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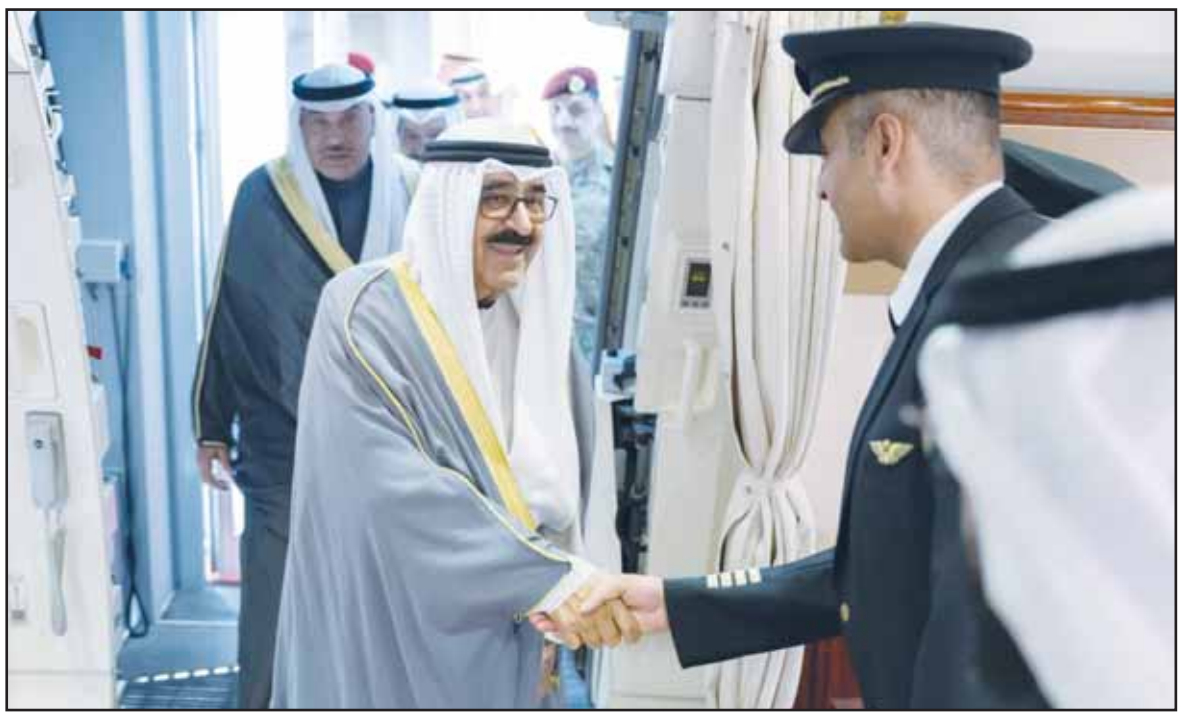
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Kuwait marks 35 years since last oil well fire extinguished Page 2

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Amiri Diwan photos

His Highness the Amir is seen off at the airport by His Highness the Crown Prince, His Highness the Prime Minister and senior state officials.

HH Amir heads to US for routine medical checkup

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7, (KUNA): His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah headed to the US on Friday, to undergo routine medical checkup.

His Highness was seen off at the airport by His Highness the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, Minister of Amiri Diwan Affairs Sheikh Hamad Jaber Al-Ali Al-Sabah and Undersecretary of the Amiri Diwan Sheikh Abdulaziz Meshal Mubarak Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah.



Opinion

Ahmed Al-Jarallah

Editor-in-Chief, the Arab Times

Appeal for a compassionate application of the law

YOUR Excellency, First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Fahad Al-Yousef, your commitment to maintaining national security and your tireless service to the people are widely acknowledged—traits that exemplify noble leadership.

With this assurance and trusting your open-minded consideration, I respectfully bring to your attention a pressing issue that has been causing hardship to a group of Kuwaiti citizens.

The core question is: Why suspend the national labor subsidy for citizens employed by struggling companies?

Unlike expatriate workers who usually receive housing, meals and living essentials from their employers, thus, enabling them to send most of their earnings abroad, Kuwaiti citizens rely on their income to support their families. All their earnings are spent locally to cover vital needs, such as healthcare, education and household expenses.

While no one questions the right of foreign workers to remit their salaries, withholding subsidies from citizens causes severe financial distress over conditions completely outside their control.

Your Excellency, the financial strain affecting about 10,000 companies, which hindered them to disburse salaries on time, is due to disruptions and economic fallout brought about by conflicts beyond their control.

The delayed state disbursements for these companies hindered them from fulfilling payroll commitments to their employees.

Before arriving at any decision, this situation must be assessed carefully, taking into consideration the unique circumstances of each affected firm.

We commend your instruction to the director general of the Public Authority for Manpower to schedule a meeting with business owners to look into their difficulties and find plausible solutions, such meeting has yet to happen.

Resolving operational issues necessitates a strategic governmental vision in order to address the root causes of the crisis.

The major barrier to settling corporate dues is the prevalence of acting supervisory personnel in state bodies. Since they have no authority and often fear personal liability, these officials usually hesitate to approve ministry expenditures.

Continued on Page 6

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Housing woes get judicial fast track

Justice Ministry lays down law on contractors



Minister of Justice Counselor Nasser Yousef Al-Sumait

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

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7: Minister of Justice Counselor Nasser Al-Sumait has unveiled plans to issue legislation on the establishment of judicial circuits for resolving private housing construction disputes, as per the directive of His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Al-Abdullah.

In a statement to the newspaper, Al-Sumait disclosed that this move aims to expedite the resolution of the abovementioned disputes and protect the rights of citizens affected by suspended construction projects or the failure of contractors to fulfill their contractual obligations.

He revealed that the number of disputes regarding private housing construction reached around 2,200 cases in 2025.

He stated that the Ministry of Justice is in the process of drafting the necessary legislation to set up the framework for a more specialized and effective method of dealing with such disputes.

He explained that the move includes "assigning certain judges to oversee private housing construction disputes, which will help accelerate litigation procedures and shorten the period for resolving conflicts."

Continued on Page 6

Airport now a 'no click' zone

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7: The acting Director-General of the Public Authority for Civil Aviation (PACA), Engineer Saad Al-Otaibi, has issued a directive prohibiting airport personnel and entities operating at Kuwait International Airport from taking photographs, recording videos, conducting live broadcasts, or publishing related content, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

Circular No. 60/2026 states in its first article that all personnel and entities operating at Kuwait International Airport are prohibited from using mobile phones, cameras, or any other devices to take photographs, record videos, or broadcast live from airport premises.

Continued on Page 6



Photo by Rezk Tawfiq

Dust blankets Kuwait City on Saturday, reducing visibility as strong winds sweep across the country, with the iconic Liberation Tower rising through the hazy skyline amid unstable weather conditions.

Winter chill edges closer

Kuwait weather turbulence expected to ease by Monday

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7, (Agencies): Kuwait is expected to experience active, dust-raising winds accompanied by scattered light to moderate rainfall and occasional thunderstorms from Saturday afternoon until Monday morning.

In a statement to the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA), Director of the Meteorological Department Dhirar Al-Ali explained that the country will be affected by a surface low-pressure system accompanied by a humid air mass, along with an upper-level low-pressure system.

These weather conditions are expected to increase low and medium cloud cover and trigger active southwesterly winds carrying dust.

Horizontal visibility could fall below 1,000 meters in some areas, while sea waves are expected to exceed six feet.

Cloud cover will gradually increase from Saturday afternoon, with cumulonimbus clouds bringing scattered rainfall that may occasionally develop into thunderstorms. Rainfall is expected to range from light to moderate.

Al-Ali indicated that weather conditions are forecast to improve gradually starting Monday morning.

Continued on Page 6



A man looks out over the water as a small boat passes cargo ships anchored in the Strait of Hormuz off Bandar Abbas, Iran, early Saturday, Oct. 24, 2026. (AP)

Trump confirms fresh Iran strikes

WASHINGTON, Nov 7, (AP): US President Donald Trump said the U.S. military on Friday carried out new limited strikes on Iran, targeting an Iranian air defense system.

Iranian state media reported the sound of two explosions in the Suza area of Qeshm Island, which is in the crucial waterway for oil shipments.

Continued on Page 6



7 Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait set to launch subscription for 27.29% capital increase



8 KFH named Middle East leader in innovation and Islamic private banking

Italy honors Sheikha Intisar for her humanitarian contributions

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7, (KUNA): Italy awarded Sheikha Intisar Salem Al-Ali Al-Sabah the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic, with the rank of Commander, in an international recognition reflecting appreciation for her outstanding humanitarian and community contributions.

The award is considered Italy's highest civilian honor and is conferred by the Italian President in recognition of outstanding achievements and contributions in various humanitarian, social and cultural fields.

Italian Ambassador to Kuwait Lorenzo Morini told KUNA that Sheikha Intisar Al-Sabah was conferred the rank of "Commandatore" by Italian President Sergio Mattarella in recognition of her generous and steadfast commitment to supporting individuals living in vulnerable social circumstances.

He added that the honor also recognizes her contribution to giving special attention to Arab women, as well as her numerous humanitarian initiatives, which have been distinguished by her leadership, initiative and organizational skills, making her a source of inspiration.

He said that among the most prominent of these efforts is the Intisar Foundation to support Arab women affected by wars and violence through specialized psychological recovery programs based on drama therapy.

Continued on Page 6



KUNA photo

Sheikha Intisar Al-Sabah receives Italy's Order of Merit, recognizing her outstanding humanitarian work and support for Arab women.

Newswatch

KUWAIT CITY: Kuwait condemned and denounced on Friday the armed attack in southern **Egypt**, that resulted in the death of two border guard officers.

In a statement, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs reaffirmed Kuwait's full solidarity with Egypt in all measures it takes to safeguard its security and stability, and extended sincere condolences and heartfelt sympathy to the Egyptian government and people, as well as to the families of the victims. (KUNA)

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KUWAIT CITY: The Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry on Thursday expressed its condemnation and denunciation of the terrorist act that occurred in the Jordanian capital, **Amman**, which resulted in the death of a public security officer and the injury of a patrol officer. (KUNA)

Prayer Timings

Fajr	04:45	Asr	14:35
Sunrise	06:06	Maghrib	16:58
Zohr	11:32	Isha	18:18





KUNA photos

Minister of State for Youth and Sports Affairs Tariq Al-Jalahma during a tour of the largest classic car carnival and the Mopar International Team season, held at Al-Boulevard Mall.

Rare, wheels, rich heritage

Youth Minister backs young talent at classic car carnival

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7, (KUNA): Minister of State for Youth and Sports Affairs Tariq Al-Jalahma affirmed Kuwait's commitment to supporting youth initiatives that harness young people's talents and creativity, praising classic car clubs for preserving heritage, promoting national identity and providing a safe, organized environment for car enthusiasts.

He made the remarks during the opening ceremony on Friday of the largest classic car carnival and the Mopar International Team season, held at Al-Boulevard Mall under the sponsorship of the Kuwait Automobile and Motorcycle Club, with a large public turnout.

Al-Jalahma welcomed the participation of classic car teams and volunteers from GCC countries, highlighting the strong ties among Gulf nations and describing such events as an expression of their shared identity.

He added that these activities provide opportunities for interaction across generations, boost Kuwait's tourism and entertainment sectors, and showcase the country's organizational capabilities and talented young people.

Meanwhile, Head of the Kuwait Automobile and Motorcycle Club Sheikh Ahmad Al-Dawood Al-Sabah said the launch of the classic car season reflects the club's growing interest in the hobby, which has gained popularity among Kuwaiti youth.

Speaking to KUNA, he said the carnival featured broad participation from GCC classic car clubs, whose members showcased rare collections reflecting the region's rich automotive heritage and efforts to preserve historic vehicles for future generations. The event also featured competitions, prizes and family-oriented activities.

The Mopar International Team administration expressed appreciation for the minister's attendance and sponsorship, describing it as an important show of support for the team and participating enthusiasts.

The event concluded by highlighting Kuwait's commitment to nurturing youth creativity and recognizing classic cars as more than a hobby, but also a reflection of culture, history and heritage.

Kuwait marks 35 years since last oil well fire extinguished

737 oil wells, 27 teams, one national triumph

By Sarah Al-Mukhaizeem

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7, (KUNA): Kuwait on Friday marked the 35th anniversary of extinguishing the last burning oil well on November 6, 1991, an event that symbolized the country's determination to overcome the devastating consequences of the Iraqi invasion.

In the aftermath of the brutal Iraqi invasion, the State of Kuwait faced one of the greatest environmental and economic disasters in modern history, when hundreds of oil wells were deliberately set on fire by Iraqi forces before their retreat, leaving extensive destruction and severe effects on the environment, economy and daily life.

On this day in 1991, Kuwait celebrated the extinguishing of the last oil well that was burning in the Burgan field in Al-Ahmadi, under the patronage and presence of the late Amir Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, concluding months of intensive operations involving specialists from Kuwait and friendly countries.

The oil well fires generated massive clouds of smoke and flames that spread in all directions. Oil gathering centers linking the wells to export terminals were also blown up, further intensifying the fires and destruction across the affected areas.

Iraqi forces set fire to 737 Kuwaiti oil wells before withdrawing in February 1991, while the resulting damage caused crude oil losses estimated at four to six million barrels daily. The material losses affected the global economy for a period of seven months.

The fires also released vast quantities of smoke and pollutants, damaging vegetation, buildings and wildlife and affecting air quality across the region, extending to Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Iran, Oman and other countries in Central Asia, in addition to black rain.

Kuwait's firefighting team successfully extinguished 41 wells, and more than 10,000 personnel from 27 international teams participated in the operation.

Following Kuwait's liberation, relevant authorities launched efforts to rebuild the oil sector, forming specialized committees to assess damage to facilities, identify appropriate solutions and address emerging challenges, while working to restore production capacity and meet international market demand for Kuwaiti crude oil.

Environmental experts and specialists from several countries subsequently visited Kuwait to assess the damage and its long-term consequences, while international conferences and discussions addressed ways to rehabilitate the affected environment.

The initial reconstruction strategy focused on two main objectives: extinguishing the burning wells as quickly as possible and preparing selected wells for an early return to production.

The firefighting and reconstruction efforts involved contacting around 30 international companies specializing in rehabilitating oil facilities damaged by fires and other causes. Approximately 5,800 pieces of equipment and vehicles were deployed in the firefighting operations, forming the world's second-largest non-military equipment fleet and the largest assembled in one location.

Extinguishing the last burning oil well marked more than the end of an environmental disaster; it represented a major national achievement and the beginning of a new phase of reconstruction and recovery.

The extinguishing of the last well marked the end of a major environmental catastrophe and the beginning of Kuwait's recovery. The anniversary recalls the sacrifices of Kuwaiti personnel and international partners, highlighting national solidarity, resilience and the country's determination to rebuild after the devastation.





KUNA photos

The late Amir Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah witnesses the extinguishing of the last burning oil well in Kuwait's Burgan field on Nov 6, 1991, marking a historic victory over the oil fires that devastated the country following the Iraqi invasion.

Other Voices

Charles Darwin and milk consumption

By Ahmad alsarraf

DURING my visits to several East Asian countries, I noticed the absence of milk and dairy products from dining tables. For years, my attempts to understand the reason behind this remained unsuccessful.

