



DOW	34,630.24	▼ 126.15	0.36%	IBEX Comp	3,999.54	0.00
NASDAQ	13,881.72	▲ 67.23	0.49%	IBEX	28,787.28	0.00
SAP200	4,226.52	▼ 3.37	0.08%	IBEX	10,748.20	0.00

NASDAQ markets

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Indian FM starts 3-day visit to Kuwait

Opinion

Don't be 'Taleban', don't turn Kuwait into Gaza

By Ahmed Al-Jarallah

Editor-in-Chief, the Arab Times

ARE the two authorities - executive and legislative - seeking to habituate Kuwaitis into living in a state of political vacuum, living without executive decision or a legislative body, and settling with wrangling and conflicts that often end in truncated settlements?

Are Kuwaitis required to turn into sects and tribes fighting under false slogans, and racing backwards? Is this Kuwait, which will be a global commercial and financial hub in the year 2035?

What we are experiencing today does not inspire any hope if each team does not retreat from its illusions, and look at reality with insight. The government needs to descend from the tree that it climbed through the game of refusing to sit in the parliamentary chairs, versus the parliamentarians who climbed another tree in a bid to get rid of the two heads of the authorities - the Prime Minister and the Speaker - by paralyzing legislation and slaughtering oversight.

What we are experiencing is pandemonium, as if the two authorities are a group of amateurs, quarreling with a punctured football and leaving the state go with the flow, while this "flow" is now in doubt because sick souls rush to devour carcasses of interests after milking out the state.

In this regard, there are some questions that have become more urgent than ever to be asked - Is there not in the government a "captain" to navigate the ship of the executive authority to safety? Doesn't the parliament have "pearl traders" who know how to choose the best of "pearls" to administer the legislative institution? Or did the two parties turn the country into a "Friday market"?

Since the elections to this day, the parliament has not held any worthwhile sessions apart from the session concerning the "front-liners reward" deal. This is because the two parties needed it to strengthen their popularity. After that, the two authorities returned to their quadripartite paralysis, and secretly passed deals on more stringent decisions, which contradict the essence of Kuwait's existence, as a message of cultural and social openness to the Arab world.

This has gone to the extent of the country becoming almost like the Taliban state because of the concessions made to the enemies of joy, freedom stiflers and consciousness killers, who want to make the country live in the tunnels of Gaza, and not come out into the light of the proper international relations in which it was, until recently, the most worthy player in seizing opportunities to raise its status among nations.

The government is for all the people, and is not owned by a president or a minister that it defends fiercely so as not to lose the balance of interests on which it was built.

The National Assembly is a representative of the people, not parties and groups fighting over spoils.

Has the conflict blinded the members of the two authorities to the extent that they do not see the destruction in the aspects of the economy's decline, social backwardness, and closure? The Gulf openness was once pioneered by Kuwait and had reached the widest extent, but today it has unfortunately been forced to close its doors in line with the desires of a group of fibbers disguised in religious cloak who practice their promiscuity by suffocating the people and weakening the state.

Nonetheless, if you want a healthy Kuwait that is free of the worms that eat its body, the government must have its clear and realistic program, and the statesmen should not be afraid of being grilled, which is a normal thing in all parliaments of the world.

This means they should be the decision-makers in a manner that regains the prestige of the state, which they squandered in their fear of MPs who live on moral intimidation and services.

Indeed, statesmen do not participate in the game of deals and settlements that have failed many countries in the region. All of you in the government and parliament should look at those countries to know where you are taking Kuwait with these reckless adventures ... Perhaps then you will learn.

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Amar Watad holds her 13-day-old son, Nidal, during a birth celebration for the Arab family at the entrance to her apartment building as her mother-in-law Zakya Watad, (right), looks on in the mixed Arab-Jewish town of Lod, central Israel, May 26, 2021. About a third of the city's population are Arabs, many of them descendants of Palestinians who formed the majority of the city before a mass expulsion amid the 1948 war around Israel's creation. (AP)

Seating scuppers Assembly session

Speaker 'Deep State' tool, says MP

By Saeed Mahmoud Saleh

Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, June 8: National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanim adjourned the ordinary session on Tuesday, disclosing he received a letter from His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khalid Al-Sabah stating that the government would not attend the session because some MPs occupied the seats allocated for the ministers.

