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Opinion

Ahmed Al-Jarallah

Editor-in-Chief, the Arab Times

RASHAD Al-Alimi, Chairman of the Presidential Leadership Council in Yemen, recently declared the start of the 'Dawn of Yemen' Operation to liberate Sana'a and restore state authority -- a decisive turning point in the trajectory of the nation since 2011.

This operation heralds the end of an unnatural state of affairs that inflicted widespread hardship, poverty and destitution upon the Yemeni population.

A grave strategic miscalculation by the Houthi movement, which attempted to take advantage of Iranian backing to take over the nation, was at the root of the crisis. Functioning as surrogates for a foreign regime, their real ambition was never the defense of the 'downtrodden' as they claimed, but rather the encirclement of the Land of the Two Holy Mosques.

By seeking control over the holiest Islamic places in Saudi Arabia, they aimed to reshape the social and cultural fabric of the region, believing it will confer the religious legitimacy needed to enforce an ideology that is foreign to genuine Islamic teachings.

Since ancient times, Persian geopolitical strategy

relied on dominating the coasts of the Gulf to project influence and challenge competing empires. A historical precedent for this strategy was the support for Sayf ibn Dhi Yazan to oust the Abyssinians from Yemen, enabling Persian operatives to infiltrate the governance structure and exercise indirect control. This arrangement resulted in extensive oppression, with dissidents suffering torture or execution, while a public narrative was carefully spun to portray their puppet monarch as a virtuous ruler.

A historical parallel is unfolding today. The Houthi movement is reprising the role once played by Sayf ibn Dhi Yazan. A thorough analysis of the historical record reveals that the legendary heroism

attributed to this king is largely superficial—a narrative crafted more for image-polishing than a reflection of the truth.

This same dynamic is evident in present-day Houthi rhetoric. While modern technology has transformed their methods, the core strategy has been unchanged.

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ahmed@aljarallah.com



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RECKLESS DELIVERY RIDERS FACE VEHICLE IMPOUNDMENT



Ambassador of Turkiye to Kuwait, Can Oguz



Ambassador of Ghana to Kuwait, Maxwell Nyarko-Lartey



Ministry of Foreign Affairs photos

Ambassador of Honduras to Kuwait, Luis Alonso Velasquez Galeano

Three new envoys present credentials to Kuwait FM

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5, (KUNA): Kuwait's Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Jarrah Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah received on Monday copies of the credentials of the Ambassador of Turkiye to Kuwait, Can Oguz, during a meeting held at the ministry's headquarters.

In a statement, the Ministry of

Foreign Affairs noted that Sheikh Jarrah wished the new ambassador success in his duties and expressed hopes for further progress and prosperity in the close bilateral relations binding the two friendly nations.

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'Readiness key to national security'

National Guard Undersecretary Lieutenant General Hamad Al-Barjas affirmed Monday the importance of maintaining a high level of readiness and strengthening coordination

and integration with military and security agencies to safeguard national security and stability.

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National Guard Undersecretary Lieutenant General Hamad Al-Barjas during a visit to the Security Affairs Command.

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: Under the directives of First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Fahad Yousef Saud Al-Sabah, Head of the Traffic and Operations Sector Brigadier Ahmed Fahad Al-Azmi held a meeting with representatives of delivery companies, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The meeting was attended by Director General of the General Traffic Department Brigadier Rashid Al-Hajri and several department officials, with the aim of strengthening compliance with traffic regulations and raising awareness among delivery vehicle and motorcycle drivers.

In an official statement, the Ministry of Interior explained that the meeting emphasized the companies' responsibility to educate their drivers about traffic violations and the importance of complying with traffic regulations to ensure their safety and the safety of other road users.

The ministry stated that it had observed traffic violations committed by some delivery drivers, affirming that the law would be enforced against violators, including the impoundment of motorcycles or vehicles for a period of two months.

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Day by Day

TRUE resilience means rising above your suffering, keeping it beneath you, and facing those who anticipate your defeat with a smile, steadfast in the conviction that God will never abandon you.

We live in an era where people suppress your virtues when they witness them, broadcast your shortcomings when they appear, and fabricate flaws when they find none.

Be grateful that your awareness remains fully intact.

... Yet tomorrow is another day.

Zahed Matar

Student suffocation triggers school shake-up

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: Kuwait's Minister of Education Sayed Jalal Al-Tabtabai has ordered the suspension of the administration of a secondary school for three months pending an investigation after several female students suffered from suffocation in an incident at the school.

The Ministry of Education said the decision was taken as part of a series of measures aimed at protecting the students, determining the circumstances surrounding the incident

and ensuring the stability and safety of the school environment.

Following the incident, Minister Al-Tabtabai visited the affected students to check on their condition and ensure that they were receiving the necessary medical care. He expressed his wishes for their speedy recovery and complete health and stressed that the health and safety of students remain among the ministry's highest priorities.

The minister directed that the

school's existing administration be suspended from work for three months while the investigation is conducted. A new school administration has been assigned to take charge of the school, oversee its operations and ensure the continuity and regularity of the educational process during the investigation.

The ministry said the decision was also intended to ensure that the

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113 held in Farwaniya, Jahra security sweeps

Traffic, security crackdowns gather pace



Ministry of Interior photos
First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Fahad Yousef Saud Al-Sabah honors two General Traffic Department officers.



First Deputy PM honors two traffic officers

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5, (KUNA): First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Fahad Yousef Saud Al-Sabah honored two officers from the General Traffic Department on Monday for their dedication and commitment to duty.

The Ministry of Interior said in a press statement that Sheikh Fahad Al-Yousef praised the two honorees

for their commitment and sense of responsibility in carrying out their duties, stressing that dedication to work and discipline in performing duties reflect the professional values the security institution seeks to instill among its personnel.

The ministry said the honor reflects the Ministry of Interior's leadership's keenness to recognize the efforts of its personnel and en-

courage distinguished employees to continue their contributions and improve performance in a manner that serves the nation and protects society.

The ceremony was attended by Director General of the General Traffic Department Brig. Gen. Rashid Al-Hajeri and Assistant Director General for Traffic Organization Affairs Col. Ayoub Ghazi.

Sanaa in crosshairs as Yemen offensive begins

ADEN, Oct 5, (KUNA): The Yemeni Armed Forces announced Monday the launch of a strategic offensive on the capital Sanaa, which is con-

trolled by the Houthi militia, as part of the ongoing 'Dawn of Yemen' military operation to restore state institutions and retake the capital.

Yemeni Armed Forces spokesman Col. Staff Majed Al-Nazili said in a brief statement that the armed forces

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Thai ambassador bids farewell, hails growing Kuwait relations

By Fares Ghaieb

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand to the State of Kuwait Songchai Chaipatiyut expressed his deep gratitude to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Sabah, and the entire leadership of Kuwait for the friendship and support for Thailand and its



Chaipatiyut

embassy here.

In his speech at his farewell reception with media representatives, Ambassador Chaipatiyut pointed out that the past month witnessed the visit of two high-level Thai delegations to Kuwait. The advisor to the deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs in Thailand led the first delegation, while the deputy permanent secretary for foreign affairs headed the second delegation and co-chaired the second session of political consultations between Thailand and Kuwait. He added that the visit of two high-level Thai delegations within a week proves the importance that his country attaches to its relations with Kuwait.

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NewsWatch

MANAMA: Bahraini Deputy Prime Minister Sheikh Khalid bin Abdul-lah Al Khalifa on Monday praised the deep-rooted and strong relations between Bahrain and Kuwait.

He made the remarks during a meeting with Kuwait's Ambassador to Bahrain Jassem Al-Najem, on the occasion of assuming his duties as Kuwait's ambassador to Manama. (KUNA)



8 KFH backs 2nd edition of 'Ma'a Al-Talaba'



Nobel medicine prize goes to three scientists for research into brain activity

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'Fighting cash fraud, terror-funding priority'

Need to upgrade financial systems: MENAFATF president

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5, (KUNA): Kuwait, represented by the National Committee for Combating Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing, hosted Monday the 2026 Applications and Capacity Building Workshop of the Middle East and North Africa Financial Action Task Force (MENAFATF), under the patronage of Finance Minister Dr. Yaqoub Al-Refaei.

Al-Refaei said Kuwait's hosting of the workshop reflects the importance of co-operation and exchange of expertise in combating money laundering and terrorist financing, stemming from its commitment to continuously strengthening its national framework in cooperation with regional and international partners.

He said the workshop aims to develop the technical and institutional capabilities of specialists, review the latest international developments and practices, and enhance the readiness and compliance of relevant authorities.

Combating such crimes is a shared responsibility requiring concerted efforts and coordination among national, regional and international bodies to protect financial and economic systems from exploitation in illicit activities and promote transparency, integrity and confidence in financial institutions, he stressed.

The workshop is an important tool for developing knowledge, refining technical skills and strengthening institutional capabilities, enabling specialists to keep pace with rapid developments, address emerging challenges and risks, and enhance the supervisory and preventive role of relevant institutions.

Al-Refaei expressed appreciation to all entities involved in organizing the workshop, as well as participants, experts and speakers, for their valuable contributions.

For his part, MENAFATF President Hamid Al-Zaabi said capacity building is a key priority for the group, given its direct role in strengthening member states' ability to protect their financial systems and effectively combat money laundering, terrorist financing and proliferation financing.

Al-Zaabi said successful national systems depend on qualified personnel capable of understanding risks, analyzing information and



Yaqoub Al-Refaei

taking appropriate action at the right time, stressing that investing in national expertise is an investment in countries' security and financial and economic stability.

The workshop provides an opportunity to discuss challenges facing member states, benefit from successful solutions and strengthen communication among specialists, he said, noting that such cooperation is essential to confronting crimes that cross borders and continually evolve.

Al-Zaabi said evolving criminal methods require continuous development of countermeasures, updating risk assessments, developing supervisory and financial analysis tools, and strengthening the ability of competent authorities to exchange information and



Hamid Al-Zaabi

process it swiftly.

The workshop also highlights the importance of partnerships among the private sector, supervisory authorities, financial intelligence units, law enforcement agencies and judicial bodies, Al-Zaabi said, noting that coordination among these entities enables timely action.

For his part, Chairman of the National Committee for Combating Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing and Head of the Kuwait Financial Intelligence Unit Dr. Hamad Al-Mekrad said the workshop comes as criminal methods continue to evolve rapidly.

He noted that fraud has become increasingly cross-border and digital, while virtual assets, digital wallets and artificial intelligence technologies are vulnerable to exploitation to conceal criminal proceeds and finance terrorism.

Al-Mekrad said the workshop addresses three themes: financial fraud and illicit financial flows, asset recovery, and the relationship between technology and terrorist financing, in line with the priorities of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Presidency for 2026-2028.

He said the workshop aims to strengthen

the capabilities of specialists in combating money laundering, terrorist financing and proliferation financing within government authorities of member states by examining the latest trends, methods and patterns at national, regional and international levels.

The workshop will also present practical cases, applied studies and member states' experiences to promote best practices and enhance the efficiency of personnel in supervisory and financial authorities, financial intelligence units and law enforcement agencies, he added.

He added that the group promotes cooperation, exchange of expertise and capacity building among member states, while the workshop provides a specialized platform bringing together experts and practitioners from supervisory and financial authorities, financial intelligence units and law enforcement agencies.

Kuwait's hosting of the workshop reaffirms its commitment to regional and international efforts aimed at strengthening the effectiveness of systems combating money laundering and terrorist financing, while supporting cooperation and developing national and regional capabilities in this field, Al-Mekrad said.



Hamad Zaid Al-Bseis participates in the discussion.



Minister of Social, Family and Childhood Affairs Dr. Amthal Hadi Al-Huwaila

Al-Bseis, Dr. Al-Huwaila ponder law to regulate charitable work

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: United Nations Ambassador for Community Partnership and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Al-Awazem Charitable Foundation Hamad Zaid Al-Bseis participated in a discussion on the law regulating charitable and humanitarian works, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

Present at the meeting were Minister of Social, Family and Childhood Affairs Dr. Amthal Hadi Al-Huwaila, acting Assistant Undersecretary for the Social Development and Care Sector Iman Al-Enezi, Director of the Department of Charitable Societies and Foundations Abdulmohsen Al-Mukhayal, and representatives of various charitable organizations.

The foundation commended the commitment of the minister to engage in dialogue with charitable organizations and listen to their views, hence, promoting institutional synergy

and reinforcing the principles of governance, transparency, and accountability.

During the meeting, Al-Bseis raised a question regarding the possibility of creating a separate chapter in the executive regulations for provisions concerning the foundation. He proposed that this chapter define the institutional nature and characteristics of the foundation, which differ from that of charitable societies, while remaining within the legal framework. He believes this will ensure procedural clarity, raise operational efficiency, and support the sustainability of charity.

The foundation expressed its gratitude and appreciation to the minister, ministry officials and organizers for their efforts to develop the charitable sector in the country, boost public confidence in its institutions, and uphold the humanitarian standing of Kuwait.

Need to unite in current scenario

Kuwait committed to GCC SC decisions

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5, (KUNA): Secretary General of the Council of Ministers Saleh Suleiman Al-Mulla affirmed Sunday Kuwait's full commitment to continuing efforts to complete the implementation of all decisions issued by the GCC Supreme Council (SC).

He stressed the importance of comprehensive and integrated implementation to achieve their intended objectives.

Al-Mulla made the remarks during the 27th meeting of the ministerial committee tasked with following up on the implementation of decisions related to joint GCC action, held via video-conference with the participation of senior officials from GCC member states and GCC Secretary General Jassem Al-Budaiwi.

He said the rapid challenges and developments facing the region and the world require the GCC to strengthen its unity and integration and intensify efforts to accelerate the pace of joint Gulf action.

"Full implementation of joint Gulf

decisions is no longer merely a procedural or organizational matter, but has become a strategic necessity to enhance the GCC's ability to respond to challenges, consolidate security and stability, achieve sustainable development and strengthen its regional and international standing," Al-Mulla said.

The success of the GCC, he added, should be measured by its ability to translate the directives and decisions of the leaders of GCC states into practical results that citizens can experience in their daily lives, including facilitating movement, residence and employment, expanding access to economic, educational, health and social opportunities, and creating a more integrated, secure and prosperous Gulf environment.

Al-Mulla said the GCC, guided by the leaders' vision, has established itself as a successful regional organization and achieved numerous gains across political, economic, security, social, development and humanitarian fields.

The meeting was attended by UAE

Minister of State and Secretary General of the Cabinet Maryam Al-Hammadi, Bahrain Minister of Shura and Representatives Affairs Ghanem Al-Buainain, Saudi Secretary General of the Council of Ministers Khaled Al-Abdulkarim, Oman Secretary General of the Council of Ministers Sheikh Al-Fadl Al-Harthi, Qatar Secretary General of the Council of Ministers Hamad Al-Muhammadi and GCC Secretary General Jassem Al-Budaiwi.

The Kuwaiti delegation, headed by Al-Mulla, included Assistant Secretary General for Administrative and Financial Affairs Sheikh Sabah Ahmad Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah, Foreign Ministry GCC Affairs Counselor Fahad Al-Awadi, Director of the Council of Ministers Secretary General's Office Adel Al-Sayed Omar, Director of the Follow-up of Decorations, Military Medals and International Agreements Department Malak Al-Rashidi, and Director of the Technical Office Rasha Al-Asqah.

'Nazaha' launches training course for KU law students

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: For the fourth consecutive year, the Kuwait Anti-Corruption Authority (Nazaha) has organized a field training program for students of the Kuwait University College of Law, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

Running through December, the program is being held during the first semester of the 2026/2027 academic year and aims to raise legal awareness among young people while bridging the gap between academic theory and practical application.

In a press release, Nazaha explained that the program features specialized lectures delivered by experts from various organizational units within Nazaha. The sessions are designed to familiarize students with Nazaha's mandate and its role in preventing and combating corruption.

The program covers a range of topics, including the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) and its implementation review mechanism, definitions of corruption offenses, investigations, evidence gathering, and related procedures, requirements for filing reports and drafting reporting memoranda, and monitoring corruption offenses alongside whistleblower protection.

The program also addresses the financial disclosure system and the Law on the Right to Access Information, as well as strategic planning, the code of professional conduct, and corporate governance.

Schools mark World Teachers' Day

Teachers are cornerstone of nation-building: Al-Tabtabaei

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5, (KUNA): Schools across Kuwait celebrated World Teachers' Day on Monday, observed annually on October 5, by organizing educational activities highlighting appreciation for teachers' role in building generations and advancing the educational process.

Schools held ceremonies honoring teachers in recognition of their efforts and dedication, alongside cultural and educational competitions and various student performances expressing appreciation for their teachers and their contributions to students' educational journeys.

The celebrations underscored the importance of the educational mission carried by teachers and their contributions to preparing national talent and building individuals, with education serving as a foundation for development and progress in society.

Minister of Education Sayed Jalal Al-Tabtabaei said Monday that teachers' role extends beyond imparting knowledge to building individuals, shaping awareness, instilling values, and nurturing ambition, stressing that their mission is a cornerstone of Kuwait's advancement.

In a statement to KUNA marking World Teachers' Day, Al-Tabtabaei said that amid rapidly advancing knowledge and artificial intelligence technologies, teachers retain an irreplaceable human role in believing in students' abilities, guiding their intellect and boosting their confidence.

He congratulated teachers on the occasion and extended his deepest appreciation and pride, saying that today is not merely an opportunity to celebrate teachers, but a moment of gratitude and appreciation for them.

Al-Tabtabaei called on Kuwaiti teachers to continue their dedication, and regarded them as genuine partners in driving change and building Kuwait's future, expressing appreciation to every teacher for their contribution.

The minister highlighted the political leadership's continuous support, and the prioritize of education and human development.



Al-Tabtabaei



KUNA photos
Students and teachers mark the World Teachers' Day at a school in Kuwait.

Al-Tabtabaei concluded by wishing Kuwait, its leadership and people continued prosperity.

Undersecretary of Kuwaiti Ministry of Education Dr. Khaled Al-Rasheed stressed the importance of developing teachers' capabilities and curricula to improve students' learning outcomes and enhance their critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

This came during Al-Rasheed's participation on Sunday in the high-level regional dialogue on improving students' learning outcomes in the Gulf, Middle East and North Africa, titled "Insights from the Results of the 2025 PISA Study," organized by the Arab Bureau of Education for the Gulf States in cooperation with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Riyadh.

In a statement to KUNA, Al-Rasheed said that teaching students how to think scientifically goes beyond simply adding an activity or experiment to a science lesson.

He explained that the primary objective is to enable students to observe phenomena, raise testable questions, gather evidence, interpret results, and then review their conclusions in light of the evidence they obtain.

These practices enhance students' ability to engage in scientific reasoning and evidence-based thinking, he said, stressing the importance of linking teachers' professional development to classroom practice, he added.

He stressed the need to develop curricula in a way that equips teachers with stimulating questions, ex-

periments and practical tasks that help develop students' scientific reasoning, critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

He noted that investing in teachers' capabilities is a key pillar for improving the quality of the educational process and achieving better learning outcomes.

Al-Rasheed reviewed Kuwait's efforts and projects aimed at developing the education system and improving the quality of education, foremost among them the Teacher Licensing Project, curriculum development and Gifted Schools.

The dialogue was attended by representatives of the Ministries of Education of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO), the Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO), and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), along with their regional offices.

The Paris-based International Institute for Educational Planning, the Arab Bureau of Education for the Gulf States, and a number of regional and international educational organizations and bodies also participated.

The Kuwaiti Ministry of Education delegation, alongside Al-Rasheed, included Arabic Language Technical Supervisor at the Mubarak Al-Kabeer Educational District Bader Al-Shatti.



KUNA photo
Acting Director-General of the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) Mohammad Al-Mannai, receives the Indian Ambassador to Kuwait Paramita Tripathi.

KUNA seeks to enhance media bonds with Indian institutions

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5, (KUNA): Acting Director-General of the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) Mohammad Al-Mannai, met with the Indian Ambassador to Kuwait Paramita Tripathi on Monday, to discuss media cooperation and ways to enhance it.

During the meeting at KUNA headquarters, Al-Mannai emphasized the vital role media plays in strengthening ties between nations and fostering communication and understanding among peoples.

He highlighted KUNA's commitment to bolstering media cooperation with Indian

institutions and news agencies, as well as exchanging expertise across various fields.

He noted the long-standing history of Kuwaiti-Indian relations, stressing the importance of media in showcasing the development of these ties across various sectors and highlighting the facets of joint cooperation between the two countries.

For her part, the Indian Ambassador expressed her appreciation for KUNA's role in news dissemination and the enhancement of media communication, praising the strong, historic relations shared by Kuwait and India.

Scouting helps Kuwaiti youth develop skills, ups teamwork

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5, (KUNA): Kuwait's Minister of Education Sayed Jalal Al-Tabtabaei said on Sunday that the Scout Movement has represented an important field for building youth, equipping them with skills and fostering a spirit of initiative and teamwork.

Al-Tabtabaei made the statement during the opening of a conference titled "The Scout Movement between Volunteering and Economic Activity," organized by the Kuwait Scout Association.

The conference, which continues until October 7 in cooperation with the Arab Scout Parliamentary Union and the Arab Union of Veteran Scouts, addresses an important issue related to the future and sustainability of Scouting, he added.

The minister pointed out that the gathering of scout leaders representing 36 countries goes beyond participation in a conference to serve as an international platform for dialogue, exchange of expertise, building new partnerships, and benefiting from successful experiences and practices in resource development, management of scouting organizations, youth empowerment, volunteerism and community partnerships.

"We in the State of Kuwait view the Scout Movement as an important educational partner in building the character of our sons and daughters, as it provides a practical environment in which young people learn leadership, discipline, teamwork, initiative, self-reli-



Dr. Abdullah Al-Turaiji

ance and community service," he said.

Furthermore, Al-Tabtabaei commended the efforts of the Kuwait Scout Association and the participating bodies in organizing the conference, community service.

