

LOCAL



Top & above: Some photos from the weekly Cabinet meeting.

Photos from PM's Diwan



Kuwaiti officials handing over four water desalination units to Iraqi Ministry of Water Resources. KUNA photo

Info Ministry issues 'clarification' regarding delay in releasing book

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 13: The Ministry of Information has issued a clarification regarding the delay in releasing the book written by Ahmad Al-Sarraf for publication, reports Al-Qabas daily.

The daily quoting sources from the ministry said the issue is under study and will be cleared for publication after some taking into account some minor observations that have been made by the censors.

The sources added the cover of the book bears a crucifix and said it was necessary to ascertain if it was appropriate for the crucifix to appear on the cover taking into account the sentiments of the Christians.

The sources pointed out, the role of the censorship department is to prevent prejudice to religions and Christianity is not an exception with due respect to the Christian community living in Kuwait. The sources added the book will be released for publication after some amendment is made to the

observation.

In this context, the intransigence by the Ministry of Information concerning the writer's book has provoked angry reactions from MPs, intellectuals, thinkers and academics, noting that the product of minds should be taken care of and not suppressed.

They demanded a serious response to what is happening - the censors stifling with the freedom of expression.

MP Ahmad Al-Fadhel has raised the issue of preventing the book of Al-Sarraf, asserting that the book lies in the drawers of department for more than two months under the pretext the cover contains a picture of a cross. He called it a violation of the Kuwaiti Constitution. Al-Fadhel has called on the Minister of Information Mohammed Al-Jabri to release the book and get rid of what he called 'empty brains', saying this portrays Kuwait in a different direction.

Kuwait's Cabinet touts anti-corruption efforts

'Health relief for expatriates soon'

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 13, (KUNA): The Cabinet on Monday lauded the efforts of concerned state agencies to wipe out corruption and to bring those involved in corruption cases to book.

The efforts clearly reflect the government's keenness on monitoring cases of public funds and taking all possible measures in this regard before reporting to the National Assembly, Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah said in a statement following a weekly Cabinet meeting.

This came following a briefing by Minister of Justice and Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Fahad Al-Afasi, who doubles as head of a committee charged with following up cases of public funds.

At the onset of the meeting, the ministers congratulated His Highness the Amir, His Highness the Crown Prince, Kuwaiti people and residents on the occasion of the approaching Eid Al-Adha (Greater Bairam).

The Cabinet then reviewed a recommendation by the public service committee to provide services to Wafra residential area, along with relevant procedures jointly taken by the Public Authority for Housing Welfare and other concerned agencies, said Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled, who doubles as Acting Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs.

The Ministry of Education was instructed to provide the required school facilities to the area for the 2019-2020 academic year.

Furthermore, Minister of Social Affairs and Minister of State for Economic Affairs Hind Al-Sabeeh expounded on the findings of the first quarter of the government's annual plan 2018-2019, involving development projects and challenges addressed during the period.

Afterwards, Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah briefed the ministers on the outcomes of a recent visit to Kuwait by Director-General of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) William Lacy Swing, together with the talks he had with Kuwaiti officials about Kuwait-IOM cooperation and regional and international developments.

Meanwhile, the Cabinet on Monday condemned the recent launching by Yemeni Houthi militias of ballistic missiles towards residential areas in Saudi Arabia.

It said in a statement following its customary weekly meeting that Kuwait stands by Saudi Arabia and supports all measures it is taking in a bid to maintain its security and stability and to repulse such terrorist acts aiming at destabilizing the kingdom.

Meanwhile, the Kuwaiti Cabinet lauded Egyptian security forces for succeeding in aborting a recent suicide attack on a Cairo church.

In this context, the Cabinet reaffirmed Kuwait's stance based on deprecating such terrorist acts that breach all heavenly religions and humanitarian values and norms.

A recent terrorist bomb explosion targeting a Jordanian police patrol in Amman, which left one policeman dead and several others personnel injured, was also denounced during the weekly cabinet meeting.

The official spokesperson of the Ministry of Health and Director of Vocational Health Department Dr Ahmad Al-Shatti disclosed that expatriates will soon have health relief, which will include the provision of healthcare services at moderate prices to ensure a balance between insurance coverage and healthcare service charges, because the state can feel their sufferings.

Dr Al-Shatti declared that Al-Dhaman Hospitals will be ready to offer



British Ambassador to Kuwait Michael Davenport visited Al-Roudhan Diwan on Monday. Above some photos.

services at the primary health centers by next year, and services will be offered directly in 2020 with the support of existing hospitals.

Talking about the right time for inaugurating Jaber and Jahra hospitals, Al-Shatti said the people of Kuwait have been asking the same question even though he doesn't have an answer to it. He noted Jaber Hospital has 1,200 bed-space and needs 20,000 workers but Civil Service Commission (CSC) has yet to create those vacancies based on government's policy. He indicated the Council of Ministers has directed the Ministry of Health to liaise with the Ministry of Finance and Civil Service Commission (CSC) to create vacancies.

He stressed "it is wise to operate by applying the international standard of soft opening under intense pressure from citizens and government. I don't rule out the possibility of engaging external agencies to manage it during the transition period and later return it to the local authorities, although the experience about foreign management is unpleasant and I am personally against it," he added.

