

KDIPA okays 'Wafra Economic Zone' design project at cost of KD 799,000

'Kuwait keen to boost joint Arab action in all fields'

'Execute clients money transfers abroad within 2 days'

KUWAIT CITY, Jan 4: The Central Bank of Kuwait has instructed the money exchange companies to carry out transfer operations for their clients through correspondents abroad or global electronic transfer networks up to the second working day at the latest, reports Al-Rai daily.

In its circular to the money exchange companies, the Central Bank pointed out that as per its supervisory role in

the field of protecting the rights of clients, particularly the money transfer operations, they should:

1. Execute the clients' money transfers abroad within two working days maximum. If the companies cannot do so, they should inform their clients. If the clients decide not to proceed with the transfer, the companies must immediately refund the money, includ-

ing the transfer fees. These companies must comply with Clause 9/14 of the instructions on combating money laundering and financing terrorism.

2. The money exchange companies must ensure that the balance in their accounts with any of the correspondents or global electronic transfer networks is not less than the total value of the checks and transfers processed through such accounts.

KUWAIT CITY, Jan 4: The Kuwait Direct Investments Promotion Authority (KDIPA) has approved the Wafra Economic Zone design project at a cost of KD 799,000, reports Al-Anba daily quoting sources.

Sources confirmed that the authority agreed on awarding the project to a company that offers the lowest prices and conform to the specifications as per the division of the financial value based on the technical evaluation points submitted by the Arab Office for Engineering Consultations.

Sources added the Wafra Economic Zone will be on par with international standards and it will be approximately 10 kilometers away from the nearest urban area.

Meanwhile, assigned Assistant Undersecretary of the Ministry of Finance for Economic Affairs Talal Al-Nameh affirmed last month the State of Kuwait's keenness to enhance joint Arab action in all fields, including "economic and commercial" for the benefit of the Arab citizen.

Participation

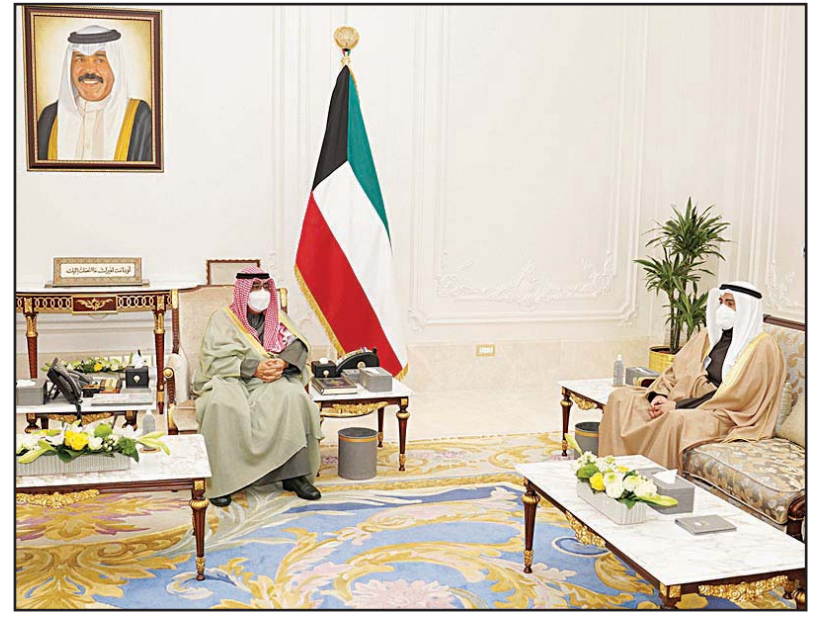
This came in a statement made to Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) on the sidelines of his presidency of the 52nd meeting of the Implementation and Follow-up Committee of the Greater Arab Free Trade Zone, with the participation of senior officials in the ministries of finance, economy and trade in the Arab countries.

Al-Nameh added that "the State of Kuwait, through its chairmanship of this committee, is working to ensure that the recommendations issued by it serve the process of joint Arab action, especially in the field of facilitating trade and removing all obstacles facing the free trade agreement between Arab countries."

He said that the committee will discuss over the course of three days a number of issues related to the mechanism of implementation and follow-up of the free trade zone and review the measures taken by the Arab member states in the region towards achieving the optimum level of compliance with the provisions of that zone.

