



Scan the QR code to access the Arab Times WhatsApp Channel



Salary freeze hits Article 8 staff pending legal update

AI-Seyassah Exclusive

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: In implementation of the decisions of the Council of Ministers and Civil Service Commission to amend the status of women whose citizenships were previously revoked under Article 8 of the Nationality Law, female employees in this category have received official notifications that their salaries will be suspended starting this month, reports AI-Seyassah daily.

Continued on Page 5

Over 10,600 illegal residents regain original nationalities

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12, (KUNA): The Central System for the Remedy of Situations of Illegal Residents announced Tuesday that it had amended the status of 10,677 illegal residents to their original nationalities from 2011 to June 2025.

In a press statement, it said that 265 people completed their status amendment during the first half of this year, urging those wishing to amend their status to visit at the headquarters of the Central System at Sharq area.

Kuwait declares Sept 4 holiday for Prophet's Birthday



Acting Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Fahad Yousef Saud Al-Sabah chairs the weekly Cabinet meeting on Tuesday.

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12, (KUNA): The Kuwaiti Cabinet has announced that work in all ministries, government bodies, public institutions, and agencies will be suspended on Thursday, September 4, 2025, on the occasion of the Prophet's Birthday (1447 AH).

This came during the Cabinet's weekly meeting on Tuesday, chaired by Acting Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Fahad Yousef Saud Al-Sabah, noting that official duties will resume on Sunday, September 7th.

Entities with special operational hours are to determine their holiday schedules in coordination with their respective authorities.

The Kuwaiti Cabinet on Tuesday approved a draft decree-law

Continued on Page 5

FOUR-TIER VISA SCHEME TO BOOST KUWAIT TOURISM

Kuwait flings open tourist doors with new visa rules

Longer stays ... more entries

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: Kuwait's Center for Government Communication (CGC) announced four tourist visa categories designed to meet the needs of different traveler groups, reports AI-Seyassah daily.

The center explained that visa validity for the first and second categories ranges from 30 to 360 days, with multiple options available.

The four categories are:

- First category: Citizens of countries with high safety, passport strength, and economic indicators, with multiple visa options.
- Second category: Gulf citizens and residents with qualified professions or holders of US, UK, or Schengen visas/residences.
- Third category (to be launched soon): Other nationalities with proof of financial solvency and guarantees.

Continued on Page 5

Info minister unveils 5-pillar blueprint to empower youth

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12, (KUNA): Minister of Information and Culture and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Abdulrahman Al-Mutairi launched on Tuesday the new strategic plan of the Public Authority for Youth for the years 2025-2030.

The strategy outlines five developmental priorities in the fields of (Leadership, Employment, and Entrepreneurship), (Community Engagement), (Culture, Innovation, and Creativity), (Health and Wellbeing), and (Governance and Resource Development).

In a visual presentation held at the Government Communication Center, Al-Mutairi stressed that the strategy represents a clear and ambitious roadmap to advance Kuwaiti youth, in line with the patronage of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, and His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, and the directives of His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah.

He added that the launch of the strategy, coinciding with International Youth Day, marks the beginning of a new and innovative phase

Continued on Page 5



KUNA photo
Minister of Information and Culture and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Abdulrahman Al-Mutairi explains Kuwait's 2025-2030 youth strategy at the Government Communication Center on International Youth Day.

Kuwait, US Centcom discuss boosting security cooperation

WASHINGTON, Aug 12, (KUNA): The Director General of Kuwait Coast Guard at the Ministry of Interior, Brigadier General Sheikh Mubarak Ali Al-Sabah, discussed on Monday with Commander of the US Central Command (CENTCOM) Commander, Admiral Brad Cooper, ways to enhance joint security cooperation.

A statement by the ministry of Interior said this came following Sheikh Mubarak Al-Sabah's visit to the US Central Command headquarters as part of his official visit to the United States.

The statement added that, Sheikh Mubarak conveyed the congratulations of Acting Prime Minister Sheikh Fahad Yousef Saud Al-Sabah to Admiral

Continued on Page 5



KUNA photo
Director General of Kuwait Coast Guard at the Ministry of Interior, Brigadier General Sheikh Mubarak Ali Al-Sabah with Commander of the US Central Command (CENTCOM) Commander, Admiral Brad Cooper.



Group photo during the inauguration.

ICARUS supercomputer ignites Kuwait scientific breakthroughs

By Abdulrahman Al-Shammari
AI-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: Acting Director General of Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) Dr. Faisal Al-Humaidan has confirmed the launch of the Integrated Kuwait Advanced Research for Ultra-Scale Computing System (ICARUS) – the first integrated national platform of its kind in the country for high-performance computing (HPC) and artificial intelligence.

The system will serve as a pillar for supporting the scientific and research communities, as well as strengthening the position of Kuwait on the global map of advanced technologies.

In a press statement on Tuesday, Al-Humaidan stressed that ICARUS is a qualitative leap in research infrastructure; combining high-powered computing capabilities and massive storage devices that work in harmony

to process data and execute complex operations at speeds hundreds of times faster than conventional computers.

He pointed out that the system is capable of performing 244 teraflops (244 trillion calculations per second), with storage capacities of up to 500 terabytes for temporary storage and five petabytes for permanent storage; enabling it to address major research challenges in the fields of environment, energy, water, petroleum, biomedical engineering and climate change.

He said the platform provides a tool for researchers and engineers to solve large and complex problems; helping them arrive at innovative solutions with greater efficiency, lower cost and shorter time compared to traditional computing methods. He affirmed this contributes to supporting sustainable development efforts and Kuwait's Vision 2035.

Continued on Page 5

Russia doubles e-visa validity

By Fares Ghaleb

AI-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: The Russian Embassy has announced the extension of the permitted stay under the e-visa from 16 days to 30 days.

In a brief statement on its Instagram account; the embassy disclosed that starting Aug 23, the permitted period of stay in Russia under the unified e-visa will be 30 days, instead of 16 days.

It added that the validity of the e-visa has been increased from 60 days to 120 days from the date of issuance.

Salmi raid nets guns, narcotics

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12, (KUNA): Security personnel detained a three-member gang on charges of possessing unlicensed arms and ammunition and dealing in drugs.

The Ministry of Interior said in a statement on Tuesday that the criminal security sector, represented by the general directorate for combating narcotics, arrested the three illegal residents.

The detainees had used a site in Al-Salmi to store and promote narcotics, the MoI statement said.

After obtaining an arrest warrant, the officers raided the hideout where they found a large quantity of drugs and firearms.

The confiscated illegal materials included four kilograms of hashish, 100 grams of marijuana, 25,000 psychotropic pills, three sensitive electronic scales, two Kalashnikov assault rifles, six pistols and ammunition.

The trio and the seized items have been referred to the competent legal authorities for further measures.



We are open platform to portray true image, promote rapprochement: Al-Jarallah



Gulf Bank engages at Kuwait University & Abdullah Al-Salem University admission fairs



Agility Global PLC reports Q2 2025 EBIT of \$97 million

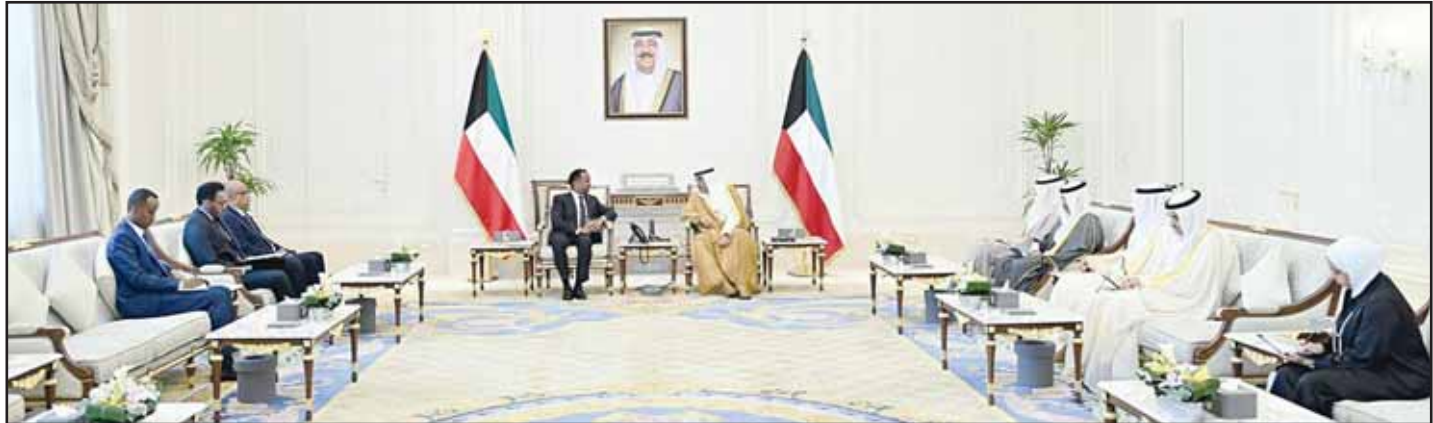
Prayer Timings			
Fajr	03:48	Asr	15:28
Sunrise ..	05:14	Maghrib ..	18:32
Zohr	11:53	Isha	19:55

Local

Expected weather for next 24 hrs:
By Day: Very hot with light to moderate freshening at times northwesterly wind, with speeds of 15-55 km/h causing rising dust.

Weather			
By Night: Hot to rather hot with light to moderate northwesterly wind, with speeds of 15-35 km/h.			
Station	Max Exp	Min Rec	
Kuwait City	45	34	
Kuwait Airport	46	31	

Abdaly	47	31
Bubyan	—	27
Jahra	48	32
Salmiyah	42	33
Ahmadi	39	29
Nuwaisib	42	30
Wafra	46	29
Salmiya	47	30



His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah received the Somali Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Abdisalam Abdi Ali and his team in his office.

Kuwait Crown Prince meets Somali Foreign Minister

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12, (KUNA): His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah received, on Tuesday at Bayan

Palace, Somali Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Abdisalam Abdi Ali, on the occasion of his visit to the country.

Kuwaiti Minister of Foreign Affairs Abdullah Al-Yahya and several other senior officials attended the meeting.

Kuwait cuts prices of 544 life-saving drugs & meds

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12, (KUNA): Kuwaiti Minister of Health Ahmad Al-Awadhi made fresh decisions cutting the prices of 544 drugs and medical products by up to 78.5 percent.

The decisions included new quotations of 144 drugs and products to be sold at the lowest prices in the Gulf only out of the Ministry of Health's commitment to providing medicines at reason-

able prices and attaining economic sustainability in the medical care sector, the ministry said in a press release.

The latest price cuts embrace cancer drugs, antibiotics and medications of diabetes, hypertension, cholesterol, asthma, arthritis, and skin and colon diseases.

The medicine price list reductions come in the context of a national policy and continued review of repricing drugs, promoting the economic efficiency of the health sector, and ensuring low medication costs for citizens and residents alike, the ministry added.



Dr. Al-Awadhi



Editor-in-Chief of Al-Seyassah and Arab Times Ahmed Al-Jarallah receives the Ambassador of the Republic of Uzbekistan to Kuwait Ayubkhan Yunusov.



Editor-in-Chief of Al-Seyassah and Arab Times Ahmed Al-Jarallah talking to the visiting Uzbekistan Ambassador Ayubkhan Yunusov. The meeting was attended by Arab Times Managing Editor Marlon Aquino Malinao, Legal Affairs Counselor Hamada Al-Amir and colleague Mohammad Al-Farhan.

We are open platform to portray true image, promote rapprochement: Al-Jarallah

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: The Editor-in-Chief of Al-Seyassah and Arab Times newspapers Ahmed Al-Jarallah on Tuesday met with Ambassador of the Republic of Uzbekistan to Kuwait Ayubkhan Yunusov, who was accompanied by Counselor at the Uzbek Embassy Bakhrom Turdialiev.

They discussed ways to enhance media cooperation between the two sides. During the meeting, Yunusov expressed his gratitude and appreciation to Al-Seyassah and Arab Times newspapers for their continuous cooperation and support.

He also praised the newspaper's recent interview with him, which addressed

various aspects of bilateral relations between Kuwait and Uzbekistan.

He said: "We appreciate the positive role played by the Kuwaiti press in building bridges of communication between peoples. We are pleased with the media partnership that brings us together with Al-Seyassah and Arab Times newspapers."

On the other hand, Al-Jarallah warmly welcomed the Uzbek Ambassador, affirming the commitment of the two newspapers to continue media cooperation with the Uzbek Embassy and cover events and activities that contribute to strengthening ties between the two countries.

He added, "The media is a bridge of communication between peoples. We are committed to being an open platform for conveying the true image and promoting understanding and rapprochement."

He praised the friendly relations between Kuwait and Uzbekistan, stressing that the media plays an important role in enhancing mutual understanding and bringing cultures together.

Also present at the meeting were Managing Editor of the Arab Times Marlon Aquino Malinao, Director of Legal Affairs Counselor Hamada Al-Amir and colleague Mohammad Al-Farhan.

MoE pushes on with degrees verification

Stick to deadline, Kuwaitis, expats warned

By Abdulrahman Al-Shammari
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: The Ministry of Education (MoE) has started the second phase of the inventory of employees' academic certificates above the high school level.

This confirms the completion of the first phase of the inventory of academic certificates of employees -- both citizens and expatriates. It is in response to the request of the Educational Certificate Examination Committee to inventory the certificates of all employees in government agencies and the private sector.

In a press statement, the ministry clarified that this phase includes all employees -- Kuwaitis and non-Kuwaitis -- who obtained their academic qualifications from Jan 1, 2000 onwards; those who did not submit their certificates during the first phase; those who obtained new qualifications; and the

newly appointed employees.

Acting Undersecretary of the ministry Mohammad Al-Khalidi issued a general circular urging the employees to access the official website of the ministry, specifically the 'Administrative Services' icon -- 'My Academic Certificates' and upload a photocopy of the academic qualification and equivalency issued by the Ministry of Higher Education. He said his should be done within a period not exceeding one month from the date of the issuance of the circular for administrators, and until Sept 30 for the teaching and administrative staff in schools.

The Ministry of Education explained that the steps for uploading documents are as follows: log into the e-services, click 'My Academic Certificates', 'Add Academic Certificates', 'Questions about Academic Certificates', and then select the attachment to be uploaded in PDF format.

At the same time, it stressed the need to adhere to the deadlines to avoid disciplinary action that may be taken by the relevant authorities. It added that employees who previously uploaded their academic certificates can verify if they are in the system by following the same steps outlined above to ensure that the data are correct and up-to-date.



Officials from various organizations who coordinated efforts for delivery of humanitarian aid to Gaza Palestinians.

Second Kuwaiti Gaza aid plane arrives in Jordan

AMMAN, Aug 12, (KUNA): The second Kuwaiti relief aid plane for the Gaza Strip arrived in Amman, Jordan, carrying 10 tons of essential humanitarian supplies destined for the war-torn enclave.

The Kuwaiti Embassy in Jordan, the Jordanian charitable authority, and the Palestinian Red Crescent are coordinating the delivery of the humanitarian aid.

Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS), along with several Kuwaiti charities, prepared the cargo in coordination with the Kuwaiti Foreign and Defense Ministries, in addition to other

state bodies.

The current planeload reflected the Kuwaiti leadership and people's commitment to support the Palestinian people and is part of a national campaign to aid the Gaza Strip.

Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS), the Foreign and Defense Ministries, along with several state bodies coordinated efforts to deliver the much-needed relief aid. KRCS Chairman Khaled Al-Maghamis told KUNA that this current batch of relief aid reflected Kuwait's keenness on alleviating the suffering of the Palestin-

ian people particularly in the war-torn Gaza Strip.

The most essential materials are included in this current planeload, he affirmed, noting that there was coordination with the Kuwaiti embassy in Jordan to make sure that the plane, operated by the Kuwaiti Air Force, reaches Jordan and delivers relief aid to the Gaza Strip.

He thanked all those who donated to the relief aid campaign, saying that the Kuwaiti leadership and people would always stand with the people of Palestine.



Turnout was high for the CAIT, Microsoft workshop.

Workshop sheds light on plan headlines

CAIT, Microsoft eye strategic partnership

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12, (KUNA): The Central Agency for Information Technology (CAIT), in collaboration with the Microsoft, organized on Tuesday a promotional workshop for the strategic partnership between the two sides signed in March 2025.

The workshop, held under patronage of the Minister of State for Communication Affairs Omar Al-Omar, aimed to inform personnel of the government departments about the strategy headlines, said Najat Ibrahim, CAIT's Acting Director General in a statement to KUNA.

It is an opportunity to boost cooperation between the agency and the public authorities, ensure effective execution of its objectives to attain a real added value to the information technology sector and back up the national digital transformation process, she said.

CAIT has recently completed the required technical, financial and administrative measures for the actual execution, as a prelude to organizing a series of workshops to pro-

mote it.

The agency since declaring the signing of the agreement has sought to render it "a tangible reality," she said, adding that CAIT on May 7, 2025, addressed all the government departments about guidelines for benefiting from this partnership.

Ibrahim said that the accord is part of an overall framework to employ state-of-art technology and computing services including Azure, Microsoft products licenses and technical back-up services, for developing an advanced and safe digital infrastructure that supports innovation and contributes to speeding up the smart government services.

The agreement, she has added, is designed to boost digital transformation, government departments' efficiency and promote the AI usage in the civil servants' daily tasks.

Meanwhile, Rawan Al-Slaiman, a CAIT engineer, affirmed to KUNA that the agreement paves the way for the AI and computing employment in the government departments.

Topics of the workshop deal with the new collective contract with Microsoft, visual presentation about the AI (co-pilot-4 office 365) and a summary about the center's co-pilot initiative. They also cover the zero trust initiative, Azure computing and safe shifting to the Microsoft computing.



Najat Ibrahim

'Kuwait, Tunisia labor exchange to serve interests of both countries'

By Fares Ghaleb

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: Tunisian Ambassador to Kuwait Mohamed Karim Boudali confirmed that the Memorandum of Understanding on the exchange of labor in the private sector between Kuwait and Tunisia was signed during the fourth session of the Tunisian-Kuwaiti Joint Committee, hosted by the Tunisian capital in November 2024, under the chairmanship of the foreign ministers of the two countries.

It is considered a new milestone in affirming the depth of fraternal relations between the two brotherly countries.



Boudali

In a statement to the newspaper, Boudali disclosed that the decree approving the memorandum is part of efforts to closely follow up the implementation of the outcomes of the aforementioned session, which will contribute to achieving tangible results that serve the interests of the two brotherly peoples.

He pointed out that the memorandum is a new building block on the path of strengthening bilateral cooperation between Tunisia and Kuwait in the field of labor and social affairs; particularly through the exchange of expertise and visits between the two countries in this field, supporting human resource development efforts, and expanding areas of technical cooperation between the Tunisian and Kuwaiti sides.

He affirmed that the memorandum will open horizons for strengthening the presence of Tunisian competencies, known for their professionalism and excellence, in the Kuwaiti labor market and contributing to meeting the requirements of various development sectors in the State of Kuwait.

Visit visas ... and the risks attached ... security vital?

“AS a citizen, I feel deeply saddened. Instead of progressing, we are exposing our country to greater risks,” columnist **Ahmad Al-Dawas** wrote for **Al-Seyassah** daily.

“The Ministry of Interior has, from time to time, introduced new types of entry visas to Kuwait, most recently allowing holders to reside temporarily for three months, renewable for up to one year from the date of entry. Did the Ministry not anticipate that such a move would lead to hundreds of thousands rushing to enter the country?”



Ahmad Al-Dawas

“I don’t say this lightly. I have worked multiple times as a consul in Kuwaiti embassies, during which I wrote economic and political reports, and my academic background is in economics and political science. Based on that, I can confidently say the following - There is a well-known economic principle that states, “Individuals move according to the available wage.” In other words, a worker will relocate from a country with low wages to one with higher wages.

“For example, an Indian worker is unlikely to move from his village to Mumbai, but is more likely to move to the UAE. A Pakistani would prefer working in the Gulf over Karachi. The same applies to many workers from Asia and the Arab world. If we apply this economic logic, it is clear that workers will do everything they can to enter Kuwait.

“Who said that “the entry of people will stimulate the local economy”? On the contrary, it will eventually harm it. There is an economic principle that states, “Increased demand leads to higher prices,” and as a result, the cost of goods in the country will rise.

“Now, let us suppose an Arab expatriate enters Kuwait on a visit visa. Where will they get food or housing? Most likely, they will turn to a residency trader to obtain a permit. Many will compare their salary back home with what they could earn in Kuwait and choose to stay, which will further inflate the number of expatriates.

“Imagine hundreds of thousands of new expatriates remaining in our country! This will only encourage thousands, if not millions, more to follow their lead. All of them will be seeking work, driven by the basic economic principle that “Individuals move according to the available wage.”

“With the influx of expatriate labor, we risk an increase in crimes such as bribery, armed robbery, money laundering, residency trading, drug trafficking, murder, and home invasions. Some may also bring extremist ideologies. Today, we live in fear of our homes being broken into or our children being kidnapped. We plead with the Ministry of Interior to protect us.

“This decision unsettles every Kuwaiti citizen who truly loves their country. If we are already witnessing daily incidents such as fights, stabbings, shootings, and drug use, what will happen when hundreds of thousands enter the country under the pretext of tourism? Especially when there is little evidence that the situation has improved recently.

“Whoever proposed this decision at the ministry clearly did not consider its consequences and risks. Developed countries prioritize security and, as a result, do not encourage the entry of a lot of people.

“We hope the door to visit visas will remain closed, and that efforts continue to focus on reforming and improving the country from within. There is no need to worry if foreign planes don’t land at our airport. Companies will come to realize the error of their decisions in time. Our country has a strong economy, and its people are active travelers.

“If the government insists on proceeding with these measures, we propose that any expatriate resident inviting someone to visit Kuwait should be required to pay a fee. Moreover, the Ministry of Interior should issue a “visitor sponsorship card” to the resident, clearly stating they are responsible for the visitor. This card must be presented when renewing the resident’s annual residency, to confirm that the visitor has indeed left the country.”

Also:

“A person proven to have caused an accident, without the involvement of an external factor such as force majeure, an unforeseen event, or the actions of the injured party or a third party, is legally and administratively obligated to cover the cost of their medical treatment incurred by the Ministry of Health. This is in addition to any criminal penalties and civil liabilities arising from their actions, such as compensation for damage to public property,” Kuwaiti writer **Zaid Al-Jalawi** wrote for **Al-Seyassah** daily.

“If it is proven that the injured party or a third party contributed to the accident, both the main offender and the injured party or the third party are jointly liable for compensating the resulting damages.

“If the harmful act is solely attributable to the person who caused the harm, and the injured party sustained damage due to that mistake, then the person at fault shall bear the cost of their own treatment as well as the treatment costs of the injured party resulting from their mistake. It is no longer acceptable to provide free treatment to individuals who are criminally responsible for their actions, as well as to cover the treatment of those harmed by their mistakes.

“Once the perpetrator’s criminal fault

in causing the accident is proven, they should be required to pay for their own medical treatment, as well as the treatment of anyone injured as a result of their actions. This can be achieved by amending the relevant laws to require individuals who are responsible for accidents due to their own negligence to bear the full cost of medical treatment, including treatment abroad.

“Perhaps then, those who watch football matches on their phones while driving will think twice, and those distracted by challenge games will start focusing more on doing their jobs properly and safeguarding what they are entrusted with.”

□ □ □

“The law strictly protects employee salaries from unauthorized deductions, allowing recovery of debts only within legally defined time limits,” Legal Advisor (Doctor of Law, University of Edinburgh) **Dr. Kazem Bou Abbas** wrote for **Al-Seyassah** daily.

“First - Protection for employee’s salary

“The law does not allow an employee’s salary to be touched or deducted except through an executive document authorizing the deduction, based on proof of the employee’s debt. The recovery of debt from an employee’s salary is subject to the statute of limitations once the legally prescribed period has passed.

“This period varies depending on the entity and the employee. Once the specified period has lapsed, a government creditor may not request another government entity to recover a debt owed by an employee to the original creditor, if the claim was not made within the legally allowed time frame. This issue pertains to public order.

