

13 mln people in Syria in dire need of aid: OCHA head

UN commends Kuwait's philanthropic, diplomatic actions during crisis

DOHA, March 6, (KUNA): UN Undersecretary General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mark Lowcock, Monday commended State of Kuwait's exceptional humanitarian and diplomatic actions, aimed at addressing crises around the world in particular the Syrian

conflict. Lowcock, who also heads the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), thanked Kuwait, which chaired the UN Security Council in February, for efforts that led to UNSC's unanimous adoption of resolution 2401 which established a 30-day

truce in Syria to allow provision of humanitarian aid. Lowcock, speaking to KUNA following a lecture he gave at Doha Studies Institute, said Kuwait's coordination among the UNSC members resulted in the unanimous adoption of the resolution late last month.

Asked about Iraq's reconstruction conference held in Kuwait last month, Lowcock said the Feb 12-14 meetings were a success and succeeded in securing \$30 billion in loans, grants and investment projects. In his lecture, Lowcock said the first humanitarian convoy entered Eastern Ghouta in Syria.

He said there were 13 million people in Syria in dire need of aid but the UN aid reached 1.7 million only. People in Eastern Ghouta, which has been under siege for years, were starving, he said. On Yemen, Lowcock said 32 million people were in need of

humanitarian supplies, and there were four million others at the brink of famine. Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) pledged to provide USD one billion this month for Yemen, he said, and this would enable the UN to provide food to millions of Yemenis.

Gulf Business Magazine names five Kuwaitis among top 100 Arab VIPs

Sheikh Ahmed Al-Maktoum ranks first in the list

KUWAIT CITY, March 6: Five prominent Kuwaitis in business and finance sector have been named among the top 100 Arab personalities for 2018 by the Gulf Business Magazine, reports Al-Rai daily.

Mohamed Abdul-Aziz Al-Shaya, Board Chairman of Al Mabani Company and Chief Executive Officer of Mohammed Al-Shaya Company was 27th in the list.

He was recognized as a major player in the retail market where he manages over 80 global brands in the Gulf region and Middle East.

He announced opening 25 stores at Al-Khail Mall in Dubai, and for the first time, launched 15 brands at the Avenues Mall in Bahrain — the first outlets under concession agreements with Charlotte Telbury and Grady 400.

Al-Ghanim Group's CEO and Board Chairman of Gulf Bank Omar Al Ghanim was ranked 39th. Gulf Business named him as one of the country's leading business leaders.

Al-Ghanim Industries and its subsidiaries across 40 countries through their good performances managed to win the title of Gold Certified Employer. He was identified as a personality who continues to work with the Kuwaiti youth, besides signing a memorandum of understanding to educate Syrian refugees.

In his position as chairman of the Gulf Bank, Al-Ghanim had earlier announced a 10 percent increase in the net profit within the first half of 2017, making it another positive year for the entrepreneur.

Bader Al-Kharafi, Vice-Board Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Zain Group claimed the 47th place. The magazine pointed out that Al-

Kharafi was distinguished by his commitment to empowering women and young people. He was also honored last year by King Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa in recognition of Zain's efforts to spread the culture of tolerance, dialogue and peace.

Recorded Kuwait Finance House (KFH) Chief Executive Officer Mazen Sa'ad Al Nahidh ranked 54th and Gulf Business said the group recorded a market volume of about 16.6 billion dollars in the sukuk market in 2017, which was 45 percent higher than his achievement in 2016.

The magazine pointed out that KFH won the "Best Islamic Finance Provider for Projects in the World" from the Global Finance Magazine in 2017.

Executive Vice-President at the National Bank of Kuwait Sheikh Al Bahr came 95th. Gulf Business considers her

among the most important executives in the Kuwaiti financial sector. It noted the bank has achieved more than \$78 billion in assets to enable its presence in some 15 countries around the world.

Founder and CEO of Emirates Airline FlyDubai and the National Bank of Dubai, Sheikh Ahmed bin Sa'eed Al Maktoum, topped the 100 Arab personalities for 2018, followed by Saudi Minister of Energy, Industry and Mineral Resources, Board Chairman of Saudi Aramco Company, Khaled Al Falih.

Chief Executive Officer and Vice-Chairman of Saudi Basic Industries Corporation (SABIC) Yousif Al Bunian ranked third, and Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal, Chairman of Kingdom Holding Company (KHC) for the first time in six years, did not top the list after dropping his ranking to seventh place this year.



A photo from the event

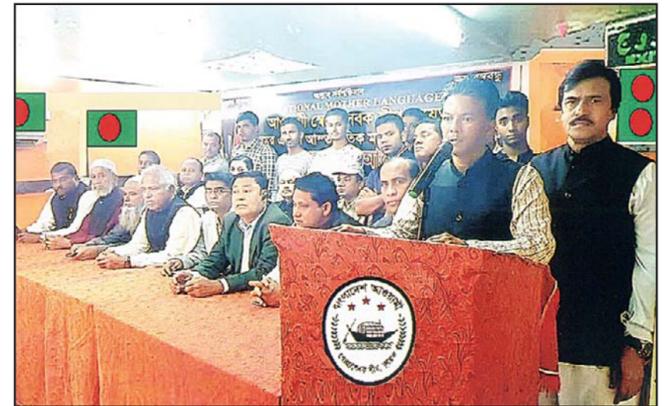
KU college launches training program

The Center of Women Studies and Research at College of Social Science in Kuwait University Sunday launched a three-day training program on "gender-sensitive budgets".