Milk is an essential ingredient in a wide range of food, cosmetic, chemical, and industrial products. Beyond its use in producing yogurt, butter, cream, condensed and sweetened milk, and milk powder, it is also used in making sweets, chocolate, ice cream, baked goods, white sauces, luxury soaps, plastics, dyes, buttons, hairpins, and eyeglass frames. It is even used to improve soil for certain plants and in the production of nutritional and dietary supplements.



Ahmed alsarraf

Milk is also considered one of the most important sources of calcium, which is essential for bone development and the prevention of osteoporosis, particularly among children, athletes, and older adults.

However, milk consumption varies considerably from one country to another.

People in Northern Europe consume hundreds of liters of milk annually, compared to significantly lower consumption levels in East Asia. This difference can be attributed to the following factors:

1. Lactose intolerance - Billions of people worldwide have difficulty digesting lactose, the natural sugar found in milk. Humans are born with the enzyme lactase, which breaks down lactose and allows infants to digest milk. However, lactase production generally declines after weaning.

Over generations, genetic mutations developed in certain populations, particularly in Northern Europe and some pastoral communities in North Africa and the Middle East, allowing the body to continue producing lactase throughout adulthood. This adaptation is known as lactase persistence.

However, a large proportion of East Asian populations experience lactose intolerance because their bodies typically produce less lactase after weaning.

2. Cultural and dietary traditions - Milk and dairy products have become an integral part of traditional diets in Northern Europe and other regions.

In East Asia, however, soy milk and other plant-based beverages have historically served as popular alternatives.

3. Climate and agricultural conditions - Dairy farming requires green pastures and a relatively cool climate, conditions that are not readily available in many Asian regions. This is particularly true of societies that traditionally focused on raising camels and sheep rather than cattle.

4. Economic and industrial factors - Milk is highly perishable, and its fresh consumption requires reliable refrigeration, processing facilities, and efficient transportation networks. These systems may be limited in some countries, particularly those with fewer economic resources.

Humans began consuming milk relatively late in their history, initially facing challenges digesting it. At the time, animals that could provide a regular supply of milk had not yet been domesticated.

When and why did this change?

Although the exact time and place where humans first began drinking cow's milk remain unknown, several historical milestones provide important clues.

Around 12,000 years ago, people living in the mountainous regions surrounding present-day Turkiye began transitioning from hunting and gathering to agricultural societies. This transformation required the domestication of animals, beginning with sheep and goats.

Researchers believe that adults began consuming fresh milk thousands of years ago. Genetic mutations associated with lactase persistence emerged in certain populations around 8,000 years ago, allowing adults to continue digesting lactose.

These mutations likely developed in communities that had already incorporated fresh milk into their diets.

The genetic adaptations spread more rapidly in Northern Europe, where shorter growing seasons made milk a valuable and reliable source of calories, protein, and hydration.

Cows, in particular, produced larger quantities of milk than other domesticated animals. In colder climates, milk also remained fresh and drinkable for longer periods.

Populations that consumed large quantities of milk were often taller and heavier. Those who could digest lactose also had a survival advantage, particularly during periods of famine.

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TEC steps up domestic tourism

JON returns to Kuwait's waterfront for 3rd season

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7, (KUNA): Kuwait's Touristic Enterprises Company (TEC) launched the third season of the JON entertainment destination on the Arabian Gulf beach Thursday, bolstering entertainment facilities and promoting domestic tourism.

Located near the world-renowned Kuwait Towers, the destination features restaurants and cafes inspired by global cuisines, spaces equipped for evening events and musical performances, and shopping stores set in a marine atmosphere that blends heritage with modern entertainment.

Over the past two seasons, the destination, which derives its name from Kuwait Bay and is deeply connected to the country's maritime history, has been highly popular with visitors from both inside and outside Kuwait.









KUNA photos

TEC opens third season of JON entertainment destination.

Taher Group Law Firm wins 3 regional awards

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7: Taher Group Law Firm has won three awards at the Legal Era Middle East Law Awards 2026, receiving the "Law Firm of the Year – Kuwait" and "Regulatory and Investigations Law Firm of the Year" awards. Its Managing Partner, Dr. Fawaz Khaled Alkhateeb, was also named "Real Estate Lawyer of the Year" in the Middle East, in an achievement that strengthens the regional presence of Kuwaiti legal professionals and institutions.

The awards combine recognition of the firm's standing in the Kuwaiti market with distinction in practice areas directly relevant to the needs of businesses and investors, from navigating regulatory requirements and investigations to protecting legal interests in real estate investments and projects.

The three wins followed 24 finalist nominations for the firm and its leadership, comprising 13 institutional and 11 individual nominations. These covered corporate law, banking and finance, restructuring, construction, real estate, litigation and dispute resolution, regulatory matters and investigations, and legal technology and innovation.

The Regulatory and Investigations award is particularly significant amid growing compliance and governance requirements and the need for legal advice that helps institutions manage risk and address regulatory matters and investigations effectively. The recognition in real estate also highlights the importance of specialist legal expertise in structuring transactions, protecting investments and resolving disputes relating to property projects and development.

The achievement marks another milestone in the firm's history since its establishment in 1969. Over that time, it has built expertise in litigation and arbitration, corporate law and commercial transactions, mergers and acquisitions, investments and major projects, while developing international professional relationships to support businesses with cross-border operations.

Under its motto, "Serving justice since 1969," Taher Group Law Firm continues to develop its people and professional practices and provide strategic advice that supports the decisions of businesses and investors and protects their interests, drawing on more than five decades of legal experience.

Criminal Court acquits 6 in meter bribery case

Campaign shuts down unlicensed stores

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

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7: The Criminal Court, presided over by Judge Al-Duwaihi Mubarak Al-Duwaihi, with Judges Bader Salem Al-Shehab, Ibrahim Abdul-Nasser Khuraibet, and Faisal Al-Khudair, acquitted six individuals of charges of bribery, mediation in bribery, and complicity.

The defendants included a department head and a supervisor at the Ministry of Electricity and Water, three expatriates, and a Kuwaiti citizen. The case involved two contracts related to electricity and water meters.

The court based its ruling on insufficient evidence, finding that the charges had not been conclusively established.

It explained that although WhatsApp messages discussing a salary, a gift, and amendments to a report raised suspicions, they were insufficient to prove that the benefits were offered in exchange for overlooking violations committed by the company.

Also, the testimony of an investigative officer regarding the findings of his inquiries does not constitute independent evidence.

The court stressed that criminal liability is personal, noting that merely transmitting documents related to a transfer does not establish knowledge of its underlying purpose. Similarly, receiving funds or being appointed to a position is not, in itself, sufficient to prove complicity in bribery.

In its reasoning, the court emphasized that "the existence of suspicion does not shift the burden of proving the charge onto the defendant."

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Crack down on unauthorized activities: The General Department of Criminal Investigation, represented by the Ahmadi Criminal Investigation Department, carried out a joint security campaign in coordination with the Public Authority for Food and Nutrition (PAFN) targeting unlicensed grocery stores operating in residential areas, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The campaign is part of ongoing security efforts to apprehend violators and crack down on unauthorized commercial activities.

According to a statement issued by the Ministry of Interior, the operation resulted in the arrest of four Asian expatriates working at the unlicensed grocery stores.

PAFN issued the necessary citations against the violating establishments and initiated legal proceedings within its jurisdiction.

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Yacht catches fire: A yacht collided with a marine buoy off the Yacht Club, causing a fire on board and leaving one person injured, on Thursday evening, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The Kuwait Fire Force said a team from the Salmiya Fire and Marine Rescue Center rushed to the scene, successfully extinguished the fire, and handed the injured individual over to the relevant authorities.

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Police seize 337 drug packets in 2 operations: The Drug Control General Department (DCGD) has arrested several individuals in two separate operations for possessing narcotics and psychotropic substances intended for trafficking and personal use, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The arrests are part of the Ministry of Interior's ongoing efforts to combat drug-related activities, particularly the distribution and trafficking of illegal substances.

According to a statement issued by the Ministry of Interior, the operations resulted in the seizure of 332 small packets and five larger packets of narcotics, in addition to one gram of shabu (methamphetamine).

The ministry confirmed that the suspects and seized substances have been referred to the relevant authorities for the necessary legal procedures.

Army concludes Desert Flash/1 exercise to boost readiness



Kuwait Army photo

The Kuwaiti Army concludes Desert Flash/1 excercise under the patronage and in the presence of Chief of the General Staff of the Army Lieutenant General Khaled Al-Shariaan.

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7: The Kuwait Army's Ground Forces, in cooperation with the Signal Corps, have successfully concluded the "Desert Flash/1" (Wameed Al-Sahra/1) exercise, held from November 3 to 5, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The exercise was conducted under the supervision and in the presence of Chief of the General Staff Lieutenant General Khaled Al-Shariaan.

In a press statement issued, the General Staff explained that the exercise aimed to enhance military readiness and preparedness in implementing communication strategies based on operational requirements.

It also sought to equip officers with the skills needed to assess and analyze operational scenarios, ensure uninterrupted communications, and respond swiftly to various emergency situations.

The General Staff highlighted that several senior military commanders attended the exercise.

Two sides discuss exemptions from government service fees

PADA, MoI seek better disability services

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7: The Public Authority for Disability Affairs (PADA) and the Ministry of Interior held a coordination meeting to discuss ways to facilitate services and government transactions for persons with disabilities and strengthen cooperation between the two entities, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

According to a statement issued by PADA , the meeting focused on simplifying procedures, reducing processing times, and improving access to government services.

Discussions covered the requirements and procedures for issuing traffic permits and allocating designated parking spaces for persons with disabilities, as well as measures to make government transactions more accessible.

The two sides also discussed exemptions from government service fees and fees and taxes on vehicles specially equipped for persons with disabilities.

Another important topic of discussion was the development of an electronic integration system between PADA and the Ministry of Interior to speed up procedures and facilitate the completion of transactions.

The meeting was chaired by Deputy Director General for Medical, Psychological and Social Services Dr. Khalifa Al-Hilal, representing PADA's Director General, and attended by several department directors and officials.

The Ministry of Interior was represented by Assistant Director General for Traffic Affairs for Education and Coordination at the General Traffic Department Brigadier Khaled Al-Adwani, along with members of his delegation.

PIFSS welcomes UK court ruling against former chief

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7, (KUNA): Acting Director General of Kuwait's Public Institution for Social Security (PIFSS) Khaled Al-Mudhaf lauded a first-instance ruling by the English Commercial Court in London against its ex-chief, the late Fahad Al-Rajaan and his associates.

Al-Mudhaf made this press statement following the issuance of the first-instance verdict in a lawsuit filed in 2019, which was led by the Fatwa and Legislation Department's legal team against Al-Rajaan and his associates.

The case continued after his death against his estate, represented by his wife and heirs, as well as his associates. The court ruled in favor of all claims, in addition to interest and expenses, with interest and expenses to be decided in subsequent hearings.

In this regard, the official spoke highly of fruitful cooperation and coordination between the institution and the Fatwa and Legislation Department, which has followed up on the case for 11 years.

Motorist pays price for reckless driving

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7: The General Traffic Department's Security Control Department has arrested a driver and seized his vehicle following an incident of reckless and irresponsible driving in Qurain, reports Al-Seyassah daily. The operation is part of ongoing efforts to address dangerous traffic violations and protect the safety of all road users.

According to a statement issued by the Ministry of Interior, the authorities launched an investigation after receiving a video clip documenting the incident. The investigation led to the identification and arrest of the driver, as well as the seizure of his vehicle.

35 kg of chicken destroyed in Farwaniya

PAFN issues 16 citations in Hawally

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7: The Public Authority for Food and Nutrition (PAFN) issued 16 violation citations and obtained several formal undertakings during an inspection campaign in Hawally Governorate, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The campaign aimed to identify violations related to licensing requirements and health regulations.

In a statement, PAFN said the inspection drive is part of its ongoing efforts to strengthen food safety oversight and protect consumer health.

Meanwhile, The Public Authority for Food and Nutrition (PAFN) issued 17 citations and destroyed 35 kilograms of chicken during an inspection campaign in Farwaniya Governorate as part of its ongoing efforts to strengthen oversight of food establishments.

In an official statement issued on Friday, PAFN said the violations included failure to comply with health regulations and hygiene standards, thawing frozen meat and poultry and selling them as fresh products, and employing workers without valid health certificates.

PAFN reaffirmed its commitment to conducting regular inspections and monitoring food establishments to protect public health and ensure consumer safety.

diwaniya ديوانية

A DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION

Surplus government buildings ... back to square one

"IN THE Sunday, January 31, 2026 issue, I published an article titled "Government Vacancies... Dismal Facilities." With 515 government-owned properties currently unused, there are some important questions to note," columnist Eng. **Adel Al-Jarallah Al-Kharafi** wrote for **Al-Seyassah** daily.



Eng. Al-Kharafi

"Are these not valuable real estate assets that could be put to use? Do they not represent, in fact, "dismal facilities"? I am revisiting this topic following a report published a few days ago in a local newspaper, which referred to a proposal to allocate surplus state-owned buildings to government entities currently renting their premises.

This proposal is by no means new. It has been presented to successive governments, yet, for reasons that remain unclear, it has never been given serious consideration.

Numerous government-owned buildings remain vacant and unused, serving no practical purpose.

In some cases, these vacant buildings have become breeding grounds for pests or have been exploited by unscrupulous individuals for illegal or immoral activities, while certain ministries continue to operate from rented premises across various governorates.

At the same time, numerous government entities rent their facilities, while several activities lack suitable premises in which to operate. Many government locations also suffer from severe congestion due to inadequate parking facilities.

The situation surrounding these properties appears to have become a tangled mess, although addressing the problem at its root should be relatively straightforward.

In any country, government-owned real estate represents a valuable national asset, provided it is properly maintained and put to optimal use.

When neglected and left vacant, however, these properties become a burden on the public treasury.

Hidden or seemingly insignificant expenditures are, in reality, a form of financial deficit that could be avoided, particularly when practical alternatives are available.

As we highlighted in our previous article, the state owns 515 properties, yet the shortage of government facilities continues to force it to rent buildings to accommodate its operations.

Does this not amount to wasteful spending? And who should be held accountable? A number of unused schools and other government facilities, along with vacant state-owned plots of land, remain neglected. Some of these properties are located in areas where real estate values are exceptionally high.

Why, then, have these valuable public assets not been put to use? In this regard, I would point to the Heritage Village project, which has remained abandoned for more than a decade, with less than half of the work completed.

Other projects have also been left unfinished, seemingly abandoned altogether. This raises an important question - Why are so much time and public money being wasted? I hope a committee will be formed within the Council of Ministers to review these and other proposals and explore ways to make better use of state-owned real estate assets, ensuring they do not remain neglected or become an additional financial burden on the state."

Also:

"There was a time when Islam was spreading rapidly around the world. In Italy, for example, one person was embracing Islam every two days, while a similar trend was observed in Brazil. However, a coordinated international campaign to tarnish the image of Arabs and Islam has since emerged," columnist **Ahmad Al-Dawas** wrote for **Al-Seyassah** daily.

"I read several British and American newspapers daily, and I have noticed that some publications display clear hostility towards Arabs and Muslims.

They frequently criticize us over alleged violations of women's rights, while Western societies recognize the rights of transgender individuals and homosexuals and permit same-sex marriage.

They even regard appearing completely naked in public as an exercise of "freedom of expression," yet the sight of a woman wearing a hijab can trigger an uproar.