“Accordingly, the circular issued by the Minister of Finance regarding debt collection warns that amounts to be collected must not have been forfeited due to the expiration of the legal time period.

“This is a proper application of the law, as the expiration of the limitation period creates a legal status for the employee that prevents any obligation to repay the amount. This principle has been consistently upheld by the rulings of the Court of Cassation.

“Administrative bodies must act in good faith by correctly understanding and applying the law, and must avoid bypassing legal provisions or justifying violations through ignorance of legal rules, as this exposes them to liability due to overreach against the employee.

“The statute of limitations is a well-established principle in civil, administrative, and criminal law. It was not introduced arbitrarily by the legislator, but rather to prevent the accumulation of state debts and to encourage government entities to proactively pursue the recovery of their dues (Article 21 of Decree-Law No. 15/1979 concerning the Civil Service).

“Second - Legal Security

“1. Legal security can be defined as “the right of every individual to feel protected under the law or legal rule, and to rely on its stability without being subject to sudden or unexpected changes.” (See the late Moroccan jurist Dr. Abdel Majid Ghameija, “The Principle of Legal Security and the Necessity of Judicial Security”, “Judicial Supplement Magazine”, No. 42).

“Legal security is a protective system that aims to ensure the proper enforcement of obligations without surprises, while minimizing or avoiding uncertainty in the application of the law. (Dr. Ghameija, same source; Dr. Fahima Belhamzi, PhD thesis titled “Legal Security and Constitutional Freedoms”, 2017–2018, Morocco).

“2. The French Council of State defined legal security as “a principle that requires citizens to be able, without great difficulty, to determine what is permitted and what is prohibited by applicable law. Established rules must be clear and understandable, and must not be subject to frequent or unforeseeable changes over time.” (See the “General Report of the French Council of State”, 2006).

“3. The term “legitimate expectation” or “legitimate confidence” means that general abstract rules issued by the legislative authority as laws, or by the executive authority as decrees, must not be enacted suddenly or unexpectedly, thereby conflicting with the legitimate expectations of individuals.

“While an attack on existing rights undermines legal security, frustrating and threatening legitimate hopes is equally harmful to the concept of legal security.

“Therefore, the principle of legitimate expectation requires that laws not be issued abruptly or unexpectedly in a way that destabilizes their legal status. (See Dr. Fouad Al-Samit, “The Role of the Legal Rule in Providing Legal Security”, cited in research by Drs. Saeed Al-Maamari and Radwan Al-Haf, Sohar University, Oman – “Journal of Legal and Economic Research”).

“French jurist Planiol states, “...there will be no security for individuals if their rights, property, personal status, and the effects of their actions and personal rights can at any moment be affected, modified, or eliminated due to a change in the will of the legislator.”

— Compiled by **Mohammad Wangengi/Simi K. Kutty**

6 expats to be deported for setting up random garages



A joint police contingent before the expanded raid in Ahmadi governorate.

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: Six expatriates were referred to the Administrative Deportation Department and their names were included on the list of those banned from entering the country for setting up random garages on state property, reports Al-Anba daily.

These expatriates were arrested during a campaign in several areas in Ahmadi Governorate, coordinated by the Ahmadi Security Directorate — represented by Lieutenant Colonel Abdulaziz Al-Aslawi, and Fahaheel Municipality branch — represented by a number of inspectors, including Director of the branch Mohammad Qunais Al-Hajri.

The campaign also resulted in the seizure of two caravans and 10 abandoned vehicles.

Detention extended in peddling of drugs

‘Allow Kuwaiti to use property’

By **Jaber Al-Hamoud**
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: A detention renewal judge has ordered the continued detention of a prominent lawyer, a Kuwaiti woman, a Kuwaiti man, and a fugitive for two more weeks pending investigation into a case related to the smuggling of drugs from London via express mail.

During the session, the defense team appeared before the judge and requested the release of their clients on any bail the court deemed appropriate. The defendants, meanwhile, continued to deny all charges.

□ □ □

‘**Issue Kuwaiti license**’: The Civil Court obliged the Kuwait Municipality to issue the necessary license for a citizen to use the front and side areas of his property, provided that such use does not conflict with applicable rules and regulations.

The court also ordered the Municipality to shoulder the legal expenses and pay KD50 in attorney’s fees.

Case files indicate that the citizen, through his lawyer -- Attorney Falah Al-Baloud -- filed a lawsuit demanding that the Municipality issue the license for him to use the front area of his property measuring nine meters and a side area measuring eight meters, set at a 45-degree angle. This request was made in accordance with building regulations, building code and municipal regulations.

During the court proceedings, Al-Baloud requested that the case be referred to the Experts Department at the Ministry of Justice to assess the feasibility of using these areas and incorporating them into the new property plan. The defendant was also required to submit supporting documents. The appointed expert submitted a report confirming the citizen’s right to utilize the front and side areas of his property for agricultural or other permitted purposes, with the possibility of obtaining the necessary license from the Municipality.

After reviewing the expert report and the technical and legal arguments it contained, the court found that the lawsuit was grounded in sound factual and legal reasoning. Accordingly, it ruled that the Municipality must issue the license, in addition to covering expenses and attorney’s fees.

Al-Baloud emphasized that the ruling sets an important precedent in affirming the property owner’s right to fully utilize his entire land in accordance with the law. He stressed that compliance with regulations does not prevent the owner from deriving full benefit, as long as such use remains consistent with building regulations.

Hiring interviews start

KFF shuts 28 industrial facilities in Jahra area

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: Kuwait Fire Force (KFF) has announced the start of personal interviews for female applicants with bachelor’s degrees to join the first specialized officers course, reports Al-Anba daily.

In a press statement, KFF revealed that Director of the institution Major General Talal Mohammad Al-Roumi spearheaded the interviews, with the participation of the specialized committee whose members are from various sectors.

KFF affirmed that the committee follows specific frameworks and governance systems to evaluate applicants according to the standards of fairness, transparency, professionalism and competence in the admission procedures.

In another development, KFF conducted an inspection campaign in Jahra Industrial Area, in cooperation with several government agencies, including the Ministry of Electricity and Water, Ministry of Commerce, Public Authority for Industry, Environment Public Authority and Kuwait Municipality.

The campaign is aimed at monitoring buildings and facilities that violate safety and fire prevention regulations.

KFF stated that the campaign resulted in the administrative closure of 28 industrial facilities and shops. It also issued 46 notices and warnings to other facilities due to failure to meet its requirements.

Meanwhile , the Kuwait Fire Service (KFF) announced that it had carried out an inspection campaign on Monday evening in coordination with several government agencies in the Shuwaikh Industrial Area, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

In a press statement, KFF confirmed the closure of 105 industrial establishments and shops, along with the issuance of 95 notices and warnings to others for non-compliance with its safety standards and fire prevention requirements, as well as those of other relevant authorities.

Several entities participated in the campaign, including the Ministry of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the Public Authority for Industry, the Environment Public Authority, and the Kuwait Municipality.

10 sector heads named

Senior posts announced in Mol’s latest structure

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: The First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Fahad Yousef Saud Al-Sabah has approved the new structure of the Ministry of Interior, which includes an undersecretary and two assistant undersecretaries, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

According to informed sources, Major General Ali Al-Adwani has taken up the position of Assistant Undersecretary for Supporting Security Services Affairs, in addition to his role as the acting Undersecretary of the Ministry of Interior.

Major General Hamed Al-Dawas has been appointed as Assistant Undersecretary for Public Security Affairs.

In addition, ten heads of sectors have been appointed as follows:

1. Major General Hamad Al-Munifi - Security Directorates
2. Major General Mujbil bin Shawq - Border Security and Coast Guard
3. Brigadier General Abdulwahab Al-Wahib - Criminal Security

4. Brigadier General Dakhil Al-Dakhil - Private Security and Correctional Institutions

5. Brigadier General Abdullah Al-Atiqi - Traffic and Operations

6. Brigadier General Atef Al-Habashi - Ports Security Affairs

7. Brigadier General Mohammed Al-Zaabi - Financial Affairs and Support Services

8. Brigadier General Fawaz Al-Roumi - Nationality and Residency

9. Brigadier General Ali Al-Wahib - Education and Training

10. Brigadier General Anwar Al-Yatami - Human Resources and Information Technology

The sources also confirmed the appointment of:

■ Brigadier General Bader Al-Shaya as Director General of Airport Security

■ Brigadier General Mubarak Hamad Al-Ajmi as Assistant Director of Airport Security

■ Brigadier General Mohammed Qabazard as Director of Drug Control

■ Brigadier General Fahad Al-Bader as Director General of Criminal Investigations

Deaths dip 34%

45% drop seen in traffic accidents in ’25 1st half

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: Statistics from the General Traffic Department of the Ministry of Interior revealed a significant decline in traffic violations, accidents, and fatalities during the first half of 2025 compared to the same period in 2024, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

Traffic violations dropped from 1,968,733 in the first half of 2024 to 1,659,448 in the same period this year, which is a decrease of 16 percent.

Traffic accidents fell from 2,511 to 1,383, marking a 45 percent decline. Fatalities resulting from traffic accidents also dropped by 34 percent, from 143 deaths in the first half of last year to 94 this year.

These positive trends reflect the ministry’s intensified traffic enforcement efforts, the implementation of modern monitoring systems, and continuous public awareness campaigns led by the General Traffic Department.

□ □ □

Cigarettes smuggling foiled: Customs inspectors at Nuwaiseeb border thwarted an attempt to smuggle cigarettes out of the country, reports Al-Rai daily.

The Customs Department stated that when a vehicle arrived at the inspection area, the inspector conducted a routine check. No prohibited items were found inside the vehicle, except 20 packs of cigarettes that were visible.

After examining the vehicle and running it through an X-ray machine, abnormal densities were found in the four tyres. A manual search revealed 620 packs of cigarettes expertly hidden inside the tyres.

A report was filed regarding the incident, and the seized items and suspects were referred to the competent authorities to complete the remaining legal procedures.

Exotica Cafe

مفـل محـل
SINCE 1988
MUGHAL MAHAL

We are OPEN for BREAKFAST AT 7:00 AM

تيراس مول السالمية - مطل على شارع الخليج شارع سالم المبارك

Terrace Mall Salmiya

Overlooking Gulf Road Salem Al Mubarak Street

1800 188 / 5501 1985

PAAET boosts staff procurement skills

Law 49/2016 compliance workshop

By Abdulrahman Al-Shammari
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: The Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (PAAET), in cooperation with the Central Agency for Public Tenders (CAPT), organized a specialized workshop entitled “Procurement Procedures in Accordance with Tenders Law No. 49/2016 and its Amendments and Executive Regulations.”

This workshop is part of efforts to raise legal and administrative awareness among the staff specialized in the fields of procurement and government contracting. PAAET stated that the workshop aimed to familiarize participants with the latest developments and amendments related to Law No. 49/2016, and the mechanisms for its implementation in procurement and tendering processes. It also reviewed the procedures and controls that ensure the integrity of contracts, in line with the best practices adopted in government work. A number of specialists from CAPT participated in the workshop, during which they gave a detailed presentation on the executive regulations of the law. They explained the role of



Al-Seyassah photo
Dr. Hassan Al-Fajjam, PAAET Director General

government agencies in adhering to the law; the mechanism for issuing tenders, evaluating bids and awarding contracts; and discussing practical cases and real-life applications. The workshop concluded with PAAET Director General Dr. Hassan Al-Fajjam honoring the participants and contributors to the success of the training program. He expressed his thanks and appreciation to CAPT for its fruitful cooperation, stressing that the authority is keen on raising the efficiency of its employees and provide them with the necessary legal knowledge to ensure the integrity of procurement procedures and promote good governance.

Envoy calls to activate stalled bilateral agreements

‘Cambodia-Kuwait ties progress despite hurdles’

By Fares Ghaleb
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: Ambassador of the Kingdom of Cambodia to Kuwait Sman Manan disclosed that bilateral relations between the two countries started with the visit of former Kuwaiti Prime Minister Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammad to Cambodia, during which a number of memoranda of understanding were signed.

In a press conference held at the embassy recently, Manan added that Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet visited Kuwait in 2009 and signed additional memoranda of understanding; bringing the total to 11. These agreements cover various fields like labor, investment, agriculture, civil aviation and trade, among others.

The ambassador explained that despite the signing of these memoranda, they have not been fully implemented or utilized. He pointed out that political and economic factors have hindered the ability of investors to engage as needed, despite the efforts of senior Cambodian officials to promote the initiative. These efforts included a visit to Kuwait by Minister of State for the Development Council of Cambodia Asman Hassan who invited Kuwaiti investors to explore opportunities in Cambodia.

Regarding visa procedures, Manan clarified that Kuwaitis require a visa to enter Cambodia, which can be obtained through three methods: applying directly at the embassy, with processing completed within one to two days; applying online; or obtaining a visa upon arrival, provided the tourist is affiliated with a travel agency. Business travelers also need an agency or sponsor. He added that the number of Kuwaiti visitors remains small, with most traveling for tourism or humanitarian purposes.



Photo by Mohammad Morsi
Sman Manan, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Cambodia to Kuwait

He affirmed that Kuwait ranks first in supporting humanitarian projects in Cambodia; including building schools for Muslim communities, constructing mosques, and providing homes for the poor and orphanages. He praised Kuwait’s reputation in Cambodia, stating that the country’s name is closely associated with its globally recognized humanitarian efforts. He also confirmed the presence of 635 mosques in Cambodia’s 25 provinces, as well as the availability of halal food and high-end hotel services.

On labor, Manan said an agreement has been signed between the two countries to recruit workers; but it has not yet been fully implemented. He attributed the delay to cultural and environmental differences, as well as salary expectations, which are comparable to those in countries like Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, Japan and South Korea, where salaries start at \$2,000 or more. He stated “this makes it challenging to convince Cambodian workers to come to Kuwait. Nevertheless, the Cambodian Ministry of Labor is coordi-

nating with its Kuwaiti counterpart to activate the agreement, particularly for the recruitment of domestic workers.”

He mentioned that the current number of Cambodians working in Kuwait is small and primarily limited to the hospitality sector, including hotels and resorts.

About his diplomatic career, he revealed that he served two terms as Cambodian Ambassador to Kuwait—the first in 2015 and the second in 2023. He has completed two out of the five total terms Cambodian ambassadors have served in Kuwait. He emphasized that his primary objective is to strengthen joint government efforts and enhance bilateral relations, particularly by boosting trade and investment and promoting tourism cooperation.

The ambassador stated that he is actively engaging with travel agencies in both countries to promote tourism exchange, although progress has been limited so far. He added “I will again request the relevant authorities in my country to come to Kuwait to discuss and activate this cooperation.” He revealed that he met with Cambodia’s new Minister of Tourism in 2024 and again in 2025 to strengthen tourism and investment ties between the two nations.

Regarding education, the ambassador disclosed that there are currently 38 Cambodian students studying in Kuwait; most of whom are enrolled in Arabic language programs and are supported by religious institutions.

He stressed that Cambodia has potential in key sectors such as real estate, hospitality, tourism, agriculture, manufacturing, infrastructure and construction.

In conclusion, he highlighted a major strategic project for Cambodia -- the opening of a new international airport on Sept 9. He said this development will expand air connectivity and pave the way for direct flights between Cambodia and Kuwait.

Kuwait expands GCC commercial activity classification

By Marwa Al-Bahravi
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: The Ministry of Commerce and Industry has added food consulting and credit information to the commercial activities covered by the Unified Directory for Classifying Economic Activities in the Gulf Cooperation Council

(GCC) countries. Ministerial Resolution No. 145/2025 stipulates adding food consulting services to the Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities, Consulting and Related Services Sector at the Public Authority for Food and Nutrition (PAFN); as well as credit information services to the Material

Activities and Insurance Activities Sector at the Central Bank of Kuwait.

Meanwhile, Minister of Commerce and Industry Khalifa Al-Ajeel revoked the commercial license of Green Gardens Company for not engaging in its licensed activity and non-issuance of financial statements for three consecutive years.

Multiple vacancies require qualifications

Pakistan resumes labor export to Kuwait

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: The Overseas Employment Agency (OEA), affiliated with the Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resources Development, announced the resumption of exporting skilled labor to Kuwait after years of hiatus, reports Al-Rai daily.

According to statements reported by a news website, citing an official source in the agency, “the appropriate and productive policies adopted by the current Pakistani government have contributed to strengthening confidence in Pakistani labor.”

The source revealed that the selection process will include Pakistani workers who

meet the specified qualifications and experience. He said the vacant positions include warehouse supervisor; indicating applicants must have a diploma or bachelor’s degree, fluent in English (Arabic is advantage), strong customer service skills, and three to five years experience in warehouse management in the retail sector; specifically with logistics companies or previous experience in Gulf countries.

Other available positions are warehouse coordinator, warehouse worker, carpenter, laborer, furniture assembly assistant, driver, and postal, logistics and delivery workers. The application deadline is on Aug 15.

Calls for better feed management

KISR finds mineral deficiencies in impacting Al-Naimi sheep health

By Abdulrahman Al-Shammari
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: Researchers at Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) conducted a study on the percentage of mineral salts and vitamins in the feeds for Al-Naimi sheep.

In a press statement, KISR disclosed that the study covered 30 farms in Wafra, Abdally and Sulaibiya. These farms were classified according to flock size -- small farms (50-150 heads), medium farms (250-350 heads), and large farms (500 heads or more). More than 100 blood and feed samples were collected for laboratory analysis.

The study looked into several variables like mortality rate among newborn animals and abortions; as well as determine the composition of feeds, particularly the percentage of concentrates and filler herbs, and the extent they affect the general health of the animals and their susceptibility to certain diseases. All symptoms of diseases that may be caused by mineral and vitamin deficiencies were also recorded, in order to evaluate the efficiency of livestock farms and, accordingly, present recommendations with the assistance of a veterinarian.

Results of the study showed that all farms rely on the confined housing system due to the lack of pastures; given the desert environment, high temperatures and low rainfall in the country. Sheep in the confined housing system are fed a mixture of concentrates and filler herbs at a ratio of 70:30. The quantities of feed provided to ewes vary according to their reproductive stage, with consideration given to increasing the quantity during pregnancy and lactation.

Project leader Dr. Hanaa Bourzaq, from the Center for Environmental and Life Sciences Research at KISR, revealed that although nutritional management in most farms was fairly acceptable; the study revealed recurring problems in some farms -- low mineral and vitamin content in the feeds, which undoubtedly affected the general health of the sheep. She also noted the emergence of numerous symptoms demonstrating this deficiency. She cited other problems, such as not putting feeds in easily accessible locations for the young sheep, which led to insufficient food intake that affected the health of the sheep.

She explained that blood and feed samples collected from livestock farms were analyzed, and it was concluded that majority of the animals suffered from a cobalt deficiency, especially young animals. “This deficiency led to the emergence of symptoms like lethargy and poor wool quality. Based on this, recommendations were made to administer appropriate

nutritional supplements containing cobalt, which helped increase the animals’ weight by an average of six kilograms over six weeks,” she added. She said the analysis results confirmed copper deficiency, which can be detected

Tender to be submitted to CAPT as ministry expands digital services

MEWRE plots AI push in digital transformation drive

By Mohammad Ghanem
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: The Ministry of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy is keen on utilizing artificial intelligence technologies in various applications as part of its digital transformation plan and to achieve development goals, say reliable sources.

Sources disclosed that the Plan-

ning, Training and Information Systems Sector in the ministry has prepared the tender for the use of artificial intelligence and included it in the annual plan contracts for the current fiscal year. Sources said the tender will be referred to the Central Agency for Public Tenders (CAPT), which will announce the date for submitting bids later. Sources stated that the accepted bids will be pre-

sented to the ministry for review and preparation of the final recommendation for awarding the contract.

Sources pointed out this will support the realization of the objectives of the development plan to build a cohesive and transparent government, restructure the government system, create an agile and interactive environment, enhance integrity, improve performance, and meet the

needs of citizens, especially since the ministry is a vital service entity.

Sources indicated that the government-wide development plan consists of 18 projects to establish a connected and transparent government. Sources revealed that the ministry is participating in two development projects currently in the implementation phase: digital transformation and the smart metering system; and

it has achieved remarkable progress in these projects. Sources confirmed that contracts have also been included in its plan to complete the remaining phases to achieve full digital transformation.

On the other hand, sources said the ministry is in the process of issuing a tender for the supply and installation of five main transformer stations in Bayan (Block 15), Mubarakiya,

Mahboula, Al-Mutlaa Al-Ali and Sabah Al-Salem (Block 5). Sources affirmed this will meet the growing demand for energy, and expand high-voltage and ultra-high-voltage networks.

They added that another tender will be issued to install these stations and extend underground cables within the current fiscal year to ensure uninterrupted electricity supply.



KUNA photo
Foreign Minister Abdullah Al-Yahya meets with the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Federal Republic of Somalia, Abdisalam Abdi Ali.

Kuwait, Somalia sign agreement, MoUs

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12, (KUNA): Kuwait's Foreign Minister Abdullah Al-Yahya on Tuesday met with visiting Somali counterpart, Abdisalam Abdi Ali.

The top diplomats talked of the sturdy bilateral ties and ways of boosting them across multiple avenues, in addition to discussing regional and international develop-

ments.

Following the meeting, the two signed an agreement on establishing a joint committee for bilateral cooperation, a MoU on bilateral talks, as well as a MoU between Saud Al-Nasser Al-Sabah Diplomatic Institute and the Somali Diplomatic Institute.

Information Ministry suspends all external collaborators, retirees under radio, TV roles

By Mohammad Al-Enezi
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: The Ministry of Information suspended all external collaborators and retirees working in various positions under the Radio and Television Programs

Clause as of Aug 1.

Reliable sources told the newspaper that the ministry is in the process of conducting a comprehensive review of the file to achieve the highest level of efficiency and desired benefit from this clause.

They explained that the study

will include defining the tasks assigned to each person hired in the future and mechanisms for measuring the returns of their participation in a radio or television program to ensure their alignment with the media development plans adopted by the ministry.

KPC underlines youth backing as perennial goal

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12, (KUNA): Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) views youth support as an urgent priority and core objective, the state-owned oil giant's chief executive officer said on Tuesday, citing a firm conviction in the contributions of youngsters towards national development.

KPC is determined to invest in youth-led initiatives that

allow youngsters the chance to "hone their skills" in a bid to shape future energy transitions, Sheikh Nawaf Al-Sabah said amid a gala marking International Youth Day.

The KPC-organized initiative shines the spotlight on some notable youth success stories through a number of panel discussions that delve into the crucial role of youngsters towards national development plans.

PADA imposes disability rulings within one month

Clear legal and medical steps ensure timely support

By Fares Ghaleb

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: Official spokesperson of the Public Authority for Disability Affairs (PADA) and Director of the Legal Affairs Department Mubarak Al-Badah has affirmed that PADA follows clear procedures in implementing rulings issued in favor of persons with disabilities, which begins with notifying the authority and ending with financial procedures within a maximum period of one month.

In a video published by the authority on its X platform account, Al-Badah pointed out that issuing a disability certificate and calculating the financial impact, if any, is done in coordination with the med-

ical sector and the financial department, after the file is studied by a specialized legal researcher.

He said the renewal of a disability certificate issued before the implemen-

tation of Disabled Affairs Law No. 8/2010 is not based on previous legal statuses; as it is subject to the evaluation of technical medical committees that review the medical case and relevant reports to ensure compliance with the approved standards.

He stated it is possible to appeal decisions of the medical committees through the Grievance Committee in the medical sector. He added administrative decisions -- such as evaluations, penalties or termination of assignment -- may be appealed by submitting a letter to the General Registry. The letter is then referred to the Legal Affairs

Department, which addresses the relevant authorities, specifically the Administrative Affairs Department that handles personnel affairs.

He added that decisions pertaining to the caregiver -- grants, transfers or cancellations -- fall within the jurisdiction of the Psychological and Social Services Department; while the Educational Services Department is responsible for decisions related to educational support, capacity and other educational issues.

Following are the steps in the judgment implementation mechanism:

1. Inform PADA about the ruling through correspondence.
2. Refer the file to the specialized legal researcher to study the decision, ruling and its grounds.
3. Verify if the implementation has financial impact.
4. Send a letter to the medical sector to issue a disability certificate.
5. Calculate the retroactive or financial impact, if any.
6. Contact the financial department to implement the financial impact.
7. Completion period -- one week to a maximum of one month.