For his part, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Kuwait Scout Association Dr. Abdullah Al-Turaiji said that holding the conference with the participation of a large number of scout leaders represents an opportunity to exchange expertise and explore new prospects for developing the Scout Movement and enhancing its ability to continue and grow without compromising the core of its voluntary and educational mission.

diwaniya

ديوانية

A DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION

Firm Kuwaiti position and clear diplomatic message

“THE speech delivered by His Highness the Crown Prince, Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, representing His Highness the Amir, before the 81st session of the United Nations General Assembly reaffirmed the State of Kuwait’s steadfast commitment to supporting peace and dialogue and upholding international law,” Kuwaiti journalist **Salem Al-Wawan** wrote for **Al-Seyassah** daily.

“The speech reflected Kuwait’s commitment to playing an active role in supporting joint international action and its belief in the importance of the United Nations in resolving conflicts peacefully and promoting security, stability, and development. It also highlighted Kuwait’s call for reform of the international organization and the Security Council. Furthermore, the speech emphasized Kuwait’s continued provision of humanitarian aid without discrimination or politicization.

“It underscored the country’s determination to protect its rights and interests in accordance with international law, while reaffirming its commitment to Arab causes, foremost among them the Palestinian cause, and its support for solutions based on international legitimacy. The speech also highlighted the concerns facing the Middle East, including regional crises and tensions, such as Iranian aggression against Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states and Kuwait in particular. This conveyed a clear message emphasizing the need to respect state sovereignty, reject interference in internal affairs, and halt acts of aggression.

“His Highness the Crown Prince’s speech reflected his wisdom and extensive political and diplomatic experience. He articulated Kuwait’s position comprehensively and presented the country’s vision on international and regional issues with full transparency, urging the international community to fulfill its role in addressing them.

“Despite its small geographical size, Kuwait maintains a steadfast position and a prominent diplomatic voice rooted in peace, dialogue, respect for state sovereignty, and adherence to international law. To His Highness the Crown Prince, we say - You have truly excelled and fulfilled your duty, Abu Khaled. May Allah protect Kuwait from all harm.”

Also:

“The draft decree-law on arbitration, approved by the Council of Ministers, represents a significant legislative step toward reorganizing arbitration in the State of Kuwait,” Kuwaiti lawyer **Awatif Al-Dousari** wrote for **Al-Seyassah** daily.

“It seeks to consolidate arbitration provisions into a single piece of legislation, replacing the current fragmented framework set out in the Judicial Arbitration Law and Chapter XII of the Civil and Commercial Procedures Law. The draft law’s importance stems from the growing role of arbitration as a means of resolving disputes, particularly in commercial and investment matters, and the resulting need for clearer and more flexible procedures. It draws on principles established by the UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration while remaining compatible with the specific characteristics of the Kuwaiti legal system.

“A key feature of the draft law is its regulation of arbitration agreements. It requires such agreements to be in writing, while recognizing electronic communications and references to contracts containing arbitration clauses. It also enshrines the principle that the arbitration clause is independent of the main contract. Consequently, the invalidity or rescission of the main contract does not automatically render the arbitration clause void.

“The draft law also prioritizes the prompt formation of arbitral tribunals by establishing specific timeframes for appointing arbitrators. If the parties fail to agree on an arbitrator within 15 days, the appointment will be made within a similar period in accordance with the prescribed procedures, thereby helping to limit delays at this stage. Furthermore, the draft law reinforces the impartiality and independence of arbitrators by requiring them to disclose any circumstances that could raise doubts in this regard. It also regulates requests for an arbitrator’s recusal within specific timeframes, striking a balance between protecting the parties’ rights and preventing delays or obstruction of the arbitration proceedings.

“A significant new development is the introduction of specific provisions governing provisional and conservatory measures. These provisions allow for urgent action to protect assets or goods subject to a dispute in cases requiring immediate intervention before the final award is issued. The draft law also establishes a time-

frame for issuing arbitral awards, requiring them to be rendered within the period agreed upon by the parties or, failing such an agreement, within a specified period beginning once the arbitral tribunal has been fully constituted, subject to extensions in accordance with the law.

“To keep pace with technological advancements, the draft law authorizes the use of electronic means for conducting arbitration hearings and for exchanging and electronically signing memoranda and documents. It also reinforces the confidentiality of proceedings and deliberations, while restricting the publication of arbitral awards to cases in which the parties have consented.

“Other notable provisions include regulations governing the disclosure of arbitration funding sources and the oversight of arbitration centers, subjecting them to licensing and supervision. These measures are intended to enhance transparency and institutional discipline within the sector. Regarding arbitral awards, the draft law regulates procedures for their filing and enforcement while limiting judicial oversight to the scope defined by law, without allowing the merits of the dispute to be reconsidered. It also restricts challenges to annulment actions based on specific legal grounds.

“Consequently, the draft arbitration law represents a comprehensive restructuring of Kuwait’s arbitration system, seeking to achieve greater speed, clarity, and flexibility while maintaining safeguards for impartiality and procedural integrity. This approach aligns with modern arbitration trends and supports confidence in Kuwait’s legal and commercial environment.”

□ □ □

“The Law Regulating Charitable and Humanitarian Work has evolved from a draft subject to ongoing discussion and speculation into enforceable legislation, following the publication of Decree-Law No. 87/2026 in the official gazette,” Sustainability Expert **Dr. Sami Al-Adwani** wrote for **Al-Seyassah** daily.

“This marks the end of the debate over the need for such a law and ushers in a more critical phase focused on implementation, impact assessment, and translating the law’s objectives into sustainable institutional practices. Having followed the deliberations and legislative journey of this law over the past decade, I believe its enactment represents a significant step toward reshaping the charitable work environment and building upon its existing achievements.

“I extend my congratulations to Minister Dr. Amthal Al-Huwaila, her diligent Undersecretary Iman Al-En-ezi, and everyone who contributed to reaching this milestone. We now have a foundation upon which to build and a framework to complete through modern regulations, smart systems, workforce capacity building, and various development pathways. These are topics I previously addressed in the first sustainability report on the charitable and humanitarian sector.

“Before the law was enacted, I often discussed with colleagues what we wanted it to achieve for the future of charitable and humanitarian work. Today, the question has become more pressing - what can we do with this law? The new legislation goes beyond merely regulating fundraising, monitoring funding sources, and overseeing expenditure. It establishes a broader ecosystem through the creation of the National Center for Charitable and Humanitarian Work, the formulation of a comprehensive national strategy, and the development of governance guidelines and a code of ethics for the sector, alongside the establishment of databases, records, and mechanisms for oversight and evaluation.

“This marks a pivotal turning point as we transition toward a more integrated institutional framework. This shift upholds the autonomy of associations in implementing their licensed programs and projects while opening avenues to support activities that are essential to the state, as well as innovative projects with social, cultural, and humanitarian objectives. Indeed, oversight is essential, compliance is a responsibility, and safeguarding donor funds and beneficiary privacy is a fundamental duty. These are aspects the law clearly prioritizes.

“However, in my view, the law’s success will also be measured by the ability of charitable organizations to advance to a new level of professionalism and sustainability. This entails having a clear understanding of their actions - the “what,” “why,” “for whom,” and “with what resources,” as well as the tangible transformation achieved in the beneficiary’s life. Notably, the law itself paves the way for this approach. Innovation has become a key pathway for supporting and empowering associations.”

— Compiled by Simi K. Kuty



Al-Wawan

Police lauded for maintaining area security



Governor of Farwaniya Sheikh Athbi Nasser Al-Athbi Al-Sabah honors police officers.

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: Governor of Farwaniya Sheikh Athbi Nasser Al-Athbi Al-Sabah honored several officers and personnel from the Farwaniya Governorate Patrol Police Department at the headquarters of the governorate on Sunday, reports **Al-Seyassah** daily.

The ceremony aimed to recognize the tremendous efforts, dedication and contributions of the honorees in maintaining security and to better serve the citizens and residents.

Present at the event were Director of Farwaniya Governorate Patrol Police Department Colonel Mohammad Abdulhadi Al-Hajri, Assistant Director Colonel Fahd Nayef Al-Mutairi and many other



Farwaniya Governorate photos

security officials. The Governor praised the honorees, affirming that their contributions are acknowledged and the honoring ceremony serves as their motivation to continue excelling in performing their duties. He also commended their quick response to reports, while enhancing security and safety in the governorate. On the other hand, the honorees expressed their gratitude and appreciation to the governor for such a kind gesture, confirming that the recognition motivates them to continue their dedicated service.

Liquor peddler held in desert

Thief makes good with power meters

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: Officers from Mina Abdullah Police Station apprehended an Asian expatriate for storing alcohol using a method described as unprecedented in security records, reports **Al-Anba** daily.

The arrest was part of ongoing efforts to combat narcotics and contraband under the supervision of Assistant Undersecretary for Public Security Affairs Major General Hamad Al-Munaifi and Head of the Security Directorates Sector Brigadier General Abdulaziz Al-Omar.

The operation was carried out under the directives of Ahmadi Security Director Brigadier General Omar Al-Kandari and the oversight of his assistant, Brigadier General Abdullah Sanideh.

According to security sources, a patrol from Mina Abdullah Police Station spotted an Asian expatriate in a nearby desert area. His presence appeared suspicious and lacked an apparent legitimate reason.

When the two patrol officers approached the man, expressed their suspicions, and asked what he was doing in the desert, he discarded the items he was carrying and attempted to flee.

The officers pursued the suspect across the desert and apprehended him. He confessed to storing bottles of locally produced alcohol underground in the desert, retrieving them as needed to sell to customers.

A large sum of money, reportedly proceeds from his sales, was found in his possession.

He subsequently led officers to the burial site where he had hidden the alcohol. He had just buried a fresh batch of bottles, bringing

the total number of seized bottles to 48.

The suspect was referred to the competent authorities for further investigation and legal proceedings.

□ □ □

Power meters stolen: Security authorities have registered a theft case in Farwaniya after a building owner reported that two electricity meters had been stolen from his property following a forced entry, reports **Al-Anba** daily.

According to security sources, a citizen visited Farwaniya Police Station and reported that an unknown individual had forcibly entered his building and stolen two electricity meters.

A case of theft by forced entry was registered, and forensic experts were summoned to collect fingerprints in an effort to identify the perpetrator.

Meanwhile, detectives launched an investigation and began gathering information to determine the circumstances of the incident and identify the person responsible.

□ □ □

KD200 stolen from account : An attempt to purchase a smartphone resulted in a case of banking document forgery after an Arab expatriate woman discovered that KD 200 had been deducted from her account without her knowledge or authorization, reports **Al-Anba** daily.

According to security sources, the woman filed a complaint with the Banking Affairs Prosecution, explaining that she had contacted an individual after seeing an advertisement offering modern smartphones at a reasonable price, with the intention of making a purchase.

Army Chief commissions new Kuwait Army officer

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: On Sunday, October 4, Chief of the General Staff of the Army Lieutenant General Khaled Al-Shrai'an commissioned an officer with the rank of “Lieutenant”, in accordance with the Amiri decree appointing him as an officer in the Kuwaiti Army, reports **Al-Seyassah** daily.

According to a press statement issued by the General Staff Headquarters, Lieutenant General Al-Shariaan emphasized the increased responsibilities and duties that accompany the appointment.

He wished the officer success in carrying out his tasks and responsibilities, urging him to continue his dedicated service and to work with responsibility and sincerity to serve the nation with competence and professionalism.

The Undersecretary of the Ministry of Defence, Sheikh Dr. Abdullah Meshal Mubarak Al-Sabah, attended the commissioning ceremony.

Minister ‘dissolves’ six charitable foundations

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: Dr. Amthal Al-Huwaila, Minister of Social Affairs, Family, and Childhood Affairs, issued a decision to dissolve six charitable foundations, reports **Al-Seyassah** daily.

Article 2 of the decision, published in the official gazette “Kuwait Al-Youm”, stipulates that the assets of these foundations, following their liquidation, shall be transferred to the Ministry of Social Affairs pending a determination of the ultimate recipient of the funds.

Article 3 stipulates that the decision shall take effect from the date of its issuance and publication in the official gazette and directs the competent authorities to record and implement its provisions.

KFF opens registration for kids training course

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: The Kuwait Fire Force (KFF) announced that registration is open for the “Protectors of Tomorrow” camp, designed for children aged 9 to 12 from October 19 to November 25, reports **Al-Seyassah** daily.

The camp will take place on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm and will include practical training and field visits aimed at fostering discipline and a sense of responsibility.

KFF noted that spaces are limited and registration will remain open until capacity is reached. Inquiries and registration can be made by calling the number 92231448.

372 persons fined for not using indicators

By Munif Naif

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: The General Traffic Department at the Ministry of Interior carried out another series of campaigns in the governorates recently.

These campaigns resulted in the issuance of 372 violation citations for failure to use turn signals.

According to a security source, the traffic officers issued these violation citations as part of their ongoing law enforcement efforts. The source urged motorists to fully comply with the traffic regulations to avoid legal repercussions and ensure the safety of everyone.

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HH the AmirHH Crown PrinceHH Prime Minister

Amir congratulates King of Lesotho on National Day

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5, (KUNA): His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent a congratulatory cable Sunday to King of Lesotho Letsie III on his country's National Day.

In the cable, His Highness the Amir wished the King good health and well-being, and more progress and prosperity for Lesotho and its people.

Crown Prince congratulates

His Highness the Crown Prince

Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah sent a cable of congratulations Sunday to King of Lesotho Letsie III on his country's National Day, wishing him further progress and prosperity.

PM congratulates

His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah sent a cable of congratulations Sunday to King of Lesotho Letsie III on his country's National Day.

6 new government services activated thru ‘Sahel’, CSC

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: The Ministry of Communications announced the activation of six services through the unified government e-services application “Sahel” and the Civil Service Commission, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

In an official statement, the ministry explained that the services include issuing career progression certificates, “To Whom It May Concern” certificates containing basic data, detailed salary statements, employment and financial status statements, financial grade progression histories, and confirmations of ongoing salary transfers.

Transfer window opens: The Ministry of Education announced the opening of the transfer application period for administrative staff from Sunday, October 4 to Thursday, November 5, reports Al-Seyassah daily

The ministry clarified that the application process is open to administrative staff in the general education, religious education, and special education sectors at all academic levels.

It urged eligible employees to take advantage of the designated period to submit their applications and review the approved procedures and regulations on the ministry’s official website.



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KUNA marks 50 years as top & credible media institution

News agency held flag high from London during invasion

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5, (KUNA): The Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) marks Tuesday its 50th anniversary, recalling five decades of media service and professional and technological development that established the agency as a prominent media institution representing the State of Kuwait.

Over the past five decades, KUNA has covered major local, Arab and international events, achieving numerous media scoops and receiving awards and recognition for its work at the local, regional and international levels.

This development has been driven by a commitment to balancing speed in reporting with accuracy, objectivity and credibility, while providing comprehensive coverage of events inside and outside Kuwait as an official and reliable news source.

On October 6, 1976, late Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah issued Decree-Law No. 70 establishing a public institution with a legal personality under the name Kuwait News Agency (KUNA).

The agency's establishment reflected the forward-looking vision of late Amir Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, then Crown Prince and Prime Minister, who directed then Minister of Information Sheikh Jaber Al-Ali Al-Sabah to study the establishment of a national news agency.

The project was envisioned as a strategic step toward strengthening Kuwait's media presence and keeping pace with the country's rapid development across various fields.

On March 11, 1978, KUNA launched its official local Arabic news service. It subsequently began external Arabic broadcasting on November 15, 1978, followed by experimental English-language broadcasting on January 15, 1980, and launched its external English-language service on February 25, 1980.

On December 4, 1979, it opened its first foreign bureau in London, subsequently expanding its bureaux and correspondent network across Arab and major world capitals. The agency assigned Kuwaiti personnel to manage several of its foreign bureau in 1983.

From its early years, KUNA placed strong emphasis on developing its staff through intensive training programs inside and outside Kuwait, covering media, technical, engineering, administrative and financial fields, while also supporting the participation of Kuwaiti women in media work.

A defining chapter in KUNA's history came during the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait on August 2, 1990, when its broadcasting operations from Kuwait were suspended and transferred to its London bureau.

From London, KUNA continued its mission of supporting Kuwait's position, documenting the national resistance inside the country and covering the activities of the legitimate Kuwaiti Government, which was based in Taif during the occupation.

During that period, the agency worked to inform international public opinion, counter Iraqi regime claims, and highlight international support for Kuwait and the efforts of the coalition formed to liberate the country, which included 35 Arab and Foreign countries.

KUNA also achieved a number of major reporting scoops during the crisis, including being among the first media organizations to report significant developments, particularly the launch of the international coalition's military operation to liberate Kuwait.

Following the liberation of Kuwait, the agency moved swiftly to restore its operations from its permanent headquarters in the country. Its news service was officially relaunched on November 19, 1991, ending a forced interruption of about 14 months.

Over the past three decades, KUNA has continued developing in line with advances in modern media, reinforcing its position as a trusted national media institution and a reliable news reference.

The agency has accelerated its digital transformation by adopting modern technologies, including artificial intelligence, while updating its editorial policies and methods, enhancing national staff capabilities and strengthening partnerships with Arab and international news agencies.

KUNA has also expanded coordination with state institutions and civil society and private-sector entities to support the sustainability of its media output and keep pace with Kuwait's media standing regionally and internationally.

Since the issuance of its founding decree in 1976, KUNA has continuously developed its administrative and organizational structure to meet its evolving vision, strategic plans and the changing requirements of leading media institutions.

In the final quarter of 2025, the agency began organizing training courses for its employees on governance in the government sector and its application across KUNA's sectors and departments in 2025.



KUNA photo

KUNA organizing training courses for its employees on governance in the government sector and its application across KUNA's sectors and departments in 2025.

Mystery shrouds ‘vanishing’ of Gulf woman’s life savings

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: In a bizarre incident, a female Gulf citizen reported the disappearance of a large sum of money from her home to the Ali Sabah Al-Salem Police Station, reports Al-Anba daily.

According to a security source who spoke to the daily, the woman said she kept a home savings box where she regularly set aside spare cash, gradually building up a substantial amount over the years.

The source added that the woman had continued depositing money into the box, with her own calculations putting her total savings at more than KD 3,000.

The source revealed that the woman recently experienced difficulties, prompting her to open the savings box to use the money she accumulated. However, she was stunned, as most of the money was gone, with only KD70 remaining, and even these banknotes are in extremely poor condition, almost completely ruined.

The complainant did not accuse anyone, leaving the fate of her ‘lost nest egg’ shrouded in mystery.

A theft case was registered at the station and referred to investigators, who are now piecing together the circumstances surrounding the disappearance of the money and to trace the missing funds.

Other Voices

The academic degree hunter

By Ahmad alsarraf

AN article published in The New York Times reported that Professor Belkin of Columbia University in New York missed her student, Jimmy Peyton, and contacted him online. He replied apologetically, explaining that he was on another continent, teaching at a university in New Zealand, and would return to New York in a few days.

The professor was surprised and decided to review his academic record. She discovered that Peyton had graduated with highest honors from Harvard University in 2016. During the same period, he also earned a master's degree in applied mathematics.

He then continued his academic journey, obtaining an MBA from Stanford University, a law degree from Yale University, and a doctorate in public policy from Oxford University - all before turning 28.

By combining in-person and online study, Peyton earned additional degrees from the University of Pennsylvania in education, Stanford University in educational technology, Princeton University in finance, Cornell University in health policy and economics, Dartmouth College in executive studies, King's College London in war studies, and Tsinghua University in Beijing.

Peyton also studied business and founded Crimson Education Consulting, a company valued at more than \$600 million.

Peyton, who embodies boundless ambition, is a prime example of the rare individuals who never stop learning. If he continues earning advanced degrees at this pace, he could surpass Benjamin Bolger, who amassed 16 degrees by the age of 50. He could even approach the record of Michael Nicholson, who, in his eighties, holds more than 30 academic degrees.



alsarraf

How can this be real? Is it a special skill or a sophisticated marketing strategy? Peyton says it is actually quite simple, explaining that he pursued his first five degrees to acquire specific skills. After that, his studies became a matter of passion and intellectual curiosity.

But how did someone who was only 31 manage to earn 12 advanced degrees from top-ranked universities around the world while continuing to pursue further studies at Brown University?

Some believe the primary factors are starting early, the ability to learn quickly, a passion for learning, a strong thirst for knowledge, and the ability to balance work and study simultaneously, in addition to taking advantage of intensive academic programs.

An exceptional academic upbringing from childhood is also a crucial factor. Peyton's mother enrolled him at the age of five in a preparatory academy with approximately 200 students, where he was the only non-Chinese student.

We have a similar example in Kuwait - the late Abdulaziz Ali Al-Andalib (1943-2004). He received his education at the Jaafari School, followed by the Mubarakiyah School and later the Shuwaikh School. He earned seven university degrees - Arabic from Lebanon, Commerce from Egypt, Philosophy and Psychology from Syria, and Islamic Law from Al-Azhar. The Nightingale was a poet and a polymath decades before the advent of the internet.

Another remarkable exception is my friend and fellow ambassador, Faisal Al-Ghais, who is fluent in English, German, Persian, Portuguese, French, and Spanish, and has a considerable command of Chinese. This is in addition to his extensive diplomatic experience across various sectors.

Such linguistic ability is a rare talent, requiring a steel-trap memory and a remarkable capacity to absorb meanings and vocabulary, qualities well known to those who have endured countless nights and made enormous sacrifices to learn even a single foreign language.

email: a.alsarraf@alqabas.com.kw

Continued from Page 1

Rashad Al-Alimi,

Rather than attempting to rewrite history, our goal is to emphasize a vital truth previously noted – northern political figures have repeatedly operated as ‘crisis profiteers’, auctioning their allegiance to the highest bidder. They brushed aside decades of full support provided by Saudi Arabia and other Gulf nations to the Yemeni state, choosing instead to serve their personal ambitions by acting as proxies for the ‘Regime of Ayatollahs’ in Iran. Throughout these decades, they showed utter apathy toward the plight of their own citizens, specifically the international blockade on the nation as a result of their allegiance to Tehran.

By attempting this, they mirrored the ill-fated crusade of Abraha Al-Habashi against the sacred Kaaba, heading toward a defeat as inevitable as that of his predecessor. Their reckless bid to disrupt navigation in the Bab al-Mandab Strait is pure foolishness, endangering energy in a crucial global corridor.