It is rare to see anyone, apart from occasional Indian or Pakistani writers, defending Islam in European and American newspapers.

Where are the graduates of Sharia and Islamic studies from the Ministry of Islamic Affairs? Why do they not contribute articles defending Islam in the foreign-language press, particularly English-language publications? Is their sole objective to obtain a degree and secure a job? And what about graduates of Al-Azhar University? Why do we rarely see them contributing to foreign publications? Are they primarily concerned with material gain, leaving the responsibility of defending Islam to Indian and Pakistani writers? In recent days, several English-language newspapers, along with the British magazine "The Economist", have criticized the roles played by Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states in confronting the Houthis, seemingly portraying the group in a favorable light.



Al-Dawas

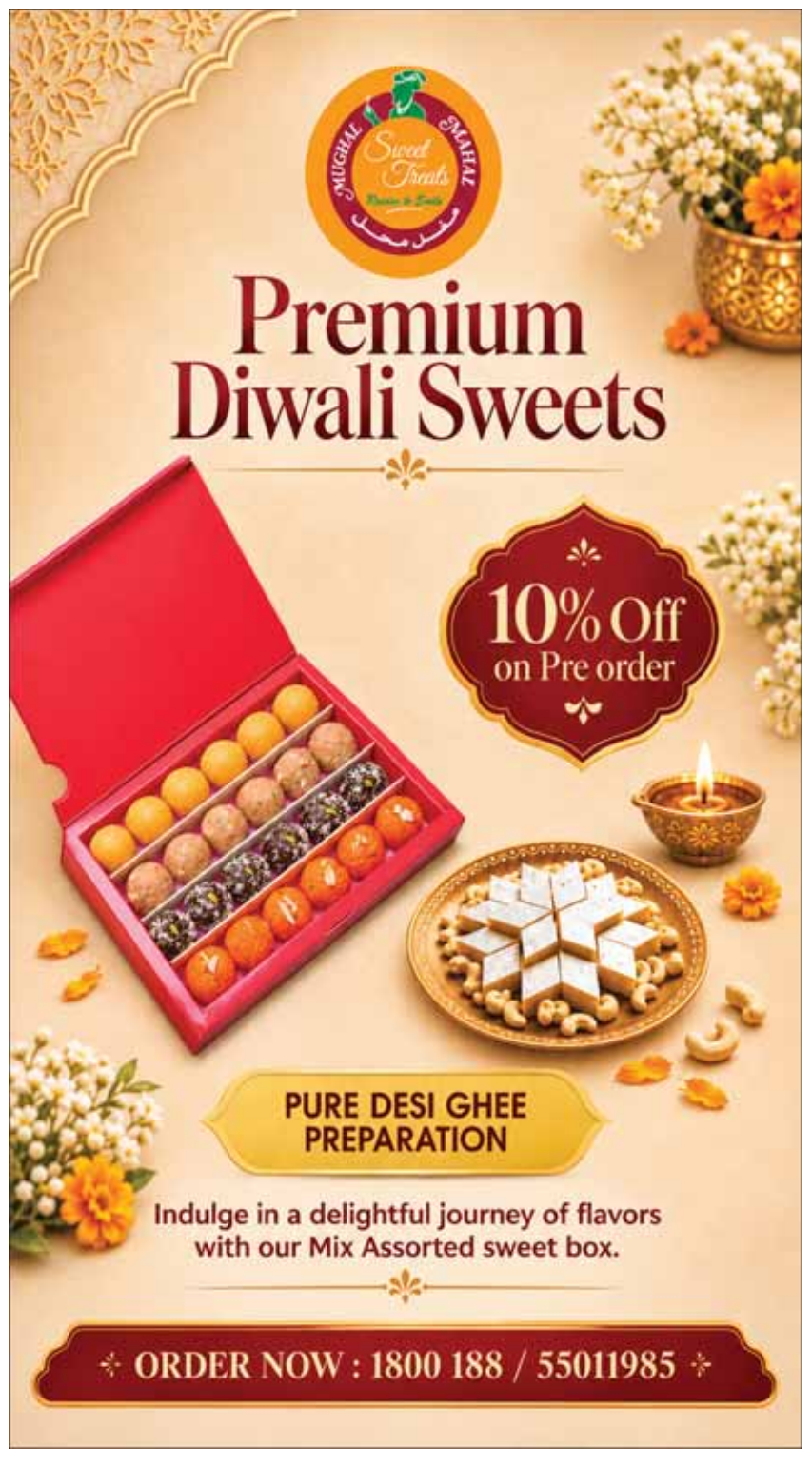
Many English-speaking readers, unfamiliar with the actual events, accepted these accounts at face value and responded with harsh and hurtful comments.

In response, I wrote to "The Telegraph", providing a clear and concise overview of the Houthi insurgency. My response was well received.

It often appears that European and American writers fail to present events in a logical and coherent sequence. Instead, they write in a haphazard, disjointed manner, making them superficial and lacking in substance.

I was particularly disappointed by the poor quality of the coverage in "The Telegraph" and "The Economist", both of which, in my view, repeatedly fail to present Arabs and Muslims fairly."

— Compiled by Simi K. Kutty





Photos by Rezk Tawfiq
The representative of the Minister of Health, Assistant Undersecretary for Public Health Dr. Al-Munther Al-Hasawi inaugurates the first conference on orthopedics and trauma.

Health Ministry holds 1st Orthopedic Surgery and Trauma 360 Conference

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7, (KUNA): The Ministry of Health held on Friday the first Orthopedic Surgery and Trauma 360 Conference, organized by the Kuwait Orthopedic Association, with the participation of local and international medical professionals, alongside the fourth annual scientific research day of the Kuwait Board of Orthopedic Surgery.

In a speech delivered on behalf of Health Minister Dr. Ahmad Al-Awadhi, Assistant Undersecretary for Public Health Dr. Al-Munther Al-Hasawi stressed the Ministry's commitment to supporting specialized scientific conferences as platforms for exchanging expertise, developing clinical skills and improving the quality of healthcare services.

He highlighted the Ministry's efforts to modernize healthcare by adopting the latest global medical advances, particularly expanding robotic and specialized surgeries and establishing dedicated trauma centers across healthcare facilities in Kuwait.

Al-Hasawi also emphasized the importance of integrated care for accident victims, from emergency treatment and surgery to intensive care, rehabilitation and recovery, stressing the need for coordination among different surgical specialties.

Meanwhile, President of the Kuwait Orthopedic Association Dr. Ali Mardashti said the two-day conference aimed to promote continuing medical education, strengthen professional cooperation and introduce participants to the latest clinical developments in orthopedic care.



A view of the exhibition held on the sidelines of the conference.

Conference Chairman Dr. Ali Bahman highlighted the importance of teamwork and cooperation among medical specialties in treating injuries and fractures. He added that the accompanying scientific research day aimed to support young doctors and encourage research and innovation, describing them as the foundation of the country's medical future.

Kuwait stresses commitment to UN development, humanitarian efforts

Sharrar highlights importance of investing in education

NEW YORK, Nov 7, (KUNA): The State of Kuwait has underscored the pivotal role played by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in coordinating economic, social and environmental efforts.

In a statement to the UN General Assembly on Thursday evening, Diplomatic Attache of Kuwait' Permanent Mission to the UN Dalal Sharrar called for enhanced coordination between the Council, the UN General Assembly and the High-Level Political Forum.

The UNGA was debating the report of ECOSOC and the follow-up to the implementation of the outcomes of UN conferences and summits in the economic and social fields.

Sharrar said Kuwait believes that the multilateral system, with the United Nations at its core, remains the most effective framework for addressing cross-border challenges.

She stressed the importance of translating the outcomes of UN conferences and summits into tangible improvements in people's lives.

"As ECOSOC marks the 80th anniversary of its establishment, Kuwait calls for developing follow-up mechanisms and improving the quality of national data, while respecting the mandates of UN bodies and the priorities of individual countries.

"Reform efforts, including the UN80 Initiative, should help reduce duplication and strengthen support for developing countries," she pointed out.

Sharrar highlighted the importance of providing the necessary financing and capacities to implement development commitments amid rising financing costs and debt burdens.

She called for supporting the implementation of the Sevilla Commitment and expanding developing countries' access to concessional financing, alongside mobilizing domestic resources, transferring technology and building capacities to accelerate implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Regarding Kuwait's development efforts, Sharrar said the country places people at the heart of its development policies and continues, through the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED), to support vital projects in developing countries, particularly in water and sanitation, energy, health and education.

"Such efforts contribute to building national capacities and ensuring the sustainability of development outcomes," she noted.



KUNA photo
Diplomatic Attache of Kuwait's Permanent Mission to the UN Dalal Sharrar

Kuwait continues commitment to supporting the United Nations' relief and humanitarian efforts and linking relief program with recovery and development plans to enable communities affected by crises to restore essential services and livelihoods, she went on.

On water security, Sharrar expressed Kuwait's anticipation of the UN Water Conference, scheduled to be held in Abu Dhabi early next December, co-hosted by the United Arab Emirates and Senegal, as well as the 11th World Water Forum, scheduled to take place in Riyadh in 2027.

She affirmed Kuwait's support for efforts to ensure the success of both events and strengthen international cooperation towards achieving water security.

Regarding social development, she stressed the importance of following up on the implementation of the Doha Political Declaration, adopted at the Second World Summit for Social Development in 2025.

She also highlighted the importance of investing in education, health and skills development, empowering women, youth and persons with disabilities, bridging the digital divide, and expanding social protection and decent work opportunities.

The diplomatic attache concluded Kuwait's statement by stressing that fulfilling shared commitments requires political will, adequate resources, regular follow-up and



Kuwait renews commitment to protect environment and natural resources

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7, (KUNA): The Ministry of Foreign Affairs renewed Kuwait's commitment to support international efforts to protect the environment and natural resources against impact of war and armed conflicts.

The ministry's remarks came in a statement issued on Friday, for the International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict.

The statement commemorates 25 years since the UN approved article 4/56 for 2001, which was a Kuwaiti initiative to mark November 6 of every year as the International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict, it said.

The ministry affirmed the need to respect the international law's articles related to protecting the environment before, during and after the conclusion of armed conflicts. It also called for holding conflict parties accountable for their actions against the environment and natural resources.

Protecting the environment is an international responsibility and key to achieving peace and sustainable development, it noted.

Kuwait joins the international community on Friday in marking the International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict, observed annually on November 6, to highlight the devastating environmental consequences of wars, including ecosystem destruction and biodiversity loss.

The occasion holds particular significance for Kuwait, which experienced a major environmental catastrophe during the 1990 Iraqi invasion, when retreating Iraqi forces set fire to more than 700 oil wells.

The resulting fires caused extensive damage, generating widespread pollution and affecting the country's land, air and water resources, with environmental consequences extending to neighboring countries.

Following Kuwait's liberation in 1991, national firefighting teams worked alongside several government bodies and international partners to extinguish the burning oil wells within a record period, in a display of international cooperation and national solidarity in confronting an environmental disaster caused by armed conflict.

November 6 was chosen as the annual observance date, marking the extinguishing of the last burning oil well in Kuwait in 1991. The date has since become a national and humanitarian symbol and subsequently gained international recognition through Kuwait's initiative at the UN.

As part of preparations to highlight Kuwait's contribution, the Kuwait Environment Protection Society (KEPS) announced plans to mark the silver jubilee of the international day, coinciding with the 25th anniversary of its adoption by the UN General Assembly. The preparations reflect efforts to promote awareness of environmental protection and dangers that wars pose to natural resources.

The society's preparations include coordination with Kuwait Oil Company to establish a permanent exhibition at the company's Ahmed Al-Jaber Oil and Gas Exhibition, documenting the history of the international day and the Kuwaiti initiative.

Kuwait's commitment to protecting the environment from armed conflict was also reflected in the speech delivered by the late Amir Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 1992. Following the country's liberation, he stressed the importance of rehabilitating Kuwait's war-damaged environment and called on the international community to enact legislation recognizing the deliberate destruction of the environment as a crime against humanity.

In November 2002, the late Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, then First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, expressed Kuwait's appreciation for the UN's adoption of the international day in a speech marking its first anniversary. He described the designation as a victory over aggression and stressed the importance of preserving an unpolluted environment for future generations

Kuwait continued its international efforts in 2018 by organizing the first initiative of its kind at the UN Security Council on the impact of armed conflicts on the environment, highlighting the catastrophic consequences that environmental damage could cause.

In 2025, the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), through Kuwait's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, stressed during the 58th session of the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva the need to strengthen international cooperation to address pollution, climate change and environmental degradation affecting oceans, as it is vital in the global ecosystem as a source of livelihoods and food security for millions of people.

In a statement marking the occasion in 2025, Kuwait's Ministry of Foreign Affairs expressed the country's full solidarity with efforts to protect the environment during wars and armed conflicts, stressing the need to respect international law, which provides environmental protection before, during and after armed conflicts.

Gulf cultural convergence remains a shared priority: Kuwait info min

MANAMA, Nov 7, (KUNA): Kuwaiti Minister of State for Communications and Information Technology and Acting Minister of Information and Culture Omar Al-Omar said Thursday it is essential to continuously strive to bolster Gulf cultural convergence.



Al-Omar

The Kuwaiti minister made the statement to KUNA while participating in the 30th meeting of the GCC Cultural Ministers Committee, currently hosted by the Kingdom of Bahrain.

He underlined that that this effort remains a shared priority that helps cement a unified Gulf cultural identity, strengthen solidarity and cohesion among GCC states, address challenges, and consolidate the bonds of people-to-people communication and understanding.

The minister added that culture is a fundamental pillar for fostering convergence among GCC countries and bolstering the fraternal ties between their peoples.

He emphasized the significance of stepping up cultural cooperation, exchanging expertise, and developing joint initiatives and events that reflect the richness of Gulf heritage and align with future hopes.



Dr. Abdullah Al-Ghunaim, Head of the Kuwait Center for Research and Studies was honored in Manama.



KUNA photos

Dr. Yaqoub Al-Hijji, historian, researcher in maritime heritage and consultant and researcher at the Kuwait Center for Research and Studies was honored but did not attend, someone else accepted the award on his behalf.

2 Kuwaiti innovators awarded in Bahrain

MANAMA, Nov 7, (KUNA): Two Kuwaiti innovators, Dr. Abdullah Al-Ghunaim, President of the Center for Research and Studies on Kuwait (CRSK), and Dr. Yaqoub Al-Hijji, were honored with a GCC award in the cultural and artistic fields in Manama on Thursday.

The move came in appreciation of their careers and contributions to enriching culture and knowledge, and documenting and preserving heritage.

The Kuwaiti innovators were awarded in an event held on the sidelines of the 30th meeting of the Committee of GCC Ministers of Culture.

Dr. Abdullah Al-Ghunaim was honored in recognition of his contributions to the fields of history and geography, along with his scientific and research efforts.

Dr. Yacoub Al-Hijji, consultant and researcher at the CRSK, was also awarded in appreciation for his efforts in documenting maritime heritage and highlighting its historical and cultural dimensions.

Speaking to KUNA, Minister of State for Communications and Information Technology and Acting Minister of Information and Culture Omar Al-Omar said that honoring GCC innovators reflects the appreciation for the contributions made by cultural and artistic figures to enriching the Gulf cultural scene, enhancing its presence, and maintaining its civilized heritage.

