

## Prayer Timings

|            |       |            |       |
|------------|-------|------------|-------|
| Fajr ..... | 05:12 | Asr .....  | 15:09 |
| Sunrise .. | 06:32 | Maghrib .. | 17:32 |
| Zohr ..... | 12:02 | Isha ..... | 18:50 |

# Local

**VACCINE BOOSTER REGISTRATION:** [https://cov19vaccine.moh.gov.kw/SPCMS/CVD\\_19\\_Vaccine\\_Booster\\_Registration.aspx](https://cov19vaccine.moh.gov.kw/SPCMS/CVD_19_Vaccine_Booster_Registration.aspx)

## Expected weather for the next 24 hours:

**By Day:** Mild with light variable wind with speeds of 06-22 km/h and some scattered clouds will appear.

**By Night:** Rather cold to cold with light variable wind to light

## Weather

to moderate south easterly wind with speeds of 06-28 km/h with a chance for mist forming over some areas.

| Station        | Max Exp | Min Rec |
|----------------|---------|---------|
| Kuwait City    | 21      | 13      |
| Kuwait Airport | 21      | 08      |

|          |    |    |
|----------|----|----|
| Abdaly   | 20 | 07 |
| Jahra    | 21 | 10 |
| Salmiyah | 19 | 14 |
| Ahmadi   | 20 | 14 |
| Nuwaisib | 23 | 09 |
| Wafra    | 22 | 07 |
| Salmiyah | 19 | 07 |

## Humansoft Holding soars 190 fils, stc retreats

# Kuwait stock market pivots north after sluggish start

By John Mathews  
Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Feb 8: Kuwait stocks revved up Tuesday following last session's downturn. The All Shares Index, after a sluggish start, climbed 32.68 points to 7452.53 pts paced by heavyweights even as the overall mood turned cautiously positive.

The Premier Market rallied 40.88 points to 8086.13 pts taking the month's gain to 74 points while Main Market scaled 14.63 pts. The BK Main 50 was up 14.79 points at 6572.60 pts. The volume turnover meanwhile saw a modest bounce. Over 279 million shares changed hands – up 17 pct from the day before.

The sectors closed mostly in green turf. Technology sector outshone the rest with 5 percent gain whereas Energy shed 1.08 percent, the biggest loser of the day. Volume wise, Financial Services topped with 152 million shares and the sector was also ahead in value with KD 19.35 million.

Among the prime movers, Humansoft Holding spiked 190 fils to KD 3.430 on back of 3.3 million shares and Boursa Kuwait Securities rallied 103 fils to KD 2.287 extending last session's gain. Jazeera Airways soared 45 fils to KD 1.650 taking the month's gain to 162 fils and Boubyan Petrochemical Co sprinted 23 fils with a volume of 1.3 million.

Zain rose 3 fils to 616 fils extending Monday's uptick and Ooredoo scaled 9 fils to settle at 739 fils. stc gave up 10 fils to close at KD 1.110 and is up 245 fils month-to-date, while logistics major Agility sprinted 15 fils to KD 1.022. Sector bellwether National Bank of Kuwait took in 2 fils on back of 1.9 million shares and Kuwait Finance House added 1 fil. Boubyan Bank climbed 4 fils to 809 fils.

National Industries Group took in 1 fil on back of 1.5 million shares and Gulf Cable climbed 6 fils to 970 fils. Mabaneh Co eased 1 fil to 290 fils and Mezzan Holding followed suit. ALAFCO fell 3 fils to 216 fils whereas Qurain Petrochemical Co closed 4 fils in green. Integrated Holding and Aznour dialed up 2 fils each while NAFESCO dialed up 1 fil.

The market opened on a tame note and move sideways in early trade. The main index plumbed the day's lowest level of 7421 pts and headed north almost an hour into the session amid buying spurt in some of the counters. It sagged briefly before revving up in the final minutes to close with moderate gain.

## Gainer

Top gainer of the day, PAPCO rallied 9.99 pct to 76 fils and Wethaq Takaful sprinted 9.89 percent to stand next. Argan Real Estate skidded 8 pct, the steepest decliner of the day and GFH topped the volume with 31.6 million shares.

Mirroring the day's gain, the winners outnumbered the losers. 71 stocks advanced whereas 51 closed lower. Of the 139 counters active on Tuesday, 17 closed flat, 13,155 deals worth KD 65.34 million were transacted during the session.

