces Biometric Cooling, providing personalized comfort for passengers through advanced climate control technology.

Supporting driver awareness, the 2025 QX80 incorporates advanced camera technology, offering greater visibility in even the trickiest situations. A front-wide view camera provides an expansive display of the sides of the vehicle across the dual 14.3-inch screens, useful for navigating tight urban spaces and "seeing" around obstacles. The Invisible Hood View utilizes footage from exterior cameras to project an image directly in front of the vehicle onto the in-car displays, making hard to see obstacles easier to identify and ensuring tight parking missions are smoother. The new 3D Enhanced Around-View® Monitor with Moving Object Detection provides multiple selectable angles, creating a

natural, 3D perspective of surroundings, particularly useful when parking or maneuvering in close quarters. Additionally, the enhanced Smart Rear View Mirror has been optimized for low-light performance, delivering crisp, clear visuals even in dim conditions.

Mastering the art of light, the all-new QX80 features the INFINITI Light Path, creating a unique illumination experience. As owners approach the locked vehicle with their key fob, the INFINITI emblem illuminates in the front grille, followed by individual elements in the Daylight Running Lamps. The performance culminates with the INFINITI Light Path projection on the ground featuring the INFINITI wordmark and wing-like geometric shapes. Ambient lighting within the cabin is customizable with 64 colors, allowing passengers to personalize their environment to suit any mood or occasion.

Powering the QX80 is a newly developed VR35DDTT 3.5-liter twin-turbocharged V6 engine, delivering 450 horsepower and 700 Nm of torque—a 50-horsepower increase over the previous engine. This high-output V6 ensures greater power and efficiency for urban drives and off-road adventures. Paired to INFINITI's latest 9-speed automatic transmission, the QX80 offers a harmonious blend of responsiveness and economy.

A distinctive feature of the QX80 is its integration of Klipsch® premium audio system, a first in the full-size luxury SUV segment. The 24-speaker Klipsch Reference Premiere system includes Individual Audio functionality, focusing sound elements like navigation, music, or calls directly to one or both front seats for a personalized audio experience.

In line with regional preferences, the all-new QX80 also comes with a rear differential lock for enhanced off-road capability, ensuring superior performance across multiple terrains. INFINITI offers the QX80 in SENSORY and AUTOGRAPH grades, each crafted to elevate luxury and technology in its own way. The SENSORY grade is designed with high-end amenities focused on comfort and advanced technology, ideal for drivers seeking sophistication and convenience. The AUTOGRAPH grade, positioned as the top tier, features exclusive design elements and bespoke finishes that epitomize luxury, creating a truly unique environment for discerning drivers.

Customers are invited to explore the all-new Infiniti QX80 at the new showroom, located on the 4th Ring Road in Al-Rai. Operating from Saturday to Thursday, 8:30 AM to 8:00 PM, the showroom promises an unforgettable journey into automotive luxury. For more information, customers can contact customer service at 1804888.

In line with its commitment to supporting people with special needs

KFH participates in sixth edition of 'Partners in Employing Them' initiative

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: In line with its leading role in social responsibility and community support, Kuwait Finance House (KFH) participated in the launching ceremony of the sixth edition of the national initiative, "Partners in Employing Them", aiming to employ people with special needs and enabling them to join the labor market.

Under the patronage of Kuwait Minister of Social Affairs, Children and Family Affairs, Dr. Amthal Al-Huwaila, the inaugural ceremony was held in Kuwait University, in collaboration with the Public Authority for Disability Affairs (PADA).

Dr. Al-Huwaila commended KFH's pioneering role in social responsibility and its keenness to take part in the state-wide initiative, "Partners in Employing Them".

Meanwhile, KFH Executive Manager Corporate Relations and CSR, Faisal Alsurayye, said that KFH is committed to supporting the labor market and actively participating with State institutions, contributing to achieving common national economic development goals and motivating people with disabilities to work in the private sector. "These initiatives are significant in solidifying KFH's track record of supporting people with special needs in different sporting, cultural and educational activities" he stated, "KFH also participates in different conferences and fairs addressing this special social segment and focusing on showcasing their abilities and skills."

He added that KFH continues to support individuals with special needs at all levels. This commitment is part of its ongoing social responsibility and sustainability strategy. The Bank pays close attention to the employment, training, and providing specialized services for this segment of society, including sign language-trained staff at our branches, designat-



Faisal Alsurayye and the Executive Director of Recruitments at KFH, Abdullah Al-Khamis, with Minister Dr. Amthal Al-Huwaila.

ed parking spaces, wheelchairs, accessible entrances, ATMs equipped with accessibility features such as audio assistance, and Braille-printed account opening forms and contracts.

Alsurayye pointed out that KFH made a successful impact in the previous editions of the Partners in Employing Them initiative. KFH is the first bank in Kuwait to launch a program designated for training people with special needs, providing an opportunity for students with special needs to engage with society, learn new skills and gain experience through direct interaction with employees and customers. The training program also enriches their knowledge through hands-on experience necessary to achieve their goals and contribute effectively to society. It includes training hours in different departments including Human Resources, Branches, Credits, Products and more.



Faisal Alsurayye, KFH Executive Manager Corporate Relations and CSR

KIB will be closed during GCC Summit, service continuity via digital platforms

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: Kuwait International Bank (KIB) announced that it will continue to provide its online banking services around the clock during the day of the 45th Supreme Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Summit, which will be hosted in Kuwait. The Bank aims to meet the needs of its customers, whether inside Kuwait or abroad, during the holiday.

The Bank will be closed for business on Sunday, December 1, 2024, in observance of the GCC Summit. Normal working hours will resume on Monday, December 2, 2024.

KIB highlighted its commitment to serving its customers and enabling



KIB new logo

them to follow up on their financial affairs and complete their banking transactions with the utmost efficiency and without disruption at all times. The Bank indicated that it will continue to provide its banking services through all its digital platforms 24/7 during the holiday, which includes the KIB Mobile smartphone application that allows customers to perform

most basic banking operations, in addition to the Live Chat and KIB Online services on the Bank's website www.KIB.com.kw. Customers can also reach KIB via its call center, at 1866866 for local calls and at +965 22957300 for international calls, or through its WhatsApp account registered with the local bank number 1866866 for general inquiries about products and services.

KIB also emphasized the readiness of the Bank's ATMs to accommodate the expected increased demand for cash withdrawals during the holiday, both in terms of providing sufficient liquidity and the number of machines available in different areas in Kuwait.

NBK-Egypt reports EGP 5.2 billion (equivalent to KWD 38.2 million) in net profit by end of 3Q2024

Bank records a remarkable growth of 101%

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: National Bank of Kuwait - Egypt (NBK-Egypt) has reported net profits of EGP 5.2 billion (equivalent to KWD 38.2 million) for the first nine months of 2024, a significant increase from the EGP 2.6 billion (equivalent to KWD 26.5 million) reported in the corresponding period of 2023, showcasing an impressive growth rate of 101%.

Net Operating Income stood at EGP9.7 billion, recording a substantial increase of 57% from EGP 6.2 billion recorded in the corresponding period of 2023. In the meantime, Net Interest Income grew by 65%, reaching EGP 8.2 billion compared to EGP 5 billion in 9M2023.

Meanwhile, Net Operating Income (excluding interests) increased to EGP 1.4 billion in 9M2024, compared to EGP 1.2 million in 9M2023, up 23%, while Cost to Net Operating Income dropped from 32% in 9M2023 to 22% in 9M2024.

Total assets reached EGP 181.9 billion by the end of the third quarter of 2024, up by 39% compared to EGP 130.6 billion by the end of 2023. Furthermore, total loans and credit facilities expanded to EGP 98.1 billion by the end of 3Q2024, reflecting a growth rate of 29% compared to EGP 76.1 billion recorded at the end of 2023. Additionally, customer deposits increased to EGP 147.2 billion by the end of 3Q2024, up from EGP 105.9 billion at the end of 2023, representing a growth rate of 39%. Furthermore, The Return

Al-Bahar:

- At the end of the third quarter of 2024, we achieved our strongest financial performance to date, driven by exceptional operational performance across all business segments.
- NBK - Egypt has positioned itself as one of the fastest-growing banks, leaving a significant footprint in the Egyptian market.
- Strong financial indicators reaffirm that we are on the right path to further expand and solidify our market share.
- Egypt remains one of the most strategic markets for our growth, firmly established as the Group's second domestic market.
- We continue to prioritize enhancing service quality, expanding our geographic reach, and tapping into broader customer segments to bolster financial inclusion.



Ms. Shaikha Al-Bahar.



Mr. Yasser El-Tayeb.

sponding period of 2023. Commenting on the financial results announced by NBK-Egypt, Ms. Shaikha Al-Bahar, Deputy Group Chief Executive Officer, National Bank of Kuwait, and Chairman of NBK-Egypt, said: "The robust growth in NBK-Egypt's profits and financial performance by the end of 3Q2024 underscores the strength of the bank's financial position and the resilience of its profit-generating business model, even amid operational challenges. Since its debut in the Egyptian market in 2007, NBK Group has consistently demonstrated its confidence in the significant opportunities and untapped potential this dynamic market offers".

Al-Bahar highlighted the Egyptian market's strategic importance to NBK Group, emphasizing its position as a cornerstone of the Group's long-term investment strategy. Egypt is considered the second domestic market for the Group and hosts NBK's largest Kuwaiti investment outside Kuwait. The bank has established

a strong presence in the Egyptian banking sector as one of the fastest-growing institutions in the market. NBK-Egypt's operations are among the Group's most profitable, consistently delivering high returns on equity. All financial indicators point to continued success, with the bank positioned for further expansion and increased market share. Al-Bahar also noted NBK's significant focus on enhancing retail banking services in Egypt, the most populous market in the region.

"We are committed to enhancing service quality, expanding our geographical reach, and engaging with a broader and more diverse customer base. This strategy leverages the substantial advancements the bank has achieved in digital infrastructure, information technology, and electronic channels, which have experienced remarkable growth. These developments have positioned the bank as a strong competitor in the Egyptian banking sector, particularly amidst the growing demand for banking services and the rising rates of financial inclusion," Al-Bahar added.

El-Tayeb:

- The bank maintains its robust performance, achieving significant growth across all key financial metrics.
- We are focused on strengthening our presence in the retail banking sector, complementing our established strength in corporate banking.
- NBK-Egypt is accelerating its efforts towards expanding online services and embracing digital transformation to enhance customer experiences.
- We are committed to supporting the global shift towards sustainable finance, advancing the green economy, and backing environmentally friendly initiatives.

Meanwhile, Vice Chairman, CEO, and Managing Director of National Bank of Kuwait-Egypt, Mr. Yasser El-Tayeb, said: "Despite the exceptional challenges faced by the business community both locally and globally, the bank's financial performance at the end of the third quarter of 2024 underscores its resilience and capacity for growth. Strong financial figures and indicators highlight the bank's ability to achieve solid results, reflecting the

effectiveness of its business model and strategic direction".

El-Tayeb emphasized that NBK Egypt's business growth reflects a balanced expansion across all operations, underpinned by maintaining efficiency and risk ratios aligned with both growth objectives and long-term sustainability. This achievement stems from the bank's prudent strategies and a well-considered business model designed to adapt with agility to customer needs while ensuring operational resilience.

El-Tayeb highlighted that NBK Egypt's income sources are predominantly driven by credit operations in the corporate sector, complemented by the substantial growth of the retail banking sector, particularly in recent years. The bank's credit portfolio demonstrates a significant diversity, catering to a wide range of companies, including large, medium, and small enterprises. Additionally, the retail banking portfolio encompasses various customer segments, reflecting the robustness and diversity of the bank's revenue streams. This diversity underscores the organization's strategic strength and its ability to sustain growth across multiple sectors.

Furthermore, he emphasized that the bank is focused on further strengthening its position in the retail banking sector by offering advanced services and products tailored to diverse customer segments. The goal is to establish the bank as a comprehensive financial institution that not only meets all customers' financial needs but also offers a range of services that enhance their connection to the bank, supporting their work and lifestyle both within Egypt and abroad. This vision is bolstered by NBK Group's extensive regional and global presence, operating in 13 countries worldwide, which enables the bank to offer a robust and internationally connected banking experience.

'One of the biggest internal educational programs globally'

Zain's IDEU recognized as 'Best People Development' program at MERIT Summit Awards

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: Zain Group, a leading provider of innovative technologies and digital lifestyle communications operating in eight markets across the Middle East and Africa, has been awarded the "Best People Development" program for its Inclusion, Diversity & Equity University (IDEU) initiative in partnership with Spain's IE University at the annual Merit Summit Awards recently held in Dubai.

Since 2017, MERIT has been providing a unique forum for HR and Learning & Development directors of international companies from different industries and executive education leaders to recognize achievements and elevate organizational, leadership and people development, and elevate the state of corporate learning "The MERITS" have been designed to award impactful transformational initiatives.