Kuwait, Poland vow to boost cooperation in many sectors

Kuwaiti diplomacy calm and balanced: Cholewa

By Fares Ghaleb
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7: Assistant Foreign Minister for European Affairs Ambassador Najeeb Al-Bader reaffirmed the strong ties between Kuwait and Poland, highlighting both countries' commitment to expanding cooperation across political, defense, military, trade, and investment sectors.

He said the two countries are keen to build on their existing achievements and significant historical milestones to further strengthen bilateral relations.

Ambassador Al-Bader said this during a reception hosted by the Polish Embassy at the Jumeirah Hotel to mark Poland's National Day and the anniversary of the restoration of its independence.

The event was attended by Undersecretary of the Ministry of Defence Sheikh Dr. Abdullah Al-Meshal, along with several ambassadors, heads of diplomatic missions, and members of the Polish community.

Ambassador Al-Bader also highlighted Kuwait's pride in its 63-year diplomatic relationship with Poland.

He extended his congratulations to the Polish leadership, government, and people, noting that bilateral cooperation also covers the defense and military sectors, particularly through the training and qualification of Kuwaiti students at the Polish Naval Academy. He also expressed optimism about achieving significant progress in trade and investment cooperation in the coming period.

Ambassador Al-Bader recalled Poland's supportive stance towards Kuwait during the 1990 Iraqi invasion, when Warsaw expressed solidarity with Kuwait and condemned the aggression in accordance with international law and the United Nations Charter.

Meanwhile, Ambassador of the Republic of Poland to Kuwait Michał Cholewa reaffirmed his country's appreciation for its long-standing historical ties and strong partnership with Kuwait.

He praised Kuwait's resilience amid the region's challenging security conditions, reiterating Poland's continued support and full solidarity with the country, as well as its backing for Kuwait's diplomatic efforts to promote peace and stability.

Ambassador Cholewa described Kuwaiti diplomacy as calm and balanced, serving as a beacon amid current regional circumstances.

Citing an Arab proverb, he said, "He who walks with steady steps does not stumble."

He also emphasized Poland's deep respect for Kuwait's vision and diplomatic approach.

On tourism, Ambassador Cholewa highlighted growing interest among Kuwaitis in visiting Poland, attracted by its historical and cultural heritage and natural beauty.

He affirmed that the launch of direct flights between Kuwait and Kraków has strengthened ties between the two countries.

He also welcomed the decision to continue the flights throughout the winter season, saying this would create more opportunities for tourism and cultural exchange between the two peoples.











Photos by Rezk Tawfiq

Some photos from the event.

Creativity Festival kicks off to promote national talents

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7: The Creativity Festival kicked off on Thursday under the patronage of the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters (NCCAL), bringing together creative professionals, national talents, and entrepreneurs to highlight local capabilities and explore opportunities to develop Kuwait's creative economy, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, acting Secretary-General of NCCAL Musaed Al-Zamel said the festival provides an opportunity to celebrate innovative ideas and creative talent while highlighting the role of creativity in supporting development and economic growth.

Al-Zamel explained that creativity has become an essential component of modern economies, contributing to innovation, job creation, business development, cultural identity, and national competitiveness.

Developing the creative economy requires more than identifying talent and innovative ideas. It also involves creating an environment that enables individuals to develop their abilities and transform their ideas into projects and products with economic and social value.

The festival includes panel discussions and workshops covering content creation, marketing, fashion, branding, cinema, and new media, offering participants opportunities to exchange experiences and explore employment and investment prospects.

NCCAL is committed to supporting the creative economy through sustained institutional efforts, including capacity building, infrastructure development, stronger partnerships, investment promotion, and improved regulatory frameworks.

He emphasized that NCCAL's role extends beyond supporting cultural activities to empowering creative professionals, expanding opportunities, and strengthening the contribution of culture and creativity to national development.



Launch of the 'Creativity Festival,' under the auspices of the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters (NCCAL) and featuring a select group of creative individuals and talents.



KUNA photos

Zain Kuwait's Chief Corporate Relations and Affairs Officer Waleed Al-Khashti

Meanwhile, Zain Kuwait's Chief Corporate Relations and Affairs Officer Waleed Al-Khashti said Kuwaiti creativity has the potential to reach international audiences when provided with the necessary opportunities and support.

He expressed the company's pride in supporting the festival, noting that creativity is rooted in thinking differently, embracing new ideas, and making a lasting impression.

The festival, which concluded on November 7, also saw the launch of Contowy, a content creation platform. Its activities include workshops, panel discussions, and other events designed to encourage knowledge sharing and strengthen connections among creative professionals and entrepreneurs.

Chevron

JOINT OPERATIONS

SAUDI ARABIAN CHEVRON INC. (SAC) *KUWAIT GULF OIL COMPANY (K.S.C.)*

Joint Operations (Saudi Arabian Chevron Inc. / Kuwait Gulf Oil Company) announces the under-mentioned Public Tenders for procurement of materials. Kuwaiti and Saudi merchants, registered with either company wishing to participate in any of the under-mentioned Tenders should submit their bids electronically through "**SMART BY GEP**" **https://smart.gep.com**.

For first-time registration please contact **TLQX@Chevron.com** - **BHSJ@Chevron.com** for support and guidance.

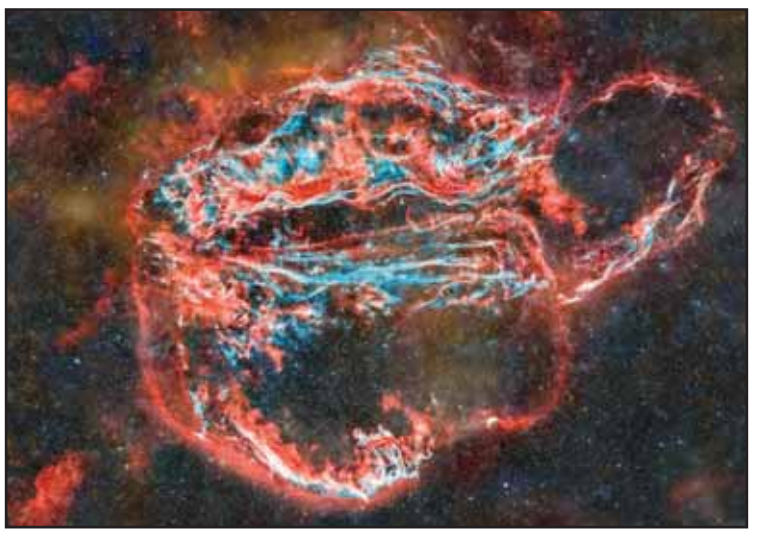
A non-refundable fee mentioned against tender. Tender fees must be deposited and bidders must attach proof of payment copy as follows:

STATE OF KUWAIT	KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA
NATIONAL BANK OF KUWAIT ACCOUNT NUMBER: 1001132057 IN KUWAITI DINAR	GULF BANK - KUWAIT IBAN: KW25GULB0000000000000090550035 IN KUWAITI DINAR
	RIYADH BANK IBAN: SA2620000003100019949901 IN SAUDI RIYAL

The start date for the following Tenders will be on **Sunday, 8 NOV 2026** and closing date will be on **Tuesday, 8 DEC 2026 @ 09:00 A.M.**

S. NO.	TENDER NO.	MATERIALS CLOSING DATE	FEES (KD)	CLOSING DATE
1	059050-R2	8L VFD Power Units, Boards, Breakers, Contactors & Fans - WOLONG PS&D Wafra	5	8 / 12 / 2026
2	063798	KSB Pump Spares, 29 Lines, RPH 100-360, KSB, Wafra, WJ46 Stock	5	8 / 12 / 2026
3	063795	Cables & Wires, 4 Lines, 1.5/2.5/70/4x185sqmm, Approved MFR, Wafra, WJ44 Stock	15	8 / 12 / 2026
4	063792	Sucker Rod, 1 Line, 1in x 25ft Grade D, Any Reputed MFR, Wafra, WJ203 Stock	15	8 / 12 / 2026
5	063789	Coated Tubing, 1 Line, 3.5in L80 EUE R2, Alteriver/Approved, Wafra, Tubing Protection	35	8 / 12 / 2026
6	063787	Choke Valve Body & Beans, 11 Lines, 3in & 38/64-64/64in, HOFE/Any, Wafra, CSS EOR	15	8 / 12 / 2026

Kuwaiti astrophotographer shines on NASA and ESA


Kuwaiti researcher Abdullah Al-Harbi





Abdullah Al-Harbi captures the wonders of deep space in images featured on the official platforms of NASA and ESA.

MUSCAT, Nov 7, (KUNA): From the Gulf sands to deep space, the passion of Kuwaiti researcher Abdullah Al-Harbi has turned from a mere hobby of stargazing into a scientific document embraced by key world space agencies.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the European Space Agency (ESA) have featured 50 of Al-Harbi's images across their official websites.

This accomplishment makes him the first Gulf person to have his shots showcased in NASA's "Astronomy Picture of the Day" series, and one of the most frequently featured Arab astrophotographers on the agency's platform.

Al-Harbi is also the first Gulf individual to collaborate with the European Space Agency (ESA).

Continued from Page 1

Appeal for

Your Excellency, the main aim of the national labor subsidy is to motivate citizens to enter the private sector in a bid to utilize the national workforce and wean dependence on expatriate labor. Since the basic salary in the private sector is inadequate, the provision of financial support is an effective and judicious policy. The suspension of this subsidy discourages citizens from working in the private sector, prompting most job seekers to opt for public sector employment.

This shift exacerbated the 'disguised unemployment' problem, did not add value to the gross domestic product (GDP) and increased the burden on the state budget.

The current situation in Kuwait is similar to that of neighboring countries in the region. The neighboring countries took proactive measures to help their citizens, yet our country proceeds as though the global environment is static—ignoring the severe economic crisis weighing on everyone.

Under these circumstances, penalizing businesses while withholding the national labor subsidy compromises their operational capacity.

As noted from the beginning, we fully recognize your dedication to ensure equality and justice for everyone, which continues to be your highest priority.

We earnestly ask you to review such decision, because suspending the national labor subsidy will only worsen the financial strain on citizens.

Housing woes

He pointed out that this is important, because such cases affect the citizens, the stability of their families, and their financial commitments.

He also confirmed the establishment of a unit in the General Department of Experts, indicating this unit will consist of accountants and engineers in charge of assessing matters related to the disputes, and ensuring that expert assessments are completed rapidly with a higher degree of specialization and precision, thereby, facilitating the final resolution of cases.

He said his ministry is currently developing the legislative framework to govern these procedures, including the establishment of specialized judicial circuits and the mechanism for engaging the necessary technical and accounting expertise, as a step toward refining the process for handling such cases.

He added this move is in response to complaints regarding the suspension of home construction projects or instances when contractors failed to meet their contractual obligations after receiving payments from the owners of residential plots.

He pointed out that such situations often compel the affected parties to seek legal recourse to recover their funds or obtain compensation for damages incurred. He asserted that the development of this legislation is a step toward improving the mechanisms for handling house construction disputes.

He disclosed that the aim is to protect the rights of citizens, provide redress for those affected, safeguard the interests of all contracting parties, and mitigate the financial and housing consequences that arise when home construction projects falter.

Airport now

The ban applies to all areas within the airport, including airfields, passenger terminals, administrative and technical facilities, and other locations affiliated with PACA.

The circular also prohibits airport personnel and entities from photographing or sharing internal documents and communications, as well as information related to security procedures, regulations, checkpoints, surveillance systems, aircraft operations, and other operational activities.

According to the second article, any person or entity found violating the circular's provisions will face legal action in accordance with Kuwait's applicable laws, regulations, and decrees.

The third article states that the directive takes effect immediately upon issuance and must be circulated to all sectors and departments affiliated with PACA and Kuwait International Airport.

Kuwait weather

He advised people suffering from asthma and allergies to wear face masks when going outdoors, particularly when necessary, amid the expected rainfall and increased humidity.

Al-Ali urged citizens and residents to follow the Meteorological Department's official website, mobile application, and social media accounts for the latest weather updates.

Meanwhile, the Al-Ojeiri Scientific Center has announced that the third phase of the Al-Wasm season, known as Al-Ghafr, will begin on November 11 and last for 13 days, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The phase marks the start of the second half of the Al-Wasm season, during which temperatures gradually begin to decline.

In a press statement, the center explained that Al-Ghafr is the seventh phase of autumn and is characterized by a noticeable drop in temperatures, while daytime weather remains relatively pleasant.

The nights become longer as daylight hours decrease, with the Asr (afternoon) prayer reaching its earliest time of the year.

Also, nighttime hours exceed 13 hours during this period.

According to the agricultural calendar, this phase is considered ideal for planting various winter crops, as well as fertilizing palm trees and preparing the soil around them.

The center highlighted several notable characteristics of this phase, including the first signs of winter and cooler nighttime temperatures while daytime conditions will remain mild, with increased wind activity, rougher sea conditions, and lower seawater temperatures during the morning.

Italy honors

These programs help women overcome the effects of trauma, regain self-confidence, strengthen their ability to build more stable lives and participate actively in their communities.

For her part, Sheikha Intisar expressed to KUNA her pride in receiving this prestigious recognition from the Italian Republic, describing it as an acknowledgment of a humanitarian mission based on the belief that real change begins with the individual, and that building more peaceful and stable societies starts with caring for mental health, strengthening individual capabilities and fostering a belief in one's worth and ability to make a positive difference in life.

She thanked the Italian Republic for this honor, describing it as a renewed responsibility and an incentive to continue working for humanity.

Sheikha Intisar Al-Sabah founded the (Alnowair) initiative in 2013 to promote a culture of positive thinking and encourage positive behaviors in Kuwaiti society. The initiative later expanded its areas of work in line with a comprehensive development vision aligned with the objectives of Kuwait Vision 2035, contributing to building a more aware and sustainable society.

Trump confirms

Trump in an exchange with reporters described the military action as "minor."

"They knocked out -- they built a little bit of an anti-aircraft device and we knocked it out in about 15 minutes, maybe five," Trump told reporters shortly after arriving in West Palm Beach, Florida, on Friday evening.

Trump did not offer further details about the target. But U.S. officials have reported that most of Iran's air defense systems were destroyed or severely degraded during a June 2025 bombardment by Israel and in the early stages of the current conflict. U.S. officials have assessed that Iran would try to rebuild them and other military infrastructure over time.

The U.S. military also reported carrying out what it described as defensive strikes on Monday. Explosions were heard on the islands of Qeshm and Hengam in the strategic Strait of Hormuz, and in the nearby mainland area of Bandar Abbas.

Friday's strikes are the first since Trump's Republican Party was dealt a stunning repudiation in Tuesday's midterm elections in the U.S.

The electoral setback - Republicans lost both chambers of Congress - was stoked in part by voter dissatisfaction with Trump's execution of the conflict and elevated fuel prices, a byproduct of the war that's affected nearly every sector of the global economy.

In the days since Republicans' shellacking at the polls, Trump has vacillated between threatening to "destroy" Iran and suggesting a resolution to the war is near.

Earlier Friday, two Middle East government officials said Iran was reviewing proposals presented by chief mediator Qatar aimed at addressing differences with the United States about Tehran's nuclear program.

But one of the officials stressed that the Iranians, at least at the moment, remain unwilling to engage in negotiations with the Trump administration over their atomic activities until the U.S. agrees to several core conditions that Iran has been demanding be part of any ceasefire agreement.

Differences with Iran over its nuclear program remain the thorniest issue and one that Trump insists must be resolved as part of any deal meant to end the more than 8-month-old war.

