



Left: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, (center): with Speaker and (right): with Prime Minister.



His Highness the Amir with His Highness Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah.

His Highness the Amir's audience

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah at Bayan Palace on Monday after he represented

His Highness at the closing ceremony of the King Abdulaziz fourth Camel festival, which was held in Riyadh. His Highness the Amir also received National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Ali Al-Ghanim.

His Highness the Amir received His Highness Sheikh Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah. Moreover, His Highness hosted His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad

Al-Sabah. His Highness the Amir received Chairman of Kuwait's Supreme Judicial Council and the Cassation Court, and President of the Constitutional Court, Justice Yousef Al-Mutawaa.

Domestic labor office owners must ink agreement with PAM

Justifications for budget deficit cover interests of capitalists

KUWAIT CITY, Jan 27: Public Authority for Manpower (PAM) has called on owners of domestic labor recruitment offices to sign domestic labor contracts either by the owners of the licenses or by their legal representatives, reports Al-Anba daily.

PAM stated that the legal representative of the company must visit the authority in case the company is summoned for dealing with complaints submitted about the domestic workers.

It affirmed that this step is as per circular No. 2/2020 regarding contracts for domestic employment and rules of the laws.

Meanwhile, the Secretary-General of Kuwait Progressive Movement Ahmed Al-Dayyen blamed the executive and the legislative authorities and major capitalists in the country for the budget deficit, considering government's interpretation of budget deficit is not neutral and conducive to the influential class of the ruling class and capitalists, reports Al-Rai daily.

At a recent symposium organized by the Progressive Movement titled "You are the reason" at its headquarters, Al-Dayyen said the movement is based on socialist idea that the state is not neutral in any country, because government is usually in the hands of the dominant class. Consequently, we understand that its laws, budget and decisions are often conducted in the interest of the class having economic control; thus they are not at the same space with the classes of society.

Explained

He explained that government's justifications for budget deficits come to cover the interests of the ruling class and capitalists. He pointed out that deficit is no financial shortage for the state's economic position, but rather a deficit in its financial estimates, simply because they do not consider among the revenues the returns of investments achieved by the Public Reserve Fund, the Incoming Generations Fund, social security or oil investment.

He stated the state attributes budget deficit to inflation of salaries, wages and subsidies on the pretext that this section consumes 71 percent of expenditure, so he sees the solution in reducing salaries and subsidies and not appointing Kuwaitis in government sectors.

He also suggested stopping the increase of salaries and pensions, reducing government spending in social aspects, reducing spending on services such as health, education, etc, and working to increase the prices of electricity and gasoline, while privatizing the state's sectors.

Al-Dayyen added, "Those who speak this opinion attribute the reason for the budget deficit to the economic role the state plays in serving society. The opinion is biased against the interests of the vast majority of people in the interest of the big capitalists".

He acknowledged the existence of a budget deficit and erosion in the state's general reserves, which he attributed to the presence of structural imbalance in the Kuwaiti economy. He said, "This economy is not productive but reactionary, while it performs a backward function based on the export of crude oil and importing products from abroad." He continued, "This economy, which depends on a single, fluctuating and depleted resource, is inherently destructive and the solution lies in development. The progressive movement anticipates a deep crisis, and in this case, it will continue as long as no alternative development solution is present."

He explained "the real causes of deficit, as the movement sees it, lies in the inflated volume of government spending from one year to another in an irrational manner, and that the estimates of expenditures increased during four fiscal years from 18.892 billion dinars in 2016-2017 to 22.500 billion dinars in 2019-2020. This is an exaggerated increase that is not com-



Left to right: Mrs Sriatha Sagar, Ambassador K. Jeeva Sagar, Kuwait Deputy Foreign Minister Khaled Al-Jarallah and Rajpal Tyagi.



