

Education

Ruling awaited on stranded expats

Education ministry hit by crisis due to teachers unavailability

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 9: While the Ministry of Education is awaiting a decision from the Civil Service Commission to decide on the fate of the expatriate teachers who were unable to return to the country because of the conditions imposed on them due to the spread of Covid-19, educational sources confirmed that the ministry is facing a crisis – since some of them are on vacation, absent with an acceptable excuse or due to suspension, reports Al-Seyassah daily.



Maqseed

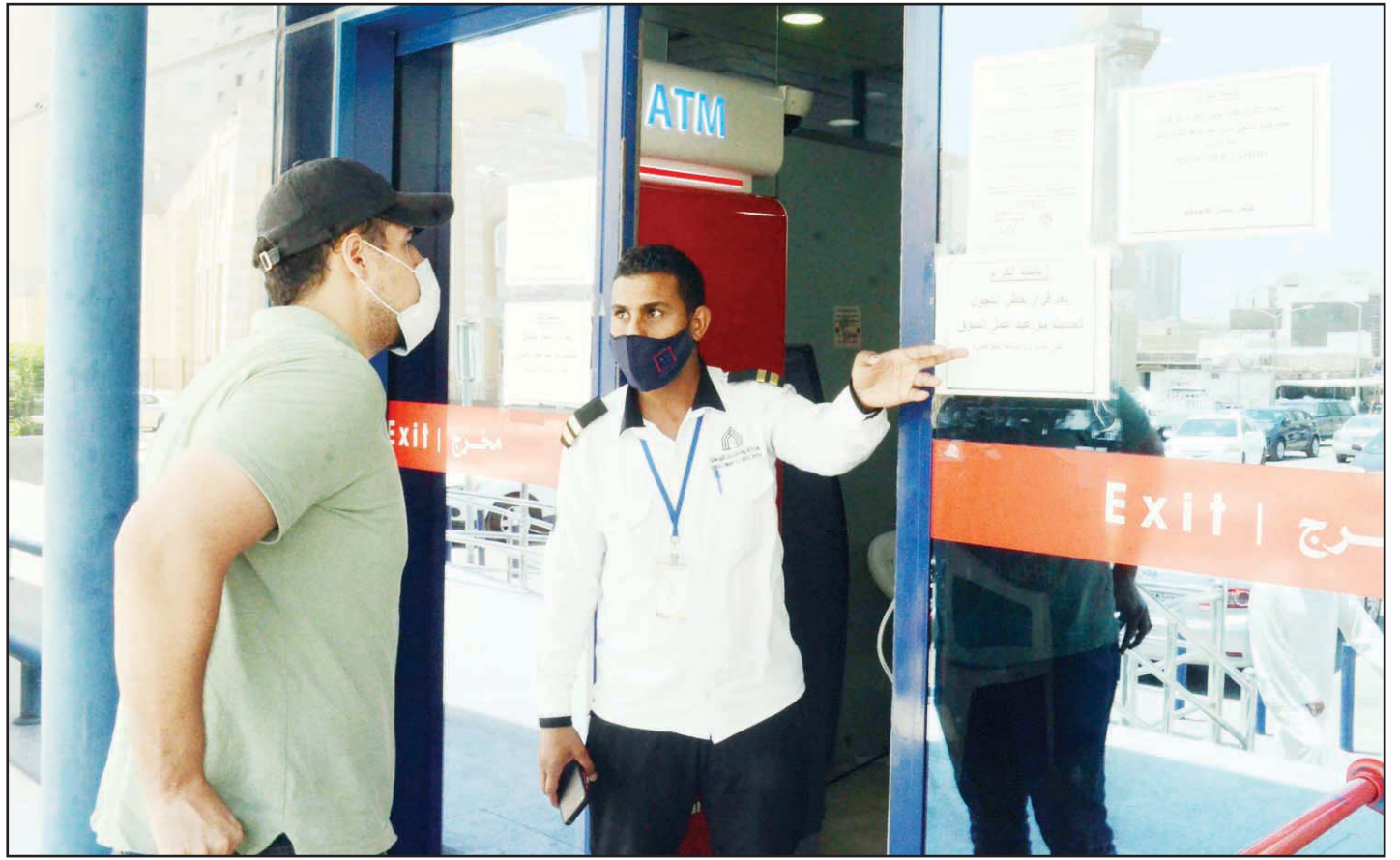
It is worth mentioning here the government of Kuwait based on instructions of the Kuwaiti health authorities due to the situation and repercussions caused by the spread of the corona virus regarding 'high-risk' countries had regulated the entry of citizens from India, Iran, China, Brazil, Columbia, Armenia, Bangladesh, the Philippines, Syria, Spain, Singapore, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Iraq, Mexico, Indonesia, Chile, Pakistan, Egypt, Lebanon, Hong Kong, Italy, North Macedonia, Moldova, Panama, Peru, Serbia, Montenegro, Dominican Republic and Kosovo,

from entering the country. In this regard Acting Undersecretary of the Ministry of Education, Faisal Maqseed, confirmed that he will discuss with the Minister of Education and Minister of Higher Education Dr Saud Al-Harbi Sunday morning the issue of expatriate teachers who are stranded abroad and look at several options to address their conditions in public interest.