KU hosts new student orientation

By Abdulrahman Al-Shammari

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: Under the patronage of acting Dean of Student Affairs at Kuwait University Prof. Dr. Jassim Al-Hamdan, the Academic Advising Department organized the orientation for new students in the 2025/2026 academic year at the Sabah Al-Salem University Conference Center on Tuesday.

With the theme, "Towards a Distinguished University Start," the orientation was held in partnership with Gulf Bank. Several university departments, student clubs and partners participated in the event; with more than 1,300 students and their guardians in attendance.

The event included training workshops for new students to introduce them to university rights, duties and services provided; issuance of university identification cards; and medical examinations under the supervision of the Security and Safety Department. The volunteer team from the Sports Activities Department also contributed to organizing the event.

The training workshops covered important topics, with the E-Learning Center conducting two workshops. The first, titled "Introducing the MOODLE System," was presented by Fatima Ahmed and Munira Al-Hamdan, while the second, titled "The E-Learning System," was presented by Mohammad Al-Hamad and Dima Al-Ibrahim.

Al-Khwarizmi Center conducted a workshop titled, "How

to Register in the Student System," and the Deanship of Admissions and Registration conducted a workshop titled "How to Read the Graduation Newspaper," presented by Nouf Al-Murshid and Ahlam Al-Awadhi.

Gulf Bank concluded the series of workshops with the "Be Aware," workshop delivered by Mahdi Sulaiman, aimed at raising students' awareness on financial and banking issues.

The exhibition included in the program witnessed the participation of the Educational Curricula Club, Information Systems and Operations Management Club, Social Service Club, Youth Leadership Club, Physics Club, Nutrivia Club, ASME, Marine Sciences Club, Evaluation and Measurement Center, Al-Khwarizmi Center, Security and Safety Department, E-Learning Center, Community Service and Continuing Education Center, and the Guidance and Counseling offices in various colleges.

In his speech at the event, Al-Hamdan welcomed the new students, congratulating them on their acceptance into university. He stressed that the university stage is a new beginning full of opportunities and challenges. He urged the students to make the most of university services and academic, social and psychological centers, balance between studying and participating in university and volunteer activities, and build positive relationships that enhance their university experience; stressing that success begins with self-confidence, diligence and hard work.

Continued from Page 1

Kuwait flings

Fourth category: Visitors to events and activities in Kuwait, under conditions set for each event.

The entry visa options for the first and second categories are as follows:

Option 1: Tourist Visit Single Entry (1 month)

Visa Validity - 30 days
Length of Stay - 30 days

Option 2: Tourist Visit Single Entry (2 months)

Visa Validity - 30 days
Length of Stay - 60 days

Option 3: Tourist Visit Single Entry (3 months)

Visa Validity - 30 days
Length of Stay - 90 days

Option 4: Tourist Visit Multiple Entry (3 months)

Visa Validity - 90 days
Length of Stay - 30 days per entry

Option 5: Tourist Visit Multiple Entry (6 months)

Visa Validity - 180 days
Length of Stay - 30 days per entry

Option 6: Tourist Visit Multiple Entry (1 year)

Visa Validity - 360 days
Length of Stay - 30 days per entry

It is worth mentioning that the First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Fahad Yousef Saud Al-Sabah issued a ministerial decision last Sunday, allowing foreigners residing in Gulf Cooperation Council countries to enter Kuwait with a tourist visa granted directly upon arrival.

Kuwait declares

revising Law 1/1993 for protecting public funds, which is considered a national priority and duty for the government.

It is also designed to close the loopholes of the previous law, which were revealed by practical applications, to update the legal drafting and widening the scope of criminalization and objective and procedural protection of public funds.

The legislation was approved during the Cabinet's customary weekly meeting held at Bayan Palace under the chairmanship of Acting Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Fahad Yousef Saud Al-Sabah.

The Cabinet also approved a draft decree-law amending Law 38/1980 with a view to speeding up litigation and coping with digital transformation.

During the meeting, Minister of Oil Tareq Al-Roumi kept the ministers posted on the Kuwait Oil Company's recently launched artificial intelligence-used innovation center, which is part of the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation's digital transformation strategy in the energy field.

Minister of State for Municipal Affairs and Minister of State for Housing Affairs Abdullatif Al-Meshari elaborated on the 80-km Al-Sabriya City project, which provides 55,000 housing units. The minister described the city as one of the largest housing and development projects in northern Kuwait.

For his part, Minister of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy and Minister of Finance and Acting Minister of State for Economic and Investment Affairs Dr. Sabeeh Al-Mukhaizeem briefed the cabinet on the Public Authority for Partnership Projects (PAPP)'s signing of the second and third phases of the Al-Zour North Power Plant Project, in collaboration with a consortium that includes ACWA Power company and the Gulf Investment Corporation.

Finally, the ministers reviewed and approved a set of subjects and matters on the agenda and decided to refer some of them to relevant ministerial committees for considering them and then reporting to the Cabinet.

ICARUS

Regarding the significance of the chosen name for the platform -- ICARUS, Al-Humaidan explained that the name is composed of the first let-

ters of the system's name in English. It also reflects a historical dimension; as 'Icarus' is the ancient name of Failaka Island, given by Alexander the Great when he was in the region in the fourth century BC due to its resemblance to the Aegean island of the same name, according to some historians.

On the other hand, Tahani Hussein -- technical head for the system -- revealed that ICARUS was designed to balance the power of a supercomputer with energy efficiency, along with precise management of computing loads -- both in parallel and sequentially.

She said the platform is the meeting point between big data and artificial intelligence technologies; as it enables the use of the same infrastructure to analyze data, run simulations and process various research workloads, thus, enhancing scientific and technical innovation capabilities.

In a statement, KISR presented the most prominent features of the new platform that include accelerating scientific research and discoveries in the fields of energy, environment, water and medical technologies; supporting decision-making through advanced simulation and big data analysis; enhancing national security and risk management; training and qualifying the national workforce in the fields of supercomputing and artificial intelligence; and contributing to putting Kuwait among the countries with advanced computing technologies.

Salary freeze

According to informed sources, this step was taken in coordination with the relevant authorities, and notifications were sent through official channels. It is part of updating job records and verifying employees' legal status in accordance with applicable regulations.

The relevant authorities informed the employees that salary payments will resume only after they complete the procedures to amend their legal

White House works to rebalance its global security concerns

GOP, Democrats alike exhort Trump: Keep security pact with Australia and UK alive

WASHINGTON, Aug 12, (AP): US lawmakers from both parties are urging the Trump administration to maintain a three-way security partnership designed to supply Australia with nuclear-powered submarines - a plea that comes as the Pentagon reviews the agreement and considers the questions it has raised about the American industrial infrastructure's shipbuilding capabilities.

Two weeks ago, the Defense Department announced it would review AUKUS, the 4-year-old pact signed by the Biden administration with Australia and the United Kingdom. The announcement means the Republican administration is looking closely at a partnership that many believe is critical to the US strategy to push back China's influence in the Indo-Pacific. The review is expected to be completed in the fall.

"AUKUS is essential to strengthening deterrence in the Indo-Pacific and advancing the undersea capabilities that will be central to ensuring peace and stability," Republican Rep. John Moolenaar of Michigan and Democratic Rep Raja Krishnamoorthi of Illinois wrote in a July 22 letter to Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth. Moolenaar chairs the House panel on China and Krishnamoorthi is its top Democrat.

The review comes as the Trump administration works to rebalance its

global security concerns while struggling with a hollowed-out industrial base that has hamstrung US capabilities to build enough warships. The review is being led by Elbridge Colby, the No. 3 Pentagon official, who has expressed skepticism about the partnership.

"If we can produce the attack submarines in sufficient number and sufficient speed, then great. But if we can't, that becomes a very difficult problem," Colby said during his confirmation hearing in March. "This is getting back to restoring our defense industrial capacity so that we don't have to face these awful choices but rather can be in a position where we can produce not only for ourselves, but for our allies."

As part of the \$269 billion AUKUS partnership, the United States will sell three to five Virginia-class nuclear-powered submarines to Australia, with the first delivery scheduled as soon as 2032. The US and the UK would help Australia design and build another three to five attack submarines to form an eight-boat force for Australia.

A March report by the Congressional Research Service warned that the lack of US shipbuilding capacities, including workforce shortage and insufficient supply chains, is jeopardizing the much-celebrated partnership. If the US should sell the vessels to Australia, the US Navy would have a shortage of attack submarines for two decades, the



Shipyard workers at General Dynamics Electric Boat in Groton, Conn., prepare a submarine for float-off, July 30, 2015. (AP)

report said.

The Navy has been ordering two boats per year in the last decade, but US shipyards have been only producing 1.2 Virginia-class subs a year since 2022, the report said.

"The delivery pace is not where it needs to be" to make good on the first pillar of AUKUS, Admiral Daryl Caudle, nominee for the Chief of Naval Operations, told the Senate Armed Services Committee last month.

Australia has invested \$1 billion in the US submarine industrial base, with another \$1 billion to be paid before the end of this year. It has agreed to contribute a total of \$3 billion to uplift the U.S. submarine base, and it has sent both industry personnel to train at US shipyards and naval personnel for submarine training in the United States.

"Australia was clear that we would make a proportionate contribution to the United States industrial base," an

Australian defense spokesperson said in July. "Australia's contribution is about accelerating U.S. production rates and maintenance to enable the delivery of Australia's future Virginia-class submarines."

The three nations have also jointly tested communication capabilities with underwater autonomous systems, Australia's defense ministry said on July 23. Per the partnership, the countries will co-develop other advanced technologies, from undersea to hypersonic capabilities.

At the recent Aspen Security Forum, Kevin Rudd, the Australian ambassador to the United States, said his country is committed to increasing defense spending to support its first nuclear-powered sub program, which would also provide "massively expensive full maintenance repair facilities" for the US Indo-Pacific fleet based in Western Australia.

Rudd expressed confidence that the two governments "will work our way through this stuff."

Bruce Jones, senior fellow with the Strobe Talbott Center for Security, Strategy and Technology, told The Associated Press that the partnership, by positioning subs in Western Australia, is helping arm the undersea space that is "really crucial to American deterrence and defense options in the Western Pacific."

"The right answer is not to be content with the current pace of submarine

building. It's to increase the pace," Jones said.

Jennifer Parker, who has served more than 20 years with the Royal Australian Navy and founded Barrier Strategic Advisory, said it should not be a zero-sum game. "You might sell one submarine to Australia, so you have one less submarine on paper. But in terms of the access, you have the theater of choice from operating from Australia, from being able to maintain your submarines from Australia," Parker said. "This is not a deal that just benefits Australia."

Defense policy is one of the few areas where Republican lawmakers have pushed back against the Trump administration, but their resolve is being tested with the Pentagon's review of AUKUS. So far, they have joined their Democratic colleagues in voicing support for the partnership.

They said the US submarine industry is rebounding with congressional appropriations totaling \$10 billion since 2018 to ensure the U.S. will have enough ships to allow for sales to Australia.

Sen Tim Kaine, D-Va., told the AP that support for AUKUS is strong and bipartisan, "certainly on the Armed Services Committee."

"There is a little bit of mystification about the analysis done at the Pentagon," Kaine said, adding that "maybe (what) the analysis will say is: We believe this is a good thing."



Law enforcement investigates a fatal shooting at Target off Research Boulevard, in Austin, Texas, Monday, Aug 11. (AP)

3 killed in Texas shooting

A gunman opened fire Monday in the parking lot of a Target store in Texas' capital, killing two adults and a child before stealing two cars during a getaway that ended with police using a Taser to detain him on the other side of the city, authorities said.

Austin Police Chief Lisa Davis said the suspect is a man in his 30s with "a mental health history." Police said they were still working to determine a motive.

The suspect fled the scene in a stolen car, wrecked that car and then stole another from a dealership, Davis said. He was captured about 20 miles (32 kilometers) away, in south Austin, where he was taken into custody, she said during a news conference.

Davis said officers responding to a call at about 2:15 p.m. found three people shot in the Target parking lot. Davis said they believe one of the people who was shot was the owner of the car stolen from the store's parking lot. (AP)

Trump backs Jones in GOP race for Georgia gov in '26

ATLANTA, Aug 12, (AP): US President Donald Trump has endorsed **Burt Jones'** Republican bid for governor in Georgia, a boost to the incumbent lieutenant governor's effort to set himself up as the 2026 frontrunner for the GOP nomination.



Jones

Trump announced the nod Monday, noting that Jones was among the first Georgia Republicans to endorse Trump's first bid for the White House in 2016 and saying Jones "worked tirelessly to help us win" in all three of Trump's bids.

"He has been with us from the very beginning," Trump wrote on social media. "I know his family well and have seen Burt tested at the most difficult levels and times."

Republicans including Attorney General Chris Carr are vying with Jones to be their party's nominee to

succeed Gov. Brian Kemp, who can't run again because of term limits. Other Republican candidates who could enter the race include Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger.

"We're fighting for election integrity, lower taxes, and to secure Georgia values - and with Trump's support, we're just getting started," Jones wrote online Monday.

But Carr has argued he is better positioned to win a general election.

Republicans have won every governor's election since 2002 in Georgia, even as the state has become more competitive. Top Democrats seeking to end GOP dominance include former Atlanta Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms, state Sen. Jason Esteves, former labor commissioner Michael Thurmond and state Rep. Derrick Jackson.

Any Democratic nominee is likely to try to turn Trump's endorsement of Jones against him.

"For Burt Jones, fealty to extreme, partisan politics has always trumped doing what's right for Georgia - and that's why this endorsement shouldn't surprise anyone," Democratic Governors Association spokesperson Kevin Donohoe said in a statement.



A portion of the Clairton Coke Works, a US Steel plant, is seen on Aug 11, in Clairton, Pa. (AP)

US Steel plant blast kills 2

An explosion rocked a steel plant outside Pittsburgh on Monday, leaving two dead and 10 others injured, including a person who was rescued from the smoldering rubble after hours of being trapped.

The explosion sent black smoke spiraling into the midday sky in the Mon Valley, a region of the state synonymous with steel for more than a century.

Allegheny County Emergency Services said a fire at the plant in Clairton started late Monday morning. Officials said they had not isolated the cause of the blast.

The rumbling from the explosion, and several smaller blasts that followed, jolted the community about 15 miles (24 kilometers) southeast of Pittsburgh.

"It felt like thunder," Zachary Buday, a construction worker near the scene, told WTAE-TV. "Shook the scaffold, shook my chest, and shook the building." (AP)

EU leaders urge Trump to defend Europe's security interests at key summit with Putin

BRUSSELS, Aug 12, (AP): European Union leaders appealed on Tuesday to US President Donald Trump to defend their security interests at a key summit with his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin later this week over the war in Ukraine.

Putin appeared to be on the verge of making a key territorial grab ahead of Friday's summit, potentially to use as leverage in any peace negotiations.

The Europeans are desperate to exert some influence over the meeting from which they have been sidelined. It remains unclear whether even Ukraine will take part. Trump has said that he wants to see whether Putin is serious about ending the war, now in its fourth year.

But Trump has disappointed US allies in Europe by saying that Ukraine will have to give up some Russian-held territory. He also said that Russia must accept land swaps, although it remains unclear what Putin might be expected to surrender.

The Europeans and Ukraine are wary that Putin, who has waged the biggest land war in Europe since 1945 and used Russia's energy might to try to cow the EU, might secure favorable concessions and set the outlines of a peace deal without them.

The overarching fear for European countries is that Putin will set his sights on one of them next if he wins in Ukraine.

In a statement early on Tuesday, the leaders said that they "welcome



US President Donald Trump meets with Russian President Vladimir Putin at the G-20 Summit on July 7, 2017, in Hamburg, Germany. (AP)

the efforts of President Trump towards ending Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine." But, they underlined, "the path to peace in Ukraine cannot be decided without Ukraine."

"A just and lasting peace that brings stability and security must respect international law, including the principles of independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and that international borders must not be changed by force," they said.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has rejected the idea that Ukraine must commit to giving up land to secure a ceasefire. Russia holds

shaky control over four of the country's regions, two in the country's east and two in the south.

Zelenskyy on Monday thanked European leaders for their support and urged for more diplomatic and economic pressure on Moscow as long as "they continue the war and occupation."

"We see that the Russian army is not preparing to end the war," Zelenskyy posted on Telegram. "On the contrary, they are carrying out movements that indicate preparations for new offensive operations. Under such conditions, it is important that nothing threatens the unity of the world."

Thousands evacuated as wildfires rage across Spain during scorching heatwave

MADRID, Aug 12, (AP): Thousands of people in Spain faced evacuation orders Tuesday as wildfires continued to burn across the Iberian Peninsula during a heatwave expected to reach temperatures of 44 degrees Celsius (112.2 Fahrenheit) in some places.

Firefighters had largely contained a blaze outside Madrid that broke out Monday night, authorities said Tuesday. The fire, which mainly burned scrub and grassland, killed a man who suffered burns on 98% of his body, emergency services said.

The fire affected more than 1,000 hectares (2,470 acres). By Tuesday morning, authorities were allowing some residents back into their homes.

Elsewhere, firefighters were battling blazes in several Spanish regions including Castile and Leon, Castile-La Mancha, Andalusia and Galicia. Numerous fires forced thousands of people to evacuate, including holiday-goers in Cadiz after a fire sent huge plumes of smoke into the air visible Monday from some beaches at the southern tip of Spain.

More than 700 firefighters in Portugal were working to control a fire in



Firefighting helicopters drop water to extinguish a blaze in Torre de la Peña, southern Spain on Aug 5. (AP)

Trancoso, about 350 kilometers (217 miles) northeast of Lisbon. Smaller fires were burning further north.

Dry vegetation and strong winds can make forest fires spread rapidly and out of control.

Scientists warn climate change is exacerbating the frequency and intensity of heat and dryness in Southern Europe, making the region more vulnerable to wildfires and the health impacts of extreme heat.

Finland charges top officers of Russia-linked vessel over damaged undersea cables

HELSINKI, Aug 12, (AP): Finnish authorities said Monday they have charged the captain and two senior officers of a Russia-linked vessel that damaged undersea cables last year between Finland and Estonia.

The Finnish deputy prosecutor general said in a statement that charges of aggravated criminal mischief and aggravated interference with communications were filed against the captain and first and second officers of the Eagle S oil tanker. Their names were not made public. The statement said they denied the allegations.

Authorities have said the vessel dragged its anchor to damage the Estlink-2 power cable and communication links between Finland and Estonia on Dec. 25. The Kremlin previously denied involvement in damaging the infrastructure, which provides power and communication for thousands of Europeans.

The Eagle S is flagged in the Cook Islands but has been described by Finnish customs officials and the European Union's executive commission as part of Russia's shadow fleet of fuel tankers. Those are aging vessels with obscure ownership, acquired to evade Western sanctions amid the war in



The Cook Islands-registered oil tanker Eagle S is anchored near the Kilahti port in Porvoo on the Gulf of Finland on Dec 30, 2024. (AP)

Ukraine and operating without Western-regulated insurance.

For the West, such incidents are believed to be part of widespread sabotage attacks in Europe allegedly linked to Moscow following its full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022.

The undersea cables and pipelines that crisscross one of the busiest shipping lanes in Europe link Nordic, Baltic and central European countries. They promote trade, energy security and, in some cases, reduce dependence on Russian energy resources.

Europe

'Migrants on deportation list to wear monitors':

Migrants in Greece with rejected asylum claims will be required to wear ankle monitors as part of planned measures to speed up deportations, a government official announced Monday.

Migration Minister Thanos Plevris said the measure is set to be implemented before the end of the year under reforms that would criminalize noncompliance with deportation orders.

"The use of electronic monitoring will make it clear that the options have narrowed," Plevris told state-run ERT radio.

The tougher regulations, including mandatory jail terms for defying deportation orders, will be submitted to parliament next month after a summer delay caused by a spike in migrant arrivals from Libya to the island of Crete.

Plevris said electronic monitoring would be enforced during a 30-day compliance period granted to migrants after asylum claims are rejected and appeals exhausted. He



Plevris

added that the government is also considering a deportation bonus of 2,000 euros (\$2,300) for those who willingly comply.

Hard-line migration policies introduced by Greece's conservative government - including a recent ban on asylum claims for migrants arriving by sea from North Africa - have drawn criticism from the Council of Europe and human rights groups. (AP)

■ ■ ■

Azerbaijan publishes peace deal with Armenia: Azerbaijan's foreign ministry on Monday published a peace agreement inked by the foreign ministers of Azerbaijan and Armenia in Washington on Friday.

The document, entitled the Agreement on Establishment of Peace and Inter-State Relations between the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Republic of Armenia, specifies the obligations of both parties to recognize and respect the sovereignty, territorial integrity, inviolability of international borders and political independence of each other.

The agreement commits both nations to establishing diplomatic relations and prohibits them from raising future territorial claims or using force against each other. Third-party military deployments along their shared border are also banned.

A bilateral commission will be set up to oversee the implementation of the agreement. (Xinhua)

Soldier hurt by mine blast near Cambodian border

Thailand warns it may act in ‘self-defense’

BANGKOK, Aug. 12, (AP): Thailand’s army warned that it may have to “exercise the right of self-defense” in response to continuing incidents it blames on Cambodia, in which Thai soldiers patrolling along the two countries’ border have been wounded by land mines.

A statement from Thai Army spokesperson Maj. Gen. Winthai Suvaree said a sergeant was patrolling the border with seven other soldiers Tuesday morning when he “stepped on an anti-personnel landmine covertly planted by the Cambodian side, resulting in severe injuries to his left ankle.”

The incident and the Thai reaction indicates the precariousness of the ceasefire that took effect on July 29 with the aim of ending five days of armed clashes over disputed territory along their border. The fighting killed dozens of people on both sides, including civilians, and displaced more than 260,000.

Tuesday’s land mine incident was the fourth of its kind in about a month, and the second since the ceasefire. It took place about 1 kilometer (a half-mile) from Ta Muen Thom temple, which Thailand claims is located in its Surin province.

The area, which was the scene of heavy fighting in July, is one of several

along the border that both countries claim as their own.

In another disputed area Saturday, a Thai sergeant major suffered severe injuries, including losing his left foot, while two privates suffered lesser injuries.

“This incident serves as clear evidence that the Cambodian side has violated the ceasefire agreement and shows no respect for international humanitarian law, particularly the Ottawa Convention, which prohibits the use and placement of all types of anti-personnel landmines,” said the Thai army statement about the latest incident. Both countries are parties to the international agreement.

The statement noted the multiple similar incidents and declared that Thailand “has consistently adhered to peaceful approaches and has not been the initiating party.”

“However, should circumstances become compelling, it may be necessary to exercise the right of self-defense under international law principles to resolve situations that cause Thailand to continuously lose personnel due to violations of ceasefire agreements and sovereignty encroachments by Cambodian military forces,” it warned.

Cambodia’s Defense Ministry “cat-

egorically and unequivocally rejects the baseless, false, and deliberately misleading allegations from the Thai side regarding the injuries of Thai soldiers,” said its spokesperson, Lt. Gen. Maly Socheata.

“Cambodia, as a proud and responsible State Party to the Ottawa Convention, maintains an absolute and uncompromising position: we have never used, produced, or deployed new landmines under any circumstances, and we strictly and fully honor our obligations under international law,” she said, echoing previous official denials.

Ly Thuch, senior minister and first vice-president of the Cambodian Mine Action and Victim Assistance Authority, noted that Cambodia has cleared more than 1 million mines and nearly 3 million other pieces of unexploded ordnance left over from more than three decades of war and civil unrest that began in 1970, according to an interview with the Cambodian state news agency AKP.

Cambodia and Thailand have clashed in the past over their 800-kilometer (500-mile) border. Tensions had been growing since May when a Cambodian soldier was killed in a confrontation that created a diplomatic rift and roiled Thailand’s domestic politics.



