

Prayer Timings
Fajr 05:17
Sunrise ... 06:38
Zohr 12:01
Asr 15:04
Maghrib ... 17:25
Isha 18:44

Local

VACCINE REGISTRATION WEBSITE: https://cov19vaccine.moh.gov.kw/SPCMS/CVD_19_Vaccine_Registration.aspx

Zain gains 7 fils, National Bank of Kuwait ends flat

Kuwait market closes month on buoyant note, volume swells

By John Mathews
Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Jan 31: Kuwait stocks swung higher on Sunday as it wrapped up the month on a buoyant note. The All Shares Index climbed 32.14 pts to 5,780 points paced by some of the heavyweights and mid-caps after witnessing a slight pullback in the previous session.

conglomerate KIPCO took in 1 fil. Warba Bank was down 5 fils at 242 fils while Noor Financial Investment paced 3 fils.

Zain climbed 7 fils to 640 fils on back of 7.5 million shares whereas Ooredoo stood pat at 686 fils after vacillating narrowly earlier in the session. stc sprinted 17 fils to 955 fils and logistics major Agility was up 4 fils at 753 fils.

The market opened firm and edged higher in early trade. The main index continued to climb amid moderate buying in some of the counters and scaled the day's highest level of 5,784 pts. It sagged slightly in the final minutes before closing with moderate gains.

Top gainer of the day, Kuwait Reinsurance Co soared a whopping 166.9 percent while IFA Hotels and Resorts darted 11.5 percent to stand next. Gulf Franchising Holding skidded 5 percent, the steepest decliner of the day and IFA Hotels and Resorts topped the volume with 37.6 million shares.

Mirroring the day's gains, the winners outnumbered the losers. 70 stocks advanced whereas 53 closed lower. Of the 141 counters active on Sunday, 18 closed flat. 13,016 deals worth KD 53.4 million were transacted during the session.

In the banking sector, National Bank of Kuwait was unchanged at 873 fils after trading 2.4 million shares and Borgan Bank too did not budge from its earlier close of 220 fils.

Commercial Bank paused at 501 fils with thin trading. Gulf Bank took in 1 fil on back of 12.5 million shares while Kuwait International Bank and Ahli United Bank added 2 fils each to close at 212 fils and 226 fils respectively. Al Ahli Bank trimmed 1 fil before settling at 209 fils.

Kuwait Investment Co rose 4 fils to 130 fils on back of over 5 million shares while International Financial Advisors scaled 5.8 fils with brisk trading. National Investment Co was up 3 fils at 150 fils and Securities House dialed up 1.3 fils after pushing 21.8 million shares. Arazul Financial Group clipped 1.2 fils.

Kuwait Financial Centre (Markaz) eased 0.5 fil to 82.5 fils and KMEFIC dialed down 1 fil ticked 1 fil into red. Aayan Leasing and Investment gave up 2 fils whereas Bayan Investment Co edged 0.8 fil up to 41.3 fils. KFIC erased 0.7 fil and Tamdeen Investment was down 4 fils at 306 fils.

National Real Estate Co rose 3 fils to 96 fils on back of 10.2 million shares whereas Salhia Real Estate whittled down 5 fils. Tamdeen Real Estate inched 1 fil into green and Ajial Real Estate scaled 4 fils to close at 196 fils.

National Industries Group was unchanged at 191 fils after pushing over 3 million shares and

Mezzan Holding dialed up 2 fils.

Boubyan Petrochemical Co eased 1 fil to 668 fils and Al Qurain Petrochemical Co gave up 5 fils before ending at 358 fils. Integrated Holding held ground at 368 fils whereas Aznour slipped 3 fils to 271 fils.

Jazeera Airways skidded 12 fils to 691 fils and ALAFCO closed 3 fils in red.

Mashaer Holding fell 2.7 fils to 58.8 fils after moving 1.6 million shares. United Projects Co scaled 4 fils while Mashaer Holding erased 2.7 fils. Oula Fuel clipped 2 fils whereas Soor Fuel stood pat at 124 fils. Al Rai Media Group eased 0.3 fil.

