

Local

Legislative, executive authorities' cooperation benefits Kuwait: Amir

Speaker praises Amir's dialogue call between two authorities



KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah makes his opening remarks after inaugurating the second session of the 16th legislative term of the National Assembly yesterday. — Photos by Amiri Diwan and Yasser Al-Zayyat



(From left) His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Ali Al-Ghanem stand outside the assembly building.



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah gestures as National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Ali Al-Ghanem is seen at the inauguration of the parliament's session yesterday.



His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah is welcomed by National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Ali Al-Ghanem.



His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah delivers the Amiri address on behalf of His Highness the Amir.



National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Ali Al-Ghanem makes his speech at the session.

KUWAIT: The Kuwaiti people will immensely benefit from the solemn cooperation between legislative and executive authorities, His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah said yesterday. His Highness the Amir opened yesterday the second session of the 16th legislative term of the National Assembly with calls for cooperation and serving the nation. In his opening remarks to the parliament, His Highness the Amir reiterated the importance of efforts to reinforce reforms and benefit the people through legislative and executive authorities' cooperation.

Delivering the Amiri address on behalf of His Highness the Amir, His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah said that His Highness Sheikh Nawaf stressed the importance of serving the people through parliamentary and government cooperation to overcome obstacles and bolster development.

In accordance with His Highness the Amir's directive, the dialogue between the two powers began based on a constitutional bedrock, leading to the resolve of tension. The dialogue had also resulted in the pardon of several Kuwaitis in cases which had their circumstances and timing, continued the Amir, stressing that such step help stabilize the political situation in the country. In reaction to the Amiri steps, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled said that the government and people of Kuwait were grateful for His Highness the Amir's intervention and keen leadership.

Biggest challenge

Furthermore, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled revealed that the Cabinet would work tirelessly to address problems facing the people of Kuwait, revealing that during the two authorities' dialogue several proposals were given to boost cooperation and lessen strife. The Prime Minister proceeded to mention the happenings last year, saying that the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic was the biggest challenge affecting all aspects of life in Kuwait and the world. The government had taken measure to bring back life to normal, affirmed Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled, saying that all decisions resulted in the protection of society and the bolstering of health institute through the vaccination campaign, which reached more than 82 percent. Despite the current exceptional situation, the government focused on continuing education on all levels online to protect



MP Obaid Al-Wasmi attends the session.



A general view of the National Assembly in session.

the future of Kuwait.

On economy, the Prime Minister noted that the world was going through serious economic challenges requiring from both authorities to focus on reforming the national economy through a well-versed plan promoting economic diversity without affecting the individuals' income. The private sector should be given the opportunity to share the state's goal in boosting the development, said Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled, adding that this will occur through legislation. On housing, Sheikh Sabah Al-

government will abide by the directives of Kuwait's leadership, which called for achieving peace and welfare for Kuwait, the region, and the world, he reiterated. He stressed that the government would support the independence of the judicial system and battle all forms of corruption through transparency and the development of government performance.

Principles of dialogue

Meanwhile, National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Ali Al-Ghanem praised His Highness the Amir's call for dialogue between the two authorities, and the immediate response of the nation's representatives with this invitation. In a speech at the opening of the session, Ghanem stressed the importance of activating the principles of dialogue and round-table policy to solve fateful problems, instead of conflict and political clashes. He also lauded interaction with the national dialogue sessions, which has a great impact on achieving political stability.

Ghanem applauded His Highness the Amir's announcement to activate Article 75 of the Constitution related to amnesty. Moreover, Ghanem said that political stability would be achieved through correct and wise use of constitutional tools. He also called to unify efforts towards fateful national issues that cannot be postponed, according to practical program away from political bidding to achieve people's aspirations and meet their needs. — KUNA



Giving private sector opportunity to share in development

Khaled said that the Cabinet was keen on providing this service to the Kuwaiti people to ensure welfare to many families.