This photo taken on Aug 7, 2025 shows an extraordinary General Border Committee (GBC) meeting held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Cambodia and Thailand on Thursday signed an agreement on ceasefire arrangements, representatives of the two countries said after an extraordinary General Border Committee (GBC) meeting held in the Malaysian capital. (Xinhua)

Leaders to discuss strengthening allies’ defense posture against growing North threats

South Korean President Lee to travel to Washington for Aug 25 meeting with Trump

SEOUL, South Korea, Aug 12, (AP): South Korea’s new President Lee Jae Myung will travel to Washington later this month to meet with US President Donald Trump, Lee’s office said Tuesday, for talks on trade and defense cooperation in the face of nuclear-armed North Korea and other threats.

Their Aug 25 summit will follow a July trade deal in which Washington agreed to cut its reciprocal tariff on South Korea to 15% from the initially proposed 25% and to apply the same reduced rate to South Korean cars, the country’s top export to the United States.

South Korea also agreed to purchase \$100 billion in US energy and invest \$350 billion in the country, and Lee and Trump may discuss how the investment package will be structured and managed. The talks are expected to cover expanding cooperation in key industries such as semiconductors, batteries and shipbuilding, Lee’s spokesperson Kang Yu-jung said.

Lee, a liberal who won an early election in June to replace ousted conservative Yoon Suk Yeol, has made the economy his top priority, aiming to shield the trade-dependent nation

from the shocks of Trump’s tariff hikes and his demands that allies cut reliance on Washington and shoulder more of their own defense costs.

Lee’s meeting with Trump comes amid concerns in Seoul that the Trump administration could shake up the decades-old alliance by demanding higher payments for the US troop presence in South Korea and possibly move to reduce it as Washington shifts more focus on China.

Lee and Trump will discuss strengthening the allies’ defense posture against growing North Korean threats, and also developing the partnership into a “future-oriented, comprehensive strategic alliance” to address the changing international security and economic environment, according to Kang, who didn’t elaborate on the specific issues to be addressed.

Dating back to his first term, Trump has regularly called for South Korea to pay more for the 28,500 American troops stationed on its soil. Recent comments by key Trump administration officials, including Undersecretary of Defense Elbridge Colby, have also suggested a desire to restructure the alliance, which some experts say



People watch a TV screen showing a file image of South Korean President Lee Jae Myung, (left), and US President Donald Trump during a news program at the Seoul Railway Station in Seoul, South Korea on Aug 12. The signs read, ‘The presidential office announced that the South Korea-U.S. summit will be held on the 25th.’ (AP)

could potentially affect the size and role of US forces in South Korea.

Under this approach, South Korea would take a greater role in countering North Korean threats while US forces

focus more on China, possibly leaving Seoul to face reduced benefits but increased costs and risks, experts say.

In a meeting with South Korean reporters last week, Gen. Xavier Brun-

son, commander of US Forces Korea, stressed the need to “modernize” the alliance to address the evolving security environment, including North Korea’s expanding nuclear program, its deepening alignment with Russia, and what he called Chinese threats to a “free and open Indo-Pacific.”

When asked about a potential reduction in US troops in South Korea, Brunson emphasized capabilities over numbers, highlighting advanced systems like fifth-generation fighters, and also stressed strategic flexibility, citing the recent deployment of Patriot air defense systems from South Korea to the Middle East.

“What’s being asked of Korea is to be stronger against DPRK - that we might have the flexibility as we modernize our alliance so that we could go do other things,” Brunson said, using the initials of North Korea’s formal name, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.

During his first term, Trump suspended US military exercises with South Korea while pursuing diplomacy with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. They met three times in 2018 and 2019 but their diplomacy

quickly collapsed over disagreements about exchanging the release of US-led sanctions against the North and the North’s steps to wind down its nuclear and missile program.

Kim has since suspended virtually all diplomacy with Washington and Seoul while accelerating the expansion of his weapons program. His foreign policy priority is now Russia, which he has supplied with weapons and troops to help prolong Russian President Vladimir Putin’s invasion of Ukraine.

Kim’s powerful sister recently dismissed Washington and Seoul’s stated desires to restart diplomacy aimed at defusing the North’s nuclear program, indicating that Pyongyang feels no urgency to resume diplomacy with South Korea and the US anytime soon.

Tensions on the peninsula could rise again later this month, when South Korea and the United States proceed with their annual large-scale combined military exercises, which begin on Aug 18. North Korea labels the allies’ joint drills as invasion rehearsals and often uses them as a pretext to dial up military demonstrations and weapons tests aimed at advancing its nuclear program.

Sudan’s Rapid Support Forces kills 40 in N.Darfur displacement camp attack

CAIRO, Aug 12, (AP): Sudan’s paramilitary Rapid Support Forces launched attacks Monday in a famine-stricken displacement camp outside of el-Fasher, the capital of North Darfur province, killing 40 people, local rights groups said.

The Emergency Response Rooms group working at the Abu Shouk displacement camp said in a statement on Facebook that the RSF - which is at war with the Sudanese military - raided parts of the camp targeting citizens inside their homes. The community activist group, which provides assistance across Sudan, said at least 19 people were also injured.

The Abu Shouk displacement camp outside of el-Fasher, which houses around 450,000 displaced people, has been repeatedly attacked over the course of the war. The Sudanese military has control over el-Fasher despite frequent strikes by the RSF.

Meanwhile, the Resistance Committees in el-Fasher confirmed the attacks, saying on Facebook that the scene “reflected the extent of the horrific violations committed against innocent, defenseless people.” The Resistance Committees are a group of local citizens from the community that includes human rights activists.



Sudanese soldiers from the Rapid Support Forces unit, led by Gen. Mohammed Hamdan Dagalo, the deputy head of the military council, secure the area where Dagalo attends a military-backed tribe’s rally, in the East Nile province, Sudan on June 22, 2019. (AP)

The Humanitarian Research Lab at Yale University posted satellite imagery showing 40 vehicles present at the Abu Shouk Camp on Monday. In an effort to corroborate reports of the RSF attack, the lab said the vehicles were in the northwest neighborhoods

of the camp.

In its report, Yale HRL said it gathered and analyzed photos and footage allegedly “showing RSF shooting at people crawling away from them and berating and using ethnic slurs.”

Morales name not on the ballot

Bolivia’s election may spell end of long-ruling left

LA PAZ, Bolivia, Aug 12, (AP): For most of Renan Aliaga’s adult life, a single name dominated the politics of Bolivia: Evo Morales.

Morales, a former union leader for coca farmers, founded the Andean nation’s most successful political party and transformed Bolivia over three consecutive terms marked by political stability and economic growth.

But when Aliaga goes to the polls on Sunday to vote for Bolivia’s next president, he won’t see Morales’ name on the ballot after electoral authorities excluded him.

In fact, for the first time in two decades, Aliaga won’t see any big name from the governing Movement Toward Socialism, or MAS, party that Morales founded - not even President Luis Arce, Morales’ protege-turned-rival, who withdrew from the race over his failure to halt an economic tailspin.

Under MAS, Bolivia enjoyed years of a fixed exchange rate, low inflation and subsidized energy. Now, high inflation, a scarcity of imported goods and fuel shortages have beset the country.

Arce handed the reins to a little-known minister, Eduardo Del Castillo.

The main options remaining include a conservative businessman and right-wing former president - both of whom have run and lost three times before - and a young leftist Senate leader.

Unsatisfied, Aliaga, a 39-year-old bus driver and former MAS voter, says



Bolivian presidential candidate Rodrigo Paz, (right), and running mate Edman Lara join hands during a campaign rally in El Alto, Bolivia on Aug 10. (AP)

he’ll make a last-minute decision.

“The right wing had its chance, and it was a disaster,” he said, recalling the hardship of the 1990s, when Bolivia became a poster child for free-market economics and the two right-wing front-runners - businessman Samuel Doria Medina and ex-President Jorge “Tuto” Quiroga - built their careers.

“But the left wing has proven to be the same, or worse,” Aliaga said, referring to how the MAS strategy of nationalizing resources and redistribut-

ing tax receipts sputtered out with the end of the commodities boom.

The main issues in this hotly contested election are Bolivia’s longstanding leftist economic model, its democratic integrity and the livelihoods of millions of people undergoing the country’s worst financial crisis in four decades.

“This seems the end of the cycle not only for MAS, but for an entire model of government,” Bolivia political analyst Verónica Rocha said.

US designates Baloch separatists as terror group over role in Pakistan attacks

ISLAMABAD, Aug 12, (AP): Pakistani officials on Tuesday welcomed a move by the US State Department to designate a Pakistani separatist group as a foreign terrorist organization.

The designation of the Baluchistan Liberation Army and its fighting wing, the Majeed Brigade, blamed for deadly attacks in Balochistan province, coincides with a visit to the US by Pakistan’s army chief Field Marshal Asim Munir.

The announcement comes less than two weeks after Washington and Islamabad reached a trade agreement expected to allow US firms to help develop Pakistan’s largely untapped oil reserves in resource-rich Balochistan and lower trade tariffs for Islamabad.

Pakistan’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs welcomed the designation Tuesday, noting that the BLA was banned at home in 2024. “Pakistan remains a steadfast bulwark against terrorism. Our sacrifices have secured critical counterterrorism successes, not only for the country, but for regional stability and global security,” it said in a statement.

Also:
KHAR, Pakistan: Pakistani security



In this frame grab from a video released by the Baluchistan Liberation Army shows people outside the a train after being attacked by the BLA on its transit from Quetta to the northern city of Peshawar, in Bolan district, Pakistan’s southwestern Balochistan province, March 12. (AP)

forces have launched a much-awaited “targeted operation” against militants in a restive northwestern district bordering Afghanistan, displacing thousands of residents who have fled to safer areas, officials said Tuesday.

There was no formal government announcement about the launch of

the offensive in Bajaur, a former stronghold of the Pakistani Taliban in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, but a government administrator, Saeed Ullah, said that it was not a large-scale operation and only insurgent hideouts were being hit to avoid any civilian casualties.

US senator from Colombia emerges as Trump link for Lat-Am conservatives

MIAMI, Aug 12, (AP): When Republican Sen Bernie Moreno visits Colombia this week as part of a three-nation tour of Latin America, it will be something of a homecoming.

Ohio’s first Latino senator, who defeated an incumbent last year with the help of Donald Trump’s endorsement, was born in the Colombian capital of Bogota, and even as he was chasing the American dream, he kept close tabs on the country through older brothers who are heavyweights in politics and business there.

Moreno, 58, has emerged as an interlocutor for conservatives in Latin America seeking to connect with the Trump administration.

In an interview with The Associated Press ahead of the trip, he expressed deep concern about Colombia’s direction under left-wing President Gustavo Petro and suggested that US sanctions, higher tariffs or other retaliatory action might be needed to steer it straight.

The recent criminal conviction of former President Alvaro Uribe, a con-



US Sen JD Vance, (center), and Senate candidate Bernie Moreno, (right), applaud as Republican presidential candidate and former President Donald Trump speaks at a campaign rally in Vandalia, Ohio on March 16, 2024. (AP)

servative icon, was an attempt to “silence” the man who saved Colombia from guerrilla violence, Moreno said. Meanwhile, record cocaine production

has left the United States less secure - and Colombia vulnerable to being decertified by the White House for failing to cooperate in the war on drugs.

Dollar holds, euro and pound slip

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12, (KUNA): The US Dollar rate against the Kuwaiti Dinar on Tuesday settled at KD 0.305 and the Euro dropped by 0.37 percent to KD 0.355, compared to Monday's prices. The Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) said in its daily bulletin that the exchange rate of the sterling pound edged down by 0.18 points to KD 0.410, the Swiss franc dropped by 0.53 percent to KD 0.376 while the Japanese Yen steadied at KD 0.002.

Business

Boursa Kuwait closes lower

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12, (KUNA): Boursa Kuwait ended Tuesday's trading session in negative territory, with the All Share Index shedding 48.12 points, or 0.55%, to close at 8,629.78 points. A total of 400.8 million shares changed hands through 25,319 transactions, with a trading value of KD 87.8 million (approximately USD 267.7 million). The Main Market Index dropped 31.35 points (0.40%) to settle at 7,714.54 points, as 284.9 million shares were traded in 16,850 transactions, worth KD 40.7 million (around USD 124.13 million). Similarly, the Premier Market Index lost 54.69 points, or 0.59%, closing at 9,284.53 points. Trading activity on this market segment saw 115.8 million shares exchanged over 8,469 transactions, with a total value of KD 47 million (nearly USD 143.3 million). In contrast, the Main 50 Index recorded gains, rising 43.91 points (0.57%) to finish at 7,701.39 points. It saw 229.3 million shares traded through 10,814 cash transactions, valued at KD 32.2 million (about USD 98.2 million).

Kuwaiti oil price drops to \$69.31 pb

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12, (KUNA): The price of Kuwaiti oil went down 50 cents to USD 69.31 per barrel (pb) on Monday, compared to USD 69.81 pb last Friday, reported Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) on Tuesday. In the global markets, Brent crude increased by four cents to USD 66.63 pb, while West Texas Intermediate also rose by eight cents to USD 63.96 pb.

KOTC cancels marine services tender

KPC allocates KD 4.23 million LNG technical services tender

By Najeh Bilal
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff
KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: The Higher Purchasing Committee for Tenders at Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) announced the awarding of the tender for the provision of technical services with specialized technical labor for the LNG branch in Umm Al-Aish to Al-Barakat Al-Dhahabia General Trading and Contracting Company, with a total value of KD4,231,426. In its announcement in the Official Gazette -- Kuwait Al-Youm' -- KPC stated that the tender was awarded to the second lowest bid; stressing the company met all the terms and specifications. Meanwhile, as per the request of Kuwait Oil Tanker Company (KOTC), the committee announced the cancel-

lation of the tender to provide marine services with specialized labor for the Maritime Agency Branch of KOTC. Also, as per the request of KOTC, the committee confirmed the awarding of the tender for the purchase, supply, installation and programming of Cisco USC servers and the modernization of data centers to provide private cloud computing services to Zak Solutions Computer Systems, with a total value of KD1,092,256. The tender was awarded to the lowest bidder, under a three-year contract. Furthermore, the Central Agency for Public Tenders (CAPT) announced the postponement of the tender for the water separation facility at Rawdaitain field-Gathering Center 25, and the pumping facility at Gathering Center 30, until Aug 26, instead of Aug 11. The tender is for Kuwait Oil Company (KOC). The agency also announced the postponement of the deadline for submitting bids for the tender for the construction and installation of the Oil Separation Gathering Center One and the Water Injection Station One in East Kuwait until Aug 26, instead of Aug 5. This tender is for KOC as well. The deadline for submitting bids for the Kuwaiti export storage facilities, Jurassic crude oil, and the development of the current export facilities network was postponed until Aug 12, instead of Aug 3.

State Audit Bureau reviews KD 3.819 mln PACA tenders

By Mohammed Al-Enezi
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff
KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: The State Audit Bureau is currently reviewing four requests submitted by the Public Authority for Civil Aviation (PACA) concerning tenders and contracts for operation, maintenance, and development services at Kuwait International Airport, with a total estimated value of approximately KD 3.819 million. According to informed sources, the State Audit Bureau received these requests for review and study, with a decision expected in the near future. Some requests pertain to contract extensions, while others involve new operation and maintenance contracts. Among these is a request for a second extension of the project management services contract related to the implementation of the 2012 Master Plan projects at Kuwait International Airport, valued at KD 1.3 million. The tenders include one for operating engineering control rooms and maintaining their related equipment and devices, valued at KD 1.338 million. In addition, there is a tender for maintaining the automated baggage inspection system in weight areas 1 and 4 of Terminal 1, valued at KD 589 thousand. The sources highlighted a contract for maintaining the baggage inspection system in weight areas 2 and 3, as well as the arrivals hall, valued at KD 592 thousand, bringing the total estimated value of these contracts to KD 3.819 million. They confirmed that the State Audit Bureau is currently analyzing the technical and financial aspects of each tender, and ensuring all requirements are met before issuing its final decision. The sources emphasized that PACA aims, through these contracts, to develop the airport's technical infrastructure and enhance the readiness of operational devices and equipment, adding that this is part of its plan to keep pace with increasing travel traffic and improve the quality of services provided to passengers.

'Stress spurs spending'

Why we struggle to save & how to fix it

Why do so many of us struggle to save? Saving for the future can be difficult because of a cognitive bias known as hyperbolic discounting: our tendency to place greater weight on immediate satisfaction, even if focusing on the long term will have a greater payoff. This bias is why, when you get a raise, you may consider getting a new car-incurring a higher monthly payment-instead of sacking away more money each month for retirement and perhaps getting to retire several years earlier. Feeling stressed about finances can also get you off track with your savings. While some people respond to financial stress by saving more, others respond by spending more in order to regain feelings of control. Unfortunately, these shortsighted decisions on spending versus saving can have large effects on our ability to achieve our future goals, because of the enormous power of compound interest. So, let's talk about what you can do to keep saving when you feel the urge to give up. Sit down and list what you are saving for. If needed, you can use techniques geared toward helping people find and articulate their financial goals. Then, consider how you might pair up your goals to boost your savings motivation. Research suggests the most motivating financial goals may be those relating to security (for example, retirement) or self-actualization (such as opening a business or contributing to charities). Consider how you may link some of your shorter-term goals to these bigger goals. For instance, you may decide to couple your "savings for home repairs" with your desire to "donate to charity" by committing to donate the excess you saved for repairs to your favorite nonprofit. By ensuring your goals are well-articulated and meaningful, you can always come back to them for a dose of motivation when you feel yourself wavering. When we are feeling stressed by finances, we may convince ourselves that all our current spending is more of a priority than our saving. So, start by doing a comprehensive review of your budget. How much money comes in each month, how much goes out, and where does it go? If you don't find a monthly surplus, that indicates you may need to go through your spending and decide where you can spend less. I recommend giving yourself a reality check by calculating how much you need to save each month to achieve your goal in the time you want to. It's especially eye-opening to calculate how saving more or less each month can affect your ability to retire. Remember, it's OK if you cannot save as much in this season of your life as you'd like. But by saving what you can and coming back to this practice when your circumstances change, you can still make serious progress toward your goals. Now, make your commitment as easy as possible by automating the process. If you have to decide every month to transfer money into your IRA or savings, the chances are that it won't happen at some point. You'll forget, put it off, or maybe decide that this is the month for a treat instead. Research suggests that automating savings can help people save more than they otherwise would, so taking the time to automate your savings now can help you stick with your plan for months-or years-to come. (AP)



Financial Results
H1 2025

REVENUE
1.1 ↑14%
KD BILLION

EBITDA
356 ↑10%
KD MILLION

NET INCOME
121 ↑49%
KD MILLION

EPS
28
FILS

CUSTOMERS
50.9 ↑7%
MILLION

The Board of Directors declared an interim dividend of 10 fils per share for the first half of 2025, to the shareholders already registered in the company's register on the record date of Sunday 31/8/2025.

The Corporate Action Time Schedule:

Cum Date *	26/8/2025
Ex Date	27/8/2025
Record Date	31/8/2025
Payment Date	3/9/2025

Cash dividend will be transferred to the bank accounts of the shareholders, who are registered in the electronic transfer service for the distribution of profits, as of Wednesday 3/9/2025.

Shareholders who were not able to register in the electronic transfer service for the distribution of profits, shall contact the local banks to register in this service or through their electronic services, according to the instructions issued by the Kuwait Clearing Company.

* Cum-Dividend Date:

The last day on which the share must be purchased so that the shareholder is registered in the company's register on the record date and therefore is entitled to receive dividends.

Zain Group reports exceptional performance for H1 2025

Net profit soars 49% YoY to reach KD 121m (USD 395m); revenue grows 14% YoY to reach KD 1.1bn (USD 3.5bn)

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: Zain Group, a leading provider of innovative ICT and digital lifestyle communications, operating in eight markets across the Middle East and Africa, announces its consolidated financial results for second quarter (Q2) and six-months (H1) ended 30 June 2025. Zain served 50.9million customers at the end H1 2025, a 7% increase Year-on-Year (YOY), driven by network restoration in Sudan and expansion in Iraq.

Zain Group H1 2025 revenue soared 14% YoY to reach KD 1.1billion (USD 3.5 billion). EBITDA grew 10% YoY to reach KD 356 million (USD 1.2 billion), reflecting an EBITDA margin of 33%. Net income for the first six months soared 49% YoY, reaching KD 121 million (USD 395 million). Net income for H1 2025 includes one-time gain of KD 15 million (USD 50 million) on settlement of legal dispute involving INWI, of which Zain Group is a 15.5% shareholder (via Zain Al Ajial). H1 2025 Earnings per share stood at 28fils (USD 0.09).

Zain Group Q2 2025 revenue grew 13% to reach KD 541million (USD 1.8 billion) compared to Q2 2024. EBITDA reached KD 186million (USD 606million), reflecting a healthy EBITDA margin of 34%. Net income soared 40% to reach KD 73 million (USD 237 million), reflecting earnings per share of 17fils (USD 0.05).

- Key Operational Highlights for H1 2025**
- The Board declares interim dividend of 10 fils per share for the 5th consecutive year, that will be payable to entitled shareholders on 3 September 2025.
 - Customer base increased 7% driven by network restoration in Sudan and site expansion in Iraq
 - Data revenue grew 8% YoY to reach USD 1.3billion, representing 37% of total Group revenue
 - Over the six months, Zain Group invested USD 397million in CAPEX (11% of revenue)
 - Operations in Kuwait, KSA, Bahrain and Jordan witness impressive growth in 5G revenues
 - Zain Kuwait and KSA launch 5G Advanced services enhancing digital innovation in these markets
 - Impressive net profit growth in Sudan (+101%), KSA (+28%) and Iraq (+23%) for H1 2025
 - Fintech revenue witnessed robust growth of28% YoY, while transaction volume soared 46% YoY
 - Groupwide enterprise revenue witnessed 11% growth YoY, as ZainTECH and B2B teams win key business and government accounts, Zain-TECH revenue soared 94% YoY
 - Groupwide digital services witness revenue growth of 7% driven by increase in Sudan and Kuwait

- Zain Omantel International (ZOI) records exceptional revenue growth of 324% YoY; receives multiple industry awards for its innovative subsea and terrestrial networks
- Zain launches ‘Bede’ Fintech Platform in Sudan offering money transfers, airtime top-ups, bill payments, merchant purchases, cash deposits and withdrawals
- Launch of “WE ABLE 2030” Vision aiming to safeguard people with disabilities in the ‘AI’ era
- Zain Inclusion, Diversity & Equity University (IDEU) program wins prestigious EFMD Excellence Award
- Published the 14th annual Sustainability Report, titled ‘The New Paradigm Shift’
- Commenting on Q2 and H1 2025 results, Chairman of Zain Group, Mr. Osamah Al Furaih said, “The Group’s strong performance underscores the productive alliance between the Board and executive management teams of all our entities in delivering our ‘4WARD – Progress with Purpose’ strategy. Our focus on acceleration, collaboration, and digital innovation, alongside our ESG commit-

- Board approves interim dividend of 10 fils per share for first six-months of 2025
- Group consolidated EBITDA grew 10% to KD 356 million (USD 1.2 billion)



Osamah Al Furaih, Zain Chairman

Chairman, Osamah Al Furaih emphasizes the “diligent implementation of the “4WARD-Progress with Purpose” strategy is having a comprehensive impact on sustainable value creation”

Vice Chairman & Group CEO, Bader Al-Kharafi credits “strong operational performance to strategic investments in network and AI technologies, plus expansion of enterprise, fintech and digital services”



Bader Al-Kharafi, Zain Vice Chairman and Group CEO

Group Key Performance Indicators (KD and USD) for the first six months (H1) of 2025

Total Customers	Managed	Active	50.9 million
Revenue	KD 1.1 billion (USD 3.5 billion)		
EBITDA	KD 356 million (USD 1.2 billion)		
EBITDA Margin	33%		
Net Income	KD 121 million (USD 395 million)		
EPS	28 fils (USD 0.09)		

Group Key Performance Indicators (KD and USD) for the first six months (H1) of 2025

Total Customers	Managed	Active	50.9 million
Revenue	KD 1.1 billion (USD 3.5 billion)		
EBITDA	KD 356 million (USD 1.2 billion)		
EBITDA Margin	33%		
Net Income	KD 121 million (USD 395 million)		
EPS	28 fils (USD 0.09)		

ments, is having comprehensive impact on sustainable value creation for all stakeholders. Moreover, constructive relationships with regulators and key stakeholders are also driving meaningful connectivity across all customer segments.”