Kuwait Cement Co ticked 1 fil lower to 237 fils and Kuwait Portland Cement paused at 901 fils. Gulf Cable and Shuaiba Industrial dropped 8 fils each to end at 760 fils 160 fils respectively whereas Metal and Recycling Co scaled 8.4 fils.

NAPESCO fell 4 fils to 991 fils while KCPC gave up 3 fils. United Projects Co gained 4 fils and Independent Petroleum Group was unchanged at 480 fils. Borgan Company For Well Drilling was flat at 139 fils whereas Combined Group Contracting Co gave up 3 fils.

The market was largely upbeat during the previous week. The main index closed higher in three of the five sessions gaining 60 points week-on-week. It has rallied 233 points during whole of January after shedding 736 points during 2020.

Weather

Expected weather for the next 24 hours:

By Day: Fair with light variable wind to light to moderate north westerly wind with speeds of 08-30 km/h.

By Night: Rather cold with light to moderate north westerly wind to light variable wind with speeds of 06-26 km/h.

Table with 4 columns: Station, Max Exp, Min Rec, and values for Kuwait City, Kuwait Airport, Abdaly, Bubyan.

Table with 4 columns: Location, and values for Jahra, Failaka Island, Salmiyah, Ahmadi, Nuwaisib, Wafra, Salmiyah.

Market indicators table including: USS/KD 0.30270/80, Euro/KD 0.3679, Yen/KD 0.0028, British £/KD 0.4155, Indian Rs/KD 0.0041, Philippines Peso/KD 0.0063, FTSE -118.69 pts, Nikkei -534.03 pts, Gold 1839.65 per oz, NYMEX crude \$52.17 per barrel, Brent crude \$55.00 per barrel, LIBOR rate 0.20188%

Maids crisis looms; Ramadan is nearing

No to Manila demand

By Faris Al-Abdan
Al-Seyassah Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Jan 31: The Kuwaiti Federation of Domestic Labor Recruitment Agencies has warned of the consequences of falling into the crisis again - the crisis of the shortage of domestic workers in the labor market during the next stage, citing the inability to provide workers at reasonable prices in light of closing the door on other domestic labor exporting countries and continue dealing with one or two countries.

tries that export domestic workers, which is the Philippines, noting that neighboring countries have open agreements.

Al-Dakhnan said, "We have become bound by a certain nationality, which makes it control and impose its conditions without deterrence, calling on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to open dealing with African countries and to sign agreements with other countries if everyone wants to reduce prices, saying 'do not put us at the mercy of the Philippines'."



Speakers at a press conference held in the office of the union's president, Khaled Al Dakhnan, in Salwa a difference emerged during the meeting of Kuwait and the Philippines sides two days ago about adding a new condition in addition to adhering to the memorandum of agreement between the two countries.

Reduction

Director General of the Union of Domestic Workers' Offices Abdulaziz Al-Ali ruled out the possibility of reduction in domestic labor prices in light of 'difficulties' in dealing with labor-exporting countries, and put the ball in the government court for failure to sign memoranda of understanding with the countries that export domestic workers.

Secretary of the Union, Ali Shamouh, said that the issue of domestic workers is thorny and requires concerted efforts, while the Vice-President of the union Abdullah Lafi Al-Habaj stressed on the need for the government to move towards signing memoranda of understanding with new countries.

Condition

The sources said the Philippines demanded imposing a condition on recruitment agencies requiring them to pay a financial guarantee of \$10,000 that can be used of when a dispute occurs between the sponsor and the worker, which means the arrival of the workers will be delayed much after the holy month of Ramadan which falls in April.

Those who addressed the meeting indicated their absolute rejection of this condition, even if it meant stopping to bring in workers from the Philippines, especially since there are many false allegations made by some workers, stressing the offices are committed to the systems, regulations and clauses of Kuwaiti law and will not submit to the Philippines, which continues to raise false claims and tries to defame Kuwait in front of human rights organizations.

Al-Dakhnan stressed one of the objectives of the Union is to try to reduce the prices of bringing in domestic workers, but this seems to have reached a point of no return so as to say due to lack of cooperation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, indicating that the Union sought as much as possible during its visit to many countries to provide domestic workers at reasonable prices, but there is still one agreement from the coun-



Photo by Mohammad Morsi

Customers crowd at the 'prawn corner,' fish market in hunt for bargain deals.

