

'No authority over judge in courtroom'

Kuwait Constitution guarantees judiciary independence: Al-Afasi

MARRAKECH, Morocco, April 2, (KUNA): Kuwait Minister of Justice Fahad Al-Afasi said Monday Constitution of Kuwait guaranteed independence of judiciary, which was the guardian of rights and freedoms.

Al-Afasi, also Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, said constitution was providing guarantees for judges to carry out their role "in an independent manner and away from any influence of guidance." He was speaking before an international

conference on Justice, which featured ministers, chief justices, prosecutors and legal experts from 80 Arab and Western countries. The Constitution of Kuwait, he added, affirmed "there is no authority over the judge in the courtroom

and the interference in judicial process is forbidden." Al-Afasi said the constitution also stipulated establishment of the supreme judicial council, which enforces independence of judiciary. This council, he added, was tasked

with appointing the judges and public prosecutors. Al-Afasi meanwhile highlighted importance of the conference to promoting dialogue over the independence and development of judicial systems, in a way that secured rights

and freedoms of societies. Moroccan Minister of Justice Mohammed Aujjar said many countries around the world were reviewing their judicial systems in order to strengthen role of judiciary and ensure fair trials.



KUNA photo
President of the Comoros Azali Assoumani receives Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah.



Dr Hussein Ahmad Al-Ansari poses with team of inventors from Computer Engineering Department.

KU president meets team of inventors

Kuwait University President Dr Hussein Ahmad Al-Ansari met in his office a team of inventors from the Computer Engineering Department, consisting of Professor Imtiaz Ahmad, Dr Muhammad Al-Failakawi and post graduate student Areej Hilmi Hamouda.

The team received patent for the 'Odd/Even Invert coding for phase change memory with thermal cross-talk' which re-codes data based on selective inversion of even and/or odd bits to find minimum cost write operation that shall enhance cell lifetime.

Explaining the invention, Ahmad said the invention came as a solu-

tion to one of the key challenges of phase-change memory (PCM) which has limited number of writes that can be performed on memory cells, also known as 'write endurance'.

The invention is related to cloud based services which require a colossal amount of memory in order to achieve the objectives.

On behalf of Kuwait University, Al-Ansari congratulated the team and expressed his pride and appreciation for this achievement. He urged the team to continue working towards more achievements in their respective fields and register additional intellectual patents in the future.

To last 40 days outside working hours

MoE announces overtime assignment to its workers

KUWAIT CITY, April 2: Undersecretary of Ministry of Education Dr Haitham Al-Atari has announced the assignment of overtime duties to the employees at the headquarters of the ministry, educational zones and central administrations, reports Al-Rai daily.

He explained that this period of overtime will last for 40 days, and will be carried out outside the official working hours. They will work after the end of the regular working hours as well as during weekends and holidays.

As per the criteria of the assignment, the concerned employee will receive full salary of one day every time the overtime period extends beyond two hours. If the task lasts for one hour, the employee receives half of the one-day salary. If the task takes less than one hour, the employee will not receive any remuneration.

Dr Al-Atari decided to assign about



Al-Atari

134 vacancies created by 90 Kuwaiti retirees

'Subsidies to holders of in-house business will be paid by May '18'

By Raed Youssef Al-Seyassah Staff

KUWAIT CITY, April 2: Rapporteur of parliament's committee for improving business environment MP Youssef Al-Fadhala affirmed that national labor subsidies will be paid to holders of in-house business licenses maximum by May 2018.

In a press release, Al-Fadhala indicated about a request to be referred to the parliament soon for allocation of a committee to study the allotment of ten percent of the governmental contracts to small and medium enterprises.

Meanwhile, the Parliament's Budgets and Final Accounts Committee held a meeting in the presence of Minister of Commerce and Industry Khalid Al-Rawdhan during which they discussed the project of the subsidy of Public Authority of Industry for the 2018/2019 fiscal year, the final counting of the 2016/2017 fiscal year and the observations of State Audit Bureau and other financial monitoring systems.

According to Rapporteur of the committee MP Adnan Abdulsamad, Minister Al-Rawdhan informed the committee about 134 vacancies that resulted from the retirement of more than 90 Kuwaiti employees. He affirmed that these vacancies will be filled soon.

The minister said the consultative contracts included in the new budget draft does not include the jobs that can be filled by national employees, and that they are limited to specializations for which there is a lack of qualified Kuwaiti employees.

