

Significance of scientific research highlighted

Defense minister reviews structural framework for N. economic zone

KUWAIT CITY, July 18, (KUNA): Kuwait's First Deputy Prime Minister and Defense Minister Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah on Thursday stressed the need for well-defined scientific research and plans that address the shortcomings and deficiencies in health and education sectors.

This came in a press statement issued by the Ministry of Defense after Sheikh Nasser's reception of a number of academics and founders of the scientific research incubator (facts and figures), which is interested in sectors aforementioned.

Sheikh Nasser voiced encouragement and support for such initiatives, pointing out that such endeavors should develop effective solutions to improve the level of health and educational services.

Meanwhile, Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah reviewed Thursday the structural framework for the northern economic zone of Kuwait.

A Defense Ministry press release said that Sheikh Nasser headed a meeting dedicated to the review.

Minister of Public Works and Minister of State for Housing Affairs Jenan Ramadan and a number of officials from the defense and public works ministries were present at the meeting.

The northern economic zone is within Kuwait 2035 Vision, which aims at transforming Kuwait into a regional center for commerce.



KUNA photo
First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Nasser Sabah receives the founders of scientific research incubator.

The next five-year development plan will include 3 new construction projects at the very least concerned with increasing the absorptive capacity of higher education in the light of the adoption of the law of public universities approved by the National Assembly, reports Al-Qabas daily quoting informed sources.

The sources pointed out that the adoption of the law is consistent with the next five-year development plan, 2020/2025, focusing on the care and empowerment of young people,

and attention to their education in the post-secondary period, so the law gives the plan the appropriate legislative framework to expand the education of young people.

The sources pointed out that the adoption of the law allowed the expansion of the project to "increase the absorptive capacity of higher education" which is contained in the current five-year plan, within the pillar of creative human capital, where the project was limited to the current plan on one item, only the project of the city of Sabah Al-Salem (Al-Shaddadiya).

While approving the law, the sources revealed that the plan will include a larger number of projects that will reach 3 new construction projects, which are expected to be completed gradually during the next plan.

The sources pointed out that the new projects will not be for large universities or university cities, but for small universities compared to the "Shaddadiya", but it will be according to the vision of Kuwait 2035, specialized new areas, although it will be geographically distributed, provided that the small size will ensure the speed of establishment.

The budget is not burdened with that. The sources indicated that after the approval of the law, it is expected that the plan will include a project to re-operate the existing Kuwait University buildings to another government university and to find out how to develop these buildings to increase the utilization rate, pointing out that the budget to be monitored for this project will be a simple budget compared to other projects because the buildings are ready.

The sources pointed out that the plan will not only concern the structural aspect of government universities, but also the programs and specializations offered, in the light of the reports of the committees of harmonization between the outputs of education and the requirements of the labor market in which the institutions of higher education work, including recruitment and planning.

The sources expected that the development plan includes a project to prepare a comprehensive national strategy for the promotion of higher education, which deals with the periodic study of the disciplines offered and to ensure the continuity of their modernization. It also establishes a framework and mechanism for external and internal scholarships, both for the Bachelor and Master and doctoral degrees.

DIWANIYA ديوانية A DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION

'No strong reaction'

Mood tilts toward the racist address

"From inside Washington DC, adjacent to the US State Department and near the site for Thomas Jefferson's Declaration of Independence where they used to prepare the annual report about ethnic and religious discrimination on a yearly basis, covering all countries around the world, the rights of Americans is currently on the line after the US President Donald Trump made some sectarian utterances against American women selected to represent their constituencies in the highest federal legislative institution, namely the congress," columnist Abdulmohsen Jumah wrote for Al-Jarida daily.

"In his statement, Trump had called on the Congresswomen in question to return to their original homelands whereas the statement could be deemed the first of its kind in the contemporary history of American, which by itself reflects the deep-rooted racist tendency in both Europe and the United States of America.



Jumah

"For the US president to issue such a racist statement in Washington DC, it transforms the capital into a city that looks like Cape Town of South Africa in the past century, while the statement did not attract any strong reaction. This means that the mood of the majority of Americans is currently tilting towards the racist address that harbors hostility against foreigners from various races that are different from the white race. In this context, one may refer to the wife of President Trump (Mrs Melania Trump) as an immigrant from Slovenia but needless to say that the president's statement in question is not applicable to his wife, simply because she is a white European.

"Rather the president through his statement was actually referring to the people from Latin America, the Arabs, Negroes, Asians and Muslims irrespective of their background.

"Such being the case, Trump is currently involved in the institution of new immigration laws that target specific groups of people in a bid to make America a purely white country.

"In this context, one may clarify that when the US president requests immigrants from the Third World to return to their countries and manages the same in a better way after his failure, he should review what has become of his country's policy and relations with the European allies, Latin America, the Middle East and Africa that are fighting for liberation and initiating revolutions in a bid to support despots, the dictators and corrupt leaders, and enabling the Americans and their European allies to loot the wealth of nations and eventually shipping the loot to their countries.

