



KUNA photo

HH the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak chairing the weekly Cabinet meeting on Monday

Govt refuses to pay for 'projects'

MoF expects deficit budget for 2017-'18

KUWAIT CITY, Dec 25: Ministry of Finance is expecting the deficit in the budget for 2017/2018 to reach 4.6 percent without deduction of ten percent for the future generations' fund, reports Al-Rai daily.

This estimation has taken into consideration the possibility for changes in the monthly revenues and the expenditures to reach 100 percent of the estimated amount.

It was also assumed that the deficit will reduce by 28 percent compared to the actual deficit announced by Ministry of Finance at the final accounting of the fiscal year 2016/2017. The then announced deficit was KD 5.9 billion before deduction of ten percent for the new generations fund, and KD 7.2 billion after deducting ten percent.

According to sources, Ministry of Finance has prepared a study based on two scenarios. The first presumes squandering to reach 100 percent of the estimated amount while the second assumes squandering to be 93.5 percent.

Regarding the first scenario, the sources explained that the public revenues are expected to reach KD 15.2 billion and the expenditures KD 19.9 billion. The deficit then will be 4.6 percent before deducting ten percent (KD 1.5 billion) for the new generations' fund. This means the net deficit will be KD 6.1 billion.

As for the second scenario, the revenues are expected to reach KD 15.2 billion and expenditures KD 18.6 billion. The ten percent of the new generations will not change from what was mentioned in the first scenario. However the deficit amount will change to KD 3.3 billion. In this case, the budget deficit will reduce by 77 percent in comparison to the deficit stated in the final accounting of the Financial Department of the state for the fiscal year of 2016/2017.

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The government will not pay national labor allowance for microenterprise projects without the issuance of a relevant decision by the Cabinet and the Civil Service Commission (CSC), reports Aljarida daily quoting informed sources.

They said Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor and the Manpower and Government Restructuring Program (MGRP) will hold a number of meetings to study the new mechanism for issuing work permits to owners of microenterprises.

The sources affirmed that the issuance of work permits does not mean the owners will receive national labor allowance, stressing that not everyone who obtains work permits will receive that allowance.

They said the owners of microenterprises represent a new class that needs to be studied well for at least one year in order to avoid repetition of mistakes related to fake labor file.

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During a recent meeting with local bank officials, the Central Bank of Kuwait issued verbal instructions concerning the mechanism of dealing with its shares in the stock market, reports Al-Seyassah daily quoting sources.

They explained that the instructions included several points, most notably requirement for a certificate of incorporation, and the company's articles of association in terms of buying, selling or disposing the shares.

The Central Bank of Kuwait also required the appointment of all audited entities, in the event they wish to buy, sell or dispose their shares, to submit a request to the Central Bank with information and data indicating the number of shares required for buying or selling as well as to identify and determine the sources of financing for the buying process.

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Minister of Social Affairs and Labor Hind Al-Sabeeh has issued a ministerial resolution to dissolve the Kuwait Culture and Arts Creativity Society for Special Needs, reports Al-Anba daily.

She issued a ministerial decision to officially declare the Kuwait Society for Revelations of Quran and Sunna, which aims to serve Quran, Sunna and its sciences, and facilitate the recitation of Quran for students and the public.

The two decisions will be enforced from the date they are published in the official gazette.

News in Brief

UCLA selects Al-Mukaimi: University of California in Los Angeles (UCLA) has chosen the Kuwaiti academician Dr Hayla Al-Mukaimi as the CEO of the initiative titled "Women in Leadership and Government", reports Al-Qabas daily.

The initiative is aimed at enhancing the political participation of woman, exchange experiences and information among global women leaderships, create a network of relations, and discuss problems and challenges.

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Dr Dana wins ISHA award: Dr Dana Al-Haqan, a pediatrician at the Amiri Hospital is the first doctor in the Middle East to win the Infantile Spasm Heroes Award (ISHA) presented by the American Child Neurology Foundation (ACNF), reports Al-Anba daily.

