

# Violators of engineering regulations to pay KD 5,000 fine; 21 shops get citations

Shops ordered closed still found open

By Abdul Nasser Al Aslami  
Al-Seyassah Staff and Agencies

**KUWAIT CITY, Dec 14:** Environment inspection teams embarked on a campaign in Al-Rai area, resulting in the issuance of 21 citations against various shops for violating engineering regulations related to storage, ventilation, and smoking.

Director of Checking and Observation Department at the Public Authority for Environment Dr Mishal Al-Ebraim said the campaign will continue over an indeterminate period to deal with environment related violations, saying 7 teams from the Public Authority for Environment will follow up investigation on the fire that razed an area in Rai recently.

"We are preparing to write letters to concerned authorities to withdraw licenses if those violations are repeated", Al-Ebraim said, indicating the campaign will continue over an indeterminate period, and fines no less than KD 5,000 will be imposed on violators based on the type of the violations. Also, improper disposal of waste attracts fine of KD 55 and violation of engineering regulations will attract maximum fine of KD 5,000.

**67 citations issued:** The committee in charge of following up employers and owners of closed shops embarked on an inspection campaign of closed shops inside shopping malls in Mangaf area.

According to the Chairman of the committee and Deputy Director General for Manpower Protection at Public Authority for Manpower Dr Mubarak Al-Azmi, 67 citations were issued against some shops that were previously shut down but the owners continued operating them. A total of



The car belonging to the victims.

KFSD photo

## Two Kuwaiti women die in traffic accident

By Munaif Nayef  
Al-Seyassah Staff

Two Kuwaiti women died in a traffic accident on Fahaheel Road. According to security sources, a Kuwaiti citizen later surrendered at Mina Abdullah Police Station, claiming that his vehicle hit their vehicle, causing it to topple but he did not wait to check what happened to them and fled

542 workers were registered under those closed shops.

Dr Al-Azmi assured that necessary legal procedures have started against the violators, and such inspections will continue to sanitize the system.

**'Loopholes in law':** Attorney Ahmad Al-Mutawa affirmed that loopholes in law no.6/2010 put laborers in a quandary while filing lawsuits

from the location, not knowing they had died.

The sources explained that the deceased women were teachers of a primary school in Sabah Al-Ahmad area. Their corpses were referred to the Forensics Department.

Minister of Education and Higher Education Hamid Al-Azmi offered condolences to the families of the two victims, and expressed sorrow over their untimely death.

related to their indemnities, especially if the sum is below KD 5,000, reports Al-Rai daily.

Al-Mutawa pointed out that a laborer, under the above mentioned law, is allowed to file lawsuit with the First Instance Court, and if the verdict is not in his favor or he's dissatisfied with the ruling, an appeal can be made. "However, such cases are dismissed by the Court of Appeals when the sum of indemnity is less than KD

5,000", he added. He insisted the law requires amendment, especially as the majority of laborers are entitled to indemnities below KD 5,000. He explained that Articles 35 and 37 of the law violate Article 166 of the Constitution, which grants litigation rights to all members of the society while Article 29 of the Constitution stipulates equality among members of society- in terms of human rights, dignity, duties and right.

## Other Voices

### 'Gift from the state, not interests'

By Ahmad alsarraf

The government has referred to the National Assembly some time ago a draft law related to the establishment of a supreme Shari'a Supervisory Council within the Central Bank of Kuwait, whose task is to give a legal opinion on any issues referred to it.

The authority will be entrusted with resolving any dispute that may arise between the members of the Shari'a Supervisory Board in any Islamic bank. Those behind this project aim to put an end to the conflict of fatwas and opinions and the competition between the bodies over who is more correct.

This draft law took me back to the past quarter of a century. It had become clear to me that the first item on the agenda of the meeting of the new board of directors of a bank was related to agreeing to open an 'Islamic' banking unit within the non-Islamic bank, in line with the wave of Islamic awakening that was at its height in that time.