KIPCO rose 3 fils to 162 fils on back of 3.2 million shares whereas National Investment Co tripped 1 fil. Al Intiaz Investment paced 5 fils after moving 29.7 million shares whereas Kuwait Investment Co stood pat at 275 fils. International Finan-



Giant Tusker

## Mirza wins Kuwait's best photo '21 prize

KUWAIT CITY, Feb 8: The World Photography Organisation and Sony Middle East & Africa are delighted to reveal Mohammad Mirza as Kuwait's National Award winner for the Sony World Photography Awards 2021.

The National Awards program is an initiative set up by the World Photography Organisation and Sony to support local photographic communities around the world, with 61 countries taking part this year.

Over 340,000 images from 211 territories were submitted to the Sony World Photography Awards 2022 and over 170,000 were entered to the Open competition (from which the National Awards winner was selected).

Mohammad Mirza was anonymously selected by judges for his photograph Giant Tusker, entered into the Natural World & Wildlife category of the Open competition. After five days with several attempts, the winning face-to-face photo of giant tusker Craig was shot in an open space with Mount Kilimanjaro as a backdrop.

Kuwaiti Mohammad Mirza had a passion for photography since he was young. As an enthusiast photographer, he sees the beauty of the world through his lens. He believes that photography is not a shot only but is the imagination that creates the art beyond capturing the perfect moment of beauty.

Commenting on his win Mirza said: "Usually, I don't participate that much in photography contests. But the World Photography Organization to me is totally a different concept. It is more professional and challengeable. Therefore, I am so proud of myself that one of my images has been selected as one of the winners this year."

As Kuwait's National Award winner, Mohammad Mirza receives Sony digital imaging equipment and will be included in the Sony World Photography Awards exhibition and book.

The overall winners in the Student, Youth, Open and Professional competition of the Sony World Photography Awards 2022 will be announced on the 12 April 2022 and will go on display as part of the exhibition at Somerset House, London (13 April-2 May 2022). For more information about winners and shortlists please visit [www.worldphoto.org](http://www.worldphoto.org)

## Cabinet briefed

## Focus on challenges

KUWAIT CITY, Feb 8: The Cabinet was given a visual presentation on challenges facing the liquidity and sustainable solutions to the housing finance crisis. In this regard, the government listened to an explanation given by the Minister of Finance and the Minister of State for Economic Affairs and Investment, who during the presentation stressed on the importance of this issue calling it one of the vital topics, reports Al-Qabas daily.

During its meeting Monday, the Council of Ministers praised the visual presentations that aim to overcome all issues facing the housing file and develop solutions to address the housing crisis from the financial point of view.

On the other hand, the Council of Ministers, in its weekly session, assigned the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research to update the economic feasibility study for the establishment of a single company to produce and market all its scientific innovations, and to coordinate with the Fatwa and Legislation Department to determine the appropriate legal tool for establishing the company.

**Report received:** The Communication and Information Technology Regulatory Authority (CITRA) recently received the report of GCX Company – owner of the Falcon submarine cable – on the latest developments in the ongoing repair of the cable, reports Al-Rai daily.

According to the report, the procedures for restoring Internet services using the above-mentioned cable are progressing at a good pace; affirming that the station in Yemen has resumed operation.

Repairing the double cuts of the marine fiber optic cable continues under good weather conditions and it is expected to be completed soon; while services will return to normal on Feb 9, the company affirmed.

The authority said the Internet service in the country returned to normal upon completion of the transfer of service from the affected cable to other international tracks and cables within a short period.

## Short-lived joy of '60s' Palestinians

250 + 500 fees 'mandatory'

**KUWAIT CITY, Feb 8: The joy of the Palestinians living in Kuwait – non-graduates who are 60 years and above – face a new difficulty in renewing their work permits because they are not exempted from paying the fees because they do not hold the original Palestinian documents, reports Al-Qabas daily.**

The daily added, those Palestinians who are exempted from paying the 250 dinars residence fee and the 500 dinars insurance fee are only those who hold original Palestinian documents.

It is reported a majority of the Palestinians living and working in Kuwait hold travel documents of various Arab countries such as temporary Jordanian passports and travel documents issued by Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Yemen and Lebanon.

Despite the decision excluding Palestinians from document holders, these Palestinian residents are not covered by the renewal.

## Temporary

The daily said Jordanian temporary passports, according to the website of the Jordanian Civil Status and Passports Department, are issued to residents of the West Bank who do not have a national number, in addition to residents of the Gaza Strip residing in Jordan to whom the conditions are applied.

Meanwhile, the insurance companies listed on the Kuwait Stock Exchange have reportedly started issuing insurance policy documents for non-graduate expatriates 60 years and above, reports Al-Rai daily.