"Apart from the above, one may recall how the United State of America and its allies from Europe were supporting the extremist groups in the era of the cold war. Needless to say that the racist Trump, who used to boast overtly, represents what is currently spreading steadily in the West in general.

"In Italy for example, there is a new extremist Nationalistic Movement, the rightist party of Mary Lupien in France, the Fox Party in Spain, the New Nazi Party in Germany, in addition to the overwhelming racist inclined movements currently prevailing in Denmark and Hungary. The latest development indicate that all the great powers worldwide will be led by a group of extremist and racists ideologists in the coming years, and the latter is likely to agitate civil wars and internal conflicts to the point where nobody has ever anticipated in the advanced or First World.

"In conclusion, one may feel that the immigration apparatus of the United States will hasten towards expelling as much as one million illegal immigrants among those who are without the necessary legal documents. For the time being, the apparatus has been detaining thousands of families and separating children from their parents through brutal malpractices. Not just that, Vice-President Mike Pence on a recent visit to one of the camps was watching the immigrants through the barbed wires as if he was touring a zoo. Hence, we hope the American diplomacy will give a lecture about the arts of establishing deportation camps along with the deigns ... the writer has sarcastically concluded."

Also:

"In developed countries, the elected assemblies work professionally and technically away from the media and pressures of the electors," Uwaid Al-Sulaili wrote for Al-Shahed daily.

"However, these assemblies discuss and study the laws via ad-hoc committees, which in turn seek the services of experts and centers of strategic, economic, political, social and psychological studies in order to help the committee members take the right decisions and issue sound laws. They then submit these laws and studies to the public opinion to create a case for discussion and give a chance to the political parties and others to form pressure groups in case they are affected by these laws negatively or positively before the final vote in the parliament.

"In Kuwait, the MPs are still facing popular discontent that accompanied the 2013 National Assembly and the current National Assembly for their lack in offering an honorable image for the parliamentary work as aspired by the Kuwaiti citizens and people.

"The MPs attempted to tackle the popular discontent in a disastrous manner by allocating one session for the National Assembly to decide and adopt seven laws related to the interests of the state and the citizens without the committees providing any reports or studies on some laws, and blocking the public opinion, which proves the National Assembly's disregard for the people's interests."

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"News on the decision to demolish the skating rink in order to pave way for the expansion of Al-Shaheed Park was limited and circulated in a simple way," columnist and Political Science Professor at Kuwait University Dr Haila Hamad Al-Mekami wrote for Annahar daily.

"No one denied or confirmed the news until Annahar daily published it on the front page last week showing demonstrators who came out in protest against the implementation of the decision. Despite the small number of participants, it was a courageous gathering that deserves appreciation. We are hoping for a ban on such decisions.

"During the protest, a member of the Municipal Council affirmed that the decision is under discussion at the council which has yet to reach a final decision in this regard. This means the circulated reports are true, considering the decision is under discussion.

"This is the role of media and civil organizations - to present good and developmental visions concerning the State's facilities. This requires more transparency on the part of officials in charge of these facilities."

— Compiled by Zaki Taleb

Lulu Hypermarket Launches ASEAN Festival 2019



Lulu Hypermarket, the leading regional retailer, launched its much-anticipated ASEAN Fest 2019 with a grand ceremony at its Al Rai outlet on 17 July. The event was inaugurated by diplomats from several countries that make up the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), in the presence of top Lulu Hypermarket management in Kuwait, and along with a large gathering of shoppers and well-wishers.

Attending the inauguration were the Ambassador of Thailand H.E. Dusit Manapan, Ambassador of Vietnam H.E. Trinh Minh Manh, Ambassador of Indonesia H.E. Tri Tharyat, Ambassador of Laos H.E. Sisonxay Ngaovongsi, the Charge D'Affaires at the Philippine Embassy Mohammad Noordin PN Lomondot, and the Charge D'Affaires at the Myanmar Embassy Kyaw Nyunt Lwin.

A variety of programs highlighting the



rich, colorful culture and tradition of ASEAN was held to mark the launch of the festival. The 11-day ASEAN Fest, taking place across all Lulu outlets in the country and slated to end on 27 July, will see a host of activities, including

special food counters and food sampling stands showcasing the variety and range of foods available in the 10-nation ASEAN bloc. All the festival venues of Lulu Hypermarket are also decorated in large, attractive cardboard cutouts of

monuments and images reflecting the tourism potential of ASEAN.

The ASEAN Fest offers shoppers a wide range of food and other products from ASEAN at very special prices, including specially imported branded products such as Datu Puti, Silver swan, Skyflakes, Blue Elephant, Kokola, Thai Coco, Thai Pattana, V foods, Golden Elephant, Ding Dong, Mama Sitas, Oishi, Tentay, Delux and Inaco.

The ASEAN group comprises of Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Philippines, Laos, Myanmar, Cambodia, and Brunei. The ASEAN Fest is an opportunity for shoppers in Kuwait to buy products from all these countries under one-roof at very competitive prices. The festival is part of the Hypermarket's endeavor to enhance the shopping experience for their patrons by offering high quality products from around the world through special offers and prices.