Zain's IDEU program was designed to provide an immersive, interactive, and engaging learning experience that aligns with the demands of contemporary digital landscape. It serves as a route for 2,000



Official receives Merit Award.

Zain professionals to enhance their skills and evolve into the innovators and leaders in digital transformation that their departments require. Their goal is not merely to address the existing challenges but to excel in the face of both the known and unforeseen obstacles in our present and future business environments.

Ms Maryam Saif, Zain Group Chief Inclusion, Diversity and Equity Officer commented, "The IDEU educational pioneering initiative epitomizes our organization's unwavering commitment to purpose-driven progress and organizational impact. This prestigious



Zain Group MERIT Award.

award from MERIT serves as a testament to our dedication to Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity, as we strive to cultivate a workforce that reflects what is essential for innovation and success in today's global landscape. By enabling 2000 employees to embark on a transformative journey, we are

not only investing in their individual growth, but future proofing our organization."

As a people-first business, to further its organizational mission and ambitious business targets as well as continue the company's commitment to enhancing internal capabilities for the

advancement of personal and career growth of its talented workforce, Zain established the IDEU in collaboration with Spain's IE University. This partnership extends the opportunity to 2,000 talented Zainers to participate in an inclusive online Digital Transformation program (MDT), which also offers attaining a master's degree.

Since launch in May 2023, 1,895 employees have started their digital transformation journey with high passing rates, solidifying its success. To date, average course passing rate is 91.9%; 700+ active students pursuing a master's degree; 4000+ certificates attained; and 45,000+ training hours completed.

This hugely impactful program is one of the biggest internal educational programs globally and positions Zain as a leader in employee development, setting a new standard for workforce investment. Zain believes that because of the accelerated speed of its industry, rise of AI and advanced tech, the company has an obligation to upskill its people to bridge the digital gap, together with enabling digital inclusion.

Reaction to Trump's tariff threat

Canada is already examining tariffs on certain US items

TORONTO, Nov 28, (AP): Canada is already examining possible retaliatory tariffs on certain items from the United States should President-elect Donald Trump follow through on his threat to impose sweeping tariffs on Canadian products, a senior official said Wednesday.

Trump has threatened to impose tariffs on products from Canada and Mexico if the countries don't stop what he called the flow of drugs and migrants across southern and northern borders. He said he would impose a 25% tax on all products entering the U.S. from Canada and Mexico as one of his first executive orders.

But Trump posted Wednesday evening on Truth Social that he had a "wonderful conversation" with new Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum and she "agreed to stop Migration through Mexico."

"Mexico will stop people from going to our Southern Border, effective immediately. THIS WILL GO A LONG WAY TOWARD STOPPING THE ILLEGAL INVASION OF THE USA. Thank you!!!" Trump posted.

It was unclear what impact the conversation will have on Trump's plan to impose tariffs.

In Canada, a government official said Canada is preparing for every eventuality and has started thinking about what items to target with tariffs in retaliation. The official stressed no decision has been made. The person spoke on condition of anonymity as they were not authorized to speak publicly.

When Trump imposed higher tariffs during his first term in office, other countries responded with retaliatory tariffs of their own. Canada, for instance, announced billions of new duties in 2018 against the U.S. in a tit-for-tat response to new taxes on Canadian steel and aluminum.

Many of the U.S. products were chosen for their political rather than economic impact. For example, Canada imports \$3 million worth of yogurt from the U.S. annually and most comes from one plant in Wisconsin, home state of then-House Speaker Paul Ryan. That product was hit with a 10% duty.

Another product on the list was whiskey, which comes from Tennessee and Kentucky, the latter of which is the home state of then-Republican Senate leader Mitch McConnell.

Trump made the threat Monday while railing

against an influx of illegal migrants, even though the numbers at Canadian border pale in comparison to the southern border.

The U.S. Border Patrol made 56,530 arrests at the Mexican border in October alone - and 23,721 arrests at the Canadian one between October 2023 and September 2024.

Canadian officials say lumping Canada in with Mexico is unfair but say they are ready to make new investments in border security and work with the Trump administration to lower the numbers from Canada. The Canadians are also worried about a influx north of migrants if Trump follows through with his plan for mass deportations.

Trump also railed about fentanyl from Mexico and Canada, even though seizures from the Canadian border pale in comparison to the Mexican border. U.S. customs agents seized 43 pounds of fentanyl at the Canadian border last fiscal year, compared with 21,100 pounds at the Mexican border.

Canadian officials argue their country is not the problem and that tariffs will have severe implications for both countries.

Kim outside founding family

Samsung Group makes history with female CEO

SEOUL, Nov 28: In a historic move, Samsung Bioepis Co. has appointed Kim Kyung-Ah as its new president and CEO, marking the first time



Kim Kyung-Ah

in Samsung Group's 86-year history that a woman outside the founding family has been named to lead a group company. This appointment comes as part of a broader management reshuffle at Samsung and highlights gradual progress in gender diversity within South Korean corporations, reports Business Standard.

Kim, 56, brings over two decades of experience in biologic development to her new role. She holds a doctorate in neurotoxicology from Johns Hopkins University and has been with Samsung Bioepis since 2015, where she has played a crucial role in product inno-

ventions. Prior to joining Bioepis, Kim worked at the Samsung Advanced Institute of Technology as a principal scientist and later as vice president, focusing on developing antibody therapeutics for oncology. Her expertise spans various areas of biopharmaceutical development, including processes, quality, and regulatory affairs.

This appointment is seen as a significant step towards greater inclusion in South Korea's corporate landscape. Despite recent improvements, women still face considerable barriers in South Korean corporate culture, accounting for only 10% of board members at large listed companies as of 2023.

Kim joins Lee Boo-jin, CEO of Hotel Shilla Co. and granddaughter of Samsung's founder, as only the second woman to head a Samsung affiliate. Her promotion is expected to provide a vision for growth to other female talent within Samsung Bioepis, where over half of the workforce is female.

US consumer price increases accelerated last month

WASHINGTON, Nov 28, (AP) : Consumer price increases accelerated last month, the latest sign that inflation's steady decline over the past two years has stalled in recent months.

According to the Federal Reserve's preferred inflation gauge, consumer prices rose 2.3% in October from a year earlier, the Commerce Department said Wednesday. That is up from just 2.1% in September, though it is still only modestly above the Fed's 2% target.

Yet excluding the volatile food and energy categories, so-called "core" prices also picked up, climbing 2.8% last month from a year earlier, up from 2.7% in September, according to Commerce's personal consumption expenditures price index. Economists closely watch core prices because they typically provide a better read on where inflation is headed.

Inflation has fallen sharply since it peaked at 7% in mid-2022, according to the Fed's preferred measure. Yet yearly core inflation has fluctuated between 2.6% and 2.8% since February. Price increases have

remained elevated in services, including apartment rents, restaurant meals, and car and home insurance.

The elevated reading could make the Federal Reserve less likely to cut its key rate at the next meeting in December. Next month's inflation data, some of which will be issued a week before the meeting, may play a key role in the Fed's decision.

"This report will likely provide further ammo to Fed officials who prefer to lower rates gradually," Omair Sharif, chief economist at Inflation Insights, wrote in a client note, "and may strengthen the argument for a pause at the December FOMC meeting."

Many economists, however, expect that the Fed will reduce its rate by a quarter-point in December, then delay further cuts while gauging the impact of the reductions they've made so far.

"The momentum in inflation toward the Fed's 2% target has sputtered recently but not enough, in our view, to prevent the Fed from cutting interest rates in December," Ryan Sweet, chief U.S. economist at Oxford Economics, wrote in a client note.

Last month, grocery prices barely rose and gas costs fell, providing some relief to household budgets. Prices at the pump have continued to decline since October, reaching a nationwide average of \$3.07 a gallon Wednesday, down six cents from a month earlier, according to AAA.

Used car and truck prices, however, shot up 2.8% from September to October, though they are still 5% lower than a year ago. Air fares jumped 1.5% just last month and have risen 5.1% from a year earlier, while hotel room prices rose 0.5% from September to October. Restaurant prices moved up 0.3% in October and 3.6% from a year earlier. All the yearly increases are higher than they were pre-pandemic.

Wednesday's report also underscored that Americans' incomes and spending remained healthy, a key reason the economy has kept growing this year despite widespread fears of a slowdown. Incomes grew 0.6% from September to October, faster than economists had expected, while consumer spending rose by a solid 0.4% last month.

UK will consult on sales targets for automakers during transition to EVs

LONDON, Nov 28, (AP): Britain's new Labour government will launch a consultation on auto manufacturers' sales targets during the transition to electric vehicles, following the decision by Stellantis, the owner of Vauxhall, to close its van factory in southern England at the potential cost of 1,100 jobs.

Business Secretary Jonathan Reynolds told lawmakers Wednes-

day that the problems encountered by Stellantis in the transition to electric vehicles are not unique, adding that the government will do all it can to prevent the plant's closure.

Stellantis blamed its decision Tuesday to close its plant in Luton on the U.K.'s "stringent" zero-emission vehicle mandate, or ZEV, which sets strict targets for manufacturers.

Stephen and Penny Freeth honor their grandparents' Kuwaiti legacy

Dickson grandchildren reflect on Kuwait's historic friendship

By Chaitali B. Roy

Special to the Arab Times

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: Kuwait's most famous expatriate couple, Colonel Harold Dickson and Dame Violet Dickson, remain an enduring symbol of British-Kuwait friendship and understanding decades after their demise. Last week, Stephen and Penny Freeth, children of Zahra Freeth, the Dicksons' daughter, were in Kuwait to commemorate the ongoing 125 years of British-Kuwait diplomatic relationship and to further refresh the memories of their family's ties with this country. "We are overwhelmed by the generosity and kindness extended to us by Kuwait," remarked Penny Freeth, granddaughter of Colonel Harold and Violet Dickson. We were speaking on the sidelines of the opening of an insightful photographic exhibition, followed by a talk by Stephen Freeth titled "Dickson Family Memories of Kuwait".

On November 20, Essa Yahya Dashti BEM, an expert on Kuwait-British relationship, and the National Library of Kuwait under the patronage of Sheikha Halah Bader Al Mohammed Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah hosted the opening of a fascinating photographic exhibition at the National Library on Gulf Road. The opening was attended by Sheikha Halah Al Sabah, Belinda Lewis, Ambassador of Great Britain, Christian Doooms, Ambassador of Belgium, Stephen and Penny Freeth, Jaber Al Hendel, a long-standing friend of the Dickson family, Essa Dahsti and a host of dignitaries.

This year, Essa Dashti, a researcher and prolific writer on Kuwait-British relations, has organized several events, including lectures, seminars, and articles to commemorate 125 years of Kuwait-British diplomatic ties. Speaking of the visit, Dashti said, "Everyone in Kuwait knows the value of the Dickson family in Kuwait's history. They have done excellent service to Kuwait through their work and their books. Their articles and books are now an important source of Kuwait's history. They have also documented Kuwait's history through their camera lens. Most of Kuwait's 1930s, 40s, 50s and 60s photos are related to the Dickson family. The Freeth grandchildren have great memories of Kuwait and know the hidden story of Dickson House, their grandmother's home. They have shared with us what cannot be found in books." The British ambassador, Belinda Lewis mentioned the importance of living history and documenting and preserving memories. "We often talk about the concept of living history in terms of historical re-enactments and bringing the past to life through actors and costumes," she said. "The visit to Kuwait by Col and Dame Violet Dickson's family was a powerfully authentic version of this. It was a very moving experience to stand at Col Dickson's graveside with his relatives and listen to their first-hand recollections. It was also very special to examine the photos in the National Library exhibition while standing next to people in those pictures who could remember what the weather was like that day and explain the circumstances that led to the photo being taken. It is so important to keep telling these stories and ensure these precious memories are preserved."

The primary purpose of photographs is to document and memorialise, and the pictures on display at the National Library do that. The exhibition looks back through a camera lens at life in Kuwait from the beginning of the 20th century with the help of images selected from the private album of an English girl who made this country her home when no facilities existed, from that of her mother and aunt and later, her children. The old scratchy, black-and-white photos are displayed somewhat chronologically and around themes relevant to the Dicksons, creating a visual narrative that captures a quiet country where camels sauntered. Goats, sheep, and hens



Dickson grandchildren honored with Kuwaiti token of appreciation.



The grandchildren of the Dicksons revisit cherished Kuwaiti history.

played in the yard, where men rode horses and spent hours under the tent in the desert chatting over endless cups of coffee. Women covered themselves up in swathes of cloth under a relentless sun. The images slowly give way to coloured pictures of more recent times showing an oil-producing country moving towards development and modernity. It is a fascinating kaleidoscope of snapshots taken from the early 1900s and ending with the 1970s.

