

Jail-term, fines hiked in Traffic Law amendment

We seek to protect public: MPs

KUWAIT CITY, May 15: Five MPs Mubarak Al-Hajraf, Abdullah Fahad, Faraj Al-Arbeed, Usama Al-Shaheen and Al-Humaidi Al-Subaie have submitted a bill to amend some provisions of Law No. 76/1976 of the Traffic Law, giving it urgency, reports Al-Anba daily.

According to the proposed amendment those who exceed the speed limit and drive against the traffic flow or take part in illegal road races face a six months imprisonment and KD 500 fine.

The proposed amendment also calls for a month's imprisonment and fine for private car users who carry passengers in return for money and taxis that hamper the traffic flow.

Article (1): The following provisions shall be replaced by the provisions of Articles 33, 33 bis, 34 of Law No. 76 of 1976:

Article (33)

Without prejudice to the measures prescribed in this Law or to any heavier penalty in any other law, the following shall be punished by imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, a fine not exceeding 500 dinars and suspension of the driving license for a period of six months or for any of the following offences:

1 - A person driving a vehicle without a license or a license that does not permit the person to drive such a vehicle the licence will be withdrawn or cancelled.

2 - Reckless driving, negligence, that exposes the driver, passengers or others to danger.

3 - Violation of the provisions of Articles (29, 31) of the Traffic Law.

4 - Violation of the provisions of Articles 10 bis and 28 of the Traffic Law.

5 - Driving an unlicensed vehicle or without the number plates issued by the Directorate-General of Traffic or with different numbers plates.

6 - Deliberate filling of documents contrary to the truth in one of

KPA blacklists erring firms

KUWAIT CITY, May 15: The Fatwa and Legislation Department has taken into consideration the decision of Kuwait Ports Authority (KPA) Director General Sheikh Yousif Al-Abdullah to blacklist a number of companies and stop them from dealing with KPA and participating in illegal tenders, reports Al-Jarida daily quoting sources.

Sources said the department has confirmed the violations uncovered by the State Audit Bureau (SAB) in these companies, which remain in legal dispute with KPA.

the forms or formal application for the purpose of obtaining a driving license or a learner's license or producing a photocopy of any of them in case of loss or original document.

Article (33 bis)

Without prejudice to the measures prescribed in this law or to any heavier penalty in any other law, a penalty of imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months and a fine not exceeding 500 dinars shall be imposed and the withdrawal of the driving license for six months for those who skip the red traffic light.

Those who commit the following violations shall be punished by imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months and a fine not exceeding 300 dinars or either of the two penalties:

1 - Exceeding the maximum speed limit.

2 - Illegal racing on roads.

3 - Driving or reverse driving against the flow of traffic on highways and ring roads.

Article (34)

Without prejudice to the measures prescribed in this Law or to any heavier penalty in any other law, any person who commits one of the following acts shall be liable to imprisonment for a period not exceeding one month and a fine not exceeding one hundred dinars.

Sources pointed out the internal bylaw allows the director general of KPA to issue such a decision against any company found to have violated the conditions and bylaws on tenders provided the legal disputes have ended.

Meanwhile, Chief Executive Officer of Kuwait National Petroleum Corporation (KNPC) Mohammad Ghazi Al-Mutairi recently issued a circular on the appointment of Ahmad Mohammad Al-Failakawi as director of the Ideal Industrialization Department, reports Al-Anba daily.

1 - Cause the violation of the provisions of the Traffic Law and its Executive Regulations that causes an accident that harms the property of individuals or public utilities.

2 - The use of private car to transfer passengers for money.

3 - Intentionally obstructing traffic on public roads.

4 - Driving a vehicle with faulty brakes, or brakes which are unsuitable or partially defective.

5 - The owner of the vehicle who is entrusting it to a person who does not hold a driving licence or any other permit required by law. The explanatory memorandum stated:

The State is striving to preserve the lives of citizens and residents alike, but some people are greedy, which leads to the loss of life and destruction of property. The Traffic Law comes to protect the society completely and set the limits and punishment that amounted to imprisonment but failed to deter some.

The provisions of Traffic Law No. 76 of 1976 shall be amended in the proposal to aggravate the punishment for any person who commits an act contrary to the law.

Article 33 was amended with a sentence of imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months instead of three months and a fine of 500 dinars instead of 100 dinars.

DIWANIYA ديوانية

A DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION

'Arab resolve can free usurped land'

'Join ranks to fight Zionism'

"MOST Arab states will not be able to defend themselves against external interference, as long as they are politically separated from one another," columnist *Mustafa Al-Sarraf* wrote for *Al-Qabas* daily.

"However, in order to be reconciled with each other, they have to be capable of meeting the challenges of individual isolation. There must be a common goal that resonates with the Arab peoples for years.

"We have tried from the 1950s until the late 1960s to stand united in defense of Palestine as part of the Arab world that has been occupied by the Zionist entity with the help of Western imperialism.

