

Prayer Timings

Fajr	04:33	Asr	14:47
Sunrise ..	05:52	Maghrib ..	17:13
Zohr	11:33	Isha	18:30

Local

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

Jazeera Airways soars 62 fils, NBK closes flat

Kuwait stock market heads north in range bound trade

By John Mathews

Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 19: Kuwait stocks pulled higher on Tuesday extending its winning spree to sixth day on the trot. The All Shares Index climbed 32 points in range bound trade to 6955.94 pts paced by some of the heavyweights and mid-caps.

The Premier Market rose 26.72 points to 7519.47 pts taking the month's gains to 23 pts while Main Market scaled 45.22 points. The BK Main 50 index jumped 37.18 pts to 6062.53 points. The volume turnover meanwhile dipped following the four-day rise. Over 332 million shares changed hands - a 34 pct drop from the day before.

The sectors closed mostly in green. Consumer Discretionary jumped 2.39 percent, the steepest decliner of the day and Energy shed 0.30 pct, the worst performer of the day. Volume wise, Financial Services topped with 127.7 million and the sector was also ahead in value with KD 15.39 million.

Among the standouts, Kuwait Finance House extended last session's gains with 6 fils jump to 823 fils after pushing 4.8 million shares while Mabaneq Co paced 8 fils taking the year-

to-date gains to 116 fils. Boursa Kuwait Securities jumped 37 fils to KD 1.885 following Monday's upswing. Jazeera Airways took a whopping 62 fils leap to 977 fils and YIACO Medical sprinted 22 fils.

Zain inched 1 fil higher to 600 fils and Ooredoo scaled 17 fils. stc dialed up 2 fils before ending at 862 fils and logistics major Agility added 1 fil on back of 1.22 million shares. Sector bellwether National Bank of Kuwait and Gulf Bank were unchanged at 948 fils and 240 fils respectively.

KIPCO dialed up 2 fils whereas National Investment Co stood pat at 201 fils. Al Imtiaz Investment clipped 2 fils and Tandeem Investment paced 7 fils to close at 406 fils. KMEFIC slipped 7 fils to 138 fils whereas Humansoft Holding stood pat at KD 3.294.

National Industries Group was unchanged at 244 fils after moving 3.8 million shares whereas Gulf Cable sprinted 15 fils. Boubyan Petrochemical Co gave up 7 fils to close at 928 fils whereas Al Qurain Petrochemical Co was up 4 fils at 378 fils. ALAFCO eased 1 fil to 235 fils and Mezzan Holding closed 3 fils in green. Integrated Holding dialed up 2 fils after pushing over 1 million shares while Aznour added 1 fil. The market opened firm and rose sharply in

early trade. The main index continued to rise in choppy session to scale the day's highest level of 6958 points past the mid-session and moved sideways in final hour to close with moderate gains.

Top gainer of the day, RKWC vaulted 26 percent to 15 fils respectively while PAPCO scaled 9.9 pct to stand next. KMEFIC skidded 4.83 percent, the steepest decliner of the day and AAN topped the volume with 36 million shares.

Reflecting the day's gains, the market spread was skewed towards the winners. 80 stocks advanced whereas 43 closed lower. Of the 143 counters active on Tuesday, 20 closed flat. 13,352 deals worth KD 50.9 million were transacted during the session.

In the banking sector, Burgan Bank inched 1 fil higher to 234 fils on back of 2.4 million shares whereas Kuwait International Bank paused at 224 fils. Boubyan Bank added 2 fils while Waba Bank closed 3 fils in green with brisk trading. Ahli United Bank BSC dialed up 1 fil and Al Ahli Bank followed suit. Ahli United Bank Kuwait paced 3 fils.

Kuwait Investment Co rose 2 fils to 296 fils while Securities House and Kuwait Financial Centre (Markaz) took in 1 fil each. Gulf Investment House gained 4 fils and KAMCO

trimmed 1 fil.

Kuwait Cement Co inched 1 fil higher to 245 fils whereas Shuaiba Industrial gave up 4 fils. HEISC dialed down 2 fils while Metal and Recycling Co closed 2 fils in green. Kuwait Foundry Co and ACICO Industries paused at 383 fils and 125 fils respectively. Hilal Cement jumped 15 fils to 178 fils and NICBM took in 1 fil. NCCI rose 2 fils to 180 fils on back of 2.2 million shares while Warba Capital paced 4 fils.

