

# 'Extending contract of main contractor for bio-fuel project to cost KD 12.5 mln'

Strategic venture of National Petroleum Company

**KUWAIT CITY, Feb 4: Minister of Oil and the State Minister for Electricity and Water Dr Khaled Al-Fadhel revealed that the cost of extending the contracts of the main contractor for bio-fuel project (Mina Abdullah) amounts to KD 12.5 million for a period of 10 months, noting the cost of extending the project's consultant contract is KD 47 million, reports Al-Nahar daily.**

In response to a question about the lost opportunities resulting from delay in the implementation of project, Al-Fadhel added the project is one of the strategic projects of the National Petroleum Company and aims to develop and expand the refineries of Abdullah and Ahmadi Ports to become an integrated refining complex capable of meeting the requirements of global and local oil markets.

## Explained

Al-Fadhel explained that this opportunity is not actually realized except after operating all industrial units of the project and monitoring efficiency of its performance and the quantity/quality of production, which are subject to the demand and supply curve, with which the delay in implementing the project does not necessarily mean loss of opportunities due to the fact that the possibility of entering the global market is uncertain, and it's not considered a lost opportunity for the company, given that gains are inevitably unlikely.

In his response to the cost of importing gasoline as a result of the great delay in completing the project, the minister said Kuwait National Petroleum Company and Kuwait Petroleum Corporation are in continuous coordination to import the gasoline product to meet the needs of the local market, pointing out that 1.256 thousand tons of the product worth \$832.5 million were imported from April 2018 until the end of September 2019.

On the cost of financing the project, he said the first part from the local banks amounted KD 125.6 million, while the financing costs of the second part amounted to \$454.3 million, indicating the sums represent all expenses, charges and fees required on loans, in addition to loan interests until September 2019. The change orders submitted to date amounted to KD 152.5 million, of which KD 115 million were approved, and KD 24.2 million are being studied.

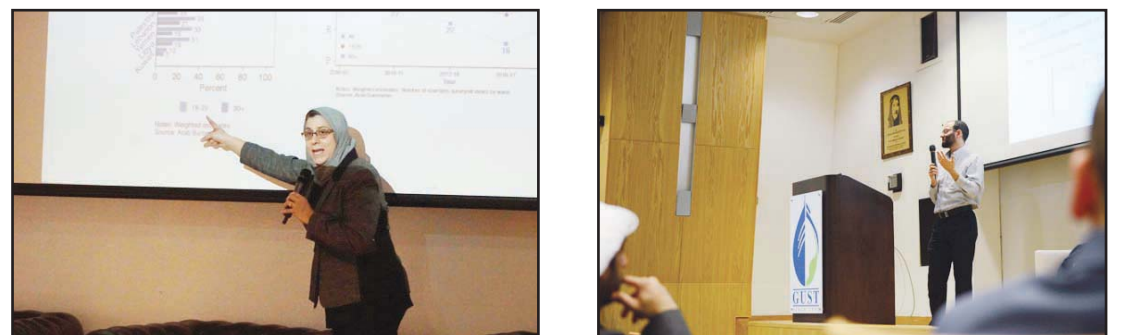
On the delay in implementing the project, Al-Fadhel said the project was delayed due to reasons beyond the control of the National Petroleum Company and not related to mismanagement of the project, and fines will be applied until the responsibility and study of the claims are decided.

## 'Shuffling' process to continue at MoE

**KUWAIT CITY, Feb 4:** The Minister of Education and Minister of Higher Education Dr. Saud Al-Harbi announced that the 'shuffling' that took place during the past two weeks in some educational positions will not stop at the general education and departments only, but may include all sectors of the ministry during the coming period, reports Al-Rai daily.

In a statement Al-Harbi pointed to mandating the Planning and Follow-up Committee to prepare comprehensive reports on all service contracts for the next academic year 2020-2021, and was to chair a meeting with all agents to discuss the existing contracts and contracts which nears end in preparation to do the needful before the next school year begins.

He emphasized the ministry continues to look at vacant positions in all sectors, and that "the coming period will see the appointment of directors-general for Jahra, Capital and the Farwaniya educational districts".



Photos from the event

## Winners lecture on their research endeavors

## GUST hosts KFAS Kuwait prize recipients

**KUWAIT CITY, Feb 4:** Gulf University for Science & Technology (GUST) welcomed five recipients of the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS) Kuwait Prize, which was held under the patronage and presence of HH the Amir of Kuwait, Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. The recipients met with the senior management at the university and gave lectures that summarize their research endeavors to GUST faculty and students. This event comes as part of the university's efforts in extending its international network of academic research.

