



Above: Firefighters battle fires with courage risking their lives to save others.

KUNA photos

'Site supervisors responsible for most fire incidents'



A firefighter seen battling a huge fire.



Ahmadi Governor Sheikh Fawaz with the delegation members of Kuwait Union of Consumer Cooperative Societies.

Ahmadi governor receives KUCCS team

Ahmadi Governor Sheikh Fawaz Khalid Al-Hamad Al-Sabah recently received in his office a delegation from Kuwait Union of Consumer Cooperative Societies (KUCCS), led by its Deputy Board Chairman Khalid Al-Otaibi.

The visiting delegation also included some board members such as Chairman of Public Relations and Media Committee Saud Al-Herfan, and Chairman of Administrative and Financial Committee

Salem Ozam.

The governor welcomed his guests and exchanged pleasantries with them. He affirmed that consumer cooperative societies are active locally, regionally and internationally, highlighting the active roles of the cooperative societies and the excellent involvement of Ahmadi Governorate through synergy formed to carry out several programs and activities in favor of consumers within the region.

MoH to review programs & strategies in line with 2030 Vision, SDGs: official

KUWAIT CITY, July 29, (KUNA): A senior official has referred to an "orientation" to review, and modernize the national health strategies and programs in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Vision.

The third of the 17 SDGs is mainly on health, and the other 16 ones cover several relevant challenges, the Ministry of Health Assistant Undersecretary for Technical Affairs Walid Al-Falah explained in a press release on Saturday.

In 2015, the world adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 SDGs.

The 3rd SDG provides for "ensuring healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages." The "goals within a goal" seek by 2030 to reduce global maternal mortal-

ity; end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5; end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combating hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable ones; reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being, in addition to some others.

According to Al-Falah, realizing full health care coverage and applying all the international conventions for combating tobacco, pollution of the environment and climate change are major challenges facing the health systems worldwide.

It is necessary the health programs should focus on awareness to encourage people to lead healthy lifestyle and behavior.

'KFSD taking 'necessary measures' against anyone causing fires'

KUWAIT CITY, July 29, (KUNA): Supervisors of sites under constructions are responsible for most of fire incidents erupted in those sites in Kuwait, Kuwait's top fireman said.

But Kuwait Fire Service Directorate "does not cover on arson and is ready to take necessary measures against anyone trying to mess with security of the country, safety of people and properties," General Khaled Al-Mekrad, KFSD Director General, said.

He underlined that KFSD "is acting in a transparent manner ... and is not ready to cover on any person." Al-Mekrad, in an interview with KUNA, said KFSD was taking "necessary measures" against anyone causing the fires "regardless of that person's identity."

The fire directorate, he added, revealed the "real causes" of every fire in its report, which is "supported by evidence like photos and samples and testimonies of eyewitnesses."

The reports, which he said were produced "without any pressure," were published in collaboration with the Ministry of Interior's Criminal Evidence Department.

Al-Mekrad said the number of deliberate fires in 2016 reached 409.

Al-Mekrad attributed most of fire incidents in buildings under construction to the way the iron was cut inside the site, causing sparks to start fire when they land on woods.

This same reason caused the fire incidents in Sabah Al-Salem University City, Kuwait Credit Bank under construction building and another tower site in Sharq, downtown, he said.

Al-Mekrad said workers should not cut the iron inside the project. But if they want to, he added, they should make sure the sparks would not reach the huge amount of woods used in the project.

The garages fire in the Sharq Industrial area was due to an electrical short circuit in one of the garages' air condition unit, Al-Mekrad mentioned, adding that the area's poor organizational structure has delayed the arrival of firefighting squads on time thus allowed the fire to expand further and become difficult to deal with.

"I have urged for removal of this poor area due to its sensitive location in the capital's center, posing a major risk on the safety of buildings and people," he said, stressing the importance of building an appropriate and special area for car garages.

Meanwhile, Al-Mekrad affirmed that KFSD performs its tasks to the fullest, including search operations, which covered 13,991 facilities, current and under construction, and storages in 2016.

Some 655 were referred to prosecution due to severe violations, prompting suspension of their files and transactions, he said, adding that around 21 facilities so far have been closed down in 2017, including storages, warehouses, companies, hotels, medical clinics, factories, and cellars.

Al-Mekrad also praised a num-

ber of state sectors, including Kuwait Municipality, Environment Public Authority, Public Authority for Industry, Public Authority of Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources, Environment Police, and Removals Committee for their cooperation with KFSD in closing down some facilities that were not committed to precautionary requirements.

"Right now, we are working on removing severe and hazardous violations in Industrial Sulabiya area that pose great danger on the safety of the society," he noted.

He noted the great efforts exerted by the directorate's media and press department in promoting awareness campaigns.

Non-commitment to safety standards and requirements is actually a problem, Al-Mekrad said, noting that the directorate has voiced strong messages that stressed the importance of having fire extinguishers inside houses.

He also expressed his discontent with the current punishments in the Fire Law, adding that the Directorate is currently working to draft a new law that would increase financial and transactional punishments.



Al-Mekrad

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News in Brief

Amir congratulates Peru: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent Friday a cable to President of Peru Pedro Pablo Kuczynski, congratulating him on his country's National Day.

His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah sent similar cables.

Meanwhile, National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanim sent a cable Friday to President of the Congress of Peru Luz Salgado, congratulating her on her country's National Day. (KUNA)

Kuwait gets 1st CBRN centre: Saab in collaboration with its Kuwaiti partner Bader Sultan & Bros, delivered the world's first integrated national CBRN (Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear) centre, which is now operational in Kuwait, reports Defense World.

It is the first centre to cover a whole country with fixed and mobile CBRN sensors and units, whilst also providing a

unique capability for simulated training, the press release states.

During 2015, Saab delivered the AWR (Automatic Warning and Reporting) system for the Kuwait National Guard. AWR is a flexible, modular and future-proof solution for the detection, identification, warning, monitoring and reporting of CBRN hazards. The system can be operated from fixed locations and carried by personnel or mounted on vehicles. It helps the operator to make fast and accurate decisions to limit the effects of a CBRN attack and it is a key part of the national CBRN centre.

This CBRN centre in Kuwait strengthens our position as a supplier of advanced CBRN solutions. Our ability to take the prime contractor role for this ground-breaking CBRN solution is built on deep expertise and innovations in CBRN technology. It also derives from our detailed knowledge of C4I Command, Control, Communications, Computers, and Intelligence systems as well as systems and platform integration, says Torsten Ohman, acting Head of Business area Support and Services within Saab. defenseworld.net.