Day by Day

IT seems the agent of the Chinese vaccine is not as powerful and influential as the agents of other vaccines. One of these vaccines was 'found' defective and this created a lot of anxiety among the recipients of the second dose.

The Chinese vaccine is recognized by the World Health Organization. Several countries have imported this vaccine and immunized their citizens. Countries such as Egypt, Morocco, the United Arab Emirates, India and the African continent and countless others have testified the effectiveness of this vaccine.

Kuwait is the only 'superpower' country that has turned down this vaccine and refuses to recognize its effectiveness. God has His ways to deal with His creatures.

By the way, I am not an agent for any of the vaccines, including the Chinese.

...Yet, tomorrow is another day.

Zahed Matar

New cases at 1,479

Oxford 3 tests safe

KUWAIT CITY, June 8, (KUNA): Kuwait Ministry of Health declared on Tuesday that laboratory examination of the third cargo of the vaccine Oxford proved that the consignment meets the set safety terms.

The ministry indicated in a statement that it had taken delivery of the cargo, examined the vaccines and storage conditions.

It was decided, the ministry added in its statement, to administer the second jab on Wednesday, noting that text messages would be addressed to the assigned segment of the citizens and residents, eligible to be immunized with Oxford vaccine, namely where and when to be injected.

Earlier today, Kuwait announced that it authorized the emergency use of Johnson & Johnson vaccine against COVID-19. The authorization was issued after thorough review of relevant scientific data and reports and after conducting a comprehensive evaluation of the vaccine's safety, efficacy and quality, Assistant Undersecretary for drug and control Dr. Abdullah Al-Bader said in statement Tuesday.

He told KUNA that the ministry technical committee also reviewed the results of vaccine clinical trials, particularly those that relate to the effectiveness and safety aspects of vaccine.

Al-Bader emphasized that the ministry will closely monitor the vaccine safety after using it and will take all necessary measures to ensure safety of people.

At least 1,479 people have been infected with the coronavirus (COVID-19) over the past 24 hours, taking overall infections to 318,676. Spokesman for the Ministry of Health Dr. Abdullah Al-Sanad said Monday.

The number of those who have recovered from the virus in the same period hit 1,256, increasing total recoveries to 302,393, he told KUNA.

The death toll from the disease rose to 1,798 after registering three mortalities in the corresponding period, Al-Sanad noted.

Arab lot in Lod 'edgy'

LOD, Israel, June 8, (AP): Israeli security forces guard the streets of Lod, weeks after rioters torched patrol cars, synagogues and homes. Attackers who killed an Arab and a Jewish resident are still at large. And a mayor whom some blame for setting the stage for some of the worst domestic unrest in Israeli history remains in office.

Israel and Hamas reached a truce two weeks ago to end 11 days of fighting in the Gaza Strip. But the roots of the upheavals that wracked Israel's mixed Jewish-Arab cities during the war have not been addressed, leaving those communities on edge.

"It's hard for me to say what tomorrow will be like. To say that I will have the same trust, it's hard to say," said Rivi Abramowitz, a Jewish resident of Lod's predominantly Arab Ramat Eshkol neighborhood.

Lod, about 16 kilometers (10 miles) southeast of Tel Aviv, next to the main international airport, is home to 77,000 people. About a third are Arabs - many of them descendants of Palestinians who formed the majority of the city before a mass expulsion amid the 1948 war around Israel's creation.

Landscape

An urban landscape of low-rise housing projects from the 1950s and '60s, the working-class city also is a bastion of hard-line Jewish politics. In the March 23 election, staunchly nationalist parties, including Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's Likud party, won more than 60% of the vote in Lod.

Any tensions were largely below the surface - until last month.

Clashes between Jerusalem police and Palestinian protesters in and near the Al-Aqsa Mosque, one of Islam's holiest sites, and the planned eviction of Palestinians from homes in an east Jerusalem neighborhood drove some Arab residents of Lod into the streets in protest.

On the night that war began between Israel and Hamas, the shooting of an Arab man by a Jewish resident of Lod touched off over a week of violence, and the city was placed under a state of emergency.

Similar disturbances, fueled by longstanding Arab grievances over discrimination and lack of opportunities, quickly spread to other mixed areas across the country.

