

Kuwait Lawyers Society pushes authorities to solve bedoons' issue

By A Saleh

KUWAIT: Kuwait Lawyers Society is leading a public movement to apply pressure on authorities to solve the issue of bedoons (stateless), to go parallel with a proposed law that is reportedly being prepared by a team led by National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem, Central Agency for Remedying Illegal Residents' Status President Saleh Al-Fadalah, and the Interior Ministry.

"The society's move comes out of discontentment towards the

slow government-parliament move in dealing with the issue, which has started to harm Kuwait's human rights record," said sources within the society. They added that the society feels concerned that the government-parliament preparations of the law might result in 'obsolete solutions' to deal with the issue that are 'unrealistic' and fail to address the humanitarian aspects, based on leaked reports regarding the ongoing preparations.

Meanwhile, the sources said that Kuwait Lawyers Society believes the current proposal to deal with the issue adopts the view of Central Agency and its chairman Fadhalah, noting that the

agency has failed to solve the problem for over nine years since it was established. "Instead, it has only been trying to prove that the bedoons have forged their documents to claim right for Kuwaiti citizenships undeservedly," the sources claimed.

The sources said the Central Agency claims it has thousands of document proving its allegations, "yet it did not present real documents as far as the law is concerned proving that [bedoons] hid their official documents and claimed they are stateless. This situation violates human rights and compromises Kuwait's position in international arenas."

GCC armies' chiefs affirm readiness of joint forces



RIYADH: GCC Chiefs of Staffs affirmed yesterday during the fourth extraordinary meeting the solidity of the armed forces and readiness to face any threats or attacks. Officials, in the meeting, considered any attack on any GCC country is an attack on all countries. The meeting discussed regional developments and its

effect on security, and also discussed recent rising attacks and threats. Chiefs of Staffs condemned the attacks on Saudi Arabia, and recent threats on maritime freedom in the area. They also agreed on joining efforts between GCC armed forces against any threat or attack. — KUNA

Adailiya station's water suitable for drinking: EPA

KUWAIT: The water produced by the Al-Adailiya station is drinkable and suitable for human consumption, said the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) yesterday, refuting online news claims of contamination. A press release by the EPA revealed that the source of the news in regards to contamination was based in outdated information from 1984. Since then, measures were undertaken to bring the quality level to international standards with latest data in 2017-2018 pointing to the opposite of the current online claims. The EPA commended the efforts by the Ministry of Water and Electricity, which always released transparent and trusted information to the public. — KUNA

Kuwait Foreign Ministry follows up on citizens' case in Cyprus

KUWAIT: The Kuwaiti Ministry of Foreign Affairs closely followed up on the case of a number of citizens who had gotten involved in an "incident" in Cyprus, a ministry official affirmed yesterday. Assistant Foreign Minister for Consular Affairs Sami Al-Hamad, in a statement, was commenting on reports on information outlets and social media regarding condition of a number of Kuwaiti citizens in Cyprus who have been banned from returning home due to a "brawl case." The ministry has been closely following on the issue of the nationals since the very moment of the "incident occurrence," Hamad said. Upon instructions by the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, housing was made available for the concerned Kuwaiti citizens and their families, according to their desire and wishes, in addition to assigning a law agency to follow up on the case since the start, he explained. Reacting to a video clip purporting that the Kuwaitis were deprived of housing, the assistant minister explained that the recording was done during their transfer from one residence to another and this situation lasted for only two hours. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will spare no effort to follow up on Kuwaitis' issues abroad, providing them with help and care. — KUNA



KUWAIT: The Interior Ministry's Relations and Security Information Department continued its visits to schools as part of its awareness campaign for to spread security and traffic awareness among students during the academic year 2019-2020. A ministry team visited Saqer Al-Shabeeb elementary school in Hawally where they gave a brief on security and traffic aspects as well as road safety. — By Hanan Al-Saadoun