

Other Voices

Dalal ... 'educational chaos'

By Ahmad alsarraf

Dalal's 'trauma' with Ministry of Higher Education deserves to be told. After Dalal graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, she joined a private company, and one day she heard of an offer made by the Kuwait Investment Authority (KIA) to send five young people to study in the best universities in the world to obtain a Master's degree.



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Dalal and two other young men grabbed the tempting scholarships offer from the KIA and the other two chairs offered remained empty.

Few young people know how to take advantage of opportunities, as many prefer to complain about low wages, and subsequently send messages weeping about bank loans and their interests there-off, and demanding they be dropped! What we have to do is ...

Dalal chose to join the prestigious French University of Insead, and one of the two young men went to the London Business School, and the third chose the Wharton University, the prestigious American University in Pennsylvania.

In 2007, Dalal obtained a Master's degree, but she was surprised by the refusal of higher education to respect her degree, because the university is not recognized and wondered at the choice of the KIA for accepting that university, and the acceptance by the Kuwaiti embassy in Paris, and the payment of the high university fees and expenses.

Dalal did not care at first, as she got a good job in an investment company in Switzerland, and they recognized her mastership degree with pleasure.

Because of family circumstances, she was forced to return to the homeland, work in a local job, and returned to the same drama, as the ministry refused to recognize her degree, and this greatly affected her salary, whether at

her workplace or in terms of labor support.

Nevertheless, Dalal was not let down, rather, she insisted on claiming her right, and increased her visits to the concerned authorities, but in the end she gave up, angry, sad and desperate, after the Higher Education informed her in 2016 that the ministry has lost her high school and bachelor's certificates which are very necessary to recognize Insead's certificate.

At the beginning of the current year, Dalal got an excellent opportunity, but it required the approval of the 'Central Bank of Kuwait' to assume her prestigious banking position, and it was necessary to present all her academic papers to be appointed, so she, with the support of her workplace, sought again to obtain a copy of her high school secondary certificate and authenticate together with bachelor's degree, which took six months, and her problem remained with her degree from Insead University and the continuing refusal of the Higher Education to recognize it.

Somebody asked her to appeal to the Ministry, and this is what she did. The Ministry formed a committee, and after deliberations, waiting for 13 years, with pain and loss of remarkable income, the backward ministry agreed to recognize her certificate.

For the knowledge of senior officials of the Ministry of Education, the French Insead College is the best business school in the world and it has been ranked first more than once, ahead of Harvard Business School, London Business School, the Wharton School, and Stanford University.

Can any sane person believe that all this 'educational' chaos occurs in a country that says it is a state of institutions and respects itself?

And who will punish those who have caused all this suffering and these losses of time, effort, and money of Dalal Ja'afar Behbehani?

As usual, no one!

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Photos by Mohammad Morsi.

A PAM official checking the workers identification cards. Inset: Another PAM official doing his duty.

Illegal expats held at Shaddadiya University site

The Committee comprising members from Social Affairs, Interior and the Public Authority for Manpower (PAM) organized a security check at the Shaddadiya University recently and arrested

71 violators of the residence and labor laws who were working on the university site, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

Some of these employees are believed to be house drivers,

shepherds and even some of them were found to be working for others, rather than their sponsors.

The daily added, the inspectors in plainclothes were seen manning the entry and exit gates.

Fahd Al Kandari Director of the committee said

all violators will be deported and the employer will be placed under a certain code in cooperation with the Residence Affairs Department.

Kuwait closes 6 firms for shipping subsidized foodstuff; action vowed

Audit points to financial violation by Communications Ministry

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 15, (Agencies): Kuwait's Ministry of Commerce and Industry said on Wednesday that its inspectors have closed six companies specialized in shipping food supplies as they were planning to send locally-subsidized catering overseas.

Legal measures are being completed against these firms to refer them to the commercial prosecution as they violated the executive regulation No. 117 of 2013, the ministry added in a press statement.

It stressed that it will not allow shipping these supplies outside the country.

It pointed out that its teams, in cooperation with Kuwait's General Administration of Customs, conducted made investigations over several companies across the country to make sure that that don't ship any subsidized commodities.

It affirmed that it will take legal measures against the violators, indicating that such subsidized supplies aim at mitigating sufferings of citizens and achieving food stability.

With a new blow to the smuggling of Kuwaiti supplies out of the country, an informed source in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry affirmed that efforts are continuing by customs to control the disbursement of supplies and prevent any diversion, reports Al-Rai daily.

The same source revealed that 51 accountants of a cooperative society had been referred to the Public Prosecution upon discovering differences in the quantities of supplies during the last inventory conducted by the ministry.

