

Local

Cabinet orders quick execution of coastline development projects

KUWAIT: The Kuwaiti Cabinet has instructed its Public Services Committee to urgently remove all obstacles impeding the execution of Sulaibikhat and Jahra coastline development projects. The decision was taken Wednesday at a meeting chaired by His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah. At the advent of meeting, head of Kuwait Municipality Ahmad Al-Manfouhi briefed the Cabinet about masterplans of the 38-kilometer-long Sulaibikhat coastline project and the 7.3-kilometer-long Jahra Corniche project, said Foreign Minister and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Dr Sheikh Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah in a statement following the Cabinet's meeting. According to Manfouhi's presentation, Sulaibikhat project comprises a sports area and creativity center. The Jahra project incorporates shopping centers, entertainment and sports facilities, an environment village and a garden, he noted. The Cabinet also reviewed the procedures taken by the national fund for small and medium sized enterprises, in coordination with relevant state agencies, to allocate a plot of land in Al-Subiya city for trucks of the small and medium size businesses. — KUNA



KUWAIT: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah chairs the Cabinet's meeting.



Ahmad Al-Mousa

Manpower Authority director suspended till investigation's end

KUWAIT: Minister of Commerce and Industry Dr Abdullah Al-Salman gave orders to suspend Director General of the Public Authority for Manpower Ahmad Al-Mousa for three months, or until the end of investigations concerning his decision to stop issuing or renewing visas for residents over the age of 60 who do not have university degrees, Al-Rai Arabic daily reported yesterday. The government's Fatwa and Legislation Department annulled the decision on the basis that Mousa was not authorized to issue such an order.

In other news, Deputy Director General of PAM Abdullah Al-Mutoutah said around 59,000 resident workers voluntarily left Kuwait during the coronavirus pandemic. In statements published by Al-Rai yesterday, Mutoutah said it is important to differentiate between the departee and those who could not enter Kuwait. He said those who left Kuwait voluntarily were 59,000, not including the numbers in shelters who were in violation and were deported by the interior ministry. He said since the start of the pandemic, 95 percent of PAM services became automated. According to statistics from January 1, 2021 and September 30, 2021, 666,000 renewal, 146,000 residency and 28,000 permanent cancellation of work permit transactions were processed online.

NBK visits schools as part of 'Safe Education' campaign

KUWAIT: As part of 'Safe Education' awareness campaign, National Bank of Kuwait (NBK) visited Al-Wasem Kindergarten to ensure a safe return of students to their schools and a safe educational environment of the highest levels of prevention. The campaign came as a result of collaboration of the ministries of Education, Health, Interior and Information. It aims to raise awareness and encourage students and their families to support the governmental efforts for a safe return to the academic year 2021-2022.

Commenting on the school visit, Yaqoub Al-Baqer, NBK Public Relations Manager, expressed his sincere appreciation to the national efforts in this campaign and ensured that NBK will continue to fulfill its social responsibility and support to the government efforts in this initiative. "It's a shared responsibility to make sure that resuming pre-pandemic normal is endurable. It requires a strong commitment of students, parents and the entire society to apply the precautionary and health requirements and procedures, from the moment we leave our house until we return," Baqer noted.

"Today's visit was important to meet the children and make sure that their safety is a top priority. This campaign aims to provide a safe educational environment of the highest levels of prevention after an ab-



sence of almost a-year-and-a-half due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic," he added.

'Safe Education' campaign targets a safe start for the school year, making the school a place to learn and communicate with colleagues safely. It encourages students and teachers to abide by the health protocols put in place. The campaign comes from the keenness of the concerned authorities and sponsors about the health and safety of the students and an embodiment of cooperation, solidarity and coordination between the state ministries to provide a safe educational environment of the highest levels of prevention. NBK maintains its leading position among the private sector institutions through its commitment to fully support social programs in the areas of healthcare, childcare, social, environmental, sports and education.

Kuwait made huge progress in women empowerment: Official

NEW YORK: The State of Kuwait stressed that it has made great progress in women empowerment during the years 2020/2021, as for the first time in Kuwait's history, eight female judges were appointed in 2020. This came during the speech of the State of Kuwait delivered by First Secretary Fahad Mohammad Hajji in the virtual dialogue of the Third Committee of the United Nations General Assembly with the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers Diego Garcia Sian. Hajji pointed out that this number has doubled to this day, and women have recently been appointed to leadership positions. He also added that this step comes within the framework of the Kuwaiti women's empowerment agenda, based on Kuwait's full belief in the importance of supporting Kuwaiti women, enhancing their rights and increasing their participation in all fields. — KUNA



Fire in Jleeb school

KUWAIT: Firemen battled a blaze at the Khadeeja bint Al-Zubair girls high school in Jleeb Al-Shuyoukh yesterday. No injuries were reported and investigations are underway to determine the cause of the fire, Kuwait Fire Force said.