

MEW gears up to launch 'finger' attendance soon

Around 2/3 staff register personal data

KUWAIT CITY, Jan 2: The fingerprint team of the Ministry of Electricity and Water (MEW) is preparing to develop a plan to launch the fingerprint attendance

system in 2022 within a maximum of one month, according to the terms of the contract with the executing company, reports Al-Anba daily.



The Minister of Health inspects a number of hospitals, as incessant rain hits the country.

KUNA photo

'Health facilities secure'

Kuwaiti Minister of Health Dr. Khaled Al-Saeed stressed the need to deal with any water accumulations that may arise in the vicinity of health facilities as a result of rainfall in the country and the speed of coordination with the concerned authorities in this regard.

This came according to a press statement by the Ministry of Health during an inspection tour by Minister Al-Saeed on Sunday to a number of hospitals affiliated with the ministry to determine the readiness of health facilities, including Mubarak Al-Kabeer, Al-Adan, Farwaniya and Jahra hospitals.

The statement indicated that work is proceeding normally in the various health facilities, and none of them has been affected by the current wave of rain until this moment.

He stated that the Minister of Health listened during the tour, accompanied by the Undersecretary of the Ministry, Dr. Mustafa Reda, to the hospital directors' confirmation of their complete readiness to deal with any emergency, as the Minister Al-Saeed directed them to the necessity of coordinating with the concerned authorities to deal with any water gatherings in the vicinity of health facilities. (KUNA)

Liquor found in spring camps

18,221 expats deported in 2021

KUWAIT CITY, Jan 2: The General Administration of Correctional Institutions, represented by the Department of Deportation and Temporary Detention Affairs, has issued a statistic that includes the number of people who were deported from the country during the period from January 1 to December 31 of the year 2021, reports Al-Rai daily.

The statistics show 18,221 violators of the laws have been deported including 11,177 men and 7,044 women.

Booze in spring camps: The Public Security Sector at the Ministry of Interior, in cooperation with the Kuwait Municipality branch in Jahra, demolished a number of camping sites in Sabahiya desert after the discovery of alcoholic drinks in these sites, reports Al-Rai daily quoting sources.

Sources disclosed that teams from the sector and the Illegal Structures Demolition Team at the Municipality branch in Jahra submitted their reports immediately after carrying out their task, while several charges were filed against the owners of these camping sites.

Sources affirmed that the Ministry of Interior represented by the sector, is closely monitoring all suspicious sites; especially in desert areas and will continue its campaign to stop illegal activities.

Stolen cars for Kuwait: The Customs Department of Malta has recently seized 14 cars which were stolen from Canada and allegedly were on their way to Kuwait, reports Al-Rai daily.

The daily quoting from the Maltese media reports said the customs officials confiscated 14 vehicles that were bound for Kuwait, indicating that the confiscation of the stolen vehicles took place at the Freeport port in Malta. The vehicles were hidden inside 8 (40-foot) containers.

The daily quoting the Maltese customs officials said last year (2021) the authorities had confiscated 58 vehicles all stolen from Canada.

The Maltese Police Force and Canadian authorities have opened investigations into the case and it is believed nine suspects, whose identities are not given, but are believed to be linked to armed robbery of cars are being interrogated.

The Maltese media gave the following list of vehicles nine Ford F150 trucks; two Lexus RX 35; one Lexus IS30; one Dodge Dura; and one Jeep Wrangler.

Securing oil facilities: The Kuwait Petroleum Corporation says it is necessary to provide the oil facilities in Al-Zour with the latest security technology to protect the vital oil installations in the south of the country, reports Al-Anba quoting senior oil sources.

The same sources said the latest in the world state-of-the-art security cameras and radars are expected to be introduced in the region for the first time.

The insurance plan includes high-range infrared surveillance cameras with a distance of 25 kilometers to secure the sea and land area, including the Al-Zour refinery, liquefied gas facilities and a petrochemical complex.

According to informed sources from the ministry, the number of employees from whom fingerprint data was obtained exceeds 450 per day. The number of employees whose data was updated was 19,800 out of 27,000. It would be impossible for those who failed to register their data in the new system to record his or her attendance and departure after all the old devices are replaced.

