



Left: His Highness the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince with Sheikh Salem Abdulaziz and right: with Majid Bin Ajmi Al-Dowais and his sons at Seif Palace.

KUNA photos

Audience of His Highness Deputy Amir and Crown Prince

His Highness the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received on Monday at Seif Palace, Sheikh Salem Abdulaziz Al-Saud Al-Sabah.

also received head of the National Security Bureau Sheikh Thamer Ali Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah His Highness the Deputy Amir later received Majed Bin Ajmi Al-Dowais and his sons. Director of protocols and cere-

monials at His Highness' Diwan Sheikh Mubarak Sabah Al-Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah attended the meeting.

His Highness the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah

also received on Monday at Seif Palace, Chairman of Kuwait's Supreme Judicial Council and the Cassation Court, and President of the Constitutional Court, Justice Yousef Jassem Al-Mutawaa. (KUNA)

Public sector engine of economic growth in GCC countries: minister

'Govt sector accounts for 70 pc of GDP'



Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs and Acting Minister of Information Sheikh Mohammad Al-Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah during the first forum of consulting services for government projects.

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 18, (KUNA): Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Sheikh Mohammad Al-Abdullah Al-Sabah said Sunday the government sector is the driving force fueling economic growth in the member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

"The government sector accounts for more than 70 percent of the aggregate GDP of the GCC countries," he said in his inaugural speech to the first forum of consultancy services for government projects.

Sheikh Mohammad Al-Abdullah who doubles as Acting Minister of Information addressed the gathering on behalf of His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Mubarak Al-Jaber Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, the sponsor of the event.

Sector

The forum is being held under the slogan of "towards professionalism and transparency in consultancy services." "The private sector usually eyes funding from states in order to boom; this is the case not only in Kuwait or other GCC states, but in all countries as well," the minister pointed out.

He voiced hope that the gathering will shed light on shortcomings and help enhance transparency and good-governance in the state-funded projects.

Sheikh Mohammad Al-Abdullah noted that the Kuwaiti government made headway in cutting the red tape in several departments through leveraging the e-government system in order to facilitate the transactions of citizens and foreign residents.

He praised the achievements made by the Ministry of Commerce and Finance and the Municipality in this connection.

He highlighted the role of consultancy firms in the development projects since the beginning of a projects, voicing hope that the forum will be held on an annual basis.

The three-day forum, organized by NoufExpo, gathered representatives of 18 consultancy providers and government agencies from Kuwait and other countries in the region.



His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah with Sheikh Tamer Ali Sabah Al-Salem al-Sabah.



HH the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince receives Justice Yousef Jassem Al-Mutawaa at Seif Palace.

MoE building in S. Surra ready

50 pct of work at new Ghazali bridge completed: Bu Dastour

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 18: Engineer for Jahra Road Development Project at the Ministry of Public Works Yasser Bu Dastour disclosed that 50 percent of the work at the new Ghazali Bridge is finished, reports Al-Anba daily.

Bu Dastour pointed out that Ghazali Bridge project is part of the three mammoth projects, which also include Jamal Abdunnasser Road and Sheikh Jaber Causeway.

He added the ongoing work on the main Ghazali Bridge extends 750 kms to bridge K that connects Jahra Bridge toward the south by 1,500 kms. He pointed out that work at the bridge will be executed by November 2018.

Meanwhile, assistant undersecretary for Road Engineering in the Ministry of

Public Works Ahmed Al-Hassan stated 41 percent of road and bridge construction and maintenance activities on the First Ring Road have been accomplished.

He pointed out that the project covers the establishment of three zebra crossings, five motor bridges, 3 pedestrian bridges and 3 tunnels. It also includes the establishment and renewal of telephone network, water, electricity, sewage and rainwater networks, restoration of street lights and traffic lights.

Meanwhile, Department of Reconstruction Projects at the Ministry of Public Works disclosed the new Ministry of Education building located at the ministries complex in south Surra is ready.

A statement by the Ministry of Public Works indicated a technical committee chaired by Engineer Ja'afar Al-Qattan and with membership of five engineers took delivery of the building. The committee is authorized to seek the help of specialists to fulfill its task effectively, statement added.



Bu Dastour



Photo from the recently held orientation meet

Public health faculty at KU holds orientation meet

Faculty of Public Health of Kuwait University recently organized an orientation meeting for the first batch of students in the presence of Vice-President for Health Sciences at Kuwait University Prof Adel Al-Awadhi and his predecessor Prof Basil Al-Naqeeb along with Assistant Undersecretary for Public Health Affairs at Ministry of Health Dr Majda Al-Qattan and official spokesperson of the ministry Dr Ahmad Al-Shatti.

Prof Al-Awadhi said the inauguration of the faculty was based

on the culmination of great efforts exerted in this regard since the issuance of the Amiri Decree in December 2013, especially with the urgent need for specialists in the field of public health.