For his part, head of the Kuwaiti delegation participating in the meeting, director of the Gulf and Arab World Affairs Department at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Abdullah Al-Hajri, stressed in a similar statement to KUNA the importance of strengthening trade relations between Arab countries, members of the Greater Arab Free Trade Zone. He explained the importance of the recommendations that emerged from this meeting, which focus on achieving more facilitation of the movement of inter-trade exchange between Arab countries.

The committee discussed the memorandum of the General Secretariat regarding the list of donated goods that do not apply to the provisions of the free trade zone for religious, health, security or environmental reasons. The committee is scheduled to submit a final report on the results of its work and the recommendations it prepared to the next session of the Arab Economic and Social Council.



HH the Crown Prince with the former health minister.

KUNA photo

Dr Bassel thanked for anti-Covid efforts

Crown Prince hosts ex-health minister

KUWAIT CITY, Jan 4, (KUNA): His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received on Tuesday the former minister of health, Dr. Bassel Humoud Hamad Al-Sabah.

His Highness the Crown Prince lauded the ex-minister for shouldering responsi-

bilities devoutly and sincerely, expressing appreciation for all the efforts he had exerted to cope with repercussions of the pandemic for serving of the dear homeland while being in office.

He expressed good wishes to Sheikh Bassel after the state service.

New premises to officially open Jan 10

Indian Embassy announces change in venues for outsourcing services

KUWAIT CITY, Jan 4: The Embassy of India in Kuwait said with effect from Jan 11, 2022, the embassy outsourcing centers providing Consular, Passport and Visa Services will operate at the following addresses, says a press release issued by the embassy.

Third Floor, Jawahara Tower, Khalid Ibn Al Waleed St, Kuwait City; Jleeb Al-Shuyoukh (Abbasiya): Mezzanine Floor, Olive Supermarket Building, Jleeb Al Shuyouk; and in Fahaheel Al-Anoud Shopping Complex, Mezzanine Floor; Makkah Street, Fahaheel.

The new premises will be officially opened on Jan 10 at 10:00 am in Sharq: 11:00 am at Jleeb Al-Shuyoukh and 12:00 noon at Fahaheel.

All applications for passports, visas and other consular services including attestation of the consular documents will be received at the new premises starting from January 11. There will be no attestation services at the embassy premises from January 11. The working hours at

the outsourcing centers are Saturday to Thursday from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon and from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm and on Friday from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Death cases will continue to be registered at the embassy premises during normal working hours and also after office hours in case of emergency.

More details will be made available on embassy's website (<https://indembkw.gov.in>) and social media platforms.

A special online briefing on the new outsourcing centers is scheduled at 19:00 hrs on January 9 on Zoom. The details of the virtual Zoom link are as follows:

<https://zoom.us/j/94078642098?pwd=TTA3Y3IMLYtLUjJncEZFOVUxcEJhdz09>

Meeting Code 940 7864 2098; Meeting ID 313280

Information can also be obtained from embassy's (12) WhatsApp Helpline Numbers 24X7. In case of any further assistance, queries and suggestions, please write to cons1.kuwait@mea.gov.in.

Bid to change behavior of drug addicts

KUWAIT CITY, Jan 4: Within the framework of joint cooperation between the ministries of Social Affairs and Interior, the Central Prison Administration has asked for assistance from the Juvenile Welfare Department in changing the behavior of addicts in correctional institutions, especially the drug addicts, reports Al-Anba daily quoting sources.

Sources said the Juvenile Welfare Department has laid down a comprehensive psycho-social plan for changing the behavior of drug addicts in correctional institutions, as well as forming a team of national experts to study the files of Central Prison inmates in preparation for the implementation of behavior modification programs for them.

In confirmation to a report published recently about the practice of consultancy companies' contracts for major projects in the Kuwait Oil Company (KOC), the Cabinet's Grievances Committee decided to stop the practice procedures until the grievance submitted by Technip Company, which was excluded, and that of Fluor Company for not adjusting the initial insurance value, are dealt with, reports Al-Rai daily.

Despite the decision of the Central

Agency for Public Tenders (CAPT) at its last meeting in December to reject the complaint filed by the Technip Company against excluding its bid from the tender, in order to ensure the validity of the reasons for exclusion, CAPT was also informed during the same meeting about the grievance committee's request to provide it with a copy of all documents and information regarding the company's complaint.

