

Prayer Timings

| | | | |
|------------|-------|------------|-------|
| Fajr | 04:49 | Asr | 15:21 |
| Sunrise .. | 06:08 | Maghrib .. | 17:51 |
| Zohr | 11:59 | Isha | 19:07 |

Local

Expected weather for the next 24 hrs:

By Day: Warm with light variable wind to light to moderate south easterly wind with speeds of 08-30 km/h.

By Night: Rather cold to cold

Weather

with light to moderate south easterly wind to light variable wind with speeds of 08-26 km/h.

Station

| Station | Max Exp | Min Rec |
|----------------|---------|---------|
| Kuwait City | 26 | 16 |
| Kuwait Airport | 26 | 10 |
| Abdaly | 27 | 10 |

| | | |
|----------|----|----|
| Bubyan | - | - |
| Jahra | 27 | 12 |
| Salmiyah | 25 | 17 |
| Ahmadi | - | - |
| Nuwaisib | 27 | 12 |
| Wafra | 26 | 12 |
| Salmiyah | 25 | 08 |

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

National Bank of Kuwait rallies 7 fils, Humansoft Holding slips

Kuwait's stock index logs robust gains, volume turnovers swells

By John Mathews
Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, March 7: Kuwait stocks forged ahead on Sunday after charting mixed course in the previous week. The All Shares Index rallied 40.65 points to 56,93.97 pts paced by blue chips even as the overall mood turned cheery.

The Premier Market sprinted 56.1 points to 6,220.11 pts taking the month's gains to 63 pts while Main Market added 5.79 points. The BK Main 50 index was up 12.58 points at 4,840.98 pts. The volume turnover meanwhile rose for the second straight session. Over 232 million shares changed hands – up 11.5 percent from Thursday.

The sectors closed mostly in green turf. Utilities outshone the rest with 3.23 percent gain whereas Technology slid 5.94 pct, the worst performer of the day. Volume wise, Financial Services topped with 113.3 million shares whereas Banking sector dominated with KD 17.88 million.

Among the prime movers, NBK rallied 7 fils to 840 fils on back of 3.36 million shares and Kuwait Finance House followed suit to close at 734 fils with a volume of over 8 million. Boubyan Bank and Mabane Co scaled 4 fils each to end at 570 fils and 703 fils respectively. Zain dialed up 2 fils after pushing 2.4 million shares and Ooredoo was up 6 fils at 656 fils. stc stood pat at 914 fils and logistics major Agility sprinted 11 fils to 670 fils. Humansoft Holding dipped 9 fils to KD 3.692 whereas Boursa Kuwait Securities gained 8 fils each.

The bourse opened firm and pulled higher in early trade. The main index continued to rise amid strong buying in most of the heavyweights and scaled the day's highest level of 5,702 points half way into the

| | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| ▲ | US\$/KD 0.30225/35 |
| ▼ | Euro/KD 0.3615 |
| ■ | Yen/KD 0.0028 |
| ▼ | British £/KD 0.4198 |
| ■ | Indian Rs/KD 0.0041 |
| ■ | Philippines Peso/KD 0.0062 |
| ▼ | FTSE -20.36 pts at closing March 5 |
| ▼ | Nikkei -65.79 pts at closing March 5 |
| ■ | Gold 1727.05 per oz (London) |
| ▲ | NYMEX crude \$66.26 per barrel |
| ▲ | Brent crude \$69.55 per barrel |
| ■ | LIBOR rate 0.18538% |

session. It sagged slightly thereafter before closing with robust gains.

Top gainer of the day, ALOLA rallied 12.66 pct to 71.2 fils and Tahssilat galloped 9.96 percent to stand next. Fujairah Cement skidded 8.96 percent, the steepest decliner of the day and ALOLA also topped the volume with 68.2 million.

The market was mixed during the previous week. The main index closed higher in two of the four sessions adding 4 points week-on-week. It had slid 132 points during whole of February and is up 124 points year-to-date.



Members of the Police Dept carry the coffin of a martyr to the grave.

