

Prayer Timings

Fajr	03:13	Asr	15:22
Sunrise ..	04:49	Maghrib ..	18:48
Zohr	11:48	Isha	20:20

Local

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

Humansoft Holding jumps 58 fils, NAPESCO dips

Kuwait stock market heads north as volume rebounds



KUNA photo
His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah receives His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah in his office.

HH Crown Prince meets top govt officials

His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received at Seif Palace on Sunday National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Ali Al-Ghanim.

His Highness the Crown Prince also received His Highness the

Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, Deputy Prime Minister and Defense Minister Sheikh Hamad Jaber Al-Ali Al-Sabah, Foreign Minister and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Sheikh Dr. Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah and Interior

Minister Sheikh Thamer Ali Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah.

His Highness the Crown Prince then received Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Justice and Minister of State for Nazaha (Integrity) Enhancement Abdullah Yousef Al-Roumi. (KUNA)

Travel in EU restricted despite 'Schengen' visa

By Shawki Mahmoud

Al-Seyassah Staff

KUWAIT CITY, June 13: The French Ambassador to Kuwait, HE Anne-Claire Legendre, said beginning of next July the embassy will start receiving visa applications for Kuwaitis and residents wishing to travel to France, after her country announced the opening of borders to receive tourists and travelers.

In a press conference which was held at her residence last Thursday evening, the French envoy said, the embassy has received since the end of last May requests for student visas and the renewal of visas that expired last year because the visa holders were unable to travel due to the closure of the airspace and the travel ban due to the 'Corona' pandemic.

The envoy noted the Visa Center at the embassy works from eight in the morning until four in the evening, every day, except on weekends, and receives between 50 and 80 visa requests per day.

She stressed that obtaining a 'Schengen' visa does not

mean the traveler's freedom of movement between the countries of the European Union, but they must check the list of conditions set by each country regarding travel restrictions and quarantine.

Speaking about Kuwait's placement on the list of countries concerning entry to France in the context of the pandemic, the French envoy explained that her country places Kuwait on the orange list, meaning all those who wish to enter France must have received the two vaccination doses approved by the European Union and a PCR test issued not more than 72 hours prior to the travel date.

She pointed out travelers between 12 and 16 years old are excluded from vaccination, provided that their parents have received both doses of approved vaccines.

Regarding the possibility of direct travel from Kuwait to France, Ambassador Legendre said there are no direct airlines so far, but it is possible to travel to France through many destinations, hoping that the children of the French community residing in Kuwait will return soon after discussing this issue with the competent Kuwaiti authorities.

Expected weather for the next 24 hours:

By Day: Hot and dusty with fresh to strong north westerly wind with speeds of 40-70 km/h.

By Night: Hot to rather hot with moderate to fresh north westerly

Weather

wind with speeds of 25-50 km/h causing rising dust.

Station	Max Exp	Min Rec		
Kuwait City	41	29	Jahra	42
Kuwait Airport	43	31	Failaka Island	-
Abdaly	43	27	Salmiyah	38
Bubyan	-	-	Ahmadi	40
			Nuwaisib	45
			Wafra	43
			Salmiyah	43
				29

By John Mathews

Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, June 13: Kuwait stocks headed north on Sunday extending last week's gains. The All Shares Index climbed 23.66 points in choppy session to close at 6,328.90 pts paced by some of the blue chips and mid-caps. Banks were largely muted.

The Premier Market scaled 19.70 points to close at 6,866.33 pts while Main Market rallied 33.75 pts. The BK Main 50 jumped 33.46 points to 5,549.28 pts. The volume turnover meanwhile rebounded past the 400 million market to hit the month's highest level. Over 474 million shares changed hands - a 29 pct surge from Thursday.

All sectors, barring two, closed in green turf. Insurance outperformed the rest with 1.63 percent gain whereas Energy slipped 0.42 pct, the biggest loser of the day. Volume wise, Financial Services topped with 212.6 million shares while Banking was ahead in value with KD 31.9 million.

Among the prime movers, Humansoft Holding soared 58 fils to KD 3.580 partly recouping last session's losses while Mabane Co added 3 fils before ending at 725 fils. Gulf Investment House jumped 25 fils to 293 fils on back of 7.3 million shares and Gulf Insurance Group sprinted 29 fils. Advanced Technology Co climbed 30 fils to 485 fils.