The little details in these photographs make them compelling. "It's a very special collection of photographs, some that I've never seen before and others with which I'm very familiar as they were published in my book on Dame Violet Dickson," remarked Claudia Farkas Al Rashoud, Kuwait's most renowned photojournalist, and the author of many books. "Many of

them depict a traditional way of life in Kuwait that has completely vanished, although the photographs were taken not so very long ago," she shared. "It was great catching up with Stephen, Penny, Richard and Lizzie, and so good to see that the close ties between this special family and Kuwait are being fostered."

The Dicksons, including their two children Sa'ud and Zahra, arrived in Kuwait in May 1929 on a British India steamer and were carried ashore on chairs by porters. At this time, Kuwait was a walled city. After arriving in Kuwait, the Dicksons very quickly gained the trust and respect of the ruling family and Kuwaitis in general through their kindness, generosity and understanding of Arab customs and behaviour. Colonel Dickson was bi-lingual, having been born in Jerusalem. The fact he had an Arab wet nurse was a positive factor in his relationship with the Arabs. The Dicksons were genuinely interested in Arab ways and frequently travelled into the desert when the weather was cool. Violet Dickson's book 'The Wildflowers of Kuwait and Bahrain' and Colonel Dickson's two lengthy volumes on Arab customs and traditions, 'The Arab of the Desert' and 'Kuwait and Her Neighbours' still make fascinating reading.

In his presentation, Stephen Freeth brought the photographs taken from private family albums alive with his wry sense of humour and eye for detail. In most photos, Zahra Freeth typed out captions using a manual typewriter. Stephen Freeth spoke fondly of his grandparents' great love for Kuwait and the devotion they received in return. An enormous ladies' litter "that goodness knows how it stayed on", Kuwait 81, the number plate on Col Dickson's car, Hamda, the nanny "who taught my mother Arabic and some rude words", Dr Mylrea, a close friend of Col Dickson "a great friend of the Arabs who did some wonderful medical work with the Bedouins and Arabs and is buried in the English cemetery," the old British agency, the new British Embassy with its deep balcony that "Col Dickson insisted on", camels and livestock drinking water from rain-filled craters, fortune tellers, the exotic Dora Philby who came visiting - extraordinary pictures of a bygone era brought to life by Stephen Freeth's anecdotal narrative.

Penny Freeth, the quiet granddaughter of Dame Violet Dickson, shared some insightful memories and observations of her own. Dame Violet frightened young Penny with her upright and almost masculine bearing. "My grandmother was a powerful personality," she recalled. "She was no-nonsense, wanted things her way, and if something didn't interest her, she dismissed it. I found her rather frightening." Unlike the women of her time, who stayed home and looked after the family, Violet Dickson went against the tide. "My grandmother did not like to spend much time with the women," she shared. "She didn't find them interesting. As soon as she gave birth to her two children, she decided she had done her duty to her husband. She kept her children in the nanny's care and ventured out to know more about the country and people." Penny agrees that it took Kuwaiti men to get used to her grandmother's forceful personality, but with time, Violet Dickson and the locals developed love and respect for each other. To the extent that Dame Violet decided to stay on after her husband died instead of returning to Britain.

Dame Violet was carried into Kuwait when she arrived in 1929, and, as fate would have it, she was also carried out. The companionway stairs were too steep for the stretcher, and passengers left their seats to carry her onto the aircraft. Dame Violet Dickson died in a nursing home in Goring-on-Thames in January, 1991, with her family around her. Thus, the extraordinary story of an English woman in Kuwait ended, and a legend began.

FAIPS-DPS celebrates its Annual Day for Grade 4 with grandeur and enthusiasm

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: Fahaheel Al Watanieh Indian Private School, Kuwait, celebrated its Annual Day for Grade 4, with splendour and enthusiasm. This vibrant and spectacular event took place on Wednesday, 20th November 2024, at the grand school auditorium showcasing the immense talent, creativity, and cultural diversity yet embodying the spirit of unity that thrives within our community. Themed 'Hakuna Matata', the program carried a profound, heart-warming, universal and timeless message encouraging a healthy detachment from unnecessary stress, urging all to embrace the beauty of the moment and find contentment in the here and now. A total of 466 talented students took part in the unforgettable celebration, captivating the audience with their spellbinding performances, ending in joy and jubilation for all.

The festivities commenced with invoking the blessings of the almighty and the salutation to the Kuwait National

Flag followed by the Kuwait National Anthem, and the ceremonial Lighting of the Lamp. The Principal, Mr. Ravi Ayanoli, welcomed the esteemed guests for the day - the Chief Guest, Dr. Rawda Hildegard Awwad, President of the American University of Kuwait, Guests of Honour, Mr. Reaven D' Souza, Managing Editor, The Times - Kuwait and Mr. Sunoj Nambiar, the Founder and Director of Indiansinkuwait.com, chief guests from the Ministry of Education, Ms. Boshra Al - Abdel Hussein, Supervisor of Foreign Schools, Ms. Sarah Fahd Al-Ajmi, Social Studies Technical Supervisor and Mr. Arun Choudhary, CFO and Head Strategy, Al Rayan Holding Company.

In his inspiring welcome address, the Principal Mr. Ravi Ayanoli, emphasized on how important it is for parents to trust and support the teachers, towards the holistic development of the children not only in academics but also in co-curricular activities.

The highlight of the event was the cultural program, featuring performances by students in various categories, including dance, music, and drama. Each act was a testament to the talent and creativity that the students of FAIPS DPS nurture throughout the year. The performances received an overwhelming response from the audience, who cheered and applauded the young artists for their hard work and dedication.

The cultural events commenced with a melodious English song inspiring all to have a positive and an uplifting outlook towards life followed by a mellifluous Hindi song influencing all to indulge in the simple pleasures of life.

What followed was a series of immaculately choreographed dance performances in captivating, colourful and vibrant costumes which left the audience mesmerized and spellbound. The welcome dance, 'Rhythm of Life', came with the message to let go of our worries and enjoy life to the fullest. A fascinating dance, 'Rise and Shine' motivated the audience to embrace each moment of life with joy and jubilation. The delightful French dance 'Bailala Joie De Vivre' was a joyful reminder that every breath we take is an opportunity to savour the journey of life.

An enchanting dance drama titled 'Believe and Bloom' displayed the magic of family love and self-discovery. The audience were treated to a beautiful Arabic dance 'New Hope, New Day' celebrating the spirit of optimism. The enchanting dance 'Vigorous Warriors' came with a message to stop worrying, focus on our goals and share the happy moments of life. After this was an enthralling dance segment 'Azaadi Ki Udaan' prompting us to discover our hidden potential and soar to new heights. The bedazzling Grand Finale induced the spirit of leadership to help one another embark on a journey of happiness. The auditorium echoed with the thunderous applause of the audience who witnessed a colourful and spectacular program leaving all in a trance.



Top & above: Photos during the Annual Day celebrations for Grade 4.

Men's Voice & Junior Choir present annual Christmas musical concert

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: The Men's Voice & Choral Society - Kuwait, in conjunction with their Junior Choir, will present their 24th annual Christmas Musical Concert - "Glorious Light," on Thursday, December 5, 2024, at 7:00 pm at the NECK Church & Parish Hall.

Since 2001, this esteemed Christian musical group has spread the joy of Christmas through their performances, and this year promises to be no different. In collaboration with KTMCC, the concert will highlight the theme of light as a symbol of love, goodness,

and hope.

With a total of 85 choir members, including juniors, the performance is set to captivate the audience and create a memorable celebration of the festive season.

All music lovers are warmly invited to join and enjoy the spirit of Christmas through the choir's beautiful melodies and harmonies.

For more details contact 94064465/99656419/66910059

Follow our Facebook Page for more updates <https://www.facebook.com/mensvoicekuwait/>



Hublot's new boutique at 360 Mall.

Hublot expands Kuwaiti presence with a new boutique at 360 Mall

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: Hublot, the renowned Swiss luxury watchmaker, and partner Behbehani is proud to announce the opening of its second boutique in Kuwait, located in the prestigious 360 Mall. This new boutique, fitted within a space of 54m², showcases Hublot's signature audacity and avant-garde. The design highlights Hublot's mastery of the "Art of Fusion," with the boutique featuring a curated selection of materials that exemplify the Manufacture's exceptional skills and expertise.

"The 360 Mall boutique represents a significant new chapter in Hublot's journey in Kuwait. This location not only highlights our commitment to the country but also embodies our passion for showcasing watchmaking excellence. We are eager to welcome our clients into this sophisticated space and share the unique Hublot experience that transcends timekeeping, offering a true celebration of craftsmanship."

David Tedeschi
Hublot Managing Director For Latin America, Middle East & Africa

The opening was celebrated with a soft launch event, featuring a ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by esteemed guests from the media and Hublot's valued clientele, including Regional Director David Tedeschi.

The boutique at 360 Mall promises to be a destination for luxury watch enthusiasts, offering an exclusive glimpse into the world of Hublot.

"We are immensely proud to be Hublot's partner in Kuwait, by together bringing unparalleled craftsmanship and experiences to the heart of Kuwait. This boutique is a testament to our shared vision of luxury and excellence and expansion within the country. We are dedicated to creating an inviting atmosphere where Kuwaiti clients can immerse themselves in the world of Hublot. Together, we aim to elevate the luxury retail experience in Kuwait, showcasing the best that Hublot has to offer."

Ali Behbehani
President, Morad Yousuf Behbehani

Savour truffle season at Four Seasons Hotel Kuwait

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: Chef Enrico Zambi brings his homeland's greatest gastronomic gifts to Four Seasons Hotel Kuwait this winter. From November 14 to January 2, Dai Forni's seasonal truffle menu showcases Italy's coveted Alba truffles across five elevated dishes in the 21st floor restaurant. Available for lunch and dinner, the menu also invites diners to add black or white truffle by the gram to any other existing Dai Forni dish.

Fresh white truffle is the star of the



Dai Forni's seasonal truffle-infused menu

first of two starters: Burrata y Tartufo Bianco with a sautéed peach syrup and sourdough. In Zuppa Di Funghi e Tartufo Nero, whipped black truffle cream and fresh truffle snow enhances a fragrant mixed mushroom soup. Mains include wood-fired Pizza al Tartufo Nero, combining ricotta black truffle sauce and shaved fresh truffle with mozzarella fior di latte and foie gras mousse. Richly comforting Papardelle al Ragù di Agnello e Tartufo

Bianco fuses fresh white truffle with homemade pasta and white lamb ragu. Finally, the indulgent Dai Forni Burger features black truffle cream and fresh truffle snow with a double smash Wagyu beef burger.

on starters - with custom Martini Mocktails plus live music from renowned Kuwaiti maestro Zak Musawi overlooking a stunning view. Together, the new seasonal truffle menu and Mix and Mingle invite a celebration of fine dining and festive energy for a winter season to savour.

The seasonal truffle menu perfectly complements Dai Forni's 'Mix and Mingle' every Thursday until the end of the year. This sophisticated event combines Italian comfort food - including half price savings

For more information on the seasonal truffle menu or Mix and Mingle event at Dai Forni at Four Seasons Hotel Kuwait please contact 2200 6000



This image released by Netflix shows Angelina Jolie as Maria Callas in a scene from 'Maria.' (AP)

A dramatic, evocative elegy to Callas

Jolie graceful and sharp as opera star in 'Maria'



This image released by Netflix shows Angelina Jolie as Maria Callas in a scene from 'Maria.' (AP)

LOS ANGELES, Nov 28, (AP): Angelina Jolie glides through the final days of Maria Callas' short life in Pablo Larraín's "Maria," a dramatic, evocative elegy to the famed soprano. It's an affair that's at turns melancholy, biting and grandly theatrical, an aria for a once in a generation star.

Reality is of little consequence on the stage and in "Maria." It's all about the raw feeling, which serves the movie well, more dream than history lesson about La Callas. Early on, she pops some Mandrax and tells her devoted butler Ferruccio (a simply wonderful Pierfrancesco Favino) that a television crew is on the way. Are they real, he wonders.

"As of this morning, what is real and what is not real is my business," she says calmly and definitively, making a feast out of Steven Knight's sharp script. It's one of many great lines and moments for Jolie, whose intensity and resolve belie her fragile appearance. And it's a signal to the audience as well: Don't fret about dull facts or that Jolie doesn't really resemble Callas all that much. This is a biopic as opera - an emotional journey fitting of the great diva, full of flair, beauty, betrayal, revelations and sorrow.

In "Maria," we are the companion to a protagonist with an ever-loosening grip on reality, walking with her through Paris, and her life, for one week in September 1977.

The images from cinematographer Ed Lachman, playfully shifting in form and style, take us on a scattershot journey through her triumphs on stage, her scandalous romance with Aristotle Onassis (Haluk Bilginer)

and her traumatic youth. In the present, at age 53, she sleeps till midday, drinks the minimal calories she ingests, goes to restaurants where the waiters know her name looking for adulation and has visions of performances staged just for her all around the city.

