



The completely destroyed apartment.

Two injured in apartment fire

Acting on information firemen rushed to a house in Sabah Al-Salem and put out fire in one of the rooms on the first floor, reports Al-Seyassah daily. The fire was put out by firemen from

Mishref and Al-Qurain fire centers. Two people who were injured were rushed to a hospital by personnel from the Emergency Medical Services affiliated to the Ministry of Health.



The 'meth' paste seized by the securitymen.

Police hunt for 'meth' smuggler

Personnel from the General Department for Drugs Control (GDDC) are looking for an unknown person who tried to smuggle a quantity of meth paste via the mail from an unidentified Asian country, reports Al-Anba daily.

The air cargo personnel suspected a parcel and upon opening it, found it contained 300 grams of chemical paste.

A security source said the data of the recipient will be verified to reach the suspect.

45th Int'l Book Fair postponed

Kuwait shifts cultural activities to '21 due to coronavirus crisis

KUWAIT CITY, July 20, (KUNA): Kuwait's Information Minister Mohammad Al-Jabri decided to postpone this year's cultural and artistic festivals and activities of the National Council of Culture, Art and Letters (NCCAL) to 2021.

Al-Jabri, acting upon a recommendation of NCCAL's Committee of Trustees, also postponed Kuwait 45th International Book Fair, originally scheduled for November, due to the coronavirus pandemic, NCCAL Secretary General said Monday.

Kamel Al-Abduljalil, in a statement, attributed postponement decision to the massive disruption and damage caused by Covid-19 on services and development sectors including culture, art, antiquities and museums.

Al-Jabri, also NCCAL Chairman, took this decision for the sake of safety and well-being of public and visitors as well as in line with the instructions of the health and security authorities, he said.

Al-Abduljalil described the decision as "painful but necessary."

"We feel sorry to lose direct connection with our audience in theaters, exhibitions, museums, historic buildings and libraries," he said. He commended NCCAL's staff who were exerting efforts to continue providing cultural and artistic activities to the public virtually.

NCCAL, said Al-Abduljalil, was considering holding a virtual platform to replace Kuwait International Book Fair before end of November.

'No private jets for ministers ... except for an urgent need'

'KD 22m estimates of govt aircraft operations in '19/20 budget'

KUWAIT CITY, July 20: In conjunction with government's move to rationalize spending as a tool to counter budget deficits, a ministerial source affirmed that the use of private aircraft by ministers is not open wide. Rather, it is linked to urgent need and regulation, reports Al-Qabas daily.

The source said that estimates of government aircraft operations in the budget for fiscal year 2019/2020 were approximately 22 million dinars. He detailed the government aircraft operating estimates in the budget for fiscal year 2020/2021, noting they amounted to 21.9 million dinars and 18 million dinars in the 2020/2021 draft budget of the Amiri Diwan.

He added, "The use of government aircraft is subject to specific regulations, and ministers do not require the use of private aircraft for their official duties unless there is an urgent need for that."

On the other hand, the source renewed the governmental assurance to proceed on rationalizing spending within the reform plans deemed indispensable at the current stage. He explained that spending on construction projects will be carried out according to four main controls as follows: "The priority of project in terms of importance, ability of the executive bodies, productivity and economic returns, improving services and sustainable development."

Vision

On the general vision of the State's general future budget, especially with regard to handling and resolving estimated deficits in the State's general budget, the source stated the Ministry of Finance has directed government agencies on the need to adhere to rationalizing government spending in accordance with Cabinet Resolution No. 51 of 2014 urging all different government agencies to take serious procedures to rationalize expenditure, and to determine expenditures can that be dispensed with and not to include them in the estimates.

"With regard to the requirements of the authorities in construction projects, consideration is given to the order of priorities according to their importance, and in a manner commensurate with the executive capacity of the relevant authorities focusing on productive projects with economic returns necessary



Photo by Mohammad Morsi

Huge crowd of expatriates line up to receive food parcels being provided by charity organizations in Farwaniya which is under total lockdown.

Total of 38,505 foreign spouses of Kuwaiti men obtained Kuwaiti citizenship since '93

KUWAIT CITY, July 20: A total of 38,505 foreign women married to Kuwaitis obtained Kuwaiti citizenship according to Article Eight of the Nationality Law from 1993 until the beginning of 2020, reports Al-Rai daily quoting Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Anas Al-Saleh.

Article Eight of the law states that "Kuwaiti nationality may be granted by decree upon the recommendation of the minister of interior to a foreign woman who marries a Kuwaiti national provided that she declares her wish to acquire Kuwaiti na-

tionality and that the marriage shall have lasted for at least 15 years from the date of her declaration.

"All or part of the above requirement as to time may be waived upon the recommendation of the minister of interior. In the event of such woman's marriage being terminated by divorce or the death of her husband, and if a child had been or is born to her by her husband, Kuwaiti nationality may be granted to her by decree upon the recommendation of the minister of interior, provided that she maintains her lawful and normal residence in Kuwait until the

end of such 15-year period."

The above-mentioned figure is part of the minister's response to the queries of MP Ahmad Al-Fadl. The daily obtained a copy of the response stating that 1,426 foreign women married to Kuwaitis were naturalized every year or 118 per month in the last 27 years.

In addition, the foreign women who obtained Kuwaiti citizenship as per Article Eight of the law from 1993 to 1999 reached 10,403; 16,305 from 2000 to 2010; and 11,797 from 2011 until the beginning of 2020.

to improve the services provided to citizens. This is to activate the wheel of the national economy in accordance with the goals of sustainable development."