The former vice-president for Health Sciences Prof Al-Naqeeb said the students of the faculty will be the driving force for changes that will affect education, training and practice in public health, urging them to discover the human dimension of this noble profession.

Dr Al-Qattan expressed her

pleasure in the realization of the dream related to establishment of the Faculty of Public Health and pride in selecting students for this important field which is one among the top priorities in the agenda of the World Health Organization (WHO) and other international organizations.

In addition, Dr Ahmad Al-Shatti urged the students and their parents not to worry about their careers, as there will be about 400 job opportunities for them in the next five years in Ministry of Health.

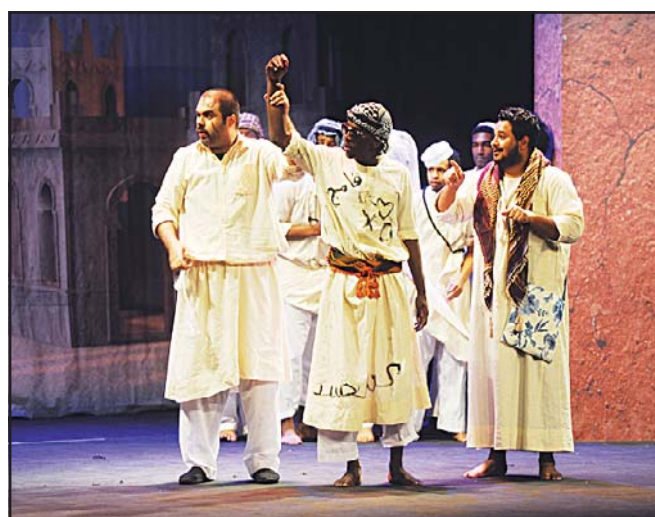
'Fingerprint attendance compulsory'

KUWAIT CITY, Sept 18: Secretary-General of the Manpower and Government Restructuring Program (MGRP) and State Executive System Fawzi Al-Majdali issued an administrative circular to all employees on the need to register their attendance through the fingerprint system irrespective of their positions or period of service, reports Al-Anba daily.

The cancellation of fingerprint attendance system exemption for any employee is based on Civil Service Commission (CSC) Decision No. 8/2017 which stipulates it is not allowed to cancel the fingerprint attendance system

in any governmental entity. The circular pointed out that exemption from the fingerprint attendance system is only for employees with severe or medium mental disability, but these employees should submit a certificate from the Public Authority for Handicapped Affairs stating their inability to register attendance through fingerprint.

The circular also stressed the need for employees exempted from the fingerprint attendance system to be committed to the official working hours, indicating the fingerprint attendance system will be applied on all employees starting from October.



A scene from the theater show (Naheeq Al-Aswad) presented by the Kuwaiti Theater Ensemble during the 'Comedy Nights' festival at Dasma Theater.

News in Brief

Chemists banned from vet shops:

The Veterinary Medicine Licensing Committee at the Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources (PAAAFR) prohibits pharmacists from working in stores selling veterinary medicines, reports Al-Anba daily quoting sources.

Sources disclosed the PAAAFR has asked the Ministry of Health not to issue licenses for pharmacists to work in stores selling veterinary medicines according to the authority's regulations.

Sources explained the Veterinary Medicine Licensing Committee issued this directive in its recently-concluded meeting, affirming the directive is applied on all concerned authorities in the State.

Moqames regional director:

Loay Fadel Moqames has been appointed as Regional Director of Doha Qatari Bank - Kuwait Branch, replacing Ahmad Yousif Al-Mohaz'a who resigned for personal reasons, reports Al-Rai daily.

Moqames has long experience in the banking field as he worked in various local banks for more than 22 years, the latest of which was at the International Bank as CEO - a post he left in June.

He worked in Gulf Bank in 1989 after graduating from Kuwait University. He occupied various positions until he was appointed as Director of Credit and Saving Bank (CSB) and then he moved to Commercial Bank with the same position before being appointed as Director

General.

100 Kuwaitis for retirement: The Ministry of Public Works (MPW) will soon refer the second batch of employees - around 100 Kuwaitis and non-Kuwaitis - for retirement as they have been in service for 32 years, reports Al-Anba daily quoting a reliable source.

According to the source, this step will be taken by the end of the year in coordination with the Civil Service Commission (CSC) as per the decision of the Cabinet on the compulsory retirement of public sector employees who have been in service for more than 30 years.

On the other hand, the source affirmed that the ministry will disburse about KD 7 billion for the implementation of 80 road projects included in the development plan until 2023.

Program for students ends:

The College of Computer Science and Engineering at Kuwait University celebrated the conclusion of the career development program for students which was organized with the cooperation of the International Turnkey Systems (ITS Group).

The program was held at the company's headquarters in the presence of several officials from the college particularly the charge d' affaires of the college Dr Mustafa Abdul-Bar and representatives of the company led by the ITS Operations Manager Muawiya Abuljabeen.