The committee is also in the process of examining and deciding on the subject of the grievance, which requires suspending the procedures for the decision until the matter is resolved, and the agency is provided with the necessary decision.

It is worth mentioning that CAPT had excluded the Fluor and Technip companies from the tender due to their failure to adjust the value of the initial insurance from KD 2.5 million to about KD 2.65 million, which prompted the two companies to submit their grievances to the Cabinet's Grievances Committee for not being informed of the required amendments on the website of the CAPT, while the total value for the contracts of consulting companies for major projects is estimated at KD 103 million for a period of five years.


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Company provided booster shot to employees in partnership with MOH

Zain holds third COVID vaccination campaign for staff

Zain, the leading digital service provider in Kuwait, held a third COVID-19 vaccination campaign for its staff at its main headquarters in Shuwaikh in collaboration with the Ministry of Health. The company provided the booster shot of the COVID-19 vaccine to its employees with the aim of supporting the nation's efforts in immunizing the community during the present time.

Zain considers itself an active partner of the Ministry of Health and other institutions in protecting the local community against the threats of the pandemic. Since the early days of the crisis, Zain was keen on effectively responding to the efforts of various authorities in the nation by supporting initiatives and programs that contributed to lessening the health, economic, and social impacts of the pandemic.

The third internal vaccination campaign came as a continuation of the first two campaigns Zain held back in June and July of last year, where a large number of staff received their vaccinations at the company's main headquarters. The Ministry of Health's team was present a third time to administer booster shots in an effort to



reinforce the immunity of the largest number of interested employees.

Zain expressed its utmost appreciation and gratitude to the Ministry of Health's officials for responding to its call to conduct the three internal vaccination campaigns, as well as for their keenness on being present at the company's main HQ to coordinate the campaign efficiently.


Zain hopes such initiatives would contribute to imprinting a positive impact in strengthening social immunity and supporting MOH's efforts in protecting the community

from the pandemic.

Throughout the past two years, Zain has showcased the spirit of responsibility as a leading national company by making its human and tech resources available to shoulder the public sector and maintain the nation's wellbeing. The company also launched numerous social awareness campaigns aimed at elevating the health and safety of the community. Not only that, but Zain was also keen on continuing its support of social, educational, and cultural initiatives – which it has always been a top supporter of – in a virtual format this time to adhere to

official health measures and guidelines to keep everyone involved safe.

Zain's tireless efforts have extended throughout the year, where it has launched its own social initiatives, supported existing health and social programs, in addition to handling the crisis, all under its corporate sustainability and social responsibility strategy. Being one of the biggest private sector leaders in the country, Zain was keen on reflecting its role by supporting the public sector, especially during crises which show the nation's true soul.



THE GUEST SHOW

CHAITALI B ROY

Radio Kuwait International English Station

Guest: **Dr Ziad Rajab**
 Board Member Tareq Rajab Museum;
 Director of New English School
 Director: **Aneeq Backer**
 06/01/2022 @ 10am & 10pm
 93.3fm and 96.3am

The Guest Show poster

Dr Ziad Rajab on TGS

The Guest Show (TGS) starts this year with the extraordinary story of two unconventional individuals, a Kuwaiti cultural, arts, and archaeology pioneer Tareq Sayed Rajab, and his adventurous soulmate, Jehan. Together, they founded the magnificent Tareq Rajab Museum and The English School Kuwait, the first English Secondary School in the country.

The show is also about their equally extraordinary son Dr Ziad Rajab, who, along with his siblings, has inherited this remarkable legacy and is working hard to take it forward.

Dr Ziad Rajab himself is a renaissance man. I have had the good fortune of listening to his lectures on Islamic art at the Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyyah.

Like the museums he heads and their artifacts, there is an uncommonness to Dr Ziad, perhaps because of his family, upbringing, and learning. In the first episode of 2022, he speaks of his remarkable parents, two individuals so quietly passionate about the same things and their synergy, which led to a collection so vast and a museum so unique, his unconventional childhood, about the Tareq Rajab Museum, his own journey with art, history, culture and artifacts and the challenges that museums face in Kuwait. Tune in this Thursday.