The source emphasized the concern to provide financial requirements of the authorities for radical maintenance of the existing projects, including machinery and equipment to preserve the assets in order to achieve full benefit and to extend their life and productivity. He mentioned the initiatives outlined in the aforementioned "fiscal sustainability" axis represent the necessary recommendations for avoiding deficits that were reached

after several meetings and discussions.

He pointed out that the initial estimates of expenditures submitted by government agencies are subject to a detailed review to exclude any overestimation before preparing the draft budget that is presented to the Cabinet before it is submitted to the National Assembly.

What are the results of the investigation into the Karakal deal?

MP Thamer Al-Suwait asked the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Ahmad Al-Mansour about the outcome of the technical committee formed last

February to determine the suspicions of the "Karakal planes" deal.

Al-Suwait asked, in a parliamentary question to the minister, to provide him with the number of members of the committee, both military and civilian, and the reason for the head of the committee and his deputy, who are at the ranks of brigadier general and colonel, to resign and apologize for completing their duties.

Did they apologize by their desire or based on oral orders from senior officials in the military? What has the committee achieved since its formation and carrying out its work until now?

In line with stc's strategic vision towards enabling digital transformation

stc sponsors the first virtual Kuwaiti Media Forum 2020

AlJasem: We strive to continuously support talented entrepreneurs in various fields to benefit the Kuwaiti society and local economy

Kuwait Telecommunications Company – stc, a world-class digital leader providing innovative services and platforms to customers, enabling the digital transformation in Kuwait, announced its main sponsorship of the Kuwaiti Media Forum, a first of its kind virtual forum organized by the Kuwaiti Society for Media and Communication (KSMC) in collaboration with the Ministry of Information Kuwait, where stc has provided Microsoft Teams solution to enable this event.

Through its sponsorship and active participation in the virtual event which commenced with an opening key note speech from His Excellency Mr. Mohammed Al Jabri, Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs, stc contributed towards backing the local media presence through key industry insights within the media and communication arenas. The Company also focused on providing an educational and informative overview of the industry, while interlinking academics, media specialists and those in charge of local media affairs in a collaborative arena to share views and exchange experiences related to local, regional and international media outlets.

This sponsorship builds on stc's strategy to support innovative projects, technological transformations, small and medium-sized enterprises, and empowering young talented entrepreneurs to pursue crafts and skills in various disciplines.

Based on its corporate social responsibility agenda, stc participated and sponsored the event, which was held over the course of 3 days on Microsoft Team's virtual conferencing platform, a solution set up by stc. The purpose of the webinar was to discuss evolving media topics in Kuwait under the title "Searching today... to look into the future". A broad



Danah AlJasem

range of academics, media representatives, journalists, and public relations specialists participated in the interactive webinar, sharing their unique opinions and knowledge.

Commenting on the sponsorship, Danah AlJasem, General Manager of Corporate Communications at stc said, "stc's sponsorship of this event stems from the Company's progressive strategy to drive innovation especially within the realms of communication and information technology. In line with stc's



vision towards enabling digital transformation, this initiative serves as an additional platform in which stc can fulfil its ongoing commitment to deliver a variety of programs and solutions that benefit the Kuwaiti society and local economy."

AlJasem expressed her gratitude and appreciation to all parties involved in organizing the virtual event, which confirms the revolutionary step taken in hosting interactive conferences online, a service that stc offers its customers. The level of participation and engagement witnessed during the virtual conference elevated and enriched the user experience, while providing participants with convenient and reliable access.

She also thanked Mr Madi Al-Khamees, Chairman of the Kuwaiti Society for Media and Communication (KSMC) and its representatives, for their solid effort and dedication in organizing such a lucrative and high calibre event that connects both Kuwaiti and Arab experts operating in various media related fields.

It is worth noting that KSCM aims to focus primarily on media and communication developments, conducting specialized reports, and performing research on various media fields in the State of Kuwait. KSCM also specializes in providing consultations to entities within the public and private sectors concerning their areas of expertise.

To find out more about stc's sponsorships, promotions and events, follow stc's official social media platforms, visit one of stc's branches, download mystc mobile application, visit www.stc.com.kw or contact the customer service center by dialing 102 for around the clock assistance.

Accreditation of seven Chinese varsities OK'd

KUWAIT CITY, July 20: Minister of Education and Higher Education Dr Saud Al-Harbi issued a decision on the accreditation of seven Chinese universities for Kuwaitis who want to pursue undergraduate and doctoral studies in China, reports Al-Qabas daily.

The daily obtained a copy of the ministerial decree issued on July 9. Article One of the decree allows Kuwaitis to enroll in undergraduate and graduate programs offered by the accredited Chinese universities, except those studying medicine. These universities include Tsinghua University, Beijing University, Zhejiang University, Shanghai University, Jiao Tong University, University of Science and Technology of China, and Nanjing University.

The decision stated that the academic program should be in line with the traditional education system, there should be a regular attendance system during the school week, and the program of study must have passed the specified period for granting the academic degree to the first batch of graduates in the college that offered it, provided they hold bachelors and masters degrees, not PhD or executive programs.

The decision took effect from the date of issuance. It does not apply to Kuwaiti students who received accreditation from the Cultural Office in Australia, which handles the affairs of Kuwaiti students in China, before the issuance of this decision.

The decision is based on the resolution issued by the Board of Directors of the Academic Accreditation and Education Quality Assurance Authority during their meeting in March, as well as the recommendation of the committee tasked to suggest standards and review the list of higher education institutions outside the country.

Required for a Private School HR Clerk

- Fluent in English & Arabic (spoken and written)
- Excellent knowledge of Ministry of Interior, Manpower, and MOE applications (filling and typing)
- Excellent Computer skills
- Excellent Communications skills
- Excellent Clerical skills
- Minimum 3 years experience in the same field

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