Both officials were not authorized to comment publicly on the delicate negotiations and spoke on the condition of anonymity.

Meanwhile, U.S. Central Command, which oversees U.S. military operations in the Middle East, announced in a post on X late Friday that the United States was offering "a reward of up to $20 million and possible relocation for information about Iran's nuclear program, including its facilities, equipment, and associated personnel, such as those in the scientific community, or the movement of any of the above."

The post included a link to the State Department's Rewards for Justice program.

The White House declined to comment about the Qatari-presented proposals on Iran's nuclear program, but Trump noted earlier Friday in an exchange with reporters that mediators' discussions with Iran continue.

"We are talking to Iran. We have been," said Trump, who insists the U.S. military remains in control of the conflict with a battered Iran.

Yet, Tehran insists on several concessions from the U.S., which Trump has declined in the past. Among the core demands Iran says must be met before engaging in nuclear talks: ending the U.S. blockade on Iran's ports, lifting sanctions, unfreezing its assets, issuing compensation for war damage and ending hostilities throughout the region, including Israeli operations in Lebanon.

Mediators and Iran have discussed a potential bridge deal aimed at helping pave the way for further talks on Tehran's nuclear program, according to regional officials.

They said the proposal, which was recently presented to the two sides by Qatari mediators, called for implementing trust-building measures over the course of two days.

KRCS joins global push to enforce humanitarian law

Call for stronger war safeguards

GENEVA, Nov 7, (KUNA): The Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS) has affirmed its commitment to supporting international efforts to uphold international humanitarian law and strengthen cooperation with humanitarian organizations and entities dedicated to protecting civilians and those affected by armed conflicts.

Latifa Al-Meer, Secretary-General of the KRCS, told the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) following her participation, leading a delegation from the Society, in a global dialogue on international humanitarian law organized by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Geneva that the dialogue serves as an international platform for exchanging expertise, discussing mechanisms to improve compliance with (IHL) and evolving ways to implement it effectively on the ground.

Al-Meer added that the dialogue, which includes representatives from states, international and regional organizations, national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, and the academic community, explored how to translate the global initiatives outcomes into practical actions at the national, regional, and international levels.

She explained that the discussions focused on intensifying civilian protection, curbing violations and human suffering during armed conflicts, safeguarding essential services, and ensuring that technology use aligns with humanitarian principles and international humanitarian law.

She added that participants highlighted the importance of developing national measures, strengthening international cooperation, and sharing expertise, all of which help reinforce respect for international humanitarian law and activate mechanisms for its implementation.

Al-Meer stated that the Society's delegation, which included Asrar Al-Qabandi, Head of the Legal Affairs and International Humanitarian Law Department, held several meetings on the sidelines of the dialogue.



KUNA photo

Secretary-General of the KRCS Latifa Al-Meer with Ambassador Nasser Al-Hayen during a global dialogue in Geneva.

These included discussions with Dr. Cordula Droege, Chief of the Legal Division at the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Amal Imam, Executive Director of the Egyptian Red Crescent; and Ambassador Nasser Al-Hayen, Permanent Representative of the State of Kuwait to the United Nations and other international organizations in Geneva.

She emphasized that these meetings are part of efforts to strengthen communication and coordination with international humanitarian institutions and to exchange perspectives and expertise on issues of common interest, thereby supporting humanitarian endeavors aimed at protecting those affected by armed conflicts.

Al-Meer underscored the Kuwait Red Crescent Society's continued commitment to supporting international humanitarian initiatives and promoting awareness of international humanitarian law.

This aligns with the Society's humanitarian mission and its role in fostering solidarity, international cooperation, and the protection of the most vulnerable groups affected by crises and conflicts.

Other Voices

Another year gone ... What have I achieved?

By Hala Al Humaidhi



Hala Al Humaidhi

It's the end of another year. And another question starts popping up. What did I achieve? We look at photos, remember plans, remember our resolutions from January. Some of them were achieved. Others were pushed off.

Maybe, somewhere between the two, we came to a pretty damning verdict: It was another year down the drain, and I don't have anything to show for it. It's probably not helped if your timeline is full of people reaching new heights. Someone started a business. Someone got promoted. Someone went on vacation all over the world.

We take in their successes in seconds, then measure them against the struggles we know only too well. And their life looks special, whereas ours seems routine. But what qualifies as an achievement?

Do you have to be able to capture it on camera, tweet it or put it on your resume? What about a year spent caring for a sick relative? Or someone who persisted despite setbacks, managed their finances better, or learned to be kinder to themselves? There are things you don't get medals for but that alter your life. Things like learning not to over-promise, apologising, finally asking for help.

Those moments don't usually make for great pictures, but that doesn't mean they should count for less. Sometimes we're being unfair to ourselves by comparing the present to plans that were made before we knew what the year held in store. We planned with the assumption that we'd have certain amounts of time, energy and freedom. Then life intervened, whether in the form of a death, a change in duties, or just unexpected things that demanded our attention. But still, we hold ourselves to the same standard as if nothing had happened. And that doesn't mean we're off the hook.

There are times when we lose momentum because we're distracted, because we're scared to begin, because we're waiting to feel inspired. Being honest about those decisions is useful if it leads to a reasonable revision of our goals. But being honest if it leads only to shame isn't going to give us more hours in the day or a clearer path forward.

So perhaps the best approach is to ask ourselves what achievements we have: What did I finish? What did I endure? What did I discover? The first will tell us what we actually accomplished. The second will remind us of our conditions. The third will help us understand what it was all about.

Maybe there are certain things we didn't accomplish this year, and it turns out we didn't really want them that badly, or at least, not more than we want what other people think we should want. It may also be helpful to write down some things you overlooked: that conversation you finally had, the good habit you returned to after you stopped doing it, a battle in which you fought for your rights, but gently. You don't need to convince yourself it was a great year to be grateful for your hard work.

In the last few weeks of the year, it shouldn't turn into a desperate sprint to finish things we didn't manage to achieve. Find one big goal you really want and one small thing you can do regularly to move toward it. Organise your tasks, clear the desk of pending assignments, text a friend you haven't spoken to in a while. And allow yourself to rest.

Next time you see those yearly achievement round-ups, don't forget that everyone else is going through things, too. Cheer them on, then look back on your year in your own terms. And before writing it off as a total waste, ask yourself: What's possible today because of what I picked up along the way? And what do I want to take with me into the new year?

Business

Kuwaiti oil price up by $2.48 to $88.69

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7, (KUNA): The Kuwaiti oil price went up by USD 2.48 to USD 88.69 per barrel (pb) in Friday's trading, compared with USD 86.21 the previous day, Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) said on Saturday.

In global markets, Brent crude rose by three cents to USD 98.32 pb, while US West Texas Intermediate went up by 31 cents to USD 90.83 pb.

Bank at final stages of development of its new 5-year strategy

Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait set to launch subscription for 27.29% capital increase

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7: Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) has announced its readiness to commence the subscription period for its capital increase, following the receipt of the necessary regulatory approvals and completion of the required preparations. The capital increase will involve the issuance of 750 million new shares, representing a 27.29% increase in the Bank's issued and paid-up capital.

The new shares will be offered at a subscription price of 200 fils per share, comprising a nominal value of 100 fils and a share premium of 100 fils. Accordingly, the capital increase will add KD 75 million to the Bank's paid-up capital, with an additional KD 75 million in share premium, bringing the total offering value to KD 150 million. Upon completion of the process, ABK's issued and paid-up capital will increase to KD 349.86 million.

The proceeds come as the Bank is at the final stages of development of its new 5-year strategy for the period 2027-2031.

Subscription will be open to shareholders registered in the Bank's shareholder register on the record date, Wednesday, 4 November 2026. The subscription period will commence on Sunday, November 8, and will close on Sunday, November 22 at 1.00 pm KWT.

The prospectus and further information on the offering and subscription process are available on the websites of ABK and ABK Wealth Management, as well as Boursa Kuwait. Subscription applications will be accepted online through Kuwait Clearing Company's subscription platform, www.ipo.com.kw, during the subscription period.



Talal Mohammed Reza Behbehani
ABK Chairman

ABK has appointed ABK Wealth Management as the Lead Manager and Subscription Agent.

Commenting on the announcement, Talal Mohammed Reza Behbehani, Chairman of ABK Group, said, "The planned capital increase will provide additional capacity to support our new and ambitious 5-year strategy and the execution of its growth plans whilst maintaining appropriate capital buffers."

Behbehani added that the capital increase builds on the Bank's strong financial performance and continued growth, reflecting the strength of ABK Group's business model and its agility in responding to changing market conditions.

He explained that the proceeds will support the Bank's strategy to advance its digital capabilities, investment in technology infrastructure, including the application and expanded use of artificial intelligence, to deliver an exceptional and seamless banking experience, in addition to growing its commercial banking activities in its markets. The increase will also enhance ABK to further cement its position as a key partner in driving the local economy.

The Chairman anticipated strong demand for ABK's capital increase shares, reflecting the significant confidence the Bank enjoys among investors, shareholders and customers. He reaffirmed the Bank's continued commitment to maximising shareholder value.

This confidence was also reflected in ABK's previous capital increase in 2023, which attracted subscriptions totalling KD 331.37 million, representing more than 3.3x coverage of the KD 100 million offering.

He also praised the ongoing support ABK receives from local regulatory authorities, namely the Central Bank of Kuwait, the Capital Markets Authority, Boursa Kuwait and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

ABK recorded a net profit of KD 54.2 million for the first nine months of 2026, representing growth of 16.2% compared with the corresponding period of the previous year. Earnings per share reached 17.6 fils, an increase from 15 fils in the first nine months of the previous year.

Other Voices

Oil prices are easing... or are they?

By Kamel Al-Harami
Independent Oil Analyst

OIL prices sometimes behave in unexpected and unusual ways. Otherwise, how can we explain the decline in oil prices over the past two days from around $110 per barrel for the two main benchmarks, US crude and Brent?



Kamel Al-Harami

The underlying situation remains largely unchanged, with tight oil supplies and Iran continuing to threaten attacks against neighboring countries at any time, as well as targeting ships and vessels in the Arabian Gulf.

Global spare oil capacity remains limited, while importing countries are searching for additional supplies to build up or replenish their inventories and prepare for potential emergencies. This is also an effort to avoid desperate buying in the event of further supply disruptions.

Although oil markets appear tight and increasingly vulnerable to threats, Europe seems to be relying heavily on US imports.

Meanwhile, the United States continues to secure Venezuela's oil production for shipment to its own market. These developments point to different and sometimes conflicting directions in the global oil market, without a clear overall trend.

Time is also running out ahead of the peak demand season in the United States and Europe. However, it remains uncertain whether the US will have sufficient export capacity to meet additional international demand.

Also, 15 of Russia's 38 major refineries are completely shut down, leaving only 23 major facilities operational. This raises questions about Russia's ability to maintain its exports and meet domestic demand.

Another major concern is whether Russia can secure sufficient imports from abroad and for how long it can continue exporting petroleum products to the United States. The reported volume of these exports stands at approximately 300,000 tons, with expectations of an increase.

With the winter months approaching and a contract covering one million tons for the remainder of its term, the oil industry will become aware of the extent of the damage inflicted on Russian oil facilities by Ukraine.

Under these circumstances, Russia may eventually be forced to import petroleum products to meet its local consumption requirements. This could further alter the direction of oil prices during the coming winter months, tightening product markets and putting additional upward pressure on prices.

All these factors suggest that oil prices may remain around the $100-per-barrel level or higher, potentially for the remainder of this year and perhaps until the end of the third quarter of next year.

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Initiative in collaboration with EPA and Eco Environmental Incubator

stc launches private universities challenge for electronic waste recycling in support of environmental sustainability

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7: Kuwait Telecommunications Company – stc, a leader in enabling digital transformation and providing innovative services and platforms to customers in Kuwait, announced its sponsorship and participation in the "University Challenge for Electronics Recycling" initiative launched by ECO, the environmental incubator for renewable energy, and in collaboration with the Environment Public Authority. In support of environmental sustainability and youth empowerment, stc will contribute through an informative and educational workshop designed for students. The contribution forms part of stc's corporate social responsibility (CSR) framework, connecting the Company's sustainability work with learning opportunities in the community.

The e-waste recycling challenge will take place across six private universities and colleges in Kuwait. The competing institutions are Arab Open University (AOU), Kuwait Technical College (K-Tech), Canadian College of Kuwait (CCK), Box Hill College Kuwait, Australian University (AU), and Gulf University for Science and Technology (GUST).

The initiative was officially announced during a ceremony held at the Environment Public Authority theatre, attended by representatives from the EPA, Eco Environmental Incubator for Renewable Energy and several private universities.

The first workshop was held at Kuwait Technical College (K-Tech) under the patronage and in the presence of H.E. Sheikh Humoud Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, Governor of Al Ahmadi. His participation highlighted the importance of collaboration between the public and private sectors and educational institutions in supporting environmental initiatives and strengthening a culture of sustainability among young people.

The workshop featured the participation of a number of stc employees, who delivered awareness content and introduced students to the Company's sustainability efforts and initiatives. stc also engaged with students through incentive gifts designed to encourage participation and promote positive environmental practices

Workshops and campus activities will givie students opportunities to learn about sustainability and responsible e-waste recycling. Each participating institution will host a workshop, complemented by interactive activities at the initiative's designated booths. These activities will encourage university communities to make responsible choices about electronic waste, with the aim of reducing its environmental impact.



The first workshops kicked off at Kuwait Technical College (K-Tech), under the patronage and in the presence of Ahmadi Governor Sheikh Humoud Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah.



A group photo of the participants and sponsors at the official launch ceremony of the initiative.

stc's contribution will include a dedicated workshop that gives students an insight into the Company's approach to sustainability and its key initiatives. The session will draw on its sustainability report to explore the Company's achievements and goals, as well as the sustainable practices it is actively involved in. stc employees will help present the workshop and share their knowledge and experience, connecting the Company's sustainability work with learning opportunities for students.

Alongside the learning activities, dedicated e-waste collection bins will be made available at the participating institutions so students and university communities can contribute directly to the challenge. Collected waste will be sorted, processed and recycled appropriately. The collection effort will give students a way to put the initiative's environmental messages into practice and encourage responsible habits that can extend beyond campus.

In line with its commitment to youth empowerment and active participation, stc is also providing university students with the opportunity to join its Youth Ambassadors Program. The program seeks to attract ambitious young people to serve as stc ambassadors within their universities, participate in the Company's events and activities, represent its brand and engage with fellow students.

Participants can gain practical experience while benefiting from a performance-based financial rewards system linked to the number of lines they contribute to activating, in accordance with the program's approved terms and conditions. The program also provides practical opportunities to develop communication, marketing and customer engagement skills, while helping students build professional networks and strengthen their readiness for future careers.

The cooperation between the participating institutions and environmental organizations, alongside the private sector, supports national sustainability efforts by giving the younger generation practical opportunities to take part. An environmental report will be prepared at the close of the challenge and the top three participating institutions who collected the most e-waste will be recognized for winning the challenge in the closing ceremony.

In a statement, stc said the challenge would give students an opportunity to contribute to environmental efforts within their own university communities. They would also gain a better understanding of sustainable practices that could help reduce the environmental impact of electronic waste.

