

## Local

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## Security of Kuwait, Gulf region vital to UK's security: Minister

LONDON: Britain confirmed yesterday its commitment to the security of Kuwait and all countries in the Arabian Gulf region, as these are strategic and vital to the UK's security. In an interview, UK Minister of State for the Middle East and North Africa James Cleverly said the government of Prime Minister Boris Johnson is committed to work with its Gulf partners to ensure the security, stability and prosperity of the region.



James Cleverly

The UK and Kuwait stand by each other in defense of their security, he added. Britain and Kuwait have been close partners and friends for decades, as Kuwait is one of the oldest foreign investors in London, he said, adding that after Kuwait's liberation from the invasion, both sides became closer. Cleverly was glad about the return of joint military exercises after the agreement to conduct the Desert Warrior exercise next year. Both countries are also working to develop cooperation in the field of cyber security, he pointed out. The UK always looks to make its relationship with Kuwait more solid in all aspects, especially security and military, as well as in the field of trade, health and education, he explained, saying that the meeting of the joint steering committee held last week was a vital opportunity to push this agenda forward.

Cleverly underlined that his country values the vital role played by Kuwait in the region, especially through mediation and efforts to support regional security and stability. Since Kuwait chaired the 65th International Atomic Energy Agency General Conference, it shows the country is a reliable mediator to resolve international challenges through dialogue, he mentioned. The UK will work with Kuwait to support global peace and security, he underscored. In response to a question about the conflict in Yemen, Cleverly said the issue raises concern to the UK, and they are constantly discussing with all of their international partners in order to end this conflict.

The UK will continue to work with its partners in the region to try to find a peaceful solution to the conflict, he added, calling on the Houthis to deal seriously with negotiations. On the Iranian nuclear file, Cleverly said last week in New York, the UK Foreign Secretary Liz Truss met her Iranian counterpart Hossein Amirabdollahian, on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly. He expressed the UK's readiness to work with Iranians to show them that securing their future does not come from acquiring nuclear weapons, and will deal with them if they show their commitment to peace and non-interference in the internal affairs of countries in the region. — KUNA

## KDIPA takes huge steps to attract technology firms

KUWAIT: The State of Kuwait Direct Investment Promotion Authority (KDIPA) carried out huge steps to attract big technology companies, allowing 42 of them to open offices in the Arab Gulf state including General Electric and Huawei. Technology is a main part of 2035 New Kuwait vision and KDIPA worked on achieving maximum benefits from potential of the Kuwaiti people by using expertise of major companies around the world. Using expertise offered by foreign companies will be an added value for the national economy and thus diversify resources and provide jobs for citizens.

KDIPA, the government's arm responsible for promotion for foreign companies, offered a bundle of incentives like waiving of taxes and giving those firms a priority in government's bids. KDIPA succeeded in attracting more than 42 foreign companies and 11 representative offices were opened in Kuwait. In return, the companies will be offering training opportunities for Kuwaiti citizens regarding use of modern technology and techniques, which would be used in their projects. Huawei Technologies-Kuwait, according to a KDIPA report for fiscal year 2019-20, executed a number of projects with local partners to complete the 5G networks, as well as providing training programs for 51 Kuwaitis who were certified in Information Technology and 5G Application.

General Electric (GE) joined hands with the Ministry of Electricity and Water (MEW) to provide solutions for the comprehensive electronic upgrade of the West Sabbiya power station, the largest in Kuwait. GE provided research opportunities for around 1,143 Kuwaitis over remote control systems, turbines, repair of generators, gas turbines technologies, mechanical systems and project management. EZ energy services, which is responsible for operation and maintenance of Shamal Al-Zour power station, provided training in security and safety for MEW's engineers, a KDIPA report said. Honeywell Kuwait for technical and computer services trained six Kuwaitis on the Process Knowledge System (BKS), an advanced tool for management of operations and assets which help industrial companies boost their profits and productivity. KDIPA approved foreign direct investment with a percentage of 99.6 in services, information systems 37.3 percent, oil and gas with 24.5 percent, and training, health, investment, energy and water with 20.4 percent. — AFP

### Photo of the Day



KUWAIT: Vehicles drive through a dust storm which hit Kuwait yesterday, caused by strong northwesterly winds with speeds reaching up to 60 kilometers per hour. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

# Children, teachers return to on campus school in Kuwait

KUWAIT: Foreign schools in Kuwait resumed on campus learning yesterday after being closed to students since March 2020. All foreign-language schools were allowed to reopen for students on Sept 26, while public and private Arabic schools will reopen on Oct 3. Health protocols will be in place including a maximum capacity for any classroom of 20 students, with students sitting two meters apart and wearing masks.