Photos from the event

Photos by Mohammad Morsi

Kuwait FM, diplomats and Indians attended in large numbers

Indian Embassy holds reception to mark country's 71st 'Republic Day'

By Cinatra Alvares Arab Times Staff

The Indian Embassy held a reception to celebrate the country's 71st Republic Day at the Millennium Hotel on Sunday evening, marking the anniversary of India officially adopting its constitution. The event was attended by Kuwait Deputy Foreign Minister Khaled Al-Jarallah along with other members of Kuwait's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Kuwaiti Diplomatic Corps, and distinguished members of the Indian expatriate community.

The Ambassador of India to Kuwait, HE K. Jeeva Sagar, in his opening remarks, stated "This was the day in 1950 that India declared itself a republic through its own constitution; our constitution defined us as a free and sovereign nation and called upon its people and government to be secular, democratic and inclusive. The robust India that you see today continues to be guided by the ideals enshrined in this noble document."

He thanked HH The Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah for his warm feelings towards the Indian community and India and in turn conveyed best wishes for his good health and happiness.

Ambassador Jeeva Sagar also conveyed his sincere gratitude and appre-

ciation to the entire Kuwait Ministry of Foreign Affairs and especially Asian affairs division led by the Assistant Foreign Minister for Asian Affairs, HE Ambassador Ali Sulaiman Al-Saeed, for the excellent cooperation extended to himself and the Embassy.

For a relatively small country, he praised the size of the humanitarian heart of Kuwait's leader, and stated that the happiness and joy seen on the faces of Kuwaiti people as well as the foreigners living in this country, more than compensates for its small numbers. He stressed that it was the quality of life and not the quantity that mattered. He pointed to the sheer number of diplomatic missions in Kuwait as a testament to Kuwait's good standing in the International community, commended the dignity, vibrancy and commitment with which Kuwait conducted its term during its United Nations Security Council membership that ended only recently. "Dear Kuwait, may you and your people continue to flourish and prosper", he added.

Speaking on Indian-Kuwaiti bilateral relations, he conveyed the words of a senior Kuwaiti dignitary – "The test of true friendship lies in times of adversity and as far as Kuwait is concerned India has passed the test with flying colours. You have stood by

us whenever we needed you both in good times and bad time. Our friendship was forged when Kuwait was a poor trading nation plying its wares by small boats. Today, we are proud of our prosperity with humility and we will never forget those who shared their affection when we were struggling. We will always cherish our historical relations with your great country, India."

Ambassador Jeeva Sagar assured and reaffirmed that India strongly reciprocates Kuwait's sentiments, "India values Kuwait's friendship very highly."

remarking on the Indian expatriate community in Kuwait, he compared them to "heroes whose stories abound with each and every human emotion that God has conceived in his creation – love, sacrifice, uncompromising honesty and integrity, grit and determination, never give up spirit and will power, enduring courage, compassionate commitment, indefatigable endurance, grace, poise and dignity."

He highlighted the many successes Indian community members had accomplished, "There is no field of activity where they have not made their mark or contributed to the development of the friendly country of Kuwait. I would like to salute all of these Indian community members."

mensurate with the increase in the number of Kuwaitis."

He believes that "the deficit is as result of funds wastage and undue advantages that take place through tenders in hundreds of millions of dinars, while the real cost is lower, in addition to the courtesies government provides to construction companies through variation orders in its projects. Also, corruption is one of the most important aspects of the

deficit in state budget, as in 2018, the total sum embezzled, according to cases being reviewed in courts other than cases that were covered up, are worth 2,400 billion dinars".

For his part, member of the Political Bureau of the Progressive Movement Dr Hamad Al-Ansari said the estimated budget deficit of about 9.2 billion dinars is mainly due to financial mismanagement and corruption, considering the deficit in budget is a

natural product of government's approach to wastage, undue advantage and lack of seriousness in the fight against corruption.

Al-Ansari called for the implementation of progressive tax on large incomes, rather than discussing the value-added tax, which equals the poor with the rich and burdens private sector with part of the national responsibility to reduce pressure on government sector.