“Following this H1 2025 performance and solid financial position, the Board is pleased to declare a fifth consecutive interim dividend of 10fils per share, in line with our minimum annual dividend policy of 35fils.”

Mr. Bader Al-Kharafi, Zain Vice-Chairman and Group CEO commented, “Our outstanding operational and financial performance over the past six

months is the result of carefully executed strategic investments in network expansion and AI technologies, combined with disciplined cost optimization and focused monetization of our enterprise, fintech, and digital service portfolios. We are committed to sustaining this positive momentum and elevating Zain to even greater heights.”

“Despite fierce competition in our home market of Kuwait – which still delivered solid results – our core operations across all major markets made notable strides. Sudan, Saudi Arabia, and Iraq, in particular, recorded exceptional double-digit net income growth. Furthermore, our ICT enterprise

arm, ZainTECH, and our global wholesale carrier, Zain Omantel International (ZOI), performed exceptionally well, as did our fintech and digital service portfolios across multiple markets.”

Financial KPIs of key markets for three months and six-months period ended 30 June 2025

Kuwait: Zain Group’s flagship and most profitable operation maintained its market leadership position, with a customer base of 2.6 million. Revenue for the second quarter reached KD 94 million (USD 306million), while EBITDA reached KD 34m (USD 111m), reflecting an EBITDA margin of 36%. Net income stood at KD 23m (USD 74m). For the six-months period, net income stood at KD 41m (USD 132m).H1’ 2025 data revenue grew 2% representing 36% of total revenue. The operator is leading nationwide with its 5G-Advanced network that has the largest 5G customer base and revenue market share in the country, firmly placing the operator as the prime digital hub that is enhancing the country’s digital ecosystem for individual, enterprise and government customer segments.

Saudi Arabia: Revenue for the quarter grew 4% YoY to reach USD 708 million, while EBITDA grew 9% to reach USD 227m, reflecting an EBITDA margin of 32%. Net income for Q2 2025 grew 21% to USD 34m. For the six-months period, net income grew 28% to reach USD 59m. The operator’s 5G-Advanced network boosted data revenue by 4% to represent 40% of total revenue while total active customers served stood at 8.3 million. The operator saw significant growth in revenue from the enterprise sector and from its ‘Yaqaot’ digital operator service. Its fintech arm ‘Tamam’ is driving financial and digital inclusion across the Kingdom, providing instant approvals for micro-finance loans, continuing its upward trajectory, while breaking historical records on the number and amount of loans disbursed.

Iraq: Revenue diversification through Zain Iraq and affiliated companies, investment in network expansion and commercial focus drove exceptional revenue growth of 19% YoY, reaching USD 313m for Q2 2025. EBITDA grew to reach USD 116m, reflecting an EBITDA margin of 37%. Net profit grew 3% to reach USD 40m. For the six-months period, net income grew 23% to reach USD 66m. Customer base grew 10% to 20.9m customers, maintaining Zain’s leading position.

Sudan: The operator’s robust recovery plan saw a new data center established in Port Sudan while restoration of network sites in Khartoum and across the country boosted all major financial indicators. Revenue for Q2 2025 soared 87% YoY to reach USD 133 million, with strong EBITDA growth of 114% YoY, to reach USD 74m, reflecting an EBITDA margin of 56%. Net income for the Second quarter grew 76% YoY, to reach USD 59m. For the six-months period, net income soared 101% to reach USD 112m. H12025 data revenue grew 89%, representing 30% of total revenue. Customer base grew 17% to reach 11.8m.

Jordan: Expansion of 5G, FTTH and 4G services across the country drove 8% growth in revenue, reaching USD 148 million for Q2 2025. EBITDA for the quarter grew 3% YoY to reach USD 58m, reflecting an EBITDA margin of 39%, while net income for the second quarter grew 19% to reach USD 21m. For the six-months period, net income grew 14% to reach USD 39m. Data revenue for H1’25 grew 12%, representing54% of total revenue. Customer base grew 5% to reach 4.2 million, maintaining its market leadership position.

Bahrain: Revenue for the quarter grew 7% to reach USD 54 million.EBITDA reached USD 15million, reflecting an EBITDA margin of 28%. Net income for the second quarter increased 1% to reach USD 3.6 million. For the six-month period, net income grew 5% to reach USD 6.7 million), data revenue grew by 5% to represent 45% of total revenue.



Zain Group HQ



Zain HQ Building

Reinforcing commitment to youth and education in Kuwait

Gulf Bank engages at Kuwait University & Abdullah Al-Salem University admission fairs

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: As part of its ongoing commitment to supporting education and empowering Kuwaiti youth, Gulf Bank has successfully concluded its distinguished participation in the university admission fairs at Kuwait University and Abdullah Al-Salem University. The Bank actively engaged with new students, introducing them to its tailored banking solutions designed specifically for young people.

Gulf Bank took part in the interactive admission fair held at Kuwait University's Sabah Al-Salem University City in Al-Shadadiya from 19 to 29 July 2025. The Bank's booth attracted a high turnout from students and parents, who showed great interest in the banking services designed for university students.

Similarly, the Bank participated in the admission fair hosted by Abdullah Al-Salem University at its Khaldiya campus from 6 to 17 July 2025. Gulf Bank's presence featured direct interaction with visitors, providing comprehensive information on student accounts and other tailored services.

These participations are part of Gulf Bank's continuous efforts to strengthen engagement with



Gulf Bank wraps up its active role in university admission fairs.

youth and support them in the early stages of their academic journey. Alongside sharing information on academic majors and admission processes, the Bank also offered financial tips to help students manage their resources effectively from the start of their university life.

At both events, Gulf Bank showcased its red account, one of its leading banking solutions designed for customers aged 15 to 25. The

account offers a wide range of benefits, including prepaid cards, exclusive discounts, rewards on purchases, and access to unique events and experiences that enrich both personal and professional growth.

Beyond its features, the red account serves as a platform to promote financial literacy among youth, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to make informed financial decisions early in life – positively shaping their future and fostering a generation that is financially aware and capable of managing resources effectively.

Gulf Bank's team expressed pride in supporting students throughout their high school and university years, offering innovative banking services designed to keep pace with their fast-paced lifestyles.

Gulf Bank concluded its participation by thanking the administrations of both universities for organizing the fairs, which serve as valuable platforms to connect with youth. The Bank reaffirmed its commitment to continuing its support for educational and youth initiatives that contribute to Kuwait's development and enhance the quality of life for its students and community.

Warba launches ‘Your Coffee on Us’ campaign in partnership with Kuwait Flour Mills at Terminal 4

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: Warba Bank has announced the launch of a new strategic collaboration with Kuwait Flour Mills & Bakeries Company, coinciding with the opening of the company's branch at Kuwait International Airport, specifically in Terminal 4 (T4). Through this partnership, the Bank will offer its traveling customers an exclusive benefit: a complimentary coffee from the Kuwait Flour Mills branch at T4, provided they are Warba Bank customers traveling through the terminal.

This collaboration is an extension of Warba Bank's approach to supporting national projects and initiatives that reflect the integration of efforts between government institutions and the private sector, particularly those aimed at improving services in vital public facilities such as airports. The initiative aims to portray a positive image of Kuwait while enhancing the travel experience for passengers to and from the country. It also reflects Warba's ongoing commitment to delivering genuine added value through its summer campaigns.

Customers can redeem this exclusive offer by using the electronic code (CODE) available through the Warba Bank mobile app's marketplace. The CODE is presented at the Kuwait Flour Mills branch in the airport to claim a free coffee. Steps include: opening

the Warba Bank app, navigating to the marketplace, selecting the discount code section, choosing Kuwait Flour Mills, retrieving the discount code, and finally presenting it at the point of sale before payment. This process reflects the Bank's focus on offering tangible, direct benefits that enhance its customers' experiences and align with their lifestyle.

Commenting on the initiative, Mr. Ayman Salem Al-Mutairi, Director of Public Relations and Corporate Communications at Warba Bank, stated: "This initiative stems from our commitment to providing added value to our customers at every stage of their journey from banking services to the details that matter during travel. It also reflects our dedication to supporting national products and services, especially those that fall under successful public-private partnerships."

He added: "We are proud to launch this fruitful collaboration with Kuwait Flour Mills Company, which reflects our commitment to delivering a distinguished



Ayman Al-Mutairi

banking experience to our customers, even while they travel. This partnership also aligns with our focus on supporting local projects and fostering partnerships between the public and private sectors. We firmly believe in the importance of boosting the local economy and supporting the growth and development of Kuwaiti companies, which we continue to pursue through our various initiatives."

Warba Bank's Commitment to Innovation and Excellence

Warba Bank continues to lead the way in providing innovative digital services and exclusive offers that strengthen its position as a modern Islamic banking institution. The Bank aims to create a banking experience rooted in genuine engagement with customers' needs and aspirations, in line with its slogan, "Let's Own Tomorrow."

Warba Bank has achieved remarkable success in a short period, securing a leading position in Islamic digital banking in Kuwait. It is among the local banks with the largest shareholder base, making it close to all segments of society. This achievement further reaffirms the Bank's position as a trusted banking partner that combines innovation and social responsibility in delivering best-in-class financial products and services.



Kuwait Flour Mills outlet at Terminal 4.

Prices on defensive as softer oil demand, oversupply concerns resurface

By National Bank of Kuwait

Oil prices are on the defensive, ranging at two-month lows, as concerns intensify over the health of the global economy amid rising trade tariff protectionism and markets refocus on the prospect of a developing supply glut after OPEC+ fast-tracked the unwinding of its supply cuts. The IEA has maintained its assessment of below trend, sub-1 mb/d global oil demand growth, tapering off into negative territory beyond 2029. Oil price risks for 2026 are tilted to the downside while these dynamics remain in play.

Markets: Prices in retreat amid resurgent supply glut and weak global economic growth worries

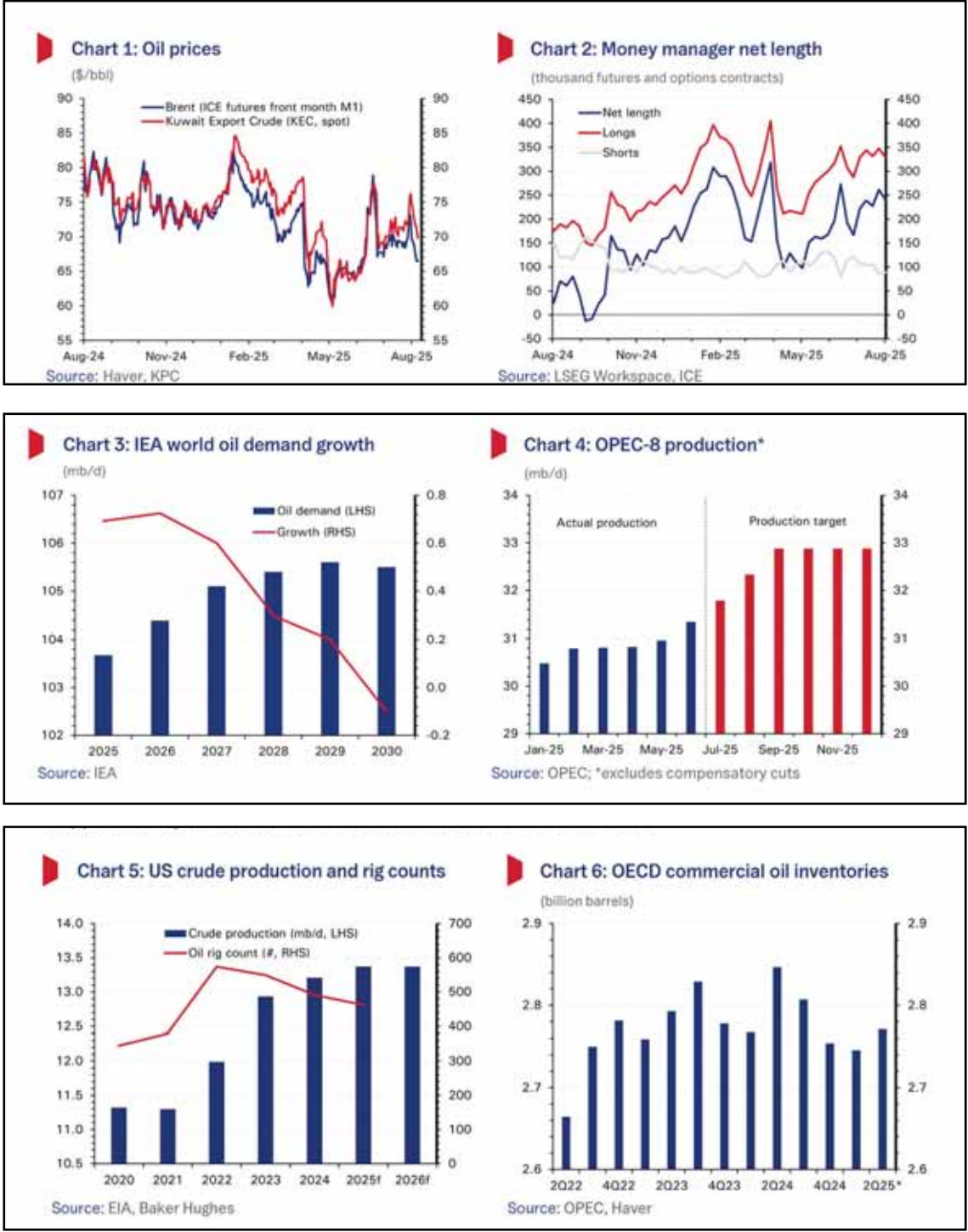
Oil's run of three consecutive monthly gains extending back to May appears to be faltering, with markets turning more bearish moving into August amid worries over global economic growth undermined by US trade tariffs, less than stellar US economic readings and the near completion of OPEC+'s supply cut unwinding plan a year ahead of schedule. Brent is trading near its lowest level in two months at around \$66/bbl (-10.8% ytd), with market participants positioning for a larger-than-expected supply glut after OPEC+ signaled the return of all 2.2 mb/d of supply cuts by September and on the prospect that the upcoming meeting between President Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin results in a negotiated ceasefire in the Russia-Ukraine conflict, a lifting of Russian sanctions and more freely-flowing Russian crude.

The shift towards an increasingly bearish view is reflected in money manager positioning, with 'net length' the difference between the number of 'long' (betting on prices rising) and 'short' (positions staked on prices falling) contracts – declining in two of the last three weeks. In the week ending 5 August, Brent net length fell by 20,375 contracts to 240,977 on an increase in the volume of 'short' contracts and a much larger decrease in the number of 'long' contracts.

These movements in speculator positioning signal more near-term pressure on prices, usually reflecting the view that supplies are ample in the context of demand. Brent's forward curve structure, though remaining in 'backwardation' (near-term prices higher than longer-term prices), has flattened at the front end in response.

Oil demand: Below-trend growth to remain over forecast period

The International Energy Agency (IEA) expects annual global oil demand growth to remain below last year's increase of 1 mb/d for both 2025 and 2026 at around 0.7 mb/d, according to the agency's most recent forecast in July. This is the weakest increase in oil consumption since 2009 outside of the Covid-19 pandemic, and a reflection of the ongoing penetration of renewables in the transportation fuel mix as well as headwinds linked to the imposition of global trade tariffs. That said, the IEA could revise up its demand projection when it publishes its August edition of the monthly oil market shortly to take into account the IMF's upgrade to global economic growth (by 0.2% pts to 3.0% for 2025 and by 0.1% pts to 3.1% for 2026). The IMF cited lower-than-expected effective US tariffs, stronger pre-tariff purchases and better-than-expected economic activity in China in the first half of the year in its explainer. The IEA has already acknowledged that Chinese strategic oil stockpiling, which tends to accelerate during peri-



ods of lower oil prices, has been an important factor supporting oil demand and preventing the global oil market balance from tipping more severely into oversupply. According to the IEA's longer-term outlook, oil demand growth will begin to slow noticeably after 2026 before turning negative after 'peak' oil demand is reached in 2029 (105.6 mb/d) as substitution away from oil in the transport and power sectors accelerates.

Supply: OPEC-8 to unwind all 2024 supply cuts a year ahead of schedule; non-OPEC growth slowing

OPEC+ signaled its intention over the summer months to accelerate even further the pace of its mar-

ket resupply and complete the unwinding of the full 2.2 mb/d of voluntary cuts (+300 kb/d baseline increase for the UAE) by the end of September, one year ahead of schedule. At their July and August meetings, the group agreed to raise the aggregate monthly gain in production for the eight members participating in the voluntary cuts to 548 kb/d m/m for both August and September from 411 kb/d in May, June and July. August and September's rate is quadruple the original monthly gain of 137 kb/d from April.

Both the move and its effect on the market have largely run counter to expectations, with OPEC+ deftly orchestrating the unwinding of such a large volume of withheld supply without a commensurate

decline in prices. The group has (so far) managed to avoid a more negative price response for several reasons: (i) delivered-to-market volumes have significantly fallen short of pledged volumes due to production capacity being more limited than thought among the non-GCC oil producers especially. OPEC-8 production as assessed by OPEC secondary sources reached 31.3 mb/d in June, a rise of only 542 kb/d cumulative from April rather than 958 kb/d as per the schedule; (ii) the implementation of offsetting, compensatory production cuts by serial overproducers; and (iii) global oil demand turning out less soft than was projected, supported by Chinese stockpiling.

For non-OPEC supply, the IEA expects volumes to grow by 1.4 mb/d this year from 0.9 mb/d last year and by 0.94 mb/d in 2026. This year, additions to US shale production will once again constitute the bulk of expected gains, along with Brazil and Canada. Growth will trend sharply lower in 2026, however, due to pullbacks in US drilling activity, especially amid lower oil prices. The US Energy Information Administration's (EIA) July Short-Term Energy Outlook goes further by forecasting actual declines in US production through 2026, from a high of 13.4 mb/d in Q2 2025 to less than 13.3 mb/d by the end of 2026, though in annual average terms, growth is flat. (Chart 5.) BP's CEO recently echoed the trailing off narrative for non-OPEC supply more broadly, predicting that it will be "relatively flat for 12-18 months" after peaking in early 2026.

Market balance and price outlook: prospect of oil surplus amid softer demand to keep pressure on prices

The slowdown in non-OPEC supply growth will help mitigate the developing surplus but not erase it, given the acceleration in OPEC-8 supply growth since May and the uncertain prospects for global oil consumption amid higher trade tariffs and perhaps a slowing US economy. Fundamentals, as assessed by the IEA, showed supply outstripping demand by more than 1.1 mb/d in Q1 2025, rising to 1.74 mb/d in implied stock builds in Q2. Observed OECD commercial oil inventories were up by almost 74 mb in May, according to the IEA, and by 35 mb to 2,771 mb, according to OPEC. (Chart 6.) These figures likely mask the true state of global inventories, however, which are increasing more quickly on the back of Chinese commercial and especially strategic stockpiling. The implications for oil prices are bearish. Looking ahead, it will likely be more difficult for OPEC+ to defend prices at current levels if the group decides to proceed with unwinding the pre-2024 tranche of supply cuts estimated at 1.6 mb/d from October onwards. Also, a resolution to the Ukraine-Russia conflict that leads to the removal of sanctions on Russian oil would likely compound the supply overhang. Having said that, the negative price response could prove to be overdone, if, as is looking likely, more limited OPEC+ spare production capacity precludes the full unwinding of these supply cuts. This and potential upcoming upgrades to global oil demand growth for next year informs our assessment that oil prices could range higher than the current consensus in the oil market, which is heading towards the low \$60s for 2026 (down from an estimated \$68/bbl for this year). The year-to-date average for Brent is approximately \$70.5/bbl, in line with our forecast from last November.

Menzies and Logistics Parks drive growth

Agility Global PLC reports Q2 2025 EBIT of \$97 million

ABU DHABI, Aug 12: Agility Global PLC, a multi-business owner, operator and long-term investor, today reported Q2 2025 earnings of \$24 million, or 0.24 cents per share. EBIT grew 5% to \$97 million, EBITDA increased 8% to \$181 million, and revenue rose 8% to \$1.2 billion.

For the first six months period, earnings stood at \$45 million, or 0.44 cents per share. EBIT grew 1% to \$189 million, EBITDA increased 7% to \$354 million, and revenue rose 12% to \$2.3 billion.

As of June 30, 2025, Agility's investment segment had a total asset value of approximately \$5.5 billion, and total assets value was \$12.7 billion.

Agility Global Chairman, Tarek Sultan, said: "The Group delivered another quarter of healthy operational performance, supported by continued organic growth across our core businesses. We see robust growth in Menzies and Agility Logistics Parks. Tristar delivered steady top-line growth and operational ramp-up; however, the lower-margin profile of this growth, compounded by challenges in its Maritime segment, has limited its EBIT expansion. Nevertheless, our operational momentum and underlying business fundamentals remain strong."

Sultan added: "Our diversified portfolio, spanning critical logistics infrastructure across high growth markets, enables us to navigate global economic headwinds effectively. We continue to execute on our strategy, focusing on disciplined growth and value creation."

Controlled Segment

For Q2 2025, the consolidated EBIT of the controlled businesses was \$96 million; EBITDA was \$179 million; and revenue reached \$1,200 million. For the six months, EBIT of the controlled businesses was \$174 million; EBITDA was \$339 million; and revenue \$2,343 million.

Aviation Services: Menzies

Menzies Aviation revenue reached



\$691 million in Q2 2025, representing 9% growth over the same period in 2024. The growth was mainly driven by increased volumes from new operations in Portugal and Spain; ground handling yields improvements; and strong cargo volumes across the regions excluding the impact of the closures of some non-profitable stations. In Q2, Menzies Ground Handling and fueling operations serviced close to 1.5 million flights.

Over the same period, EBITDA and EBIT grew 13% and 24% with all divisions and service lines showing growth. Improved EBITDA and EBIT margins indicate the business's ability to leverage its existing platform for growth.

In Q2, Menzies expanded its executive lounge presence in Europe, adding a Pearl lounge in Bratislava to the portfolio.

Regulatory approval for the acquisition of 100% of US-based G2 Secure Staff is expected in Q3.

Fuel Logistics: Tristar

Tristar, a fully integrated fuel logistics business, reported Q2 revenue of \$346 million, EBITDA of \$64 million and EBIT \$33 million. The 17.3% revenue growth over Q2 2024 was mainly driven by the new retail fuel business in Sri Lanka, which began operations in the second half of 2024. Although the retail fuel business is a low margin business today, Tristar is gaining a strong market presence and expects profit margins to improve in 2026 as efficiencies are realized, and the network expands. The maritime segment continued to face market headwinds during the quarter, but management remains confident in the long-term potential of this segment.



Tarek Sultan, Agility Global Chairman

Industrial Real Estate: Agility Logistics Parks (ALP)

Agility Logistics Parks recorded Q2 2025 revenue of \$14 million, representing a 13% increase from the same period last year. EBIT stood at \$10 million.

Strong demand for warehousing in Saudi Arabia continues to drive occupancy rates above 90%, particularly Riyadh. ALP's ongoing development of 226K SQM of new warehousing space is progressing and on schedule; some units have already been delivered, and the remainder are scheduled for delivery during the remaining months of 2025.

The GCC warehousing sector is experiencing robust demand driven by e-commerce growth, 3PL expansion, and government-led industrial diversification programs. In Africa, ALP continues to evaluate opportunities in high-growth logistics corridors, particularly in East Africa, where demand for modern logistics infrastructure is underserved.

Investment Segment

As of June 30, 2025, Agility Global's investment segment stood at \$5.5 billion in asset value.

The segment's key assets include stakes in DSV and Reem Mall.

■ DSV, Agility Global's largest investment holding, delivered solid Q2

Q2 Key Financial Highlights:

- Sustained business momentum – Revenue growth of 8.3% was driven by strong organic performance across the main operating businesses, reflecting stronger demand and operational execution.
- Healthy profitability growth with stable margins – driven mainly by Menzies and ALP.
- Strong balance sheet position – The balance sheet remains strong with total assets at \$12.7 billion and shareholder equity at \$5.8 billion. Almost 46% of the assets belong to the investment segment, whose performance is mainly reported through the balance sheet, not the profit and loss statement.
- Strategic investment in DSV – DSV continues to be the largest single investment, representing over 36% of the total assets.
- Net debt (excluding lease liabilities) stood at \$3 billion, most of the debt is on the back of DSV funded collar.
- Operating cash flow for the first half of the year was \$223 million, and gross CAPEX and investments totaled \$132 million during the period.

