



CLASSIFIEDS
are you looking for: **job villa shop etc.**
look page : 26

Residence renews online on March 1



Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau in a meeting with HH the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah at Bayan Palace in Kuwait City on Feb 11. (AP)

Trudeau ends visit to Kuwait

KUWAIT CITY, Feb 11, (KUNA): The Prime Minister of Canada Justin Trudeau departed Kuwait on Tuesday.

He was seen off at Kuwait International Airport by Advisor at His Highness the Prime Minister's Diwan Sheikh Dr Salem Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah.

Trudeau arrived in Kuwait earlier Tuesday on a two-day visit.

His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, on earlier Monday received at the Bayan Palace visiting Prime Minister Trudeau.

Continued on Page 2

109 troops hurt

US not target here: Tehran

KUWAIT CITY, Feb 11, (Agencies): The Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Kuwait, Mohammad Irani, says his country has no intention of attacking American interests in Kuwait and pointed out that the Kuwaiti authorities have assured Tehran that Kuwait will not be used as a launching pad to target Iran, reports Al-Rai daily.

He also praised the

Continued on Page 2

Interior linked to firms for Article 18 holders

KUWAIT CITY, Feb 11: Assistant Undersecretary for Residence Affairs at the Ministry of Interior Major-General Talal Ma'arafi said those holding residence permits under Article 18, as of March 1, 2020, will be able to renew them online using the Interior Ministry official website, reports Al-Qabas daily.

Ma'arafi told the daily the General Department for Residence Affairs of the Ministry of Interior is now linked with the companies and institutions and this automation will now allow them to renew the residence permits online which means the company representatives will no longer have

to go to the residence affairs departments.

Ma'arafi said a separate password has been issued for each company and institution through which a particular company can access the system and follow the steps and renew the residence permit without any complications or fear of breaches from hackers.

He explained the companies are currently being trained on the working of the new system by specialized personnel in the Interior Ministry.

This step will benefit more than one and a half million residents and expatriates. This is the second stage after the successful application of the first stage that included those under Article 20 visa (domestic workers).

According to Ma'arafi, the third stage will include all those on dependent visas.

NewsWatch

KUWAIT CITY: Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud Tuesday met His Highness the Prime Minister of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah and his accompanying delegation, in presence of Saudi Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Minister and Defense Minister Mohammad bin Salman.

Emerging from the meeting, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled said he was honored to meet the Saudi King and the Crown Prince, to whom he conveyed the greetings of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, wishing the Kingdom perpetual progress and prosperity.

Voicing much happiness at his visit to the Kingdom, the Kuwaiti prime minister said Saudi Arabia and Kuwait enjoy close and time-tested fraternal bonds.

He quoted the Saudi king as having stressed brotherly and historical relations between both countries, calling for promoting and developing bilateral cooperation in various fields that serve mutual interests.

His Highness the Prime Minister added that he had listened to the Saudi king's views on an array of regional and international issues and the latest global developments, speaking highly of his insight and shrewdness.

He noted that his visit to the Kingdom reflected historical relations between both countries and showed appreciation for the Kingdom's balanced policy and efforts to safeguard regional security and stability.

Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled voiced much thanks and appreciation to the Kingdom's leadership, government and people for warm welcome and hospitality he was accorded during his visit. (KUNA)

BERLIN: The 56th Munich Security Conference will be held on Feb 14-16 to discuss several security challenges and issues.

Chairman of the conference Wolfgang Ischinger presented on Monday the current session's report.

He said the participants would discuss within three days the key security challenges which concern the international group whether relating to the wars and crises in the Middle East region, mainly Syria, Libya and Yemen, the US-Iran crisis, the differences between the two sides of the Atlantic and climate challenges. (KUNA)

KUWAIT CITY: Kuwait launched on Monday the first International Conference on Applications of Air Quality in Science and Engineering to address air pollution issues, reports Xinhua.

More than 100 air quality experts and researchers from 40 countries around the globe attended the three-day event.

Organized by the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR), the gathering aims to support efforts to create a healthy, comfortable and productive environment by improving air quality through science and technology.

KISR director-general Samira Omar said air pollution is the largest environmental threat to health in the world as it causes the death of about 7 million people annually.

"WHO reports indicated that 9 out of 10 people breathe polluted outdoor air beyond acceptable levels set by the WHO guidelines," she noted.

RIYADH: A Jazeera Airways plane made a safe emergency landing in the Prince Sultan Airport in the city of Tabuk, in Saudi Arabia, reports GDNOnline.com.

The plane which was carrying 156 passengers in addition to the crew took off from Kuwait International Airport.

The pilot contacted the airport control tower and requested an emergency landing, reporting a fire in the cabin crew.

Implement N-material protection pact: Kuwait

VIENNA, Feb 11, (KUNA): Kuwait underlined the importance of executing the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material at talks hosted by the International Atomic Energy Agency on Monday.

Ambassador to Austria and Permanent Representative to UN agencies in Vienna Sadeq Marafi said the pact was a step towards strengthening global mechanisms to prevent nuclear terrorism.

Taking part in the three-day talks, which began on Monday, were high-level officials and ministers representing over 130 member states of the IAEA alongside 35 international, regional and non-government organizations and experts.

He looked forward to a conference on the matter next year, saying that the success of these talks would depend on the international community's sincere collective desire to enhance global nuclear security.

The world faces unprecedented challenges and complications which pose a threat to international peace and security, said Marafi, given the prevailing situation in several parts of the world.

Nuclear security, in particular, has emerged increasingly as one of the most pressing regional issues, he added.

Priorities

The matter tops the Kuwaiti government's priorities, he said, explaining that the country has sought to cooperate with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and countries in the region, particularly the Gulf Cooperation Council on the matter.