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| Prayer Timings | | Umm Al-Maradem 17 13 - 6ft SE | |
|----------------|-------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Fajr | 05:17 | Sea Island Buoy | 17 11 - 6ft SE |
| Sunrise | 06:40 | | |
| Dohr | 12:01 | | |
| Asr | 15:02 | | |
| Maghreb | 17:23 | | |
| Isha | 18:42 | | |

| Weather | | 4 days forecast - Marine | |
|---|---------|--|------------------------|
| Expected weather for the next 24 hours: | | Tuesday, Jan 28 | |
| By Day: Rather cold with light to moderate freshening at times north westerly wind, with speeds of 15-42 km/h. | | Expected weather: Fair | |
| By Night: Cold with light to moderate north westerly wind, with speeds of 15-38 km/h and some scattered clouds will appear. | | Sea state: Slight to moderate | |
| Station | Min Max | Wave height: 1-4 ft | Wave direction: NW-VRB |
| Kuwait City | 18 10 | Max Temp: 20 | Wind Speed: 08-30 km/h |
| Kuwait Airport | 18 06 | Min Temp: 07C | |
| Abdaly | 18 05 | Wind Direction: NW-VRB | |
| Bubyan | 18 06 | Wind Speed: 08-30 km/h | |
| Jahra | 18 07 | Wednesday, Jan 29 | |
| Falilaka Island | 17 11 | Expected weather: Fair and partly cloudy with a chance for fog forming at night. | |
| Salmiyah | 18 09 | Sea state: Slight to moderate | |
| Ahmedi | 20 08 | Wave height: 2-5 ft | |
| Nuwaisib | 19 07 | Max Temp: 21C | |
| Wafra | 16 04 | Min Temp: 08C | |
| Salmiyah | 16 04 | Wind Direction: SE-NW | |
| | | Wind Speed: 10-38 km/h | |

| 4 days forecast - Weather | | Friday, Jan 31 | |
|--|--|--|--|
| Tuesday, Jan 28 | | Expected weather: Fair and some scattered clouds will appear | |
| Expected weather: Fair | | Sea state: Slight to moderate | |
| Max Temp: 20C | | Wave height: 1-3 ft | |
| Min Temp: 07C | | Max Temp: 21C | |
| Wind Direction: NW-VRB | | Min Temp: 08C | |
| Wind Speed: 08-30 km/h | | Wind Direction: VRB-SE | |
| | | Wind Speed: 06-26 km/h | |
| Wednesday, Jan 29 | | Tide times at Shuwaikh Port | |
| Expected weather: Fair and partly cloudy with a chance for fog forming at night | | 1st high tide: 14:33 | |
| Max Temp: 21C | | 2nd high tide: 01:03 | |
| Min Temp: 08C | | 1st low tide: 08:12 | |
| Wind Direction: SE-NW | | 2nd low tide: 19:50 | |
| Wind Speed: 10-38 km/h | | Sunrise: 06:42 | |
| | | Sunset: 17:22 | |
| Thursday, Jan 30 | | Recorded yesterday at Kuwait Airport | |
| Expected weather: Fair and visibility will improve gradually and some scattered clouds will appear | | Max temp: 18C | |
| Max Temp: 22C | | Min temp: 08C | |
| Min Temp: 08C | | Max Rh: 34% | |
| Wind Direction: NW-VRB | | Min Rh: 30% | |
| Wind Speed: 08-32 km/h | | Max Wind: NW 57 km/h | |
| | | Total Rainfall in 24 hrs: 0 mm | |
| Friday, Jan 31 | | Recorded yesterday at South Dolphin | |
| Expected weather: Fair and some scattered clouds will appear | | Min/Max/ Air Temp: 00/-0C | |
| Max Temp: 21C | | Min/Max Rel Hum: - | |
| Min Temp: 08C | | Wind Direction/Wind Speed: N/- km/h | |
| Wind Direction: VRB-SE | | Prev Wave Dir/Max Wave Ht: N/-ft | |
| Wind Speed: 06-26 km/h | | Min/Max Sea Surface Temp: -/-0C | |
| | | Sea Current: Upwelling | |