Callas is always immaculately dressed and assured, whether reflecting to the imagined news crew (led by Kodi Smit-McPhee) or attempting to find her voice again. Her instrument had famously diminished, leaving her wondering what's left to live for. The only consistent praise she gets is from her obedient housemaid Bruna (Alba Rohrwacher). It's no secret that the destination is death. And you suspect that she knows quite well that everything will be a big dimmer when her spotlight is turned off.

Larraín has made a lasting mark on cinema with his unofficial trilogy about these famous women with tragic narratives. With "Jackie,"

"Spencer" and now "Maria," his films are also an unintentional antidote to Ryan Murphy's stranglehold of the grand dames of recent history, which are all style and scandal and little substance. And yet Larraín's films are not for everyone. If "Jackie" and "Spencer" did not speak to you, did not show those women as you hoped they would, "Maria" will not turn you into a believer. Three movies in, it seems that audiences are either very on board with his vision or not. There is little room for an in between.

And yet it's hard to deny that his films are incredible showcases for ac-

tors. Jolie as a movie star is somehow both omnipresent and elusive, and lately she chooses to step in front of the camera all too infrequently. Sometimes you wish she could just follow in Nicole Kidman's footsteps, for whom quantity does not seem to ever jeopardize quality, and she seems to be having fun doing it all, all the time. Perhaps it's because performances like Jolie's in "Maria" look so all-consuming.

In the film, Maria scolds a fan for daring to question that she faked sickness to miss a performance. He doesn't understand the total commitment of body and soul required to make it look effortless, which is probably true. Jolie is not so dramatic, at least publicly, about what it takes to create art. But here the lines blur: Character and actor blend so seamlessly, so ferociously, that you leave not just with heightened empathy for La Callas but Jolie as well.

In one of the film's few regrettable scenes, she's put face to face with John F. Kennedy (no fault of Caspar Phillipson), whose wife has caught the greedy eye of Onassis. As a testament to the power of Jolie and the script, you almost forgive yet another JFK impersonation for giving her one of the great brushoffs to utter, romantic and withering all at once. Is it all a little much? Of course, but that's kind of the point of Maria.

"Maria," a Netflix release in select theaters now and streaming Dec. 11, is rated R by the Motion Picture Association for "a sexual reference, some language." Running time: 122 minutes. Three stars out of four.

TV host was ousted from CBS News during #MeToo era

Charlie Rose settles sexual harassment suit

NEW YORK, Nov 28, (AP): Former TV host Charlie Rose has resolved a sexual harassment lawsuit brought by three women in the wake of his #MeToo-era ouster from CBS News in 2017 and the cancellation of his long-running, eponymous PBS talk show.

In settling, the plaintiffs said they assign no "ill intent" to Rose and realize now that his conduct could be subject to interpretation.

Lawyers for Rose and the women - younger employees who accused him of "predatory behavior" and "blatant and repeated sexual harassment" - filed court papers this week confirming that the lawsuit has been resolved. An online court docket listed the case as settled. The terms were not disclosed.

The lawsuit had been set to go to trial Monday in Manhattan after years of sparring over the women's allegations and the dismissal of their retaliation claims against Rose.

Plaintiffs Katherine Brooks Harris, Sydney McNeal and Yuqing Wei said in a statement that the litigation process and the required pretrial exchange of evidence known as discovery had enabled both sides to "better understand each others' points of view."

"On reflection, and after having the benefit of discovery, we realize that different people could interpret the conduct in different ways,

and therefore we have resolved the claims," the women said. "We do not assign any bad motive or ill intent to Charlie Rose."

A lawyer for Rose, 82, and his production company, Charlie Rose Inc., declined comment.

The veteran TV host has apologized in the past for his behavior, including in a statement on the eve of his November 2017 firing after at least eight women had come forward to accuse him of misconduct.

"It is essential that these women know I hear them and I deeply apologize for my inappropriate behavior," Rose said. "I am greatly embarrassed. I have behaved in-



Charlie Rose attends The Hollywood Reporter's 35 Most Powerful People in Media party in New York, April 13, 2017. (AP)

sensitively at times, and I accept responsibility for that, though I do not believe that all of these allegations are accurate. I always felt that I was pursuing shared feelings, even though I now realize I was mistaken."

Rose's downfall was part of America's #MeToo reckoning with sexual misconduct by powerful figures - a social media-fueled movement that also took down "Today" host Matt Lauer and movie mogul Harvey Weinstein, among others.

Rose is now hosting an interview show on YouTube where his recent guests have included author Michael Lewis and broadcaster Bob Costas.

Anchor

Harris, McNeal and Wei sued Rose and CBS in state court in New York in May 2018, about six months after CBS fired him as an anchor on its morning show, then called "CBS This Morning," and PBS and Bloomberg Television dropped his nightly "Charlie Rose Show."

Harris was a broadcast associate at "CBS This Morning," and she later worked as an associate producer for Rose's PBS show. McNeal was Rose's executive assistant. Wei was a news associate and later an anchor assistant for Rose at "CBS This Morning."

The women, all in their early 20s when they were hired, accused

the much older Rose of subjecting them to repeated physical and verbal sexual harassment, including inquiries about their sex lives and boasts about his own. They accused CBS of knowingly failing to prevent Rose's harassment.

CBS settled in December 2018 for an undisclosed sum. The network said at the time that the women had requested the terms be kept confidential.

Had the lawsuit gone to trial, Rose's lawyer said in court papers that he would challenge the credibility of Harris, McNeal and Wei's claims with evidence showing they had previously expressed little or no concern about the ex-anchor.

Among the evidence, lawyer Jonathan Bach wrote in a Nov. 13 filing, were documents showing that Wei told a CBS human resources officer that she experienced nothing "sexually inappropriate" while working for Rose and that McNeal confided in her therapist at the time that she had no personal experience of sexual harassment by Rose.

Other evidence cited by Bach showed that Harris had told her therapist that any harassment by Rose was "very subtle" and that she wrote to Rose two months after working for him that his interactions with her were "always professional and respectful."

Variety

NEW YORK: A century after the first Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, the annual holiday tradition kicks off Thursday in New York City with new Spider-Man and Minnie Mouse balloons, zoo and pasta-themed floats, performances from Jennifer Hudson and Idina Menzel, and more.



Hudson

This year's star-studded lineup is a far cry from the parade's initial incarnation, which featured floats showing scenes from Mother Goose, Red Riding Hood and the Wolf, Miss Muffet and the Spider, and other fairy tales.

Some things remain the same, though. As in 1924, there will be plenty of marching bands and lots of clowns, followed by the grand finale of Santa Claus riding through Manhattan and ushering in the holiday season.

This year's parade features 17 giant, helium-filled character balloons, 22 floats, 15 novelty and heritage inflatables, 11 marching bands, 700 clowns, 10 performance groups, award-winning singers and actors, and the WNBA champion New York Liberty.

One new float will spotlight the Rao's food brand, featuring a knight and a dragon in battle made with actual pasta elements. Another

will celebrate the Bronx Zoo's 125th anniversary with representations of a tiger, a giraffe, a zebra and a gorilla. (AP)

RIYADH: Located just a few steps away from urban noise in the heart of the Saudi capital city, Riyadh Zoo is a tourist attraction that combines entertainment, knowledge and ecological awareness.

The park can take its visitors through a unique adventure that enables families and children to discover the secrets and fascination of nature.

The attraction's main activities embrace live shows in which professional performers dress up as animal characters in a way that combines mime, dance, and music. (KUNA)

ANCHORAGE, Alaska: In the remotest reaches of Alaska, there's no relying on DoorDash to have Thanksgiving dinner - or any dinner - delivered. But some residents living well off the grid nevertheless have turkeys this holiday, thanks to the Alaska Turkey Bomb.

For the third straight year, a resident named Esther Keim has been flying low and slow in a small plane over rural parts of south-central Alaska, dropping frozen turkeys to those who can't simply run out to the grocery store.

Alaska is mostly wilderness, with only about 20% of it accessible by road. In winter, many who live in remote areas rely on small planes or snowmobiles to travel any distance, and frozen rivers can act as makeshift roads. (AP)

Heritage



Kuwait pavilion at the Osaka 2025 Expo.



Kuwait pavilion at the Osaka 2025 Expo.



College of Architecture – Kuwait University

KUNA Photos

Expo celebrates Kuwait's past, present and future

Kuwaiti pavilion at Osaka '25: A tale of heritage and future aspirations

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28, (KUNA): Kuwait's pavilion at Osaka's 2025 Expo, is a narrative of two parts with the base level telling a story of heritage and tradition while the higher level is a display of future aspirations, remarked Dr. Emad Al-Qattan, expo technical team member.

In an interview with Kuwait News Agency (KUNA), Al-Qattan, also professor of Kuwait University Architecture Faculty, mentioned that the pavilion allows visitors to embark on an immersive journey through Kuwait's past, present and future.

The area where the two layers meet is known as the pearl, described Al-Qattan, explaining that it is to commemorate role of pearl diving industry in Kuwaiti economy, and its deeply rooted seafaring history.

He stated that each space in the pavilion, which takes the name Visionary Lighthouse, tells a different story using interactive technologies and Artificial Intelligence techniques.

Dr. Al-Qattan spoke of the various areas including the gardens,



Dr. Emad Al-Qattan

VIP hall, galleries, and a restaurant offering a unique culinary experience intermingling Kuwaiti and Japanese cuisines.

The pavilion's design draws inspiration from the distinctive Kuwaiti architectural style, as it includes "Al-Housh" courtyard area and "Diwaniya" area, a place of social gatherings, he added.

The waved design encapsulates both desert and sea environments as the rolling scenery is an interpretation of sand dunes and sea

waves, it also extends from the exterior to the interior even makes its way to intricate details of souvenirs, creating a cohesive experience for visitors.

The desert environment is an integral part of Kuwaiti identity, as it tells the tale of how Kuwaiti people adapted to harsh circumstances transforming it into livable conditions, a tale of determination and innovation across the ages, Al-Qattan elucidated.

As for design's color scheme, the deliberate use of sandy and earthy tones in the lower section paints a vivid picture of the environment and heritage, while the paler tones in the upper sections provide a clear surface for colorful light to reflect on.

The roof is designed to be neither open nor closed, allowing natural lighting to filter through in Al-Housh area while also providing the waiting area with shade.

The Expo's overarching theme, designing future society for our lives, proposes solutions to achieve further prosperity and affluence, Al-Qattan mentioned add-

ing the Kuwaiti pavilion adopted the subtheme Kuwait of empowering lives.

The lighthouse is not just a design and a name but it carries meaning of empowerment as it lights the path of passersby, as does the state of Kuwait, reflected Al-Qattan.

Encircling the Expo will be a ring that grants strolling visitors aerial views of the pavilions, including Kuwaiti, a beacon lighting the way.

Dr. Al-Qattan highlighted Kuwait's participation in Expo 2025, 55 years after having participated at Osaka's Expo of 1970 as an indication of the depth of diplomatic Kuwaiti-Japanese relations.

In the past, he told KUNA, expos were a place to showcase inventions and achievements, with time the very designs became a display of development and innovation.

The expo, set to launch in April and extend October, will be held in artificial island of Yumeshima in Osaka bay, taking up 3,500 square meters of space.

Television

Triumphs and tragedy

Netflix brings F1 great Senna's life to screen

SAO PAULO, Nov 28, (AP): Thirty years after his death in a high-speed crash viewed by millions around the world, Formula One champion Ayrton Senna's high-octane life is also about to play out in front of a global audience.

The legendary Brazilian driver - who was killed when his car hit a concrete wall at the San Marino Grand Prix in 1994 - is the subject of a six-episode Netflix series that debuts on Nov. 29 and follows him from his early go-kart days to that fatal Sunday afternoon at the Imola track in Italy.

Even three decades after that accident, few F1 figures evoke as much emotion and passion among fans and fellow drivers as Senna, who won three championship titles before his death at the age of 34.

Senna's complex personality - he was a saint to his millions of Brazilian fans and a sinner to some critics who deemed his driving style too aggressive - comes to life through Brazilian actor Gabriel Leone, who embraced the challenge of portraying such a popular figure.

"He was much more than an F1 driver for us, he became an icon, much beyond his technique and his driving," Leone told The Associated Press in an interview in Sao Paulo. "He had this humanity, this honesty. The things he said, his values, it all made him closer to people."

Senna's life and career had no shortage of made-for-TV moments.

Crashed

This was a driver who once won a race with his car stuck in sixth gear in front of thousands of raucous fans at the Interlagos track. And who went from fifth position to first in one lap at the 1993 European Grand Prix. And who jumped out of his car during a training session to save the life of a French driver who had crashed.

On the track, his rivalry with French driver Alain Prost was one of the most intense that F1 has ever seen. Off the track, he had some high-profile relationships as well and dated several models, including Elle Macpherson.

"For me as an actor, the more complex the character is, the better. It is more interesting to build him and live him. And this is quite a character, the biggest hero in Brazil, not only in sport," Leone said. "Ayrton was transcendent, he was more than an F1 driver. That's a guy who is the hero of

great drivers in history, like (Michael) Schumacher and (Lewis) Hamilton."