This cooperation aims to strengthen legal and regulatory frameworks for the safety and security of radioactive materials.

It also aims to establish the appropriate infrastructure and national capacities to ensure the security of radioactive material facilities and to eliminate the illegal trafficking of nuclear and radioactive materials.

This interest has been translated through Kuwait's previous hosting of a regional workshop on strengthening the regulatory frameworks for nuclear security and plans to host an expert IAEA mission to review Kuwait's strategy to uncover nuclear security for materials outside regulatory control.

A national training course will also be held in Kuwait on the security of radioactive materials in use and storage and a workshop to unify draft regulations for the safe transport of radioactive materials.

Continued on Page 2



Emergency services pull a body of a boy killed in a government airstrike in the city of Idlib, Syria on Feb 11. The latest violence in Idlib came as government forces came closer to capturing the last rebel-held part of a strategic highway linking southern and northern Syria, which would bring the road under Syrian President Bashar Assad's full control for the first time since 2012. (AP)

Insurgents down Syria helicopter

BEIRUT, Feb 11, (AP): Syrian rebels shot down a government helicopter Tuesday in the country's northwest where Syrian troops are advancing, killing the two crew members on board in a fiery crash. Keeping up a relentless bombing campaign, a government airstrike killed at least seven civilians, opposition activists said.

The latest violence in Idlib came as government forces came closer to capturing the last rebel-held part of a strategic highway linking southern and northern Syria, which would bring the road under Syrian President Bashar Assad's full control for the first time since 2012.

With backing from Russia, Syrian troops have been on the offensive for weeks in the last rebel stronghold in Idlib province and parts of nearby Aleppo, triggering a humanitarian crisis with some 700,000 people fleeing their homes and surging north toward the Turkish border.

Continued on Page 2



Anti-government protesters throw stones towards riot police and Lebanese army soldiers, during a protest in downtown Beirut, Lebanon on Feb 11. Lebanese security forces fired tear-gas to disperse thousands of protesters near the parliament building in Beirut, where the new Cabinet was expanding on its policy statement on Tuesday ahead of a confidence vote by lawmakers. (AP)

Travel ban urged on corruption suspects

MP chases expat reinstatement

By Saeed Mahmoud Saleh
Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Feb 11: MP Safa'a Al-Hashem has forwarded questions to Minister of Justice, Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Dr Fahad Mohamad Al-Afasi on the re-appointment of an expatriate legal affairs employee at the Coordination and Follow up Office without consulting the CSC.

She said the employee was terminated as per the decision issued on Aug 21, 2019 and was reappointed according to the decision issued on Jan 14, 2020. She pointed out that a total of KD 5,550 was paid to the employee as salary for the period between the termination and reappointment decisions.

She inquired about the reasons behind withdrawal of the decision to terminate the employee, the latter's re-appointment, and payment of salary for the period between the issuance of the two decisions.

Meanwhile, MP Abdulkareem Al-Kandari has presented a draft law for the Public Prosecution to impose travel ban on those accused of violating Article 24 of the Public Funds Protection Act, those accused of earning profits illegally as per Article 48 of the law on the establishment of the Anti-Corruption Public Authority (NAZAHA), and ministers facing lawsuits for grave violations.

Moreover, the parliamentary Priorities Committee prioritizes important draft laws and forwards recommendations on these draft laws to the National Assembly, says MP Ahmed Al-Fadl in response to citizens who complained about the alleged delay in discussing such draft laws through social media platforms.

Al-Fadl clarified that the role of the committee is not obligatory according to Article 43 of the decree on its formation. He affirmed the National Assembly Office takes into consideration the committee's recommendations but a parliamentary session usually starts with the discussion of four items in the agenda before moving to other items. He stressed the problem is not the committee and it is not the mistake of the office or Assembly Speaker. He revealed the problem is that some MPs submitted requests to allot part of the sessions for discussing issues like corona virus and the deal of the century before tackling the urgent bills. He added the Assembly approved such requests and no one can change its decision.

In addition, MP Osama Al-Shaheen has submitted a draft law amending Law No. 15/1979 on organizing the Civil Service Commission (CSC). Besides Al-Shaheen, MPs Dr Houdoud Al-Khudair, Farraj Zebn Al-Erbeid, Abdulwahab Al-Babtain and Omar Al-Tabtabaei signed the draft law to ensure it is included in the priorities of the Assembly.

The draft law stipulates adding an article to the abovementioned law to prevent the reshuffling of female employees, unless they request it, while they are on maternity leave or other leave days to take care of their child or for other family related reasons.

In the explanatory note of the bill, Al-Shaheen disclosed he decided to submit the proposal after noticing that female employees are being reshuffled against their will while they are on leave for family reasons like giving birth as if they are being

Continued on Page 2

Troops train in NATO 'shuffle'

BRUSSELS, Feb 11, (AP): NATO countries are preparing to move more than 200 trainers working with the international force fighting the Islamic State group in Iraq to the military alliance's own mission there helping to build up the Iraqi army in response to President Donald Trump's demand that US allies do more in the Middle East, senior officials said Tuesday.

The move - essentially a "re-badging" exercise as troops shift from the anti-IS coalition to NATO control - will be high on the agenda Wednesday when NATO defense ministers meet in Brussels to weigh exact troop numbers.

"There are several areas where the training is really overlapping," US NATO envoy Kay Bailey Hutchison told reporters.

NATO agreed in 2018 to launch a training mission in Iraq involving around 500 troops with the aim of building up the country's armed forces so they could better combat extremist groups. Only the anti-IS coalition fights extremists.

But the NATO operation was put on hold last month after a US missile strike at Baghdad airport killed Iran's top general, and the Iraqi government and parliament demanded that foreign troops leave its territory. As tensions mounted, Trump insisted that the alliance should do more in the region.