The fingerprint team is currently assessing the situation for 21 sites, including the main building, which has been operated. So far, no problems or malfunctions have been recorded.

The sources also announced the start of the experiment of the smart fingerprint system or the phone fingerprint system.

They explained that the application of its experiment was limited to 20 employees who were selected at the ministry level by the fingerprint team to test the system and work on developing and designing it in order for it to be appropriate and user friendly.

The application is to be downloaded on the employee's phone as a tracking system that is linked to the fingerprint attendance devices that monitor the attendance and absence of employees.

So far, 30 devices have been installed in the main building and 25 in external sites.

Field teams have been formed by the fingerprint team and the executing company to visit the sites throughout the day to ensure the devices have been activated, and to inspect the device and the system.

The devices and system would be linked to the fingerprint team's helpdesk system. An alarm signal and an email will be sent to the fingerprint team in the presence of any malfunction.

This was activated and tested so that the team and the company would be fully prepared in the event of any malfunctions.

The sites where the system was operated were chosen by the team, which are central departments of some external departments, and they would be the starting point for the gradual operation of the project.

The sources added that the main office of the fingerprint team from the executing company has been equipped with the necessary devices, civil works and required extensions to the network, and has been prepared for gradual operation after the site operation process.

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A DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION

Technology ... its impact on humans

"THE process of social, intellectual and scientific transformation due to technology has become so fast that it has spread panic in the hearts of some, and confused the accounts and postulates of others," columnist **Suad Fahad Al Moajel** wrote for **Al-Qabas** daily.

"Recently, the intellectual dialogues that revolve in the orbit of the dialectic of science and philosophy were all dialogues between human minds with contradictory visions, but they are similar in their tools and ingredients. In the sense that all these minds based their thinking, and thus their visions and analyses on cultural gains rooted in the depths of human consciousness, with some knowledge and culture gained through education, reading and mixing.

"But in light of the rapid and terrible development in the movement of communication technology, electronic and artificial intelligence, virtual reality and augmented reality, human society has to be prepared for a different era of intellectual and cognitive dialectic in which electronic intelligence will be the other party in the face of the postulates of the human mind. It is definitely – that is, electronic intelligence – that is not based on the principle of dualism in analysis and does not work according to criteria such as emotion or usual human feelings such as tolerance and omission for example, and giving the right cheek after the left when offending and other things that human culture has in general.

"Electronic intelligence works according to logarithmic settings that believe in the language of numbers only, and the principle of 'one plus one equals two' without the slightest amount of compromise. Today, the world announces the transition from the stage of virtual reality to the era of augmented reality, while virtual reality allowed the user to experience entering into worlds in his small room and interacting through special devices to integrate more into the experience, while the augmented reality becomes more exciting where the viewer moves to surrounding the user with a two- or three-dimensional display to create a complex display reality. In other words, if the virtual reality has enabled the user to be in another world, the augmented reality comes to put the user in his real multi-dimensional world with the addition of some effects.

"Such a reality is no longer a theoretical issue, rather it has become reality in the hands of the huge companies that have begun to promote their goods today, very rapidly. The pertinent question that jumps to the fore here relates to the extent to which such an enhanced reality reflects on social and intellectual transformation with the subsequent leaps in the field of science and technology, that is, the extent to which it reflects on human life biologically, intellectually and culturally even at the level of emotion and feelings.

"Will such leaps constitute a new episode of the Darwinian theory, in which the survival of the fittest here becomes linked to the ability of genes to deal with this reality, meaning will technology lead to a biological change that extends the human race and with which the role of some organs in our bodies declines, as happened with the appendix and the age of the mind and the tonsils?

"Today, a large segment of the population, especially the young, is experiencing difficulty in using the palm to write after the computer has replaced the pen and paper and no one knows yet which member of the body will be affected by the impact of technology.

"What is interesting is that under such a terrible impetus of a massive technological transformation and these vast virtual worlds, there are still some minds that reject such transformations and insist on retreating outside the walls of the new era as some of them are still fighting windmills in a world that no longer exists. Still, issues such as the Christmas tree and congratulating Christians on the birth of Christ occupy a large part of their thinking, which they seek to impose in a world where their options are very limited.