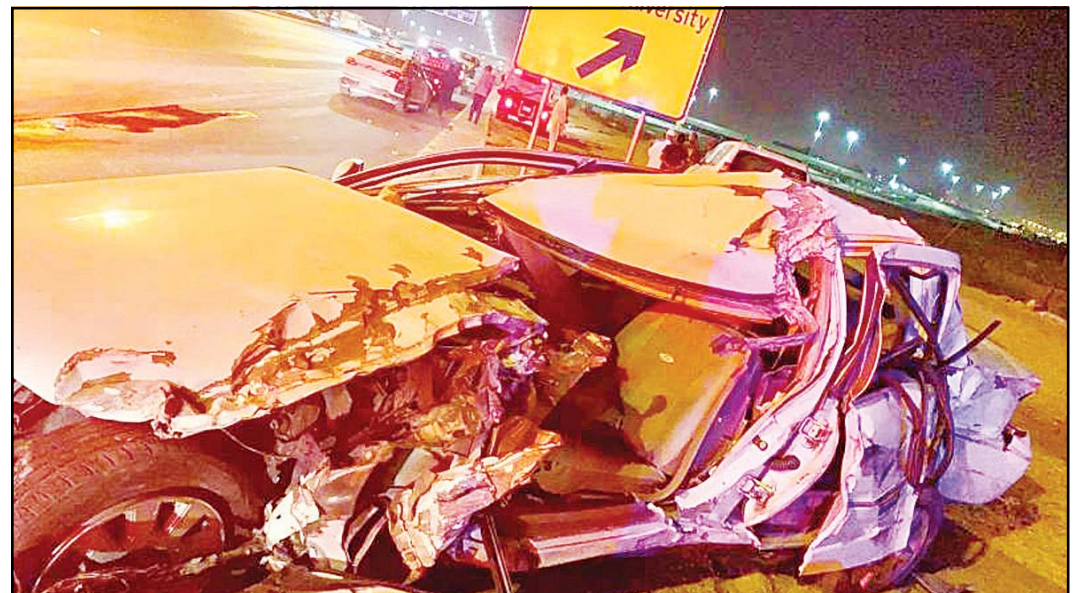
Customs points at the Salmi Port have thwarted over the recent past the smuggling of large quantities of supplies, ranging from milk, bread and oil estimated at tens of thousands of dinars loaded onto trucks heading to more than one Arab country.

He emphasized that strict procedures of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry prevent leakage as much as possible to keep matters under control, but it still remains at a rate less than one percent. He indicated the supply materials are only distributed through civil card while the ministry conducts periodic inventory operations, "so if any deficiency is discovered, the cooperative's accountant is referred to the Public Prosecution".

He said "there are some beneficiaries who unfortunately sell their shares or give them out to help expatriates, while others dispose of their supplies, either by selling, donating or assigning to others."

Financial violation: The State Audit Bureau has cited a new financial violation against the Ministry of Communications after it extended maintenance contract of Siemens switchboards without obtaining prior approval, reports Al-Qabas daily.

In a letter addressed to the under-secretary of the Ministry of Communications, the bureau indicated that the ministry was associated with signing the first extension of the contract before obtaining prior approval from the concerned bodies, which is in violation of the provisions of articles 13 and 14 of its



KFSD photo

Wreckage of the car belonging to the victims.

Kuwaiti dead, two critical in traffic mishap

A Kuwaiti died and two others were seriously injured following a traffic accident on the Jassem Al-Kharafi Road (Sixth Ring Road) opposite Abdullah Al-Mubarak suburb, reports Al-Rai daily.

The daily added, acting on information fire-fighters from the Jleeb Al-Shuyoukh Fire Center,

security personnel and personnel from the Emergency Medical Services rushed to the spot and referred the injured to the hospital and the corpse of the dead man to Forensics.

Meanwhile, police have located a US-made car which was wanted by the judiciary, reports

Al-Seyassah daily.

The daily added, the vehicle was found abandoned on the shoulder of the Fahaheel Motorway.

Police have lifted fingerprints from the vehicle to identify the person who might have abandoned it on the road.

Kuwaiti team airs frustration

Private oil sector workers demand equality

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 15: The hashtag #show your position# in Kuwait has gone viral on Twitter recently to reiterate the demand of some 14,000 Kuwaitis employed in private oil sector whose demand for equality with their colleagues in government oil sector have been ignored by Kuwait Petroleum Corporation, reports Al-Qabas daily.

Head of the volunteer team for workers in private oil sector told the daily that the hashtag represents the condition of workers in private oil sector, as a result of the continued arbitrariness of Kuwait Petroleum Corporation and its CEO in not granting them their rights and equality with their colleagues in government oil sector, and also in relation to failure to implement the decision of the Court of Cassation under the provisions of Law No. 28 of 1969 regarding oil business.

Head of the volunteer team

indicated the national workforce has become frustrated due to neglect and the absence of justice and equality, as it continues to suffer from unfair dismissal, lack of promotion and no increase in salaries, in addition to arduous work. Unfortunately, they registered with Social Security as office administrators, which will negatively affect their future prospect in the sector.

He reiterated the injustice has reached the point where complainants are terminated immediately if any of them submits a deserving complaint in relation to equality and the final ruling is issued in his favor.