In an interview, Dr Al-Haqan indicated about the lack of difficulty in receiving treatment for cases of infantile spasms in Kuwait.

She revealed that her ability to diagnose this rare neurological disease qualified her to win the ISHA.

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EPA fixes fee: Director General of Environment Public Authority (EPA) Sheikh Abdullah Al-Hamoud has issued a decision concerning the fee for issuance of certificate of absence of environmental violations records, reports Al-Shahed daily.

According to his decision, the fee has been fixed at KD 500.

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'Kuwait by your side' helps Yemen: The "Kuwait by your side" relief campaign has handed over a power line for a water project in the town of Shibam, Hadramout Governorate, Yemen, after it was constructed. The project will help secure stable supply of drinking water for people in the town, the campaign said in a statement Tuesday.

Up to 60,000 people in the Shibam District will benefit from the project whose total costs hit YER 22 million (\$90,000), the statement quoted the top official of the Authority of Water and Sanitation in Wadi Hadramout.

Caracal deal referred to NAZAHA

Cabinet congratulates Kuwait leadership on New Year

KUWAIT CITY, Dec 25, (KUNA): The Kuwaiti Cabinet has ordered that the Caracal military helicopter deal be taken to National Anti-Corruption Commission (NAZAHA).

The order was given during the Cabinet's customary weekly meeting on Monday, presided over by His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah.

The latest move came following recent instructions by His Highness the Prime Minister sending the dossier to the commission and Kuwait State Audit Bureau (SAB) to check all relevant documents and report to the Cabinet as early as possible.

Also in a local issue, the Cabinet adopted a draft decree appointing new board members of the Central Agency for Public Tenders (CAPT), Deputy Premier and State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Anas Al-Saleh said in a statement following the meeting.

The ministers also congratulated His Highness the Amir, His Highness the Crown Prince and Kuwaiti people on New Year, wishing peace, security and stability worldwide.

The Cabinet further voiced much satisfaction with the participation of Gulf football teams in the Arabian Gulf Cup, better known as Gulf 23, held in Kuwait, and appreciated the great efforts of the organizing committee.

Meanwhile, the Kuwaiti Cabinet sharply deplored a recent planned missile attack by Yemen's Houthi militias on the Saudi capital, Riyadh, as a "heinous aggression" on the kingdom's security and stability.



Some ministers attending the weekly Cabinet meeting on Monday.

Preserve Kuwaiti theater: actress

Comedian slams film producers control

KUWAIT CITY, Dec 25: Comedian Faisal Bu Ghazi expressed displeasure over the control imposed by some producers in the Kuwaiti film industry, reports Al-Anba daily.

Speaking to the daily, Bu Ghazi revealed that some producers bargain on his pay for his participation in their artistic works even though he is classified as "Class A" actor by Ministry of Information.

He said he is often shocked by their bargaining methods which often include threats of looking for other actors if he did

not agree to their terms of payment.

Bu Ghazi indicated that many of these producers obtain a lot of money, reaching almost half million dinars, from Ministry of Information to carry out their works but they end up paying very less to the actors.

He urged Ministry of Information to preserve the rights of Kuwaiti artistes and instruct producers to deal them based on the classifications registered in the ministry.

Meanwhile, actress Haifa Adel recently

stated the importance of preserving the Kuwaiti theater, reports Al-Rai daily.

She desires to establish a museum for artistic frills that were used in the earliest theatrical projects, adding Kuwaiti theater is a source of pride to all citizens.

In another report, actress Maram will soon start filming her new drama series entitled "Al-Khafi A'zam," reports Al-Nahar daily.

Abdullah Al-Saad wrote the script for the drama while the cast includes Ibrahim Al-Harbi, Ali Kakily and Laila Abdullah.

This attack, according to the Cabinet, proves undoubtedly that this group shrugs off all international efforts to put an end to the current conflict in this war-

tom Arab country.

In this context, the Kuwaiti Cabinet reiterated that Kuwait stands by Saudi Arabia in all measures it is taking to main-

tain its security and stability, wishing the kingdom everlasting safety and security under the wise leadership of King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud.

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