Senna won the drivers' championship in 1988, 1990 and 1991 with the McLaren team and moved to Williams in the year he died as the favorite to lift the title again.

For Leone, though, it was also important to portray him as a person who understood his role as a national hero, who advocated for the poor and proudly waved a Brazilian flag from his cockpit during every victory lap.

"He was not distant, he was close," said Leone, who attended a red carpet premiere in Sao Paulo on Tuesday with several other cast members and director Vicente Amorim. "That's for Brazilians and non-Brazilians. It was like this, and it still is like this."

To many international fans, Senna was simply an exceptional talent who was born to be a driver. Even former rival Martin Brundle, now a TV pundit, once likened Senna's ability to find grip on some corners to a dance seemingly innate to a Brazilian.

Different

"It is a different kind of samba that I could not do," Brundle has said.

The Netflix series, however, shows some of the hard work and attention to detail that went into Senna becoming a wet-weather master.

The streaming giant - which reportedly invested more than \$170 million in its production - also takes a bit of liberty with the truth when it comes to building up the animosity between Senna and one of his other real-life antagonists, Jean-Marie Balestre, the French former president of F1's governing body FIA.

Balestre is often accused by fans of aiding his countryman Prost in his rivalry with Senna, including at the 1984 Monaco Grand Prix by stopping the race early before the Brazilian driver could overtake his French rival in the heavy rain. And at the 1989 Japanese Grand Prix, when Senna was disqualified in a decision that handed the championship title to Prost.

The Netflix series goes a step further by making Balestre (played by Arnaud Viard) the man responsible for Senna also losing a go-kart title as a youngster, long before he even entered F1.

"If that was true it would be news to every reporter covering Senna's story over the last decades," said Ernesto Rodrigues, who wrote a biography on the three-time F1 champion. "Yes, Senna had Balestre working against him many times. But Balestre was an autocrat with other drivers, too. It wasn't exclusive."



Senna



A replica of Formula 1 legend Ayrton Senna's car sits on display on the red carpet for the Netflix series Senna, about the life and death of Formula 1 legend Ayrton Senna, who was killed in a 1994 crash, in Sao Paulo, Tuesday, Nov. 26. (AP)

Police deny evidence claim

Netflix docu brings renewed attention to Ramsey's killing

DENVER, Nov 28, (AP): Amid renewed interest in the killing of JonBenet Ramsey triggered in part by a new Netflix documentary, police in Boulder, Colorado, refuted assertions this week that there is viable evidence and leads about the 1996 killing of the 6-year-old girl that they are not pursuing.

JonBenet Ramsey, who competed in beauty pageants, was found dead in the basement of her family's home in the college town of Boulder the day after Christmas in 1996. Her body was found several hours after her mother called 911 to say her daughter was missing and a ransom note had been left behind. The details of the crime and video footage of JonBenet competing in pageants propelled the case into one of the highest-profile mysteries in the United States.

The police comments came as part of their annual update on the investigation, a month before the 28th anniversary of JonBenet's killing. Police said they released it a little earlier because of the increased attention on the case, apparently referring to the three-part Netflix series "Cold Case: Who

Killed JonBenet Ramsey."

In a video statement, Boulder Police Chief Steve Redfearn said the department welcomes news coverage and documentaries about the killing of JonBenet, who would have been 34 this year, as a way to generate possible new leads. He said the department is committed to solving the case but needs to be careful about what it shares about the investigation to protect a possible future prosecution.

"What I can tell you though, is we have thoroughly investigated multiple people as suspects throughout the years and we continue to be open-minded about what occurred as we investigate the tips that come into detectives," he said.

The Netflix documentary focuses on the mistakes made by police and the "media circus" surrounding the case.

JonBenet was bludgeoned and strangled. Her death was ruled a homicide, but nobody was ever prosecuted.

Police were widely criticized for mishandling the early investigation into her death amid speculation that her family was responsible.

Witness tampering risk cited

Sean 'Diddy' Combs denied bail for a third time

NEW YORK, Nov 28, (AP): Sean "Diddy" Combs was denied bail on Wednesday as he awaits a May sex trafficking trial by a judge who cited evidence showing him to be a "serious risk" of witness tampering and proof he has tried to hide prohibited communications with third parties while incarcerated.

US District Judge Arun Subramanian ruled in a five-page order following a bail hearing last week. At the hearing, lawyers for the hip-hop mogul argued that a \$50 million bail package they proposed would be sufficient to ensure Combs doesn't flee and doesn't try to intimidate prospective trial witnesses.

Two other judges previously had agreed with prosecutors that the Bad Boy Records founder was a danger to the community if he is not behind bars. Subramanian concurred. "There is compelling evidence of Combs' propensity for violence," Subramanian wrote.

Lawyers for Combs did not immediately respond to messages seeking comment on the decision. Nicholas Biase, a spokesperson for prosecutors, declined comment.

Combs, 55, has pleaded not guilty to charges that he coerced and

abused women for years, aided by associates and employees. An indictment alleges that he silenced victims through blackmail and violence, including kidnapping, arson and physical beatings.

A federal appeals court judge last month denied Combs' immediate release while a three-judge panel of the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Manhattan considers his bail request. That appeal was put on hold while Subramanian, newly appointed to the case after an earlier judge stepped aside, considered the bail request for the first time.

Subramanian said he took a fresh look at all the bail arguments and the evidence supporting them to make his decision.

Prosecutors have insisted that no bail conditions would be sufficient to protect the public and prevent the "I'll Be Missing You" singer from fleeing.

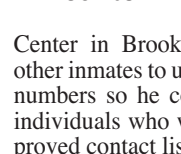
They say that even in a federal lockup in Brooklyn, Combs has orchestrated social media campaigns designed to influence prospective jurors and tried to publicly leak materials he thinks can help his case. They say he also has contacted potential witnesses through third parties.

Lawyers for Combs say any alleged sexual abuse described in the indictment occurred during consensual relations between adults and that new evidence refutes allegations that Combs used his "power and prestige" to induce female victims into drugged-up, elaborately produced sexual performances with male sex workers known as "Freak Offs."

Subramanian said evidence shows Combs to be a "serious risk of witness tampering," particularly after he communicated over the summer with a grand jury witness and deleted some of his texts with the witness.

The judge also cited evidence showing that Combs violated Bureau of Prisons regulations during pre-trial detention at the Metropolitan Detention Center in Brooklyn when he paid other inmates to use their phone code numbers so he could make calls to individuals who were not on his approved contact list.

Combs



CAN concludes breast cancer awareness campaign

Campaign trains 163,000 female students in cancer self-testing

By Marwa Al-Bahrawi

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: Chair of the Board of Directors of the Cancer Aware Nation (CAN) Dr. Khaled Al-Saleh announced that the campaign, since its launch in 2010, has trained many teachers to become trainers in self-testing and early detection of breast cancer, adding that approximately 163,000 female students have been trained in self-testing method, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education.

Speaking at the closing ceremony of the breast cancer awareness campaign, which was launched by CAN under the patronage of Minister of Social Affairs, Family, and Childhood Affairs, Dr. Amthal Al-Huwailah, Dr. Al-Saleh revealed that the campaign's efforts have led to an increase in awareness levels from 61 percent to 72 percent.

He affirmed that awareness and early detection are key

factors in improving recovery rates.

Dr. Al-Saleh said breast cancer remains the leading type of cancer among women, according to statistics from the Kuwait Cancer Control Center.

He explained that the strategy of the CAN campaign focuses on implementing its initiatives and activities through strong community partnerships to achieve its objectives.

The annual breast cancer awareness initiative is a major part of this strategy, which is aimed at highlighting the importance of early detection of the disease.

It is important to increase awareness in order to reduce late-stage diagnoses and lower infection rates. This can be achieved by educating the public about risk factors, promoting a healthy lifestyle, and encouraging weight management to prevent obesity, which is a major contributor to various diseases, including breast cancer.

Meanwhile, the campaign's General Supervisor Dr. Hessa Al-Shaheen highlighted that this year's campaign was

marked by successful partnerships with the Public Authority for Youth and the Health Promotion Department of the Ministry of Health, revealing that 23 diverse awareness activities were carried out as part of the initiative.

She emphasized the success of the "Lose and Win" competition, which was a two-month program designed to help women lose weight by focusing on fitness and nutrition.

Dr. Al-Shaheen elaborated that the program provided participants with access to a personal trainer and a nutritionist, along with a dedicated platform on WhatsApp where the nutritionist answered questions and offered guidance.

She also spoke about the various events, exhibitions, and awareness seminars held at many venues, including Kuwait University, Sabah Al-Salem University, shopping malls, the Ministry of Oil, Kuwait Petroleum Corporation, the Grand Mosque, professional associations, the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, and several schools.

In addition, the official spokesperson of the Public Authority for Youth Asrar Al-Ansari said, "At the authority, we realize that health and awareness issues are not just temporary initiatives but they are the foundation for building an aware society that is capable of facing challenges with confidence and resilience."

She highlighted the profound impact of this issue on the lives of individuals, particularly women, families, and society as a whole.

Al-Ansari said the authority's support for the campaign is driven by a strong belief in the power of awareness and the importance of prevention as the first step toward change.

She also affirmed the authority's commitment to providing full media support to ensure the campaign's message reaches every home, stressing that health is not just an individual responsibility, but a collective duty shared by all.

'What you need to know'

Experts sound alarm over bird flu virus in raw milk

NEW YORK, Nov 28, (AP): President-elect Donald Trump's nominee for the nation's top health job, Robert F. Kennedy Jr., has vowed to allow wider distribution of raw milk across America. But the detection of bird flu virus in unpasteurized milk sold in California stores underscores what health experts say are the known and potential risks.

"You have to assume that raw milk, unpasteurized milk, has potential infectious agents that can cause serious illness in the people who drink it," said Michael Osterholm, a University of Minnesota infectious disease researcher who has investigated foodborne illness outbreaks.

Raw Farm LLC, of Fresno, California, voluntarily recalled one lot of "cream top" whole raw milk after Santa Clara County health officials found the bird flu virus in a sample last week. State health officials said the county has been testing raw milk sold in stores as "a second line of consumer protection."

No illnesses have been traced to Raw Farm products, which have a lot code of 20241109 and a best-by date of Nov. 27. But officials with California's health department warned consumers not to drink the milk and said retailers should remove it from their shelves. On Tuesday, Los Angeles County health officials warned that "many retailers" there may have sold recalled raw milk contaminated with the virus.

Here's what else you need to know about raw milk and bird flu:

It's not a surprise that the virus was found in raw milk sold in stores, Osterholm said. Bird flu, also known as Type A H5N1 influenza, was first confirmed in U.S. dairy cattle in March and has been spreading widely. In California, more than 435 dairy herds have seen infections - more than all other U.S. states combined. And high levels of the virus have

been found in the milk of infected cows.

About 20% of samples of pasteurized milk sold in stores were found to contain viral remnants of the virus, according to tests conducted earlier this year by government scientists. Pasteurization, or heat treatment, kills the bird flu virus and also bacteria such as E. coli, listeria and salmonella, which are known to make people sick.

Officials with California's Department of Food and Agriculture have been conducting weekly tests of raw milk in bulk tanks from the state's dairies. Additional tests conducted at Raw Farm sites in California were negative for the virus, but officials said they would begin testing for bird flu twice a week.

Few tests of unpasteurized milk products from stores have been conducted, so it's possible that other raw dairy products may contain the virus, Osterholm said.

"It is still really unclear how much testing is going on," said Osterholm. "We're flying blind."

To date, there's no evidence that people have been infected with the bird flu virus by drinking raw milk. At least 55 people in the U.S. are known to have been infected by the virus this year, but nearly all were dairy or poultry workers who developed mild illness after close contact with infected animals.

Tests have shown that mice fed raw milk contaminated with bird flu became very sick and barn cats on farms that drank milk from infected cows suffered brain damage and died, noted Nicole Martin, a microbiologist and associate director of the Milk Quality Improvement Program at Cornell University. "I don't think we know yet whether people can contract H5N1 from consumption of raw milk, but we have enough evidence that would suggest that folks need to be a little more cautious right now," Martin said.

Poor nations bear the brunt

Air pollution from landscape fires tied to mlns of deaths

SYDNEY, Nov 28, (Xinhua): An Australian-led international research has found that over 1.5 million deaths globally every year were linked to the health impacts of air pollution caused by landscape fires.

According to the research published on Thursday by Monash University in Melbourne, 1.53 million deaths per year between 2000 and 2019 were attributable to landscape fire-sourced air pollution.

The study found that over 90 percent of all deaths attributable to landscape fire-sourced air pollution occurred in low and middle-income countries

-- particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, southeast, south and east Asia.

It was a comprehensive assessment of the health risks associated with air pollution from landscape fires, involving researchers from universities around the world.

Of the 1.53 million annual deaths globally, 450,000 were attributed to cardiovascular disease and 220,000 to respiratory disease.