In response, the legitimate government launched the ‘Dawn of Yemen’ Operation, which is considered a pivotal shift in the conflict. However, military action alone is inadequate. Tehran’s ongoing backing of this militia is a reminder of its playbook in post-2003 Iraq—where it exploited sectarian divide to seize power, along with its interventions in Syria and Lebanon since 1982.

Today, the international community must support the legitimate authorities in Yemen as they establish governance throughout the nation. By overlooking this imperative, Iran is given free rein to continue pressuring the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) member states, a dynamic that inexorably heightens economic pressure around the world.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia shouldered an immense responsibility, with its unwavering commitment to the legitimate government in Yemen and standing as a steadfast barrier against the ambitions of Tehran.

Nonetheless, regional stability is not possible through the Saudi efforts alone, especially if the major global players continue to pursue misguided policies aimed at appeasing Iran.

As an Egyptian proverb warns, “A kite does not drop chicks,” predators do not offer benevolence. These powers will find out that courting Tehran yields only heightened security threats and terrorism.

Such a reality echoes the famous verse of a Yemeni poet, “The most wretched and miserable people in this world are those who ride the lion or those who rule Yemen.”

113 held

It urged delivery companies to monitor their drivers’ compliance with traffic regulations, stressing that field inspections and enforcement measures against

violators would continue to enhance traffic safety and protect lives and property.

Meanwhile, the Farwaniya Security Directorate conducted a security campaign at the Friday Market in Al-Rai, in coordination with the Farwaniya Criminal Investigation Department, Kuwait Municipality, the Ministry of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the Public Authority for Manpower, and the Public Authority for Food and Nutrition.

The campaign was part of ongoing field efforts to apprehend violators and wanted individuals, as well as strengthen security and maintain public order.

In an official statement, the Ministry of Interior explained that the campaign resulted in the apprehension of 25 individuals wanted in connection with “absconding” reports, 16 wanted for expired residency permits, eight labor law violators, three individuals with expired visas, two wanted for arrest over outstanding debts, two wanted due to medical unfitness, two street vendors, one wanted for arrest to enforce court judgments, one wanted individual registered under a defunct company, and one individual subject to an entry ban.

Also, 15 violation citations were issued - seven by the Public Authority for Food and Nutrition, seven by the Public Authority for Manpower, and one by Kuwait Municipality. Humanitarian assistance was also provided for 120 cases, while the security presence at the market was reinforced.

The ministry noted that the competent authorities are taking the necessary legal procedures against the detained individuals.

Separately, the General Department of Emergency Police conducted a security and traffic enforcement campaign in Jahra Governorate.

The campaign was supervised by the department’s Director General Brigadier Hamlan Hudairi Al-Hamlan, and led by Assistant Director General Colonel Sabah Ali Al-Sabah, as part of ongoing field efforts to enhance security and safety and apprehend wanted individuals and law violators.

In an official statement, the Ministry of Interior explained that the campaign resulted in the issuance of 103 traffic citations and the apprehension of 15 individuals with expired residency permits, 15 wanted persons, 12 individuals lacking identification, and nine individuals reported as absconders.

Also, seven vehicles wanted by the competent authorities were seized and one individual wanted by the relevant authorities was apprehended.

The detained individuals and seized vehicles were referred to the appropriate authorities for the necessary legal action.

The General Department of Emergency Police continues to conduct security and traffic campaigns in all governorates to uphold security, safety, and the rule of law.

Student suffocation

the school environment remains stable and that the educational process continues normally while the authorities establish the full facts surrounding the incident.

According to the ministry, initial investigations established the involvement of a number of female students in the incident. As a result, educational and disciplinary measures were taken against the students involved in accordance with the Ministry of Education’s comprehensive regulations governing education and student conduct.

The ministry said the behaviors that were established during the initial investigation were classified as serious behavioral violations, warranting the measures taken against the students under the applicable regulations.

However, the ministry stressed that the investigation has not yet been concluded. Authorities are continuing to examine the causes and circumstances of the incident and to determine the responsibilities of all parties involved.

The ministry said it would take the necessary legal, administrative and disciplinary measures against anyone whose responsibility or negligence is established, in accordance with the applicable regulations, bylaws and the final findings of the investigation.

During his visit, Al-Tabtabai emphasized the importance of continuously monitoring the health condition of the affected students and ensuring their well-being. He also stressed the need for coordination with the relevant authorities to ensure that the students receive all necessary medical and other care.

Thai ambassador

He asserted that relations between the two countries, spanning more than 63 years, continue to grow.

He disclosed that the two countries are also keen on forming a joint committee co-chaired by their respective foreign affairs ministers. He is hoping that the agreement will be signed soon to provide a stronger framework for advancing bilateral cooperation.

He said a number of senior Kuwaiti officials and dignitaries will visit Thailand to attend the annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank Group in Bangkok on Oct 12-18.

He expressed his appreciation for the efforts of the Kuwaiti leadership to ensure the safety of citizens and residents, stressing that this means a lot to the 1,080 Thai nationals who consider Kuwait their second home. He stated “my time here is short, but Kuwait made me feel right at home.”

He explained that relations between nations are also built through people -- those who travel, study, conduct business and form friendships.

‘Readiness key

This came during Al-Barjas’ visit to the Security Affairs Command, accompanied by Commander of Military and Security Affairs Brigadier General Abdullah Saleh Abdullah, the National Guard said in a statement.

Al-Barjas received a briefing on the Security Affairs Command’s level of readiness and preparations for the training season, and conveyed to officers the greetings and appreciation of the National Guard leadership for their efforts. (KUNA)

Three new

The minister also received Monday the credentials of the new Ghana Ambassador to Kuwait, Maxwell Nyarko-Lartey, during a meeting at the Ministry’s headquarters.

The Foreign Ministry said in a statement that the minister wished the diplomat success in his duties and further progress and prosperity for the close relations between the two countries.

In a separate meeting, Sheikh Jarrah received the credentials of the new Honduras Ambassador to Kuwait, Luis Alonso Velasquez Galeano, at the ministry’s headquarters.

The Foreign Ministry said in a statement that the minister wished the diplomat success in his duties and further progress and prosperity for the close relations between the two countries.

Sanaa in

had begun carrying out a strategic offensive on Sanaa.

He added that the forces were using modern capabilities in carrying out the strategic operation targeting the Yemeni capital.

Earlier Monday, Al-Nazili announced that government forces had taken control of the Bab Al-Mandeb area and the road leading to the coastal city of Al-Mokha in Taiz Governorate following a military flanking operation involving the Giants Brigades and the Nation Shield Forces.

Chairman of Yemen’s Presidential Leadership Council Dr. Rashad Al-Alimi announced Monday the launch of “Dawn of Yemen” operation.

in a post on his official X account that “Dawn of Yemen” operation had begun to restore state institutions, retake the capital Sanaa and end Houthi control, adding that Yemen will move toward a new dawn of freedom, peace and stability.

Yemeni armed forces had announced Sunday the start of military operations to retake remaining territory, restore state institutions, end Houthi control, alleviate the suffering of the Yemeni people and restore the rule of law and constitutional order.



KUNA photo
Deputy Assistant Foreign Minister for Saud Nasser Al-Sabah Diplomatic Affairs Dr. Mubarak Al-Hajri with Stockholm International Peace Research Institute Director Ambassador Kareem Hajjaj.

Kuwait, SIPRI partner on peace and security research

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5, (KUNA): The Saud Nasser Al-Sabah Kuwaiti Diplomatic Institute signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on Monday with the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) to strengthen cooperation in the fields of peace and regional and international security studies.

The memorandum was signed on the Kuwaiti side by the Deputy Assistant Foreign Minister for Saud Nasser Al-Sabah Diplomatic Affairs Dr. Mubarak Al-Hajri, while it was signed on behalf of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute by its Director, Ambassador Kareem Hajjaj.

Al-Hajri told the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) that the signing of the memorandum comes in line with the need for specialized knowledge to understand the rapid transformations in the regional and international security environments.

He stressed the institute’s keenness to ensure the qualification of Kuwaiti diplomatic personnel is based on an accurate reading of international changes and solid channels of cooperation with specialized international research centers.

He added that the partnership with SIPRI will provide a practical space for exchanging experiences and developing programs and studies related to security, peace and arms control issues, which will contribute to support the diplomatic presence of Kuwait.

He explained that the MoU opens the way for organizing training programs, specialized seminars, and exchange of experts and lecturers, in addition to preparing joint studies and research on issues of mutual interest which enhances the link between diplomatic training and specialized research knowledge.

For his part, Ambassador Kareem Hajjaj, expressed in a similar statement his appreciation for the cooperation with the Saud Nasser Al-Sabah Kuwaiti Diplomatic Institute, noting that Kuwait represents a reliable partner in supporting dialogue, respecting international law, and promoting approaches aimed at consolidating security and stability in the region.

Regional resilience eyed

NATO-ICI launches GCC crisis management course

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5, (KUNA): The NATO Regional Center and the Istanbul Cooperation Initiative (ICI) launched Monday a training for crisis management and disaster response, in cooperation with Bulgaria’s Crisis Management and Disaster Response Center.

The course brings together 30 participants from the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states and aims to strengthen their skills in crisis management and disaster response, covering preparedness, risk reduction, emergency response and recovery across the civilian and military sectors.

NATO-ICI Regional Center Director and Advisor Emad Al-Kandari told KUNA that the week-long program combines interactive lectures, discussions and the exchange of lessons learned and best practices.

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US president defends data centers in Ohio

House Dems reaching to flip Trump districts in attempt to repeat '18 sweep: Jeffries

WASHINGTON, Oct 5, (AP): House Democratic leader Hakeem Jeffries said Sunday his party is on track to win back control of the House, confident Democrats can overcome a fundraising disadvantage and reach deep into conservative areas to flip congressional districts won by President Donald Trump just two years ago.

In a conference call with reporters, Jeffries, who is in line to become House speaker if Democrats seize the majority, compared this midterm election to 2018, when Democrats swept to power during Trump's first term in the White House.

"House Democrats are poised to take back the majority," he said.

Jeffries, who is from New York, said that when Democrats took control of the House in 2018, most of the seats they flipped were in districts where Trump won in 2016.

"In 2026, we're poised to do the same thing," he said.

His comments were the latest display of confidence from Democrats with a month to go until the midterm elections on Nov. 3. The party is working to expand the map by going on offense in Republican-held districts, while Trump hits the trail in a red-state sprint to boost voter enthusiasm and shore up support from his base.

Republicans have a sizable cash advantage as House Speaker Mike Johnson steers the party closer to Trump to try to keep the majority. Trump is promising voters \$5,000 cash dividends if the Republicans win, though it's not at all certain that Congress would unleash the estimated \$1 trillion-plus for such an outlay. Over the weekend, Trump announced \$90 payments to seniors to help pay Medicare premiums.

Jeffries said Republicans are "failing and flailing."

"The American people are not buying what MAGA Republicans are trying to sell," he said.

With the House narrowly split, just a few seats could determine which party holds the gavel. Early voting is underway. Republicans are under pressure because of high gas prices stemming from the war with Iran.

Jeffries said a Trump-led redistricting effort to draw more favorable Republican districts in Texas, Florida and other states backfired in some places. At the same time, the House Democrats' campaign arm announced late last week it was adding eight districts to its map of districts in play, including those in Kansas, Oklahoma, Virginia and Washington state.

"The Republican gerrymandering scheme has failed," Jeffries said.

Jeffries cautioned, however, that "anything and everything" is possible, and urged Democrats to remain focused. "We can't afford to take anything for granted," he said.



House Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries of New York speaks during a news conference at the Capitol in Washington on Sept 30. (AP)

Johnson, the Republican speaker, has been crisscrossing the country and insisted Republicans will be able to protect their majority. He stumped for Republicans in California last week and he is scheduled to be in more than 40 districts across some 20 states in the final weeks before November.

Jeffries, who was also in Western states over the weekend, said he too will be traveling in the weeks ahead.

Also

VANDALIA, Ohio: US President Donald Trump on Saturday defended data centers that power artificial intelligence projects but have become a contentious campaign issue nationwide, as he took his midterm tour to Ohio to insist his party will keep its majorities in Congress despite steep political headwinds.

Trump took several minutes during his campaign rally in southwestern Ohio to promote his administration's action on data centers, saying he was seeking to ensure they "benefit local communities" and praising Republican Sen. **Jon Husted** for an ill-fated attempt to push forward legislation on the issue.



Authorities, below to the right, investigate the scene of a mass shooting where at least two people died and 35 were injured when struck by bullets Sunday morning, according to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation on Oct 4, in Vienna, Ga. (AP)

Ethnic tensions and EU hopes collide

Dodik declares win in Bosnia vote

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Oct 5, (AP): Bosnian Serb nationalist politician Milorad Dodik has declared victory for his party in an election in Bosnia on Sunday that was shaped by economic pressures, the prospect of the Balkan nation joining the European Union, and ethnic tensions that have divided the country since its brutal 1992-95 war.

Dodik is a staunchly pro-Russia politician who, despite not appearing on the ballot, has dominated the campaign and inflamed divisions with separatist rhetoric that have sparked fears of renewed instability in Bosnia.

Formerly the president of the country's Serb-majority entity of Republika Srpska, Dodik was banned from holding public office after being convicted last year of defying decisions by the international envoy overseeing the 1995 peace agreement that ended the war.

With nearly 90% of votes counted, Dodik's ally Zeljka Cvijanovic of the right-wing Alliance of Independent Social Democrats had more than 55% of votes to take one of the three seats in the country's tripartite presidency, leading her nearest opponent by around 30 percentage points.

Speaking at a news conference late Sunday, Dodik said his nationalist party would also hold a "vast majority" in Republika Srpska's assembly, and credited U.S. President Donald Trump's "magnificent victory" in 2024 and Russian President



Milorad Dodik, former president of the Serb-majority Republika Srpska shows a ballot paper at a polling station in Laktasi, northwest of Sarajevo, Bosnia, Sunday, Oct. 4, 2026. (AP)

Vladimir Putin's support for the election win.

"No one should ask us to change our politics," Dodik said. "We will not give up, but continue for our people ... I cannot believe that we smashed it like this."

Around 3.4 million voters were eligible to choose the three members of the country's multi-ethnic presidency, lawmakers for the national parliament, and heads of institutions for the country's two entities: the Muslim-majority Federation of

Bosnia-Herzegovina, and Republika Srpska, which is dominated by ethnic Serbs.

With over 94% of votes counted on Sunday, Darijana Filipovic of the nationalist Croatian Democratic Union of Bosnia and Herzegovina held a commanding lead for the Croat seat on the presidency, while incumbent Bosniak member of the presidency Denis Becirovic of the Social Democratic Party led his nearest opponent, Bakir Izetbegovic, by fewer than three percentage points.

Both Filipovic and Becirovic declared victory in their races late Sunday before all votes were counted.

Bosnia's Central Election Commission said that 1,432,269 votes were cast in total, a turnout of 42% that was down by around 8% from Bosnia's last election in 2022.

Bosnia has a complex web of governing institutions that were created by a U.S.-brokered peace agreement in 1995 in an effort to manage the ethnic divisions between Muslim Bosniaks, Orthodox Serbs and Catholic Croats that gave rise to the war.

Yet Dodik has consistently tested those limits, openly defying Bosnia's national government in the capital Sarajevo and making moves for Republika Srpska to separate from the country.

At his party's final election rally Friday night in Banja Luka, Republika Srpska's administrative capital, Dodik told supporters that Bosnia "is dead."

America

Georgia shooting kills 2, injures dozen: Law enforcement officials are still working to determine just what happened when a chaotic homecoming party spanning a four-block radius of a southern Georgia town erupted in gunfire early Sunday, leaving two people dead and nearly three dozen others injured.

Dooly County Sheriff Craig Peavy identified the two people killed as 21-year-old Jaquevion Jackson of Cordle and 23-year-old Macaleb Jackson of Hawkinsville, Georgia. He did not say if the two were related.

Some of the three dozen injured had gunshot wounds, Georgia Bureau of Investigation Chris Hosey said Sunday evening, but he could not provide a number.

"We're still trying to work through that," Hosey said during a news conference Sunday evening.

No arrests had been reported hours later, and authorities gave no possible motive for the gunfire.

The injured ranged in age from 14 to 51, and they were taken to several regional hospitals, Peavy said. Some were in critical condition Sunday evening and others were stable, he said. (AP)

□ □ □

Woman fatally stabbed girl in Chicago: A 7-year-old girl was fatally stabbed while walking in front of businesses in a Chicago neighborhood, and people nearby detained the woman who attacked her, police said.

Chicago police said the girl was walking in the Chatham neighborhood late Saturday morning when a woman carrying an unspecified sharp object ap-

proached her and stabbed her multiple times in the back. Television networks showed a commercial strip lined with a restaurant, nail salon and market cordoned off by red police tape afterward.

The Cook County Medical Examiner's Office identified the child as Edi Mari Hernandez Chacon. She died at a hospital. (AP)

□ □ □

12-year-old girl killed in Baltimore park: A 12-year-old girl was killed when she was caught in the crossfire of gunshots between two men who apparently were arguing over a parking space in a Baltimore park where a youth football game was being played, police said.

Officers responded to Leon Day Park at 6:15 p.m. Saturday, where the girl and a woman were found with gunshot wounds. Two men also walked into area hospitals seeking treatment, Baltimore Police Commissioner Richard Worley said at a news conference.

The girl was pronounced dead at a hospital. The three adults suffered injuries that weren't life-threatening, Worley said.

Two men involved in an argument believed to be over a parking spot began shooting at each other, and the girl and the woman were struck by bullets, Worley said. He said police were seeking "at least" two suspects.

Worley said the girl wasn't a direct target of the shooting. "What we know is there was some type of argument between two cowards," Worley said. "They both opened fire on each other. In the crossfire, a 12-year-old little girl, who was probably down there watching football, was shot and killed." (AP)



People demonstrate to demand stronger laws to protect renters in Madrid on Oct 3. The banner reads in Spanish: toward the general strike. (AP)

Spain's PM calls early elections as pressure mounts over housing crisis

MADRID, Oct 5, (AP): Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez announced early general elections Monday after his government suffered a bruising legislative defeat last week on emergency measures related to the country's housing crisis.

The vote will be held on Nov. 29.

In recent weeks, Spaniards have demanded solutions from the government over housing affordability, holding protests in cities across the country after public outrage grew over the televised eviction of an 87-year-old woman in Madrid last month.

Right-wing opposition parties joined forces to scuttle two emergency decrees introduced by Sánchez's government that included measures to reduce evictions and real estate speculation. The setback sparked wide speculation that Sánchez would move up a national election that would have otherwise taken place next year - and seize on his base's anger over the rejected housing measures.

In an address to the nation, Sánchez on Monday argued that a



Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez arrives at the Spanish parliament in Madrid on Oct 2. (AP)

broader progressive coalition in Parliament would allow Spaniards to tackle the biggest issues facing their country today.

"The time has come, therefore, for the Spanish people to decide what

future you want for yourselves and for your country," Sánchez said.

"Whether you wish to join that far-right wave - which rolls back progress wherever it governs - or whether you want Spain to remain a bastion of openness, social justice, and environmental responsibility. Whether you want our country to move backward or continue moving forward," he said.

Sánchez, 54, has been Spain's prime minister since 2018, making him one of Europe's longest-standing leaders.

He has become one of the leading international progressive heads of government thanks to his defense of migration, his diplomatic efforts to defend Palestinians and his criticism of the American and Israeli war against Iran.

He has also enjoyed one of the fastest growing economies in the developed world in recent years.

But back home, the Spanish leader has been hemmed in by a series of legal cases involving his Socialist party as well as his wife and brother, who both deny wrongdoing.

US Air Force removes all bombers from UK air base

WASHINGTON, Oct 5, (AP): The US Air Force has brought home its bombers stationed at a U.S.-run military air base in England used to strike Iran following an investigation into a planned terror attack at the RAF Fairford base.

The bombers were redeployed to their home bases in the United States, according to a Pentagon official who was not authorized to discuss sensitive military movements and spoke Sunday on condition of anonymity.

Aviation watchers such as the Military Air Tracking Alliance have observed dozens of B-52 and B-1 bombers operating out of RAF Fairford since the opening days of the Iran war. Observers noticed a host of B-1 bombers fly out of the base on Sunday.

The move comes as President Donald Trump weighs options for his war on Iran - including new strikes - despite his initial promises to Americans that the campaign would last a matter of weeks.



A B-1 bomber takes off from RAF Fairford in Fairford, England on Sept 29. (AP)

S.Korea blames N.Korean mines for border blast injuries, urges apology

SEOUL, South Korea, Oct 5, (AP): South Korea's military said Monday it concluded North Korea planted mines that injured three South Korean soldiers at their heavily fortified border last month, urging the North to apologize and remove other mines.

The announcement came days after North Korea denied responsibility for the Sept. 21 blasts and threatened "merciless" retaliation if provoked over the case. It responded to South Korea's earlier, preliminary finding that said there was a "very high possibility" that North Korea-buried mines caused the explosions.

On Monday, South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said it reached a final conclusion that North Korean mines planted south of the border exploded and injured the three soldiers who were working on creating a patrol route in a densely vegetated area. It cited a joint investigation of the site with the American-led UN Command, forensic analysis of TNT and other substances collected from the scene and one other North Korea-planted mine discovered days after the blast.

"Our military strongly urges North Korea to offer a sincere apology to our injured soldiers and immediately remove the mines that it installed in



Lt Gen Kwon Dae-won, vice chairman of South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff, speaks during a briefing at the Defense Ministry in Seoul, South Korea on Oct 5. (AP)

military or civilian personnel from crossing the military demarcation line without authorization from the armistice commission.

Despite its name, the DMZ is one of the world's most heavily armed border areas, with an estimated 2 million mines littered inside and along the zone. North Korea in recent years has added mines, anti-tank barriers and other front-line fortifications along the border.

Kwon said the South Korean military removed a North Korean minefield around the blast site on Monday and will remove other North Korean minefields placed south of the border unless North Korea voluntarily eliminates them.