Al-Maqsid told the daily, the Ministry is interested in handling the issue and is keen to solve it before the start of the 2020/2021 scholastic year, which is set to begin October 4, 2020.

He indicated he will also discuss with the Minister several options to address the situation of teachers abroad, including the possibility of filling the shortage in educational specializations through local contracts, as it has been announced that the procedures for appointing Kuwaiti, Gulf and bedoun teachers have been completed.

Educational sources reported that among the options available are filling the shortage of teachers through local contracts or counting teachers abroad on leave for half pay until they are allowed to return to Kuwait to work or end their services if they are unable to return before September 15 before the beginning of the next scholastic year.



'Barcode' or prior appointment is still applicable in Hawally Cooperative Society. The rule has been abolished in all other cooperatives throughout the country.

Photo by Bassam Abu Shanab

Online apps found selling, delivering goods illegally will be referred to court, says MoCI

Top MoC official cleared of corruption

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 9: Ministry of Commerce and Industry has been monitoring a number of electronic apps that are specialized in selling and delivering goods and do not have any link with celebrities or "fashionistas", reports Al-Qabas daily quoting official sources.

They indicated that any app that is proven to have carried out illegal operations will be referred to the Public Prosecution immediately.

Meanwhile, the sources affirmed that the social media site Instagram, based on a complaint received from local supervisory authorities, has agreed to close down 12 accounts belonging to Kuwaitis, but refused to take any measures against 42 accounts that deal with auctioning valuable goods.

They said the company running Instagram site justified its refusal to close down the 42 accounts due to lack of compelling evidence incriminating those responsible for them or proving their illegal actions.

The sources stressed that a team formed by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the Public Authority for Communications and Information Technology, and the Ministry of Interior is continuing to communicate with the officials in Instagram, provide them with additional documents that may dissuade the company from its opinion, and urge them to respond to the request of the Kuwaiti authorities to close more accounts accused of conducting illegal business.

The sources highlighted that all the accounts that the Kuwaiti authorities have requested to close down are concerned with selling cars, luxury watches and other valuable personal effects.

They explained that the accounts monitored by the regulatory authorities in Kuwait do not include the names of celebrities or "fashionistas", but rather follow people through which they engage in commercial activities that may be infringing. It is believed that they were used for internal or possibly external money laundering operations, especially since some of these accounts carry out deals worth hundreds of thousands of dinars through live auctions on watches, precious jewelry, and luxury cars.

**Top official cleared:** According to reliable sources from the Ministry of Communications, the investigation conducted by the committee, which was formed by the State Minister for National Assembly Affairs and State Minister for Services Affairs Mubarak Al-Harees last month,



A fireman douses the fire.

KFSD photo

Spark from cable, fire destroys cars

Acting on information firemen from the Farwaniya Firefighting Center rushed to an unidentified location in Khaitan and put out

fire to two parked cars, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

It is reported a spark in the underground power cable was the

cause of the fire. The cars were totally destroyed.

No casualties were reported.

Arab, foreigner faced two-year jail

Employee facilitates departure of 'travel ban' duo

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 9: The Directorate General of Public Relations and Security Media Department of the Interior Ministry stated as part of the efforts of the Ministry of Interior sectors to deal with outlaws, the General Department of Residence Affairs, in cooperation with the Security Control Department at the Kuwait International Airport have taken into custody a ci-

vilian employee working for the Passports Department at the Sheikh Saad Al-Abdullah Airport for helping two wanted people escape the country, reports Al-Anba daily.

The two men were sentenced to prison terms and the court had slapped a travel ban on them. But despite the ban the employee facilitated their exit without documenting it in the computer system.

The Department pointed after extensive investigations, the employee was pinpointed and taken into custody. The two escapes are – one an Arab nationality and the other a 'foreigner'. The term foreigner is generally used for a Westerner.

The employee has been referred to the concerned authority. The nationality of the employee has not been given.

has cleared one of the assistant undersecretaries from suspicions of corruption, reports Al-Rai daily.

They revealed that the assistant undersecretary in question was referred for investigations under suspicion of corruption regarding one of the ministry's contracts in which he seemed to have committed administrative and financial corruption in his dealing with the contracted company, adding that the committee concluded that the suspect upheld the integrity of the contract procedures, and was cleared from all suspicions raised in the aforementioned contract.

The sources explained that the assistant undersecretary in question and another one in the ministry were officially referred for retirement, while another assistant undersecretary submitted his resignation. There are still two assistant undersecretaries working on a wage-for-work clause after their tenure expired last week. It is expected that

they will continue to work until the vacancies of the assistant undersecretaries are filled. This was mentioned previously by the daily regarding the Ministry of Communications which awaits the appointment of five new assistant undersecretaries in a step towards renewing the blood in the leadership of the ministry's sectors.

This aims at meeting the requirements of the next phase, and implementing the mega projects listed on the ministry's agenda, the most important of which is metro and GCC railway, in addition to the implementation of the fiber network contracts and the privatization of postal sector and other projects.

