

Commerce Minister takes part in joint dialogue symposium with his Iraqi counterpart

Al-Roudhan encourages Iraqi merchants to invest in Kuwait

BAGHDAD, Feb 21, (KUNA): Kuwait's Minister of Commerce and Industry Khalid Al-Roudhan affirmed Thursday that business environment in his country continues to improve toward becoming an attractive destination for foreign investments.

Al-Roudhan made his remarks on the sidelines of taking part in a joint dialogue symposium with his Iraqi

counterpart Mohammed Al-Ani and a number of Kuwaiti state officials and prominent Iraqi businessmen Wednesday night.

The recent amendments and changes in Kuwaiti laws, particularly investment, made direct investment easier and more attractive for foreign merchants to increase their business ventures in the country, he said.

He affirmed his ministry's aspiration to establish a number of new laws aimed to boost efforts toward transforming Kuwait into major financial and commercial hub in the region.

Meanwhile, the event highlighted significant key features of the Kuwaiti investment encouragement law, as well as business opportunities available for foreign investors inside

Kuwait.

The Kuwaiti officials affirmed their government has succeeded in improving the business environment in the country by recently attracting more foreign capitals, adding such a significant effort is part of "Kuwait Vision 2035".

They also said the Kuwaiti market is currently more promising and enjoys a

higher purchasing power, adding it has also become a center of attention for foreign companies.

Moreover, the Kuwaiti-Iraqi sides reviewed some the obstacles facing the growth of business between them, and ways to overcome those obstacles and increase investment opportunities in both markets.

They also discussed ways to

enhance border ports between the two countries, and ways to accommodate any future development of business exchange between them.

Al-Roudhan arrived in Baghdad on Wednesday, alongside an official delegation, for a two-day visit to the country, which aims to back and boost business relationship between Kuwait and Iraq.

Students participating in National Days operetta to be given grant, says official

KUWAIT CITY, Feb 21: Assistant Undersecretary for Financial Affairs at Ministry of Education Yousef Al-Najjar has announced the budget allocated for members of the taskforces in charge of supervision and preparation of an operetta as part of the celebrations of the National and Liberation days of Kuwait, reports Al-Rai daily.

He also announced a grant of KD 300 each for male students and KD 310 each for

the female students who participate in the operetta.

Al-Najjar explained the difference of KD 10 for students participating in the ceremony, saying there is an extra KD 10 for female students in order for them to "dress their hair" when participating in the operetta.

The operetta will be held as usual every year at Bayan Palace in the presence of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.

Kuwait firmly against attempts to destroy Jerusalem's Palestinian ID

UNRWA plays major role in helping Palestinian refugees: MP

NEW YORK, Feb 21, (KUNA): Kuwait affirmed its stance against violations on Jerusalem with attempts to destroy its Palestinian identity, calling on the international community to stop siding with Israel on the matter.

The remarks were made by Kuwait's Permanent Representative at the UN Ambassador Mansour Al-Otaibi, during the United Nations Security Council's (UNSC) session on Palestine late Wednesday.

He spoke of the UNSC's resolutions number 476 and 478 and the UN General Secretariat's resolutions of 2017 against any action taken to affect Jerusalem's Palestinian identity.

Meanwhile, Al-Otaibi noted the deteriorating humanitarian conditions in Palestine due to the Israeli occupation for over 50 years. He added that a Palestinian family was kicked out of their home last Monday, where they've been living since 1951 by Israelis in East Jerusalem.



KUNA photos Top and above: Some photos from the opening ceremony of the festival (thanks you 3) in Al-Shaheed Park.

Al-Shaheed Park witnesses festival marking national days

Kuwait's main recreation hub, Al-Shaheed (Martyr) Park, has witnessed inauguration of the Amir-patronized festival, "Thank you 3."

Minister of the Amiri Diwan Affairs and Chair of the Board of Trustees at the Martyr's Bureau, Sheikh Ali Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah, attended the ceremony on behalf of His Highness the Amir.

Sheikh Ali Al-Jarrah was welcomed upon arrival by Deputy Minister of the Amiri Diwan Affairs and Deputy Chairman of the Board of Trustees at the Martyr's Bureau, Sheikh Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah, as well as Director General at the bureau, Fatma Ahmad Al-Amir.

Audience was entertained with a series of activities that kicked off by playing the National Anthem, screening a documentary about

million Palestinian refugee, Al-Hashim, who is the Deputy Head of the Standing Committee on the UN Affairs of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) noted.

