

Legal violations in cleaning contracts cost State KD 20m

Contracts must be reconsidered: Al-Randi

By Abdel Nasser Al-Aslami
Al-Seyassah Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Feb 3: The committee that was formed to look into the irregularities in the Municipal Council related to the cleaning contracts has come to the conclusion that there was no oversight or account-

ability and may have cost the country nearly 20 million dinars due to legal violations.

The head of the committee, Abdul Salam Al-Randi, said the fact-finding committee was formed last September with three members from the municipal council Eng Abdul Salam Al-Randi (the committee chairman) and Eng Maha Al-Baghli (the committee's Rap-

porteur) Ahmed Hadian Al-Enezi (member of the committee), to study and discuss hygiene contracts and the state of hygiene in the country, by inviting the concerned state agencies to find out the most important causes of the deterioration of the hygiene situation in Kuwait and discuss the most important observations and propose solutions to develop the upcoming hygiene contracts to suit the urban expansion of Kuwait and population growth and the use of modern technology for hygiene mechanisms in the future.

Al-Randi said in a press statement the committee after the meetings with heads of sectors, cleaning directors, cleaning inspectors, as well as supervisory authorities and others who are linked to the hygiene contracts such as the Audit Bureau, the Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources (PAAAFR) and the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research, it was found that the contracts must be reconsidered by establishing a new philosophy and changing the current style of hygiene contracts, whether in terms of the human element or the mechanisms; in addition to the distribution of geographical areas which must be reconsidered.

Reviewed

Al-Randi reviewed the work of the committee since its inception, and said the prominent observations of the fact-finding committee during visits and meetings the 6 months is insufficient for the contractor to process contract obligations, in addition to the small number of inspectors in cleaning centers. It was noted that the GPS monitoring screens are only available in the provincial administrators' offices. The number and quality of containers in the farm areas in Kabd is not suitable, as the height of the container is an obstacle and does not meet the needs of these areas.

Al-Randi added it has also been noted that medical and animal waste was thrown into the municipality containers and the violators escaped punishment.

He pointed to the repeated remarks of the Audit Bureau which said the workers are not under the contractor's sponsorship, and despite the many complaints by citizens about poor hygiene, no manager, supervisor or senior official in the cleaning department was summoned, held accountable or investigated, not to mention the oversight weakness of companies.



HH the Crown Prince Sheikh Meshaal.



National Assembly Speaker Al-Ghanim.

KUNA photos

HH the Amir receives officials

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received at Bayan Palace, Wednesday, His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Meshaal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.

His Highness the Amir also received Speaker of the National Assembly Marzouq Al-Ghanim, His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Anas Al-Saleh. (KUNA)

Other Voices

'Set up body to monitor polls'

By Ahmad alsarraf

Undoubtedly after sixty years of bitter experiences, our democracy is still incomplete, immature and not universally recognized as a true democracy but we are satisfied with the situation, albeit reluctantly, with our feeling that it is necessary to support it with amendments that make it more difficult to penetrate and more respectful from us and others.

During every parliamentary election, there are serious accusations about candidates transferring the votes of citizens from one residential area to another by changing their home addresses on the civil IDs temporarily and before closing the door for voter registration which is usually held in February of each year during which the names of the deceased are written off, those who had reached the voting age added, or who had changed their home addresses.

It is difficult to prove the large transfers of voters from one region to another when a venerable person is at the head of the Public Authority of Civil Information (PACI). The process of changing or moving the home address need efforts of so many employees and it is difficult to ensure their silence forever, therefore it is necessary to close the door of excuses and silencing the voices of skeptics about the integrity of the electoral process and the integrity of the civil information apparatus,

through the establishment of a permanent national election commission whose mission is:

To arrange, supervise and monitor elections; to adopt the issue of the civil card to vote in any upcoming elections, doing with the national certificate; abolishing the current system of electoral lists; careful implementation of PACI's decision to refuse to transfer a residential address before one year has passed while approval shall be based on proof such as the electricity and water bill, or a certificate from the mayor of the region, etc.

Establishing an independent election authority will save the country a lot of effort and money, and make voter lists accurate and ready for use at any moment. Its creation will eliminate the manipulation of residential addresses and the unfair seasonal transfer of addresses.

It will also greatly limit the influence of the dual-nationality citizens on the election results, especially those who arrive in the country to cast their votes in exchange for money and return back to where they came from.

This authority can be supported by requiring the owners of buildings and rented homes to inform the Ministry of Interior or PACI with all the information about their residents and to document movements for security reasons and to prevent tampering with the addresses listed on the civil ID, whether the resident is a citizen or an expatriate.

We wish, His Highness the designated prime minister pay attention to this proposal as its implementation will please many sincere people.

Look for tomorrow's article ...

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Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Issa Al-Kandari presiding over the meeting of the Zakat House board of directors.