Educational Holding Co climbed 10 fils to 800 fils whereas Kuwait National Cinema held ground at 850 fils. Sultan Centre trimmed 1 fil and Arabi Group Holding closed 3 fils in green. Automated Systems Co paused at 100 fils while NAPESCO and KCPC dialed up 1 fil each. Oula Fuel Marketing dialed down 1 fil.

Burgan Company For Well Drilling took in 1 fil and Combined Group Contracting Co sprinted 10 fils. PAPCO climbed 8 fils to 88.5 fils while OSOS Holding Group and United Projects Co gained 11 fils each. Mashaer Holding tripped 1.9 fils and Egypt Kuwait Holding paced 11 fils. Inovest BSC was unchanged at 110 fils.

The market has been upbeat so far during the week scaling 69 points in past three sessions. It has gained 91 points from start of the month and is up 1409 points year-to-date.

Weather

Expected weather for the next 24 hours:

By Night: Fair with light to moderate north westerly wind to light variable wind with speeds of 08-32 km/h.

By Day: Rather hot with light to moderate north westerly wind to light variable wind with speeds of 08-25 km/h.

moderate north westerly wind to light variable wind with speeds of 08-25 km/h.

Station Max Rec Min Exp

Kuwait City 34 25

Kuwait Airport 35 23

Abdaly 35 19

Jahra 36 23

Salmiyah 31 25

Ahmadi 31 26

Wafra 35 21

Salmiya 34 19

Jal Alyyah 34 21

Managish - -

▼	US\$/KD 0.30150/60
▲	Euro/KD 0.3507
■	Yen/KD 0.0026
▲	British £/KD 0.4163
■	Indian Rs/KD 0.0040
■	Philippines Peso/KD 0.0059
▲	FTSE +13.70 pts at closing Oct 19
▲	Nikkei +190.06 pts at closing Oct 19
▲	Gold \$1779.40 per oz (London)
▲	NYMEX crude \$82.57 per barrel
▲	Brent crude \$84.98 per barrel
■	LIBOR rate 0.13150%



KUNA photo

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah receives the Chairman of the State Audit Bureau Fahad Al-Shaya.

Victim's heirs file case, seek compensation

By Jaber Al-Hamoud

Al-Seyassah Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 19: The heirs of the young man, who was killed after being hit by a manhole cover as a result of neglect and mismanagement of manhole covers, have resorted to the judiciary to seek compensation.

The legal counsel representing the heirs Lawyer Hawra Al-Habib said, "Nothing will compensate my clients because all the money of the world cannot return the son of the family who had unfulfilled dreams and was starting the life of ambitions.

However, it is today necessary that we resort to the court to expose the corruption that has occurred, so that there will not be any other victim in the coming days."

We are in a rich country and we have wealth but at the same time there are mistakes and corruption that kill lives. What is the logic behind this? Where is the defect?!"

It is natural in a case like this that the government is responsible, and the relevant leaders are suspended from work like what happened. However, all this will not be enough. We wonder why the ministry, whose budget is estimated at KD 6 billion, is not able to master its work due to which its neglect ends up causing deaths?!"

Couple acquitted: The Court of Appeals acquitted an expatriate woman and her husband who were accused of defrauding the mother of a Central Prison inmate by claiming to have the ability to expedite the procedures for the deportation of her daughter for which they charge KD 6,000.

The Public Prosecution accused the couple of deceiving the victim with the intent of defrauding her by using fraudulent methods by claiming to have the ability of securing early release of her daughter from the Central Prison and sending her back to her country in exchange of money.

According to the investigations, the first defendant confessed to having received KD 4,200 from the victim in exchange for carrying out a commercial project that brings them together with the daughter of the victim - an inmate of the Central Prison but that she did not receive any other amounts from her through the second defendant. She denied the allegations against her.

'Need to build ties with Kuwait'

By Saeed Mahmoud Saleh

Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 19: The Arab Times newspaper met with Mrs. Sanja Vidakovic, Minister Counsellor and Chargé d'Affaires a.i of the Embassy of the Republic of Serbia to the State of Kuwait, on the occasion of the commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the Non-Aligned movement, which was held in the Serbian capital Belgrade on October 11-12, 2021.

The recent visit of Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of State for the Cabinet Affairs Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Al Mohammad to Belgrade/Serbia and his meetings with President of the Republic of Serbia H.E. Aleksandar Vucic, Prime Minister Ana Brnabic and Minister of Foreign Affairs Nikola Selakovic laid down the road map for strengthening excellent relations between the two friendly countries, especially in economic, commercial and investment fields, says Sanja Vidakovic Minister Counsellor/Chargé d'Affaires a.i of the Embassy of the Republic of Serbia to the State of Kuwait.