"A virtual world and an enhanced world that everyone can create, live and celebrate in a small room and a remote village what about us when they talk about fatwas prohibiting and blocking in rich societies that are connected to all the innovations of modern technology; controversy, question, and fatwa permissibility of congratulating Christians on their feasts. It is the recurring theme on every anniversary of the birth of Christ and every occasion of a new Gregorian New Year or Easter.

"In the past, the arenas of dialogue occupied newspapers and televised dialogues and councils. Today, virtual reality and augmented reality resolve such controversy and even raise it mainly from the list of priorities for discussion after the small and large world has become preoccupied with reality-enhancing technological worlds and scientific theories dealing with multiple universes and black holes that penetrate time and string theory may be a way to enhance virtual reality further so that there is no longer a place for the Christmas tree to enter into dialogue or controversy.

"In conclusion, we only say 'Merry Christmas' to the whole world and Happy New Year to all of you."

Also:

"Insulting the Prophet Muhammad is not freedom of opinion", this is what Russian President Putin said at the annual press conference, adding that this is a violation of freedom of religion and a violation of the sacred feelings of those who convert to Islam," columnist **Adel Al-Ibrahim** wrote for **Al-Anba** daily.

"Some may say that the Russian president is trying to improve his image among the Arabs, and the response to that is that making a statement is better than not, and that it is the clearest statement from the head of a great country towards our Noble Prophet, may God's prayers and peace be upon him. The Islamic countries and Islamic institutions, especially the Organization of the Islamic Conference, affirm this and work with Russia to issue a UN resolution punishing attacks and abuse of our Master Muhammad, may God's prayers and peace be upon him.

"Yes, exposure to the Noble Prophet, may God's prayers and peace be upon him, is an insult to the feelings of hundreds of millions of Muslims, so this statement comes from the head of a superpower as someone who sends a clear message that this is an attack on the feelings of Muslims.

"I wonder: when the Prophet, may God's prayers and peace be upon him, is exposed, we find statements condemning that act and that it is not freedom of opinion, and now this statement comes without finding any statement that supports what President Putin said, as if the matter concerns only Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan, who welcomed this statement and to convey a message as leaders to the rest of the world's leaders that hostility to Islam and exposure of the Noble Prophet (PBUH) is not freedom of opinion.

"Do we see a move to take advantage of the Russian position in issuing a UN resolution prohibiting insulting the Prophet Muhammad, may God bless him and grant him peace! This is what we wish from Islamic countries and organizations sooner rather than later!"

"In his remarkable speech yesterday, His Highness the Crown Prince instructed His Highness the Prime Minister and the new ministers to shoulder their responsibilities and perform their duties diligently," columnist **Abdulrahman Al-Awaad** wrote for **Al-Sabah** daily.

"This happened during their reception and oath taking in front of His Highness, who urged them to work as a team in continuing the reform process, implementing economic programs and pushing for development in the country.

"These directives are considered a roadmap for the next stage that requires, as His Highness the Crown Prince said, working as a team ... because one hand does not clap ... individual work does not lead to achievements ... and a bird does not fly with one wing.

"Therefore, it is necessary for everyone to adhere to the idea of partnership and cooperation for government work to come out of the umbrella of irregular individual work and focus on collective work, which quickly solves the problems we are facing.

"His Highness the Crown Prince voiced hope and optimism that fruitful and constructive cooperation will prevail between the legislative and executive authorities to approve and implement legislation and laws in the interest of the country and citizens, along with commitment and adherence to the Constitution that we are proud of.

"This is a clear confirmation from the political leadership, which we have always been accustomed to, particularly in adhering to the Constitution and the law, as well as the desire of the loyal people of Kuwait in the two authorities to play their real role in building the nation through solidarity. This is in addition to rejecting differences and division in order to work towards advancement and renaissance. In this manner, Kuwait can join the ranks of developed countries that have replaced controversy with development and work."

— Compiled by Zaki Taleb

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