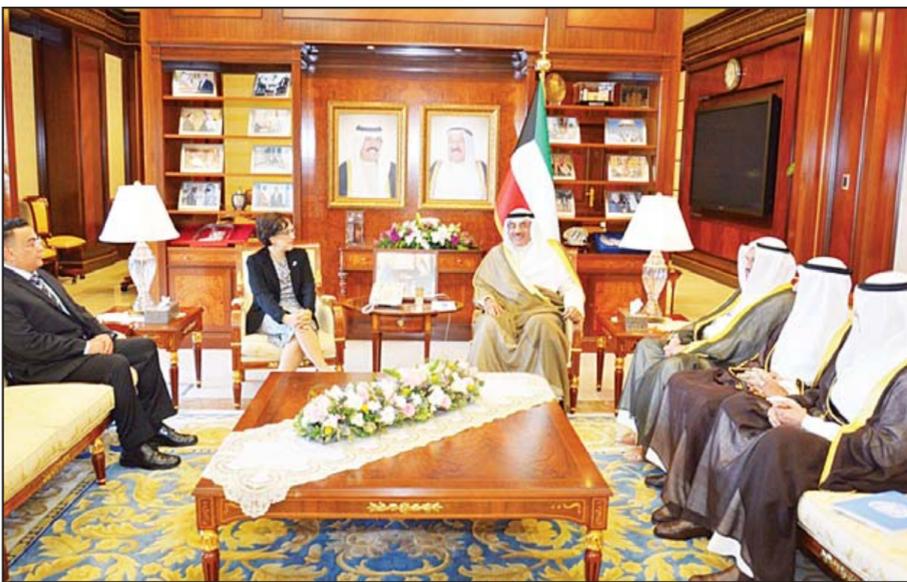


# MoE unveils multi-million dinar program to modernize education

Ministry signs agreement with World Bank



First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah on Monday received the UN Resident Coordinator and the UNDP Resident Representative in Kuwait Zineb Benjelloun. During the meeting, the UN official submitted to Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled her credentials as a Resident Coordinator for the UN in Kuwait. The meeting was attended by Assistant

Foreign Minister for the Minister's Office Ambassador Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Mohammad Al-Sabah, Assistant Foreign Minister for International Organizations Ambassador Jassem Mubarak Al-Mubarak and Deputy Foreign Minister for Protocol Ambassador Dhari Ajran Al-Ajran. (KUNA)

**KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2, (KUNA):** Minister of Education and Minister of Higher Education Dr Bader Al-Issa said Sunday his ministry would complete program that will serve as reference framework for upgrading the educational system.

"The program will enable students to learn easily through utilization of the latest technologies and e-learning," the minister said at a press conference to unveil the program dubbed 'wa entalaqna' (and we set off).

Dr Al-Issa reaffirmed the political leadership's commitment to offering the necessary moral and material support to the modernization of the educational progress.

"The Ministry of Education signed an agreement with the World Bank on the program and made a presentation at the Cabinet with the government members approving the program and setting aside the needed funding.

"Initially, the program cost KD 16 million, but the budget was trimmed down to KD 10.6 million that will be dispensed over five years at a rate of KD 2.120 million a year covering all training courses and consultations," he added.

Meanwhile, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Education Dr Haytham Al-Athari said the program will be implemented in tune with the other projects of the National Center for Education Development (NCED) such as the education for all project which continues through 2030.

For his part, NCED Director Dr Salah Al-Mukhaizeem said the new program includes five aspects.

### Curricula

"These are; first, the upgrading of curricula of all stages by 2019; second, building the capacity of teachers and enhancing the quality of education; third, improving the management of schools; fourth, to adapt the national standards for assessment of the quality of educational infrastructure and output of the process with the international standards; and fifth, the mechanism of implementation of program," he added.

In another development, Assistant Undersecretary of the Ministry of Education for Educational Development and Activities Faisal Al-Maqseed underscored on Monday the necessity to commemorate the martyrs of Kuwait with the coalition countries in appreciation for their sacrifices and to get the young ones acquainted with what they had done for the homeland for Kuwait to remain safe.

Al-Maqseed said, during a ceremony held at Hawa bint Yazeed secondary school for girls in cooperation with the US Embassy here to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the liberation of Kuwait, that this is the third celebration to be held within the celebrations that will extend until the first week of December in different educational districts.

He added that there is a different program every week for each district, adding that next week, a celebration will take place in Jahra Educational district in coordination with the US Embassy.

He said that the ministry has made sure that every ceremonial activity be different from the other to achieve the desired goals through the activities organized by the embassy including health, artistic and military awareness programs to commemorate the silver jubilee of liberation.



Dr Bader Al-Issa



Agility Real Estate officially opened Monday two new industrial facilities at Sulaibiya and Jahra. Top & above: Some photos from the event. Photos by Anwar Daifallah

### Developed in accordance with highest standards

## Agility inaugurates two new industrial facilities

By Iddris Seidu  
Arab Times Staff

**KUWAIT CITY, Nov 2:** Agility Real Estate, a leader in the development and management of industrial real estate in emerging markets, Monday officially inaugurated two new industrial facilities in the Sulaibiya and Jahra areas under the patronage of the Minister of Commerce and Industry, Dr Yousef Mohammed Abdullah Al-Ali.