The recipients of the KFAS Kuwait Prize included Professor Amaney Jamal, Economics & Social Sciences prize category winner, Edwards S. Sanford Professor of Politics at Princeton University and Director of the Mamdouha S. Bobst Center for Peace and Justice. Her talk provided an overview of the Arab Barometer Project, the largest public opinion project in the Arab region. Project results highlighted trends in attitudes about social, political, and economic life across several countries in the region.

Professor Mohamad Shahine, Studies in Foreign Languages & Literature prize category winner

and Honorary Professor at the University of Jordan, discussed The Portrait of Othello in Said's Discourse and Tayeb Saleh's Season of Migration to the North.

The event also welcomed Professor Nader Masmoudi, Basic Science prize category winner, Professor at the Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences at New York University and Affiliate Professor at NYU-Abu Dhabi. Prof Masmoudi dove into the subject of recent progress in the study fluid dynamics, more precisely, on the Prandtl system and the zero-viscosity limit.

Professor Omar Farha, Environmental Science prize category winner and Professor of Chemistry at Northwestern University shed light on potential collaboration initiatives.

And finally, Professor Ali Omlil, Economics & Social Sciences category winner, the former Moroccan Ambassador in Lebanon, discussed references of the Arab renaissance.

The awardees were also able to participate in a leadership meeting with GUST's senior management including: GUST President, Professor Walid Bouhamra, Academic Consultant Professor Jasm Abdul-salam, Dr Fahad Al-Sumait, Vice-President for Academic Affairs, Dr.

Ahmad Al-Darbas, Vice President for Professional Development and Community Services, and Director of the Graduate Studies and Research Office, Professor Bassam Alameddine. Both sides discussed ideas for future potential collaboration as well as ways in order to strengthen and develop research and educational initiatives that benefit GUST.

KFAS's Kuwait Prize aims at recognizing the lifetime achievements of Arab scientists across the globe, this prestigious prize was introduced in 1979. The Kuwait prize has witnessed a surge of applications from Arab researchers everywhere, and is awarded in five fields: Basic Sciences, Applied Sciences, Economics and Social Sciences, Art and Literature, and Arabic & Islamic Scientific Heritage. The prizes are awarded to the most innovative work published within the last twenty years.

Bringing these great minds together to share their knowledge in 'KFAS Prize Talks' is part of GUST strategic objectives to enhance its research in order to position the university as a leading academic institute and a flagship research hub locally, regionally, and internationally.

## Highlights culture of eating-out

## 'Deliveroo' orders expected to reach 65m by year end

**KUWAIT CITY, Feb 4:** The British international company "Deliveroo" affirmed that the delivery orders in Kuwait are five times higher than the global average, and that the delivery market is growing at an annual rate of at least 30 percent, reports Al-Qabas daily.

In an interview, the Managing Director of "Deliveroo" in Kuwait Siham Al-Husseini revealed that 35 million delivery orders were carried out in Kuwait in 2018, which grew at a rate ranging between 30 and 40 percent in 2019.

Regarding the aforementioned growth rate, she said the number of delivery orders reached about 50 million in

2019, and is expected to reach 65 million by the end of 2020.

Al-Husseini explained that "Deliveroo" operates in 13 markets globally, but the Kuwait market is a rapidly growing market compared to other global markets.

The company is in its first year locally, and it already has partnership with about 2,000 restaurants after starting with only 400, which means the growth rate in this regard is 400 percent.

Kuwait is the newest and smallest among the group of countries where "Deliveroo" operate, but it is the fastest growing.

She expressed optimism

about the growth rates in the Kuwaiti market, highlighting the culture of eating-out.

Al-Husseini affirmed that the returns in the local market is very high, indicating that the group has 40,000 restaurants around the world.

She expected 2020 to be the year of launch for "Deliveroo" in the Kuwaiti market, adding that the market share of the company ranges between five and ten percent, coming second after the German alliance "Tala-bat" and "Carriage".

Al-Husseini said "Deliveroo" aims to increase the market share by 15-20 percent in 2020, which is not easy in light of the current strong competition.



KUNA photos

Top: His Highness the Crown Prince receives HH Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah and Above: with Sheikh Dr Ibrahim Duaj Al-Sabah

## HH the Crown Prince receives sheikhs

His Highness the Crown Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received on Tuesday at Bayan Palace His Highness Sheikh Nasser Al-

Mohammad Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah. His Highness the Crown Prince also received Sheikh Dr Ibrahim Duaj Al-Sabah. (KUNA)

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Prayer Timings	
Fajr	05:14
Sunrise	08:35
Dohr	12:02
Asr	15:07
Maghreb	17:29
Isha	18:48

## Weather

Expected weather for the next 24 hours:  
**By Day:** Fair with light variable wind to light to moderate south easterly wind, with speed of 06-26 km/h with a chance for scattered light rain later on.

