

Local

Cabinet may see reshuffle in November to avoid grillings

By A Saleh

KUWAIT: Parliamentary sources said the government may see a Cabinet reshuffle before the end of the year and expected it to take place in November to avoid grillings that will affect those ministers. The government also wants a term that is full of legislative achievements.

Sources said Oil Minister Bakheet Al-Rasheedi may leave his post in the anticipated reshuffle, especially since he faced a grilling during the previous term and may face a new one that has the support of MPs who sided with him during the first grilling. They said new events in the oil sector and the projects there call for a new minister who is aware of the future plans away from any clashes with the National Assembly.

Furthermore, the sources said Social Affairs Minister and State Minister for Economic Affairs Hind Al-Sabeeh could also leave her post as she faced five grillings and will face a new one in the coming term. Her presence has become an embarrassment for the government, as it defended her a lot in the past to save her politically, the sources proclaimed. Meanwhile, MPs who sided with her have told the government that to continue their support is politically very expensive for them, especially since she did not deal with issues she promised to tackle, including social aid and handicapped and social care homes inmates, besides her failure in the development plan issues so far.

Information Minister and State Minister for Youth Affairs Mohammad Al-Jabri will return to parliament as an MP, said the sources, adding that plans are to appoint two MPs as ministers in the government. It is rumored that Ali Al-Deqbasi will be one of them, as he belongs to the Rasheed tribe. Meanwhile, Housing Affairs Minister Jenan Busheiri may leave her post because she did not add anything to the housing issue, though she may take the social affairs portfolio if Sabeeh leaves, according to the sources. The commerce ministry may see a ministerial change, but it is not clear so far if Minister Khaled Al-Roudhan will leave the Cabinet or take another post, which may be of finance or oil, if an MP does not take it, the sources speculated.

FATCA treaty

The Capital Markets Authority issued a circular to all licensed entities with regards to the FATCA treaty signed on April 29, 2015 between the Finance Ministry and the US Department of Treasury, which stipulates that finance establishments operating outside the US must submit a report regularly to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), and the following should be adhered to:

- The finance ministry receives FATCA reports for the year 2017 during the period from June 1 until Aug 30, 2018 through the ministry's website, as per the statement of the IRS with regards to copy number 2 regarding requirements of the FATCA report form.
- Financial establishments registered on the IRS site should adhere to submit FATCA reports annually even if they do not have US accounts.
- Financial establishments that have late reports for previous years must submit them separately for each year.
- Companies that wish to cancel previous reports due to mistakes can do this through direct contact with the IRS.

Egypt seeks exoneration in degree fraud case

By Meshaal Al-Enezi and Agencies

CAIRO/KUWAIT: Egypt's ministry of higher education said yesterday that none of the country's schools have issued fake college degrees to Kuwaiti students, underlining its "concern" over a case where fraudulent certificates were awarded to dozens of Kuwaitis.

"Egyptian universities are not involved in this scandal and we assure Kuwaiti authorities that

the degrees in question are fake," the ministry said in a statement. Egyptian schools have recently employed cutting-edge technology to ensure that the degree certification process is highly resistant to fraud, the statement emphasized. It added that the Egyptian education body is willing to cooperate with Kuwaiti authorities and join investigations, if need be, in order to get to the bottom of this sensitive matter.

The statement revealed that Egyptian colleges have established a close rapport with foreign embassies in the country, keeping them updated on the academic progress of their students. Kuwait's education ministry had recently uncovered some 40 fake college certificates issued in an unnamed Arab country and investigations into the case remain ongoing.

Meanwhile, Head of the Private Sector Union

Mansour Al-Mutairi said the Cabinet has a serious stance towards the fake degrees issues, and there is an insistence to tackle corruption due to its negative effects on the society and in defense of those with authentic degrees who spent their lives to get these academic qualifications. It said that the measures taken by the Cabinet were necessary to stop these people from getting leading posts without deserving them, and demanded violators be considered criminals and sent to court. In the meantime, Kuwait Engineering Society lauded the Cabinet's decision to take necessary legal measures against those proven to forge certificates. President Faisal Al-Atal said the Cabinet's strict measures to examine degrees of all state employees is a step on the road of fighting all forms of corruption.



KUWAIT: The price of a shrimp basket during the first day of shrimping in Kuwait waters yesterday reached KD 90 in an auction. Each basket weighs between 21 to 22 kg, and only 52 baskets were available at the auction held in the fish market in Sharq. — Photo by Fouad Al-Shaikh

Seven teams controlled junkyard fire

By Hanan Al-Saadoun and Agencies

KUWAIT: Seven teams succeeded in controlling a fire that broke out in Al-Naeem junkyard next to Al-Salmi road on Tuesday, Kuwait Fire Service Directorate (KFS) announced. In a press release by the public relations and media department, KFS stated it received a call about the fire 7:00 pm, and the teams from Al-Shaqaya, Al-Jahra, Al-Esnad, Al-Ardhiya, Sabhan, Al-Madina and Al-Salmiya police station responded to the fire. The blaze broke out in a number of cars and spread to 6,000 square meters, as the KFS teams were able to contain the fire area despite the challenges they encountered.

The challenges were of the site itself as junkyard is in a far desert area and the yard is full of serious violations, in addition to vast amounts of gas, oil and tires. Firefighters also faced high-speed winds with tight spaces preventing the fire engines from entering burning areas with no close source of water supply, which constituted dangerous situations for the firemen. The use of bulldozers, cranes and ladder trucks made it possible for the teams to tackle the fires and control it in record time. An investigation over the causes and circumstances behind the fire accident was opened.

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<p>From 01 to 07.08.2018</p> <p>KD. 0.375 0.270</p> <p>Banana (Philippines) per kg</p>	<p>From 01 to 07.08.2018</p> <p>KD. 1.095 0.845</p> <p>Tomato Box</p>	<p>From 01 to 07.08.2018</p> <p>KD. 0.745 0.595</p> <p>Potato Box</p>	<p>• 4.7" Screen • 32GB Memory • 1GB RAM • Dual-Core • 8MP Rear • 1.2MP Front Camera • 1810mAh Battery</p> <p>Apple iPhone 6</p> <p>KD. 99.900 82.900</p>	<p>• 5.8" Screen • 64GB Memory • 4GB RAM • Octa-Core • 12MP Rear • 8MP Front Camera • 3000mAh Battery</p> <p>Samsung Galaxy</p> <p>Quick & Easy Credit Monthly</p> <p>KD. 159.900 139.900</p> <p>Samsung Galaxy Smart Phone S8</p>

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