He said the observations related to constructive projects of Public Authority of Industry have been dealt with including following up the construction of Shaddadiya Industrial City. Its infrastructure will be handed over in October 2018 and the project as a whole will be handed over in 2019. The project will help reduce the waiting list with more than 3,000 requests from applicants who are demanding for industrial plots.

Abdulsamad highlighted the signing of an agreement with the National Fund for Development of Small and Medium Enterprises for coordinate with the Public Authority of Industry to distribute industrial plots.

He affirmed that the committee stressed the importance of using the profits worth KD 174 million obtained by Public Authority of Industry in terms of developing the present and future industrial cities, adding that many of the state bodies do not invest their profits for enhancing their operational activities but they invest them in the form of bank deposits or securities.

List of prisoners who will be granted 'amnesty' submitted to Amiri Diwan

Need to specify 20 or 25 years as life imprisonment: MP

By Abubakar A. Ibrahim Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, April 2: The Public Prosecution on Sunday informed the parliamentary Human Rights Committee that the list of prisoners who will be granted Amiri amnesty has been submitted to the Amiri Diwan, says committee member of the MP Jamaan Al-Harbash.

Al-Harbash hopes the Amiri Diwan will take a decision immediately in order to address overcrowding in prisons, adding that the amnesty for prisoners includes immediate release and reduction of sentence.

He pointed out the Ministry of Interior's problem lies in financial management, especially after being embroiled in questionable hospitality expenditures.

He said the proposed alternative punishments for those involved in minor offenses are being implemented in other countries, so he hopes to see the same in the country. He revealed the committee thinks there is a need to specify 20 or 25 years as life imprisonment.

He continued to say that the State security cases are related to organized crimes such as bombings and the like; yet the opinion cases including blogging have been categorized as State security cases which should be covered by amnesty rules.

Meanwhile, the Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee has rejected a request to lift the immunity of MPs Hamad Saif Al-Harashani and Al-Harbash.

Committee Chairman MP Al-Humaidi Al-Subaia disclosed that they also tackled minor amendments to the General Investigation Department Law and he expects the panel to approve the proposal in the next meeting.

He added the committee agreed to postpone finalizing amendments to the Penal Code until its next meeting.

On another issue, MP Mohammed Hayef submitted questions to Finance Minister Nayef Al-Hajraf about the appointment of the board of directors of Kuwait Airways Corporation (KAC).

He cited Law No. 6/2008, stating that KAC was converted into a joint stock company with all the material and moral assets and liabilities owned by the corporation. Article 10 of the law stipulates that KAC should have a board of directors with seven members.

He wants to know the criteria for choosing the board members, names of the current members, their academic qualifications, experience, complaints about the formation of the board if any, and other related information.

'Wathaker Center' had no permission

By Abdulrahman Al-Shammari Al-Seyassah Staff

KUWAIT CITY, April 2: Minister of Public Works and State Minister for Municipality Affairs Hussam Al-Roumi declared that the "Wathaker Center" did not obtain any official permit to erect signposts and billboards, and that the municipality did not register any violations against those signposts and billboards as a way of upholding the national unity.

Al-Roumi declared this in a response to a parliamentary question raised by MP Khalil Al-Saleh.

He explained that the monitoring officials of Kuwait Municipality had once issued an arrest warrant over the violating billboard erected on the "Wathaker Center" building in Salmiya area.

The officials contacted Ministry of Electricity and Water to disconnect power from the violating part of the building.



Photos from the training workshop

Faculty of Allied Health Sciences at KU hold workshop

The Faculty of Allied Health Sciences and Public Relations and Media Department at Kuwait University, in cooperation with Gulf CPR Training Institute (GTI) — 'Gulf Training Institute for Saving Lives', organized a training workshop on dealing with a person experiencing a heart attack.

Director of Gulf CPR, coordinator of training programs in Kuwait

Heart Association and consultant at the pediatric intensive care unit in Sabah Hospital Dr Najeeb Al-Othman explained the workshop is part of the celebration of the 'Month of Life' (March) as per the American Heart Association (AHA) in the Middle East.

Al-Othman indicated that the institute embarked on a training mis-

sion for various social groups and it trained more than 4,000 people who participated in the workshop last month.

The objective of the workshop was to raise awareness on health culture in the society through first aid which includes cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) for those having a heart attack.




FIRST TIME IN KUWAIT



UP TO 24 MONTHS



- Credit facility for individuals and B2B.
- Credit facility from 250 KD to 15,000 KD.
- Q-Credit offers best customer service.

In Cooperation with:  **Block 1, Street 6, Plot 40, Next to City Centre Shuwaikh** **2206 7777** www.alyaqout.com 