The daily added, the Warba Insurance Company was one of the first companies to issue the insurance policy for this category of expatriates in line with the decision issued by the concerned authorities.

The daily said there was a rush to buy

insurance policies by the non-graduate sixty-year-olds to get their work permits renewed.

The Warba Insurance Company said the document is called 'Tayeb' and so far a big number of this category expats have purchased the insurance policies for 500 dinars – the price decided by the authorities.

## Development

In another development, days after resolving the issue of insurance policy to renew the work permits of non-graduate expatriates who are 60 years and above, the lack of government coordination put a stop to the transactions, as the Public Authority for Manpower refused to renew work permits for this category of expatriates who hold health insurance policies issued by companies not listed on the Kuwait Stock Exchange and not approved by the Insurance Regulatory Unit (IRU), reports Al-Qabas daily.

Informed sources told the daily PAM refused to accept the documents issued by the unlisted insurance companies, and stuck to its previous decision (the list of 11 companies approved by the IRU).

For its part, sources at PAM said it is committed to implementing the decision of its board of directors until a decision is issued to amend and cancel the condition of issuing the document by an unlisted company, and in the absence of coordination between government agencies, the fate of the documents issued by unlisted insurance companies is unknown.

The sources expect another circular to be issued this week to the labor administrations, allowing the non-graduates sixties category to transfer within the private sector, as it was in the past. The sources added, this category of people who have families in the country and children with Article 18 residence can transfer from the private sector to the family sector after obtaining a waiver from the company.

## Health Minister 'congratulates' winner of Sheikh Sabah award

KUWAIT CITY, Feb 8, (KUNA): Kuwait Health Minister Dr. Khaled Al-Saeed congratulated, recently, the Director of Qatar Center for Rehabilitation Dr. Hanadi Al-Hamad for winning His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah's Prize for research in healthcare for the elderly and health promotion.

In a press statement, the Minister said that the announcement of this year winners came during the 150th session of the executive board of directors of the World Health Organization (WHO).

The award was given to Dr. Al-Hamad for her accomplishments in the field of promoting the health of the elderly through directing the medical administration and leading elderly caring program, the minister said, pointing out that the prize represents one of the deep cooperative ties between the State of Kuwait and (WHO).

Dr. Al-Saeed expressed his thanks for the World Health Organization and its Director General Dr. Tedros Adhanom and the facilities provided to announce the award, organizing applicants examining procedures, and meetings with the award committee. His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah Prize for research in the health care for the elderly and health promotion is announced every two years, and given to the winners who have made an outstanding contribution to research in the areas of healthcare for the elderly and health promotion at the level of World Health Organization.

The recommendations for nominating the winner is decided by the executive board, while the prize is announced in the annual ceremony held on the sidelines of (WHO) meeting in Geneva in May.



KUNA photo  
Chief of the General Staff of the Army Lieutenant-General Khaled Saleh Al-Sabah during his visit to the exercise site.

## Army chief visits drill site

## Combat readiness wins praise

KUWAIT CITY, Feb 8, (KUNA): Chief of the General Staff of the Army Lieutenant-General Khaled Saleh Al-Sabah praised the combat readiness of the force participating in the 25 Commando Brigade Exercise No. 12, stressing the keenness to hold such exercises that reflect the efforts exerted to enhance and raise the level of training and combat readiness.

This came in a press statement issued by the Chief of Staff during the visit of Lieutenant General Khaled Al-Sabah to the exercise site in Al-Adaira area on Tuesday, which took place between January 31 and February 10, 2022.

He was received upon his arrival by the commander Major General Colonel Nasser Al-Otaibi. The Chief of Staff was briefed on the course of the exercise which includes all shooting, combating terrorism, combat operations in built-up areas, patrols in general, and directing aircraft which aims to qualify combat in all circumstances from an operational, administrative and technical point of view, so that the trainees can carry out their

duties and reach the highest levels of combat professionalism under all circumstances.

The exercise was attended by the Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the Army, Lieutenant General Fahd Al-Nasser, and a number of commanding officers in the army.

Member of the Union of Livestock Breeders Matar Al-Baghli called on officials of the Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources (PAAAFR) to understand the demands of breeders and to remove the obstacles they are currently facing to ensure ample supply of red meat in accordance with legal frameworks that are in the interest of the public, reports Al-Rai daily.

In a statement to the daily, Al-Baghli disclosed that the demands include increasing fodder subsidies, combating the black market, and opening centers for fodder distribution in Abdaly, Wafra and Kabad; instead of limiting the distribution to Shuwaikh only.