In statement for Kuwait News Agency (KUNA), Al-Hashim said that Kuwait's contributions to UNRWA comes from the humanitarian policy of Kuwait, drawn by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.

It works within the framework of multilateral institutional action to support the Palestinian refugee under the supervision of the United Nations, she added.

During her visit, MP Al-Hashim

met with the Director of the UNRWA Representative Office in New York, Peter Muller.

The meeting focused on the importance of developing a mechanism that would contribute to empower Palestinian refugees, and invest in human resources to improve the living standard inside camps.

Other nations of the globe. (KUNA)

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Prayer Timings

Fajr	05:02
Sunrise	06:21
Zohr	12:02
Asr	15:16
Maghrib	17:42
Isha	18:59

Weather
Expected weather for the next 24 hours:
By Day: Fair with light to moderate north westerly wind to light variable wind, with speed of 08-32 km/h.
By Night: Cold with light variable wind to light to moderate south easterly wind, with speed of 06-26 km/h.

Station	Max Exp	Min Rec
Kuwait City	22	12
Kuwait Airport	22	06
Abdaly	21	07
Bubyan	-	-
Jahra	22	10
Falaka Island	21	11
Salmiyah	20	14
Ahmadi	19	13
Nuwaisib	22	11
Wafra	22	07
Salmiyah	20	06

4 days forecast - Weather

Friday, Feb 22
Expected weather: Fair and partly cloudy with a chance for fog forming at night
Max Temp 21C
Min Temp 07C
Wind Direction VRB-SE
Wind Speed 08-30 km/h

Saturday, Feb 23
Expected weather: Fair with a chance for fog forming at night and some scattered clouds will appear
Max Temp 23C
Min Temp 08C
Wind Direction E-SE
Wind Speed 08-32 km/h

Sunday, Feb 24
Expected weather: Warm
Max Temp 25C
Min Temp 09C
Wind Direction VRB-NW
Wind Speed 06-30 km/h

Monday, Feb 25
Expected weather: Warm and partly cloudy to cloudy with a chance for scattered light rain later on
Max Temp 24C
Min Temp 11C
Wind Direction NE-SE
Wind Speed 08-30 km/h

Marine Forecast

Station	Max Exp	Min Rec	Sea Surf	Today's Waves	Direction
South Dolphin	-	-	-	4ft	SE
Umm Mudyarah	-	-	-	4ft	SE
Beacon M28	-	-	-	4ft	SE
Beacon N6	-	-	-	4ft	SE
Qaruh Island	19	15	-	4ft	SE
Umm Al-Maradem	19	14	-	4ft	SE
Sea Island Buoy	-	-	-	-	-

4 days forecast - Marine

Friday, Feb 22
Expected weather: Fair and partly cloudy with a chance for fog
Sea state Slight to moderate
Wave height 1-4 ft
Max Temp 21C
Min Temp 07C
Wind Direction VRB-SE
Wind Speed 08-30 km/h

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Wind Speed 08-30 km/h

Tide times at Shuwaikh Port

1st high tide:	13:50
2nd high tide:	01:07
1st low tide:	07:33
2nd low tide:	19:33
Sunrise:	06:22
Sunset:	17:42

Recorded yesterday at Kuwait Airport

Max temp:	21C
Min temp:	07C
Max RH:	82%
Min RH:	28%
Max Wind:	NW 39 km/h
Total Rainfall in 24 hrs:	0 mm

Recorded yesterday at South Dolphin

Min/Max/ Air Temp:	-/-C
Min/Max Rel Hum:	-/-%
Wind Direction/Wind Speed:	N/- 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.

Efforts

He called on the UNSC to exert further efforts to resolve the situation in the city, adding that senior Israeli officials are promoting hate speech and making matters worse for Palestinians.

Violence against Palestinian civilians rose by 57 percent in 2018 according to UN statistics, the ambassador said, noting that it is the international community's responsibility to protect them.

The UNSC must take serious measures to stop the Israeli violations and violence in accordance with the international law. He said that 263 Palestinians including children were killed since the beginning of the peaceful Great March of Return in March last year.

Al-Otaibi renewed Kuwait's financial support for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). He also called on the international community to take part in supporting the agency financially.

Meanwhile, Kuwaiti MP Safaa Al-Hashim asserted Thursday on the important role played by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) to help Palestinian refugees.