South Korea's military earlier said it would take unspecified corresponding steps against North Korea if the North is conclusively found responsible for the mine blasts. But South Korea didn't immediately announce any substantial punitive steps against North Korea on Monday.

In 2015, mine blasts at the border blamed on North Korea pushed the two Koreas to the brink of an armed conflict, after South Korea's then conservative government resumed front line propaganda broadcasts for the first time in 11 years.



People wade through a flooded street after heavy rain in Bangkok, Thailand on Sept 28. (AP)

Thailand braces for more rain as death toll from flooding hits 31

Thai authorities on Monday warned of more rain and flash flooding as the death toll from floods across the country since mid-September rose to 31.

Thunderstorms, strong winds and heavy rain are expected across much of upper Thailand from Monday through Wednesday, increasing the risk of flash flooding, particularly in low-lying areas, the Thailand Meteorological Department said.

Very heavy to heavy rains are also forecast in some areas in the central, eastern and southern regions, including the capital, Bangkok, over the weekend.

Many areas in Bangkok were inundated last week after days of torrential rain, forcing thousands to evacuate and causing severe disruptions. The city's conditions have largely improved, although floodwaters remain in some lower-lying areas. (AP)

The world does not need a weaker United Nations: Guterres

What will the next leader of UN need to get job done in increasingly complex world?

UNITED NATIONS, Oct 5, (AP): On Jan 1, the next United Nations secretary-general will take over an aging organization still controlled by World War II powers. What will the world need from that person?

Once a major player in solving conflicts and crises around the world, the 81-year-old institution has been sidelined from the top table in trying to end the wars in Iran, Ukraine and Gaza. And its precarious financial situation - caused mainly by the billions of dollars the United States owes - has forced major cuts to its humanitarian and development programs where it has remained a key player.

The annual global gathering of world leaders at the United Nations that ended last week shed some light on what the next UN chief needs to focus on and pursue.

In his farewell address to the General Assembly, outgoing Secretary-General Antonio Guterres told global leaders, "The world does not need a weaker United Nations."

"It needs a UN strong enough to face the world as it is," he said, "and determined enough to build the world as it should."

But is that even possible?

After 10 years at the helm of the United Nations, Guterres said he is strongly convinced that its greatest power is to build a tomorrow that works for everyone. As he put it, "Our shared future will be forged by whether humanity can govern power wisely."

Guterres then issued challenges to the United Nations that will be led by his successor, the 193 countries in the General Assembly "and humanity itself."

Will you "uphold the law before impunity becomes normalized?" Will you "end wars before they consume generations?" Will you tackle inequality "before societies fracture?" Will you accelerate climate action "before tipping points are crossed?" Will you govern artificial intelligence "before it governs us?" Guterres asked.

For the next secretary-general - the selection process is ongoing - the top priority will be reconfiguring the United Nations to reflect the 21st century rather than the post-World War II era when it was established.

The new UN chief "will have the most monumental task that the UN has faced in decades because you



US President Donald Trump points toward United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, after speaking to the United Nations General Assembly on Sept 22, at the UN headquarters. (AP)

have a UN that's going through this critical reform process that it has not gone through for a long time," said Kizito Byenkya, the Open Society Institute's advocacy director.

The UN's financial crisis has led to budget cuts and efforts to consolidate programs and agencies, and

eliminate hundreds of mandates ordering the UN Secretariat to take a wide variety of actions and deliver reports, many that never get read. That's just to name a few.

At the same time, Byenkya told The Associated Press, "You have huge pressure on all sides for the

new secretary-general to act like a general and really play a central role in mediation for world conflicts." He cited the late secretary-general Kofi Annan, who became directly involved in some conflicts and was a skilled mediator and negotiator.

"If you look at the conflicts we've been facing in the last few years, let's say from Gaza to Sudan to Ukraine and more, you often have to ask yourself: Where has the role of the United Nations been with all of these?," he said. "In the time of Kofi Annan, he was center to all."

During high-level week, leader after leader spoke of the need for reform. But when it comes to taking action, serious and sometimes impossible differences emerge, especially when it comes to reforming the Security Council, the UN's most powerful body and still controlled by the World War II victors.

All UN member nations want to see the council reflect the 21st century world, but there are huge national differences on how it should be expanded. That has stymied progress for decades.

The five permanent members -

the US, Russia, China, Britain and France - hold veto power, which gives them ultimate control. Africa, home to 1.5 billion people, has no permanent seat. Neither does Latin America. Neither do the collection of island nations whose existence is threatened by climate change.

"Security Council reform is not a favor to Africa," Ghana's President John Mahama told world leaders last week. "It is an imperative for the legitimacy, credibility, and survival of the United Nations."

Mahama also raised perhaps the most difficult problem that will confront the next UN chief: the world's "intense fragmentation, deepening inequality and eroded trust in our multilateral system."

"We must address the alarming breakdown of global order today," he said, pointing to "the dangerous drift toward unilateralism."

Mahama lauded the UN Charter, whose opening words say the organization was founded to prevent a repetition of the 20th century's two world wars. That, he said, "must reign supreme over the cynical doctrine that 'might makes right.'"



People walk in Mekelle, the capital of Ethiopia's Tigray region, as fighting escalates with the central government on Sept 24. (AP)

Ethiopia's government retakes Mekelle after opp'n fighters withdraw from Tigray

KAMPALA, Uganda, Oct 5, (AP): Government-allied fighters entered Mekelle, the capital of Ethiopia's northern Tigray region, a witness said Sunday, after the rebel Tigray People's Liberation Front announced its withdrawal following renewed fighting.

The TPLF last month seized the Mekelle airport and the city, one of Ethiopia's largest. In a statement Saturday, it said its forces had pulled out. They had done so in the previous two-year war, which ended with a peace agreement in 2022, apparently to spare the city from destruction.

Ethiopian Airlines had suspended flights to Mekelle and the Tigrayan cities of Axum and Shire after the rebels seized the airport. The African Union urged restraint, warning that renewed tensions threatened the 2022 agreement.

Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed has tried and failed to subdue Tigray's rebellious leaders in recent months, with TPLF Chairman Debretsion Gebremichael openly challenging him. Debretsion said Thursday that the

fighting was a "continuation of the previous war" and that his fighters would keep attacking and defending Tigray from its enemies.

After federal troops take control of Mekelle, Abiy is very likely to leave regional security in the hands of the Tigray Peace Force, which comprises former members of the TPLF armed wing, Tigray Defense Forces, according to Jalale Getachew Birru, an analyst of Ethiopia for ACLED, an independent global monitor that collects, analyzes and maps data on conflict.

The Tigray Peace Force is fighting alongside federal troops against the TPLF.

Severe disruptions to internet and cellphone networks have made gathering and verifying information from Tigray difficult, although some connectivity was reported Sunday. Residents of Mekelle told The Associated Press on Saturday that federal forces had retaken the airport, although details were scanty.

Civilians looted government offices and hauled away equipment from police headquarters in Mekelle

as TPLF-allied fighters withdrew, a local business owner, who witnessed the departures and looting, said Sunday. The looting targeted the TPLF administration office, the regional police headquarters and some shops, Filmon Equar Hailu said.

Speaking by phone from Mekelle, Filmon said he saw some TPLF-allied fighters with light weapons leaving the city, some on foot. Departures began in small groups about three days ago and continued through Saturday afternoon, he said.

Small groups of fighters from the Tigray Peace Force entered Mekelle, Filmon said, adding he heard celebratory gunfire overnight into Sunday morning.

The TPLF is one of seven opposition groups that declared an alliance late last month whose objective is to remove Abiy. He rose to the premiership in 2018, and was reelected earlier this year. In addition to once being Tigray's ruling party, the TPLF was the dominant group in a coalition that ruled Ethiopia between 1991 and 2018.

Lula and Flávio Bolsonaro head to runoff in Brazil presidential election

BRASILIA, Brazil, Oct 5, (AP): Sen Flávio Bolsonaro, an ally of US President Donald Trump, and Brazil's incumbent President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva will face off in a runoff Oct 25 for the top job of Latin America's powerhouse economy after neither won a majority in Sunday's vote.

The country's electoral court in Brasilia said neither the 80-year-old incumbent, seeking his fourth non-consecutive term, nor the 45-year-old son of former President Jair Bolsonaro would garner the majority vote needed for an outright win.

The court had Bolsonaro with just over 56 million votes to Lula's 53.7 million, with 99.8 percent of the vote reported. The next presidential term is set to begin Jan 5.

The winner will be in charge of Latin America's biggest economy and a population of 214 million. A win for Bolsonaro would increase US influence in Latin America. If Lula wins, Brazil will keep its distance from Washington and continue to deepen its relationship with China.

Flávio Bolsonaro addressed the press and a small group of support-



Brazil's President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, who is running for reelection, addresses supporters after advancing to a presidential runoff following the first round in Sao Paulo, Brazil, on Oct 4. (AP)

ers, including some wearing green and yellow Brazil jerseys and one woman wrapped in the Israeli flag, outside his Brasilia house.

"Brazil wants change, that's the reading of what happened today," Bolsonaro said. "It's the end of the

Workers' Party era," he added, in a reference to Lula's party.

Lula, seeking to be encouraging ahead of an uphill battle to beat Bolsonaro in the runoff, said the result was "unexpected" as he had thought he could win in the first round.

Subcontinent

Pakistan security op kills 8 terrorists: Eight terrorists were killed during an intelligence-based operation by security forces in Pakistan's north-western Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province on Sunday, security sources said.



Sharif

4 dead in Sri Lanka heavy rains: Four people have died, eight others have been injured and one person remains missing due to heavy rains in Sri Lanka, which have affected 4,360 people from 1,190 families, the country's Disaster Management Center (DMC) said on Sunday.

The affected people were reported from 125 divisional secretariat areas across 17 districts, according to the DMC. (Xinhua)

Boat collision on Congo River kills 30 – officials

KINSHASA, Congo, Oct 5, (Agencies): Two boats collided over the weekend on the Congo River, killing at least 30 people and leaving dozens missing, local Congolese authorities said Monday.

The motorized wooden boats crashed into one another on Sunday near the Ngombe-Lukolela area in the province of Equateur, according to the provincial interior minister, Crispin Mputu. he reason for the crash was not immediately clear.

The minister told The Associated Press that the 30 killed in the crash have already been buried.

One boat was traveling from Ubangi, in the northwest, to the capital of Kinshasa, and the other from Kinshasa to Lukolela, close to where the collision happened, Mputu said.

Also:

KHARTOUM: The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) said Sunday that an aerial attack hit two contracted trucks carrying WFP food commodities in South Kordofan State in southern Sudan, killing one driver.

In a statement, the WFP said the attack occurred in the early hours of Saturday.

"The contracted trucks were en route from Dilling to Kadugli and clearly marked as humanitarian vehicles," the WFP said, adding that it was still collecting additional details about the circumstances of the incident, including the extent of damage to the food cargo.

As part of the 10th World Investor Week & the 3rd ‘The Bell’ initiative

Boursa Kuwait rings the bell for financial literacy with CFA Institute Research Challenge winners from KU

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: Boursa Kuwait, the strategic partner and official sponsor of the CFA Institute Research Challenge in Kuwait, rang the bell with the winning team of its fifth edition, celebrating their achievement in the international financial analysis competition. Reaffirming the bourse’s commitment to promoting investment awareness and developing young talent, the ceremony was part of its participation in the 10th edition of World Investor Week and the third edition of its “The Bell” financial literacy initiative.

The winning Kuwait University team was made up of Abdulaziz Al-Obaid, Mohammad Al-Kandari, Mohammad Al-Zoubi, Sultan Al-Shehab, and Alaa Hamdan, under the supervision of their faculty advisor, Dr. Sulaiman Hamad Al-Bader.

During the Challenge, the students prepared a comprehensive analysis of Mabaneq Company, studying its business and financial statements, building a valuation, and developing an investment recommendation, then presented their findings to a panel of investment professionals.

By inviting the winning team to take part in the bell-ringing ceremony, Boursa Kuwait recognizes the students’ achievement, underscores the value of applied learning in developing young talent and encourages more university students to build the research and financial analysis skills needed for careers in investment.

Boursa Kuwait is sponsoring the CFA Institute Research Challenge in Kuwait for the third consecutive year, in collaboration with CFA Society Kuwait, which organizes the local competition.

As the Challenge’s first strategic partner in Kuwait, the exchange is committed to building educational and professional partnerships that contribute to human capital development and enhance the readiness of young talent for careers in the financial and investment sectors.

“The development of the capital market depends on the ability of its participants to understand information and assess opportunities and risks. At Boursa Kuwait, we seek to ensure that market development goes hand in hand with investment in knowledge and talent, through initiatives that provide young people with practical experience and help investors make informed decisions based on research and reliable information,” said Mr. Naser Mishari Al-Sanousi, Senior Director of Marketing and Corporate Communications at Boursa Kuwait.

“We are proud of our strategic partnership and official sponsorship of the CFA Institute Research Challenge in Kuwait, and of the opportunity it gives students to apply their knowledge while engaging with the standards and ethics of professional practice. We congratulate the Kuwait University team on this achievement and commend the efforts of everyone involved in organizing the Challenge and mentoring the students,” he added.

“Their participation with us in the bell-ringing ceremony reflects our confidence in the capabilities of the next generation and the important role they will play in the future of Kuwait’s financial and investment sector.”

From academic knowledge to professional practice



Boursa Kuwait rings the bell for financial literacy with CFA Institute Research Challenge.

- Boursa Kuwait sponsors the Challenge for the third consecutive year as its first strategic partner and official sponsor in Kuwait
- Boursa Kuwait continues to support the next generation of investors and analysts, bringing together academic knowledge and professional practice in company analysis and evaluation
- The company sponsors innovative initiatives that help develop the capabilities of the next generation of financial analysts in line with the evolving needs of the job market

The CFA Institute Research Challenge is an annual global competition that gives university students practical experience in financial analysis and professional ethics. Participants take on the role of financial analysts by researching a listed company, preparing an equity research report and presenting their recommendations, supported by academic guidance and professional mentoring.

The competition begins at the local level before progressing through qualifying rounds to the regional and global finals. Nearly 100 countries, more than 1100 universities and over 7000 students participate worldwide in pursuit of the Challenge title.

The Challenge enables students to understand how to move from data to evidence-based conclusions, test the assumptions underpinning their valuations and communicate their views clearly before industry professionals. In doing so, it combines technical skill development with the principles of accuracy, objectivity and responsibility in investment research, all of which contribute to the quality of information on which market participants rely.

“Kuwait University is committed to equipping students with the ability to read financial statements, understand company performance and carry out valuations. The CFA Institute Research Challenge allows them to apply this knowledge to a listed company, test their ability to build a comprehensive analysis and present their findings before industry professionals, strengthening the connection between what they learn at university and the requirements of working in the

investment sector,” said the winning team’s academic advisor, Dr. Sulaiman Hamad Al-Bader.

“This experience helps students develop their research, analytical and teamwork skills while giving them greater confidence in presenting and discussing their ideas. We extend our thanks to CFA Institute and CFA Society Kuwait for organizing the Challenge, and to Boursa Kuwait for its strategic partnership, official sponsorship, continued support for students and for providing them with this opportunity,” he added.

Global efforts to promote financial literacy

The 10th edition of World Investor Week will take place from 5 to 11 October 2026 under the theme “Invest in Your Future. Protect It Today.” Led by the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO), the global campaign promotes investor education and protection through the participation of regulators, financial and academic institutions and other stakeholders around the world. The 2025 edition brought together 137 participants across 118 jurisdictions, reflecting the scale of international collaboration in this area.

The 2026 campaign focuses on the three primary themes of Investor Resilience, Digital Deception and Scam Alert, complemented by two educational themes covering Basics of Investing and Young Investors & Next Generation, which underscore the importance of assessing the reliability of information, understanding investment risks and engaging critically with financial content across digital channels amid the growing use of technology and artificial intelligence.

Boursa Kuwait participates in the global campaign as a member of the WFE and an affiliate member of IOSCO. The bell-ringing ceremony forms part of the WFE’s



Jean-Paul Servais

“Ring the Bell for Financial Literacy” initiative, which supports the objectives of World Investor Week and highlights the role of exchanges in expanding learning opportunities and strengthening awareness among market participants.

Commenting on the global initiative, IOSCO Board Chair Jean-Paul Servais said: “Investor protection remains at the heart of IOSCO’s mission. As World Investor Week marks its 10th edition, the campaign continues to address the issues that matter most to retail investors. This year’s themes reflect the need for investors to remain resilient in changing market conditions, to question investment information they encounter online, and to stay alert to increasingly sophisticated scams. I thank IOSCO member jurisdictions and regional supporters for their continued commitment to this important global initiative.”

The Bell continues to expand learning opportunities throughout October

Boursa Kuwait is translating its participation in the global campaign into action locally through the third edition of its “The Bell” initiative, which runs throughout October in collaboration with CFA Institute, CFA Society Kuwait, Gulf Capital Investment Company (InvestGB), Kuwait University, Kuwait Credit Information Network (CINET) and the Union of Investment Companies (UIC).

The initiative offers interactive sessions, workshops, educational programs and digital content for investors, students and young people, covering investment fundamentals, market monitoring and credit awareness, alongside exchange-traded funds (ETFs), fixed-income markets and entrepreneurship.

These activities focus on simplifying key concepts and connecting them with practical applications to help audiences better understand financial choices and the risks associated with them.

They are complemented by the fifth season of The Bell Podcast and the bourse’s online education portal, Boursa Academy, extending the initiative’s reach and supporting continued learning beyond the conclusion of the in-person events.

Since its launch in 2024, the initiative has established partnerships with more than ten organizations and reached over 2000 beneficiaries through its programs. Meanwhile, The Bell Podcast has recorded more than two million views across four seasons, further expanding the reach of its financial literacy content beyond participants in the initiative’s direct activities.

These efforts form part of Boursa Kuwait’s corporate sustainability strategy and its commitment to supporting education and talent development through partnerships that bring together professional, academic and investment institutions.

As Kuwait’s capital market continues to evolve and its product offering expands, Boursa Kuwait remains focused on providing clear content and practical learning experiences that help individuals better understand the market and participate in it with greater awareness and responsibility.



Yousef Al-Ruwaieh with the participants at the press conference.



Yousef Al-Ruwaieh and the participants at the press conference.

Committing to support youth: Al-Ruwaieh

KFH backs 2nd edition of ‘Ma’a Al-Talaba’

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: Kuwait Finance House (KFH) participated in the press conference announcing the launch of the second edition of the long-standing ‘Ma’a Al-Talaba’ show, held in partnership and collaboration with the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Information, and VO Platform.

Speaking during the press conference, Head of Group Public Relations and Media at KFH, Yousef Abdullah Al-Ruwaieh, said: “KFH’s role as a strategic partner of the ‘Ma’a Al-Talaba’ show underscores our leadership in social responsibility and our commitment to supporting students and various youth and educational initiatives that create a lasting impact.”

Al-Ruwaieh explained that, through its comprehensive social responsibility program, KFH places students and education at the forefront of its priorities as a key pillar of the Bank’s social

responsibility strategy.

He added: “KFH is keen to launch initiatives and programs aimed at supporting students and developing their capabilities through strategic partnerships with numerous universities, as well as participation in seminars and workshops that contribute to enhancing the academic and professional performance of students and graduates.”

Al-Ruwaieh expressed KFH’s pride in its rich record of programs and initiatives designed to empower youth and develop their capabilities as part of the Bank’s strategy to achieve sustainable development.

In conclusion, Al-Ruwaieh extended his sincere thanks and appreciation to all those responsible for launching the ‘Ma’a Al-Talaba’ show, wishing them continued success and prosperity.

Oil Ministry: Worker safety top priority in oil, gas sector

By Najeh Bilal
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: Acting Assistant Undersecretary for Administrative Affairs and Information Systems at the Ministry of Oil Nadia Abdulaziz Al-Attar affirmed that worker safety and the protection of lives are the priorities in the oil and gas sector.

In a speech delivered on behalf of Oil Minister Tarek Al-Roumi at the opening of the 13th International Conference on Occupational Safety, Health, Environment and Loss Prevention (2026), Al-Attar explained that rapid developments necessitate a shift from reacting to risks after they occur to a more advanced approach focused on anticipating, predicting and mitigating the impact.

She stated that such a responsibility is based on building a robust corporate safety culture, ensuring every individual is aware of their role in hazard prevention. She pointed out how modern technology and digital transformation could contribute to enhancing safety systems through monitoring, early warning mechanisms and data analysis, indicating that these advancements are closely linked to human capital development and workforce upskilling.

She added that achieving high levels of safety requires the integration of three key elements: advanced technology, qualified workforce and strong corporate culture.

Also, speaking to the press on the sidelines of the conference, Al-Attar described the private sector as a genuine partner in executing tasks and advancing oil and environmental operations.

She commended the efforts of the American Society of Safety Professionals (Kuwait Chapter) in organizing the event, which is a vital opportunity to exchange expertise and translate knowledge into practical applications that guarantee safety and sustainability in the oil and gas industry.

On the other hand, Fadel Al-Ali, Head of the Kuwait Chapter of the American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP), stated that the conference aims to reduce accidents and injuries and ensure a safe workplace for employees. He explained this will be achieved through training and awareness programs, as well as the presentation of technical papers showcasing the latest developments and technologies in the field.

Al-Ali added that this year’s conference theme focuses on leveraging artificial intelligence (AI) to enhance health, safety and environmental practices, and prevent losses.

He indicated the significant impact of AI in industrial and medical sectors, stressing the need for users to possess the expertise and awareness to distinguish between accurate and inaccurate information—a topic the conference will address through several specialized papers.

He said the conference offers participating companies an opportunity to explore the latest products and ideas, as well as to establish partnerships and contracts.

He explained that the society is a nonprofit organization providing a platform to serve its members and examine industry developments related to loss prevention, in addition to organizing an exhibition featuring innovative products that contribute to improving the work environment and preventing accidents.

He revealed that the workshops are an essential part of the conference -- 10 workshops on Health, Safety, and Environment (HSE) are being held with strong corporate participation. He said these workshops aim to enhance companies’ resilience and ability to handle challenges, and develop proactive plans for managing emergencies.