2025 performance, underpinned by continued organic operational strength. The DB Schenker integration remains largely on track. While the share price has been volatile over the period, we are managing our equity collar with prudence to protect downside risk and restructure upside potential in line with DSV's intrinsic performance. Agility Global's DSV investment value has increased by 12% YTD.

■ Agility Global is an investor in Reem Mall on Abu Dhabi's Reem Island, Abu Dhabi's latest signature shopping, dining, and entertainment family destination, spanning around 183.4K sqm of Gross Leasable Area (GLA). Anchored by hypermarkets and notable entertainment and home furnishing concepts, the mall will be home to around 400 international and local brands. One of the prominent recent openings was Sharaf DG, an expansive 3,334 sqm electronics retail space with 34 brand experience zones, making it the largest store of its kind in Abu Dhabi.

As of June 2025, roughly 66% of GLA was open and trading, with an additional 14% under fit-out, for an effective GLA leased of 80%. As of July 2025, we have signed proposals for an additional 4% of GLA. The mall recorded consecutive

record-breaking months for footfall and tenant sales in May and June where key metrics have increased by 30% and 40% respectively.

About Agility Global

Agility Global is a multi-business operator and long-term investor in global and regional businesses. Its portfolio of diversified international assets includes the world's largest aviation services company (Menzies Aviation); a global fuel logistics business (Tristar); a leading logistics parks developer and operator across the Middle East, Africa, and South Asia (Agility Logistics Parks); and other businesses in digital logistics, e-commerce logistics, remote-site services, and public-sector logistics. It holds minority stakes in DSV, the world's largest freight forwarder; Reem Mall, a mega-mall in Abu Dhabi; commercial real estate and supply chain companies in the GCC, and emerging technology companies in e-commerce enablement, energy transition, digital supply chain, and more. Agility Global has a global footprint across six continents and 70 countries, with a workforce of 56,000 employees. It is publicly listed on the Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange (ADX).

Menzies Aviation expands operations to Mosul International Airport via MASIL JV

LONDON, Aug 12: Menzies Aviation, the leading service partner to the world's airports and airlines, has announced it will deliver ground, air cargo and fuelling services at Mosul International Airport (OSM) in Iraq through MASIL, its joint venture with Iraqi Airways, Air BP and Al-Burhan Group.

One fully operational, MASIL will provide a full suite of aviation services at OSM, under a new 10-year license, further strengthening its footprint in the region. This builds on MASIL's operations at Baghdad International Airport (BGW).

MASIL provided ground services for the presidential flight that signified the official reopening of OSM. The flight, attended by Iraq's Prime Minister Mohammed Shia' Al Sudani, represented a landmark moment in the airport's history, which has been non-operational since 2014.

The milestone underscores the joint venture's capabilities and readiness to support future air traffic at the revitalised airport.

Mosul International Airport has undergone extensive reconstruction and is now equipped with a main terminal, VIP lounge, and advanced radar surveillance system. The airport is expected to be fully operational within the coming months, supporting both domestic and international flights and handling an estimated 630,000 passengers annually.

The expansion marks a significant



Iraq's PM Mohammed Shia' Al Sudani with a MASIL team.

milestone in the continued growth of the MASIL joint venture across Iraq and demonstrates Menzies' commitment to supporting the country's aviation infrastructure and long-term development.

Charles Wyley, Executive Vice President Middle East, Africa and Asia, Menzies Aviation, said: "We're proud to expand our presence in Iraq with new operations at Mosul International Airport through our MASIL joint venture. This is a major step in our journey to support the redevelopment of Iraq's aviation sector and bring world-class standards

to the country's airports. Handling the presidential flight was a privilege and a clear signal of MASIL's professionalism and reliability as a trusted service provider."

Menzies Aviation and Iraqi Airways formed MASIL in 2021 to provide ground handling, cargo, and fuelling services. The joint venture includes operations at key airports including Baghdad and will soon include Mosul as it continues to support the modernisation of Iraq's aviation sector.

Committed to future generations through investment plans

KFH provides 'Jameati' investment plan to secure children's education

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: Kuwait Finance House (KFH) continues to offer the Jameati investment plan, reaffirming its role as a trusted partner to customers in securing the best university education for their children.

The innovative investment plan is an excellent opportunity for KFH customers to support their children's academic ambitions through a solid investment solution that includes monthly savings with investment returns, Takaful coverage, and high flexibility.

Jameati investment plan has seen strong demand from KFH customers. It enables them to invest regularly in line with their requirements and financial capabilities, eliminating the need to resort to emergency financial solutions to cover their children's university costs. This investment solution paves the way for young people to pursue their academic ambitions without financial burdens standing in their way.

It also aligns with KFH's strategy to provide inclusive banking services tailored to the evolving needs of all segments of society. The investment plan further reflects the Bank's commitment to promoting financial stability within the community by encouraging families to save, invest, and plan ahead to secure a promising academic future for their children.

Jameati also serves as an effective initiative by KFH to support national efforts in investing in human capital and supporting local talent to access quality education that prepares them to become future leaders. It demonstrates KFH's firm belief that education is the foundation of sustainable development in society.

To benefit from this long-term investment plan, the child must be no older than 14 years, and the customer's age must be between 21 and 61 years. The investment term ranges from 4 to 18 years. By the time the child reaches university age, the accumulated savings and profits will be available to cover all university education ex-



KFH's Jameati investment plan.

penses, paving the way for a promising future.

Although the Jameati investment plan is designed as a long-term solution, customers have the flexibility to adjust the investment amount or monthly contributions at any time. Funds are automatically transferred each month from the customer's account to the Jameati investment account. Additionally, customers can withdraw up to 60% of the balance in the first year, and up to 60% each year following the initial withdrawal. The full investment amount, along with the accumulated profits, becomes available at the end of the plan term. Customers may also cancel the investment plan at any time, in which case the invested amount and any profits earned up to the cancellation date will be refunded to the customer's account.

EPS of 20.72 fils

Kamco Invest reports net profit of KD 7.1 mln for the first half of 2025

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: Kamco Invest, a regional non-banking financial powerhouse with one of the largest AUMs in the region, announced its financial results for the six-month period ended 30 June 2025. The Company reported a net profit of KWD7.1mn (EPS:20.72fils) compared to KWD2.5mn during the same period in 2024 (EPS:7.26fils).

Total revenue stood at KWD19.0mn, an increase of 48.2% compared to the same period of 2024, whereas fee and commission income reached KWD7.5mn (6M 2024: KWD8.1mn). The rise in total revenue was primarily driven by the performance of the Company's investment portfolio, supported by one-off proceeds from a legal case ruled in the Company's favor.

Assets under management grew by 7.5% to reach USD17.1bn as of 30 June 2025, due to new money raised in various products during the period, as well as the performance of portfolios and funds. Kamco Invest maintained its ranking amongst the ten largest asset managers in the MENA region, according to Forbes Middle East. The Company enjoys a strong track record and deep expertise in delivering diverse investment solutions to its clients.

Managed portfolios continued to outperform their respective benchmarks, while the Company's equity funds maintained their positions amongst the top performing funds in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, based on the fund disclosures published on Boursa Kuwait and Tadawul websites.

As for Alternative Investments, which includes real estate, private equity and structured products, the team continued to expand its range of offerings to provide clients with added value. During the period, Kamco Invest finalized the acquisition of a 60% majority stake in European Green Logistics Space (EGLS), a company specializing in the development, investment, and management of logistics assets in Europe. This acquisition reflects Kamco Invest's commitment to growing its recurring fee income while unlocking value-adding opportunities for regional clients in the sustainable logistics sector.

Furthermore, the Company successfully exited its investment in Yargici, a leading Turkish fashion and accessories brand held by one of Kamco Invest's private equity funds, through a sale to TIMS Group, a diversified Turkish business group with operations in content production, tourism, construction, and land development. The exit highlights Kamco Invest's commitment to delivering long-term value to its clients while ensuring the continued growth and success of its portfolio companies.

The Investment Banking team continued to advise clients on sev-



Sheikh Talal Ali Abdullah Al Jaber Al Sabah



Faisal Sarkhou

Talal Al-Ali: Our performance highlights the resilience of our strategy and the strength of our diversified business model

Sarkhou: We delivered solid growth on various fronts including assets under management and achieved strong returns across our investment portfolios

eral transactions across equity capital markets, debt capital markets, and M&A, with deals expected to close during the year. During the six-month period, the team advised OSN Group on the sale of a 30% stake of its subsidiary, OSN Streaming Ltd., to Warner Bros. Discovery for US-D57mn. The team also acted as Joint Lead Manager on five bond and sukuk issuances totaling USD2.3bn for regional banks and institutions across Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, UAE, and Qatar.

First Securities Brokerage Company, Kamco Invest's brokerage arm, continued to strengthen its competitive position and attracted new clients through its online trading platforms.

Kamco Invest -Saudi and Kamco Invest - DIFC continued to strengthen their presence in their respective markets by improving their services and contributing more to the company's core businesses, particularly in asset management. Kamco Invest – Saudi signed a strategic partnership with Flexam Invest to offer leasing opportunities to their clients. Furthermore, Kamco Invest – Saudi completed the fit-out of its new premises in the King Abdullah Financial District (KAFD), with the official move taking place in July 2025.

Kamco Invest was awarded the "Kuwait's Best for Alternative Investments" at the Euromoney Private Banking Awards 2025, highlighting the Company's rapid growth and sustained success in the alternatives space. In addition, Kamco Invest was named "Kuwait's Best Investment Bank – DCM" at the Euromoney Awards for Excellence 2025, in recognition of the team's outstanding performance in executing bond and sukuk transactions for local and regional clients.

Total assets increased by 4.4% during the period to reach KWD135.5mn, whereas shareholders' equity rose by 8.7% to KWD67.7mn. The Company also enjoys a strong financial position and a "BBB" long-term credit rating and "A3" short-term rating with stable outlook by Capi-

tal Intelligence in their latest review in May 2025.

Commenting on the results, Sheikh Talal Ali Abdullah Al Jaber Al Sabah, Chairman, said, "Our performance in the first half of 2025 highlights the resilience of our strategy and the strength of our diversified business model. We are well positioned to navigate market dynamics and grow our business while continuing to deliver value to our shareholders."

Faisal Mansour Sarkhou, Chief Executive Officer, commented, "We delivered solid growth during the six-month period on various fronts including assets under management and achieved strong returns across our investment portfolios. Strategic developments, such as the acquisition of a majority stake in EGLS, demonstrate our focus on long-term value creation. We remain committed to enhancing our offerings, expanding our regional footprint, and delivering sustainable growth for our clients and stakeholders."

About Kamco Invest

Kamco Investment Company K.S.C (Public) "Kamco Invest" is a regional non-banking financial powerhouse headquartered in Kuwait with offices in key regional financial markets, established in 1998 and listed on Boursa Kuwait in 2003. It is an Independently managed subsidiary of Burgan Bank, a member of KIPCO Group, adopting highest standards of corporate governance and regulated by the Capital Markets Authority and Central Bank of Kuwait. The Company offers a comprehensive range of investment solutions covering asset management, investment banking and brokerage.

Kamco Invest has AUM of over USD17.1bn as of 30 June 2025 allocated to various asset classes and jurisdictions, making it one of the largest asset managers in the MENA region. It has acted as investment banker to deals exceeding USD43.7bn from its inception to 30 June 2025 in equity capital markets, debt capital markets and mergers & acquisitions.

Upcoming shows and documentaries revealed

Prince Harry, Meghan and Netflix extend partnership

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 12, (AP): Prince Harry and Meghan have extended their partnership with Netflix and their media company, Archewell Productions, with a multiyear, first-look deal, the couple announced Monday.

Archewell began collaborating with the streaming giant in 2020 and have produced a handful of documentary content, including the popular "Harry & Meghan." The Duchess of Sussex also developed a lifestyle brand, As Ever, in partnership with Netflix.

The collaboration has also produced the documentary series "Polo," "Heart of Invictus" and "Live to Lead."

"My husband and I feel inspired by our partners who work closely with us and our Archewell Productions team to create thoughtful content across genres that resonates

globally, and celebrates our shared vision," Meghan said in a statement.

The couple and Netflix also announced upcoming collaborations, including a second season of, "With Love, Meghan," a lifestyle and cooking show starring the duchess. The show will also receive a special holiday episode in December.

The show is Netflix's most-watched culinary show since its March release, according to the company. It ranked low compared to other releases in the first half of this year, with 5.3 million views, according to Netflix's semiannual report.

"Masaka Kids, A Rhythm Within," a documentary short film that centers on a small orphanage in Uganda's Masaka region, is also set to release this year. Archewell is also in production with Netflix on a feature adaptation

of Carley Fortune's novel "Meet Me at the Lake." The drama "follows a decade-spanning love story that begins with a chance encounter and a broken promise," the statement read.

"Harry and Meghan are influential voices whose stories resonate with audiences everywhere. The response to their work speaks for itself," Bela Bajaria, Netflix's chief content officer, said in a statement.

Their extended deal with Netflix is the latest in the couple's yearslong effort to develop business ventures in the United States. They had also penned a multiyear deal with Spotify in 2020 and produced a podcast, "Archetypes," but cut ties with the company in 2023.

The couple have been detangling their lives from the British royal family and are living in California with their two young children.



In this Jan. 7, 2020, file photo, Britain's Prince Harry and Meghan, Duchess of Sussex leave Canada House in London. (AP)

People

Business spat

Hall & Oates settle dispute

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Aug. 12, (AP): Daryl Hall and John Oates have resolved their dispute over a Hall & Oates business partnership through arbitration, reaching a private ending after details of their rift went public in court documents filed in a 2023 lawsuit by Hall against Oates, according to a court filing Monday.

In Monday's status report, attorneys for Hall noted the case received a final judgment in arbitration and they filed a proposed order for the judge, Nashville Chancellor Russell Perkins, to dismiss the case. In mid-July, Perkins ordered Hall's attorneys to offer an update in the case, which had last seen a public filing in December 2023.

It's unclear when the arbitration process was finalized. And details were not revealed about the arbitration outcome between the duo who made music together for more than a half century, including hits in the 1970s and '80s such as "Maneater," "Rich Girl" "Kiss on My List" and "I Can't Go for That (No Can Do)."

Robb Harvey, an attorney for Hall, declined to comment. Representatives for Oates did not immediately respond to The Associated Press' request for comment.

In 2023 filings in the case, Hall accused Oates of blindsiding and betraying him, saying their relationship and his trust in Oates have deteriorated. Oates replied that he was "deeply hurt" that Hall was making "inflammatory, outlandish, and inaccurate statements" about him.

Trademarks

The judge had paused the sale of Oates' stake in Whole Oats Enterprises LLP to Primary Wave IP Investment Management LLC. Whole Oats includes valuable Hall & Oates materials such as trademarks, personal name and likeness rights, record royalty income and website and social media assets, a court declaration says.

The dispute went public in November 2023, when Hall filed the lawsuit asking the judge to stop the sale by Oates so private arbitration could begin.

Hall gave a scathing account of their relationship in early November 2023 during arbitration, and it was made public later in the month in the lawsuit. It alleges that Oates and his team engaged in the "ultimate partnership betrayal" by pushing to sell his share while telling Hall's associates that he wanted to maintain his ownership.

In his own declaration, Oates expressed disappointment with his longtime partner's words, saying Hall's accusations that Oates went behind his back and breached their agreement aren't true. Oates declined to go into specifics, saying he's obligated to keep details private, even if Hall didn't.

Last year, Oates told The Associated Press that he's had "no communication" with Hall and declined to discuss the legal proceedings. He did not see a Hall & Oates reunion in his future.

"I personally don't see it happening. It's not in my plans at all. You can ask Daryl Hall what he thinks. But for me personally, no," he says.

The Times asked Hall in February if the ship had sailed on mending the pair's relationship.



Hall of Fame inductees John Oates, left, and Daryl Hall appear in the press room at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, April, 10, 2014, in New York. (AP)

Music



Taylor Swift performs at Wembley Stadium as part of her Eras Tour June 21, 2024, in London. (AP)

Pop star starts bold new chapter in her legacy

Swift teases 'The Life of a Showgirl'

NEW YORK, Aug. 12, (AP): Look what you made her do - Taylor Swift has announced her 12th studio album, "The Life of a Showgirl."

Swift announced the album on her website shortly after a countdown timer expired at 12:12 a.m. Tuesday. No release date was announced, but her site said vinyl editions of the album would ship before Oct. 13.

Fans have long theorized that Swift's 12th album would soon arrive. On Monday, Taylor Nation - an official branch of the pop superstar's marketing team - posted a TikTok slide show of 12 images with the caption "Thinking about when she said 'See you next era...'" Swift is seen wearing orange in every image.

A special limited vinyl edition of the album will be released in "Portofino orange glitter," according to a pre-order page on her site. A special cassette edition is also available for pre-order.

Sensing a pattern, eagle-eyed fans noticed that 12 minutes earlier, the popular "New Heights" podcast posted a tease for Wednesday. The show, hosted by

Swift's boyfriend and Chiefs tight end Travis Kelce alongside his brother, former Eagles center Jason Kelce, posted an orange image on social media with a mysterious silhouette, many believing to be Swift.

The podcast announced early Tuesday that Swift would appear on "New Heights" and a teaser video posted about her appearance showed her pulling the album from a briefcase. The actual album artwork, just as it is on her website, is blurred.

"The Life of a Showgirl" follows last year's "The Tortured Poets Department," announced during the 2024 Grammys and released during her record-breaking tour, which raked in over \$2.2 billion across two years and five continents, making it the highest-grossing tour of all time.

The album is also her first release since Swift regained control over her entire body of work. In May, that pop star said she purchased her catalog of recordings - originally released through Big Machine Records - from their most recent owner, the private equity firm Shamrock Capital. She did not disclose

the amount.

In recent years, Swift has been rerecording and releasing her first six albums in an attempt to regain control of her music. The project was instigated by Hybe America CEO Scooter Braun's purchase and sale of her early catalog and represents Swift's effort to control her own songs and how they're used. Previous "Taylor's Version" releases have been more than conventional re-recordings, arriving with new "from the vault" music, Easter eggs and visuals that deepen understanding of her work.

So far, there have been four rerecorded albums, beginning with "Fearless (Taylor's Version)" and "Red (Taylor's Version)" in 2021. All four have been massive commercial and cultural successes, each one debuting at No. 1 on the Billboard 200.

Swift's last rerecording, "1989 (Taylor's Version)," arrived in October 2023, just four months after the release of "Speak Now (Taylor's Version)." That was the same year Swift claimed the record for the woman with the most No. 1 albums in history.

Finland's most lovable literary cartoon family

Fans celebrate the 80th birthday of the Moomins

TAMPERE, Finland, Aug. 12, (AP): The Moomins, Finland's most lovable literary cartoon family, are celebrating their 80th birthday this year.

The chubby, white, hippopotamus-like characters have captivated readers worldwide since author and illustrator Tove Jansson published "The Moomins and the Great Flood" in 1945. The children's book features Moomintroll and Moominmamma in their search for the missing Moominpappa.

Jansson, a Swedish-speaking Finn who died in 2001, went on to write eight more books, multiple picture books and a comic strip about the Moomins in Swedish.

The series, set in the fictional Moominvalley, has been translated into more than 60 languages, and sparked movie and TV adaptations, children's plays, art gallery exhibitions and an eponymous museum - plus theme parks in Finland and Japan. Finnair, the national carrier, has even put Moomins on its airplanes.

On Saturday, fans flocked to Tampere in southern Finland - home of the Moomin Museum - to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the 1945 publication as well as Jansson's Aug. 9, 1914, birthday.

For Rosa Senn of the United Kingdom, the festivities reminded her of her childhood. Her Norwegian mother, a fan since her own youth, read all of the tales to Senn and her sister growing up.

"Moomins have been such a special thing in my life, my whole life," Senn said. "I just carried that love for Moomin, for Tove Jansson, with me into my adult life."

When Senn met her now-wife, Lizzie, they were initially in a long-distance relationship for the first year and a half. Senn introduced Lizzie to the books and the couple used a plush doll of Moomintroll to feel closer to each other while they were apart. The doll was the ringbearer at their wedding, and they traveled to Tampere on their honeymoon.

The Senns also made an Instagram page docu-



Finland Moomins Fans celebrate the 80th anniversary of the publication of the Finnish children's classic, 'The Moomins and The Great Flood,' and the birthday of the author Tove Jansson, in Tampere, Finland, Saturday, Aug. 9. (AP)

menting the trio's adventures, which now has nearly 11,000 followers. The social media account has connected them with Moomin fans all over the world, including Stefanie and Michael Geutebrück from Germany.

Stefanie Geutebrück said she remembers falling in love with the Moomins while watching their animations during her childhood in East Germany. She also brought the Moomins into her husband's life, to the point where they also traveled to Tampere for Saturday's entertainment.

"Now he's a total fan and our apartment looks like a Moomin shop," she said.

Beyond the Geutebrücks' home, Moomin merchandise is hugely popular. There's a massive market for Moomintroll, Moominmamma and Moominpappa souvenirs across the globe, and secondary characters like their friends Stinky, Sniff, Snufkin, Snork Maiden and Hattifattener are also well-loved.

"The Moomin mug is one of the best-known col-

lector items worldwide," Selma Green, director of the Moomin Museum, said. "You buy a Moomin mug, you like the characters, you maybe see something on TV - but we all go back to the books, the original illustrations."

Depictions of the character Stinky, described as a lovable rogue who has captured Moominmamma's heart, generated debate and outcry in Finland this summer after reports emerged in Finnish media that Stinky was removed from a mural in an exhibit at the Brooklyn Public Library in New York due to concerns that the cartoon might be perceived as racist.

"A single image of Stinky was removed from the youth wing - which had the potential to be negatively misconstrued by young children without a fuller understanding of the Moomin universe," the library said Monday in a statement to The Associated Press. "However, Stinky does appear in other areas of the exhibition and the Moomins books remain available for patrons to check out as they always have."

Jansson's drawings of Stinky shows the character with a dark, fuzzy body, with skinny legs and antennae. He has a reputation as an unsuccessful criminal - whose plans get foiled or he gets caught in the act - with an appetite for furniture and other wooden things.

"To me, this became as quite a big surprise because I have more thought about Stinky being close to a mole or a vole," Sirke Happonen, a Moomins scholar and associate professor at the University of Helsinki, said of the library's decision. "He's an interesting character in many ways, like controversial and fun."

Her partner of more than 45 years, engraver and artist Tuulikki Pietilä, was memorialized as the character Too-ticky in "Moominland Midwinter." The couple lived in Helsinki and spent their summers on the small rocky island of Klovharu in the Gulf of Finland until the 1990s.

Variety

BEIJING: The National Library of China (NLC) opened a public exhibition on Tuesday showcasing rare documents and historical materials from the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression (1931-1945).

Through texts, artifacts, digitized archives and interactive sessions, the exhibition vividly chronicles the Chinese people's fearless resistance against Japanese invaders.

The publications on display are the result of a project launched by the NLC in 2012 for the preservation of historical archives from the revolutionary period.

Scannable QR codes provide access to digital resources on pivotal events and historical evidence, such as rare records from the Tokyo Trials, also known as the International Military Tribunal for the Far East, and documentation of bacterial warfare carried out by Japanese invaders in China.

Visitors can create commemorative badges and collectible bookplates, and share personal reflections on a dedicated message wall.

In addition to the Beijing venue, seven libraries across Hebei, Jiangsu, Zhejiang and Hubei provinces are hosting simultaneous exhibitions.

According to the NLC, a total of 2,714 volumes of wartime documents from WWII have been systematically cataloged and published as of July.

The exhibition is free to the public and runs through Oct. 15. (Xinhua)



LHASA: As the drums rolled, performers wearing blue masks took to the stage, enthraling the audience with powerful vocals and bold dance moves.