Meanwhile, the Directorate General of Public Relations and Security Media Department of the Interior Ministry said 55,800 residence permits for expatriates have been renewed electronically between Sept 29 and Oct 5, 2020, reports Al-Rai daily quot-

ing ministry sources.

The sources stressed this is done out of the concern and keenness of the security establishment to protect the health of the community in light of the exceptional circumstances the country is passing through following the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The sources said the Ministry of Interior spares no efforts to develop service sectors to facilitate the citizens and residents. The sources also said the ministry continues to receive visitors who wish to complete residence renewal formalities online on the Ministry of Interior website www.moi.gov.kw.

The sources explained all transactions of the security establishment sectors are carried out through this mechanism to save time, effort, speed of completion, and the application of social distancing in service departments.

establishment law. It affirmed that the Financial Violations Department has been notified to take necessary action in relation to this violation, as well as the Post-Control Department to follow up the matter.

Meanwhile, the State Audit Bureau responded to the documents for completing the contract for the supply and installation of a telephone network for new residential areas, rehabilitating the existing telephone networks, and providing these areas with telephone service as a result of not responding to its inquiries.

In its statement, the bureau said, "The Ministry of Communication

did not adhere to the circular regarding the controls that all bodies involved with supervision must follow when submitting to prior control and adhering to the guide for preparing bid papers, draft contracts, engagements and agreements subject to prior control".

It called for the required fulfillment to complete its study and present its opinion on matter.

He pointed to coordination with the Ministry of Social Affairs to distribute administrative jobs in the catering branches and to stop appointing non-Kuwaitis to the aforementioned jobs within the framework of controlling the exchange outlets

and preventing the causes of wastage, indicating "Kuwaitis are more secure in administrative positions."

He clarified the Union of Consumer Cooperative Societies is concerned with the appointment process and organization of the sale process, noting the Ministry of Commerce has contracts with the sector and does not impose appointees, although the ministry has demanded more than once for Kuwaitization.

"Also, there is a tendency to hold transport companies legally responsible for packaging or transporting supplies abroad, as these materials are forbidden for a Kuwaiti to even take them out of the country", he said.



PCR tests conducted at the Saad Al-Abdullah Academy.

Academy conducts PCR tests

The Saad Al-Abdullah Academy for Security Sciences in coordination with the Public Health Department at the Ministry of Health, has tasked a mobile field survey team to conduct PCR tests for the emerging coronavirus on cadets, officers and non-commissioned officers (first sergeants) of the academy, reports Al-Anba daily quoting sources from the Directorate-General of Public Relations and Security Media Department of the

Interior Ministry.

The ministry said this is done in the best interest of everyone because of the circumstances the country is going through and prevent the spread of the Covid-19 and to ensure none of the students at the academy are infected with the virus.

The academy administration said these measures (PCR tests) will be periodic to preserve the health of students.

News in Brief

Nour expresses joy: The Kuwaiti actress Nour has completed filming her last scenes in the social drama series 'Beit Bayut', which is currently being filmed in Kuwait, reports Al-Anba daily.



Nour

Speaking to the daily Nour expressed her happiness that her part is complete which was hindered for the past ten months following the outbreak of the corona pandemic.

She says she plays the character of a girl whose sister dies and marries her husband so that she can have the opportunity to raise her children which later goes through strange paradoxes.

Regarding the rest of her work for this year, Nour after finishing the series 'Beit Bayut', her second work 'Summer Rain' begins with the great artiste Saad Al-Faraj and director Munaf Abdul and a large number of well-known artistes. The work is the masterpiece of Yasser Hamdani.

'Face masks must': In an effort to implement the decisions and directives issued by the health authorities and the Council of Ministers, trade associations, cooperative societies and markets have decided to prevent visitors from entering if they do not wear face masks, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

Well informed sources told the daily the committee headed by retired Lt General Abdul Fattah Al-Ali will which will begin work within days will start punishing violators of the decision and directives issued by the concerned au-

Citations issued

Parlors raided

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 15: The women's supervisory team affiliated to the Audit and Services Follow-up Department of the Farwaniya Municipal Branch organized a field inspection tour in cooperation with personnel from the Public Authority for Manpower (PAM) on beauty parlors and related activities in Riqqa and issued 16 citations and an equal number of warnings, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

Director of the department Dr. Nasser Al Rasheedi said in a press release that inspection was in line with Municipal decision No. 127/2020 to ensure women's beauty parlors comply with the health conditions in line with the instructions issued by the Health Authorities to limit the spread of corona virus.

Meanwhile, the Criminal Security Sector of the Ministry of Interior has issued orders to launch intensive investigations into theft of cars, particularly luxury vehicles, which seem to be the prime target of the thieves all over the country, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The security sources said senior officials in the ministry have issued strict instructions to arrest the gang and punish them.

The daily added, of late many vehicles have gone missing from the Jahra area, in what looks like a systematic work.

authorities, particularly if persons are found not wearing face masks and not adhering to social distancing inside markets, shops, complexes and public places.

The sources declared gatherings in diwanis, marriage functions and crowded places will be targeted by the committee.