Event aims to expand Kuwait-Uzbekistan business ties

Cooperation opportunities for Kuwaiti companies at the Tashkent international business forum

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7: Tashkent is set to host the international business forum "New Uzbekistan: At the Crossroads of Global Markets". Organised by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the event will enable Kuwaiti businesses to establish direct contacts with Uzbek manufacturers, exporters and service providers, explore investment proposals and discuss cooperation in workforce training.

According to the programmes provided, the forum will comprise two parts. The main events of the first part will take place on 30 November–1 December, followed by the second part on 3–4 December. Business delegations from the Middle East and the Gulf, Europe and a number of other countries are expected to participate. The main venue will be the Uzexpocentre exhibition complex in Tashkent.

Direct Dialogue on Trade and Investment

The forum aims to expand Uzbekistan's export opportunities, deepen industrial and agricultural cooperation, attract investment and build long-term business ties. For Kuwaiti importers and wholesale buyers, a key practical opportunity will be to discuss product ranges, quality requirements, delivery terms and cooperation models directly with manufacturers.

The first part of the programme features eight panel discussions covering logistics, tourism, finance and digital trade, human capital, chambers of commerce and small businesses, customs and standards, agribusiness, green energy and critical minerals. The exhibition will include the "Made in Uzbekistan" national showcase, country pavilions and sections featuring international companies. Requirements for entering Gulf markets, including halal standards, are also on the agenda.

The programme for 3 December includes a plenary meeting and 12 sectoral sessions. These will cover textiles, leather, footwear and furniture; agriculture and food; IT and artificial intelligence; banking and export finance; transport, logistics and customs; tourism; mechanical engineering; electrical engineering and energy; construction materials; chemicals and petrochemicals; workforce training; and geology, metals and jewellery.



Ambassador of Uzbekistan H.E. Ayubkhan Yunusov welcomes Arab Times Managing Editor Marlon Aquino Malinao and colleague Ahmed Alazemi during a courtesy call at the Embassy, with Commercial Counsellor Ikboljon Ergashev also present.

B2B and B2G meetings, including region-to-region meetings, are to be arranged on the basis of requests submitted by participants in advance. Companies can therefore help tailor meetings to their specific needs by providing a brief description of their products or projects, the types of partners they seek and their proposed topics for discussion.

A Dedicated Focus on Recruitment Companies

Employers and licensed recruitment companies are also among the participants being invited from Kuwait. The "Human Capital and Skills" panel in the first part of the forum will address legal and organised recruitment channels, recognition of qualifications, training aligned with employers' needs and the protection of workers' rights.

The second part will feature a session on "Workforce Training and Employment Abroad". This will offer Kuwaiti companies an opportunity to discuss staffing needs, vocational and language training, candidate selection criteria and cooperation arrangements.

Participation Arrangements and Logistical Support

Targeted business meetings, sector-specific visits to industrial enterprises and logistics facilities, and a visit to the Centre of Islamic Civilisation are planned for 4 December this year. Simultaneous interpretation in Uzbek, English, Russian, Arabic and Chinese is envisaged.

The information note provided for the Kuwaiti delegation outlines free participation in business programme sessions and B2B meetings, visa assistance, airport reception and local transfers. Special corporate rates at the Hilton and Lotte hotels will be available for bookings made through the organisers.

Participants may register and submit meeting requests through newuzbekistan.forum.

For inquiries and further information participants may also contact the embassy's Commercial Counsellor at (+965) 97130270.

Recognition underscores KFH's commitment to innovative wealth management

KFH named Middle East leader in innovation and Islamic private banking

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7: Kuwait Finance House (KFH) has been awarded two prestigious accolades at the Global Private Banking Awards 2026, organized by Professional Wealth Management (PWM) part of the Financial Times Group, in recognition of its excellence, innovation, and leadership in private banking and wealth management services across the region.

KFH was named:

■ Best Private Bank for Innovation - Winner Middle East

■ Best Private Bank for Islamic Services - Winner Middle East

The awards were received by Alexander Liddle, Deputy Group CEO Private Banking and Wealth Management at KFH, during a distinguished awards ceremony held in London, attended by leading private banking and wealth management institutions from around the world.

Commenting on the achievement, Liddle said "The recognition underscores KFH's continued commitment to delivering innovative wealth management solutions, enhancing client experience through advanced financial services, and maintaining its leadership position in Sharia-compliant private banking offerings."

He pointed out that the awards also reflect the bank's successful strategy in developing innovative, client-centric private banking solutions while reinforcing its position as a leading provider of Islamic wealth management services across the bank's footprint of Kuwait, Bahrain, Turkey, Egypt and offshore in the UK. He reiterated KFH's ongoing investment in digital transformation, product innovation, and the enhancement of its comprehensive suite of wealth management and advisory services tailored to the evolving needs of high-net-worth and ultra-high-net-worth clients.

Liddle indicated that KFH continues to strengthen its private banking and wealth management capabilities through a differentiated service model that combines global best practices, cutting-edge financial solutions, and deep expertise in Islamic finance. The bank remains committed to delivering exceptional value to clients while supporting the growth and advancement of the private banking industry in the region.

He said: "As economic and investment landscapes continue to evolve, KFH remains committed to delivering exceptional value through a comprehensive private banking and wealth management offering. Our services encompass day-to-day banking, savings, real estate financing, regional and global discretionary multi asset class portfolio management, global equity, sukuk and real estate investments, treasury and investment solutions, Ijara and trade finance services, as well as diversified open architecture investment opportunities across local, regional, and international markets. All of which help our clients to grow and protect their wealth now, and for future generations.



Alexander Liddle, Deputy Group CEO Private Banking and Wealth Management at KFH.

Participation built upon success of Ebtakir program

NBK participates in Silicon Valley Innovation Summit in California



The National Bank of Kuwait (NBK) team participating in the Silicon Valley Innovation Summit.

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7: National Bank of Kuwait (NBK) participated with the winning team from its NBK Ebtakir program in the Silicon Valley Summit, held in Sunnyvale, California, from November 3 to 5. This participation reflects the Bank's commitment to developing its human talent, fostering a culture of corporate innovation, and enabling its workforce to engage directly with leading global innovation ecosystems while gaining insight into the latest trends and technologies that shape the future of business and financial services.

This participation builds upon the success of the NBK Ebtakir program, which was launched by the Bank in collaboration with the global innovation platform Plug and Play. As the first program of its kind in Kuwait, it focuses on empowering employees to develop innovative solutions and transform ideas into viable projects, further embedding innovation as an integral part of the Bank's corporate culture.

The summit attracted a wide range of entrepreneurs, investors, innovation leaders, and representatives from global companies and institutions. It offered the NBK team an opportunity to explore the latest innovations and technological solutions through live demonstrations and practical models presented by over 300 startups across more than 20 specialized programs, showcasing emerging technologies and trends that are shaping the future across various sectors.

The team also participated in specialized panel discussions, workshops, and interactive sessions that addressed key global trends in artificial intelligence, digital transformation, and corporate innovation. Additionally, they engaged with a select group of entrepreneurs, investors, and global experts, providing an opportunity to exchange experiences and gain insight into global best practices in business development and innovation management.


Najla Al-Sager

Najla Al-Sager:

■ Investing in talent is a cornerstone for supporting the Bank's progress and keeping pace with rapid changes in the banking sector.

■ The NBK team participated in specialized sessions and workshops discussing key global trends in artificial intelligence and digital transformation.

■ "Innovate with NBK" continues to achieve its goals of cultivating a generation of professionals capable of creative thinking and driving change.

NBK's participation contributed to enriching the expertise and innovative capabilities of the team through direct engagement with leading institutions and companies in the fields of innovation and technology, and it also provided them with exposure to the latest technologies and emerging models, alongside opportunities to connect with a select group of international entrepreneurs, experts, and investors. Moreover, the experience strengthened their ability to transform ideas into practical, scalable solutions and to leverage global best practices in devising initiatives that boost operational efficiency, elevate the customer experience, and align with the Bank's digital transformation ambitions.

The team members returned with fresh insights and ideas drawn from the global experiences they encountered during the summit. They are currently evaluating opportunities to leverage these insights within future initiatives and projects aimed at enhancing services, boosting operational efficiency, and elevating customer experience.

This participation reflects the high value NBK places in investing in its human capital by providing world-class learning experiences. These opportunities broaden employees' horizons and strengthen their leadership and innovation skills, enabling them to implement global best practices in the development of banking services and solutions.

On this occasion, Najla Al-Sager, SVP - Head of Talent Management & Learning at NBK, stated: "This participation marks a significant milestone in the NBK Ebtakir program, as it reflects our ongoing commitment to providing our employees with high-quality opportunities to explore the latest global practices in innovation and entrepreneurship, and we firmly believe that investing in talent and fostering creative capabilities is fundamental to supporting the Bank's progress and enhancing its readiness to keep pace with the rapid changes in the banking sector".

Al-Sager added: "This global event provided NBK's team with a unique opportunity to engage directly with the global innovation ecosystem and gain insight into business models and emerging technologies poised to significantly impact the future of various sectors, and we look forward to leveraging this experience by translating the knowledge and expertise gained into practical initiatives and solutions that support the Bank's strategic goals and contribute to enhancing the customer experience".

Finally, Al-Sager emphasized that the NBK Ebtakir program continues to achieve its goals of fostering a generation of talent capable of creative thinking and driving change, noting that it goes beyond merely developing ideas to focusing on cultivating an innovative mindset capable of anticipating the future and addressing challenges in innovative, sustainable ways.

Building on its solid foundation of talent development, NBK continues to invest in comprehensive programs designed to enhance the skills of its workforce, improve technical expertise, and foster a culture of continuous learning. These initiatives include the NBK Academy, which equips recent graduates with essential banking skills, and the NBK Tech Academy, which elevates the digital capabilities of young professionals, alongside specialized training and leadership programs that enable employees to keep pace with rapid market changes and contribute to achieving the Bank's strategic objectives.

The NBK Ebtakir program continues to build upon this rich legacy, and the Bank'sparticipation in the Silicon Valley Innovation Summit embodies its commitment to investing in its human capital and fostering a culture of innovation and continuous learning. This initiative enhances employee readiness to keep pace with the rapid transformations in the financial sector and supports the Bank's vision of building a banking model based on knowledge and innovation that shapes the future of financial services in Kuwait and the region.

'Change in motion'

Philip Morris International presents Value Report '25

DUBAI, Nov. 7: Philip Morris International Inc. (NYSE: PM) released its Value Report 2025, offering a holistic perspective on the company's approach to sustainable value creation across markets worldwide. The report reflects the culmination of PMI's 2025 Roadmap, outlining progress against the company's ambitions set in 2020, and introduces its Value Plan 2030+, set to guide the company's continued path to sustainable growth.

"For more than a decade, PMI has pursued an industry-leading shift away from cigarettes—a transformation that goes far beyond product innovation to encompass how we allocate capital, engage stakeholders, and measure success," said Jacek Olczak, Group Chief Executive Officer. "'Change in motion' captures the reality that transformation is not a project with a defined end date, it is the continuous work of improvement, innovation, and adaptation that keeps us relevant and resilient. We transform continuously because markets evolve, science advances, stakeholder expectations rise, and new opportunities emerge. This is who we are: a company perpetually in motion toward a better future, refusing to stand still even as we celebrate how far we have come."

Throughout 2025, PMI demonstrated significant progress globally across a range of areas, including sustainability initiatives, operational performance, and the continued expansion of its smoke-free product portfolio, while maintaining a focus on responsible business practices and stakeholder engagement.

"The Value Report 2025 report provides a comprehensive and integrated view of PMI's strategy, management, performance, and future outlook in relation to our most significant sustainability related topics," said Andrzej Dabrowski, Vice President Middle East and North Africa, Philip Morris International. "For the wider Middle East, it helps clearly connect global progress to the work we advance regionally and locally and demonstrates how PMI's transformation delivers tangible value for adult consumers, partners, and communities."

PMI's Value Report 2025 is complemented by Stories of Impact "Stories of Impact" available on PMI.com, highlighting real-world examples of the company's initiatives across different markets.

PMI achieved meaningful progress across both product and operational impact in 2025, as it closed its 2025 Roadmap.

PMI's Business Transformation Metrics (BTMs) have provided stakeholders with clear, comparable indicators of our progress toward a smoke-free future. These metrics go beyond traditional reporting frameworks to capture aspects unique to PMI's change of motion. They include the following:

■ 43.5 million adults worldwide were using its smoke-free products as of the reporting period.

■ PMI reported that its smoke-free product portfolio was available in 106 markets

■ The company's smoke-free business generated USD 16.9 billion in net revenues in 2025, accounting for 41.5% of its total annual net revenues.

These metrics are intended to enhance transparency and provide stakeholders with a clearer understanding of the company's ongoing business transformation.

"We have identified six strategic priorities that reflect what matters most to our stakeholders and our business: consumers and product health impact, circularity, climate change, nature and biodiversity, our own workforce, and workers throughout our value chain, which are consolidated in our Value Plan 2030+," said Jennifer Motles, Chief Sustainability Officer. "Our plan identifies where our actions intersect most significantly with business imperatives, ensuring our initiatives drive tangible outcomes across various forms of capital, creating a strategy that is comprehensive yet focused, ambitious yet pragmatic, and deeply integrated into how we operate and grow. It also reflects our commitment to collaboration and engagement with a wide range of stakeholders to drive meaningful progress."

PMI's Value Plan 2030+ outlines the company's business strategy for the coming years, including plans to increase the contribution of smoke-free products to its overall revenues and reduce its reliance on conventional cigarettes. The company also identified potential expansion into wellness-related business activities, alongside operational, workforce and environmental objectives. Implementation of these plans will depend on market conditions and applicable regulatory requirements.

PMI said it had invested more than USD 16 billion since 2008 in research, development and commercialisation activities related to products that it classifies as smoke-free alternatives. Its research activities include laboratory studies, clinical research, behavioural studies and post-market assessments.

The company also cited regulatory decisions by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) concerning certain products in its portfolio, including versions of its IQOS heated tobacco devices and consumables, General snus and ZYN nicotine pouches. Certain products received FDA marketing authorisations, while specific IQOS products and General snus also received Modified Risk Tobacco Product (MRTP) authorisations.

These regulatory decisions apply to particular products and do not constitute a declaration that tobacco or nicotine products are safe or risk-free. PMI said it intends to explore additional business activities in the wellness sector as part of its longer-term corporate strategy.

For more information and to access the full report, please visit www.pmi.com/sustainability.


The headquarters of Philip Morris International Inc. (PMI).

Discovery estimated at 200 bcf

Egypt reports promising gas reservoir in E. Mediterranean

CAIRO, Nov. 7, (Xinhua): Egypt's Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources said that drilling at an exploration well in the Temsah concession, an offshore oil and gas exploration and production block in the Eastern Mediterranean Sea, had yielded positive results, with initial estimates indicating about 200 billion cubic feet of natural gas in the reservoir.

Initial drilling and evaluation identified a gas-bearing layer with favorable petrophysical properties and a net thickness of approximately 15 meters in true vertical depth.

The ministry said technical and reservoir studies are continuing to assess the discovery, determine recoverable reserves and production potential, and prepare a development and production plan.

Italy's Eni operates the Temsah concession in partnership with Australia's Woodside, while Petrobel, the joint venture between Eni and the Egyptian General Petroleum Corporation, carried out the drilling on behalf of the partners.

To accelerate the development, plans are also underway to connect the well to existing production facilities through a 22-km pipeline linking it to the Abu Madi-El Gamil pipeline.

