

Local

Kuwait police investigates Syrian family's alleged mass suicide plot

Association condemns nurse's attack at local polyclinic

By Hanan Al-Saadoun, A Saleh and Meshaal Al-Enezi

KUWAIT: A special police force was dispatched to the UN office in Kuwait yesterday in response to social media threats allegedly made by a Syrian family that all family members would collectively commit suicide. The special force comprising of 10 officers and 10 warrant officers and police patrols arrived to the scene, but nothing suspicious was detected. However, further investigations are in progress to identify the family pending taking legal action against them.

Separately, a border security officer was killed yesterday after he lost control over his vehicle and it turned over along Seventh Ring Road, said security sources. An investigation was opened to determine the circumstances behind the accident.

In other news, Kuwait Fire Service Directorate (KFS) concluded the 'Etiquette and International Protocol' training program held in the period of October 6 to 8, 2019 with the participation of 20 KFS department managers.

Chairman of Kuwait Nursing Association Bandar Al-Enezi strongly condemned a recent incident in which a Kuwaiti woman allegedly assaulted a female nurse at a local polyclinic. He further stressed that the association is ready to hire a lawyer to defend the nurse in court. Meanwhile, the misdemeanor appeals court yesterday abstained from punishing a man who had been sentenced to three months in prison for appearing naked and shouting on social media.

In other news, Municipal Councilmember Meshaal Al-Hamdhan said the council's legal affairs committee discussed the council's internal charter yesterday, and that further meetings will be held to complete the discussion. Responding to an inquiry about recurring proposals, Hamdhan said many of those made by municipal councilmembers get rejected, copied and resubmitted by municipal executive body members, giving examples such as a proposal made by Chairman Osama Al-Otaibi on building hotels in Mubarakiya, which was rejected, then re-proposed by the Municipality.

Kuwait Municipality's public relations department strongly denied reports attributed to the Environment Public Authority (EPA) about allegedly increasing the camping fee from KD 300 to KD 1,000, noting that EPA is not the body responsible for collecting the fee.

80% Kuwaitis rejected private sector jobs

KUWAIT: Recent government statistics alarmingly showed 59 percent of Kuwaiti youth refused to work in the private sector in 2017, and that the percentage jumped to 80 percent in 2019, Al-Jarida reported yesterday. The statistics, revealed in response to a parliamentary inquiry by MP Abdullah Al-Kandari, showed that the manpower authority had offered Kuwaiti graduates 6,861 job opportunities in the private sector in 2017, but 4,067 of them refused the jobs. "The job opportunities offered in 2018 were 5,778, but only 1,160 nominees accepted them," the sources added. The manpower authority's response stressed that as decided by the minister of education's resolution number 80/2013, it financially supports graduates effective from the date of graduation, professionally guides them and offers them job opportunities in various sectors.— Al-Jarida

Irbil governor hails Kuwaiti humanitarian aid

IRBIL: Irbil Governor Dr Firsat Sofi said on Tuesday that the humanitarian aid provided by Kuwait over the past years has been a decisive factor in alleviating the suffering of thousands of displaced, refugees, vulnerable and poor citizens of the Kurdistan region of Iraq. In a statement to the press on the sidelines of his meeting with the Kuwaiti Consul General in Irbil Dr Omar Al-Kandari, Sofi said that the Kuwaiti aid, which covered all fields, has helped the regional government in different ways. He pointed out to the difficult economic conditions experienced by the region in previous years because of the war against the so-called Islamic State (IS) and the presence of more than one million displaced Iraqis and Syrian refugees in the region. The governor praised Kuwait's efforts and humanitarian aids over the past years.

Meanwhile, Consul Kandari affirmed that Kuwait is keen to build bridges of good relations with the Kurdistan region of Iraq. Over the past years, Kuwait has provided help to the Iraqi people through different activities, such as the 'Kuwait by your Side' campaign since its launch in 2015 until 2019. The campaign has varied between support for the relief sector and the health sector in addition to supporting the educational sector. Kuwait has launched the relief program within the campaign to include displaced people in and outside Iraq as well as areas that have been liberated from the control of the so-called Islamic State (IS) and the rest of Iraq.

Kuwait also provided water by digging wells in different parts of Irbil governorate. Ninewa Governorate was provided with water withdrawal pumps to treat its scarcity and contamination after the liberation of Mosul city, in addition to desalination plants scattered in several Iraqi cities. With regard to the educational sector, Kuwait has supported the sector significantly through the Kuwaiti Society for Relief and the Kuwait Red Crescent Society through the establishment of integrated schools in the liberated areas.— KUNA

GCC approves 2020-2030 cultural strategy

MUSCAT: Cultural undersecretaries in Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries approved, during their meeting in the Omani capital yesterday, the cultural strategy of GCC states 2020-2030, a senior Kuwaiti official said. The one-day meeting's outcomes and recommendations also approved establishing a translation and Arabization center based in Muscat with a focus on the Arabic language, Director-General of the National Council for Culture, Arts, and Letters (NCCAL) Kamel Al-Abduljaleel said. The Gulf senior officials also approved linking cultural activities and events with the Gulf cultural strategy and cultural action regulations, said Abduljaleel. They also agreed on a Gulf joint participation at regional and international cultural events with Arab and non-Arab countries, as well as communication with international cultural organizations and institutions, added the Kuwaiti official. Furthermore, Abduljaleel indicated the meeting saw full cooperation and serious desire to boost the Gulf joint action in the culture field and its various-related

components, in addition to reinforcing the national identity, traditions, and heritage of GCC nations.

Separately, Kuwait's Information Minister Mohammad Al-Jabri said yesterday that GCC states acknowledge the importance of boosting cultural tourism and attaining their joint vision to enhance culture and tourism sectors on broader prospects. Jabri, also State for Youth Affairs Minister, made his remarks as he left to Oman to attend the 23rd meeting of GCC Culture and Tourism Ministers. He lauded the Kuwaiti-Omani solid brotherly relationship, and said it continues to prosper thanks to the wise leaderships of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and Sultan Qaboos bin Said Al-Said. The Kuwaiti minister, also Chairman of the National Council for Culture, Arts, and Letters (NCCAL), underlined the importance of such a meeting in bolstering and activating joint-cooperation in culture and tourism. He said GCC states would see a major start in the culture and tourism sectors as projected by Gulf leaders' wise directions and visions, and the ministers' close follow-up.

These meetings are part of boosting the joint Gulf action, and drawing policies aimed to move on with cultural and tourism development plans and attain GCC visions in linking national heritage with cultural tourism, with a focus on their importance on the sustainable development march in GCC states, he noted. Jabri also added that GCC culture and tourism meetings are essen-



MUSCAT: Kuwait's Kamel Al-Abduljaleel attends the meeting.— KUNA

tial for reinforcing the national identity inside Gulf youngsters' spirits, tighten their bonds with their nations and history, and benefiting from their potential for the construction and development process.— KUNA



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