Meetings

In an interview with the Arab Times, Vidakovic pointed out that the meetings were held on the sidelines of the High level commemorative meeting marking the 60th Anniversary of the Non-Aligned movement that was held in Belgrade on Oct 11-12, 2021, in cooperation with the Republic of Azerbaijan, during which President of the Republic of Serbia Aleksandar Vucic, Prime Minister Ana Brnabic and Minister of Foreign Affairs Nikola Selakovic received separately representatives of 120 countries including Kuwait. Vidakovic pointed out that the visit of Sheikh Nasser Al Muhammad to Serbia is the first visit of that level from Kuwait since the breakup of Yugoslavia, quickly adding that Serbian and Kuwaiti Ministers of Foreign Affairs have met on the sidelines of 76th United Nations General Assembly in New York.

Mrs. Vidakovic appreciated the successful and fruitful meetings that brought together His Excellency Minister Dr. Ahmed Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah, President of the Republic of Serbia Alexander Vucic, Prime Minister of Serbia Ana Brnabic and Minister of Foreign Affairs Nikola Silakovic, as it drew the road map for cooperation between the two friendly countries in all fields, especially economy, trade and investment.

She highlighted the importance of fol-

lowing up the implementation of the bilateral road map agreed upon, in order to turn into reality following the interest of the citizens in both countries. She looks forward to more high level meetings and exchange of visits between Kuwaiti and Serbian officials and experts as well as meeting of the relevant Joint committee.

Bond

As a way of strengthening the bond between the citizens in both countries, Vidakovic invited Kuwaiti citizens to visit Serbia where they will enjoy fantastic landmarks, touristic places, natural beauties and extraordinary Serbian hospitality which is well known. She confirmed that Kuwaiti citizens since June 2015 are not required to obtain a visa to enter the Republic of Serbia. She also called for launching direct flights between Kuwait and Belgrade for further developing the commercial exchange and tourism, in order to return to their status before the COVID-19 crisis.

She praised the efforts exerted by Kuwaiti authorities in overcoming the corona crisis, asserting that Kuwait managed to vaccinate more than 80 percent of citizens and residents, spotlighting as well the extraordinary efforts of Serbian President H.E. Aleksandar Vucic and Serbian government in combating the coronavirus. She said that Serbia in early stage of Corona crises in the country provided almost all different kinds of vaccines to all its citizens, and went as far as vaccination of foreign diplomats in Belgrade and opening the borders for the citizens of neighboring countries to get vaccinated for free. She pointed out that Serbia occupies the first place among European countries in terms of economic growth which reached 6.5 percent despite the Corona crisis.

Vidakovic is a unique diplomat as she is fluent in Arabic and fond of Arab culture. She disclosed that she graduated Oriental studies at Belgrade University, asserting that she devoted her life to co-operation with Arab countries. She also talked about her tenure as head of the diplomatic mission of her country to Tunisia from 2002 to 2005, deputy ambassador of the Embassy of Serbia to Cairo and her five year service at the Embassy of the Republic of Serbia in Kuwait from 2011 to 2016, where she was deputy ambassador. She expressed happiness over the chance to return to Kuwait.

She went on to talk about the Serbian community in Kuwait, indicating that Serbians here are engaged in different professions, mostly doctors, engineers, and coaches. She stressed that the Serbian community shows great respect for the authorities of the State of Kuwait, and they are among the most committed communities to laws and regulations.

She concluded inviting the Kuwaiti journalists to cover and observe closely the Serbian regular presidential elections and early parliamentary elections scheduled for April 2022.

'Amnesty for those guilty in political cases on way'

'Funds scarce'

By Saeed Mahmoud Saleh

Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 19: The conference on ways to develop sports and implement sports professionalism continued for the second day at the National Assembly Theater on Tuesday.

The conference focused on the development of sports clubs with the participation of Al-Arabi Sports Club Chairman Abdulaziz Ashour, Kazma Sports Club Chairman Asad Al-Benwan and Secretary of Kuwait Handball Association Qayed Al-Adwani.

Moderator of the conference MP Abdullah Al-Turajji pointed out that the participants are outstanding sports figures who are fully aware of the shortcomings and how to address them. He pointed out that transparent discussion is necessary to achieve the desired results, indicating a report on the outcome of the conference will be submitted to the MPs later.