Fine particulate matter from landscape fires contributed to 77.6 percent of deaths and surface ozone to 22.4 percent.



A group photo of the attendees including Dr. Osama Al-Baqasmi (fourth from right), Dr. Abdulrahman Al-Mutairi (fifth from right), Dr. Jamal Al-Dajeej (seventh from right) and Dr. Fahad Al-Ghamlas (seventh from left).

Eyes 95/95/95 target by 2025

Kuwait makes exceptional progress in combating AIDS/HIV: health minister

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28, (KUNA): Kuwaiti Health Minister Dr. Ahmad Al-Awadhi affirmed on Thursday Kuwait's "exceptional" progress in combating human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), as reported by the Joint UN Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS) placing Kuwait in the Arab and regional lead.

This came in a speech given on behalf of the minister by the Ministry's Undersecretary Dr. Abdulrahman Al-Mutairi at the opening of the two-day Kuwait National Conference for AIDS, on Wednesday.

According to the report, Kuwait had achieved the 90/90/90 indicator meaning that 90 percent of infected people are aware of their infection, 90 percent of diagnosed people are receiving treatment and 90 percent of those receiving treatment have undetected

viral load.

Al-Awadhi added that Kuwait is working steadily towards the next indicator and achieving 95/95/95 target by the year 2025, in line with the strategic national plan for combating HIV/AIDS 2023/2027 that was recently launched by the ministry.

He explained that the ministry provides the latest treatments that have been developed globally to treat AIDS, including long-acting injections, while also providing voluntary testing and confidential testing for HIV and sexually transmitted diseases, and counseling services.

For his part, Director of the Ministry's Health Department Dr. Fahad Al-Ghimlas referred to the ministry's achievements including conducting an epidemiological investigation and providing care for 165

HIV-positive cases from Kuwaiti patients, and more than 100 foreigners and residents.

He explained that the 2023 National AIDS Statistical Report was submitted to World Health Organization (WHO), in addition to preparing the periodic reports required by UNAIDS and WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean (EMRO), in addition to issuing more than 2,000 HIV-free certificates, examined in the department's public health labs.

For his part, Al-Jahra Health District Dr. Jamal Al-Duaij said that the conference is a great opportunity to discuss the latest scientific developments in the diagnosis and treatment of venereal diseases, exchange experiences, and enhance and unify cooperation of different sectors.

Mongolia's HIV cases reach 388

Australia aims to end HIV transmission by 2030

CANBERRA, Nov 28, (Xinhua): The Australian government has set a goal of ending the transmission of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) by 2030.

The Minister for Health Mark Butler on Thursday released Australia's ninth National HIV Strategy for 2024-2030, describing it as a final step towards achieving the elimination of HIV transmission in Australia.

"Through this Strategy, we establish a path to be the first country to virtually eliminate HIV transmission by 2030," the strategy said.

According to the strategy, HIV diagnoses in

Australia declined by 33 percent between 2014 and 2023.

It estimated that the population-wide prevalence of HIV in Australia in 2023 was 0.14 percent.

"In the 40 years since HIV/AIDS reached Australia, we have made remarkable progress," Butler said in a statement.

The strategy said that if the transmission of HIV is eliminated in Australia, the country's response will shift to supporting people with the virus to live healthy lives.

Butler pledged that nobody with HIV would be left

behind and that Australia would continue offering high-quality care to all people living with HIV.

Meanwhile, the total confirmed number of HIV-positive individuals and AIDS patients in Mongolia has reached 388, according to a report released by the National Center for Communicable Diseases (NCCD) on Thursday.

The NCCD estimates that the actual number of people living with HIV in the country may be as high as 667. This data was shared in a statement issued in observance of World AIDS Day, marked annually on Dec. 1.

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Citizens face league leader Liverpool

Guardiola and shellshocked Man City face the match they dread

LONDON, Nov 28, (AP) - Pep Guardiola doesn't like going to Anfield at the best of times.

"They scare me," the Manchester City manager said of Liverpool and its prolific, Mohamed Salah-led strikeforce during a fly-on-the-wall documentary back in 2018, when Guardiola's team was comfortably the finest in England.

Just imagine what he is thinking now? Amid the worst run of results in his coaching career, Guardiola probably would prefer any other fixture on the calendar than Liverpool away.

But that's what is facing him and his beleaguered defending champions on Sunday in the biggest modern-day Premier League rivalry which, on current form, threatens to be a mismatch. "It's going to be as tough as it is possible to be," City midfielder Ilkay Gundogan said, "but that sums up the situation right now."

Indeed, Liverpool and City - the league's current top two, separated by eight points - are trending in opposite directions.

Liverpool not only leads the Premier League but also the 36-team Champi-

ons League. It is coming off a win over Real Madrid, and has won 17 of its 19 games in all competitions this season, losing just once.

City just squandered a 3-0 lead from the 75th minute to draw 3-3 with Feyenoord, having previously lost five straight games including 4-0 at home to Tottenham. Guardiola has never lost so many in a row in his coaching career. The team has conceded at least two goals in each of those six games and 17 in total. City is in 17th place in the Champions League standings and might be out of the Premier League top four come Sunday night.

Guardiola acknowledged fairly bluntly this week: "We're not able to win games now. As a team, we always found a way to win games ... but right now, nothing happens."

So how have things fallen apart for City, the winner of the last four Premier League titles, so spectacularly?

City is clearly missing season-long absentee Rodri, the Ballon d'Or winner and the holding midfielder who is so important in conducting their attacking play and protecting the defense. Mateo



Manchester City's Jack Grealish, center, hits the bar with a shot during the Champions League opening phase soccer match between Manchester City and Feyenoord at the Etihad Stadium in Manchester, England. (AP)

Kovacic has been acting as Rodri's replacement but returned from Croatia duty injured last week and missed the 4-0 loss to Tottenham, as well as the Feyenoord game. None of City's four

senior center backs - John Stones, Ruben Dias, Manuel Akanji and Nathan Ake -- seems 100% healthy either. All were absent two weeks ago and are being rushed back, possibly prematurely.

Meanwhile, star playmaker Kevin De Bruyne hasn't started a match since the middle of September because of a nagging groin injury.

All teams have injuries, however, and it's about how you deal with them. Guardiola, for all his undoubted genius as a tactician, hasn't done so very well. He has admitted to being unwilling to change his style and is wedded to a heavy-pressing, possession-based approach whatever personnel he has available. Other coaches might switch tactics in the circumstances, possibly playing more defensively and primarily on the counterattack - like Carlo Ancelotti did with Real Madrid at City in the Champions League last season. Guardiola says he can't do that. If City tries to go toe to toe with a dynamic Liverpool on Sunday, it could go badly wrong.

Questions have to be asked about City's transfer strategy and recruitment over the last two years. How can Rodri be the only out-and-out holding midfielder in the squad? Kovacic and now Gundogan are deputizing in that position but it's not their strength. How can Erling Haaland be City's only genuine striker in

the squad? City sold Julian Alvarez, essentially Haaland's backup, to Atletico Madrid in the offseason and didn't replace him. Don't be surprised if Haaland gets injured given how overworked he is and will continue to be this season. City's recent midfield signings - Matheus Nunes, Kovacic and Gundogan - haven't worked out or dealt with what should have been priorities elsewhere. Kovacic and Gundogan are in their 30s, leaving City's midfield looking slow, especially off the ball, and tired. City also used to have goal-scoring wingers like Raheem Sterling, Leroy Sane and Riyad Mahrez. In Jack Grealish, Savinho and Jeremy Doku, they have technically excellent players with barely any output.

This season, of all seasons, Guardiola needed a big squad. Injuries are impossible to predict but he knew there would be more games in the schedule because of an expanded Champions League format and the Club World Cup in the United States that will extend City's campaign potentially until mid-July. Guardiola has always liked working with a small squad, however, to keep as many players as possible involved.

Many vital roles to be undertaken

Thousands sign up to become volunteers for Khaleeji Zain 26

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: The head of the Volunteer Committee for the Khaleeji Zain 26 (Arabian Gulf Cup), Abdullah Salem Al-Adwani, has announced that the number of volunteers already registered for the tournament next month has reached 3,300 male and female citizens and residents.

Kuwait is preparing to host one of football's biggest biennial football tournaments from December 21-January 3, and is looking to recruit up to 5,000 volunteers to ensure that it is a resounding success.

The tournament features the eight Arabian Gulf national teams with the volunteers set to play a key role in its successful organization, and more volunteers are being encouraged to register before the closing date of December 5.

Mr Al-Adwani said that interviews had been conducted with each of the volunteers who had registered to date, with their ages ranging from 16-60 years, and he added that many already have experience of volunteering at major events hosted previously in Kuwait, including the last time the tournament was held here in 2017/18.

From the gate to the seat
"The important role of the volunteers can't be understated as they will have a direct impact on the success of the tournament," said Mr Al-Adwani. "They will provide the support for every spectator from the moment they arrive at the first gates at the stadium to present their ticket, to the end when they find their seat. There are many vital roles that will be undertaken by our volunteers."

Mr Al-Adwani added that training



Abdullah Saleh Al Adwani

will be conducted for the volunteers in both theoretical and practical sessions to enable them to be prepared to share this unique tournament experience with the fans.

He pointed out that volunteers come from a variety of backgrounds but will work together to deliver a world-class event and, in the process, create memories and new friends that last a lifetime.

Link for volunteers to register

Organisers have made it easy for people to register as a volunteer in two ways - directly through an official link which is <https://pas.gov.kw/volunteer> or via the Sahel App (enter 'Sports Authority', then Services, Volunteer, and fill out the form).

Atlanta stuns Cavaliers



Brooklyn Nets forward Cameron Johnson shields the ball from Phoenix Suns forward Royce O'Neale (00) during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Phoenix. (AP)

Thunder hold off Warriors without Stephen Curry

CLEVELAND, Nov 28, (AP) - Trae Young had a career-high 22 assists - the most in the NBA this season - and scored 20 points as the Atlanta Hawks handed Cleveland just its second loss this season, beating the Cavaliers 135-124.

The Cavs fell to 17-2 and lost for the first time in 11 home games.

De'Andre Hunter added 26 points and Jalen Johnson 22 for the Hawks, who made all the big plays down the stretch to stun the Cavs. Rookie Zachcharie Risacher, the No. 1 overall pick in this year's draft, scored 13 of his 17 points in the first three minutes of the second half for Atlanta.

Thunder 105, Warriors 101

In San Francisco, Shai Gilgeous-Alexander scored 35 points, Jalen Williams exited late in the first half with a right eye injury and the Oklahoma City Thunder held off the Curry-less Golden State Warriors.

Andrew Wiggins made it a one-point game on a 3-pointer with 11 seconds left. After Gilgeous-Alexander missed a free throw at the other end, Wiggins was blocked by Luguentz Dort on a game-tying layup.

Gilgeous-Alexander followed up his 37-point performance from Monday's 130-109 victory at Sacramento by shooting 13 for 28 in the third straight win by Oklahoma City (14-4).

Nuggets 122, Jazz 103

In Salt Lake City, Nikola Jokic had 30 points, 10 rebounds and seven assists to lead the Denver Nuggets to a victory over the Utah Jazz.

Jokic scored 19 points on 8-of-10 shooting in the first quarter alone to rally Denver from an early 12-point deficit.

Jamal Murray added 22 points, eight



Los Angeles Lakers' LeBron James (23) and San Antonio Spurs' Charles Bassey (28) chase the ball during the second half of an NBA basketball game in San Antonio. (AP)

assists and four steals for the Nuggets. Michael Porter Jr. had 19 points, seven rebounds and four assists. Christian Braun finished with 18 points and seven boards.

Collin Sexton led the Jazz with 26 points. Keyonte George scored 23, including five 3-pointers. Walker Kessler chipped in with 16 points, 12 rebounds and five assists.

Nets 127, Suns 117

In Phoenix, Tyrese Martin scored a career-high 30 points, Dennis Schroder added 29 and the injury-depleted Brooklyn Nets beat the Phoenix Suns.

The Nets have won four of their last five games. The Suns have lost seven of nine.

Martin shot 10 of 13 from the field, including 8 for 10 from 3-point range, in his best NBA performance by a wide margin. He had scored just 33 points in 21 career games before Wednesday.

Ben Simmons had 14 points, nine

rebounds and eight assists for Brooklyn.

Raptors 119, Pelicans 93

New Orleans, Ochai Agbaji and Jamison Battle each scored 24 points, and the Toronto Raptors won on the road for the first time this season, 119-93 over the hapless New Orleans Pelicans.

Lakers 119, Spurs 101

In San Antonio, Anthony Davis had 19 points and 14 rebounds, LeBron James finished with 16 points, 11 assists and 10 rebounds and the Los Angeles Lakers beat the San Antonio Spurs.

Rookie Dalton Knecht had 20 points on 4-for-10 shooting from long distance as the Lakers snapped a three-game skid.