This program is in line with a national cooperation program between the Secretariat — General of the Supreme Council for Planning and Development and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to support Kuwait

in implementing the fifth sustainable development goal on women empowerment and gender equality.

The training program aims at raising awareness of the participants concerning the basic concepts related to public budgets and their link to social types and measurement of the effects they have on these societies through policies across institutions.



Bangladesh Awami Volunteer League meeting

Discussions held

B'desh AVL observes Mother Language Day & Martyrs Day

KUWAIT CITY, March 6: Bangladesh Awami Volunteer League (AVL) Kuwait held a meeting on Feb 25 at Gulshan Hotel in Kuwait City to mark the International Mother Language Day and Glorious Martyrs Day.

According to a press release, the meeting was presided over by the President of Bangladesh Awami Volunteer League Kuwait Mohammed Masud Karim and the discussions conducted by the General Secretary of Bangladesh Awami Volunteer League Kuwait Mohammed Belal Uddin.

The chief guest of the meeting was Advisor of Bangladesh Awami Volunteer League Kuwait Ashrak Ali Ferdous.

The special guests at the meeting were Advisor of Awami Volunteer League Kuwait Abdulaziz Howladar, freedom fighter Abu Adsar, Awami League Leader Sayed Mizanur Rahman, Azad Member Anisur Rahman Milon, Convener of Awami Jubo

League Kuwait Imam Uddin Badal, President of Amra Muktiujddhar Sontan Didarul Alam, President of Projonmo League Kuwait Moynul Al-Islam, Babul Akhtar Noor, and President and General Secretary of Bornomala Sangskritik songs of Kuwait Sanjib Bhadra Chandan.

The meeting began with recitation of verses from the Holy Quran by Shahadat Hossain. Also, a one-minute silence was observed in honor of martyrs.

Speeches were delivered during the meeting by the Senior Vice-President of Bangladesh Awami Volunteer League Kuwait Didarul Alam, Wahidul Alam, Abu Taher, Saidul Hoque Khan, Joint Secretary Shahadat Hossain, Organizing Secretary Morshed Alam, Jakir Hossain, Office Secretary Abul Hossain Rashed, Publication Secretary Monir Hossain, Sports Secretary Abu Toyob Sumon, and Information Secretary Saidur Rahman Sentu.



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News in Brief

Amir congratulates Ghana: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent a cable of congratulations on Tuesday to Ghanaian President Nana Akufo-Addo, on the occasion of his country's national day. His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Premier Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah sent similar cables. (KUNA)

Amir sponsors graduation: Under the patronage of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and as Commander of the Armed Forces, His Highness the Amir will attend Kuwait's Army annual graduation ceremony for the 21st officers and for 45th cadet officers at the Military College at 10:00 am today. (KUNA)

Dr Basel to visit Algeria: Kuwait's Health Minister Sheikh Dr Basel Al-Sabah will be participating in the 35th session of the Council of Arab Interior Ministers in Algeria, on behalf of Interior Minister Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah. As he departed the country on Tuesday, Sheikh Basel was seen off at the airport by a number of senior officials, in addition to Algeria's ambassador to Kuwait Abdulhamid Abdawi, read a statement by the Kuwaiti interior ministry. (KUNA)

KAFCO board formed: The Board of Directors of Kuwait National Petroleum Company (KNPC) has issued a decision forming the board of Kuwait Aviation

Fuelling Company (KAFCO), reports Al-Rai daily.

Deputy CEO for Local Marketing Jamal Loughani has been appointed as chairman of the board of KAFCO with the Director of Local Marketing Adnan Bourseli as deputy chairman and Director of Civil Aviation Yousif Al-Fouzan as a member.

KGL wins contracts: Kuwait & Gulf Link Transportation Company (KGL) has announced that two of its subsidiaries have won supply contracts worth \$2 billion for the US Army, reports Al-Seyassah daily. KGL Transport Company, which is one of the subsidiaries in which KGL owns 97 percent of shares, won the Hefei Lift 8 contract related to transportation works in GCC countries, Iraq and Jordan. This five-year contract, which is worth \$500 million (KD 164 million), starts this month.

The other subsidiary company, KGL Food Services in which KGL holds 99 percent of shares, signed a \$1.380 billion-worth contract with the main supplier US Logistics Agency. The contract is for 60 months which can be extended to another 60 months, and it is concerned with supplying food and logistical services to the US Army in Kuwait, Iraq and Jordan.

Salaries suspended: Several employees at the Ministry of Social Affairs have been dismissed and with their salaries suspended due to absenteeism.

The employees in question were absent for a long time without any legal or medical reason, reports Al-Rai daily quoting knowledgeable sources.