Ahmed Al-Shatti, Chairman of the 2026 HSE Conference Committee, stated that oil



Photos by Rezk Tawfiq

10 HSE workshops held at 2026 safety conference.

companies must demonstrate high resilience in overcoming local challenges and addressing regional issues.

He asserted that proactive plans are always in place to manage situations, such that even in the event of production halt, alternative plans and lessons learned from past experiences must be available to ensure the achievement of desired goals.

He indicated that there should be balance between adhering to safety and security standards and avoiding major risks. He added that while minor risks might be taken into consideration to achieve objectives, such actions are guided by specific studies and standards.

He said the current edition of the conference launched with the support and trust of government and private institutions aimed to present the best possible image, and emphasized that the concerted efforts and accumulated expertise over the years resulted in the outstanding launch of the conference this year.

Regarding current global and regional developments and their impact on safety and the environment, he said “in the midst of new conditions and challenges, we analyze the market and take advantage of the expertise of surrounding companies -- government and private sectors -- to understand the insights and advancements they achieved.”

Iran war pushes Brent above \$100

OPEC+ keeps Nov. oil output steady

VIENNA, Oct 5: Seven major oil-exporting countries agreed Sunday to keep production steady in November at a time when the Iran war has driven the price of benchmark Brent crude oil above \$100 a barrel.

The so-called OPEC+ subgroup - Saudi Arabia, Russia, Iraq, Kuwait, Kazakhstan, Algeria and Oman - will meet again on Nov. 1 to review conditions in the oil market.

The fighting with Iran, which began with U.S. and Israeli attacks on Feb. 28, has disrupted

global oil supplies and driven prices higher.

The Group of Seven wealthy democracies said Friday that they plan to release 100 million barrels of oil and fuel products in the coming weeks, starting with “substantial” amounts of diesel. Diesel prices recently hit record highs in the United States, squeezing farmers, truckers and consumers who depend on the fuel.

The G7 promised a “frontloaded substantial release” of diesel within the next 20 days and the rest over four months.

Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait wins Excellence in Corporate Governance and Best Call Center in Kuwait awards

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) continues to strengthen its position in corporate governance and customer service, receiving the ‘Excellence in Corporate Governance – Kuwait’ award for the first time and the ‘Best Call Center – Kuwait’ award for the third consecutive year from Global Brands Magazine. The awards, covering 2025 and 2026, reflect the success of the Bank’s efforts to deliver a faster, more efficient banking experience.

The awards were received by Dr. Ayman Al Buloushi, Group Head of Corporate Governance; Ammar Khajah, Assistant General Manager of Retail Banking; and Hussain Shamouh, Head of the Call Center, during a ceremony hosted by the magazine in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, attended by representatives of regional banks and companies.

ABK’s recognition for corporate governance acknowledges the effectiveness of its internal controls and its commitment to transparency, ethical responsibility, and regulatory requirements. It also recognises the integration of its operational processes, internal controls, and risk management procedures.

The Bank’s selection for the call center award was based on a range of operational and service quality criteria, including response times, the efficient handling of enquiries and requests, the implementation of automated response systems, customer satisfaction levels, and the continuous development of its team’s capabilities.

Commenting on the achievement, Dr. Al Buloushi said that the corporate governance award reflects ABK’s outstanding organisational and management approach, as well as the commitment of its Board of Directors and Executive Management to transparency and internal oversight, safeguarding stakeholders’ rights and consistently delivering added value.

He attributed this achievement to the Board’s direction and its emphasis on strict adherence to governance standards. This is demonstrated by the Bank’s adoption of a fully digital process through the advanced ‘Gieom’ system to approve policies and monitor their implementation across its divisions, reinforcing the confidence of international institutions in its performance.

“We have worked to establish a framework that goes beyond the traditional concept of compliance, making governance an integral part of our culture and daily decision-making,” Dr. Al Buloushi said. “With the support of our Board of Directors, we will continue to strengthen our standards and leadership position, promoting innovation, transparency, and accuracy across all divisions. These efforts will help us build lasting trust with our partners and stakeholders, ensure business sustainability, and successfully achieve our objectives.”

He noted that ABK continuously updates its inter-



Dr. Ayman Al Buloushi receiving the Excellence Award for the implementation of governance standards.



Ammar Khajah and Hussain Shamouh receive the Best Call Center award.



Al Buloushi, Khajah, and Shamouh with the awards.



Dr. Ayman Al Buloushi, Group Head of Corporate Governance



Johair Marafi, General Manager – Retail Banking

nal policies through modern digital systems and enhances its disclosure and oversight mechanisms in line with relevant regulatory requirements. This ena-

bles the Bank to adapt to economic changes, manage crises and challenges prudently, and uphold responsible business practices at every level.

Dr. Al Buloushi concluded, “This recognition from Global Brands Magazine marks a milestone in strengthening an accountable governance model that earns the confidence of international institutions. We have aligned our internal policies with global developments to ensure the effectiveness of our systems, reflecting the Board’s conviction that sound governance is essential to safeguarding the Bank’s assets and resources and reinforcing trust with all our stakeholders.”

Johair Marafi, General Manager of Retail Banking at ABK, said, “Winning the Best Call Center – Kuwait award for the third consecutive year confirms the success of our strategy to enhance the customer experience. It also reflects our continued investment in technology and our people, enabling us to deliver banking services with speed, efficiency, and quality.”

Marafi added, “We have focused on transforming our call center by integrating modern solutions and technologies and enhancing how we communicate with customers. Alongside these developments, we continue to train and develop our team to ensure that customers’ needs are addressed professionally and accurately, around the clock.”

She explained that the call center is a key component of ABK’s customer experience framework, with a role that extends beyond responding to enquiries. It now provides a comprehensive range of services and processes numerous banking requests quickly and securely, making it easier for customers to bank with ABK and strengthening their confidence in its services.

Marafi emphasised that the achievement provides further motivation to innovate and develop the team’s capabilities, stating, “Our ambition extends beyond winning awards to building a banking model that places customers at the heart

of everything we do. We will continue to enhance our channels and services to meet their evolving expectations.”

She concluded, “Receiving this recognition once again brings a greater responsibility to maintain high standards of service quality, further strengthening ABK’s position and leadership in customer experience within Kuwait’s banking sector.”

These two awards add to the recognition ABK has continued to receive from institutions specialising in assessing banking sector performance. They reflect the Bank’s success in adopting the highest standards and keeping pace with ongoing industry developments, earning the confidence of international experts, strengthening its competitiveness, and meeting the expectations of customers across all segments.

Recognized for transparency, investor engagement

Zain earns 2026 MEIRA Gold Standard Certification

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: Zain Group, a leading regional TechCo, has earned the 2026 MEIRA Gold Standard Certification, a new recognition introduced by the Middle East Investor Relations Association (MEIRA) to benchmark excellence in investor relations across the MENA region.

Introduced in 2026, the MEIRA Gold Standard Certification assesses the maturity and effectiveness of corporate investor relations programs and their alignment with international best practice. This year's assessment covered companies' investor relations activities between January 1 and December 31, 2025.

The certification follows an independent assessment of Zain's investor relations practices in Kuwait where it is headquartered as well as its listed operations in KSA, Iraq and Bahrain, that include professional standards covering transparency, disclosure and capital markets communication, that reflected the Group's focus on maintaining high standards of corporate governance and investor engagement.

The Group's approach is supported by an established governance framework, including Zain's Investor Relations Policy, Shareholders' Protection Policy and Disclosure Policy, which institutionalize its commitment to transparency, disciplined market communication, fair and timely disclosure, and the protection of shareholder interests. These frameworks complement Zain's broader efforts to align its investor relations practices with international best practice.



Mohammad Abdal, Zain Group Chief Corporate Affairs and Communications Officer, receives the MEIRA Gold Standard Certification.

For Zain, the recognition reinforces the importance it places on clear, consistent and timely communication with shareholders, investors, analysts and the wider financial community. As investor expectations continue to evolve, the Group sees strong investor relations as an important part of building market confidence, supporting informed investment decisions and creating sustainable long-term value.

Zain's approach to investor relations has evolved alongside the Group's business and the changing expectations of global capital markets. In recent years, Zain has strengthened its digital investor communications, expanded direct engagement with investors, increased its participation in international investment conferences, and continued to enhance the quality and clarity of its financial reporting and results presentations.

The Group has also introduced a dedicated Investor Relations app, giving

investors convenient, on-the-go access to disclosures, share price information, financial results, press releases, financial news and other key market updates.

These efforts are designed to give the market a clear view of the Group's financial and operational performance, strategic priorities and long-term growth prospects, while ensuring investors have timely and equitable access to relevant information. Reinforcing investor confidence in Zain's long-term value creation agenda has strengthened relationships with the investment community and contributed meaningfully to Zain's shareholder base.

The recognition also reflects the continued support of Zain's Board of Directors and executive management for the strategic role of investor relations, as well as the work of the Group's Investor Relations team and its close coordination with functions across the

organization.

Zain has built an active dialogue with regional and international investors as its business has expanded beyond traditional telecommunications into technology, digital infrastructure and digital financial services. This evolution has made transparent and effective market communication increasingly important in helping investors understand the Group's performance, strategy and future direction.

In line with this, Zain continues to strengthen the link between business performance and investor communication, with a focus on providing high-quality information that gives investors a clear understanding of the Group's strategy, priorities and outlook.

The MEIRA recognition also reflects a wider corporate culture at Zain built around transparency, accountability and responsible business practices. The Group views effective investor communication not simply as a regulatory requirement, but as an important contributor to sustainable growth, shareholder value and long-term access to capital.

Founded in 2008, the Middle East Investor Relations Association (MEIRA) is an independent organization serving investor relations, financial communications and capital markets professionals. It works with stock exchanges, regulators and market participants across the region to promote international best practices in investor relations and strengthen engagement between listed companies and the investment community.

Simplifying home-building, renovation

‘NBK Al Manzel’ gains strong market traction

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: The “NBK Al Manzel” program has witnessed strong demand from customers since its launch, reaffirming its position as one of the leading housing finance solutions in the local market. This success is driven by its flexible, end-to-end offerings and strategic collaboration with a select network of leading companies across design, construction, furnishing, and comprehensive home solutions.

This strong customer engagement reflects the program's ability to address a wide range of evolving needs, whether for clients planning to build new homes, renovate or upgrade existing properties, or redesign and furnish their living spaces, within a seamless and well-structured experience.

“NBK Al Manzel” stands as the largest and most comprehensive specialized housing finance program in Kuwait, offering fully integrated solutions for home construction, renovation, and refurbishment. It has been carefully designed based on a deep understanding of customer needs and the complexities of housing-related decisions, delivering financial flexibility, streamlined processes, and practical support across every stage of the journey.

The program extends beyond traditional lending, offering a fully integrated ecosystem of solutions and support services that accompany customers from initial planning through to project completion, enhancing the overall experience while instilling greater confidence and peace of mind.



Abdulahman Al-Terkait



Flexible Financing Solutions with Competitive Advantages

The program offers personal loans of up to KWD 95,000 to meet a wide range of housing finance needs, whether for construction, renovation, or home furnishing, supported by a suite of competitive features that have contributed to its strong customer uptake, including:

- Flexible repayment tenors aligned with customers' income profiles
- Grace period of up to 12 months
- Fast and streamlined processing
- Exclusive offers and privileges in collaboration with the program's partners

Extensive Partner Network

“NBK Al Manzel” is distinguished by its collaboration with more than 70 strategic partners across design, construction, furniture, and home solutions, providing customers with a wide range of reliable options that facilitate the efficient and high-quality execution of their housing projects.

In this context, Abdulrahman Al-Terkait, Vice President – Head of Mortgage at National Bank of Kuwait, said: “The strong demand witnessed by the ‘NBK Al Manzel’ program since its launch reaffirms the success of our vision to deliver flexible and well-structured housing finance solutions, supported by a high-quality network of partners that meets our customers' needs and simplifies their homebuilding and renovation journey.”

“At NBK, we believe that owning a dream home goes beyond a financial decision, it is a defining milestone that reflects an individual's lifestyle and future aspirations. With this in mind, we have designed a program that delivers a fully integrated experience, from the initial concept to the realization of a lifetime homeownership goal,” he added.

Al-Terkait emphasized that NBK aims to be a trusted partner to its customers at every stage of their housing journey, offering a holistic experience that combines financing with comprehensive support, reflecting the Bank's commitment to enhancing customers' quality of life and delivering value beyond traditional lending.

‘Gateway to White Winter’

Jazeera Airways relaunches direct Kuwait-Yerevan flights

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: Jazeera Airways announced the relaunch of direct flights between Kuwait and Yerevan, the capital of Armenia, from 3 December 2026, restoring direct connectivity to one of the airline's popular destinations.

Flights will initially operate twice weekly, increasing to three times a week from 22 December 2026, providing customers with greater choice and convenient direct access to Armenia during the peak winter travel period.

His Excellency Arsen A. Arakelyan, Ambassador of Armenia to Kuwait said: “Armenia welcomes the Jazeera Airways decision to re-launch its direct flights connecting two friendly countries Kuwait and Armenia. We are confident that these flights will contribute heavily to the furthering of mutually beneficial cooperation and increase the tourist flow from both destination.”

Yerevan has been a popular destination on the Jazeera Airways network, recording strong demand during the airline's previous operations. The relaunch reflects this continued customer interest and Jazeera Airways' commitment to strengthening direct point-to-point connectivity from Kuwait to destinations with strong leisure, visiting friends and relatives, and business travel potential.

Barathan Pasupathi, Chief Executive Officer, Jazeera Airways, said: “We are very pleased to welcome Yerevan back to the Jazeera Airways network. Armenia has proven to be a popular destination with our customers, and the strong demand we have seen for this route gives us confidence

in its return. By restoring direct flights between Kuwait and Yerevan, we are rebuilding an important point-to-point connection that will support tourism, trade and closer ties between our two countries. We look forward to working closely with our partners across Kuwait and Armenia, including the travel trade, governments, airports and tourism stakeholders, to build demand and make the relaunch of this route a long-term success.”

With its blend of historic landmarks, vibrant city life and easy access to Armenia's mountain landscapes and winter attractions, just over two hours from Kuwait, Yerevan offers an appealing getaway for travellers looking for a distinctive short-haul destination.

Barathan also highlighted: “Looking ahead, the resumption of transfer connectivity through Kuwait will further strengthen the viability of markets such as Yerevan and across our wider network, by giving customers access to convenient onward connections through Kuwait. This will enable us to attract more traffic through Kuwait, support the development of new and existing routes, and contribute positively to Kuwait's ambition to strengthen its position as a regional air hub.”

The restored service will further support tourism, travel and trade between Kuwait and Armenia, while strengthening people-to-people connections between the two countries. It also provides travellers from Kuwait and the wider region with convenient access to Armenia's rich history, culture, cuisine and growing year-round tourism offering.



Jazeera Airways resumes Yerevan route.

Reinforcing the Bank's longstanding focus on social responsibility

Gulf Bank enhances its commitment to women's health during ‘Breast Cancer Awareness Month’

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: Gulf Bank is marking Breast Cancer Awareness Month with initiatives that encourage early detection and support women's physical and mental wellbeing. Part of the Bank's ongoing corporate social responsibility program, the initiatives reflect its conviction that women's health is fundamental to their empowerment and to the wellbeing of the wider community.

Women's empowerment is a core priority for Gulf Bank. Alongside supporting women's professional development and leadership, the Bank recognizes the importance of helping women make informed decisions about their health. Its October initiatives combine public awareness with practical offers intended to make healthcare and wellbeing services more accessible to eligible customers.

As a visible expression of this commitment, Gulf Bank has illuminated its headquarters in pink, standing in solidarity with people affected by breast cancer and their families. The illumination carries a practical message: make time for your health, seek reliable information and speak to a healthcare professional about the checks appropriate for you.

Consistent with international guidance, the Bank's awareness message emphasizes recognizing changes in breast health, seeking prompt medical advice and discussing screening based on individual age and risk. Early detection, followed by timely diagnosis and appropriate treatment, can improve outcomes and save lives. Women who notice a new lump or other unusual change should seek medical advice rather than wait for a routine screening appointment.

Gulf Bank's involvement builds on years of support for Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Previous initiatives have included a community walkathon and



Gulf Bank illuminates its headquarters in pink.

awareness session at Al Shaheed Park, healthcare offers for customers, and complimentary health checks for female employees, with further examinations where medically recommended. This sustained participation reflects the Bank's approach to social responsibility through education, community engagement and practical support.

This year's initiatives include exclusive offers for female customers holding Gulf Bank credit and prepaid cards. Offers at Kuwait Hospital are available until 31 October 2026. Customers can also benefit from a 20% discount on all medical examinations at IMAGES Centre and a 20% discount on all monthly meal subscriptions through the Approved Life app, both available until 31 December 2026. Additional offers through Areeka, available until 30 November 2026, support mental wellbeing.

Together, these offers support a broader approach to women's wellbeing, covering medical care, nutrition and mental health. The Bank encourages eligible customers to consult qualified healthcare professionals when choosing medical examinations and to review the applicable terms and conditions of each offer.

The initiatives sit within Gulf Bank's wider commitment to community wellbeing and women's empowerment, including its Women of Wisdom program, which supports female employees' personal growth and leadership development. By connecting health awareness with opportunities for women to thrive, the Bank reinforces the role of responsible businesses in supporting a more inclusive society.

These efforts support the aims of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal 3 on Good Health and Wellbeing and Goal 5 on Gender Equality, and Kuwait's vision for human development and improved quality of life. Gulf Bank continues to encourage women, families and the wider community to make health a year-round priority, carrying the message of Breast Cancer Awareness Month beyond October.



Deena Al Refai, Executive Vice President, Wealth Management and Business Development; Lisa Amin, Head of European Real Estate Business Development; Sondos Saad, Senior Vice President, Corporate Communications; and Rasha Othman, Executive Vice President, Investment Banking.



Participants at the Women Shaping Wealth Summit 2026 in Riyadh.

Markaz participates in Women Shaping Wealth Summit 2026

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: Kuwait Financial Centre “Markaz” concluded its participation in the Women Shaping Wealth Summit 2026, held on 28 and 29 September in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Deena AlRefai, Executive Vice President and Head of Wealth Management and Business Development at Markaz, represented Markaz and served on the Demo Day judging panel.

The women delegates representing Markaz at the summit also included Rasha Othman, Executive Vice President, Investment Banking; Sondos Saad, Senior Vice President, Corporate Communications; and Lisa Amin, Head of European Real Estate Business Development, International Real Estate.

The Summit's two-day Live Demo Day connected women founders directly with angel investors, venture capital firms and investment decision-

makers, giving participating ventures an opportunity to present their businesses, receive investor feedback and strengthen their understanding of what is required to attract capital.

Markaz contributed an institutional investment perspective to the evaluation process, drawing on its experience in wealth management and assessing investment opportunities. During the judging process, AlRefai focused on the clarity of each business model, its relevance to market needs, scalability, potential to create sustainable value and readiness to attract appropriate capital.

AlRefai said: “From an institutional investor's perspective, innovation is only the starting point. Turning an idea into an investable proposition requires a clear business model, a strong understanding of the market, scalability and a credible path to sustainable value creation. Demo Day gave us the opportunity

to engage directly with women-led ventures and assess how effectively their solutions address real needs across wealth, investment and financial services.”

She added: “Financial institutions and investors can help women-led ventures become better prepared to access capital by translating investment criteria into practical guidance. Clear feedback on business-model strength, scalability and investor expectations can help founders identify readiness gaps and focus on the capabilities required for their next stage of growth. Drawing on Markaz's experience in wealth management and evaluating investment opportunities, we sought to make that contribution through the judging process.”

This engagement builds on Markaz's contributions to regional platforms that bring together entrepreneurs, investors and industry experts. At MoneyTech 2025, Markaz served as Strategic Partner for the fourth consecutive year, with AlRefai joining a panel exploring the needs of the next generation of founders and investors and their evolving wealth management requirements. Markaz also supported GCC Connect: E2I – Kuwait 2026 as Gold Sponsor, contributing to discussions on startup financing, innovation ecosystem development and connecting entrepreneurs with capital and expertise.

Across these platforms, Markaz applies its investment expertise to advance professional dialogue and knowledge exchange, while helping promising ventures better understand the requirements of growth and institutional investment. This supports the development of innovative ideas into scalable businesses capable of creating long-term value.

Bangladesh's FY27 Q1 remittances soar 13.3%

DHAKA, Oct 5, (Xinhua): The inflow of remittances from millions of Bangladeshis living and working abroad grew by 13.3 percent year-on-year to 8.59 billion U.S. dollars in the first quarter (July-September) of the 2026-27 fiscal year, the latest data showed on Sunday.

Figures from Bangladesh Bank also showed an inflow of 2.77 billion dollars in September 2026, up from 2.69 billion dollars in September 2025.

According to the data, remittances, a key source of foreign exchange for the

South Asian nation, increased by 22.5 percent year-on-year to 2.97 billion dollars in August.

In the 2025-26 fiscal year, remittances from some 10 million Bangladeshis living and working in more than 100 countries and regions amounted to 35.56 billion dollars.

Remittances come mainly from Middle Eastern countries, such as the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

Gold flourishes abound

Oval gets gilded glow



A replica of President Donald Trump’s Oval Office is updated to the current decor by workers at “The People’s House: A White House Experience,” in Washington, Friday, Oct. 2, 2026. (AP)

It’s glitzier. And there’s way more gold. The People’s House museum exhibit has overhauled its replica Oval Office for visitors to experience President Donald Trump’s second-term design choices.

Gleaming vases, golden-hued swirling onlays, two dozen portraits in heavy gilded frames and knickknacks crowding nearly every available surface: the same rococo flourishes that Trump has installed in the world’s most famous workspace have been recreated down to each wall appliqué in a museum just up Pennsylvania Avenue from the White House.

“As political as the Oval Office is, it really is also the office of the American people,” said Luke Boorady, managing director of The People’s House: A White House Experience. “And we want visitors who come here to feel more connected to this space.”

Public tours of the White House do not include the West Wing. So the White House Historical Association set about recreating the Oval Office, opening the exhibit in September 2024. It is the same size as the real one, and visitors often marvel at how small it feels.