Mavericks 129, Knicks 114

In Dallas, Kyrie Irving scored 23 points and the Dallas Mavericks improved to 4-1 this season without su-

perstar Luka Doncic, beating the New York Knicks

Jalen Brunson tied his season high with 37 points for New York in his second game in Dallas against his former team. Karl-Anthony Towns had 25 points and 14 rebounds, but OG Anunoby was limited to eight points on 3-of-15 shooting two nights after getting a career-high 40.

Heat 98, Hornets 94

In Charlotte, Tyler Herro scored 27 points, Duncan Robinson added 22 points with six 3-pointers and the Miami Heat held on to defeat the Charlotte Hornets.

Bam Adebayo had 10 rebounds and 10 assists for the Heat, who bounced back from a 106-103 loss to the Milwaukee Bucks in an NBA Cup game on Tuesday night.

LaMelo Ball had 32 points and 10 rebounds for the Hornets, who have lost five of their last six. Brandon Pacers 121, Trail Blazers 114

In Indianapolis, Pascal Siakam matched a season high with 29 points, Tyrese Haliburton had 28 and 10 assists and the Indiana Pacers overcame a sluggish first half to defeat the Portland Trail Blazers.

Benedict Mathurin added 24 points and 10 rebounds for Indiana.

The Pacers led by 11 entering the final quarter and fended off a Trail Blazers rally as Haliburton scored 12 points and Siakam nine down the stretch for their third consecutive victory.

Magic beat the Chicago Bulls 133-119

Orlando, Jalen Suggs scored a career-high 31 points and Kentavious Caldwell-Pope scored a season-high 24 on 6-for-10 shooting from 3-point range to help the Orlando Magic beat the Chicago Bulls.

Ayo Dosunmu led the Bulls with 21 points and Nikola Vucevic added 19 points and 11 rebounds.

Michigan State holds off NC

Alabama survives scare from Rutgers, advances

LAS VEGAS, Nov 28, (AP) - Mark Sears scored 24 points and No. 9 Alabama defeated Rutgers 95-90 on Wednesday night in the Players Era Festival at MGM Grand Garden.

Rutgers pulled within two with 1:28 left, but five free throws down the stretch sealed the win for the Crimson Tide (6-1).

Grant Nelson had 17 points and nine rebounds for Alabama, while Mouhamed Dioubate, Jarin Stevenson and Derrion Reid scored 10 points apiece.

Dylan Harper led Rutgers (5-2) with a career-high 37 points. Ace Bailey finished with 22 points and Jeremiah Williams chipped in with 10 points for the Scarlet Knights.

Michigan State 94, North Carolina 91

In Lahaina, Tre Holloman and Xavier Booker combined for eight points in overtime and Michigan State held off No. 12 North Carolina for third place in the Maui Invitational.

Holloman made his first start of the season and led six scorers in double figures with a career-best 19 points for the Spartans (6-2). He scored 16 in the first half on 6-for-6 shooting, including four 3-pointers.

Jaden Akins and Coen Carr scored 14 points apiece, Jeremy Fears Jr. and Frankie Fidler had 13 each and Booker

had 12. Drake Powell scored 18 points, Elliot Cadeau 17 and RJ Davis 16 for the Tar Heels (4-3).

North Carolina's Seth Trimble sent the game into overtime with a 3-point shot with 5.2 seconds left in regulation.

Michigan State: The Spartans played without freshman guard Jase Richardson, who had 18 points in the tournament semifinals against Memphis. Richardson took an elbow to the head against the Tigers on Tuesday.

Cincinnati 77, Alabama State 59

In Cincinnati, Simas Lukosius scored 16 points to lead No. 16 Cincinnati to win over Alabama State.

Jizzle James had 13 points and five assists for the Bearcats who have started 6-0 for the second time in coach Wes Miller's four seasons.

Dillon Mitchell, who had 14 points and 11 rebounds in the Bearcats' win at Georgia Tech on Saturday, scored 10 points with eight boards before leaving the game with an injury with 11 minutes remaining.

Amarr Knox scored 17 of his 24 points in the first half for Alabama State (3-4) while Jalen Keago added 12 points for the Hornets.

Lukosius hit a pair of 3-pointers to help the Bearcats build an early 10-2 lead.



Alabama forward Mouhamed Dioubate (10) falls to the court after being fouled by Rutgers during the second half of an NCAA college basketball game in Las Vegas. (AP)

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Sri Lanka all out for record-low 42 in Durban cricket test

DURBAN, South Africa, Nov 28, (AP) - Sri Lanka was bowled out by South Africa for 42 at Kingsmead on Thursday, its lowest total in test cricket.

Sri Lanka's previous worst was 71 just over 20 years ago in Kandy against Pakistan.

South Africa needed only 83 legal deliveries - 13.5 overs - to rout the Sri Lankans in their first innings. That's the lowest number of deliveries in 100 years. England routed South Africa in 75 balls in 1924.

The 42 was also a record low for a test at Kingsmead, and the record low against South Africa, eclipsing New Zealand's 45 in 2013 in Cape

Town.

The pitch was considered batting friendly on day two of the first test, as South Africa scored 111 runs in an extended morning session, resuming on 80-4 and being dismissed for 191.

Kamindu Mendis top-scored with 13 in a Sri Lanka lineup which featured four ducks.

Medium-pacer Marco Jansen took a career-best 7-13 in 6.5 overs.

Jansen was only the second player after Hugh Trumble of Australia, in 1904 against England, to take seven wickets inside seven overs of a test innings.

'Absolute pleasure to witness such passion and dedication'

IBAK SLAM 2024: A milestone in Masters badminton tournaments

By Paulo Francisco X. Fernandes
Arab Times/Al-Seyassah Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: The Indian Badminton Association of Kuwait (IBAK) hosted the IBAK SLAM 2024, a historic event marking the first-ever Masters Badminton Tournament under the Seniors category.

Held at the IBAK Salwa Gym, the event showcased exceptional performances, camaraderie and sportsmanship among seasoned players from around the world.

The highly anticipated tournament featured six competitive teams — Team India, Team Malaysia, Team Canada, IBAK All Stars, IBAK Torpedoes and Smashing Stars — bringing together badminton enthusiasts for a thrilling display of skill.

The Chief Guest, Mr. Praveen Singh, Director (Financial Services Group) at Al Mulla Group, lauded the vibrant gathering of talented athletes, stating: "It is an absolute pleasure to witness such passion and dedication. This event is not just about victories but also about creating unforgettable experiences and lasting friendships."

The tournament was officially declared open on Nov 21, 2024, by special guest Ms. Aishah A. R. Al-Otaibi, CEO of Aspire Kuwait.

She commended IBAK's initiative to promote inclusivity and physical activity, emphasizing the importance of fostering a healthy lifestyle and building a strong sense of community through sports.

Over three days of intense competition, IBAK All Stars emerged champions in the team event, securing their victory with exceptional teamwork and strategy.

The tournament also featured an Open category, including events such as Mixed Doubles +40, Men's and Women's Doubles and Singles categories for various age groups.

Players from diverse countries, including India, Canada, Malaysia, Korea, Indonesia and more, participated in the tournament, showcasing their expertise and determination.



Group photo of winners.



Dr. Mani addressing the participants before the start of the tournament.

Highlights of Open Category Results

Mixed Doubles +40 — 1st place Prabagaran Subbaiyan & Jayashree Raghu; 2nd place Jabbar Farooqui & Irawati Dwi Nofita; 3rd place Tamil Muthu & Vidhya Jayapal

Women Doubles +40 — 1st place Ainur Jubail D & Gigi Emperialde; 2nd place Cheryl Magsayo Manaytay & Jeanette Tantiangco; 3rd place Shaina Ajayakumar & Vidhya Jayapal

Men Doubles +40 — 1st place Maheswaran K + Subin Varghese; 2nd place Hisham Ezzi + Pratap

Men Doubles +50 — 1st place Maheswaran K & Dr. Tamer Raafat; 2nd place Rizqi Budi Raharjo & Manimara Chozhan Regunathan and 3rd place Ramesh Chandra T Nagaraj & Gnanasambantham T

Men Singles +50 — 1st place Jafree Bin Ramly + Tiaan How Tan; 2nd place Shiroj Joseph + Ramesh Chandra Tarikere Nagaraj and 3rd place Dileep Karunakaran + Rakesh Nair

Men Singles +40 — 1st place Hisham Ezzi; 2nd place Vincent dela Cruz Reyes and 3rd place Srinivas G Reddy

Women Singles +40 — 1st place Jayashree Raghu; 2nd place Rio Calicdan; 3rd place Ferrer Fazeela Abdul Khader

Men Doubles +40 — 1st place Maheswaran K + Subin Varghese; 2nd place Hisham Ezzi + Pratap

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Group photo of participants and officials.

IBAK Chairman, Dr. Manimara Chozhan, expressed gratitude to sponsors including Aspire Systems, Al Mulla Group, Kout Food Group and Marafie Engineering Group for their support in making the event a grand success.

He went on to say, "This tournament is a milestone for IBAK and the badminton community in Kuwait. It reflects our commitment to fostering the sport among senior players."

Continuing its vision of promot-

ing badminton in Kuwait, IBAK announced its upcoming 11th Inter-School Badminton Tournament, scheduled for December 5-6, 2024.

IBAK SLAM 2024 not only celebrated athletic excellence but also reinforced the growing badminton community in Kuwait, fostering a spirit of unity, health and sportsmanship.

For more information, visit www.ibakwt.org or contact ibak-committee@gmail.com.

Kazma aims to continue its momentum in champ'ship

By Hassan Mosa

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: Kazma aims to continue its winning momentum when it faces Sulai-bikhat at 5:00 pm today at the Union Hall in the Sheikh Saad Al-Abdullah Indoor Halls Complex as part of the fifth round of the Federation Volleyball Championship. The round will also feature a match between Al-Shabab and Al-Yarmouk.

The "Orange" enters the game with 9 points from three consecutive wins, while Sulai-bikhat remains at the bottom without any

points. The technical advantage strongly favors Kazma, making it the clear favorite for victory.

In the second match, Al-Shabab, with 4 points, is expected to have the upper hand against Yarmouk, which has yet to secure any points. Al-Shabab's solid performances in the tournament so far give it an edge in this encounter.

The championship follows a single-round league format, with the top four teams advancing to the semi-finals. The first-placed team will face the fourth, while the second will meet the third, with the winners progressing to the final match.



Kazma player goes for a spike as opponents defend.

Lampard hired to coach Coventry

LONDON, Nov 28, (AP): Ex-Chelsea manager Frank Lampard returned to soccer on Thursday when he was hired to coach Coventry City in the second division.

The 46-year-old Lampard signed a 2 1/2-year contract.

Lampard would bring a "clear understanding of exactly what is needed to succeed at the very top level," Coventry owner Doug King said.

Lampard has been out of work since June last year, the end of an interim spell in charge of Chelsea.

He previously managed the English Premier League club from 2019-21 and followed that with less than a year at Everton.

He also has experience of the second tier of English soccer, having begun his managerial career with Derby.

"Frank cut his teeth in the Championship and knows what is needed in this league to be successful," King said.

The move to Coventry is a step down for Lampard, who was considered a rising talent when hired by Chelsea after only one season in management with Derby.

One of Chelsea's greatest players, he was fired after a run of bad results in January 2021 and replaced by Thomas Tuchel, who went on to win

the Champions League that season.

At Everton, Lampard managed to steer the club away from relegation when taking over midway through the season in 2022, but was out just under a year later with his team second from bottom of the standings.

As interim at Chelsea he managed one win in 11 games, losing eight of them.



New Coventry City manager Frank Lampard. (AP)

Pakistan hopes to get fair deal from ICC over Champs Trophy dilemma with India

'Whatever will happen, will happen on the basis of equality'

ISLAMABAD, Nov 28, (AP): Pakistan hopes it will get a fair deal on "equality" when the International Cricket Council holds a virtual meeting on Friday to finalize details for next year's Champions Trophy.

There's an impasse for the eight-team, 50-over format tournament after India declined to tour Pakistan for the event, scheduled to be held from Feb. 19 to March 9. A decades-long tense political situation between the two south Asian countries hasn't seen India playing international cricket in Pakistan since 2008 when it competed in Asia Cup.

Both nations have competed in ICC tournaments with Pakistan touring India last year for the 50-overs World Cup.

"I promise we'll do what is best for Pakistan cricket," PCB chairman Mohsin Naqvi said in Lahore. "We're still clear in our stance that it's not acceptable that we play cricket in India, and they don't play cricket here. Whatever will happen, will happen on the basis of equality. We've told the ICC very clearly, and what happens next we'll let you know."

The ICC board could decide the issue in a vote among members.

"Whatever we do, we will make sure the best outcome for Pakistan is achieved," Naqvi said. "But I repeat, and I am sure you know what I

mean, it's not possible that Pakistan play in India, and they don't come here."