"During this time the Arab world, witnessed the appearance of Arab renaissance dominated by one Arab spirit instilled in the hearts of the generations. Not only that, during this period the Arabs felt their presence and moral strength as a nation, the existence of the entire Arab nation from the Arabian Gulf to the Atlantic Ocean.

"Following this development, we found the Arab nation was not negatively affected despite the military losses suffered by the regular armies without sufficient study of the enemy's strength and readiness to achieve victory, but this did not defeat the Arab peoples and their morale remained high, and are still ready to confront the Zionist enemy.

"The Western Zionist colonization has tried and continues to instill the spirit of hostility and spread the division among the Arab peoples by broadcasting sectarian and racist programs, but the depth of the Arab feelings that became entrenched in the 1950s and 1960s refused to accept these attempts.

"In this context, if colonialism succeeded to a certain extent in terms of creating differences among some Arabs, these people will certainly impose their presence on these regimes to resume its solidarity and confront any tyrannical force that works to bring colonialism back to the region, whatever its location.

"Consequently, the Arab countries must unite their stand and organize their ranks to confront the Zionist colonization in order to restore what was taken by force and against their will. In other words, through strong will and with determination the Arab nation will unite its ranks and strengthen the social and military strengths to protect the sovereignty and wealth from foreign greed.

"Turning to the Palestinian issue as a central Arab cause based on just rights, namely, the return of the Palestinians to their homeland and the establishment of their independent state, will unite the Arab nation, peoples and governments, with one word and one sentiment that the world will respect and just and peaceful nations will stand with the Islamic countries and support them.

"It is needless to say the intervention of America and world Zionism in the affairs of the region is unacceptable, as is the refusal of the intervention of any foreign country, while protecting our sovereignty and establishing friendly relations with all countries of the world, especially the countries of the region."

Also:

"The step taken yesterday, to open the American Embassy in Jerusalem confirms that we have excessively lost our rights to such an extent we have lost everything related to the Palestinian cause, which is the central issue of the Arabs," columnist *Abdurrahman Al-Awwad* wrote for *Al-Sabah* daily.

"However, the last outcome of our dilemma came in the form of success of the United States and its Zionist cancerous entity in terms of Judaization of Jerusalem and turning it into the capital of the occupying state.

"Our loss was too big because we were preoccupied with fighting among ourselves and abandoned Jerusalem and made it an easy prey for the occupier although the latter for decades had failed to carry out this dangerous step, but succeeded yesterday after we failed to preserve the identity of Arab and Islamic Jerusalem.

"The subject does not need lengthy explanation or explanations from the analysts. We were weak and the occupier found the opportunity to show his strength. While it was supposed to be our reaction to the decision of the US President to move the Israeli embassy to the city of Jerusalem to be strong and should have kept abreast with the might of the decision in question, but our reactions were fragmented, weak and shy which could hardly be heard.

"In this context, we say even if America itself felt that we rejected this decision decisively then it would have not taken such a step. Moreover, it would have respected the Arab and Islamic decision but when Washington discovered all that we would do was condemn and denounce the move, the United States knew this was not a difficult task.

"Here we repeat what the then Israeli prime minister Golda Meir said (in 1969) following the burning of the Al-Aqsa Mosque, 'I did not sleep all night. I was afraid that the Arabs would enter Israel from all over the place. But when the sun came up the next day, I learned that we could do anything we wanted'.

"Thus the Zionists succeeded in the implementation of their plan and we failed to defend the first Qibla. So we leave the entire issue in the hands of Almighty God."

"The masks have fallen off, exposing some sectarian, sectional and tribal lawmakers' nepotism towards specific ministers and their undying support for a colleague," *Mubarak Mezyad Al-Mousharji* wrote for *Al-Rai* daily.

"The talk about reform, anti-corruption and disappearance of millions are no longer loud and positions have changed due to compromises and bartering for each person to support an associate to renew the confidence.

"True to what I said in the previous article about the Minister of Oil, Electricity and Water Dr Bakheet Al-Rasheed with regard to tribal votes, only 11 lawmakers supported the vote of no-confidence against him.

"Minister of Social Affairs and Labor, the State Minister for Economic Affairs Hind Al-Sabeeh received an overwhelming confidence for the fourth time with tribal votes. Only 12 lawmakers supported the vote of no-confidence against her and four of them are known to be perpetually supporting no-confidence motion against every minister, except their kinsmen."

"Over fifty years ago, we were anticipating a clash with Jews or Christians for preventing establishment of an Islamic state and spreading Islamic political ideologies or minimizing the rate of propagating Islam in Africa, Europe and other places," *Mubarak Fahad Al-Duwailah* wrote for *Al-Qabas* daily.

"We never envisaged that enemies of the Islamic blocs, religious ideologies, and Da'awah methodology could be Muslims who claim to believe in the oneness of Allah the Almighty, and the Holy Prophet (PBUH), His messenger! Those foes tried to restore military rule in the "Mother of the World" (Egypt) to ensure that Islamists never rule again ...!