In Lod, two residents were killed: Musa Hassuna, 32, by a suspected Jewish gunman, and Yigal Yehoshua, 56, by a suspected group of Arab attackers. No charges have been filed in either case, and police say investigations are ongoing.

Some Arab residents point to the election of Mayor Yair Revivo eight years ago as a turning point. Revivo has close ties to a religious nationalist movement known as the "Torah Nucleus," which promotes what it calls Jewish values in impoverished cities.

Modi letter to Amir

NEW DELHI, June 8, (KUNA): Indian External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar will pay an official visit to the State of Kuwait on June 9-11 at the invitation of Foreign Minister Sheikh Dr. Ahmad Nasser Mohammad Al-Sabah, the Ministry said Tuesday.

"During the visit he will hold high level meetings and also address the Indian community in Kuwait. He will also carry a personal letter from Prime Minister of India to His Highness the Amir of Kuwait," according to a statement by the ministry.

The visit also marks the 60th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries which is characterized by strong people-to-people connect.

"India is amongst the largest trading partners of Kuwait and Kuwait is a major supplier of oil for India," the statement said.

The Indian government also appreciated Kuwait's efforts to help fight the second wave of COVID-19.

"Government of Kuwait has been in the forefront to ensure sustained and reliable supply of liquid medical oxygen to India including by establishing an air and sea bridge," it added.

Both countries had agreed to set up a joint commission at Foreign Ministers' level during a recent visit of Sheikh Dr. Ahmad Al-Nasser, also Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, to India.

NewsWatch

LONDON: Dozens of websites went down briefly around the globe Tuesday, including CNN, The New York Times and Britain's government home page, after an outage at the cloud computing service Fastly, illustrating how vital a small number of behind-the-scenes companies have become to running the internet.

The sites that could not be reached also included some Amazon pages, the Financial Times, Reddit, Twitch and The Guardian.

San Francisco-based Fastly acknowledged a problem just before 6 am Eastern. About an hour later, the company said: "The issue has been identified and a fix has been applied." Most of the sites soon appeared to be back online.

The company said in an emailed statement that it was a "technical issue" and "not related to a cyber attack." (AP)

KUWAIT CITY: The Foreign Ministry on Monday expressed Kuwait's strong condemnation and denunciation of the missile assaults launched by Houthi militias on the Yemeni city of Marib and a petrol station that led to the killing of several innocents.

In a statement, the ministry said that such attacks are in continuation of the crimes committed by the Houthi militias against the brotherly Yemeni people, and the region's neighbors and stability. (KUNA)

KUWAIT CITY: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah on Tuesday sent a cable of congratulations to the King of Jordan Abdullah II on the 22nd anniversary of his coronation.

In the cable, His Highness the Amir praised the steady growth of the historical ties and cooperation between both countries in all fields.

His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah sent similar cables. (KUNA)

THE HAGUE: Criminal gangs divulged plans for moving drug shipments and carrying out killings on a secure messaging system secretly run by the FBI, law enforcement agencies said Tuesday, as they unveiled a global sting operation they said dealt an "unprecedented blow" to organized crime in countries around the world.

The operation known as Trojan Shield led to police raids in 16 nations. More than 800 suspects were arrested and more than 32 tons of drugs - including cocaine, cannabis, amphetamines and methamphetamines - were seized along with 250 firearms, 55 luxury cars and more than \$148 million in cash and cryptocurrencies.

The seeds of the sting were sown in 2018 when law enforcement agencies took down a company called Phantom Secure that provided customized end-to-end encrypted devices to criminals, according to court papers. (AP)

RAMALLAH: Under the protection of the Israeli occupation police, dozens of extremists and Israeli settlers stormed on Tuesday the courtyard of Al-Aqsa Mosque from Al-Magharba (Morocco) Gate.

Statements and calls for extremist associations were spread on social media, calling on their supporters to storm Al-Aqsa and carry out rounds inside it again on Thursday afternoon.

Israeli Radio said that Knesset member Itamar Ben Gvir and a Likud member May Golan intended to march in the Old City from Bab Al-Amud using their parliamentary privilege.

It indicated that the Israeli Ministerial Council for Political and Security Affairs will discuss holding a rally in Jerusalem, pointing out that the outgoing Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu instructed the General Police Inspector to find various alternatives. (KUNA)

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