Earlier this month, the ICC told the PCB that the Board of Control for Cricket in India had informed the game's governing body it will not tour Pakistan for the event. The PCB sent an email, asking the ICC reasons behind India's refusal.

Naqvi said he's been in "constant touch" with the ICC chairman Greg Barckley, but didn't say whether he got the answers from the game's governing body as to why India was not willing to tour Pakistan.

Naqvi, who is also the interior minister in the Pakistan government, said that whatever decision the ICC makes on Friday, he will go

to his government for the final approval.

Pakistan has spent millions of dollars on the upgrade of three stadiums in Karachi, Lahore and Rawalpindi - the three venues chosen for the Champions Trophy. Naqvi said he hoped the renovation of three stadiums will be completed well in time to host the event.



Pakistan's Mohammad Rizwan plays a shot during the third ODI cricket match between Zimbabwe and Pakistan at Queens Sports Club in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. (AP)

Pressure growing on struggling Nantes ahead of trip PSG

PARIS, Nov 28, (AP): Bunch of tourists.

Welcome to Club Med.

Those were some of the sarcastic accusations of laziness aimed at Nantes players by their own fans at home when they warmed up before last Sunday's Ligue 1 game against Le Havre.

Near the end of the match one angry supporters group - the main ultras group called Brigade Loire - had enough and attempted a pitch invasion at Stade de la Beaujoire. Many wore balaclavas and tried to barge through metal barriers before being pushed back by riot police.

The game was eventually completed and the 2-0 defeat left Nantes - one of France's most decorated clubs with eight league titles, four French Cups and one Champions League semifinal - languishing in 16th place.

These are gloomy times at Nantes and things are not set to get any easier, with a trip to league leader Paris Saint-Germain on Saturday.

The Brigade Loire are banned from heated training sessions and wanted president Waldemar Kita to go. Two coaches were fired that season before Kombouaré stepped in.

"I feel for the supporters. We're not playing well at the moment and we can't be satisfied with how things are going," Nantes coach Antoine Kombouaré said. "The crowd can sing what they like (about us). We understand their disappointment, we must shut our mouths and get on with it."

However, Kombouaré drew the line at pitch invasions.

"You can insult us, jeer us, but you can't come on the pitch," he said. "Violence is forbidden. It's not normal to come to the stadium with a balaclava on. What's that all about?"

Kombouaré and some of the squad have been here before.

Kombouaré was hailed as a saviour after preventing Nantes from relegation in 2021. Fans turned on the team at heated training sessions and wanted president Waldemar Kita to go. Two coaches were fired that season before Kombouaré stepped in.

It went down to the wire. Nantes edged a tense promotion-relegation battle against Toulouse on away goals. May 30, 2021, was a scary day for Nantes fans, with Toulouse one goal away from sending Nantes down.

The following season Kombouaré completely turned fortunes around, with the club finishing ninth and winning the French Cup to qualify for the Europa League.

So, no matter how despondent Nantes fans are feeling now, there

is hope while Kombouaré is still around.

Especially since his attachment to the club runs deep.

Kombouaré was there when the Beaujoire stadium opened in 1984 and played 177 games as a rugged defender for Nantes, which is nicknamed "Les Canaris" (The Canaries) because of its distinctive all-yellow strip.

The club's glory era saw it reach the 1996 semifinals of the Champions League, edged 4-3 by eventual champion Juventus over two legs.

Things are completely different now.

Nantes narrowly avoided relegation by one point in 2023, finishing 16th, and last season was 14th out of 18 teams.

This season already feels like déjà vu.



South Africa's Aiden Markam, centre, plays a shot as Sri Lanka's wicketkeeper Kusal Mendis watches on during the second day of the first Test cricket match between South Africa and Sri Lanka, at Kingsmead stadium in Durban, South Africa. (AP)

Sports

Dortmund rises to 4th

Liverpool dumps Real Madrid down the table

LONDON, Nov 28, (AP) — Liverpool is 100% on top of the Champions League after dumping title holder Real Madrid into an almost unbelievable 24th place in the 36-team standings.

No one felt the embarrassment of Madrid's 2-0 loss at Anfield more than Kylian Mbappé, the superstar added in the offseason by the storied club that also was European champion against Liverpool in the finals of 2022 and 2018.

Mbappé had a penalty saved in the second half and was earlier dumped on his behind by Conor Bradley's superb tackle in an instant viral moment.

Only Liverpool has started the new Champions League format with five wins and first-year coach Arne Slot's team is two points clear of Inter Milan. Barcelona is third, trailing Liverpool by three points.

Madrid is, remarkably, with three rounds left just one place above being eliminated. The top eight teams at the end of January go direct to the round of 16 in March, and teams placed from ninth to 24th enter a round of two-leg playoffs in February.

Monaco missed a chance to go second in the table, giving up a lead playing with 10 men from the 58th minute in a 3-2 loss at home to Benfica. Swiss forward Zeki Amdouni scored the winning goal in the 88th.

Borussia Dortmund, the beaten finalist against Madrid in May, is up to fourth place after beating Dinamo Zagreb 3-0. Champions League stand-out Jamie Gittens now has four goals in five games, curling a rising shot in the 41st to open the scoring in Croatia.

The best comeback was at PSV Eindhoven, where the home team trailed Shakhtar Donetsk by two goals in the 87th minute before a 3-2 win was sealed by United States forward Ricardo Pepi's goal deep in stoppage time.

US defender Cameron Carter-Vickers scored an embarrassing own goal for Celtic - playing a no-look pass far beyond goalkeeper Kasper Schmeichel - in a 1-1 draw with Club Brugge.

Congo teammates Ngal'Ayel Mukau and Silas impressed in wins for Lille and Red Star Belgrade.

Mukau scored twice in 12th-place Lille's 2-1 win at Bologna and Silas leveled for Red Star in a 5-1 rout of Stuttgart, though he barely celebrated his goal. Silas is on loan with the Serbian champion from Stuttgart.

Aston Villa's 0-0 draw with Juventus was preserved by an excellent save by Emiliano Martinez, the World Cup-winning Argentina goalkeeper, diving low to push away a header from Francisco Conceição.

Liverpool's stand-in right back Bradley was a standout Wednesday,



Liverpool's Cody Gakpo vies for the ball with Real Madrid's Dani Ceballos, left, during the Champions League opening phase soccer match between Liverpool and Real Madrid at Anfield Stadium, Liverpool, England. (AP)

denying Mbappé at high speed in a signature defensive play in the 32nd.

The 21-year-old Northern Ireland defender, deputizing for fit-again Trent Alexander-Arnold, joined the attack in the 52nd to play a key pass returning the ball to Alexis Mac Allister who scored the opening goal.

After Mbappé's penalty was pushed away by goalkeeper Caoimhín Kelleher in the 61st, Liverpool star Mo Salah missed with his spot-kick in the 70th, before substitute Cody Gakpo sealed the win with a header in the 77th.

Madrid now has lost three of five games after defeats at Lille and at home to AC Milan. The record 15-time European champion has another tough trip next, at fifth-place Atalanta on Dec. 10. On the same date, Liverpool is at 30th-place Girona and looks to be cruising into the round of 16.

Red Star Belgrade and Sturm Graz ended four-game losing runs to get their first points and wins.

Red Star rallied against Stuttgart after the German team led in the fifth minute. The 1991 European Cup winner's goal to level the game in the 12th was scored by on-loan Silas. He held up his hands as if in apology as part of a low-key celebration.

Sturm Graz won 1-0 against Girona, the Spanish newcomer to European competitions. It was the Austrian champion's first Champions League game since coach Christian Ilzer left to join Hoffenheim.



Benfica's Kerem Akturkoglu, right, and Monaco's Wilfried Singo vie for the ball during a Champions League opening phase soccer match at the Louis II stadium in Monaco. (AP)

Al-Mutawa shines as Al-Qadsiya draws with Al-Riffa in Gulf Champions League

Kuwait Club exits AFC Champions League 2

By Hassan Mosa

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

MANAMA, Nov 28: Montenegrin coach Zeljko Petrovic praised Al-Qadsiya captain Bader Al-Mutawa for his outstanding performance and crucial equalizing goal in their match against Bahrain's Al-Riffa. The game, held in Manama, ended in a 2-2 draw during the third round of Group Two in the Gulf Champions League.

Al-Mutawa's goal in the first minute of stoppage time secured Al-Qadsiya their second point in the group, placing it third behind Al-Riffa (4 points) and leader Al-Ettifaq (9 points). Qatar's Al-Arabi remains fourth with one point.

Petrovic expressed admiration for the 40-year-old Al-Mutawa, saying, "I am unlucky to have coached Al-Qadsiya at this stage of Al-Mutawa's career. He's indispensable, and I greatly value his efforts since my arrival. Despite joining the team late, we hope he will lead us to compete for titles this season."

Reflecting on the match, Petrovic added, "We were unlucky against Al-Riffa. We took the lead but conceded two goals due to mistakes. Mohammed Soula also missed a golden chance to score the winner in the final moments." He also expressed disappointment over the referee's decision not to award a penalty in the dying minutes of the game.



Bader Al-Mutawa celebrates with his teammates after scoring the winning goal for Al-Qadsiya.

Al-Qadsiya will now prepare for an internal camp ahead of its rematch against Al-Riffa next Wednesday in the fourth round. However, it will be without Moroccan player Mehdi Berahma for the encounter.

Meanwhile, Kuwait Club's delegation returned home today from Uzbekistan after securing a 2-1 victory over Nasaf Qarshi in the fifth round of Group 4 in the AFC Champions League 2. Despite the win, Kuwait

exited the tournament following Shabab Al-Ahli's 3-2 victory over Al-Hussein Irbid, which cemented the Emirati team's qualification alongside Al-Hussein.

Kuwait Club finished with 5 points in the group, while Al-Ahli topped the table with 10 points, followed by Al-Hussein (9 points) and Nasaf Qarshi (4 points). Kuwait Club's final group match against Al-Hussein next Wednesday is now inconsequential.

Montenegrin coach Nebojsa Jovovic commended his players' resilience, noting that although Nasaf dominated the first half and took the lead, Kuwait staged a strong comeback in the second half to claim the three points.

Amr Abdel Fattah was named the best player of the match, marking his second consecutive award following his performance in the 3-3 draw against Shabab Al-Ahli in the fourth round.

Kuwait Club and Qadsiya deliver decisive victories in the league

By Hassan Mosa

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: Kuwait Club claimed an effortless 115-87 victory over Al-Sulaibikhat in the third round of the Basketball League. Qadsiya also recorded an emphatic win, defeating Yarmouk 110-41. With these results, both Kuwait Club and Qadsiya raised their tallies to 4 points, while Al-Sulaibikhat moved to 3 points and Yarmouk to 2 points.

The league follows a two-division format, with the top four teams advancing to the semi-finals. The semi-final pairings will see the first-ranked team face the fourth and the second take on the third in a best-of-three playoff format. The winners will progress to a best-of-five final, with the team securing three victories crowned champion.

Kuwait Club dominated early, with their American players Weber and Simpson excelling both from beyond the arc and under the basket. The first quarter ended 27-18 in Kuwait Club's favor.

Although Al-Sulaibikhat attempted to fight back in the second quarter, led by its standout professional Orans, Kuwait Club maintained control with impressive performances from Turki Hamoud and Abdulrahman Al-Juma, finishing



Al-Qadsiya player shoots over Yarmouk player during the basketball league match.

the half 55-46. Kuwait Club extended its lead significantly in the third quarter, ending it 85-64, and continued its dominance in the final quarter to seal a commanding victory.

Qadsiya faced little resistance from Yarmouk, controlling the game from start to finish. The "Yellow" squad outclassed its opponent, winning each quarter decisively: 36-8, 75-19, 90-28, en route to 110-41 win.

Al-Salmiya aims to bounce back

By Hassan Mosa

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 28: Al-Salmiya will look to return to winning ways when it faces Al-Tadamon at 5:00 PM today in the tenth round of the preliminary stage of the Handball League. A second match, featuring Khaitan against Yarmouk, is scheduled for 6:30 pm. Both matches will take place at the Sheikh Saad Al-Abdullah Indoor Halls Complex.

After a loss to Al-Arabi in the previous round, Al-Salmiya dropped to third place with 12 points. The team is eager to secure a win against Al-Tadamon, currently struggling in 13th place with just a single point.

In the second match, Khaitan enters in 10th place with 8 points and hopes to secure a victory over Yarmouk, who sits in 12th place with only 2 points.

Meanwhile, Kuwait Club will face Al-Nasr tomorrow in a match postponed from the ninth round. Matches involving Kuwait Club and Kazma had been rescheduled due to their participation in the recently concluded Asian Championship in Doha.



Al-Salmiya looking to return to winning ways.

The league operates under a single-round format, with the top six teams advancing to the Premier League, which will be contested in a three-division system. Teams will carry over points earned in the preliminary stage. The remaining teams, ranked seventh to fourteenth, will compete in a two-division league to finalize their positions.