Photo by Mahmoud Jadeed

Remains of 8 martyrs laid to rest

Senior govt leaders grace occasion

By Munif Nayef
Al-Seyassah Staff

KUWAIT CITY, March 7: On Saturday afternoon Kuwait laid to rest the remains of 8 martyrs which were identified and brought from Iraq. The eight were listed among the prisoners of war (PoWs) and Missing during the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in 1990, including one who was listed missing by Saudi Arabia.

The funeral took place amid military ceremonies in the presence of ministers of Interior, Health, the media, the Saudi ambassador to Kuwait, senior state leaders and the families of the martyrs.

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad sent telegrams of condolences to the families of the martyrs Asaad Ali Abdulrahman Al-Sultan, Muhammad Mubarak Muhammad Abdullah Al-Samim, Musaed Muhammad Falah Hamad Al-Dossary, Yusef Yaqoub Muhammad Al-Yaqoub, Khalil Saud Khalil Al-Qattan, Amin Ali Muhammad Ashkanani, Nasser Eid Al-Khaled Al-Anzi, and Abdullah Ibrahim Al-Qudayfi.

His Highness expressed his sincere condolences to the families of the martyrs and recalled with great pride their sacrifices and heroic roles in defending and protecting their dear homeland and pouring out their pure blood for the sake of its soil. His Highness prayed to Almighty God to fill them with His mercy and forgive them and give solace and patience to their families.

His Highness the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled sent similar telegrams of condolences to the families of the martyrs and prayed to Almighty God to be merciful and forgive them and give the martyrs place in Paradise.

Temporary permits in curfew

KUWAIT CITY, March 7: The Public Authority for Civil Information (PACI), in cooperation with the Traffic Affairs and Operations Sector in the Ministry of Interior, has activated its website for the issuance of temporary exit permits during the partial curfew – from 5:00 am to 5:00 pm for a period of one month starting Sunday, reports Al-Qabas daily.

The new platform – <https://curfew.paci.gov.kw/request/create> – was launched for granting permission to go outside during the curfew hours for five activities only – emergency case, visit to the doctor, blood donation, COVID-19 swab test and COVID-19 vaccination. The leave permit period ranges from 30 minutes to two hours.

Those applying for the leave permit (curfew pass) should provide the following information on the automated system: civil ID number or nationality number, mobile number, car plate number, reason for going out, PACI address of the applicant and PACI address of the destination. PACI addresses can be obtained through the Kuwait Finder platform.

The competent authorities have warned curfew pass applicants against submitting incorrect data, as they will be imprisoned for six months and fined not exceeding KD 5,000 or any of these penalties as per law number 8/1969 on health precautions for the prevention of communicable diseases.

Meanwhile, reliable sources from PACI told the daily that the automated systems are monitored regularly with the concerned employees and teams providing online support round the clock.

Sources affirmed the authority is coordinating with the concerned government agencies and the Civil Defense Committee regarding the system for issuing leave permits. Sources disclosed the number of beneficiaries of the leave permits platform during the last lockdown exceeded 1.9 million citizens and expatriates; while 200,000 leave permits were issued at the time.

Situation calm in Kabad livestock pens, stables

KUWAIT CITY, March 7: Livestock pens and camel stables in Kabad have been among the places frequented by citizens; especially during the corona pandemic, as such places turned into destinations for hiking and entertainment in the country due to the moderate climate, reports Al-Anba daily.

Kabad has been a favorite destination during summer and winter, because of the existence of many livestock pens and family entertainment centers – a perfect getaway for many citizens and their families during weekends and public holidays, as it is far from the city noise.

Vaccinated travelers may be exempted from 'quarantine'

KUWAIT CITY, March 7, (KUNA): Kuwait's Ministry of Health is looking into exempting people who took a coronavirus vaccination from institutional quarantine upon returning to Kuwait from abroad, allowing them to go into home quarantine instead.

The ministry is closely monitoring recent international studies and measures regarding the matter to take the decision, ministry un-

dersecretary of general health affairs Dr Bothaina Al-Mudhaf told KUNA on Saturday.

She added that the ministry completed vaccinating people aged 65 years and over, including both nationals and expats, who registered for the inoculation.

Registration in the country has only reached 17.4 percent of the population, she said, calling on everyone to quickly register on the relevant website.



