

Local

Boursa Kuwait partners with Dive Team to preserve Kuwait Bay

Boursa Boat exclusive boat for all Kuwait Dive Team operations in Kuwait Bay

KUWAIT: Reinforcing its commitment to creating a meaningful impact on the environment and the communities it serves, Boursa Kuwait has entered into a strategic partnership with the Environmental Voluntary Foundation's Kuwait Dive Team and its efforts to clean up the Kuwait Bay, considered one of the richest, most diverse marine ecosystems in the world.

The Kuwait Bay is an important source of nutrients and sediment to the upper part of the Arabian Gulf and supports a thriving fishing industry with more than 500 metric tons of sea bream production each year from more than 80 net-pen cages. The Bay is also one of the main contributors to the Kuwaiti economy and one of the world's biggest fish habitats.

As part of its corporate social responsibility and overarching corporate sustainability (CS) strategy, Boursa Kuwait is proud to partner with the Environmental Voluntary Foundation's Kuwait Dive Team in reviving one of the world's most diverse marine environments.

Boursa Kuwait was on hand to support the Environmental Voluntary Foundation's Kuwait Dive Team on World Cleanup Day, a UN sponsored initiative to clean up the world's seas and surrounding beaches, with over 180 countries and over 21 million volunteers participating in 2019. The initiative was celebrated this year on September 19 and is one of several initiatives to draw attention to litter solutions, partnering with multiple organizations worldwide. The event also marked the maiden voyage of the Boursa Boat, which was dedicated to the Kuwait Dive Team to help preserve Kuwait's marine life and environment.



Protecting the marine environment

The Boursa Boat will be the exclusive boat for all operations of Kuwait Dive Team in the Kuwait Bay area and is equipped with special equipment to remove wrecked sea vessels, abandoned fishing nets and other marine debris; install and maintain environmentally friendly anchors; monitor coral reefs; clean shores, islands and beaches; as well as document marine life.

Valuable resource

Naser Meshari Al-Sanousi, Marketing and Communication Director at Boursa Kuwait, said: "Boursa Kuwait is proud to join the Environmental Voluntary Foundation's Kuwait Dive Team in their many initiatives and activities to clean up and preserve the marine environment of Kuwait Bay, which is one of the main drivers of the national economy and a valuable resource to Kuwait and the Arabian Gulf."

Sanousi added, "Boursa Kuwait is committed to promoting the adoption of socially impactful and accountable practices in surrounding communities, and this initiative is in line with our directive to raise awareness in Kuwait

and the surrounding communities on the best practices to raise awareness to issues of financial literacy and social responsibility as well as adopting effective practices to increase awareness, reduce harm and preserve the environment."

"The Kuwait Bay is one of the richest, most diverse ecosystems in the Gulf. The Environmental Voluntary Foundation's Kuwait Dive Team is committed to the preservation of the Bay and the marine creatures living in its coasts and waters. Since 1986, the Kuwait Dive Team has been participating in the



protection and rehabilitation of Kuwait's aquatic world through a host of activities including the documentation and protection of coral reefs, beach clean ups, establishing colonies of fish, as well as underwater ship retrieval. We thank Boursa Kuwait for their partnership in support of our many activities to make sure that the Bay and surrounding islands are kept clean and able to sustain such diverse marine life," said Waleed Abdulrahman Al-Shatti, Vice President, Kuwait Dive Team.

With a view to creating long-term value for the company's stakeholders in the economic, social and environmental dimensions and ensuring that all cor-

porate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives are aligned with its sustainability objectives, Boursa Kuwait has put in place a three-phased strategy to align, create and integrate.

This strategy stipulates ensuring initiatives apply and fall in line with the company's corporate social responsibility (CSR), creating strong and sustainable partnerships that ultimately achieve success and allow Boursa Kuwait to leverage the capabilities and strengths of organizations that have experience in different fields, and integrating sustainability efforts with the company culture, in order to achieve longevity and an ongoing impact.

Kuwait reports 385 COVID-19 cases, 3 deaths

KUWAIT: Kuwait's confirmed novel coronavirus cases increased by 385 to 99,434, with three people having succumbed to the disease in the past 24 hours, raising the death toll to 584, the health ministry said yesterday. The figures include people who have come into contact with infected individuals, and others whose source of infection is currently being investigated, read a ministry statement. In terms of health zones, 105 cases were reported in Hawally, 95 in Al-Ahmadi, 70 in Jahra, 64 in the Capital and 51 in Farwaniya, ministry spokesman Dr Abdullah Al-Sanad added. There are 98 people currently receiving intensive care for the virus out of a total 8,682 patients being hospitalized. Some 2,263 swab tests were conducted in the last 24 hours, out of a total of 707,292 so far, added the spokesman. Earlier, the ministry said 670 people have recovered from the virus, upping the total number of those to have overcome the disease to 90,168. — KUNA