A team of specialized designers has been making over the exhibit, visiting Trump’s Oval Office while the Republican president was away. Experts in North Carolina worked to recreate Trump’s many wall appliques, while one from Indianapolis handled 3D scanning and printing of other specialized objects. California frame-makers did carving by hand for the gold frames of Trump’s chosen 24 portraits, and teams from Canada and Virginia worked on replicas of vases and other tabletop pieces, Boorady said.

There are also two mirrors and a copy of the Declaration of Independence, just like in Trump’s actual office.

A real estate developer before he became a politician, Trump has revamped the White House to his extravagant tastes as part of his push to leave his mark on the nation’s capital while he is still in office.

When asked by Time magazine last week what he would miss most about the White House after he leaves, Trump said, “This beautiful room that nobody should be allowed to rip down. The Oval Office.” He said he had asked his chief of staff to make his altered office “a federal landmark.”

In addition to filling the Oval Office with bling, Trump paved over the lawn near the Rose Garden to build a patio space reminiscent of the one at his Mar-a-Lago estate in Florida. He installed a row of presidential portraits along the colonnade between the White House residence and the West Wing.

He erected towering flagpoles on the North and South lawns, renovated the Palm Room and the bathroom that is part of the famous Lincoln Bedroom and ordered restoration work of the North Portico’s front columns.

But Trump seems proudest of the \$400 million ballroom that he is building after ordering that the East Wing be demolished. “It relaxes me, actually,” the president said about the ballroom project during an unrelated event last week.

Trump’s sense of ownership of



the White House is now such that while recently defending his attempt to ban CNN, MS Now and Politico from its grounds, the president had a momentary slip of the tongue. “I don’t have to let them into my - into the people’s house,” he said.

When the White House Historical Association first opened its Oval Office duplicate, it mirrored Democratic President Joe Biden’s design. After the 2024 election, the association updated the exhibit to match Trump’s first-term style.

Last week, a crew of 25 people worked from early Monday through late Friday to get the second-term transformation ready, making the finishing touches on Saturday.

Boorady said Biden was the first president to hang double layers of portraits over the Oval Office fireplace. Trump has expanded that all around the room, stacking the walls with portraits including those of George Washington, Andrew Jackson and Benjamin Franklin.

In the real Oval Office, the colors are made more brilliant by using gilded gold leaf. In the replica, crews used a paint solution. Boorady said they did not use gold leaf to protect against chipping or other wear-and-tear from visitors moving through the area.

Trump was once spotted using superglue to try to affix gold ornaments to the Oval Office fireplace,

according to Maggie Haberman and Jonathan Swan in their book “Regime Change.”

But no superglue was needed in the replica office. Crews used laser levels and temporary adhesive to fix items to the walls, checking their work for accuracy against renderings of the actual office before nailing many adornments to the walls.

There are many things in Trump’s Oval Office that have stood the test of time: a beige-patterned rug from the Ronald Reagan era, gold draperies from Bill Clinton’s tenure,

and couches and chairs from the George W. Bush White House.

Of course there is a copy of the Resolute Desk. Visitors to the People’s House are allowed to sit in the chairs and behind the replicated desk, which Trump and most presidents have used since it was gifted to President Rutherford B. Hayes in

1880.

The White House Historical Association declined to say how much remaking the replica Oval Office cost. The organization, created in 1961 by first lady Jacqueline Kennedy, receives no government funding, and raises money through private donations and sales of retail

merchandise.

Trump briefly stopped by its gift shop during an unannounced visit to the People’s House in August 2025. Asked whether Trump would come for a personal peek at his newly replicated workspace, Boorady replied, “I don’t know” before adding that he is “always welcome.” (AP)



Under the direction of Managing Director Luke Boorady, center, a replica of President Donald Trump’s Oval Office is updated to the current decor by workers at “The People’s House: A White House Experience,” in Washington, Friday, Oct. 2, 2026. (AP)

US reached child safety accord this summer; will AI safety be next?

Social media addiction reckoning came too late for many kids

NEW YORK, Oct 5, (AP): Years after the risks of social media for kids first became apparent, U.S. states this summer reached an accord hailed as a turning point for child safety. Meanwhile, a new generation of children has begun engaging with an even more potent technology: artificial intelligence.

While the efforts to make social media safer are still taking shape, they offer some lessons for those looking to protect children using AI - technology that is growing so quickly, the extent of its risks for young people and their development is just emerging.

When Meta agreed to changes to its social media platforms and enhanced safeguards in an \$18 billion settlement, it made progress by "getting at what we've known for years" about the dangers, said Kristin Bride, a parent advocate who has fought for social media reform since the death of her teenage son. "How

are we going to get at what we don't know is coming?"

AI companies have begun rolling out some safety features introduced first by social media companies, including age assurance measures and restricted experiences for minors. But advocates say the most important takeaway from the efforts of parents, tech companies and regulators to find a way forward on social media safety may be to act sooner on mitigating AI's harms for kids.

"The greatest legacy from the social media experiment and learnings is that hopefully we're not going to sleepwalk into this next tech revolution," said Dr. Dana Suskind, a professor of surgery and pediatrics at the University of Chicago, and author of "Human Raised." "We learned that we had it all backwards, right? You don't unleash something on a population, figure out if it does harm or not in real time, and then go back and say, 'Oops.'"



ChatGPT history by a teenager is seen at a coffee shop in Russellville, Ark., on July 15, 2025. (AP)

Concerns around social media have centered on the amount of time kids spend on platforms like Instagram and TikTok, and the consequences for their mental health. Advocates also have focused on data

privacy and kids' vulnerability to cyberbullying or predators who find them online.

Artificial intelligence can be more pervasive for kids. Children not only see AI-generated content on social media platforms, but they can also readily communicate with AI chatbots, including some on social media apps. Many use it for help with school and homework. Some have formed unhealthy relationships with chatbots, and experts have raised questions about how access to AI is affecting children's brain development. Companies are pushing AI-powered toys for kids as young as 2.

Campaigns for social media and AI safety for kids are both playing out on legal and legislative fronts. Individuals and states have sued tech companies over concerns around their products' safety and both state and federal lawmakers are grappling with how to regulate the tech.

Compared with social media com-

panies, AI giants have been moving somewhat more quickly to add safeguards, motivated perhaps by the growing regulatory and societal scrutiny of social media's effects on kids' mental health.

OpenAI introduced teen accounts in August, about four years after launching ChatGPT, with restrictions that include a ban on romantic chats and any suggestions that the chatbot has personal feelings toward the user.

Meta, which bought Instagram in 2012, didn't launch teen accounts on the platform until 2024.

In announcing the settlement agreement this summer, Meta said that "ensuring teens have a safe and productive experience on our platforms is an absolute imperative" for the company. Meta also urged its competitors, TikTok and YouTube, to adopt some of the standards it is implementing as a result of the settlement.

Music



Joan Baez, left, and Bruce Springsteen perform during the Power To The People Festival on Saturday, Oct. 3, 2026, in Columbia, Md. (AP)

Stars rally for peace, justice and voting

Springsteen headlines DC 'Power to the People' fest

COLUMBIA, Md., Oct 5, (AP): In the shadow of Washington, Bruce Springsteen and a few musical giants had a message for the world: "Let them hear you in Washington," he cheered.

The Boss played a number of political songs during his headlining set at the inaugural "Power to the People" star-studded protest festival at Columbia, Maryland's Merriweather Post Pavilion on Saturday. Organized by Rage Against the Machine's Tom Morello, the festival aimed to celebrate "peace, justice, solidarity, music and community action," according to its mission statement, and promote voter turnout.

Additionally, a portion of the proceeds from all ticket sales will benefit the organizations VoteRiders and HeadCount.

Many of the acts used their platform to denounce recent actions conducted by the U.S. government.

For example, Springsteen opened with "Streets of Minneapolis," in response to the killings of Renée Good and Alex Pretti by federal immigration agents.

"The power and solidarity of the people of Minneapolis, of Minne-

sota, is an inspiration to the entire country," he told the sold-out crowd. "Their strength and their commitment told us that this is still America, and this will not stand. They gave us hope. They showed us courage."

For his second number, folk icon Joan Baez emerged, and the pair duetted Bob Dylan's "Chimes of Freedom." Later, Springsteen, Morello, Dave Matthews and Nathaniel Rateliff joined forces for Creedence Clearwater Revival's "Fortunate Son."

In addition to the protest music on stage, fans in the crowd wore shirts with strong messages. "Immigrants Make America Great," read one. "No Kings," "No one is illegal on stolen land," "Bring on the Matriarchy" read others.

And across the fest grounds stood a "Freedom Village," an activation where attendees could engage with nonprofits like the ACLU, Farm Aid, the National Domestic Workers Alliance, Oxfam and more.

"Power to the People" was revealed in May, around the same time several musical guests announced they had backed out of America's 250th anniversary celebration, "The

Great American State Fair," over the event's ties to President Donald Trump.

"Power to the People" stood in stark opposition. The one-day, two-stage festival boasted a stacked lineup heavy with veteran rock 'n' roll bands. It also included performances by acts like Dropkick Murphys, Jack Black, Serj Tankian, Killer Mike and the Linda Lindas.

And conveniently, "Power to the People" took place one month before the midterm elections.

"I think the timing is a reminder that showing up matters. I'm not here to tell anyone what to think or how to vote," Taylor Momsen, one of the festival's performers, told The Associated Press. "I hope people leave feeling connected, inspired to care about the people around them, and reminded that we all have a part to play in our communities. If the festival can create that feeling, I think that's a win."

Among those in attendance was former Justice Department special counsel Jack Smith, who was photographed by fellow concertgoers wearing a black Springsteen T-shirt that said "No Kings" in images

widely shared online.

His public appearance came just days after a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing in which he firmly defended the two prosecutions he brought against President Donald Trump over the Republican's efforts to undo the presidential election and his retention of classified records at his Mar-a-Lago estate.

After the news organization Just the News publicized Smith's attendance, Trump lashed out against his long-running antagonist, sharing the story about the concert on Truth Social and adding the message: "Deranged Jack Smith is a Crooked Prosecutor! President DJT."

Political messaging arrived fast and furious at the event. One of the day's earliest performers, the rap rock artist Grandson, performed a song with the refrain "My president's a felon" before launching into a cover of Bob Dylan's Cold War protest, "Masters of War."

Later, a livestream broadcast of the "Power to the People" festival cut out as Grandson introduced two actors portraying Jeffrey Epstein and Trump, who joined him on stage, connected by a leash.

Stone could be worth \$1M?

Arkansas diamond hunter finds stunning 6-carat gem

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Oct 5, (AP): Jack Pearadin is the first to admit that his diamond-hunting hobby hasn't paid off, despite sifting rocks for more than a dozen years.

But earlier this year, the Navy reservist and his friend shoveled a six-carat diamond from a field in Arkansas where he's found over 300 gems so far. And this one was like nothing he's dug up before - Pearadin claims collectors have told him it could be worth over \$1 million.

At least one experienced appraiser told The Associated Press that a diamond of such size and quality could be worth a fourth of that - still an impressive find.

"Oh my God! Oh my God!" Pearadin said as he livestreamed the discovery on TikTok. "Holy crap, we got a big one!" he yelled after rinsing gravel from a bucket and then flipping the pile onto a table to expose the shiny facets of a 6.03-carat diamond.

Roughly the size of a fingernail, it's the largest diamond found this year at Crater of Diamonds State Park. More than 37,000 diamonds have been discovered since the former open-pit diamond mine became part of a state park in 1972.

The park charges a \$15 entry fee to fill a 5-gallon bucket with rocks, and people can keep any gemstones they find. Most are small and worth maybe a few hundred dollars. The largest diamond ever unearthed in the United States, a 40.23-carat stone called the Uncle Sam, was found at the park in 1924.

Pearadin, originally from Missouri, has been trying his luck at the park since 2013, even moving to nearby Murfreesboro to support his hobby - "I love it that much," he told The Associated Press. He's sold most of his diamonds online.



This photo provided by Jack Pearadin shows Brian Busse on Aug. 9, 2026, in Buena Vista, Colo., holding a 6-carat diamond found by Pearadin and Michael Schumacher. (AP)

Most of the 400 to 800 diamonds found at the park annually weigh about a quarter of a carat, according to park interpreter Sarah Bivens. But there have been some bigger ones, said park assistant superintendent Waymon Cox: In 2020 a 9-carat diamond was found by an Arkansas bank manager, and in 2024 a French man unearthed a 7-carat diamond.

Diamonds are crystallized under tremendous pressure and heat deep inside the Earth and then thrust to the surface through volcanic activity before they're scattered by water or wind. These natural diamonds are often cloudy and oddly shaped, and lose about 25% of their weight as they're cut and polished into what a jeweler would sell, according to Nathan Renfro, senior manager at the Gemological Institute of America.



The remains of medieval ruler Czar Samuel are seen inside a coffin during a handover ceremony, in Thessaloniki, northern Greece, Saturday, Oct. 3, 2026. (AP)

Remains found 60 years ago

Medieval Czar returns to Bulgaria

SOFIA, Bulgaria, Oct 5. (AP): The remains of medieval ruler Czar Samuel arrived in Bulgaria on Saturday, after decades of negotiations with neighboring Greece.

Samuel, or Samuil in Bulgarian, was a warrior emperor who battled the Byzantine Empire to expand his kingdom but was ultimately defeated and died shortly afterward in 1014. He is considered a symbol of Bulgaria's national identity.

The remains, discovered at a Greek border area 60 years ago, were flown to the Bulgarian capital, Sofia, aboard a military aircraft that was escorted by Bulgarian air force fighter jets from the country's border with Greece.

The coffin with the remains arrived at a central square in Sofia, where it was welcomed by thousands of Bulgarians. In a rare show of unity, politicians from all ends of the fragmented political spectrum also paid tribute to the medieval ruler, listening to the national anthem and a 21-gun salute.

"Today we Europeans are learning to read history with a desire to belong not only to our homeland, but also to the culture that unites us across the entire European continent," Bulgarian Prime Minister Rumen Radev said at the ceremony.

"That is why Europe must not reopen old wounds but must work for peace as the supreme good," Radev added, referring to the centuries-long history of rivalry between the two neighboring states.

A procession accompanied the remains of Czar Samuel to the nearby Church of Saint Sophia, a sixth-century basilica that gave its name to the Bulgarian capital. According to church officials, Samuel was baptized in this church.

"More than a millennium after his life and historic feat, Czar Samuel returns to his people to remain forever in Bulgaria," said Patriarch Danil, the head of Bulgaria's Orthodox Church, in a prayer at the white marble sarcophagus where the remains were laid to rest.

Preserved behind the gates

Ancient Shanxi temple draws visitors as tourism booms

TAIYUAN, Oct. 5, (Xinhua): For years, Yang Liangen saw strangers as a threat.

After a series of break-in attempts at a 900-year-old temple in north China's Shanxi Province, Yang moved into the compound in 1997, sleeping behind its gates and guarding its rare sculptures and wooden structures.

Nearly three decades later, he eagerly waits for strangers to arrive. "We used to be afraid when people came," Yang said. "Now we hope they will come."

Located in Xiaonan Village in Jincheng City, Erxian Temple fully opened to the public in 2024 as interest in Shanxi's ancient architecture surged following the release of "Black Myth: Wukong," a blockbuster Chinese video game.

During China's National Day holiday that year, Yang counted 1,280 visitors in a single day -- a record



This photo taken on Feb. 28, 2025 shows the Hanging Temple, or Xuankong Temple, in Hunyuan County, Datong City in north China's Shanxi Province. (Xinhua)

for a site whose gates had long been kept mostly shut. The crowds have continued to grow, with more than 4,300 people visiting the temple from Oct. 1 to 3 this year.

The change at Erxian Temple re-

flects a broader shift across China, as growing interest in cultural tourism brings new attention to historic buildings that for decades were little known beyond their local communities.

Built in 1097, Erxian Temple is a major national cultural heritage site. Its main hall is known for rare Song Dynasty (960-1279) painted sculptures and an exceptionally well-preserved miniature wooden architectural structure known locally as the "sky bridge."

Dubbed China's "above-ground cultural relics museum," Shanxi is home to over 28,000 ancient structures. The province also preserves more than 12,000 painted sculptures and 24,000 square meters of murals from the Tang Dynasty (618-907) onward.

Preserved behind the gates

For Yang, the new attention marks a dramatic change from the late 1990s.

Facing growing risks to the temple in 1997, Yang, then the village Party secretary, took responsibility for Erxian Temple and moved in with his wife.

Regular mammogram screening, urges MoH

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: The Ministry of Health has urged the public to undergo mam-mograms for the early de-tection of breast cancer, as screening can identify breast changes at an early stage, even before symptoms ap-pear, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The ministry explained that appointments can be booked through the “Sahel” and “Sa-lem” applications.

Screening centers are avail-able across several health zones. These centers include Sheikhan Ahmed Al-Farsi and Sharifa Al-Awadhi Health Center in Surra in Capital Gov-ernorate, Zahra Health Center and South Khaitan Health Center in Farwaniya Governorate, Naeem Health Center in Jahra Governorate and Egaila Health Center in Ahmadi Governor-ate.

The ministry emphasized the importance of not delay-ing screening, noting that early detection can improve treatment outcomes.

Kuwait launches ‘Pink October’

Women’s Cultural Society honors over 100 breast cancer fighters, survivors

By Inaas Awadh
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: The Wom-en’s Cultural and Social Society honored more than 100 women, who are currently battling breast cancer and those who recovered from it, in an event filled with messages of hope, awareness and support.

This is a charitable awareness gathering titled, “Be Aware in Pink... Today’s Awareness is To-morrow’s Health,” was organized by the Health Program Unit of the so-ciety to coincide with the launching of ‘Pink October’ -- the breast cancer awareness month.

The event took on a unique spirit this year, as it went beyond disease awareness to put under the spotlight the personal stories of the breast cancer fighters and survivors. It conveyed a powerful message that the cancer journey does not end with a diagnosis, and life continues after treatment, provided one prioritizes regular checkups.

Dr. Fajr Al-Husseini, Secretary of the society and Head of the Health Program Unit, told the newspaper that this year’s event focused on sur-vivors and newly diagnosed patients



Haifa Al-Mousa

due two fundamental messages. First, early detection is the primary line of defense against breast cancer, and second, is that recovery does not mean one can neglect ongoing medi-cal checkups.

She explained that fear—whether of the mammogram or the word ‘cancer’ itself—could prompt some women to postpone screening. She

stated that medicines and treatments have significantly improved the prospects of managing the disease, while early detection remains a crucial factor in shortening treatment duration and increasing the chances of full recovery.

Aziza Abel, a member of the Health Committee, stated that the association is committed to raising breast cancer



Dr. Fajr Al-Husseini honors Dr. Intisar Al-Hindal.

awareness annually through diverse methods. She pointed out that hearing the experiences of survivors conveys a powerful message to women just beginning their treatment journeys, af-firming that a diagnosis does not mark the end of life.

Abel urged women not to fear screening, highlighting the impor-tance of starting necessary check-

ups at age 40, as well as performing self-examinations at an earlier age and utilizing various awareness and communication resources.

Dr. Maryam Al-Shatti, a diagnos-tic radiologist at Mubarak Hospital and Head of the National Breast Cancer Early Detection Program of the Health Ministry, emphasized that while breast cancer is one of the most common cancers among women, it is also highly treatable. She stressed the importance of early detection to ensure the best chances of recovery.

She indicated that incidence rates in Kuwait are high compared to global figures, with the disease ap-pear-ing at a younger age, but there have been significant advancements in Kuwait’s treatment system in terms of medical equipment, medi-cations and specialized care.

She pointed out that recovery rates are linked to the stage at which the disease is detected, explaining that detection at the first stage raises the recovery rate to about 98 percent.

The event has a diverse program combining physical activities, health awareness, psychosocial support, and lectures on early detection, nu-trition, mental health and women’s health.



A photo from the event.

MoH launches non-communicable diseases prevention awareness campaign

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5, (KUNA): The Ministry of Health, represented by the Department of Non-Comm-unicable Diseases (NCD) Prevention, launched a national awareness and early detection campaign for non-communicable diseases on Monday at The Avenues Mall.

The campaign, with the participa-tion of 15 entities from within and outside the Ministry, will run at vari-ous primary healthcare centers, con-cluding on October 29 at the Min-istry’s headquarters.

In a statement to KUNA, Dr. Wa-faa Al-Kandari Director of the De-partment of NCD Prevention said that the campaign aligns with devel-opment plans and strategies aimed at promoting public health, and to foster healthy lifestyles and curb high-risk behaviors such as smoking, unhealthy diets, physical inactivity, and obesity.

She noted that the campaign fo-cuses on raising awareness about cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, cancer, and chronic respiratory dis-eases, which are leading causes of



Public Health Senior Specialist at the Department of NCD Prevention Dr. Lamia Al-Arabi.



KUNA photos
Director of the Department of NCD Prevention Dr. Wafaa Al-Kandari.

death both locally and globally, em-phasizing that addressing risk factors contributes directly to disease pre-vention and the avoidance of pre-mature death.

For her part, Dr. Lamia Al-Arabi, Public Health Senior Specialist at the

Department of NCD Prevention, stated to KUNA that the campaign primar-ily aims to improve the quality of life and promote healthy lifestyles in the country, provide the public with reli-able medical information, and intensify early detection programs for NCDs.

Method now being used in laboratories around the world

Nobel medicine prize goes to three scientists for research into brain activity

STOCKHOLM, Oct 5, (AP): The Nobel Prize in medicine was award-ed Monday to three scientists who created a tool using light to help un-ravel how the brain works.

Karl Deisseroth, 54, Peter Hege-mann, 71, and Georg Nagel, 73, have carried out research into light-gated ion channels and optogenetics.

The Nobel Assembly lauded their work and said the method is now being used in laboratories around the world to reveal the brain’s mysteries.

The assembly said Deisseroth is based at Stanford University in Cali-fornia, while Hegemann is at Hum-boldt University in Berlin and Nagel at the University of Würzburg, also in Germany.

