

LOCAL

Implementation of 'e-passports' in final stages, says Al-Bahwah

'1.29 million docs have been issued'



Kuwait witnessed widespread dust causing poor visibility on the roads on Monday, Aug 13. People having respiratory problems were advised to stay indoors. Traffic on the roads was scarce as people preferred to hold up their daily chores for another day. Photo by Rizk Taufiq

Youth held with drugs

Lankan admits killing Egyptian expat

By Munaif Nayef
Al Seyassah Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 13: A Sri Lankan expatriate who stabbed an Egyptian national to death in Bneid Al-Gar area and tried to escape from the country with his girlfriend was arrested by Criminal Security Men at Kuwait International Airport and referred to concerned authorities.

A security source said the Sri Lankan suspect has admitted murdering the victim with the assistance of his girlfriend, and investigation is underway to arrest a third party to the crime.

Youth held with drugs: A youth in his 20s was arrested in Jahra area for consuming and possessing drugs.

According to security sources, Jahra securitymen were patrolling the area when they suspected a youth who was in a disoriented state and checked him to find drugs including methamphetamine, narcotic pills and drug paraphernalia.

He was arrested and referred with the confiscated drugs to the Drugs Control General Department for necessary legal action.

Bedoun stabbed in brawl: A Bedoun youth sustained a stab wound in the shoulder during a quarrel with two of his compatriots in Jleeb Shuyoukh.

Acting on information, the Operations Room of the Ministry of Interior dispatched a team of rescue men to the scene to deal with the situation. Initial investigation revealed that a group of passers-by resolved the quarrel and later referred the injured youth to Farwaniya Hospital. Other members of the feuding party were taken to the area police station for questioning.

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 13: Assistant Director General of Immigration Colonel Khalid Al-Bahwah affirmed the implementation of e-passport project is in the final stages, and 1.29 million biometric passports have since been issued, reports Al-Jarida daily.

Al-Bahwah pointed out that Kuwait issues three categories of passports; ordinary, diplomat and special, and "all of them meet the specifications of International Civil Aviation Organization". He added biometric passports are issued by the Ministry of Interior or Ministry of Foreign Affairs based on the type. He also said the centers designated for issuance of e-passports across the six governorates are working hard to accomplish the task.

Meanwhile, Director General of Immigration Brigadier Yusuf Al-Senein stated the biometric passports have 70 hidden security features that cannot be seen with the naked eye unless exposed to Ultra Violet radiation, reports Al-Qabas daily.

Al-Senein stressed that security features of the biometric passports cannot be forged, because the electronic slide on the cover is connected to the page containing full data of the holder. He added the biometric passport is costly due to its highly advanced features and quality, and Kuwait won the first prize for the best passport at a recent forum in Holland. He affirmed that granting citizenship to the children of Kuwaiti widows and divorcees in batches depends on decisions by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior.

He explained whoever loses his Kuwaiti citizenship ID card must visit the General Immigration Department for interrogation before an announcement is published in the Gazette about the loss of the citizenship card. He added the citizen will only be issued a new citizenship card after three months, and the same procedure will be followed by a citizen who loses his passport. However, new passports can be replaced after 5 months.

In case a citizen is unable to register a child on his file in the first six months of birth, DNA testing must be conducted to prove paternity. He noted the procedure must be carried out within 3 months if the child was born outside Kuwait, noting special committees in Bahrain, Iraq and Iran have been tasked to conduct DNA for the children of Kuwaitis who were not registered on the files of their fathers within the first three months of birth.

He urged citizens to take care of their passports to avoid losing them while abroad, because they might be prevented from obtaining new passports for years. He added the decision of retaining the passports of few citizens involved in security cases and drugs-related lawsuits that taint the image of the country is in the hand of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior.

He stressed the department receives about 500 applications from citizens applying for Kuwaiti citizenship on behalf of their non-Kuwaiti spouses annually. He noted the decision of granting citizenship to the expatriate spouses of Kuwaiti men is solely made by the Minister of Interior, adding some citizens have filed complaints with the department regarding delay in granting their wives the Kuwaiti citizenship. According to citizenship law, citizenship is granted to the foreign spouse of Kuwaitis five years after submitting an application and not from the date of marriage as some citizens believe.



Firemen from Farwaniya brigade Sunday dealt with a fire that engulfed three vehicles at a parking lot in Khaitan area without any record of human casualty, reports Al-Seyassah daily. KFSO photos

Woman assaulted

Cartons of cigarette packs seized

By Meshal Al Sanousi
Al-Seyassah Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 13: A passenger en route to Saudi Arabia was arrested at Nuwaiseeb border checkpoint for attempting to smuggle 650 cartons of cigarette packs out of the country.

According to sources, custom officers at Nuwaiseeb border checkpoint suspected a vehicle that arrived at the border checkpoint and inspected it using advanced devices, discovering some suspicious items inside the vehicle.

They checked the vehicle in detail and found 650 cartons of Marlboro cigarettes. Since the law does not allow passengers to carry more than two cartons of cigarette packs out of the country, the cigarette packs were confiscated, and the suspect was arrested and referred with the confiscated cigarette packs and the vehicle to the Land Customs Department for necessary legal action.

Cop assaults woman: A case of entering a house and assaulting a young Kuwaiti woman has been filed against a young police officer and a Syrian woman, reports Al-Rai daily.

The daily added, the incident happened over former differences between the two

women. According to a security source, the Kuwaiti woman called the Operations Room of the Interior Ministry and said she was being assaulted by her compatriot and the Syrian woman who had apparently barged into her home.

Police rushed to the house, and discovered the young man was a police officer and the Syrian believed to be girlfriend. Both the officer and the Syrian woman have been referred to the Bayan Police Station.

The Ministry of Interior said the law is applied on all without discrimination.

Asian hurt in mishap: An Asian sustained serious injuries when a vehicle knocked him down while crossing the road in Hawwaly.

Securitymen and paramedics rushed to the location after the Operations Unit in the Interior Ministry received information on the accident. They referred the Asian to a nearby hospital where he is now confined at the Intensive Care Unit (ICU), says Al-Seyassah.

The driver of the vehicle, an Arab, was referred to a police station in the area for questioning and other legal measures. He told police that he was surprised when the victim crossed the road suddenly so he could no longer control the vehicle.

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