The ministry said the connection would use existing infrastructure, reduce the time required to bring the discovery into production, and support Egypt's domestic natural gas output.



This photo taken on April 17, 2025 shows flags of the European Union in front of the European Central Bank (ECB) headquarters in Frankfurt, Germany. (Xinhua)

Ministers to review candidates

Knot, de Cos confirmed as ECB presidency contenders

FRANKFURT, Nov. 7, (Xinhua): The nomination process for the European Central Bank (ECB) presidency closed on Friday, with former Dutch central bank chief Klaas Knot and former Bank of Spain governor Pablo Hernandez de Cos confirmed as the only two candidates for the post.

Eurogroup President Kyriakos Pierrakakis confirmed the two nominations in a statement on Friday.

Spain submitted the nomination of Pablo Hernandez de Cos on Friday as Spanish Deputy Prime Minister Carlos Cuerpo echoed Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez in endorsing de Cos.

In a letter to Pierrakakis, Cuerpo threw his weight behind de Cos, asserting that he is confident that de Cos would be a good ECB chief.

The Spanish candidate will be challenged by Klaas Knot, the Dutch candidate who was nominated by the Netherlands on Wednesday.

Hernandez de Cos has been general manager of the Bank for International Settlements since July 2025. Holding a PhD in economics, he has held several senior positions, including governor of the Bank of Spain from June 2018 to June 2024.

As an ECB governing council member, Hernandez de Cos assumed some critical roles and chaired the Advisory Technical Committee of the European Systemic Risk Board from 2019 to 2024.

Knot, 59, a Dutch economist, served as president of the Dutch Central Bank from 2011 to 2025. As one of the longest serving governing council members at the ECB, Knot once served in quite a few international organizations including the International Monetary Fund, the Bank for International Settlements.

After the closing of nominations on Friday, the finance ministers from the 21 euro area member states will take stock of the two candidacies at their meeting on Nov. 9.

ECB President Christine Lagarde announced on Oct. 29 that she would step down on Feb. 7, 2027, nine months before the end of her term.

Without disclosing her next plan, Lagarde said the reason behind her decision of early exit was her inability to remain neutral.

Lagarde took over the role of ECB president in November 2019 from Mario Draghi, who has been widely lauded as "Super Mario" for his ability to steer the central bank through the darkest hours of the eurozone.

Faced with the worst inflation spike in the euro area, the ECB under the leadership of Lagarde initiated the fastest cycle of rate hikes from July 2022 to September 2023, lifting interest rates by a total of 450 basis points.

Inflation in the euro area was brought down to around two percent in most months of 2025 and early 2026 before the Iran war broke out and drove up prices again.

Lagarde's planned departure comes amid renewed inflationary pressures. She described the ECB as "solid, strong, like a rock" and expressed confidence that the institution would maintain continuity after her departure.

German union: Over 400,000 workers join wage protests

BERLIN, Nov. 7, (Xinhua): More than 400,000 workers across Germany have joined nationwide protests and warning strikes this week to demand higher wages and greater job security, the country's largest trade union IG Metall said Friday.

Since Sunday, more than 413,000 workers in the metal and electrical industries have taken part in over 2,800 strike actions and protests nationwide, exceeding participation during the same period of the 2024 wage negotiations, according to IG Metall.

The industrial action came amid ongoing wage negotiations covering some 3.7 million workers in Germany's metal and electrical industries, including carmakers, machinery manufacturers and their suppliers, the union said in an earlier statement.

IG Metall is demanding a 5 percent pay rise over 12 months, while employers have offered a 1.3 percent wage increase from July 2028, a proposal the union has rejected, saying it would amount to a cut in real wages.

German manufacturers have faced mounting pressure in recent years from high labor and energy costs and prolonged economic weakness, leading many companies to cut jobs and implement cost-cutting measures.

IG Metall president Christiane Benner said workers would not accept across-the-board cost-cutting programs aimed at protecting corporate profits at the expense of wages, stressing that innovation and investment, rather than wage cuts, were needed to revive German industry.

The warning strikes have affected major German manufacturers. In the southern state of Bavaria, around 3,000 workers each from BMW, Audi and Bosch joined protests, the union said.

In northern Germany, some 12,400 workers at four Airbus sites joined protests on Thursday, while around 3,300 Mercedes-Benz employees in Bremen took part in warning strikes earlier in the week, according to the union.

Ankara sets $500B energy target for 2040

Türkiye, AIIB sign 350m euros financing deal

ANKARA, Nov. 7, (Xinhua): Turkish State Railways (TCDD) has signed a 350-million-euro (about 393 million U.S. dollars) financing agreement with the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) for the "TCDD Railway Maintenance Modernization Project," Turkish Transport and Infrastructure Minister Abdulkadir Uraloglu announced Thursday.

According to a press release on TCDD's website, Uraloglu said the deal marks the beginning of a new era in Türkiye's railway investments.

He said it is a significant investment that will make Türkiye's railway infrastructure safer, more modern and more sustainable.

Uraloglu added that the project will provide TCDD with 99 new-generation maintenance machines, which will be used for the maintenance and repair of railway lines, switches and catenary systems.

The AIIB was established in January 2016 with a mission to foster sustainable economic development, create wealth, and improve infrastructure connectivity in Asia by investing in infrastructure and other productive sectors.

Meanwhile, rolled out its "National Energy 2040" vision on Thursday, seeking 500 billion U.S. dollars in public and private investments to achieve energy independence through a massive shift toward electrification and renewable energy.

Announced ahead of the COP31 climate summit, the roadmap highlights a projected need for 140 gigawatt-hours of energy storage, the expansion of high-voltage direct current transmission lines, and a national fleet of 20 million electric vehicles by 2040.

Türkiye also aims to reduce its daily crude oil demand to 718,000 barrels and meet its entire natural gas demand through domestic resources by 2040. Furthermore, nuclear energy is set to supply 11 percent of the country's electricity needs, backed by new small modular reactors.

Energy and Natural Resources Minister Alparslan Bayraktar said at the launch event in Istanbul that Türkiye aims to more than double its installed electricity capacity, from the current 123 gigawatts to 281 gigawatts, with renewable energy expected to account for 77 percent of the total capacity.

"Our primary goal is to make the country fully independent in energy by electrifying our economy and transforming our consumption habits," Bayraktar said, adding that the transition is expected to create 250,000 jobs.

Heavily dependent on energy imports, the country faces significant pressure on its current account deficit. To reduce this reliance, Ankara has recently accelerated investments in domestic renewables, offshore gas exploration, and its first nuclear power plant.

US adds 165,000 jobs in October, unemployment rate falls to 4.1%

Wage gains boost Fed rate outlook

WASHINGTON, Nov 7, (AP): U.S. employers created a surprising 165,000 new jobs last month, and the unemployment rate dipped to 4.1%.

Hiring was far stronger than the 65,000 new jobs that economists had expected.

The jobs report comes three days after voters delivered a stunning defeat to President Donald Trump and his Republican Party in midterm elections. Frustrated with the state of the economy - and especially the high cost of living - Americans handed full control of Congress to the Democrats.

But the latest jobs report looked solid. Labor Department revisions added a combined 84,000 new jobs to the August and September totals.

The unemployment rate fell even though 421,000 people entered the labor force.

Average hourly wages rose 0.4% in October from September, the biggest month-over-month gain since January.

"This was a blowout jobs report," said Angelo Kourkafas, senior global strategist at Edward Jones. "Payroll growth exceeded expectations, revisions were positive, the unemployment rate fell, participation improved, and wage growth strengthened."

The strong job gains will likely make Federal Reserve policymakers more confident in the health of the labor market, giving them leeway to focus on persistently high inflation and raise their benchmark interest rate at their next meeting in December.

The central bank typically seeks to bring down inflation by lifting its key interest rate to cool borrowing and spending. The Fed raised the rate in September but left it alone at its meeting last month. Wall Street investors now see the chance of a December rate hike at 77%, up about 10 percentage points from Thursday, according to CME's FedWatch.

"For sure, we're looking at another rate increase in December and possibly another one in early 2027," said Boston College economist Brian Bethune.

Solid hiring also underscores a concern among many Fed officials that their key rate isn't high enough to slow inflation.



Workers hold a hose as concrete in poured to form a beam on a residential building under construction, Tuesday, Oct. 6, 2026, in Miami. (AP)

Hourly wages were up a meager 3.1% from October 2025. That means many workers have seen their purchasing power decline over the past year, despite continued hiring.

Professional and business services - a broad category of administrative and managerial workers - added 70,000 jobs. Healthcare companies hired nearly 42,000. Factories added 19,000 jobs. But hotels, restaurants and bars cut 10,600.

The job market has been solid but unspectacular.

So far this year, employers - companies, government agencies and nonprofits - have added an average of 86,000 jobs a month. That is modest by historic standards but an improvement over 2025, when monthly job creation averaged 9,700. That was the weakest performance outside of a recession since 2002. Last year, high interest rates and President Donald Trump's unpredictable trade policies discouraged hiring.

Despite recovering this year, hiring remains well below the average of 166,000 jobs created monthly in 2023 and 2024, let alone the 491,000 a month recorded during the 2021-2022 hiring boom that followed COVID-19 lockdowns.

Economists see a "low-hire, low-fire" environment in which employers are reluctant to let go of existing workers but aren't in any hurry to hire new ones. Young people entering the workforce, or those who've lost their jobs, can struggle to find work.

The United States doesn't need as many new jobs as it once did to keep the unemployment rate from rising. That's because baby boomer retirements and Trump's immigration crackdown mean fewer people are competing for work.

In late 2023, the so-called breakeven point was around 166,000 new jobs a month. It's now just over 5,000, according to an estimate by Yale University's Budget Lab, which drew on an earlier Federal Reserve report.

The American economy and job market have proven resilient in the face of a series of shocks - Trump's double-digit tariffs on imports and the war with Iran, which has driven U.S. gasoline prices above $4 a gallon and pinched family budgets.

Gross domestic product - the nation's output of goods and services - advanced at a sprightly 3.4% annual pace from July through September, lifted by strong consumer spending and booming investment in artificial intelligence.

But AI can also mean that businesses need fewer workers.

At SharkNinja in Needham, Massachusetts, sales jumped 21% in the latest quarter as budget-minded shoppers brought the company's appliances - such as coffee- and smoothie-makers-- to save money on dining out.

But CEO Mark Barrocas says he's slowed hiring - to 5% next year from 8% to 10% the previous two years. The reason: AI. SharkNinja, which has a total global work force of 4,200, has implemented AI tools in such areas as product innovation, media planning and finance.

"It's allowing people to work on much more higher impact initiatives as opposed to more tedious tasks," he said. But AI has also created new jobs for people with expertise in using AI to increase efficiency.

Officials cite rising costs and trade tensions

US lawmakers vow to reverse Trump's tariffs

NEW YORK, Nov. 7, (Xinhua): Multiple U.S. lawmakers have vowed to reverse the tariff policies of President Donald Trump's administration, after Democrats flipped both chambers of Congress in Tuesday's midterm elections.

Representative Richard Neal, the Democrat expected to regain the chairmanship of the tax- and trade-focused House Ways and Means Committee, told a trade conference on Friday that he is committed to reversing the "unjustified" tariffs imposed by Trump and his "backroom deals" on trade.

"I'm committed to reversing Trump's unjustified tariffs and pursuing trade policy that is grounded in good governance and transparency," Neal said in an address to the conference, hosted by Katherine Tai, former U.S. trade representative under the administration of former President Joe Biden.

Neal said Trump's deliberately chaotic trade policies had increased living costs and widened inequality between workers and the wealthiest Americans. He gave no specifics of his legislative agenda, but said his priority was to keep Mexico and Canada inside the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement, whose six-year review he said leaves room for improvement.

In the U.S. Senate, Ron Wyden, who will chair the Finance Committee in January, said he would use the panel to reassert congressional authority over trade policy, bringing down costs and ending what he called "disastrous and corrupt tariffs." "There is overwhelming support for repealing the tariffs on products from Canada," Wyden said, adding that he was already talking with colleagues about legislation once the new Congress convenes.

House Democrats struck the same note earlier in the week. At a news conference led by Democratic leader Hakeem Jeffries, the party promised to pass a bill to stop the tariffs, while Representative Debbie Dingell of Michigan said she and Representative Gregory Meeks of New York have been working for months on legislation against the Canada tariffs.

U.S. Representative Jamie Raskin also said ending the tariffs on Canada was "very much on our agenda," arguing that the Constitution gives Congress, not the president, power over tariffs.

The push has drawn at least one sympathetic voice from the other side. Republican Senator Ted Cruz of Texas has lamented that "tariffs have made everything too expensive."

Microsoft data center site stormed by protesters in Amsterdam

THE HAGUE, Netherlands, Nov. 7, (AP): Protesters broke into a construction site for a new Microsoft data center in Amsterdam on Friday, with some climbing a crane and setting off flares while others clashed with police.

Nathan Timmer of the protest group Geef Tegengas, a phrase that translates as Push Back, told local broadcaster AT5 that protesters were occupying the site in an effort to stop construction.

Campaigners against data centers in Europe are expected to stage protests and other actions in several countries on Friday and Saturday, demanding a moratorium on large-scale developments to address social and environmental concerns around the energy-hungry behemoths.

"We don't want it to be built. Nobody needs it," Timmer said. "The only thing this will be used for is AI slop. AI warfare, data surveillance, and committing genocides. We don't want that," he added, vowing to continue protesting until construction is halted.

Pro-Palestinian activists also joined the demonstrations in the Dutch capital. By late afternoon police were escorting activists off the construction site, though some still remained, local media reported.

Microsoft said it was aware of the Amsterdam demonstration. "We understand that people feel strongly about the project, and we respect their right to express those views peacefully," a spokesperson said. "However, we do not condone any actions that are unlawful or that put people's safety at risk." The demonstrations come days after the U.S. midterm elections ushered in a wave of Democrats promising to clamp down on data centers, which face resistance around the world due to the massive amounts of computing power and water they use.

Dozens of civil society and grassroots groups have said they will join the "Stop Dirty Data Centres" events on Friday and Saturday in 15 European countries, including Ireland, Poland, Denmark, Finland, Spain, Italy, the Netherlands, France and the U.K., organizers said.

"There's a gulf between where elected leaders are at in terms of buying into the hype about AI and where people are at," said Owen Espley, coordinator of StopDirtyDataCentres.eu.

ARAB TIMES
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2026

Italian footwear house bringing distinctive design philosophy to the Middle East

MonRoi Roma sets sights on Kuwait, Gulf markets



Alaska Boots – calfskin leather boots with hand-dyed colour finish

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7: Italian footwear house MonRoi Roma is looking beyond its Roman roots as it explores opportunities to introduce its handcrafted creations to Kuwait and other Gulf markets, positioning the Middle East as a promising destination for its distinctive approach to luxury footwear.

Founded by designer and entrepreneur Monica Gunnella, MonRoi Roma represents a blend of Italian artisanal tradition, contemporary design and individual expression. As the brand considers its next phase of development, Kuwait and the wider Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) region are emerging as potential markets where its design philosophy and carefully crafted collections could find an audience.

For Gunnella, the prospect of entering the Gulf is not simply about taking an Italian label into another market. It is also about introducing a particular understanding of luxury, one that places craftsmanship, quality, individuality and attention to detail above mass production.

The brand's ambitions include exploring opportunities for boutiques in Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates over the next five years, alongside possible regional collections and collaborations that could establish stronger connections with local consumers.