"The same foe participated in destroying the Levant, and installed a dictator to prevent anybody from destabilizing Zionist security ...! The foe denied Libyans the taste of freedom and stability after witnessing the initial participation of Islamists in governance ...! That foe has influenced voyages to Djibouti, Somalia, Mali, Yemen, Tunisia and the Sinai to ensure there's no Islamic state."

"About 30 years ago, Kuwait thought of setting up a nuclear reactor for sound purposes. Some were optimistic while others made fun of the idea," *Dr Naji Saoud Al-Zaid* wrote for *Al-Jarida* daily.

"Three decades later, thanks to God Almighty that we failed in implementing this project! We did not see the bright side, so the plan is still covered by dust and remains locked inside drawers as usual. Why am I thanking God on the failure of a gigantic and useful project such as a nuclear reactor?

"I am thanking God, because I learnt last week while watching the news that Kuwait does not even think of anything related to progress and development, because all its economic, administrative, technical and security infrastructure discourage developmental plans and growth.

"How come no word has been spoken about the fact that a worker could be affected by radiation in the oil installations? According to reports published in the newspapers, there will be an emission of radiation if the sealed box opens, and an expatriate tried in vain to open it."

"If the Filipino community in Kuwait, which is almost 250,000 in number, abided by the orders of their president and left Kuwait, surely the Philippine president and others would know that life does not stop here just because that community has left our country," *Talal Al-Saeed* wrote for *Al-Seyassah* daily.

"The Filipinos will end up being the losers because the high remittances that are transferred to their country every month would dwindle or stop. Imagine the impact that this will have on the livelihoods of many who depend on these remittances!

"It is possible that a lot of Filipino expatriates in Kuwait especially the domestic workers do not spend even a dinar of their salaries here as they send all of it to their country to help cater for the basic expenses of their relatives back there. Word in the public has it that majority of Filipino workers here do not want to leave Kuwait at all. President Duterte's call is falling on deaf ears. I wish President Duterte would know the real feeling of the Filipino community in Kuwait.

"The most important issue is that about 800 domestic workers are hiding in a basement affiliated to the Philippine Embassy in Kuwait. This big number uncovers the involvement of the embassy in smuggling workers from citizens and residents' houses. The embassy incites the workers to run away from homes after the probation period specified by the contracts of recruitment offices. This issue should be documented and published internationally so that the whole world knows what the Philippine Embassy is doing in Kuwait.

"I wish the Filipinos respond to the call of their president. Let them know that generations after generations have lived in this country before them. Life did not stop. Everything moved swiftly as our great grandmothers were there to serve houses, doing all the household chores besides upbringing great generations - men and women who served this country and their families sincerely."

"Was the recent trip Kuwait's medical team made to the Republic of Benin in Africa meant to break the diplomatic barrier and unjust policy adopted by the Embassy of Philippines, as well as the political and media circles in that country to tarnish the good historical image of Kuwait?" *Medfar Abdullah* wrote for *Al-Jarida* daily.

"Definitely, it must be a coincidence, and as they say: what a good coincidence! The idea is a guiding principle. I have contacted a dear brother (active Director of Public Relations at the Direct Aid Society Majid Al-Za'abi) who gave me a breakdown of the humanitarian trip. Before speaking about the Kuwaiti Hope Medical Team that traveled to Benin, I wish to offer a little gloomy information about that country.

"The impoverished country of 11 million people is ravaged by diseases and child trafficking. Half of the population is pagans that believe in Voodoo, while the rest are almost equal the number of Muslims and Christians. It was colonized by the Portuguese, British and French before gaining independence in 1960. The country has witnessed 12 coup d'états to the extent that it is nicknamed the "Bolivia of Africa" due to the high rate of coups.

"Like many other African countries, it needs assistance to develop. This was the reason Hope Medical Team affiliated to the Direct Aid Society initiated the idea to relieve the pain of some people in that country.

"Dr Hisham Abu Rizq led the team of 38 doctors who shut down their private clinics for the 24-hour air-borne round trip. They worked 14 hours per day within which they conducted 650 surgical operations. Appreciation to Hope Medical Team!"

"Ministry of Interior has once again proved that it works hard and does not waste time or make shiny promises, through the announcement it made recently that officers from Ahmadi Criminal Investigations Department, as well as from Sabahiya and Fahad Al-Ahmad investigation offices, arrested a reckless motorist for performing stunts in Sabahiya area in Ahmadi Governorate," *Abdurrahman Al-Awwad* wrote for *Al-Sabah* daily.

"In addition, three others who were gathered in front of the arrested motorist's house and closed the road were arrested by the officers with the help of Ahmadi securitymen.

"This huge effort exerted by our loyal securitymen and their speed in arresting reckless drivers represent a strong message to anyone who aims to defame securitymen and attack their dignity.

"General Department of Public Relations and Media Security at Ministry of Interior revealed that the suspects have been referred to the concerned authorities for reckless driving, resisting arrest, helping a suspect escape and assaulting securitymen."

— Compiled by Zaki Taleb

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