Al-Shatti disclosed receiving 28,000 applications concerning allowances and overtime and shifts for the doctors and supervisory employees and job titles to be discussed with Civil Service Commission (CSC). He indicated support for the requests of doctors to receive allowances, and

congratulated the doctors having court decisions issued in their favor.

Al-Shatti said the State Audit Bureau (SAB) is reviewing overseas treatment and medical-related issues in general, and in case of suspicion, the available information will be referred to Anti-Corruption Public Authority or the Public Prosecution. He believes that a number of senior officials and ministers follow the same policy for the same reason. Addressing the MPs and bloggers, Al-Shatti said, "You represent the utmost democratic experience, which makes it necessary for you to prioritize public interests rather than personal gain." He also urged them to abide by law to promote national development.

Kuwait Today

Prayer Timings

Fajr	03:50
Sunrise	05:15
Zohr	11:53
Asr	15:28
Maghrib	18:30
Isha	19:53

Weather

Expected weather for the next 24 hours:
By Night: Relatively hot with light to moderate freshening over coastal areas north westerly wind, with speed of 12-40 km/h.

By Day: Hot with moderate to fresh north westerly wind, with speed of 20-60 km/h causing rising dust.

Station	Max Exp	Min Rec
Kuwait City	46	35
Kuwait Airport	46	35
Abdaly	47	34
Bubayan	-	-
Jahra	47	37
Falaka Island	45	32
Salmyyah	44	34
Ahmadi	44	36
Nuwaisib	46	33
Wafra	46	33
Salmy	45	28

4 days forecast - Weather

Tuesday, August 14, 2018
Expected weather.....Hot
Max Temp.....46C
Min Temp.....32C
Wind Direction.....NW
Wind Speed.....15-38 km/h

Wednesday, August 15, 2018
Expected weather.....Hot
Max Temp.....45C
Min Temp.....31C
Wind Direction.....NW
Wind Speed.....15-35 km/h

Thursday, August 16, 2018
Expected weather.....Hot and some high clouds will appear
Max Temp.....46C
Min Temp.....32C
Wind Direction.....NW
Wind Speed.....15-38 km/h

Friday, August 17, 2018
Expected weather.....Very hot & some high clouds will appear
Max Temp.....47C
Min Temp.....33C
Wind Direction.....NW
Wind Speed.....12-35 km/h

Marine Forecast

Station	Max Rec	Min Exp	Sea Surf	Today's Waves	Ht	Dirn
South Dolphin	41	32	-	7ft	SE	SE
Umm Madiyah	-	-	-	7ft	SE	SE
Beacon M28	-	-	-	7ft	SE	SE
Beacon N6	44	32	-	7ft	SE	SE
Qaruh Island	39	34	-	7ft	SE	SE

Umm Al-Maradim	39	34	-	7ft	SE
Sea Island Buo	-	-	-	-	-
Salmyyah	44	34	-	7ft	SE

4 days forecast - Marine

Tuesday, August 14, 2018
Expected weather.....Hot
Sea state.....Slight to moderate
Wave height.....2-5 ft
Max Temp.....46C
Min Temp.....32C
Wind Direction.....NW
Wind Speed.....15-38 km/h

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Expected weather.....Hot
Sea state.....Slight to moderate
Wave height.....2-5 ft
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Tide times at Shuwaikh Port

1st high tide:	11:34
2nd high tide:	02:09
1st low tide:	07:03
2nd low tide:	19:54
Sunrise:	05:15
Sunset:	18:31

Recorded yesterday at Kuwait Airport

Max temp	47C
Min temp	31C
Max Rh	25%
Min Rh	08%
Max Wind	N 57 km/h
Total Rainfall in 24 hrs	00 mm

Recorded yesterday at South Dolphin

Min/Max/ Air Temp	32/41C
Min/Max Rel Hum	21/53%
Wind Direction/Wind Speed	N/45 km/h
Prev Wave Dir/Max Wave Ht	-/N ft
Min/Max Sea Surface Temp	-/- C
Sea Current	Upwelling

— Directorate General of Civil Aviation, Meteorological Dept.

deaths

Al Sheikhha Fareeha Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al Sabah, 74 years old, to be buried on Tuesday at 9:00 am. Condolences : (Men) Bayan Palace, Diwan Family of Al Sabah Tel. 25398888 (Women) (Condolences for three days) Dasman Palace Tel. 22432001. **Sabriya Jaber Bandar Al Saqer**, widow of Ali Ahmad Al Qandi, 77 years old, buried on Monday. Condolences : (Men) Faiha, Block 6, Street 66, House 3, Tel. 66254777 (Women) Aidaliya, block 2, Street 22, House 10, Tel. 22523587. **Awath Bin Saif Al Ethaila**, 76 years old, buried on Monday. Condolences: Saad Al Abdullah area, Block 10, Street 52, House 2 Tel. 99664765- 66655191. **Safeya Abdul Reda Mohammad**, 83 years old, buried on Monday. Condolences: (Men) Sabah Al Salem, Block 4, Street 25, House 7, Tel. 99896886-99608885 (Women) Abdullah Al Mubarak, West Al Jaleeb, Block 1, Street 140, House 10, Tel. 99673528.

Aug 13, 2018