Meanwhile, the education ministry said yesterday that the teaching and administrative staff at public schools have been complete across Kuwait with the high school staff resuming work for the schooling year 2021-2022 yesterday. The number of teachers at public schools, including the high school stage, topped 16,892, according to a statement from the Ministry of Education. The figure includes 7,882 male teachers and 11,010 females. The staffers of the Capital Educational area is made up of 3,354 teachers, Hawally area 2,353, Farwaniyah 3,408, Al-Ahmadi 4,293, Al-Jahra 2,748 and Mubarak Al-Kabeer 2,203 the statement noted.



KUWAIT: Students arrive to school as in-person classes resumed in Kuwait yesterday. — Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat



## Suicide probe in law firm employee's death

KUWAIT: Police have launched a suicide investigation into a man's death after he allegedly jumped from the window of his office building in Kuwait yesterday. Firemen, paramedics and police had headed to the scene in response to an emergency call reporting that a law office employee jumped from the window of the 12th floor office. The victim, an Egyptian man in his 50s, was pronounced dead on the scene. Further investigations are in progress.

### Injury in fire

A woman was critically injured after jumping from the second floor of a Mahboula building during a fire. Firemen evacuated residents and put out the blaze. A major and a corporal were injured and taken to hospital, Kuwait Fire Force said in a statement. Investigations are underway to determine the cause of the blaze. Meanwhile, a fire broke out at auto repair garages in Jleeb Al-Shuyoukh Saturday night, prompting Jleeb, vocational Ardhiya, Mishref and backup centers to respond. The fire covered an area of 1,000 sq m. It was put out and no injuries were reported. In the meantime, a fire broke out in the kitchen of a Fahad Al-Ahmad house. Mangaf firemen responded and put out the blaze. No injuries were reported.

### Fatal crash

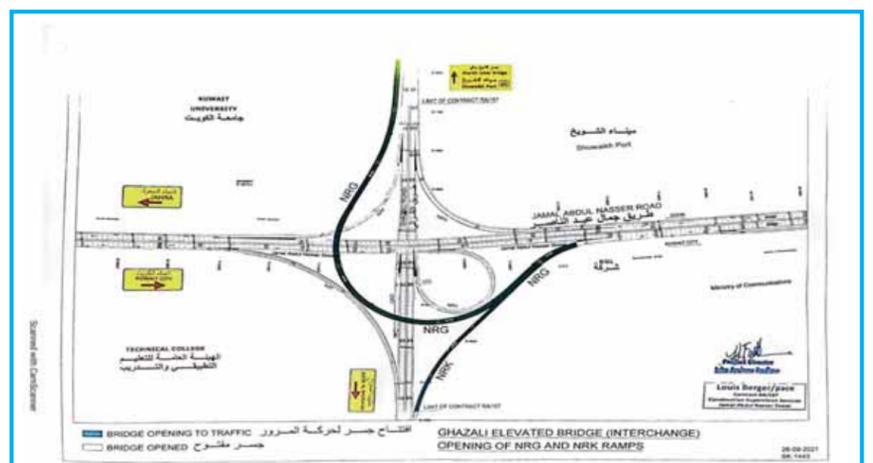
A man died and another was critically injured in a collision between two lorries reported in the early hours of yesterday morning on Road 6.5. Firemen

extricated both the deceased and the injured men from the vehicles and handed them to paramedics, Kuwait Fire Force said. An investigation was opened into the accident.

### Two held with drugs

Police arrested two men with possession of 50 kilograms of synthetic marijuana, 20 grams of hashish and two grams of heroin, the interior ministry announced yesterday. Meanwhile, the ministry

said that Nuwaiseeb customs officers confiscated 1.5 kg of heroin and 5.4 gm of shabu, in addition to 359 cartons of cigarettes, in two different cases yesterday. Customs officers found the heroin and shabu hidden in a truck that arrived at Kuwait via the Nuwaiseeb border. In a separate case, an officer suspected a vehicle on its way out of the country, so he searched it and found 359 cartons of cigarettes. A passenger cannot carry more than two cartons of cigarettes. The cigarettes will be sold in an auction.



KUWAIT: The Public Authority for Roads and Transport said two ramps on Jamal Abdunnasser Street near Ghazali intersection for those coming from Jaber Causeway towards the Capital will open today, as part of a series of openings held in coordination with the interior ministry.