2,000 American workers stuck in Kuwait

KUWAIT: Two thousand Americans are stuck in Kuwait since March after arriving on tourist visas to work for a trial period at US military bases, Al-Qabas Arabic daily reported. They were to be transferred to work contracts after a 90-day probation period. Informed sources said the coronavirus pandemic made them unable to leave Kuwait and return on business or work visas because all types of visas in Kuwait remain suspended. Sources said the mechanism of the arrival of such workers was through tourist visas, which is easier for them to work under probation, and if they are approved, they leave for Bahrain or Dubai to return with transferable visas to work.

They said companies responsible for employing them wrote to the US Embassy in Kuwait and the US State Department in Washington to explain the problem, because this group of people must leave by November and will not be able to return under the health procedures related to fighting the spread of COVID-19. The correspondence sent to the American side called for negotiations with officials in Kuwait to obtain an exemption with regards to transferring them to the workforce instead of letting them go while they are needed for current projects. As for those who had commercial visas, they were being processed last week to get approvals to transfer to work visas and start working at the bases.

COVID-19 hampers bills' collection

KUWAIT: The coronavirus crisis had an effect on the collections of the Ministry of Electricity and Water, as the total amount collected since January until September is KD 96 million, compared to over KD 300 million last year, despite an increase in consumption by 25 percent this year, because most citizens and expats remained in the country this summer. There are many reasons behind the drop in collections, including leniency by the ministry in collecting its dues regularly, especially from those with large bills after the ministry stopped the cutting of water supplies on the instructions of acting electricity and water minister Khaled Al-Fadhel," Al-Rai reported yesterday, quoting sources.

Several injured in massive Mubarak Hospital brawl

KUWAIT: A huge fight broke out at Mubarak Hospital where 26 young men including Kuwaitis, Jordanians and Syrians fought using knives and surgical scissors. Many of them sustained medium and serious injuries before security forces and medical staff controlled the fight. Police arrested 21 of those involved, while a search is on for five others. Case papers indicate that the fight started between two groups in a Hawally governorate area, where two Kuwaitis, a Jordanian and three Syrians were injured and taken to hospital by friends. However, 20 opponents attacked them, starting a fierce fight. The sources added that some of the attackers had knives they used in stabbing their rivals, while others grabbed scissors from the nursing room before a Kuwaiti collapsed in a pool of blood. On arriving at the scene, policemen immediately arrested 15 of the attacker's friends, while five, including the attacker, managed to flee the scene. A case was filed and a search is on for the suspects.

Meth factory

An Egyptian chemist and an Indian cook were arrested for manufacturing and trading in methamphetamine, said security sources. Case papers indicate that narcotics detectives were tipped off concerning the Egyptian's activity of selling large quantities of meth to specific customers. On raiding his flat in Salmiya, detectives found a 'factory' equipped with high-tech tools to manufacture meth, the female Indian technician and the imported material they used in manufacturing the drug. The sources added that this was the largest drug lab ever busted in Kuwait.

Fatal crash

Two men died of severe burns in a mini-truck accident that happened when the driver lost control and it collided into a lamppost along King Fahd highway. The truck immediately burst into flames.

Meanwhile, a Gulf national was killed and a Kuwaiti was injured in a collision along Salmi highway, said security sources, noting that on arriving at the crash scene, paramedics found the dead body of the Gulf national trapped in the wreckage. The Kuwaiti had sustained various injuries and was rushed to hospital for treatment. Separately, a construction worker was instantly killed after he fell from an under-construction commercial complex in Jahra.

Three accidents

Three simultaneous car accidents created considerable congestions along the fifth and sixth ring roads and Ghazali expressway, said security sources. The sources explained that a person was slightly injured in a collision along the fifth ring road, a vehicle turned over along the sixth ring road and a truck broke down on Ghazali highway. The three accidents created considerable traffic congestions before traffic police managed to clear the situations.

Policemen hurt

Police arrested a Kuwaiti man, who was acting strangely, after he attacked a police captain and corporal and injured them both, said security sources. Case papers indicate that the owner of a car rental firm in Ardiya called the police requesting help in dealing with a customer. On arriving at the scene, the suspect refused boarding the police patrol car and resisted arrest. He then assaulted the policemen before he was eventually controlled and arrested. Separately, an employee working for Mubarak Al-Kabeer municipality filed a complaint against a Kuwaiti man, accusing him of insulting a public servant while on duty when he refused to let him file a citation to a Bangladeshi man helping him run a cabriolet that provided children with rented tours in a residential area.

—Translated by Kuwait Times from Al-Rai

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