Bye! bye! shrimp ... basket hits KD 115 at auction

As the local shrimp fishing season comes to an end, the fish market at Souq Sharq saw a huge crowd at the premises. The occasion was known as the 'Farewell Day of Shrimp.'

A large number of baskets were auctioned where the large basket price was in the range of KD 105 to KD 115. The medium and small size basket rates varied from KD 45 to KD 55.

We thank you all, says KAC

KUWAIT CITY, Jan 31: The Kuwait Airways Corporation (KAC) honored institutions and companies which contributed and helped in the efforts of the KAC to bring home Kuwaitis who were stranded abroad following the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020.

Chairman of the Board of Directors of the company, Ali Muhammad Al-Dukhan said: "Kuwait Airways is pleased to honor the entities and companies contributing to the support of the company's operations for the evacuation of citizens during the Coronavirus pandemic, in implementing the orders of the political leadership to bring our brothers and sisters to the homeland."

The planned operation was successful. He added, it is not strange for the people of Kuwait to serve their dear homeland in times of adversity, as they are always supportive of national missions.



Ali-Dukhan

mp profile getting to know you

Voting Record

- Demographics Law in 2020 - approved
■ Handicapped Affairs Law in 2020 - approved
■ Law on granting financial support to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to help them cope with the repercussions of the spread of coronavirus in 2020 - rejected
■ Law on adding a new article to the National Assembly Decree in 2020 - rejected
■ Amending Private Sector Labor Law in 2020 - approved
■ Amending Publishing and Printing Law in 2020 - rejected
■ Amending Future Generations Fund Law number 106/1976 in 2020 - approved
■ Amending Real Estate Rental Law number 35/1978 in 2020 - approved
■ Amending the Penal Code and Procedures Law number 17/1960 in 2020 - approved
■ Law number 1/ 2020 on developing the Kuwaiti-Saudi borders - rejected
■ Amending law number 77/ 2019 which specifies the annual maximum number

- of individuals who would be granted Kuwaiti citizenship in 2020 - approved
■ Death penalty for those convicted of offending God in 2012 - approved
■ Cancelling items in the grilling motion filed by Assembly Speaker Ahmed Al-Saoudun and MP Abdulrahman Al-Anjari against HH the Prime Minister Sheikh Nasser Al-Muhammad in 2011 - rejected
■ No cooperation motion against HH the Prime Minister Sheikh Nasser Al-Muhammad in June 2011 - approved
■ No cooperation motion against HH the Prime Minister Sheikh Nasser Al-Muhammad in January 2011 - approved
■ No confidence motion against Minister of Information Ahmed Al-Abdullah in 2010 - approved
■ Writing off interest of citizens' loans in 2010 - approved
■ No cooperation motion against the government in 2009 - rejected
■ No confidence motion against Minister of Interior Jaber Al-Khalid in 2009 - rejected

Shuaib Shabbab Al-Muwaizri
Independent/Sunni
Fourth Constituency
SHUAIB SHABBAB AL-MUWAIZRI was born in 1959 and holds a master's degree in Police Sciences.



Al-Muwaizri

He worked at the Ministry of Interior until he retired with the rank of colonel and then devoted himself to political activities.

He served as Minister of State for Housing and National Assembly Affairs.

He won in the 2009 parliamentary elections; during which he got 12,385 votes and ranked seventh in the Fourth Constituency.

During the 2009 Parliament, he was not among the lawmakers who were subjected to investigations for the suspicious swelling of bank accounts.

In the February 2012 elections; he won 10,781 votes and ranked seventh.

In the 2016 elections, he obtained 3,528 votes and ranked sixth.

In the 2020 elections, he won 6,200 votes which put him in first place in the Fourth Constituency.

Statement

Al-Muwaizri believes that whoever is keen on implementing re-

forms must take serious and prompt action to clean all institutions from the minority which spoils everything. He called for breaking alliances with such a minority, while

stressing the need to question and punish them. "We need a nation managed by honest leaders, away from this minority which controlled everything," he asserted.

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