I vehemently opposed the decision, and I said that we must arbitrate logic. Either that our work in the bank is illegal, and we must therefore convert to an "Islamic" bank, or that what we do is sound and there is nothing wrong with it, and we must therefore continue our work and stop 'playing the two ropes game'!

Thus the proposal was stillborn and the chapter was closed and remains closed in that bank until today.

But with the increase in the number of institutions that follow the Sharia method in its business, or this is what it says, and the presence of a legal body in each of them consisting of no

fewer than seven clerics, a majority of the members of these institutions are subject to what is spent on them, the legislator or the Central Bank has discovered the defect and we had been always warned against it, and decided to intervene and put an end to the improper practices that raised many eyebrows.

Since the early 1960s, I have opposed the establishment of religious-style banks, which were called transcendentalism, since in Islam or any other religion - in my estimate - there are not enough texts to create an integrated banking system that can cover the entire work of such financial institutions and the foundations of rules and modest systems.

Most of them are due to the opinions of diligent jurists, and the work of each of them contradicts with others. Their sayings have no kind of sacredness, and therefore this serious gap was covered by the idea of the existence of 'legitimate bodies' within every Islamic institution whose role is to interpret and justify what is in the interest of the owners of the institution, and this is normal.

A funny incident occurred after the liberation of Kuwait from Saddam's occupation when it became clear to the government that banks would be exposed to the risk of total deficit if they did not intervene and buy their debts, from loans or banking facilities, and this is what happened, where the Central Bank bought those debts, and gave each bank interest, at a price.

The market is on it, i.e. in total debt. Here, I put it in the hands of non-interest banks, as its legal laws prevent it from accepting credit interest on its loans or deposits to the state! Here, the legal bodies that came out with an explanation allowing the breaking of the jurisprudential rule and accepting the interest were used as a 'gift from the guardian', not interests.

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## Court upholds verdict

### Doctors acquitted in forgery case

By Jaber Al-Hamoud  
Al-Seyassah Staff

**KUWAIT CITY, Dec 14:** The Court of Cassation presided over by Judge Saleh Al-Muraished upheld the verdict issued by a lower court which acquitted doctors who were accused of forging official documents concerning overseas treatments and facilitating the theft of public funds.

In 2017, Director of Public Prosecution Counselor Dherar Al-Asousi referred to the Criminal Court the lawsuit filed against the misuse of overseas treatment for touristic purposes through forgery, which allows underserving patients to travel overseas instead of the deserving patients.

The Public Prosecution had called for punishing six doctors of Ministry of Health including some who occupied senior positions. However, these doctors had submitted evidences to prove that the procedures they had taken were correct and in line with the relevant laws.

**Kuwaiti acquitted:** Citing lack of evidence, the Misdemeanor Court has acquitted a Kuwaiti who was accused by a female compatriot of molesting her when she was in her car, reports Al-Anba daily.

The woman had filed a complaint with the police and the case was referred to the judiciary in which the plaintiff said her friend who was with her witnessed the incident.

The defense attorney told the court the statement of the victim cannot be relied

upon because it was 'imaginary'.

**'Refund woman's cash':** In an unprecedented case, the Court of Cassation ordered a youth who deceived a young lady with marriage promise to refund KD 30,000 he obtained from her. Most of such cases usually ended in the acquittal of suspects for lack of proofs.

Lawsuit filed by Lawyer Hawraa Al-Habib on behalf of the plaintiff indicated the young man tricked her client to obtain KD 30,000 loan with a promise that their relationship would end in marriage. The man vanished immediately after receiving the money, and it became obvious that he was insincere. The lawyer presented necessary documents showing that her client actually withdrew the money and handed it over to the defendant.

**Anti-graft fight on:** Personnel from the Criminal Investigation Department (Counterfeit Control Section), are continuing their efforts to combat corruption and bribery after arresting an unidentified employee of SMEs (small and medium enterprises) for accepting 6,000 dinars bribe to conduct studies and get government approval for half a million dinars, reports Al-Anba daily.

A security source said many junior employees who might have colluded with the senior employee will be summoned for interrogations and referred to the judiciary and charged with embezzling public money.



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