This vibrant scene unfolded at a park in Namling County, southwest China's Xizang Autonomous Region, where classic Tibetan opera performances drew large crowds of locals eager to attend.

Young actress Drolma Yangkyi delivered a great performance as a kind and brave man in a show, which was met with passionate applause from the audience.

"My father performed this role before me, so I kept seeking his advice right until the curtain call," said Drolma Yangkyi, 17. Influenced by her father and grandfather, both Tibetan opera performers, she started learning the traditional art at the age of 6.

Considered a living fossil of Tibetan culture, Tibetan opera blends talking, singing, acting, dancing and literature. It was included in the first batch of China's national intangible cultural heritage list in 2006 and the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2009.

With the government's support and the dedication of both young and old Tibetan opera enthusiasts, along with the efforts of intangible cultural heritage inheritors, this traditional art form is gaining new momentum on the plateau.

Namling County is renowned for its Tibetan opera school, which features blue masks and boasts a history spanning over 600 years.

During the performances at the park, 76-year-old Tsering Dorje, a national-level inheritor of the art, was busy adjusting costumes for the young performers preparing to take the stage.

Tsering Dorje grew up watching Tibetan opera with his elders. The entertainment later became his passion, driving him to act for over 40 years.

He recalled that in the early days, performers faced a lack of talent, funding and opportunities to showcase their skills, and they had limited access to costumes and props.

"Now, with the government and our troupe's efforts, we perform at big events and festivals like the Shoton Festival in the regional capital Lhasa and the Qomolangma Culture Festival in the city of Xigaze," said Tsering Dorje, adding that better conditions made him confident to attract more young apprentices.

Tsering Dorje has trained multiple young Tibetan opera performers, five of whom now lead their own apprentices. After transitioning from the stage to an advisor, he now focuses on passing down the cultural essence of this ancient art. (Xinhua)

UN humanitarian demand urgent action

Over 100 Gaza kids have died from hunger: UN

UNITED NATIONS, Aug 12, (Xinhua): UN humanitarian aid workers have demanded urgent action as Gaza's health authorities reported that more than 100 children have died from malnutrition since the war began in October 2023.

The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said its relief partners in Gaza described surpassing the 100 deaths as a "devastating milestone that shames the world and demands long overdue urgent action."

More than 300,000 children remain at severe risk, and more than a third of the Gaza population reports not eating for days at a time, the World Food Programme said.

It said that to meet the basic humanitarian food assistance needs in Gaza, more than 62,000 tonnes are required every month. So far, humanitarians have not

been permitted to bring in enough supplies to support the survival of the 2 million people in Gaza.

OCHA said the United Nations and its partners reported they were able to collect some food, fuel and supplies, including hygiene kits, from the Kerem Shalom/Karem Abu Salem crossing on Sunday. However, the supplies were offloaded before the trucks reached their destination.

The office said the fuel also transited the same crossing.

OCHA said the Israeli authorities allow an average of approximately 150,000 liters daily. It remains far below the minimum required to sustain life-saving operations. The Palestine Civil Defense reported that more than half of its ambulances have stopped operating across Gaza, due to a shortage of fuel and spare parts.

The Food and Agriculture Organization last week

warned that only 1.5 percent of cropland in Gaza is both accessible and undamaged, signaling a near-total collapse of the local food system.

Ramesh Rajasingham, director of OCHA's Coordination Division, in a rare Sunday UN Security Council session, described humanitarian conditions in Gaza as "beyond horrific."

He also expressed deep concern over the prolonged conflict and reports of atrocities and a further human toll that is likely to unfold following Israel's decision to expand military operations in Gaza, calling it a "grave escalation in a conflict that has already inflicted unimaginable suffering."

Rajasingham said that whatever lifelines remain in Gaza are collapsing under the weight of sustained hostilities, forced displacement, and insufficient levels of life-saving aid.



Displaced Palestinians wait to get free food in the west of Gaza City, on Aug. 10. (Xinhua)

Chronic neuromuscular disease weakens muscles

Tennis star Monica Seles reveals her diagnosis with myasthenia gravis

NEW YORK, Aug 12, (AP): Monica Seles first noticed the symptoms of myasthenia gravis - a neuromuscular autoimmune disease she discussed during a recent interview with The Associated Press - while she was swinging a racket the way she'd done so many times during, and after, a career that included nine Grand Slam titles and a place in the International Tennis Hall of Fame.

"I would be playing with some kids or family members, and I would miss a ball. I was like, 'Yeah, I see two balls.' These are obviously symptoms that you can't ignore," Seles said. "And, for me, this is when this journey started. And it took me quite some time to really absorb it, speak openly about it, because it's a difficult one. It affects my day-to-day life quite a lot."

The 51-year-old Seles, who won her first major trophy at age 16 at the 1990 French Open and played her last match in 2003, said she was diagnosed with myasthenia gravis three years ago and is speaking publicly about it for the first time ahead of the US Open, which starts on Aug. 24, to raise awareness about what is known as MG.

The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke calls it "a chronic neuromuscular disease that causes weakness in the voluntary muscles" and "most commonly impacts young adult women (under 40) and older men (over 60) but ... can occur at any age, including childhood."

Seles said she'd never heard of the condition until seeing a doctor and being referred to a neurologist after noticing symptoms such as double vision and weakness in her arms - "just blowing my hair out ... became very difficult," she said - and legs.

"When I got diagnosed, I was like, 'What?!'" said Seles,



International Tennis Hall of Fame inductee Monica Seles waves to the crowd as she holds her plaque during ceremonies in Newport, R.I., July 11, 2009. (AP)

who is partnering with argenx, an immunology company headquartered in the Netherlands, to promote their Go for Greater campaign. "So this is where - I can't emphasize enough - I wish I had somebody like me speak up about it."

It's been three decades since Seles returned to competition at the 1995 U.S. Open, making it to the final, more than two years after she was attacked by a man with a knife at a tournament in Hamburg, Germany.

Increased risk of heart disease, secondary cancers

Childhood cancer survivors face new health problems later in life: study

LOS ANGELES, Aug 12, (AP): Researchers at City of Hope, one of the largest and most advanced cancer research and treatment organizations in the United States with its National Medical Center ranked among the nation's top cancer centers by US News & World Report, has published a new study which found that some survivors of childhood cancer are more at risk for serious health issues as they grow older, including new cancers and chronic conditions like heart disease.

While a cause for concern, the findings published in the Journal of Clinical Oncology also point to a silver lining: The ailments are potentially manageable if caught early and treated.

"Our study underscores the importance of partnership among patients, their primary care providers and cancer survivorship programs to ensure survivors receive necessary screening for the early detection, prevention and treatment of conditions, including secondary cancers, resulting from lifesaving treatment," said Rusha Bhandari, M.D., a pediatric hematologist-oncologist at City of Hope and corresponding author of the new study. "We at City of Hope are continuing to learn more about what health conditions survivors of childhood cancer are at risk for at different times in their life to inform the updating of evidence-based guidelines for cancer survivors."

The City of Hope-led study is the first to look at childhood cancer survivors who reached the age of 50, a population that is expected to grow as cancer treatments continue to improve and become more targeted and personalized.

Nearly 15,000 children and adolescents in the United States are diagnosed with leukemia, lymphoma or other types of cancer each year. The rate of young patients surviving cancer for at least five years is now 85%, up from 58% a few decades ago.

To determine long-term risks, Dr. Bhandari, Saro Armenian, D.O., M.P.H., a pediatric hematologist-oncologist at City of

Hope Children's Cancer Center, and their colleagues reviewed a national database that tracks about 40,000 people who were diagnosed with cancer before they turned 21. The researchers identified individuals who were still alive at age 50 and then compared any new incidence of cancer with the rate of cancer found in the general population. The risks for chronic health conditions were compared to the patients' siblings.

Having overcome cancer at an early age, survivors face new risks when they turn older, the study found. Young patients have a higher risk of secondary cancers and are five times more likely to die from the disease compared to other individuals over the age of 50.

Cancer survivors face increased risks for heart disease as well. In fact, pediatric cancer survivors had a higher incidence of heart problems at age 55 compared to their 70-year-old siblings. They were also more frail, had trouble with physical exertion and suffered poorer health in general.

Looking at the type of cancer treatment survivors had received, the team found that radiation therapy was the main culprit for future risks, rather than chemotherapy.

"Radiation causes cellular DNA damage that can lead to mutations and the development of new cancers," said Dr. Armenian, senior author of the study.

The study was based on treatment regimens used in the 1970s and 80s. There have been vast improvements since then, including delaying or avoiding radiation in favor of targeted cancer drugs and emerging treatments such as immunotherapy and precision oncology. Still, Dr. Bhandari urges greater vigilance to protect against future health problems.

"Some survivors should screen for conditions like breast or colon cancer at an earlier age than is recommended for the general population," Dr. Armenian said. "Teamwork is needed to ensure survivors receive necessary screening and preventative care for conditions, including secondary cancers."

Expert explains the science of sneezing

Why do eyes close when we sneeze?

The Conversation is an independent and nonprofit source of news, analysis and commentary from academic experts.

By Meg Sorg
Purdue University

Curious Kids is a series for children of all ages. If you have a question you'd like an expert to answer, send it to curiouskidsus@theconversation.com.

Why do we sneeze? - Naomi, 9, San Francisco, California

Why do people sneeze with their eyes closed? Is there a way for people to sneeze with their eyes open? - Carlos, 11, Riverview, Florida

Why do adults make a loud noise when they sneeze? - Artie, 8, Brooklyn, New York

Aaaa-choo! While your first thought may be to say "Gesundheit!" your second might be to ask: "Where did that sneeze come from?"

Sneezing is a phenomenon that occurs in both people and animals. It happens when your body forcibly expels air from your lungs through your nose and mouth.

Most of the time, sneezing happens

when something infectious, like a virus or bacteria, or irritating, like an allergen or chemical, enters your nostrils. Your body uses sneezing as a defense mechanism to clear your nose of mucus - also known as snot - and prevent foreign objects and particles from entering your airway.

But sneezing can also occur as a reaction to more unusual stimuli.

Chemicals like piperine or capsaicin found in foods like black pepper and chili peppers can irritate the nerve endings inside your nose's mucous membranes and lead to a sneeze.

Another type of sneeze is psychogenic, meaning it's caused by something more mental than physical. Though not fully understood, researchers believe it occurs when a strong emotion triggers your brain to send a chemical signal to your nose that makes you sneeze.

And finally, about one in four people experience something called photostneezia, or a photic sneeze reflex, where light, particularly sunlight, can trigger a sneeze.

Despite a popular myth that sneezing with your eyes open will make them pop out, it's actually possible to keep your eyes open when you sneeze.

Closing your eyes during a sneeze is

an autonomic reflex. This means that your body does it without you needing to consciously think about it. Scientists believe that your body makes your eyes close when you sneeze to decrease the likelihood of germs getting into them.

It's possible to fight that reflex and intentionally keep your eyes open. But it might be better to keep them closed to avoid getting the germs you expelled into your eyes.

Some people have very loud sneezes, while others have more delicate sneezes.

The noise you make when you sneeze is a result of air escaping your mouth or nose. Generally, the more air you breathe in, the louder your sneeze will be. Like closing your eyes, inhaling prior to a sneeze is largely a reflex but could be consciously controlled as well.

Some people even hold in or "swallow" their sneezes, though health experts don't recommend this due to potential risk for injury. Some sneezes can be so powerful they expel mucous droplets as forcefully as 100 miles per hour!

Although sneezing is sometimes just a reflex, or the result of an allergy or chemical irritation, sneezing can also be a symptom of a contagious illness or upper respiratory infection. (AP)

Indigenous leaders demand strong global pact

Groups seek to influence plastic treaty talks

GENEVA, Aug 12, (AP): Environmentalists and Indigenous leaders held signs Tuesday in front of the United Nations buildings in Geneva, where talks for a global accord to end plastic pollution are taking place, asking nations to show courage and agree to a strong treaty.

Most were from organizations that are part of the Break Free From Plastic movement. They said they wanted their voices to be heard as the talks wind down in Switzerland. Nations are crafting the first global, legally binding treaty on plastics pollution.

"We've invested a lot into coming all the way to Geneva, away from our communities, away from our families, because we understand how important an issue this is and how crucial a moment this is," said Juressa Lee, who is from New Zealand and was representing the Aotearoa Plastic Pollution Alliance. "It's a once-in-a-lifetime plastics treaty."

They urged delegates to vote on the treaty if consensus can't be reached and the process becomes paralyzed. Every nation must agree for any proposal to be included in the treaty.

The talks are scheduled to conclude Thursday.

"To date the process has been broken," said Brett Nadrich, spokesperson from Break Free From Plastic. "Civil society leaders from around the world, together with those most impacted, are speaking with a unified voice that we need to show courage, not compromise, and fix the process."

The head of Panama's delegation to the talks, Juan Carlos Monterrey Gomez, cheered them on as he walked by.

"We need that all over the world," he told The Associated Press. "We need people outside of here to tell their



Magnus Heunicke, the Danish environment minister, and Jessika Roswall, the European commissioner for the environment, speak at a news conference about the European Union's position on a global accord to end plastic pollution on Aug. 12, in Geneva, Switzerland. (AP)

countries to speak up for what it is that they're standing for. Are they standing for them, their citizens, or big oil?"

The biggest issue is whether the treaty should impose caps on producing new plastic or focus instead on things like better design, recycling and reuse. Panama is helping to lead an effort to include plastic production in the treaty.

"We're going to be pushing until the end," Monterrey Gomez said. "Because if there is no production, there's no treaty."

MEDICAL CLASSIFIEDS

Take care of your health

To advertise in this page please call: 69994428 or E-mail: adv@arabtimesonline.com

For
your
ads on
this page

Call: 69994428

E-mail: adv@arabtimesonline.com

DEPARTMENT OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

مركز شفاء الجزيرة الطبي
SHIFA AL JAZEERA MEDICAL CENTRE

الفحاحيل

Dr. Sabitha Venkitesh
MBBS, DNB
(Ophthal)

Dr. Vivek P.S
MBBS, DO, DNB
(Ophthal)

Dr. Reshma Ravindra
MBBS, MS
(Ophthal)

Special package for family available for eye check up

HOTLINE: 65 95 95 34

- Comprehensive Eye screening
- Paediatric visual assessment
- Glaucoma screening
- Diabetic Retinopathy Screening
- Foreign Body removal

Mecca Street, Near Roundabout, Life Tower
Fahaheel.
Tel: +965 2391 9020
www.shifaaljazeeera.com.kw

CAF sanctions co-host Kenya for second time over crowd trouble

NAIROBI, Aug 12, (Xinhua): The Confederation of African Football (CAF) has sanctioned African Nations Championship (CHAN) co-host Kenya for the second time in as many weeks over security breaches.

In a statement Monday evening, the continental governing body said it has limited entry to the 48,000-seat Moi International Sports Center, also known as Kasarani Stadium, to 27,000 fans for Sunday's Group A match between Kenya and Zambia.

CAF said only electronic ticket holders will be allowed into the stadium, with thermal tickets prohibited.

The governing body warned that Kenya's matches could be relocated from Kasarani Stadium if organizers fail to prevent further breaches.

"We trust these measures will be applied swiftly to protect competition's integrity, ensure fan safety, and uphold confidence in Kenya's commitment to the tournament," CAF said.

The sanctions follow incidents on Aug. 10 when Kenya defeated two-time winner Morocco 1-0 despite playing the entire second half with 10 men. The win put Kenya top of Group A with seven points. The debutants will reach the quarterfinals with at least a draw against

winless Zambia.

Last week, Kenya's football federation was fined nearly 20,000 U.S. dollars for security lapses during the team's 1-0 win over DR Congo in the tournament opener on Aug. 3.

In the latest case, CAF cited major lapses, including stadium gates and restricted service areas being overrun by ticketless spectators and holders of government-distributed physical tickets. It also accused security personnel of losing control at exit points and allowing breaches of the perimeter fence that enabled thousands of ticketless fans to enter.

CAF expressed alarm over the use of tear gas and flash grenades, reports of live ammunition fired near spectators and staff, and violent incidents such as stone-throwing at security personnel. It also cited unsafe vehicle movement in spectator areas, inadequate police response, and the lack of medical incident reports despite injuries being reported.

Organizers were further criticized for insufficient communication tools and the absence of CCTV coverage at critical entry points.



Hilary Panuel Mukundane (left) of Uganda vies with Abdoul Latif Djabril Goumey Diori of Niger during the Group C football match between Uganda and Niger at the African Nations Championship (CHAN) 2024 at Mandela National Stadium in Kampala, capital of Uganda.(Xinhua)

Valkyries move into seventh



Golden State Valkyries' Kate Martin and Connecticut Sun's Leila Lacan vie for a loose ball in the fourth quarter of a WNBA basketball game at Chase Center in San Francisco. (AP)

Clark making progress in recovery from groin injury

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug 12, (AP): Tiffany Hayes and Cecilia Zandalasini each scored 17 points, Janelle Salaun added 16 and the Golden State Valkyries beat the Connecticut Sun 74-57.

Aneesah Morrow had 13 points and 14 rebounds, and Olivia Nelson-Ododa added 12 points for Connecticut (5-26), which dropped to 1-15 in road games this year.

Salaun scored on three straight Golden State possessions and Zandalasini followed with a 3-pointer as the Valkyries took the first double-digit lead of the game at 45-33 with 6:09 left in the third quarter. Golden State's fifth 3-pointer in the opening seven minutes of the third made it 53-36.

The Valkyries (16-15) used a 14-2 run in the fourth, capped by a corner 3-pointer by Kate Martin, to take a 69-50 lead.

Golden State finished 13 of 33 from 3-point range, while Connecticut was just 5 of 25.

Iliana Rupert added 10 points and Veronica Burton had 10 assists for Golden State, which moved into seventh place in the WNBA standings with 13 games left. Hayes moved past Sheryl Swoopes (4,875) for 31st on the WNBA's career scoring list.

Aaliyah Edwards scored eight in her second game with the Sun after



Indiana Fever guard Caitlin Clark reacts during the first half of a WNBA basketball game against the Dallas Wings in Dallas. (AP)

being traded from Washington. Marina Mabrey, averaging 15 points per game, was held to just three points. Tina Charles (rest) did not play.

Both teams shot under 35% from the field in the first half, with Golden State leading 32-26 behind 12 points from Hayes.

Meanwhile, Indiana Fever coach Stephanie White said Monday that All-Star guard Caitlin Clark is progressing from an injured right groin but still is not practicing.

Clark has not played since suffering the injury in the final minute of an 85-77 victory over Connecticut on

July 15. Team officials have already ruled her out of Tuesday's matchup against rookie Paige Bueckers and the Dallas Wings.

There's still no timetable for when one of the league's most popular players could return.

"No return to practice, she's been able to get a little bit more of her full-court running with all of her body weight," White said following practice. "It's really building up from doing minimal to building some endurance to do longer periods of time. She's been able to do a little more on the court in terms of how she moves,

but not into practice shape."

Clark began full-court running last week.

Three different muscle injuries have forced Clark to miss 19 of 32 games. Indiana is 10-9 without Clark including a 6-2 mark over its last eight games - despite losing two more guards, Sydney Colson and Aari McDonald, with season-ending injuries.

Colson suffered a torn anterior cruciate ligament in her left knee during last week's loss at Phoenix. McDonald will be out with a broken bone in her right foot, which happened in the same game.

Yet with only nine active players and no true point guards, Indiana still managed to rout the rival Chicago Sky 92-70 on Saturday.

The Fever signed Odyssey Sims to a hardship contract Sunday. Sims averaged 11.2 points, 3.8 assists and 2.5 rebounds during her 11-year career, which included an All-Star selection in 2019.

Clark, last season's WNBA Rookie of the Year, was averaging 16.5 points, 8.8 assists and 5.0 rebounds before her latest injury.

The Fever went all-in on putting a title-winning supporting cast around Clark during the offseason. And even with Clark out, Indiana is 18-14 and fifth in the league standings, close enough to still be in the mix for home-court advantage in the first round.

Raspadori becomes Atletico 7th signing

Iglesias completes permanent move from Betis to Celta Vigo

MADRID, Aug 12, (Xinhua): Celta Vigo announced the signing of striker Borja Iglesias from Real Betis on Tuesday.

The move sees Iglesias return to the club where he spent last season on loan, scoring 11 goals in 37 appearances as Celta finished seventh in La Liga to qualify for the UEFA Europa League.

The 32-year-old cost an estimated 1.5 million euros (1.74 million U.S. dollars), and has agreed to a deal until the end of June 2027, with the option of extending it for a further season.

Celta kicks off the new La Liga season against Getafe on Sunday.

Iglesias has had a difficult relationship with Betis coach Manuel Pellegrini. He leaves Betis after scoring 39 goals in 142 league appearances and forming part of the team that won the 2022 Copa del Rey.

He spent the second half of the

2023-24 campaign with Bayern Leverkusen and last season with Celta.

Meanwhile, Atletico Madrid has made its seventh signing ahead of the new La Liga season with the confirmation that Italian international forward Giacomo Raspadori has arrived from Serie A champions Napoli.

The 25-year-old has agreed a five-year contract until June 2030. Raspadori has cost around 22 million euros (25.5 million U.S. dollars) and takes the Atletico's total spend this summer to just over 170 million euros, although it has recovered around 70 million in sales.

The striker is not a prolific goalscorer, with only 11 goals in 63 appearances for Napoli and nine in 40 games for the Italian national team.

Atletico kicks off the new season in Barcelona, away to Espanyol on August 17th.

Leverkusen signs Dutch winger Poku

Dortmund's defensive worries deepen

DORTMUND, Germany, Aug 12, (AP): Borussia Dortmund's defensive worries deepened Monday with central defender Niklas Sule expected to be out for two months with a right calf injury sustained during a friendly game against Juventus.

Sule suffered a muscle injury and had to go off just before halftime during Sunday's match against the Italian team. He had only replaced Mats Hummels in the 19th minute of the veteran defender's farewell game. The 36-year-old Hummels, who played for Roma last season after leaving Dortmund for the second time in 2024, was bidding an emotional farewell to the Dortmund fans.

Dortmund was already without the injured Nico Schlotterbeck and Emre Can, exacerbating coach Niko Kovac's shortage of defenders before the team starts the season against Rot-Weiss Essen in the first round of the German Cup on Aug. 18. Dortmund starts its Bundesliga campaign at St. Pauli on Aug. 23.

Meanwhile, Bayer Leverkusen signed speedy young winger Ernest Poku from AZ Alkmaar on Tuesday to strengthen its Dutch connection under new coach Erik ten Hag.

Poku can play on both wings and his pace attracted attention in the Europa League last season. Born in Germany, he reached the semifinals of the European under-21 championship with the Nether-

lands.

The 21-year-old arrives on a five-year contract. Leverkusen announced his signing on social media with an image of the character Lightning McQueen from the movie "Cars" and a compilation of clips of Poku dribbling past defenders.

"I leave defenders behind for breakfast," Poku said in the video. "Faster than fast. Quicker than quick. I am Ernest Poku."

He's already played four games in the 2025-26 season, scoring one goal and setting up two more, thanks to Alkmaar's involvement in Europa Conference League qualifying and the start of the Dutch league last week.

Ahead of Ten Hag's first competitive game as Leverkusen coach in the German Cup on Friday, Poku joins Dutch goalkeeper Mark Flekken as a new signing. The club has also brought in American forward Malik Tillman from Dutch club PSV Eindhoven.

It's part of a broader rebuild after coach Xabi Alonso left for Real Madrid and players from Leverkusen's title-winning 2023-24 season left, including Florian Wirtz, Jeremie Frimpong and Granit Xhaka.

The scale of the changes led striker Patrik Schick to say last month that he didn't expect Leverkusen to be able to fight for the Bundesliga title without significant signings.

Donnarumma left out of PSG squad for UEFA Super Cup match

PSG strengthens defense by signing Zabarnyi from Bournemouth

PARIS, Aug 12, (AP): Paris Saint-Germain signed Ukraine defender Illia Zabarnyi from Bournemouth on a five-year contract Tuesday for a reported 63 million euros (\$76 million).

The 22-year-old center back joins the European champions after 2 1/2 years at Bournemouth, which has seen its defense ripped apart this offseason. Fellow center back Dean Huijsen has left for Real Madrid and left back Milos Kerkez signed for Liverpool.