KUNA photo
Kuwaiti rally champion Mishary Al-Dhafiri and his Qatari assistant, Nasser Al-Kuwari. The rally was held in the Saudi province of Baha. — See Page 14

Bid to increase Net speed

Schools provided with fiber-optics

By Abdulrahman Al-Shammari
Al-Seyassah Staff

KUWAIT CITY, March 7: Assistant Undersecretary for the Public Education Sector at the Ministry of Education, Osama Al-Sultan, announced interviews for the position of deputy director at the Salah El-Din Secondary School for Boys in the suburb of Al-Zahra will start from Sunday morning.

On the other hand, the Ministry of Education affirmed its eagerness to complete the distance education strategy and the study plan set in this regard, while the provision and distribution of textbooks for the various educational stages Kindergarten, Primary, Intermediate and Secondary has been completed in all educational districts.

In a press statement, the Ministry stressed on its readiness for the second educational semester of the academic year 2020-2021 for all

educational stages in cooperation with the educational research sector and curricula that which has devised these plans and circulated to the technical guidance sector in educational areas and schools.

The sources explained the schools have been provided with a fiber-optic network to increase the speed of the Internet to support the implementation of the distance education strategy through cooperation between the Department of Information Systems, the Ministry of Communications and the Central Agency for Information Technology.

In this context, the Ministry pointed out that it has held a series of meetings with the Ministry of Health in preparation for the start of the second semester and the introduction of the Ministry's employees into the priority groups for receiving vaccination against the emerging corona virus "Covid-19".

Other Voices

Please ... do not lie to us

By Ahmad alsarraf

Logically, the academic and MP Hamad Al-Matar, whose name precedes the titles of 'Professor' and 'Doctor', is assumed to be the representative of the education facility within the legislative institution by virtue of his 'experience and position as a professor'.

In his tweet a few days ago, he demanded that the government separate the Ministry of Education from the Ministry of Higher Education. As far as anyone knows, the two ministries have been separated for decades, and the only common factor between them was the assignment of one minister to manage them.

Since the state has separated the two ministries, even in a comical manner, or handing them over to two different ministers, and this is what MP Al-Matar demanded, he is now required to explain and show us how this separation will result in reforming public and higher education, and how the separation between the two ministries will be the gate for development as stated in his tweet.

It may be strange that such tweet was issued by a man who is supposed to be a politician and an academician, but what is strange and most sad is what he told a local newspaper that he objects the government transferring the affiliation of the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (PAAET) to the Ministry of Education, justifying that it is not permissible to be affiliated with an academic institution that grants Masters and PhDs for the Ministry of Education.

This is inaccurate and a big 'disgrace' coming from the mouth of an academic and a deputy holding the title

of a doctor and a university professor. PAAET does not award either Master's or Doctorate, and there is no college for postgraduate studies in PAAET in the first place.

MP Al-Matar also stated that the Education Committee of the National Assembly will not approve the decision to transfer the affiliation of PAAET to the Ministry of Education, and this objection is meaningless, and he has no right to it in the first place.

For your information, the Ministry of Higher Education was, at one point, managed by Professor Ali Al-Shamlan, while retaining his prestigious position as Director-General of the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS) and the building of the Higher Education was then rented out, and I believe that the situation is still, after tens of years the same ... where false diplomas galore.

We also refer to the statement of Mr Tariq Al-Muzrim, the official spokesman for the government, or the justifier for its actions, that the redistribution of some ministries, such as transferring the subordination of higher education to the Minister of Oil, and the subordination of PAAET to the Education Ministry is based on modern vision.

We hope, along with others, he will brief us on this modern vision which was not originally present 24 hours before the announcement of the formation of the government. So dear, why you lie to us?

We also wonder with others why the Minister of Oil and the Minister of Higher Education bowed, as is said, to the pressure of MP Al-Matar, and transferred the current university exams from paper-based to online?

This crooked decision did not come from the Health Ministry and it will open the way for cheating and will extend the time for answering because of the modest ability of the majority of students to print.

This is inaccurate and a big 'disgrace' coming from the mouth of an academic and a deputy holding the title

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