Zain fell 2 fils to 589 fils after pushing 2.6 million shares and Ooredoo was up 4 fils at 640 fils. stc gave up 9 fils to close at 850 fils and logistics major Agility dialed down 2 fils. Mezzan Holding climbed 9 fils to 648 fils whereas Integrated Holding and Aznour stood pat at 446 fils and 239 fils respectively. Boursa Kuwait Securities was up 3 fils at KD 1.222.

National Industries Group inched 1 fil higher to 219 fils on back of 7.3 million shares while Gulf Cable closed 3 fils in green. Boubyan Petrochemical Co eased 1 fil to 909 fils whereas Al Qurain Petrochemical Co added 2 fils. Jazeera Airways saw a 7 fils ascent to 649 fils and ALAFCO tripped 1 fil after moving 2.8 million shares. NAPESCO dipped 22 fils to 885 fils.

The market opened firm and swung higher in early trade. The main index flipped and fell sharply to bottom at 6318 points and gyrated thereafter between small losses and gains. It scaled the day's highest level of 6328 pts well past the mid-session and see-sawed again before closing with modest gains.

Top gainer of the day, KGL rallied 12 pct to 61.6 fils while Fujairah Cement sprinted 9.33 percent to stand next. Kuwait Hotels climbed 9.71 percent, the steepest decliner of the day and Ahli United Bank BSC topped the volume with 55.7 million shares.

Reflecting the day's gains, the winners outnumbered the losers. 77 stocks advanced whereas 43 closed lower. Of the 138 counters active on Sunday, 18 closed flat. 14,278 deals worth KD 71.5 million were transacted during the session.

In the banking sector, National Bank of Kuwait ticked 1 fil higher to 840 fils on back of 5.5 million shares whereas Kuwait Finance House stood pat at 750 fils. Gulf Bank took 1 fil on back of 8.4 million shares and Burgan Bank followed suit to close at 244 fils.

Warba Bank inched 1 fil higher to 253 fils and Ahli

▲	US\$/KD 0.30080/90
▼	Euro/KD 0.3649
■	Yen/KD 0.0027
▼	British £/KD 0.4251
■	Indian Rs/KD 0.0041
■	Philippines Peso/KD 0.0063
▲	FTSE +45.88 pts at closing June 11
▼	Nikkei -9.83 pts at closing June 11
▲	Gold \$1891.95 per oz (London)
▲	NYMEX crude \$70.81 per barrel
▼	Brent crude \$72.62 per barrel
	LIBOR rate 0.11888%

United Bank BSC paced 7 fils with brisk trading. Al Ahli Bank took in 1 fil and Ahli United Bank Kuwait gained 4 fils. Boubyan Bank and Kuwait International Bank dialed down 2 fils each.

KIPCO dialed up 1 fil on back of 1.6 million whereas National Investment Co each 1 fil. Al Intiaz Investment slipped 3 fils to 123 fils and Kuwait Investment Co was up 4 fils at 187 fils. International Financial Advisors added 2 fils whereas Arzan Financial Group and KMEFIC trimmed 1 fil each.

Noor Financial Investment fell 2 fils to 221 fils whereas Tamdeen Investment and Osoul Investment held ground at 247 fils and 85.5 fils respectively. Ayaan Leasing slipped 4 fils to 176 fils whereas KFIC and KAMCO added 1 fil each. Bayan Investment crept 0.3 fils higher to 55.5 fils.

Kuwait Cement Co rose 3 fils to 260 fils and Kuwait Portland Cement was up 4 fils at 884 fils. Kuwait Foundry Co was unchanged at 330 fils whereas Shuaiba Industrial slipped 7 fils to 162 fils. ACICO Industries added 3 fils while Metal and Recycling Co dialed up 2 fils before ending at 185 fils. Kuwait National Cinema Co tripped 1 fil with thin trading.

United Projects Co took in 1 fil and Educational Holding Co added 2 fils. NICBM rose 4 fils to 159 fils whereas YIACO slid 44 fils. Combined Group Contracting Co was up 3 fils at 344 fils while Automated Systems Co and KCPC paused at 109 fils and 560 fils respectively. PAPCO fell 3 fils to 61 fils and Mashaer Holding dialed up 1.3 fils.