Optogenetics opened what the No-bel assembly called a new era in neu-roscience, the discovery of a light-controlled switch to turn on and off

nerve cells and circuits in the brain to better learn how it works - to start unraveling the pathways that lead to behavior and disease.

It started when Hegemann ex-plored how a single-celled type of green algae can swim toward light. He and Nagel discovered a particu-lar protein that, when illuminated by blue light, opens a channel to create an electrical impulse. Putting that protein into other cells makes them light-sensitive.

Deisseroth then worked with the gene that controls that protein to create a light-controlled switch for nerve cells in the brains of living mice.

“It’s a very precise set of tools for doing experiments about how the brain works that are pretty hard to do any other way,” said the University of Pittsburgh’s Jeremy Berg. He was at the National Institutes of Health in



Karl Deisseroth, Peter Hegemann and Georg Nagel are shown on the screen as they are awarded the 2026 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medi-cine, as announced during a press conference at the Nobel Forum at Karo-linska Institutet in Stockholm, Sweden on Oct 5. (AP)

the early 2000s when it awarded De-isseroff major funding for “this vi-sion of optogenetics that was pretty much spot-on the way it played out.”

Deisseroth, a self-described night owl, said he was up late in his North-ern California home working on pa-pers and emailing his students. He had just gone to lie down when he got the call from the Nobel assem-bly.

“No real sleep was achieved,” he told The Associated Press in a phone call an hour after the announcement.

He said the next task on his to-do list was to pack school lunches for his children, who were still sound asleep.

“That’s my one obligation I have in the next few hours, to make sure I make their sandwiches,” he said.

Thomas Perlmann, the secretary of the medicine committee, said he was able to reach all three winners

Monday. The AP’s efforts to reach Hegemann and Nagel were not im-mediately successful.

The prize was announced at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, kicking off Nobels week. The prize money this year is 12 million Swed-ish kronor (about \$1.2 million).

Last year, the prize went to three scientists researching the immune system.

Monday’s medicine prize is fol-lowed by the physics prize on Tues-day, chemistry on Wednesday and literature on Thursday.

After Friday’s peace prize is awarded, the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences will be an-nounced on Oct. 12.

The prize money this year is 12 million Swedish kronor (about \$1.2 million), whether for an individual, small group of laureates or organiza-tion.

Scientists search for answers as baby whales wash up dead in Argentina

PENINSULA VALDES, Argentina, Oct 5, (AP): Investigators in Argen-tina are trying to solve the mystery of baby whales washing up dead in unusually high numbers along the country’s Patagonian coast.

Scores of the calf carcasses have been washing ashore around Pen-insula Valdes, a major breeding ground for southern right whales in Argentina’s Chubut province. Hunted to the brink of extinction in the 19th and 20th centuries, the whales now gather in the penin-sula’s sheltered waters to give birth and nurse their young.

“We’re looking into the whale calf deaths based on 23 years of monitor-ing that we have of this same popu-lation. That’s what allows us to say that this is an unusual event,” said Marce-la Uhart, a veterinarian with the One Health Institute at the University of California, Davis, who is leading the investigation as head of the Southern Right Whale Health Monitoring Pro-gram.

The leading hypothesis is that the whale calves are suffering infections from marine bacteria that can enter their bodies through injuries inflicted by kelp gulls, Uhart said.

For decades, the seabirds have pecked at whales surfacing to breathe, gorging on their skin and blubber. Adults learn to surface with



Seabirds perch on the carcass of a southern right whale off El Doradillo Beach near Puerto Madryn, Argentina on Sept 30. (AP)

only their heads exposed, keeping their backs underwater and out of reach of the gulls. Calves can’t do that maneuver, leaving them vulner-able to attacks.

The carcasses have been wash-ing ashore around the gulf city of Puerto Madryn, including near the central waterfront where they alarm residents and tourists. Residents have reported hundreds of them, but researchers declined to give a death toll, saying that would become clear

after the season ends around late No-vember.

Uhart and a team of biologists, veterinarians and park rangers have been searching the area for the dead calves from shore and with boats, planes and drones.

The work is gruesome: They pho-tograph and examine the bodies, rac-ing against decomposition to collect skin and organ samples for testing at a veterinary school farther north, in the city of Tandil.

Here’s why experts say now an ideal time to protect yourself from flu

IT’S October and time for flu shots. Medical experts urge getting a flu vaccination soon, before influenza starts spreading widely - and to get up to date on protection against other fall respiratory viruses, too. Updated COVID-19 shots are available now, plus shots for people especially vul-nerable to another winter risk called RSV.

While these infections make many people feel miserable for a few days before they recover, ev-ery year flu alone causes hundreds of thousands of hospitalizations in the U.S. and kills tens of thou-sands.

Vaccination isn’t “a guarantee that we’re going to prevent illness. But just like the seat belt in your car, it decreases risk” of the worst outcomes, said Dr. Ryan Stanton of the American College of Emergency Physicians.

Fall vaccine advice usually comes from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and its independent advisory panel. But this year that panel, which influences state and in-surance vaccine policies, is caught in a court battle and the CDC hasn’t updated its flu advice.

Now doctors’ groups are filling the gap: the American Academy of Pe-diatrics, American Academy of Fam-ily Physicians, American College

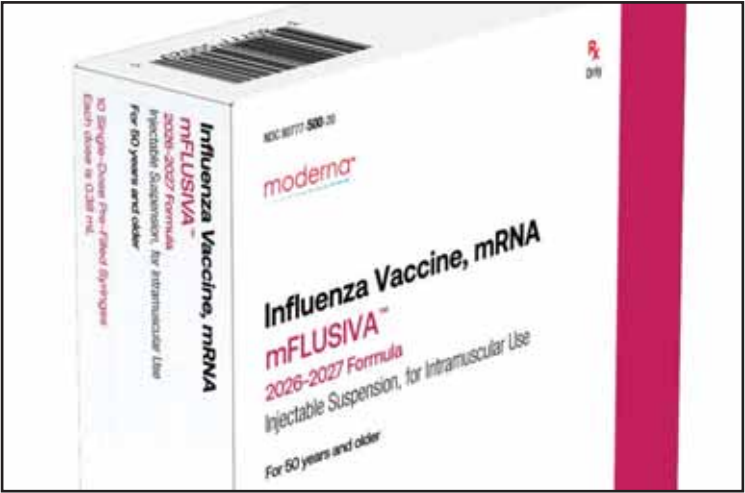
of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, and the Infectious Diseases Society of America have posted vaccination guidelines for their patient popu-lations plus the scientific evidence be-hind them.

Here’s what to know:

Just about everybody starting at age 6 months needs flu vaccination, the medical societies agree. But flu is particularly dangerous for people 65 and older, pregnant women, young children and people of any age who have chronic health problems, in-

cluding asthma, diabetes, heart dis-ease and weak immune systems. The last two flu seasons brought unusu-ally high numbers of child deaths, the vast majority of them in unvac-cinated kids.

The vaccines don’t block all flu infections, but they do help pre-vent the worst outcomes, decreas-ing older adults’ hospitalizations by 31% last year, according to the Vaccine Integrity Project, a public health group based at the Univer-sity of Minnesota. (AP)



This image provided by Moderna in September 2026 shows packaging for the mFLUSIVA mRNA flu vaccine. (AP)

Kuwait Cricket celebrates selection of six players in DP World ILT20 Season 5 Player Auction

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: Kuwait Cricket is pleased to announce that six Kuwait players have been selected in the DP World ILT20 Season 5 Player Auction, marking a landmark moment for Kuwait Cricket and highlighting the growing opportunities available to players from Kuwait and other Associate Member nations.

Each of the following players secured a selection worth US\$10,000:

- Bilal Tahir – RTM, Desert Vipers
- Meet Bhavsar – RTM, Gulf Giants
- Arunraj Selvaraj – Sharjah Warriors
- Mohammed Shafeeq – MI Emirates
- Anudeep Chenthamaraj – Dubai Capitals
- Ravija Sandaruwan – Abu Dhabi Knight Riders

Haider Farman, President of Kuwait Cricket, said: "Firstly, congratulations to all six players, and our very best wishes for the season ahead. We sincerely thank DP World ILT20 and UAE Cricket for this partnership, which provides a valuable platform not only for Kuwait players but also for players from other Associate Member nations. We wish the International League T20 great success for Season 5."

Sajid Ashraf, Director General of Kuwait Cricket and Strategic Partner of DP World ILT20, said: "Big congratulations to the players on this outstanding achievement. We are immensely proud to see six Kuwait players selected by franchises and given the opportunity to play alongside and learn from some of the world's leading players. We thank DP World ILT20 and UAE Cricket for this strategic partnership, which continues to create meaningful opportunities for Associate Member players and supports the growth of cricket."

Kuwait Cricket extends its very best wishes to all the teams, management, and players participating in DP World ILT20 Season 5 and looks forward to an exciting and successful tournament.



Kuwait Players DP ILT20



ILT20 trophy displayed during the DP World International League T20 Auction held in Dubai, UAE.



Officials during the DP World International League T20 Auction held in Dubai, UAE.



Atlanta Dream guard Allisha Gray, left, dribbles against New York Liberty forward Leonie Fiebich, right, during the first half of Game 1 of the WNBA basketball semifinals in Atlanta. (AP)

Dream tops Liberty

Valkyries fend off Aces in WNBA semifinals opener

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct 5, (AP): Gabby Williams had 25 points, 11 rebounds and five assists, Kiah Stokes added 14 rebounds and three blocked shots, and the Golden State Valkyries took Game 1 of the WNBA semifinals by beating the defending champion Las Vegas Aces 71-60.

A’ja Wilson scored 24 points while Chelsea Gray contributed 16 points for Las Vegas, which lost guard Jewell Loyd to a left leg injury early in the third quarter. The team said she was being evaluated.

Playing to chants of “Gabby! Gabby!” from the sellout crowd at Chase Center, Williams scored 18 of her points on 6-for-10 shooting in the first half, including a 3-pointer that put Golden State ahead 32-23 with 5:43 left before halftime.

That defeating “Ballhalla” home crowd turned the arena into a sea of violet-colored T-shirts and energy the Valkyries have so counted on in their first two seasons. Fans waved and cheered when the final buzzer sounded and confetti fell.

Game 2 in the best-of-five series is Wednesday night back at Chase Center.

Golden State coach Natalie Nakase was well enough to coach after she went down on the sideline near Golden State’s bench with 1:40 remaining Friday night in a 77-73 comeback win to clinch the first-round series against Dallas. She was examined by a doctor during the day off Saturday.

Jackie Young’s 3-pointer with 8:25 left pulled Las Vegas within 58-53. WNBA leading scorer and reigning MVP Wilson made 6 of 11 first-half shots for 15 points for the third-seeded Aces.

It was a defensive, low-scoring game in which neither team shot particularly well - the Valkyries 37.7% to 33.9% for Las Vegas - after both went the distance in the best-of-three first round to advance.

Valkyries point guard Veronica Burton struggled on the offensive end, missing a layup and 3-pointer during one third-quarter sequence and sat down at the 7:29 mark. And Nakase then went to Kaitlyn Chen for the rest of the game and she scored 11 points.

Mixing and matching rotations worked out after Golden State shot just 31.4% - 11 for 35 and 5 of 15 on 3s - in the first half. Newcomer Aminata Gueye came off the bench to score nine points in 12-plus minutes for the Valkyries. She signed with the team Sept. 20 after playing with Williams and Janelle Salaun on the French team in the FIBA Women’s Basketball World Cup.

Salaun received a rousing ovation when she entered the game with 2:25 left in the first quarter after being named WNBA Sixth Player of the Year before the game.

Kayla Thornton pulled down 11 rebounds to go with eight points for the Valkyries, who were 3 for 10 from 3-point range in the opening quarter and finished just 7 of 24 from deep.

Las Vegas forward Stephanie Talbot missed the game because of a left leg injury.

Dream 92, Liberty 82

In Atlanta, When leading scorer Allisha Gray went down with a left hand injury early in Game 1 of the WNBA semifinals, the Atlanta Dream needed someone to step up.

Playing in just her eighth game with the franchise, 39-year-old DeWanna Bonner provided everything the Dream needed. Bonner had 23 points, nine rebounds, two assists and two steals in over 30 minutes off the bench, helping Atlanta stabilize and eventually pull away in a 92-82 victory over the New York Liberty.

“I’m still learning a lot,” Bonner said. “My head is always spinning, because I’m learning new people, learning the plays, learning the city, but they just made it easy.”

Bonner, who has played in a WNBA record 101 playoff games, signed with Atlanta as an unrestricted free agent on Aug. 27. It was a rare late season addition for a team desperate to finally find playoff success after three consecutive first round exits, and the six-time All-Star and two-time WNBA champion felt like the final piece of the puzzle.

“We tried to get her a couple times and it just never worked out,” Dream head coach Karl Smesko said. “I just thought she was exactly what we needed. Not just because she is a veteran presence and all of those things, but because she still plays like she did tonight. That was a huge performance. When we needed a play, she made it.”

IVINS, Utah, Oct 5, (AP): Austin Smotherman recovered from his lone blunder with two great shots and was able to cruise home to a 3-under 68 on Sunday to win the Bank of Utah Championship, his first PGA Tour victory in his 100th career start.

Smotherman came into the week at No. 79 in the FedEx Cup - the top 100 keep full PGA Tour cards for 2027 - and picked up some immediate rewards. He now has a two-year exemption, which includes the lucrative “Championship Series” when the new competitive model starts in 2028.

Adrian Meronk caught up quickly and pulled ahead on the mistakes of Casey Jarvis to win the Dunhill Links Championship on Sunday with a 4-under 68 for a two-shot victory on the Old Course at St. Andrews.

His fifth European tour title was perhaps the most important for Meronk. It gives him a full European tour card at a time when his LIV Golf League is in doubt as it tries to restructure.

Jeeno Thitikul of Thailand quickly overcame a late double bogey on a windy Sunday afternoon at Hoakalei Country Club in the LOTTE Championship for her fourth LPGA Tour victory of the season and 11th overall.

After driving into the water and losing a two-shot lead on the par-4 16th, Thitikul made a 20-foot birdie putt on the par-4 17th for another two-shot swing. She closed with a birdie on the par-5 18th for a three-stroke victory over playing partner Ina Yoon.

The second-ranked Thitikul matched top-ranked Nelly Korda for the tour victory lead, finishing with 4-under 68 for a 21-under 267 total.

Steven Alker birdied two of his last three holes for a 4-under 66, giving him a one-shot victory over Tag Ridings in the inaugural Jefferson Lehigh Valley Classic, his fourth title this year on the PGA Tour Champions.

Alker now has won four times in his last five starts, one of them on the Legends Tour in Europe, trailing only Zach Johnson (6) and Stewart Cink (5) for most victories this year.

Sandy Scott closed with a 6-under 64 and defeated William Sides on the fourth playoff hole to win the Compliance Solutions Championship, his second straight Korn Ferry Tour that moved him atop the points list.

Sides was 7 under on the seven holes of the back nine at The Patriot Golf Club and had a one-shot lead until he missed a 15-foot par putt on the 18th hole and shot 64. Along with that par putt, Sides had birdie putts of 15 feet and 10 feet on the 18th hole in a playoff. Scott missed a 10-foot birdie putt for the win on the 17th, and then ended it with a 15-foot birdie on the 18th.

Reagan Zibilski birdied four of her last six holes for a 9-under 62 that gave her a one-shot victory in the Epson Tour Championship, moving her to No. 10 on the points list that gives her an LPGA Tour card for 2027.

Zibilski had come into the season finale at Indian Wells Resort at No. 37.

Mirabel Ting birdied the last hole for a 66 to finish second, securing her No. 1 standing in points.

The top 15 players earn status on the LPGA Tour next year, though the top 10 will have a higher status for getting in tournaments.

Hiroshi Iwata closed with a 2-over 72 and held on for a one-shot victory over Yuto Katsumata in the Drug-Cosmos Cup on the Japan Golf Tour.

Liam Nolan won the Abu Dhabi Challenge with a 5-under 65 for a four-shot victory on the Challenge Tour.

Kyle Barker closed with a 4-under 68 and defeated Cole Stevens in a playoff to win the Limpopo Championship on the Sunshine Tour.

Jean Hugo of South Africa shot a 1-under 71 for a three-shot victory in the Reignwood Legends Championship, his first Legends Tour title.

Jiyai Shin of South Korea closed with a 4-under 66 and defeated Women’s British Open champion Shiho Kuwaki in a playoff in the Japan Women’s Open Championship. Haeran Ryu closed with a 3-under 69 and won the Hite Jinro Championship by four shots on the Korea LPGA.



Adrian Meronk of Poland holds the trophy after winning the Alfred Dunhill Links Championship 2026 at the Old Course at St Andrews, Scotland. (AP)

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Sandy Scott closed with a 6-under 64 and defeated William Sides on the fourth playoff hole to win the Compliance Solutions Championship, his second straight Korn Ferry Tour that moved him atop the points list.

Sides was 7 under on the seven holes of the back nine at The Patriot Golf Club and had a one-shot lead until he missed a 15-foot par putt on the 18th hole and shot 64. Along with that par putt, Sides had birdie putts of 15 feet and 10 feet on the 18th hole in a playoff. Scott missed a 10-foot birdie putt for the win on the 17th, and then ended it with a 15-foot birdie on the 18th.

Reagan Zibilski birdied four of her last six holes for a 9-under 62 that gave her a one-shot victory in the Epson Tour Championship, moving her to No. 10 on the points list that gives her an LPGA Tour card for 2027.

Zibilski had come into the season finale at Indian Wells Resort at No. 37.

Mirabel Ting birdied the last hole for a 66 to finish second, securing her No. 1 standing in points.

The top 15 players earn status on the LPGA Tour next year, though the top 10 will have a higher status for getting in tournaments.

Hiroshi Iwata closed with a 2-over 72 and held on for a one-shot victory over Yuto Katsumata in the Drug-

Cosmos Cup on the Japan Golf Tour.

Liam Nolan won the Abu Dhabi Challenge with a 5-under 65 for a four-shot victory on the Challenge Tour.

Kyle Barker closed with a 4-under 68 and defeated Cole Stevens in a playoff to win the Limpopo Championship on the Sunshine Tour.

Jean Hugo of South Africa shot a 1-under 71 for a three-shot victory in the Reignwood Legends Championship, his first Legends Tour title.

Jiyai Shin of South Korea closed with a 4-under 66 and defeated Women’s British Open champion Shiho Kuwaki in a playoff in the Japan Women’s Open Championship. Haeran Ryu closed with a 3-under 69 and won the Hite Jinro Championship by four shots on the Korea LPGA.

An explainer video meant to go live after a planned ceremonial event briefly appeared on the event’s YouTube channel on Friday night. Screenshots of images and text soon circulated on social media.

Brisbane 2032 vice president Tim Mander and chief marketing officer Brent Hill told the weekend news conference the accidental release was a pleasant surprise. Hill embraced the unexpected opportunity, saying “the publicity has been incredible.”

Brisbane 2032 unveils cockatoo emblem

BRISBANE, Australia, Oct 5, (AP): The cockatoo has won out over the kangaroo, the koala and the bin chicken to become the emblem of the 2032 Olympics and Paralympics - after a bit of an embarrassing social media leak.

It’s now official.

Days after officials in Brisbane were forced to hold a hastily-convened news conference to explain the accidental leaking of the emblem ahead of schedule, the 2032 organizing committee held an official launch on Monday.

The Olympic emblem is the crest of a pink cockatoo, an Australian bird, with the color stylized to resemble an Olympic and Paralympic flame, and a shape to resemble the host state of Queensland.

Brisbane’s Lord Mayor Adrian Schrinner on Monday said the emblems “are a celebration of our city, our lifestyle.”

“They reflect the Brisbane (that) people know and love: vibrant, resilient, connected, friendly, playful and a little bit cheeky,” Schrinner said.

“They are also a symbol of the excitement building across our city.

“With just under six years to go, we are already preparing to welcome the world to Australia’s lifestyle capital.”

Organizers said First Nations elements were contained within the emblems, with “cockatoos seen as messengers carrying cultural meaning and linking people to place, story and ceremony.” The emblems are separate to the Games mascot, which will be revealed closer to the Games.

An explainer video meant to go live after a planned ceremonial event briefly appeared on the event’s YouTube channel on Friday night. Screenshots of images and text soon circulated on social media.

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Briscoe holds off Larson for dramatic Las Vegas victory

LAS VEGAS, Oct 5, (AP): Chase Briscoe held off a last-lap charge from points leader Kyle Larson to win the NASCAR Cup Series race on Sunday at Las Vegas Motor Speedway.

Briscoe swept all three stages on the 1.5-mile track to earn the maximum 75 playoff points. Larson lost control on the final stretch, hit the wall and collided with Tyler Reddick, who slid into the infield but still recovered to finish third.

“I saw Kyle charging hard behind me on those final laps,” Briscoe said. “He was pushing as hard as he possibly could on the high line, and I just tried to stick to my defensive marks, stay smooth, and protect the bottom. When you’re driving for a guaranteed spot in the Championship 4, nobody is going to give an inch.”

It was Briscoe’s first career Cup Series victory in Las Vegas, where he

led a race-high 175 laps. Briscoe also moved up to sixth in The Chase standings.

Denny Hamlin, who entered second in the playoff standings, finished 16th and was shut out of stage points. Hamlin is still second, but fell 40 points behind Larson.

“I know everyone looks at the points lead and talks about the buffer we have, but I don’t view the gap like that at all,” Larson said. “There are still a lot of points on the table, a lot of restarts left, and anything can happen down the stretch.”

Briscoe drove back from third place to pass Austin Cindric late in the second stage for the win. Cindric finished second in the stage, followed by Christopher Bell in third.

Larson salvaged a stage point by finishing 10th, while Hamlin was shut out

of stage points in 14th.

Briscoe won the opening stage ahead of Bell and Ryan Blaney. Briscoe elected not to pit for tires during a late green-flag pit cycle, holding off the field on the restart to secure the stage victory.

Hamlin led the first 39 laps and was running third when he spun three laps before the end of the stage. Although he avoided major damage and continued, the lack of a caution flag caused him to fall back to 28th at the stage break.

Hamlin set the fastest lap of the stage at 29.572 seconds on the third lap.

