

In Brief

WARM CELEBRATION

KUWAIT: Sunny and warm weather is expected during the New Year Day's holiday and the weekend, while temperatures drop during the night, the meteorological department at the General Directorate for Civil Aviation (DGCA) said. The maximum temperature during those three days is expected to range between 25 and 26 C degrees, while the minimum temperature is expected to reach 7 to 8 C degrees. —KUNA



LAI D-OFF EXPATS

KUWAIT: The Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor has recently laid off expatriate workers who had been in service for 30 years in the ministry, well-informed sources said. They added that the laid-off workers were given a six-months grace period, until June 30, 2015 to arrange for retirement and collect their indemnities. — Al-Anba



WATER CUT

KUWAIT: Assistant Undersecretary for Consumers Affairs at the Ministry of Electricity and Water Abdallah Al-Hajiri said cutting power is not part of the ministry's methods to collect dues from consumers. The ministry only resorts to cutting water supply after the nonpaying consumer is sent a warning notice and given a grace period, he added. The ministry collected KD 514 million as of last Tuesday, he further indicated. — Al-Watan



Photo

of the day



KUWAIT: Tables prepared for the New Year's Eve celebration at Jumeirah Messilah Beach Hotel and Spa. With laws that ban outdoor parties to celebrate the new year in Kuwait, hotels and restaurants have grown in recent years to become the only public places where people can mark the beginning of the new year in a festive mood. —Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat



KUWAIT: Information Minister Sheikh Salman Al-Sabah during the exhibition's inauguration. — KUNA

EXHIBITION KEY TO SOCIETY SERVICE: MINISTER

KUWAIT: Information Minister Sheikh Salman Al-Sabah on Tuesday highlighted importance of the engineering design exhibition held at the Faculty of Engineering and Petroleum at Kuwait University (KU).

The exhibition, one of methods enabling youths to serve their society, is an opportunity for Kuwaiti engineers to display their designing talents in all fields which will contribute to achieving the development plan of the country,

Sheikh Salman, also Minister of State for Youth Affairs, said in a speech at the inauguration of the exhibition. He said the Ministry of Youth was keen on supporting youth "because they are the leaders of development in future."

Dr Hussein Al-Khayyat, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Petroleum, said the two-day exhibition would feature graduation projects of more than 250 students. These projects, he added, would include solutions to some prob-

lems in the society. Khayyat hoped the ideas and projects of the students would be properly utilized to further improve engineering in the country.

Director of the center of Engineering Training and Graduates Center at the Faculty, Dr. Ammar Al-Sairafi, said the exhibition was part of the graduation pre-perquisites. He said engineering design was a compulsory subject on all students. — KUNA

2015 BEARS NO SIGN OF END TO OIL PRICE DETERIORATION: EXPERT

KUWAIT: The developments on the oil market do not augur well for oil producers and exporters as there are no looming signs for a near end to prices deterioration in 2015, a Kuwaiti oil expert said.

The technical factors do not uphold oil producer expectations that prices would bounce back soon, Abdul-Samea Behbehani, Head of Al-Sharq for Petroleum Consulting Company, said in a statement.

The market is oversupplied and the demand is stable, he said, adding that oil producers particularly OPEC states are unable to address the situation amid fears that any output cut would harm their market shares. He also highlighted the growing impact of the shale oil production, which has jumped to over four million barrels a day, on the supplies and

prices. Behbehani ruled out the success of OPEC's attempts to decrease prices to press shale oil industry hard and turn it into loss making. This scenario is doomed to failure as shale oil industry is getting more adaptive to low prices particularly with the non-stop development in the cracking technology and consequently the decline in production cost. He added that studies projected an increase in the production of non-OPEC states by 1.35 million barrels a day in 2015, against an expected growth in demand estimated at 900,000.

Behbehani suggested that the geopolitical factors and the reactions of some countries which hardly hit by the price slump such as Russia, Venezuela and Iran may be the game-changer in 2015. — KUNA

7TH RING ROAD DETOUR REOPENED

KUWAIT: The seventh Ring Road's detour, located opposite of Abdullah Al-Mubarak residential area, was opened yesterday evening, Assistant Undersecretary for Road Engineering Affairs at the Ministry of Public Works engineer Ahmad Al-Hassan announced.

He added in remarks to KUNA that closing the detour at the 7th Ring Road was temporary in order to take certain

measures related to calibration of expansion joints, being of high importance, regarding that this ring road is used by heavy vehicles.



Ahmad Al-Hassan

The detour was constructed in order to serve the people and meet their needs, besides safety concerns, Minister of Public Works and Minister of Electricity and Water Abdulaziz Al-Ibrahim said at the reopening of the detour. — KUNA