The Sulaibiya facility includes 54 workshop units while the Jahra facility has 147 units. Both facilities are fully equipped with road networks, pavements, communication framework, electricity, sanitation, fire protection, safety equipment and other utilities. The units are designed with a multi-level functionality to accommodate both industrial activities and mezzanine offices.

"The new facilities highlight Kuwait's strong focus on the country's vital industrial sector," said Tarek Sultan, CEO of Agility, during the inaugural ceremony. "Agility is honored to have the opportunity to collaborate with the Kuwaiti government entities to further its vision of transforming the country into a global financial and trade hub by providing the supporting infrastructure."

Developed in accordance with the highest standards and competitive pricing, the new facilities will cater to the needs of multiple industrial sectors, including small and medium enterprises, manufacturers, specialized craftsmen and other business owners.

These new facilities by Agility Real Estate

in Kuwait are aimed at supporting local industries, encouraging entrepreneurship, providing growth opportunities for small and medium enterprises, and increasing industrial production.

Speaking to the Arab Times on the sidelines of the event, Sultan stated that the opening of the industrial crafts wing of the company is targeted primarily to create business opportunities for the small and medium size market adding that nine out of every ten new jobs in the emerging markets have been created by the SME sector. "This is one of those projects basically designed to encourage investments by small and medium scale enterprises. One of the reasons it's required is because the project is from infrastructure complete, and also from a licensing perspective, it is also fully developed, so an investor, small and medium size customer looking to invest here gets the licensing and all the government permits here done one stop at the same time they invest."

Most of the things that make it difficult for small and medium scale industries to be successful in business relate to government bureaucracy and they are very sensitive and are not able to deal with the bureaucracy actively, so we give them a valuable proposition in a project like this so they are able to be more successful in business."

As to where Agility goes from here, Sultan said they'd like to do more of this project, adding that there are a number of them in the process moving forward and "we need to continue to roll out projects like this in Kuwait".

### News in Brief

**30 yrs of savings needed:** A comparative study on the prices of private housing and the average income of ordinary Kuwaiti family shows the family needs 30 years of savings to purchase or build a house due to incessant prices hike, reports Al-Qabas daily.

A related study indicated the price of an average private house is estimated at KD 424,000 and some 118,000 applicants are currently on the waiting list for housing. It pointed out that an average of 17,500 housing units are needed annually and the price of housing plot has increased over the years by 11 percent.

The study indicated the average monthly income of an ordinary Kuwaiti citizen is KD 3,512 and the cost of housing in Kuwait compared to the annual income is 9.8 percent compared to 5 percent in Britain, 3.2 in the US and 3.2 percent in Switzerland.

**Al-Sabeeh dissolves society:** Minister of Social Affairs and Labor, and State Minister for Planning and Development Hind Al-Sabeeh has decided to dissolve the Kuwaiti Society for Military

Retirees, which was formed by a ministerial decision in 2011, reports Al-Shahed daily.

Through her decision, the minister demanded liquidation of the society's money and identification of the authority to receive this money.

### Names of candidates out soon:

Director General of Public Authority of Applied Education and Training (PAAET) Dr Ahmad Al-Atari said he recently met with Minister of Education Dr Bader Al-Issa to discuss the candidates nominated for three high positions — Deputy Director General for Support Educational Services, Deputy Director for Research, and Deputy Director General for Training Affairs, reports Al-Anba daily.

He indicated that the names of the candidates will be announced within the next few days. Revealing that the budget of PAAET is KD 303 million, Dr Al-Atari lamented that this budget is not enough currently because PAAET has more than 3,000 teaching staff members, 2,000 supervisors and more than 50,000 students.

## Ties based on love and brotherhood: Prince Khalifa Bahrain, Kuwait enjoy 'distinguished' ties

**MANAMA, Nov 2, (KUNA):** Bahraini Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa said Sunday that the Bahrain-Kuwait relations are "distinguished" based on love and brotherhood thanks to the fathers and grandfathers of the two countries.

Prince Khalifa made the statement while receiving Kuwaiti army's Deputy Chief of Staff Sheikh Abdullah Nawaf Al-Sabah and President of National Security Bureau Sheikh

Thamer Ali AlSabah after participating in the Manama Dialogue which concluded today, Bahrain News Agency (BNA) reported.

Prince Khalifa stressed the Kingdom's keenness on bolstering cooperation between the two brotherly countries and opening several fields to meet the aspirations of the two countries and their peoples, BNA said.

He also underlined the importance

of meetings of international and regional senior officials, like the Manama Dialogue, in unifying visions and ideas on the region's security and stability.

On their parts, Sheikh Abdullah and Sheikh Thamer stressed the importance of Prince Khalifa's efforts aiming to boost cooperation between the two countries, lauding bilateral relations under the two leaderships.

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