The sources indicated that minister Al-Harees will issue decisions this week through which he will assign a number of leaders to take over the sectors of the ministry where officials have been referred to retirement, in order to follow up the progress of work, facilitate the completion of the clients transactions and

ensure people's interests are not disrupted.

**'Let me sponsor man':** An unidentified Egyptian woman has appealed to the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, Anas Al-Saleh, to help her sponsor her husband under Article 22, reports Al-Anba daily.

In her appeal, the woman said she has a child and works as a teacher for a private sector. She added her husband suffered a stroke while on vacation in Egypt last year and remained in Egypt for more than six months as a result of which his visa expired automatically.

She said she is not the sponsor of her son and got a visit visa for her husband and is now in Kuwait since last February.

In her appeals she says she put her hope in God Almighty and in your honorable person to allow me to sponsor my husband because of his health condition and help us live a united family life. I am the sole bread winner, the appeal concluded.



The Asian actor in a peculiar dress.

Bail refused for Asian 'actor'

The Criminal Court has rejected a defense plea to release the Asian actor who is accused of violating public decency code, and instead set Sept 2, 2020, to look into the case, reports Al-Anba daily.

During interrogation by the Public Prosecution the actor had denied the charges against him, claiming an un-

identified person had hacked his Snapchat account and published the offensive clip.

It is noteworthy to mention the Asian was arrested by the Cybercrime Department after the clip went viral and arrested him on charges of violating the public decency code, committing an indecent act and misusing the phone.

News in Brief

**'Fish may be diseased':** Home and restaurant deliveries of fish and shrimp has proliferated, in addition to the high prices, as traders are exploiting the Ministry of Commerce and Industry's control over the fish markets in Sharq and Fahaheel; while the price setting mechanism does not constitute any profit for the fishermen amid the absence of security, commercial and health oversight, reports Al-Rai daily.



Al-Soyyan

Head of Fishermen's Union Zahir Al-Soyyan stressed to the daily that those wishing to buy through home delivery must verify the quality of the fish and shrimp as well as their source, and to examine them at least on the surface.

He pointed out that much of what is being sold may be dead and collected from beaches and lakes like in Sabah Al-Ahmad where Tilapia fish are taken from polluted lakes on the outskirts of Sabah Al-Ahmad Sea City and sold to restaurants and homes. He warned such fish could be carrier of diseases and epidemics that harm human health.

**Bedoun woman freed:** The Jahra police have freed a young bedoun woman who was held captive against her will, reports Al-Anba daily.

Without going into details, a security source said the Operations Room of the Interior Ministry received a distress call from the woman who said she had been held captive for two days. Police rushed to the place, released the girl and accompanied her to police station to file a complaint.

The daily did not say who held the woman captive, but according to the Al-Rai daily she was prevented from leaving the house in Sulabiya.

The daily also said the father and daughter have been referred for investigation.

**Diesel thieves held:** The Ahmadi police have arrested an 18-man gang of Asians for stealing diesel from communication towers and selling it to another

gang which is being sought by police, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

According to a security source, the detectives, after many complaints about the theft of diesel from the communication towers on the Seventh Ring Road, caught 5 Asians in the act and they then led police to the rest of the gang members.

**Man caught drunk:** Police have arrested an unidentified person for consuming alcohol, reports Al-Rai daily.

A security source said patrolmen in routine duty were stopped by a person who said his car ran out of fuel and sought help.

However, police discovered the man was drunk. He was arrested and taken to the police station.

**Illegal construction:** The supervisory team affiliated to the Hawalli Municipality branch has stopped construction work on one of properties for violating building regulations and building additional room without a license, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The director of the Engineering and Follow-up Department of the Municipality Branch of the Hawalli Governorate, Eng. Mubarak Al-Ajmi said the supervisory team dealt with the complaint that was submitted on social media and reported that additional rooms were being built in a building under construction and ordered the suspension of work and the legal procedures have been taken against the violator.

**Building disinfected:** A team from the Chemical Defense and Radiation Center of the National Guard carried out sterilization and disinfection of the Fatwa and Legislative Administration building in the Sharq region, as part of the efforts of the National Guard to support the state agencies in dealing with the emerging Corona virus "Covid 19", reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The sterilization process included all parts of the building, staff offices and elevators, using health sterilization materials in order to provide a safe environment for employees in the building, taking into account all precautionary measures and safety and security rules, in order to preserve the health and safety of all.

Probe underway how Syrian became bedoun

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 9: Investigations are currently underway to find out how the Syrian, identified only as A.S., and his brothers obtained the 'Article 17' passport even though his uncle, according to the records of the Central Agency for Illegal Residents, had modified his status to his original Syrian nationality and his services were terminated by the Ministry of Defense following the discovery of

fraud, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The sources pointed out that the security services are investigating whether there is any manipulation by parties within the central apparatus.

The source said it is surprising the name of A.S. is included in the list of people who are entitled for naturalization despite the presence of 'confidential' documents with the agency stating that he is Syrian.

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