The Prime Minister also touched on internal and external security of Kuwait, saying that it was a vital component for development and stability. He affirmed that the government would work on boosting the country's defensive capability and support security personnel's safety for them to serve the people. Touching on foreign policy, the



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

of environment conservation, renewable energy, and combating desertification. The Cabinet expressed hope that the participants in the Green Middle East Initiative Summit would reach the desired objectives that could contribute to the realization of the vision of sisterly Saudi Arabia for combating climate change in the region.

The Cabinet reviewed the latest developments of the dialogue as conceived by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. The Cabinet expressed gratitude for His Highness the

Amir's kind initiative which reflects his keenness on improving the living conditions of the citizens and noble traditions of the Kuwaiti people. His Highness the Prime Minister briefed the Cabinet on his meeting Sunday with heads of the three authorities at the behest of His Highness the Amir to enhance cooperation among all state agencies. Minister of Health Sheikh Dr Basel Al-Sabah apprised the meeting of the developments of the health situation in the country in the light of the steady improvement. He renewed the call for the public to continue commitment to the health precautions in order to maintain the current positive indicators of improvement.

Meanwhile, the Cabinet discussed the recommendation of the Legal Affairs Committee regarding the second semi-annual report of Kuwait Anti-Corruption Authority from July 1 to December 31, 2019. The Cabinet extolled the authority's efforts aiming to dry up sources of corruption and curb its effects on social and economic conditions, and other related matters. It stressed continued support to the authority's efforts to implement the strategy so as to achieve the specific objectives on combating corruption to help raise Kuwait's rankings in all relevant international indicators, including the Corruption Perceptions Index. Moreover, the Cabinet assigned Minister of State for National Assembly Affairs, in collaboration with Nazaha, to facilitate taking decisions in the draft

resolutions referred to the parliament in this matter. The Cabinet further was informed of the recommendation of the Economic Affairs Committee on the reports of the financial controllers' offices for the fiscal year 2020/2021. Afterwards, the Cabinet was briefed on the committee's recommendation regarding the projects of the Ministry of Electricity and Water on renewable energy, and the projects implemented until September 2021 as well as others.

In light of the political affairs on the Arab and international levels, the Cabinet welcomed the UN Security Council's statement condemning Houthi militias' attacks on Saudi Arabia's territories and facilities. It said that the move shows the UNSC realization of the threat posed by Houthis to the region's security and stability. The threat also aggravates sufferings of Yemeni people, it said, adding that the statement affirmed attention paid by the Council to Yemen's crisis and the necessity of reaching a political solution to the crisis. This will also push Houthis to interact positively with the international community's efforts, including Saudi Arabia's endeavors and initiative, so as to reach a comprehensive political solution to the Yemeni crisis, according to the Cabinet. The Cabinet followed up, with great concern, the developments in Sudan, calling on all parties to abide by self-restraint and avoid escalation to preserve Sudan's supreme interests, its security and stability. — KUNA

Kuwait states support to Green Middle East Initiative: Cabinet

KUWAIT: The Kuwaiti Cabinet affirmed support to the Green Middle East Initiative Summit, held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, and all efforts aiming to ensure sustainable environment. During its weekly meeting, held at Al-Seif Palace on Monday under the chairman of His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, the Cabinet reviewed the setup of the high-level delegation to the summit, led by His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.

The delegation includes Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense, the Minister of Oil, the Minister of Higher Education and the Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs as well as other senior officials from His Highness the Crown Prince's Diwan and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said Minister of Health, Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Sheikh Dr. Basel Al-Sabah. The Cabinet said the State of Kuwait attaches great importance to all aspects of cooperation and integration with sisterly Saudi Arabia particularly in the areas

News in brief

Amir congratulates members

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent yesterday congratulatory cables to MPs after elections of committees memberships. His Highness the Amir wished them success in serving their fellow citizens and country. His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah sent similar cables. — KUNA

COVID-19 level 'low'

WASHINGTON: The US Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) downgraded on Monday Kuwait to 'Level 1: COVID-19 Low'. "Make sure you are fully vaccinated before traveling to Kuwait," the CDC said on its COVID-19 travel recommendations. It added "travelers should follow recommendations or requirements in Kuwait, including wearing a mask and staying six feet apart from others". Meanwhile, the CDC said in its travel guidance "do not travel internationally until you are fully vaccinated". — KUNA