**By Night:** Cold and partly cloudy with light to moderate south easterly wind to light variable wind, with speed of 06-28 km/h.

Station	Max Exp	Min Rec
Kuwait City	20	09
Kuwait Airport	19	03
Abdaly	18	03
Bubyan	18	06
Jahra	19	06
Failaka Island	18	08
Salamiyah	17	12
Ahmadi	17	11
Nuwaisib	18	06
Wafra	20	04
Salmy	17	04

## 4 days forecast - Weather

**Wednesday, Feb 05**  
Expected weather.....Fair and some scattered clouds will appear  
Max Temp.....21C  
Min Temp.....05C  
Wind Direction.....SE  
Wind Speed.....08-30 km/h

**Thursday, Feb 06**  
Expected weather.....Partly cloudy with a chance for rain that might be thundery  
Max Temp.....25C  
Min Temp.....09C  
Wind Direction.....SE  
Wind Speed.....15-40 km/h

**Friday, Feb 07**  
Expected weather.....Warm and partly cloudy  
Max Temp.....26C  
Min Temp.....13C  
Wind Direction.....SE-VRB  
Wind Speed.....10-32 km/h

**Saturday, Feb 08**  
Expected weather.....Warm and partly cloudy with a chance for rising dust and a chance for scattered light rain  
Max Temp.....22C  
Min Temp.....13C  
Wind Direction.....NW  
Wind Speed.....15-45 km/h

Station	Marine Forecast		Today's Waves	Dirrn
	Max Exp	Min Rec		
South Dolphin	-	-	-	3ft SE
Umm Mudayrah	-	-	-	3ft SE
Beacon M28	-	-	-	3ft SE
Beacon N6	-	-	-	3ft SE

Qaruh Island	17	14	-	3ft	SE
Umm Al-Maradem	17	14	-	3ft	SE
Sea Island Buoy	-	-	-	-	-
Salamiyah	17	12	-	3ft	SE

## 4 days forecast - Marine

**Wednesday, Feb 05**  
Expected weather.....Fair and some scattered clouds will appear  
Sea state.....Slight to moderate  
Wave height.....1-4 ft  
Max Temp.....21C  
Min Temp.....05C  
Wind Direction.....SE  
Wind Speed.....08-30 km/h

**Thursday, Feb 06**  
Expected weather.....Partly cloudy with a chance for rain that might be thundery  
Sea state.....Slight to moderate, rough at times  
Wave height.....2-6 ft  
Max Temp.....25C  
Min Temp.....09C  
Wind Direction.....SE  
Wind Speed.....15-40 km/h

**Friday, Feb 07**  
Expected weather.....Warm and partly cloudy  
Sea state.....Slight to moderate  
Wave height.....1-4 ft  
Max Temp.....26C  
Min Temp.....13C  
Wind Direction.....SE-VRB  
Wind Speed.....10-32 km/h

**Saturday, Feb 08**  
Expected weather.....Warm and partly cloudy with a chance for rising dust and a chance for scattered light rain  
Sea state.....Slight to moderate, rough at times  
Wave height.....2-6 ft  
Max Temp.....22C  
Min Temp.....13C  
Wind Direction.....NW  
Wind Speed.....15-45 km/h

## Tide times at Shuwaikh Port

1st high tide: 07:56  
2nd high tide: 18:37  
1st low tide: 01:18  
2nd low tide: 12:40  
Sunrise: 06:36  
Sunset: 17:28

## Recorded yesterday at Kuwait Airport

Max temp.....19C  
Min temp.....06C  
Max Rh.....80%  
Min Rh.....27%  
Max Wind.....N 32 km/h  
Total Rainfall in 24 hrs.....0 mm

## Recorded yesterday at South Dolphin

Min/Max/ Air Temp.....00/-1C  
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.....Downdraft

— Directorate General of Civil Aviation, Meteorological Department

## deaths

**Fouad Jasm Mohammad Abel**, 72 years old, buried on Tuesday. Condolences: (Men) Dasma, Al Naqi Mosque, Tel. 55636999. (Women) Abu Faterah, Block 8, Street 191, House 383. Tel. 99063888; **Newayer Marzook Bader Al Otaibi**, 69 years old, widow of Shelaiweh Millaq Al Otaibi, buried on Tuesday. Condolences: Riqqa, Block 2, Main Street, House 479, Tel. 60788777, 99087886