However, those sales earned Bournemouth 172 million euros (about 150 million pounds sterling).

Zabarnyi will compete for a place at the heart of the PSG defense with Marquinhos and William Pacheco.

"I'm very happy to join Paris Saint-Germain," Zabarnyi said. "I am here to give everything I have on the pitch and I'm looking forward to making my debut and meeting the fans."

He was not in the squad for Wednesday's UEFA Super Cup match against Europa League champion Tottenham, although he could feature when PSG begins its Ligue 1 title defense away to Nantes on Sunday.

Zabarnyi, who has 49 caps for Ukraine and previously played for Dynamo Kyiv, could directly challenge veteran captain Marquinhos.

He is PSG's second big signing of the transfer window after goalkeeper Lucas Chevalier joined from Lille for a reported fee of just over 40 million euros, amid reports that No. 1 Gianluigi Donnarumma will leave the club despite an outstanding campaign last season.

One of PSG's backup goalkeepers is Russian Matvei Safonov, who was included in the squad to face Tottenham.

Paris Saint-Germain goalkeeper Gianluigi Donnarumma has been left out of the squad for Wednesday's UEFA Super Cup against Tottenham amid increasing reports he will leave the club.

PSG named its squad on Tuesday for the match, which is being held in Udine in Italy. Goalkeeper Lucas Chevalier, who recently joined from Lille for just over 40 million euros (\$46.44 million), was included along with backup goalie Matvei Safonov.

Chevalier's arrival could signal Donnarumma's departure, with the 26-year-old Italy international unlikely to accept being No. 2 if coach Luis Enrique decides so.

Donnarumma was arguably the best goalkeeper in Europe last season, playing a key role in PSG's Champions League success with inspired shot-stopping in the knockout stages. He also starred for Italy when it won the Euro-

pean Championship in 2021.

But with one year left on his contract, Donnarumma has refused to sign a new contract and PSG is unlikely to let him leave for free at the end of the season.



In this file photo, Paris Saint-Germain's goalkeeper Gianluigi Donnarumma puts the ball back in play during the Club World Cup round of 16 soccer match between PSG and Inter Miami in Atlanta. (AP)



संघीय गणराज्य
Embassy of India
Kuwait

Tender No.- KUW/ADM / 868 / 01 / 2025 Dated - 13th Aug 2025

TENDER NOTICE- INTERNET SERVICE & FIREWALL

Embassy of India in Kuwait invites bids for the selection of an Internet Service Provider and for the supply and installation of Firewall services at the Embassy

Prospective / Interested companies are advised to inspect the area and present their offers in a sealed cover marked **"Offer for ISP and Firewall - to be opened by addressee only"** and addressed to the **"Head of Chancery, Embassy of India, Diplomatic Enclave, Arabian Gulf Street, Safat 13015, Kuwait."** The bid must be submitted at the Embassy on or before **2nd September 2025.**

The detailed tender document along with its annexure may be downloaded from Central Procurement Portal <https://eprocure.gov.in/cppp/> and also the official website of the Embassy of India, Kuwait from <https://indembkuwt.gov.in>.

For any other clarification please contact Mr. S. James Jacob, Head of Chancery on any working day (Sunday - Thursday) between 0800 hrs 1630 hrs on **+965 22513498** or email to: **admkuwait@mea.gov.in**



SPORTS

Barcelona aims to keep momentum

Real, Atletico revamp for new season

MADRID, Aug 12, (AP): The Spanish league begins with the top teams arriving with different expectations.

Defending champion Barcelona wants to keep its momentum and show it will be the team to beat again in Spain. Real Madrid is aiming to reset after a lackluster last season and with the arrival of coach Xabi Alonso. Atletico Madrid hopes a revamped squad will help keep pace with its rivals.

Here’s what to know about the upcoming season:

Barcelona is coming off one of its best seasons in years, having won the league, the Copa del Rey, and the Spanish Super Cup. It also went deep in the Champions League, reaching the semifinals for the first time since 2019.

In its second year under coach Hansi Flick, the Catalan club will try to add to its success from last season by boosting its squad with English forward Marcus Rashford, who will be teaming up with Lamine Yamal and Robert Lewandowski in an attacking front that was one of the best in Europe last season. It led the scoring charts both in the Spanish league - with more than 100 goals - and in the Champions League.

Leaving the team are veteran defender Iñigo Martínez, who has signed with Saudi club Al-Nassr, and Ansu Fati, who went on loan with Monaco after not playing much last season. The club also added former Espanyol goalkeeper Joan García.

Barcelona will make its open its season at Mallorca on Saturday.

Madrid is coming off a disappointing season by its high standards, losing the Spanish league title to Barcelona and failing to reach the final in the Club World Cup and the Champions League. It also lost all four “clasico” matches it played against its Catalan rival.

It all led to a coaching change, with Carlo Ancelotti taking over the Brazil job and former player Alonso arriving as widely expected.



In this file photo, Barcelona’s Lamine Yamal celebrates after scoring his side’s second goal during the Champions League round of 16 second leg soccer match between FC Barcelona and SL Benfica at the Lluís Companys Olympic Stadium in Barcelona, Spain. (AP)

pected.

The coach couldn’t do much to help Madrid at the Club World Cup, with the team losing to Paris Saint-Germain in the semifinals.

The attack will again be led by Kylian Mbappé and Vinícius Júnior, but the defense - which struggled last season because of a series of injuries -- was boosted by the signing of young Spain central defender Dean Huijsen and right back Trent Alexander-Arnold, who is joining English countryman Jude Bellingham.

Luka Modric left to join AC Milan after more than a decade with the Spanish club. Lucas Vazquez also departed, and there were still doubts about whether Rodrygo would return.

Madrid’s first match is at home against Osasuna on Aug. 19.

Atletico Madrid had great expectations last season, but it couldn’t make a run for the Spanish league title - finishing behind Barcelona and Madrid -- and again was eliminated by the city rival in the Champions League.

Coach Diego Simeone shook up the squad in the offseason, with the departures of players such as Ángel Correa, Rodrigo de Paul, Axel Witsel, Rodrigo Riquelme and César Azpilicueta. Among those arriving are Álex Baena, Johnny Cardoso, Thiago Almada, Giacomo Raspadori, Matteo Ruggeri, Marc Pubill, and Dávid Hancko.

The team will still be led up front by Antoine Griezmann and Julián Alvarez.

Atletico kicks off at Espanyol on Sunday.

The teams that made good runs last season and will try to stay near the top again include Athletic Bilbao, Villarreal, and Real Betis. Levante, Elche, and Oviedo were the teams promoted this season, replacing demoted Leganes, Las Palmas, and Valladolid.

Barcelona and Real Madrid are among the teams that won’t be at full strength to begin the season. The Catalan club starts without veteran goalkeeper Marc-André Ter Stegen because of surgery for lower back problems. The goalkeeper was at odds with the club about his recovery time. He was provisionally stripped of his captaincy for refusing to sign a medical report about the injury, but he and the club eventually reached an agreement that restored his role as captain.

Veteran striker Robert Lewandowski also wasn’t expected to play early on because of a muscle issue.

Madrid won’t have Bellingham for the first few rounds after undergoing surgery to address a recurrent dislocation of his left shoulder.

Real Betis playmaker Isco is expected to miss the first few months of the season after fracturing his leg in a friendly against Malaga.



Mohammed Marhoon attempts to dribble past a Czech player.

Kuwait Club falls to Czech side Dukla Prague

Khaitan sets 2 friendlies ahead of Cairo camp

By Hassan Mosa

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times

PRAGUE, Aug 12: Kuwait Club fell 2-0 to Czech side Dukla Prague in a friendly as part of the “Whites” training camp in the Czech capital, Prague. The camp runs until August 28, after which the team will return home to face Al-Tadamon on September 12 in its Zain Premier League opener.

Under the guidance of Montene-

grin coach Nebojsa Jovovic, Kuwait continues its daily training sessions and is scheduled to play three more friendlies before wrapping up its camp.

Elsewhere, Al-Salmiya recorded a 2-0 win over Al-Jazeera in a friendly at Jaber Al-Mubarak Stadium in Al-Sulaibikhat. Youssef Al-Anezan and Fawaz Ayed found the net for the “Sky Blues,” who are gearing up to open their league campaign

against Kazma on September 12. Al-Jazeera, competing in the Zain First Division League for the first time, will kick off on September 14.

Al-Salmiya’s squad is set to depart for Turkey tomorrow for a training camp running until August 30, featuring three friendlies. Coach Nasser Al-Shatti made the most of the recent match to rotate his squad, giving new signings valuable minutes to build chemistry with the team.

Meanwhile, Khaitan has mapped out its pre-season schedule, starting with two friendlies against Al-Jahra and Al-Tadamon on August 14 and 18, respectively. The team will then travel to Egypt on August 20 for a camp that runs until September 3, including three friendlies. Upon its return, Khaitan will resume daily training before facing Al-Fahaheel in its final warm-up match on September 6, ahead of its Zain First Division opener on September 14.

Bahrain dominates Kuwait at Arab Basketball Championship



A Kuwaiti player defends as an opponent goes for the basket.

By Khaled Al-Enezi

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times

CAIRO, Aug 12: Kuwait junior basketball team suffered a heavy 81-57 loss to Bahrain at the Cairo Stadium Complex, during the third round of the 22nd Arab Junior Basketball Championship.

With this defeat, the Blues now

have 4 points, earned from a win over Qatar and losses to Tunisia and Bahrain. Meanwhile, Bahrain remains unbeaten with three straight wins over Qatar, Algeria, and Kuwait, accumulating 6 points and leading the tournament.

The championship features six Arab teams and will conclude with the final match on August 17.

Al-Adwani & Al-Suwaidi fire Kuwait U-20 past Vozdovac



Players celebrate the opening goal.

BELGRADE, Aug 12: The Kuwait U-20 national team continued its preparations in its training camp in Serbia with a 2-0 victory over Serbian club Vozdovac in a friendly match.

Mesfer Al-Adwani and Abdulrahman Al-Suwaidi found the net to secure the win for the Blues.

Kuwait is gearing up for the Gulf U-20 Cup, set to take place in Abha on August 28. The team has been drawn into Group A alongside Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen, while Group B features Oman, Iraq, and Bahrain, with Egypt stepping in as a replacement for the UAE.

Italian orienteering athlete dies after collapse at World Games

CHENGDU, Aug 12, (Xinhua): Italian orienteering athlete, Mattia Debertolis died after collapsing during competition at the 2025 World Games in Chengdu, event organizers and his sport’s governing body confirmed on Tuesday.

The International World Games Association (IWGA), local organizing committee (LOC) of the Chengdu 2025 World Games and the International

Orienteering Federation (IOF) issued a joint statement expressing profound sadness.

According to the statement, Debertolis was found unconscious Friday morning, Aug. 8, during the men’s middle distance orienteering event, part of the 12th edition of The World Games. Immediate medical assistance was provided at the scene.

He was subsequently transferred to one of Chi-

na’s leading medical institutions for intensive care. Despite sustained expert medical efforts, he passed away Tuesday.

“The World Games Family, the LOC and the IOF are struck by this tragedy and extend their heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of the athlete and the whole Orienteering Community. Our thoughts are with those touched by this event,” read the statement.

Bundesliga set for longer games

Grealish looks to reignite his career after joining Everton on a season-long loan deal from Man City

LIVERPOOL, England, Aug 12, (AP): England midfielder Jack Grealish will look to reignite his career after joining Everton on a season-long loan deal from Manchester City on Tuesday.

The 29-year-old Grealish, one of the poster boys of English soccer, became the country’s most expensive player after a 2021 move from Aston Villa to City for 100 million pounds (then \$139 million). He was a regular pick in City’s historic 2022-23 season when the team won the Champions League, Premier League and FA Cup.

However, Grealish has fallen out of favor over the last two seasons, not even making City’s squad for the recent Club World Cup, and has chosen to move to Everton for a season ahead of the 2026 World Cup in North America.

“I’m over the moon to have signed for Everton - it’s massive for me, honestly,” Grealish said. “This is a great club,

with great fans.”

The loan switch removes not only a high-earner from City’s wage bill but also one of the many attacking midfielders built up in City’s stacked squad. Grealish often had a free, roaming role when making his name at Villa, but had to be more disciplined and restricted as a left-sided forward in City manager Pep Guardiola’s sys-

tem of play.

Everton manager David Moyes will try to get the best out of Grealish again, with the team’s first match of the Premier League season at Leeds on Monday.

“As soon as I spoke to the manager, I knew there was only one place that I wanted to go,” Grealish said.

□ □ □



In this file photo, Manchester City’s Jack Grealish celebrates after scoring during Premier League game between City and Manchester United at Old Trafford.

Bundesliga games will take longer this season as Germany joins a drive to calculate added time more precisely.

Germany’s top men’s league is the latest to follow a trend set by the 2022 World Cup and the English Premier League by measuring the exact time taken up by events like red cards, penalties and injuries, and adding that amount on at the end of each half.

“We currently have just under 60 minutes of net playing time (with the ball in play), which will probably increase somewhat,” said Knut Kircher, the German refereeing body’s managing director of sports and communication, in comments reported Tuesday by German agency dpa.

The new Bundesliga season starts Aug. 22 but the changes have already taken effect in the men’s second and third tiers. There’s been a backlash against some decisions.

ARAB TIMES

Kuwait's No.1 English Newspaper

For Subscriptions and Complaints

Please Call

51508991

51526559

NEWS



Members of team Germany celebrate victory after the Fistball Men's Semifinal Match between Germany and Austria at The World Games 2025 in Chengdu, southwest China's Sichuan Province. (Xinhua)

Sports

Goal blitz sends Al-Arabi flying into group stage

Mazia suffers a heavy loss at home

By Hassan Mosa

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times

MALE, Aug 12: Al-Arabi secured its spot in the group stage of the Asian Challenge League after a convincing 4-0 victory over Maldives' Mazia Sports in a playoff match at the Na-

tional Stadium in Malé. The goals came from Emmanuel Ewala (3'), Julien Ngoyi (41'), Christopher John (55'), and Hussein Ashkanani (88').

Al-Arabi joins Kuwait Club in the tournament, which kicks off in October, with the group stage draw scheduled for August 28.

Coach Marco Alves fielded a starting lineup featuring Suleiman Abdulghafour in goal; defenders Juma Aboud, Mohammed Khalid, Abdulwahab Al-Awadi, and Ali Abdulrasool; midfielders Hamad Al-Harbi, Ali Aziz, and Frenchman Hassimi Fadiga; and attackers Nigerian Emmanuel Ewala, Christopher John, and Belgian Julien Ngoyi.

From the opening whistle, Al-Arabi dominated, pressing for an

early goal and mixing attacks on both wings with crosses. Emmanuel Ewala opened the scoring in the 3rd minute after receiving a pass from John and firing a precise shot into the top corner.

Mazia had a chance to equalize shortly after but missed a one-on-one opportunity, with Abdulghafour making a crucial save to force a corner.

Al-Arabi maintained control, creat-

ing multiple chances. Ngoyi extended the lead in the 41st minute, converting a cross from Fadiga just before half-time.

In the second half, Al-Arabi continued its pressure, and Christopher John scored a powerful strike in the 55th minute to make it 3-0.

Substitute Hussein Ashkanani capped the win with a late goal in the 88th minute, sealing the 4-0 victory as the team looks ahead to the next stage.



Hussein Ashkanani celebrates at the end of the match.

Abdullah Hani secures third at Egypt International Squash Championship



Hani and Al-Sanea alongside Al-Omran and Al-Sayed.

CAIRO, Aug 12: Abdullah Hani, a member of Kuwait's national squash team, added another achievement to the federation's record by finishing third in the Under-17 category at the Egypt International Championship. The prestigious junior tournament concluded the day before yesterday at the Madinaty Club courts in Cairo.

Abdulrahman Al-Sanea was the

tournament's dark horse, surpassing expectations by reaching the quarter-finals and finishing sixth out of 128 players. Hani also made headlines by defeating the fourth seed, Yassin Bayoumi, 3-1 in the quarterfinals.

Both players were guided by coaches Majid Khan and Falah Faiz, with fitness coach Ahmed Al-Sayed supporting their preparation. The Kuwaiti

delegation was led by Secretary General Hamed Al-Omran.

At the closing ceremony, top players gathered alongside Egyptian Federation President Amina Al-Tarabulsi. Al-Omran presented her with a commemorative shield, and she expressed gratitude to the Kuwaiti Squash Federation for its significant role and active participation in the event.

Al-Fahaheel calls for investigation into handball association violations

By Khaled Al-Enezi

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times

KUWAIT CITY, Aug 12: Al-Fahaheel Club has requested the establishment of an investigative committee to probe violations by certain members of the Handball Federation's Board of Directors, according to the club's official letter No. (14848-2025) sent to the Director General of the Public Authority for Sports last Sunday.

The letter highlighted clear breaches by some federation members of the handball statutes, including holding meetings without the presence of the president or vice president, and continuing to issue and circulate invalid circulars and decisions.

This demand followed a letter dated August 6 from the Deputy Director General of the Public Authority for Sports for Competitive Sports Sector, Bashar Abdullah, which referenced a legal opinion from the Fatwa and Legislation Department. The opinion declared all meetings held without the president or vice president as invalid, along with all decisions issued in those meetings, due to their conflict with the federation's statute.

On the same day, Al-Arabi Club sent letter No. 568-2025 to the Handball Federation, urging it to stop issuing and publishing invalid circulars and decisions that result in financial losses and constitute criminal offenses under Law No. 1



Players cheer during Kuwait-Morocco match at the Under-19 World Championship in Cairo.

of 1993 regarding the protection of public funds.

Al-Arabi firmly rejected any violations of the federation's statutes or unilateral decision-making, condemning the blatant infringement on the powers of federation president Fouad Al-Balushi. The club also reserved the right to take legal action against anyone found to have breached laws and regulations.

Meanwhile, the Kuwaiti junior

handball team secured its first victory in the consolation stage, known as the "President's Cup," at the 11th Under-19 World Championship currently underway in Cairo, Egypt. Matches are being held at Dr. Hassan Mostafa Hall through August 16.

The team defeated Morocco 34-25. Earlier, Kuwait lost all its matches in the preliminary round (Group A) of the tournament and was defeated by Kosovo in the President's Cup.

Germany, Argentina claim beach handball titles at World Games

France's Crouin defends men's squash crown

CHENGDU, Aug 12, (Xinhua): France's Victor Crouin defended his men's singles title at the World Games squash competition on Tuesday, while top seed Satomi Watanabe of Japan claimed the women's gold after a final that featured an act of sportsmanship.

In the women's final, Watanabe, the world No. 6, defeated France's Marie Stephan in straight games 11-8, 11-8, 11-7. The Japanese player admitted that mental pressure was her biggest challenge on the grand stage for non-Olympic sports.

She credited her coach for helping her manage emotions: "My coach tells me you're going to feel it anyway, so you have to focus on whatever you're doing on court at the moment. That helped me a lot." A dramatic moment came in the second set when Watanabe, leading 7-4, hit a return that

neither she nor the referee clearly saw whether the ball bounced twice. After checking with her coaching team, she admitted the double bounce, awarding the point to Stephan.

"If it's a double bounce it's her point. I know Marie will call those balls as well," Watanabe said. "At the end of the day, you would like to win it with nothing left regret on court." Competing as the top seed at a major event for the first time, Watanabe said the pressure was constant but matches against different opponents helped her settle, especially her opener against 13-year-old Chinese player Yin Zi-yuan.

"I think it's just the other players helping me," she said. "I would say definitely the first match against the Chinese girl. She's only 13, and she definitely gives me a different kind

of push mentally especially." In the men's final, Crouin overcame Hungary's Balazs Farkas 11-9, 11-9, 11-5 to retain the title he first won three years ago in Birmingham.

The Frenchman said the gold medal boosted his confidence for the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics, noting that the World Games provided valuable experience in a multi-sport environment.

Colombia's Miguel Rodriguez and Spain's Marta Dominguez took the men's and women's bronze medals respectively.

Germany and Argentina secured the men's and women's beach handball titles respectively.

Germany overcame Portugal 8-6 in a penalty shootout to claim gold in the men's event. Portugal won the first period 21-18, but Germany bounced back, winning the second period 19-

18, tying the match 1-1 to force the decisive shootout.

"It's incredible. The whole team delivered an outstanding performance. I'm very proud," said German player Jannis Hertz, who praised goalkeeper Moritz Ebert for making the match-winning save in the final shootout round. "We have the best goalkeeper. He helped us massively." The Argentina women's team triumphed in a shootout 7-2 against Germany, staging a comeback after dropping the first period 20-14. In the second period, Argentina took a 22-12 lead, forcing penalties before sealing the victory.

In earlier bronze medal matches, Brazil defeated Spain 2-1 in the men's competition, while the Spanish women's team beat Denmark 2-0 for third place.

Host nation China finished eighth in the men's tournament without a win, while the women's team placed sixth after losing 2-0 to Portugal in the fifth-place match.

Meanwhile, China claimed its first ever para ju-jitsu title at The World Games 2025 here on Tuesday, the last day of the ju-jitsu competition in which Israel's Nimrod Ryeder crowned himself "king of men's Ne-Waza" after securing his second gold medal.

China's Li Yucai and Guo Ao won the mixed duo para physical, defeating Germany's Alessandro Schober and Christine Jahn by 167-162 in the final.

Ryeder added the men's open Ne-Waza title to his 77kg crown, defeating Canada's Nathan Dos Santos 2-0 in the final after a grueling semifinal where South Korea's Joo Seong-hyeon retired injured in overtime.

Hungary's Tamara Toros stunned the arena by dethroning women's 63kg champion Sung Ki-ra 2-0 in the semifinal, before claiming the women's open gold over Israel's Meshi Rosenfeld by submission.

Germany's Nike Hunecke and Julia Paszkiewicz took gold in the mixed duo para visual, edging China's Wang Wenqiang and Pan Tianyong 149-143.

Italy's Napoli brothers won mixed duo para mental gold, with Giovanni Napoli embracing his sibling with down syndrome, Pietro.



The Olympic team arrives in Bangkok.

Oly team begins training camp in Bangkok

Kuwait Olympic team begins its training sessions today at its camp in Thailand as it prepares for the Group B stage of the Asian Cup qualifiers. The group features Japan, Afghanistan, and Myanmar, with Myanmar hosting the matches from September 1 to 9. The final tournament is set to be held in Saudi Arabia next January.

The team delegation arrived in Bangkok, led by Dr. Ahmed Ajab, member of the Federation's Board of Directors. The group includes the technical, administrative, and medical staff, along with 21 players.

Former ref Coote gets 8-week ban

LONDON, Aug 12, (AP): Former Premier League referee David Coote has been banned for eight weeks and ordered to take a face-to-face education program for making offensive comments about Jürgen Klopp in a private video that ended up being widely circulated on social media, leading to the match official getting fired.

Coote admitted to a Football Association charge of acting "in an improper manner" and/or using "abusive and/or insulting words" in a video recorded around July 2020.

Two videos, apparently filmed using a phone, circulated on social media appearing to show Coote giving his personal opinion on Liverpool and Klopp, its long-time former manager, when asked by an unidentified man.

Coote uses an expletive for Liverpool and a derogatory term for Klopp, saying he disliked the German manager because he was "arrogant" and

"accused me of lying" after one game.

The FA charge including an allegation that Coote's actions constituted an "aggravated breach" of rules because they "included a reference - whether express or implied - to nationality."

An independent regulatory commission announced on Tuesday it had imposed the new sanctions on Coote following a hearing.

Coote was initially suspended for his conduct and then fired in December because his position was deemed "untenable" by English soccer's referees body following an investigation into his conduct.

Coote was also investigated by the FA following allegations in British newspaper The Sun that he discussed with a fan the possibility of giving a yellow card to a player in a match. The former referee denied any wrongdoing and the FA said in June that no charges were issued in relation to that investigation.



Gold medalist Watanabe Satomi (center) of Japan, silver medalist Marie Stephan (left) of France and bronze medalist Marta Dominguez of Spain pose during the awarding ceremony for the Women's Singles of Squash event at The World Games 2025 in Chengdu, southwest China's Sichuan Province. (Xinhua)