On the other hand, Ashour enumerated ways to address the problems and put Kuwait back to its advanced place among Gulf and Asian countries. He said the lack of pitches has prompted teams to conduct trainings and matches on the same pitch which happens only in Kuwait. He suggested allocating yards for the sports clubs to use as temporary pitches where the athletes can undergo training.

He underscored the need to ensure professionalism in sports by appointing athletes as employees at the Public Authority for Sports (PAS) until their retirement. He said the total number of athletes is now estimated at 2,000; hence, the need to ratify a special legislation on sports.

Chairman of PAS Homoud Flaith confirmed that the authority is doing everything to support sports clubs and associations. He said the authority requested for KD150 million budget, but the Ministry of Finance approved only KD85 million.

In another development, there have been indicators that an Amiri decree will be issued soon to grant amnesty to those convicted in political cases. Several MPs shared the hashtag "#Amir of Amnesty" on their Twitter accounts.

Also, 38 MPs signed a statement on the submission of an initiative to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah urging him to grant amnesty to those convicted in political and opinion cases. They expressed appreciation for the call of His Highness the Amir to a national dialogue as it is aimed at putting an end to disputes. They affirmed that the MPs are keen on heeding Amiri directives and they are committed to paving way for a new start, away from disputes in order to push for national reconciliation. They added that the current regional and international challenges entail that Kuwait must maintain national unity and push for reconciliation as per the laws, rules and the Constitution.

Other Voices

The search for big secret

By Ahmad alsarraf

Many things have deteriorated in Kuwait in recent years, including almost every field and sector, leaving nothing that we can be proud of as a nation, and all of this because of the deterioration in education.

Destroying a country in the modern era does not require occupying and sabotaging it, or hitting it with nuclear bombs, but this can be done by disregarding cheating, and the patient will die in the hands of the doctor and the building will collapse on the heads of its occupants, the economy will be shattered, values will collapse and the government administration will be completely destroyed.

What is really puzzling is that those concerned have not yet realized this and the fact is that all the countries that advanced were credited with their educational systems. The poor educational system is behind all the countries that collapsed and there may be other reasons, but they remain secondary.

Some officials noticed the continuing low level of education, so committees were formed and came out with recommendations followed by others and all ended with nothing, and that was for a reason and known only by a few.

Then other officials came and decided to draw on the expertise and experiences of other countries and the World Bank. They looked closely at the Singaporean experience, and also closely examined the Finnish experience. So many reports were prepared which ended up in drawers of the Ministry to collect dust and the millions of dinars that were spent on the preparations of these reports were lost, the deterioration continues and the reason is only known by a few.

Corona struck us, and the painful reality was revealed even more. A group of citizens who sensed the tragedy of the educational situation took the initiative, away from the government, in an attempt to find a solution to our dangerous backwardness.

A national initiative emerged to reform and develop education with the participation of professors and educators, including Isra Al-Issa, Ohood Al-Asfour, Ali Al-Kandari,

Fatima Al-Hashem, Abdullah Al-Failakawi, Ibrahim Al-Houti, and Youssef Al-Mahmeed participated, and in cooperation with a larger group, where they put their ideas and experiences in a book of 156 pages accurately describing the state of education, and they ended with a set of recommendations that were placed at the government's disposal and consideration.

Upon invitation, I participated in the symposium held by the wonderful group above, with the purpose of explaining its initiative, and I felt pain while reading the anxiety in their eyes and the size of the responsibility they faced and their fear was visible on their faces in case these efforts failed.

My participation in the symposium was not from an educational standpoint, due to my ignorance of this specialty, but rather from a political standpoint, and this may not be realized by all parties that confronted the educational development process.

For forty years, the authority allied itself, openly or implicitly, with the Brotherhood, and handed them the reins of education. Over the course of decades, we saw how it appointed liberal education ministers, or those who imitate them in return for empowering partisans from the Brotherhood and the Salafists in education policies and curricula.

The authority allowed them to control the educational process, which is the teacher, and prevented politicians from approaching their representatives in the ministry or changing them. This happened with all education ministers, except for those who respected themselves and left because they were unable to do anything.

The policy of appeasement within the National Assembly, and the government's submission to the demands of the conservative representatives, and the acceptance of the appointment of senior educational leaders according to their wishes without regard for the sabotage and destruction that those appointed by intermediary will cause in the minds of future generations, with the complete absence of any clear and binding educational plan for all and not adjustable.

We conclude and say, repeating what we have previously mentioned and written through dozens of articles and occasions that the great secret of the backwardness of education and the loss of any hope for any educational, cultural, or even economic renaissance lies in the deep influence of religious currents within the state.

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