Minister Al-Kandari chairs meeting

Zakat's board reviews performance reports

KUWAIT CITY, Feb 3: Minister of Social Affairs, Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, and Chairman of the Zakat House Board of Directors, Issa Al-Kandari, during a meeting which he chaired, has praised the efforts of the members of the board of directors to further charity and humanitarian work and take it to what he called 'the distinguished level'.

The board of directors reviewed the reports submitted on the results of the work of the committees and the performance and workflow in the various sectors during the third quarter of 2020, and the statistics of the beneficiaries made the necessary

recommendations and took decisions.

The minister reviewed the progress report in following up the implementation of the operational strategic plan for 2019/2020, and the performance indicators in implementing the plan.

The board has decided to approve the estimated budget for zakat and charities for the fiscal 2021 approved by the Control and Audit Committee, and to appoint an external auditing office to audit the financial accounts of the House, based on the memorandum of the Control and Audit Committee.

In conclusion, the chairman and members of the Council thanked

and appreciated the General Secretariat of Endowments for its continuous support to the activities and projects undertaken by the House as a strategic partner, and praised the efforts made by the Ministry of Finance to transfer the payments as per Law No. 46 of 2006 to Zakat House to enhance its financial resources and enable it to carry out work in the best interests of the community.

Members of the Zakat House board of directors expressed their thanks and appreciation to the philanthropists and the supporting institutions for their donations and support to enable the House to continue its charity and humanitarian journey.

IIM AHMEDABAD, IIT ROORKEE, NIFT DELHI PARTICIPATING IN THIRD HIGHER EDUCATION FAIR AT ICSK

Higher Education Fair 2021 is one of a kind mega event organized by The Indian Community School, Kuwait on Friday 5th February 2021 & Saturday 6th February 2021. This educational fair is a unique venture organized by the school from 2019 onwards with exclusive focus on around 20,000 students from 21 Indian schools of Kuwait and it has been a resounding success amidst the Indian diaspora in Kuwait. Undaunted by the global pandemic, we are showcasing the Higher Education Fair 2021 virtually, as we nurture the ideology of providing the best for our children.

The Higher Education Fair 2021 will be inaugurated by Dr. Shashi Tharoor who is a writer and former international diplomat who has been serving as Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha from Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, since 2009. He was formerly Under-Secretary General of the United Nations and contested for the post of Secretary-General in 2006. He also serves as Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information Technology and All India Professionals Congress. He formerly served as Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs and in 2019 he received the Sahitya Academy Award for his book "An Era of Darkness" in a non-fiction category in English language.

ICSK has hosted the Higher Education Fair with more than 50 universities answering queries of our children and this year is no different. More than 45 universities from India, UK, USA, Canada and Malaysia will be participating in this mega event. The Higher Education Fair 2021 at ICSK is unique as IIM Ahmedabad, IIT Roorkee, NIFT Delhi and National Forensic Sciences University, Gujarat are participating for the first time on the same platform in the Middle East providing a golden opportunity exclusively for the students here which is not even available for students in India. This

Higher Education Fair is therefore an opening to new vistas of awareness on various courses and career opportunities to a larger group of students of Middle East from classes 9, 10, 11&12. Student participants from Kuwait, Middle-East and from any part of the world can meet the personnels of various universities and directly interact with them.

As we are all aware children in the Middle East have very little exposure to the wide spectrum of careers available and therefore the Higher Education Fair organised by ICSK will be a huge opportunity for the students to meet Dr. Sethumadhavan T. P, a career expert, who can provide the required insight and right information to help streamline the students to choose various courses and careers according to their aptitude.

On both Friday 5th February 2021 & Saturday 6th February 2021, ICSK brings to your very homes an exclusive opportunity for direct interaction and open-ended conversation with representatives of Universities / Colleges providing larger outlook into the opportunities to choose from. On the spot admissions and scholarship opportunities are the highlights of the venture. We are also organizing a lucky draw for all registered participants from among whom one winner will be gifted a 100 KD voucher.

The Indian Community School, Kuwait has organized such a prestigious event with forethought and cognizance of the higher educational entitlements of the students. Quality education and student welfare being the prime focus, the Higher Education Fair 2021 is yet another platform arranged by ICSK providing access to a wider range of information and opportunities to all the Indian students in Kuwait. ICSK welcomes your whole hearted participation and encouragement for the success of this grand venture.

ABK Partners with Global Med Clinic to Offer Customers a 40% Discount on Cancer Screening in support of World Cancer Day

الأهلي
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Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) today announced its latest offer in support of World Cancer Day titled 'I am and I will', in partnership with Global Med Group. ABK cardholders will receive a discount of 40% on cancer screening tests, to raise awareness of the illness and encourage its prevention.

Valid throughout the month of February, all ABK customers can get their 40% discount on tumor marker screening with two separate male and female packages available at Global Med Clinic in Jabriya (Mazaya Tower) and Global Medical Center in Bneid Al Gar.

ABK aims to make a difference in the communities it operates in, and throughout the year arranges various discounts for its cardholders to encourage health and preventive care such as the above.

For more information about this offer please visit eahli.com.