UNRWA contributed to the provision of humanitarian relief, medical care, learning, and human rights for more than five

Kuwait urges dialogue

Bid to realize political and economic reforms

NEW YORK, Feb 21, (KUNA): Kuwait's deputy permanent representative to the United Nations highlighted the need to involve peoples in the efforts to achieve economic development and political reforms.

Any government that seeks to modernize its society and lead it to a bright future has to work diligently to realize the aspirations of its people and involve them in the reform process, Bader Abdullah Al-Munayekh said in a UN Security Council session on the situation in Burundi.

He called for materializing the concepts of cooperation among all segments of the Burundian society, particularly the youth and women, and involve them in the decision-making process.

Al-Munayekh voiced hope that the Burundian government will be able to achieve positive outcomes from its plans for political reforms and economic development, which could in turn contribute to political and security stability.

Al-Munayekh expressed hope that these plans will be put into action, and the elections will be free, transparent and credible with a view to putting an end to the political tensions that began in 2015.

Stability in Burundi was greatly enhanced by the government's announcement of elections, slated for 2020, and its intention of financing them with a 100 percent national budget, he noted, commending the launch of an inclusive national dialogue in the country.

The recent developments, including the last year referendum on the new constitution and the President Pierre Nkurunziza's stated intention not to seek re-election, restored stability remarkably in the Central African country compared with the previous two years, he pointed out.

In addition, cooperation among the government and international and regional organizations plays an important role in maintaining stability, he stressed.

deaths

Refa Khazal Suhail, 76 years old, buried on Thursday. Condolences: (Men) Sabhan Cemetery only, tel. 55550450 (Women) Ferdous, Block 4, Avenue 7, Street 1, house 66, Tel. 55448847. **Fatima Hajeya Ali Mohammad**, 90 years old, buried on Thursday. Condolences: (Men) Rumaithiya, Block 3, Taher Al Baghli Street, Huseiniyat Al Qaem (Women) at Asr only, Tel. 97907728, 97746663. **Abeer Salem Saleh Al Salem**, 35 years old, wife of Nawaf Fathel Al Fathel, buried on Thursday. Condolences: (Men) Yarmouk, Block 4, Street 3, House 10, Tel. 99913313 (Women) West Mishref, Block 3, Street 313, House 19, Tel. 25377062. **Hasan Ali Husain Al Shawaf**, 85 years old, buried on Thursday. Condolences: (Men) Dasma, Diwan Al Shawaf, Block 3, Street 32, House 3, Tel. 22543278. (Women) Dasma, Block 3, Street 39, House 7, (Start from Friday), Tel. 99712421. **Saheb Ahmad Aghani Behbehani**, 72 years old, buried on Thursday. Condolences: (Men) Sharq, Al Huseiniya Al Khazaliya Al Jadeedah, Tel. 97759390 (Women) Adan, Block 1, Street 52, House 33, Tel. 25423626. **Fathelah Abdullah Ahmad Al Fadagh**, 67 years old, widow of Jasem Abdullah Al Hajri, to be buried on Friday after Asr prayers. Condolences: (Men) Dahiyat Abdullah Al Salem, Block 3, Ahmad Al Ghanim Street, Diwan Al Hajri, Tel. 66317770 (Women) Surra, Block 3, Street 10, House 8, Tel. 25213986. **Mishal Jasem Mohammad Khalaf**, 26 years old, buried on Thursday. Condolences: (Men) Al Wazan Mosque, West Mishref, beside International Fair Ground, Tel. 97272000 (Women) Jabriya, Block 7, Street 9, at Asr only, Tel. 99226664. **Batla Thaidan Tanaf Al Ghanami Al Atawi**, 77 years old, widow of Ali Marzook Mitlaq Al Otaibi, buried on Thursday. Condolences: (Men) at the cemetery only, Tel. 60016667 (Women) Ferdous, Block 7, Avenue 12, House 42, Tel. 52223330. **Mishari Ali Hasan Al Sharah**, 38 years old, to be buried on Friday, at 9:00 am Condolences: (Men) Shaab, Diwan Al Kanadra, Tel. 96988868 (Women) Surra, Block 3, Street 8, House 17. **Naqwa Khalifa Matrood**, 81 years old, widow of Fahad Mohammad Hemaiddan Al Hajri, to be buried on Friday after Asr prayers. Condolences: (Men) Qairawan, Block 3, Street 317, House 65, Tel. 99883312 (Women) Sulaibkhat, Block 4, Street 116, Avenue 5, House 15, Tel. 99188313.

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