“We had the speed to run up front, we showed that on the pole run and early in Stage 1,” Hamlin said. “But when you lose 25 spots, you spend half the race just working your way back to where you belong.”

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Al-Rawahi set to rejoin Qadsia on Wednesday

Qadsia routs Salmiya in Zain League warm-up

By Hassan Mosa
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff
KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: Qadsia's Omani international Nasser Al-Rawahi will rejoin the club on Wednesday after completing his international duty with Oman at the 27th Arabian Gulf Cup, which concludes in Jeddah today.
Oman was knocked out in the semifinals after a 1-0 defeat to the UAE.
Al-Rawahi was one of Oman's standout players at the tournament, scoring three goals in four matches.
Meanwhile, Qadsia swept aside Salmiya 5-1 in a friendly at Thamer Stadium on Monday as both sides stepped up preparations for the resumption of the Zain Premier League.
Youngster Abdulwahab Al-Shallal starred for Qadsia, scoring twice, including an impressive lob. Khaled Al-Kharqawi, Eid Al-Rashidi and Abdulaziz Wadi added the other goals, while Abdullah Al-Yousuf scored Salmiya's lone



Qadsia and Salmiya players vie for the ball.

goal.
Salmiya's players also marked the birthday of their Bahraini coach Ali Ashoor during the friendly.
Qadsia returns to league action against Tadamon on Saturday, while Salmiya faces Shabab on the same day.
Qadsia sits third on six points, one behind joint leaders Kazma and Kuwait Club, while Salmiya are fifth, also on six points.
Qadsia will also host Group

C of the AFC Challenge League from October 17 to 23, featuring Goa of India, Bangladesh's Fortis and Tajikistan's Regar-TadAZ.
The Kuwait Football Association has released the schedules for rounds four through eight, with the league set to pause from November 8 to 18 for the FIFA international window.
Two fifth-rounds match — Qadsia vs Sahel and Al-Arabi vs Salmiya — will be postponed because Qadsia and Al-Arabi participated in the AFC Challenge League.
The Kuwait Club-Kazma clash in round seven will also be postponed due to Kuwait Club's participation in the AFC Champions League and Kazma's involvement in the Gulf Champions League.
Round four will be played over three days. Friday's matches feature Al-Nasr against Kuwait Club and Kazma against Al-Arabi. On Saturday, Tadamon meets Qadsia and Salmiya faces Shabab, while Sahel takes on Fahaheel and Su-laibikhat meets Jahra on Sunday.

Medvedev disqualified as Djokovic advances to final



Novak Djokovic, of Serbia, returns a ball to Daniil Medvedev, of Russia, during the men's single semi-final match at the China Open tennis tournament in Beijing. (AP)

Alcaraz loses 16 straight points before rallying to reach Japan Open final

BEIJING, Oct 5, (AP): Daniil Medvedev was disqualified from his semifinal against Novak Djokovic at the China Open after he hit a ball into the stands that struck a spectator in the front row on Monday.
The spectator was helped out of the arena holding a hand over his left eye.
Djokovic was serving for the match at 7-5, 5-3 when Medvedev hit the ball into the stands in apparent frustration.
After a forehand volley winner from Djokovic, the ball bounced off the advertising boards and back toward Medvedev, who smacked a backhand that sailed into the stands.
The spectator who was hit was helped away as Medvedev stood on the court watching.
The chair umpire and tournament supervisor came down onto the court to talk with Medvedev, who didn't appear to put up much of an argument with the disqualification. Medvedev then walked to the net and shook hands with Djokovic.
The incident was reminiscent of when Djokovic was kicked out of the 2020 U.S. Open for accidentally hitting a line judge in the throat with a ball.
Medvedev has a history of on-court behavior issues. He was fined 6,000 euros (\$7,000) for unsportsmanlike conduct after he smashed his racket seven times during a 6-0, 6-0 loss to Matteo Berrettini at the Monte Carlo Masters earlier this year.
Djokovic extended his perfect career record at the China Open to 33-0.



Elina Svitolina, of Ukraine, returns a ball to Maria Sakkari, of Greece, during the third round of the women's singles match at the China Open tennis tournament in Beijing. (AP)

Aiming for a seventh China Open title in Tuesday's final, Djokovic will face ninth-ranked Alex de Minaur, who advanced when Hubert Hurkacz retired due to an apparent injury midway through the second set of their semifinal.
It will be Djokovic's second final of the year after losing to Carlos Alcaraz at the Australian Open.
With his ranking down to No. 11, this is the first time in eight years that Djokovic is playing a tournament without being in the top 10. It's also his first tournament since a first-round exit from the U.S. Open. The 39-year-old Serb rallied to beat top-seeded Alexander Zverev in the quarterfinals on Sunday.
Against Medvedev, Djokovic was twice caught exceeding the time limit on the serve clock. After first receiving a warning, he was then stripped of his first serve on a crucial break

point midway through the second set. But Djokovic still won the point.
Medvedev won only two of 18 break points as the pair of former No. 1s traded one grueling rally after another. The match was at the 2 hour, 29-minute mark when Medvedev was defaulted.
De Minaur led 6-4, 3-2 when Hurkacz - who was barely able to run for balls in the second set - stopped playing.
The nature of Hurkacz's injury was not immediately clear.
In the third round of the women's tournament, which ends Sunday, six-time Grand Slam champion Iga Swiatek rallied past Donna Vekic 4-6, 7-6 (0), 6-2 and will next meet Iva Jovic, who beat Kamilla Rakhimova 6-1, 7-5.
Elina Svitolina beat Maria Sakkari 6-4, 7-5.
U.S. Open champion Elena Rybakina withdrew from the upcoming

Wuhan Open due to a foot injury.
On Saturday, Rybakina lost her first match with the No. 1 ranking when she was ousted in Beijing by No. 118 Alina Charaeva of Armenia in the second round.
Charaeva extended her breakout run by beating Sonay Kartal 6-4, 6-1 to reach the last 16.
Carlos Alcaraz is going to play his first final since coming back from a 4 1/2-month layoff for a right wrist injury.
The third-ranked Alcaraz lost 16 straight points at the end of the first set and the start of the second before coming back to beat qualifier Jaume Munar 5-7, 6-3, 6-1 in the Japan Open semifinals.
In Tuesday's final, Alcaraz will face either Valentin Vacherot or Jiri Lehecka, who were playing next.
Alcaraz returned from injury in late August and made a run to the U.S. Open quarterfinals, where he lost to Ben Shelton in a match that ended at 3:33 a.m. He's been wearing a compression sleeve on his right arm since his return.
Alcaraz hasn't played a final since getting beat by Jannik Sinner at the Monte Carlo Masters in April. He's aiming to defend the title he won last year in Tokyo.
Against Munar, a fellow Spaniard, Alcaraz appeared to take control with a break midway through the first set before his sudden drop in form. He hit consecutive double faults to hand the first set to Munar - making it 14 straight points lost.
In all, after he also dropped the opening two points of the second set, Alcaraz lost 16 straight points.
But the top-seeded Alcaraz broke in the opening game of the second and rolled from there.

Kuwait Club finishes fourth in WASL



Kuwait Club player shoots over an opponent.

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

BEIRUT, Oct 5: Kuwait Club finished fourth in the West Asia Super League (WASL) after losing 93-79 to Saudi Arabia's AlUla in the third-place playoff the day before yesterday.
Lebanon's Al Riyadi claimed the title after beating compatriots Sagesse 75-67 in the final in Beirut.
Fourth place was below Kuwait Club's expectations, with the team aiming to secure a place on the podium. Despite showing good form in several matches, they fell short of their target.
Kuwait Club had bolstered their squad before the tournament by signing four foreign players — Americans Chinanu Onuaku, Christian Brown and Day-Day Granit, and Palestinian Sani Sakakini — in a bid to compete for the title.
However, while the team boasts a strong roster and produced competitive performances in most games, success at this level requires greater attention to detail and better execution of opportunities in crucial moments.
Serbian coach Dusan also came under scrutiny for failing to guide the team to its objective. In some key games, he appeared to struggle with the demands of high-pressure encounters, particularly in the knockout stages, where quick tactical adjustments and accurate reading of the opposition can prove decisive.

New generation of Chinese athletes emerges

China sets sight on LA after 'record' 169 golds at Asian Games: Delegation official

NAGOYA, Japan, Oct. 5, (Xinhua): China delivered an outstanding performance at the Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games and accomplished its mission of preparing for the Los Angeles Olympics, Zhang Xin, secretary-general of the Chinese delegation, said in a statement on Sunday.
China topped both the gold and the overall medal table for the 12th consecutive Asian Games, winning 169 golds, 89 silvers and 83 bronzes for a total of 341 medals, a record gold-medal haul for China at an Asian Games held outside China.
Zhang noted the delegation's performance in Nagoya showed four main characteristics.
Zhang said China's leading position in Asian sport was further consolidated. The delegation competed in 369 of the Games' events across 38 sports and 59 disciplines, winning gold in 38 of those disciplines and medals in 47, despite fielding fewer athletes and entries than at the previous Games in Hangzhou and facing a reduced number of medal events to contest.
The quality of China's results was also notable, Zhang said, with Chinese athletes breaking five world records, 11 Asian records and 22 Games records in sports with recognized records, including shooting, archery, athletics, swimming, weightlifting and track cycling.
"Winning performances in the women's javelin and hammer throw matched the gold-medal standards set at the Paris Olympics, while China's men's 200m freestyle, men's 4x100m medley relay and women's 200m individual medley all produced the world's best times so far this year," it read.
China also made gains in sports where it has traditionally lagged, according to Zhang. Triathlon delivered the country's best-ever Asian Games results across all three events, breaking Japan's long-standing dominance of the sport in Asia. The equestrian team won its first-ever Asian Games gold in team dressage, while China reclaimed the road cycling title after a 20-year gap and the men's individual modern pentathlon gold after 12 years.
Zhang stated that a new generation of Chinese athletes also emerged at the Games. Of the delegation's 815 athletes, 548, or around two-thirds, were competing at their first Asian Games.
"17-year-old Chen Yujie became Asia's youngest women's 100m champion, while 18-year-old Yan Ziyi won javelin gold with a single throw. 14-year-old Yu Zidi claimed three swimming golds, each breaking an Asian or Games record, and 19-year-old Zhang Zhanshuo equaled the Games record for individual gold medals at a single edition with seven swimming titles," he said.
Looking ahead to the Los Angeles Olympics, Zhang said the Nagoya Games had served its purpose.
"At this Asian Games, we have achieved our goals of testing our team, discovering new talent, identifying problems and conducting comprehensive training, further strengthening our confidence in achieving outstanding results at the Los Angeles Olympics," he said.
"After the Nagoya Asian Games, we will immediately shift to preparations for the Los Angeles Olympics, accelerate efforts to address our weaknesses, comprehensively improve our competitive level, and go all out to meet the challenge of the Los Angeles Olympics," Zhang added.

Portugal team officials say door is open for Ronaldo to return

LISBOA, Portugal, Oct 5, (AP): Portugal wants Cristiano Ronaldo to know he's welcome back to the national team, if he so desires.
Portugal coach Jorge Jesus and federation president Pedro Proença have downplayed the "misunderstanding" that led to Ronaldo's decision to leave the national team's training camp last week, saying after a 2-1 win over Norway in the Nations League on Sunday that the veteran star can return whenever he wants.
"We are talking about the greatest player of all time, a player who has given more than two decades to Portuguese soccer," Proença told Portuguese television channel RTP. "He will always be part of this squad

if he is technically fit to play. Cristiano knows this. He knows that is the sentiment. What happened was a misunderstanding that needs to be resolved internally."
The 41-year-old Ronaldo walked out on Portugal's training camp on Wednesday, hours after Jesus said the veteran star would not start in a game against Denmark in the Nations League. Jesus had kept Ronaldo on the bench in a previous match despite saying he would play.
Ronaldo said after leaving that in due course he would "tell the Portuguese people the truth about the reasons" behind his departure, but has not commented on the situation since.

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NEWS



Golden State Warriors forward Gui Santos (15) drives to the basket during the second half of a preseason NBA basketball game against Los Angeles Clippers in Honolulu. Clippers won 104-103. (AP)

Sports

Al-Adwani: Kuwait Handball Association General Assembly opens a new chapter

By Khaled Al-Enezi

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: Kuwait Handball Association Secretary-General Gayed Al-Adwani hailed the positive atmosphere surrounding the association's ordinary General Assembly meeting, saying the strong attendance and support from members had laid the foundation for a new phase of work.

Speaking after the meeting, Al-Adwani thanked the General Assembly members for their continued backing of the association and Kuwaiti handball.

"Their presence and continued support are greatly appreciated. They have always stood by the association and the sport," he said.

The assembly approved the association's administrative and financial reports, along with its work plan for the coming year.

Al-Adwani said the meeting also completed the formation of the board following vacancies in the positions of president and assistant secretary-general. Engineer Ahmad Al-Sharea was



Gayed Al-Adwani poses with Al-Hajri, Taleb, Al-Shahoumi and Nawaf Al-Adwani.

endorsed as president for the remainder of the current term, while Mohammed Al-Khamis was endorsed as assistant secretary-general.

"We congratulate them on the confidence placed in them and wish them success in carrying out their responsibilities," Al-Adwani said.

He also called on the board to continue working as a unified team to achieve its objectives and further

develop Kuwaiti handball.

Al-Adwani stressed that the coming period would require the combined efforts of all stakeholders, particularly with several commitments awaiting the national teams and domestic competitions.

He added that the General Assembly's continued support would remain a key pillar in sustaining the association's work and advancing the sport.

Kuwait 'opens' Arab Volleyball Championship against Bahrain

By Khaled Al-Enezi

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

AMMAN, Oct 5: The Kuwait men's national volleyball team launches its campaign in the 24th Arab Men's Volleyball Championship against Bahrain at 3:00 pm today at Prince Sumaya Hall in Jordan.

Jordan is hosting the championship from October 6 to 15, with six teams — Kuwait, Bahrain, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Oman and Algeria — competing for the title. Algeria faces Oman, and host Jordan meet Saudi Arabia in the other opening-day matches.

Kuwait was drawn against Bahrain in the opening round before facing Algeria in its second match. The team will then have a rest day before continuing its campaign.

Kuwait meets Algeria at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, followed by Oman at 4:00 pm on October 9, Saudi Arabia at 4:00 pm on October 11, and Jordan at 6:00 pm on October 13.



Kuwait volleyball team set for fresh challenge.

The tournament is being played on a single round-robin basis, with the final standings determined by the

teams' results. Kuwait is aiming for a strong showing and a place among the top finishers.

A winning start against Bahrain would provide Kuwait with a significant morale boost ahead of its remaining matches.

Meanwhile, Kuwait's national beach volleyball delegation has travelled to Doha for the third round of the West Asia Beach Volleyball Championship, which runs from October 5 to 10.

Kuwait Volleyball Association Vice President Nasser Mohammed Al-Owaid heads the delegation, which includes administrators Issa Al-Salim and Al-Anoud Al-Moanes, national coach Ahmed Abdulrazzaq, men's players Barak Khasrouh and Ibrahim Diaa, and women's players Halima Abdullah and Alaa Anas Al-Bahwah.

The Kuwait players will look to make their mark in the regional tournament and secure strong results.

Kuwait FA, Palestine FA chiefs discuss cooperation



Sheikh Ahmad Al-Yousef Al-Sabah presents a commemorative plaque to visiting Palestine FA chief.

KUWAIT CITY, Oct 5: Kuwait Football Association President Sheikh Ahmad Al-Yousef Al-Sabah met Palestinian Football Association President Jibril Al-Rajoub at the KFA headquarters in Adailiya.

The meeting was attended by KFA board mem-

bers Dr Ahmad Ajab, Dr Adel Al-Adwani and Nasser Al-Adwani, along with Secretary-General Dr Saleh Al-Majroub.

The two officials discussed ways to strengthen cooperation between the two associations and coordinate positions ahead of upcoming meetings

of Asian Football Confederation presidents and secretaries-general, as well as the AFC Congress in Tokyo from October 20 to 24.

Sheikh Al-Yousef presented Al-Rajoub with a commemorative plaque at the conclusion of the meeting.

Perfect Portugal reaches quarters

Germany held by Greece in NL

PORTO, Oct 5, (AP): Gonçalo Ramos is helping Portugal to forget all about Cristiano Ronaldo, while Greece took more points off Jürgen Klopp and Germany in the Nations League.

Ramos fired Portugal to a 2-1 win over Norway to keep the Portuguese perfect in Group A4 with four wins - enough to book their place in the quarterfinals.

Ronaldo was involved in Portugal's opening Nations League game, where he was replaced by Ramos in a 1-0 win over Wales, and hasn't played since. The veteran left the squad after watching the second game from the substitutes' bench - a 2-1 win in Norway - and Portugal showed no ill effects from his departure with a 4-2 win in Denmark and the latest 2-1 win over Norway.

Kristoffer Ajer opened the scoring Sunday with a brilliant half volley inside the far corner from the edge of the penalty area after taking down Martin Ødegaard's free kick to set up the shot in the 36th minute.

A seemingly inspired João Cancelo responded in similar fashion at the other end two minutes later.

Ramos got the winner from close range in the 79th after a move involving Vitorino and João Félix, and Portugal survived Francisco Conceição's late sending off with his second yellow card.

Erling Haaland failed to score for the second consecutive game. He has 65 goals in 59 appearances.

A late penalty from Rasmus Højlund was enough for Denmark to beat Wales 1-0 in the other group game.

The Danes are second in Group A4 after two wins, while Wales and Norway have a win each.

Greece, which celebrated its first win over Germany last week, almost did it again. Ivan Jovanović's team held Klopp's side 0-0 in Thessaloniki.

Germany dominated with more possession, more passes and more goal chances, but neither team could score.

Klopp tried reinvigorating his attack with Nick Woltemade and Cologne star Said El Mala for Jonathan Burkardt and Lennart Karl for the last half hour, but Georgios Masouras had the best chance late for the hosts.

Of Klopp's four games in charge, Germany has only won one.

Joshua Zirkzee fired the Netherlands to a 2-1 win at home over Serbia in the other Group A2 game.

The Netherlands and Greece both have eight points, followed by Germany on five and Serbia with none.

Both teams wore black armbands as Ireland and Israel drew 1-1 in a bad-tempered match in Backa Topola, Serbia.

The Ireland players again bowed their heads during the playing of the Israel national anthem, just as



Portugal's Goncalo Ramos celebrates after scoring his side's second goal during the Nations League soccer match between Portugal and Norway in Porto, Portugal. (AP)



Greece's Konstantinos Koulierakis, left, and Germany's Jonathan Burkardt challenge for the ball during the UEFA Nations League soccer match between Greece and Germany in Thessaloniki, northern Greece. (AP)

they had in their first game last week to protest Israel's actions in Gaza. The Football Association of Ireland resisted pressure to boycott both games, leaving the players to bear the brunt of it at home where people have a strong affinity with Palestinians. The Irish players ultimately took a vote to fulfill the fixtures.

The Israel players wore black armbands for those killed in the Hamas-led attacks on southern Israel on Oct. 7, 2023.

Kosovo and Austria drew 1-1 in the other Group B3 game.

Also, Azerbaijan defeated Lithuania 1-0, and Malta enjoyed a 1-0 win over Andorra.

33rd meeting between the two sides across all competitions

Saudi Arabia eyes fourth Gulf Cup title against UAE

JEDDAH, Oct 5: Saudi Arabia and the UAE meet tonight for the 27th Arabian Gulf Cup title, with kickoff at 9:00 pm at Al-Inma Stadium in Jeddah.

Saudi Arabia is chasing a fourth Gulf Cup crown, while the UAE is targeting their third.

The host reached the final after topping their group with a perfect record and without conceding a goal. It then defeated Qatar 3-2 on penalties after a goalless semifinal.

The UAE topped its group with seven points from two wins and a draw before edging Oman 1-0 in the other semifinal.

Tonight's final will be the 33rd meeting between the two sides across all competitions. Saudi Arabia holds the advantage with 19 wins, compared with six for the UAE, while seven encounters have ended in draws.

Their most recent meeting came in the third-place playoff at the 2025 Arab Cup in Qatar. The game was goalless before being abandoned because of bad weather, with FIFA subsequently awarding both teams the bronze medal.

In Gulf Cup history, Saudi Arabia and the UAE have met 18 times, with Saudi Arabia winning 11, the UAE three, and four matches ending in draws. Saudi Arabia has scored 28 goals in those encounters, compared with 11 for the UAE.

Saudi Arabia has won three Gulf Cup titles, lifting its first trophy in the UAE in 1994 before winning on home soil in 2002. It retained the title in the following edition, hosted by Kuwait from December 2003 to January 2004.

The UAE won its first Gulf Cup in 2007 and claimed their second title in Bahrain in 2013.



A file photo of Saudi and UAE players in action.

Spain eyes UEFA Nations League quarterfinal berth against Croatia

MADRID, Oct. 5, (Xinhua): Spain could secure a place in the UEFA Nations League quarterfinals on Tuesday with a win over Croatia in Split.

Spain travels to Croatia after three consecutive wins in its opening group games. Another victory would give the world champions 12 points from four matches while leaving Croatia on three.

If England also wins or draws at home to the Czech Republic, neither Croatia nor the Czechs would be able to catch Spain, assuring Luis de la Fuente's side of a top-two finish with two games re-

maining, at home to England and away to the Czech Republic in November.

While Spain travels with a perfect record, Slaven Bilic's Croatia goes into the match looking to respond to arguably the most humiliating defeat in its history, a 7-0 home loss to England on Saturday.

"Against England, we didn't bring the necessary energy, which affects confidence; confidence affects technical performance, and in the end, it all looks like a question of willpower. Now we have to play a good match, a match for real men, against Spain," Bilic said,

suggesting Spain could face a physical contest.

Spain beat Croatia 4-1 in Seville just a week ago and followed that with a 3-1 victory over the Czech Republic on Saturday, although its performance in Oviedo was arguably its least impressive of the three games so far during the international break.

De la Fuente made nine changes from the team that faced Croatia and is expected to continue rotating his squad, particularly after highlighting the limited recovery time available to his players during the international break.