The market was buoyant during the previous week. The main index closed higher in all the five session's rallying 47 points week-on-week. It has gained 109 points from start of the month and is up 780 points year-to-date.

'Mutated Indian, UK strains cause of infections increase'

Widespread in GCC countries: Al-Hujailan

By Marwa Bahrawi

Al-Seyassah Staff

KUWAIT CITY, June 13: The consultant of internal and epidemiological diseases at the Al-Adan Hospital, member of the American Society of Infectious Diseases, Dr. Ghanem Al-Hujailan, has called on the Ministry of Health to bring in new PCR examination equipment to monitor the mutated strains of the "Covid 19" virus, especially the British and Indian strains.

Al-Hujailan said in a press statement the high number of infections in Kuwait and the Gulf states indicates that the Indian and British strains have spread in the GCC countries on a large scale and said he expects the mutated strains to reach between 40 and 50 percent of infections in Kuwait.

He said he is concerned about the increase in the number of mutated coronavirus infections daily in neighboring countries, pointing out that the number of infected cases in the Kingdom of Bahrain doubled during May from 1,063 to about 3,000 cases per day.

Al-Hujailan stressed on the urgent need to import accurate testing devices to detect the main mutants British, African, Brazilian, Indian or any other strains that may be more deadly, saying the efforts of the Ministry of Health to confront the Covid 19 virus from the beginning of its emergence until now has been satisfactory, but it needs to do more and harness the capabilities to monitor and confront the mutated strains, especially with the inability of current laboratory reagents to detect them.

He valued the keenness of many countries to provide specialized tests to detect mutated strains, including the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Sultanate of Oman, since they were quick to raise the level of approved tests with high efficiency, according to approved international standards to limit the spread of more infectious strains of the "Covid-19" virus.

He stressed on the need to raise the efficiency of the tests approved in the country, especially after doing away with the partial and opening all air, land and sea ports to travelers to and from the country.

Although the Ministry of Health announced that the effectiveness of the first dose of the Oxford vaccine will gradually



KUNA photo
Firemen struggle to extinguish the blaze.

No casualties in Jleeb fire

Acting on information six fire-fighting engines rushed to Jleeb Al-Shuyoukh and put out fire to six Arab-style houses, reports Al-Rai daily.

Six firefighting teams managed to control a fire that broke out yesterday morning in 4 "violating" Arab houses in the Jleeb Al-Shuyoukh area.

The Public Relations and Media Department of the Kuwait Fire Services Directorate (KFSD) said in a press statement these houses were built without permission from the concerned authorities and used as workshops or as stores in violation of Municipality regulations and did not adhere to preventive requirements.

Curfew ruled out in infection hike

KUWAIT CITY, June 13: The recent increase in the number of corona cases including those confined in the intensive care unit (ICU) resulted in a state of pessimism in the country, prompting high-ranking government officials to present several scenarios to deal with the epidemiological situation in case the upward trend continues, reports Al-Qabas daily.

The officials pointed out that since some establishments have reopened, there should be emphasis on the need to comply with health regulations; while prohibiting gatherings like the celebration of various events and weddings that requires a strict stance by the concerned authorities, and further expansion of the vaccination campaign.

They ruled out the implementation of curfew due to the availability of vaccines and the rising number of vaccinated people; indicating the Corona

Supreme Committee will soon discuss the most important indicators of the epidemiological situation in the country, which has become volatile.

They added the committee will look into the possibility of opening children's play stores, closing malls and restaurants at 11:00 pm or continuation of the current decisions. They affirmed that the committee will submit its recommendations to the Council of Ministers on Monday.

They cautioned about the situation in neighboring countries, stressing the need for the government to be careful in taking any decision regarding the return to normal life. They pointed out that the key step now is gradual transition to normal life in order to avoid going back to square one in the fight against coronavirus, considering the mutations of the virus.

increase after prolonging the period of the second dose for more than 12 weeks, Al-Hujailan stressed the policy of extending the duration of vaccination against the virus and giving the second dose after a long time after the first dose, is one of the most important reasons for the increase in

infections although clinical studies indicated that acquired immunity after giving the second dose of the Oxford vaccination three months later is better, all international experts and specialists agree that the longer the aforementioned period, the more the virus can spread and mutate.

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