| Marine Forecast | | | | |
|-----------------|---------|---------|----------|---------------|
| Station | Max Exp | Min Rec | Sea Surf | Today's Waves |
| South Dolphin | - | - | - | 6ft SE |
| Umm Mudayrah | - | - | - | 6ft SE |
| Beacon M28 | - | - | - | 6ft SE |
| Beacon N6 | - | - | - | 6ft SE |
| Qaruh Island | 17 | 14 | - | 6ft SE |

deaths

Abdullah Bader Mohammad Al Mudaf, 41 years old, buried on Monday. Condolences: (Men) Da'iyah, Block 4, Street 45, House 3, Tel. 99929911. (Women) Abu Al Hassaniyah, Block 9, Street 44, House 86, Tel. 99010493; **Sayed Fathel Ali Al Hashmi**, 89 years old, buried on Monday. Condolences: (Men) Huseiniyat ul Marafie, Tel. 66589747. (Women) Jabriyah, Block 9, Street 6, House 49, at pm only; **Shama Melfi Mubarak Al Hadiya**, 76 years old, widow of Hamdan Humoud Al Hadiya, buried on Monday. Condolences: (Men) Jaber Al Ahmad, Block 1, Street 148, House 475, Tel. 99075377. (Women) Qosour, Block 2, Street 19, House 9, Tel. 67710012; **Fahad Fraih Al Ali Al Feraj**, 88 years old, buried on Monday. Condolences: (Men) Omariyah, Diwan Al Feraj, Block 3, Street 3, House 49, Tel. 66390490. (Women) Zahra, Block 4, Street 411, House 55; **Fatima Ahmad Ahmad Al Eid**, 77 years old, buried on Monday. Condolences: (Men) Sulaibkhat, Al Huseiniyat Al Hashimiya, Block 4, Street 114, Avenue 1, House 1, Tel. 55440770. (Women) Da'iyah, Huseiniyat Qamar Bani Hashim, Block 2, Street 23, House 31, Tel. 99667167; **Ahmad Abdul Aziz Abdul Aziz Ahmad**, 48 years old, buried on Monday. Condolences: (Men) Sabah Al Salem, Block 7, Street 1, Avenue 5, House 13, Tel. 55530059. (Women) Sabah Al Salem, Block 7, Street 1, Avenue 1, House 7, Tel. 99660607; **Mohammad Khaled Jassef Al Hamdan**, 31 years old, buried on Monday. Condolences: (Men) Fintas, Block 2, Diwan Al Hamdan, Tel. 99990986, 99446708. (Women) Fintas, Block 4, Street 103, House 433, Tel. 97669586; **Kamil Husein Ali Al Dashti**, 59 years old, buried on Monday. Condolences: (Men) Da'iyah, Al Baharna Mosque, Tel. 98730000. (Women) Rumaitiyyah, Huseiniyat Umm Al Baneen; **Husam Dawood Humoud Al Mutawa**, 53 years old, buried on Monday. Condolences: (Men) Shuwaikh, Diwan Al Qanaat, Tel. 24843681. (Women) Shaab, Block 4, Street 40, House 8, Tel. 22665522; **Khadeeja Isa Abdul Karim Al Sharhan**, 72 years old, widow of Nasser Fahad Al Alaaj, to be buried on Tuesday after Asr prayers. Condolences: (Men) Qadisiya, Block 9, Cairo Street, Opp. Hawaly, Diwan Al Sharhan, Tel. 99027825. (Women) Qosour, Block 7, Street 38, House 69; **Ayesha Yousef Ali Bash**, 93 years old, widow of Abdul Aziz Abdul Rahim Ali Naqi, buried on Tuesday after Asr prayers. Condolences: (Men) Mishref, (begin from Wednesday), Tel. 60626655. (Women) Bayan, Block 3, Street 1, Avenue 1, House 8.