Such an approach would allow MonRoi Roma to develop its presence while retaining the distinctive character that defines its identity.

Craftsmanship as a signature

At the heart of MonRoi Roma is a commitment to handcrafted footwear, with each creation reflecting the value of traditional Italian workmanship.

The brand places particular emphasis on the construction and comfort of its shoes, combining carefully selected materials, leather interiors, ultralight rubber soles and meticulous fitting. Its limited-production approach also reflects a preference for considered design rather than the pace and uniformity of mass-market manufacturing.

This philosophy is central to its slow-luxury positioning, where the value of a product extends beyond its appearance to the craftsmanship and thought invested in its creation.

Among its signature designs are the Bolivia, Hawaii and Amazzonia boots, as well as the Cleopatra sandal. Each reflects a different design expression while remaining connected to the brand's emphasis on individuality and artisanal quality.

For prospective customers in Kuwait and the Gulf, where fashion and personal style offer opportunities for distinctive luxury labels, the brand sees room to introduce footwear that combines European craftsmanship with a strong design identity.

Design inspired by the world

Travel is another defining element of Gunnella's creative process. Rather than following seasonal trends alone, her collections draw inspiration from places, experiences, cultures and the impressions gathered along the way.

The brand's collections begin with the spirit of travel, translating different destinations and influences into footwear designs. Its latest collection draws inspiration from Africa, continuing this exploration of cultural references and visual influences.

This international perspective could also provide a foundation for future engagement with the Gulf market. Regional collaborations and specially developed collections are among the possibilities that could help MonRoi Roma establish a more meaningful connection with Kuwait and neighbouring countries.

For a brand built around personal expression, understanding the tastes and expectations of its prospective market would be an important part of that journey.

A name rooted in love and heritage

While its commercial ambitions look towards the future, MonRoi Roma's identity remains closely connected to its founder's family history.

The name itself carries a personal meaning. Inspired by the affectionate expressions exchanged between Gunnella's parents, her father called her mother "Ma Reine," while her mother addressed him as "Mon Roi." The rose incorporated into the brand's identity also recalls her father's gesture of bringing roses to his wife.

This personal story gives the label an identity that extends beyond footwear, connecting its designs to memories, relationships and enduring values.

For Gunnella, preserving that identity while pursuing new opportunities is an important consideration as the brand looks towards international growth.

Looking towards the Gulf

Kuwait and the GCC offer MonRoi Roma an opportunity to explore a new chapter in its development. The proposed direction involves more than introducing products to retail shelves. It also opens the possibility of building partnerships, exploring local collaborations and creating collections that speak to the region's appreciation for quality and distinctive design.

The prospect of establishing boutiques in Kuwait and the UAE over the coming five years reflects the brand's longer-term vision, although these remain ambitions rather than confirmed openings.

As international luxury labels continue to explore new markets, MonRoi Roma hopes to carve out its own space through an approach that places Italian craftsmanship and individual design at the centre of its identity.

For Gunnella, the next stage is about taking what the brand has developed in Rome and allowing it to connect with a wider audience without losing the values that shaped it from the beginning.

The ambition is clear: to bring a distinctly Roman expression of handcrafted luxury closer to Kuwait and the Gulf, one carefully designed pair of shoes at a time.

For inquiries and further information contact info@monroiroma.com

Buemi, Hartley, and Hirakawa lead one-two finish

TOYOTA RACING secures eighth manufacturers' World Championship with 1-2 victory at 6 Hours of Barcelona



TOYOTA RACING celebrates its eighth FIA World Endurance Championship manufacturers' title.

BARCELONA, Nov 7: TOYOTA RACING seized its eighth FIA World Endurance Championship (WEC) manufacturers' title with a triumphant one-two victory at the 6 Hours of Barcelona. Sébastien Buemi, Brendon Hartley, and Ryō Hirakawa claimed top podium position in the No. 8 TR010 HYBRID, while teammates Mike Conway, Kamui Kobayashi, and Nyck de Vries finished second in the No. 7 TR010 HYBRID to complete a memorable result for the team in its first FIA WEC season underthe TOYOTA RACING name.

The result marks the team's fourth victory of the 2026 season and secures the manufacturers' championship with one round remaining. It also guarantees that a TOYOTA RACING crew will claim the drivers' title, with the No. 8 crew extending its championship lead over the No. 7 crew to 17 points.

Hiroki "Giano" Nakajima, Executive Vice President, commented: "By winning round seven in Barcelona, we won TOYOTA RACING's first manufacturers' World Championship title with one race still remaining. This was the result of a true team effort. To all our fans who fought alongside us throughout this journey, to everyone who came to the circuit and supported us from the grandstands, and to all those who cheered us on from around the world, thank you very much.

Nakajima added: "The TOYOTA RACING challenge began with a promise to Akio Toyoda (Morizo). Through motorsport, we develop people and technology, creating an environment where our team-mates can think for themselves and carve out their own paths. Because that foundation was established for us, we can pursue our philosophy of "For the Engineering Race" and keep pushing our challenge forward.Please continue to support our team and our drivers as we head into the final race of the season."



Buemi, Hartley, and Hirakawa lead one-two finish.

The 6 Hours of Barcelona began in difficult conditions at the Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya, where both TOYOTA RACING crews made rapid progress on wet tyres. Starting from second, Buemi took the lead early in his 100th WEC race, while de Vries climbed from ninth on the grid to second place towards the end of the opening hour.

The No. 8 crew also overcame a five-second penalty for a starting procedure offence, which Buemi served at his second pit stop. By the halfway point, Hartley led Kobayashi by 10 seconds, with the remaining competitors more than 20 seconds behind.

A safety car with two hours remaining brought the field back together, but the two TR010 HYBRIDs responded by setting new fastest laps and rebuilding their advantage. Both crews maintained their positions through the closing stages, with Hirakawa crossing the finish line 0.583 seconds ahead of de Vries to secure TOYOTA RACING's first one-two finish since Bahrain in 2025.

The victory adds to a landmark debut season for the TR010 HYBRID, during which TOYOTA RACING has also claimed victories at the 24 Hours of Le Mans and its home event, the 6 Hours of Fuji. With the manufacturers' championship secured and only its two crews remaining in the drivers' title battle, Toyota is now guaranteed to finish the season with both World Championships.

Toyota's history in motorsports dates back more than 60 years, competing worldwide across various disciplines. Guided by the concept "roads build people and cars," the knowledge and technologies gained through motorsports support the development of "ever-better" cars. In endurance racing, TOYOTA RACING competes in top-level categories such as the FIA World Endurance Championship (WEC), supporting vehicle and technology development under extreme conditions.

Qadsia defeats Kuwait Club to climb into second

Sulaibikhat reaches historic volleyball league semis

By Khaled Al-Enezi

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7: Sulaibikhat has written a new chapter in its history by reaching the Volleyball Premier League semifinals for the first time, securing the fourth and final spot with a convincing 3-0 victory over Al-Arabi in the final round of the preliminary stage.

The team has enjoyed an impressive run in recent weeks, particularly since sporting activities resumed following the suspension in March amid regional developments. Its performances earned it a place among the league's top four, finishing fourth behind leader Kuwait Club, Qadsia and Kazma.

In the other match of the round, Qadsia defeated Kuwait Club 3-0 to climb into second place, while Kuwait Club maintained its position at the top of the standings.



Players in action during the Volleyball Premier League match.

The semifinals are scheduled for Monday, with Sulaibikhat facing Kuwait Club in a bid to extend its remarkable run and secure a place in the final.

The historic achievement followed an intensive preparation program after the resumption of sporting activities. Sulaibikhat held an overseas training camp in Cairo, where it played several friendly matches against Egyptian teams. The club also reinforced its squad with foreign professionals and experienced local players.

Sulaibikhat Secretary-General Nasser Mansi congratulated the club's board and supporters on the team's maiden semifinal appearance in the Premier League.

Mansi said the milestone was the product of careful planning, intensive preparation and sustained backing from the club's board, headed by Saad Enad. He also praised the efforts of the technical and administrative staff, led by head coach Ahmed Rafha and coach Niaz Al-Salam, along with the administrative and medical teams.

He reserved special praise for the players, highlighting their commitment, hard work and contributions throughout the campaign.

Doncic scores 53 in another spectacular offensive game

LOS ANGELES, Nov 7 (AP): Luka Doncic scored 53 points and hit a key jumper in the lane with 28 seconds to play, carrying the Los Angeles Lakers to a 124-118 victory over the Portland Trail Blazers.

Doncic produced his 11th career 50-point game and his fourth with Los Angeles while preserving a fourth straight win for the Lakers, whose late 12-point lead had dwindled to four before Doncic and Austin Reaves combined to score 10 points in the final seconds.

Reaves scored 25 points and Walker Kessler had 16 points and 12 rebounds for the Lakers, who avenged a 136-129 home loss to Portland on Oct. 27 with this NBA Cup victory.

Doncic scored 20 points in the third quarter alone to hit 40 for the sixth time in an incredible seven-game surge that includes six 40-point games - including four straight - and a 37-point performance.

The Slovenian superstar added five assists and five rebounds, giving him seven consecutive games with at least 35 points, five assists, five rebounds and five 3-pointers.

Deni Avdija had 22 points, 11 assists and nine rebounds and Damian Lillard scored 22 points for the Blazers, who lost for only the second time this season in the finale of their four-game road trip.

The Lakers trailed by 16 in the second quarter before surging to a 16-point lead of their own early in the fourth with a 32-11 run. Portland roared back and repeatedly got within four points, but no closer.

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Rain has the last say

India beats New Zealand by 4 runs in second ODI

WELLINGTON, New Zealand, Nov 7, (AP): India edged New Zealand by four runs under the Duckworth Lewis System in the second one-day cricket international Saturday as rain prevented a more gripping finale.

Chasing a paltry 135 for victory in a match reduced to 47 overs per side, India was 113-7 after 26 overs when the rain brought the match to an end.

Under the arcane system used to decide matches affected by rain, India was four runs ahead of a par score at the time the rain came and so took the match and a 2-0 lead in the five-match series.

The first match of the series in Auckland which India won by five wickets after bowling out New Zealand for 185 was also decided under DLS.

A thrilling finish was in prospect with India still needing 23 runs with just three wickets in hand when the rain arrived.

New Zealand had defended its small total superbly, thanks to aggressive bowling from Kyle Jamieson who took 3-35 from 10 overs and Jacob Duffy who took 3-35 from seven overs, including the early wickets of Shubman Gill for a first-ball duck and Virat Kohli for 7.

India's chase was assisted by Rohit Sharma, who made 23 after failing in the first match of the series, Shreyas Iyer's 30 from 46 balls and K.L. Rahul, who was 26 not out at the close.

India had been in trouble and 47-4 and later



India's Rohit Sharma bats during Game 2 of the one day international cricket between New Zealand and India in Wellington, New Zealand. (AP)

when it lost the consecutive wickets of Naman Dhir and Anshul Kamboj after being 86-5. The match finally ended amid a heavy shower at 11 p.m. local time.

Earlier, Daryl Mitchell made the only half-century of the match and shared a 59-run partnership with Mitchell Santner to allow New Zealand to reach 134 after it had been 53-5.

Mitchell was out for 55 and Santner for 31 while Henry Nicholls (11) was the only other New Zealand batter to reach double figures.

Gurnoor Brar produced difficult bounce and took 4-30 from 10 overs while Auqib Nabi struck twice early and finished with 2-31. Kamboj and spinner Axar Patel, bowling through the middle of the innings, took two wickets each.

"Bowling here in New Zealand, the pace and the bounce really helps so I enjoyed it," said Brar, who was player of the match. "In India the pitches are a bit flat so we have to bowl that hard length but here that extra bounce is here so I was just bowling to my strengths."

India captain Shubman Gill won an influential toss, his sixth in seven matches across the T20 and ODI series, and couldn't hide his delight at being able to send New Zealand in on a pitch that had sweated under the covers for two days.

Asked what he intended do after winning the toss, Gill grinned and said: "Bowl. No surprises there." His New Zealand counterpart, Santner, looked dejected.

The toss was delayed by an hour because of a damp outfield and the match was reduced by three overs per side.

Gill has called tails in six matches and won the toss every time. The only time he called incorrectly was when he changed to heads.

The pitch was a little moist and tended to hold up early on. Later, the bowlers found sharper and more threatening bounce, making batting difficult and causing New Zealand to lose three wickets in the first nine overs.

The third match of the series is at Hamilton on Tuesday.

Rahm leads by one in Abu Dhabi after three rounds

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates, Nov 7, (AP): Jon Rahm will take a one-shot lead into the final day of the Abu Dhabi Championship after shooting 6-under 66 in the third round Saturday.

Rory McIlroy had shared the lead with the Spaniard but made bogey at the par-3 No. 17 to drop into fourth place on a 34 Celsius (94 F) day at Yas Links.

McIlroy's 67 included a double-bogey six at No. 10. That blemish broke up a sequence of seven birdies between Nos. 7 and 14.

The two shots McIlroy now trails by also equals the penalty he took Thursday for improving his lie at the 12th, where a double-bogey six instead became an eight.

"I have a good shot at it (Sunday), which is all I want," McIlroy said, acknowledging he was "a little rueful" at chances missed. "I'm going to have to go out and shoot a low one, something in the mid to low 60s to get it done."

Rahm's 18-under total of 198 was one ahead of his playing partners Saturday, Tyrrell Hatton and Francesco Laporta who each carded a 67. McIlroy was two shots back.

Adam Scott continued his bogey-free tournament with a 66 to be 15 under in fifth place, one shot behind McIlroy.

That left three Masters winners in the top five on the leaderboard, with Rahm (2023 edition), McIlroy (2025, 2026) and Scott (2013).

The two-week playoffs on the European tour saw 70 players enter the $9 million Abu Dhabi Championship before 50 top-ranked players advance to the $10 million finals event next week in Dubai.

McIlroy is currently projected to rise to No. 2 in the Road to Dubai rankings behind Eugenio Chacarra who fired a 5-under 67 on Saturday. Chacarra is tied for 29th place on 8 under overall.

The Northern Irishman seeks a fifth straight tour rankings title and an eighth in his career, which would tie the record of Colin Montgomerie.

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Arsenal midfielder Martin Ødegaard in action in front of Hull City's Lucas Gourna-Douath during the English Premier League soccer match between Arsenal and Hull City in London. (AP)

Sports



Kuwait Club basketball players celebrate winning the club's 17th title.

Kuwait Club maintains grip on basketball crown as Kazma claims 3rd

By Hassan Mosa
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 7: Kuwait Club added another trophy to its growing collection after capturing the 2025-26 First Division Basketball League title, extending its remarkable run to eight consecutive championships and 17 overall.

The title was secured with a convincing 91-69 victory over Qurain in the second game of the best-of-three playoff final series. Kuwait Club had already won the opening game 110-83 to seal the championship in straight games.

Kazma claimed third place after edging Qadsia 86-83.

Basketball Association President Dhari Burjes praised Kuwait Club's consistency and outstanding performances throughout the season, saying the team fully deserved the title. He congratulated the club's board, players and supporters on the achievement.

Burjes also commended Qurain for reaching the final for the first time since its establishment in 2011, noting the team's impressive displays throughout the campaign.

Kuwait Club Vice-President Bader Al-Osaimi described the eighth successive championship as an unprecedented accomplishment, crediting the club's board for its continued support, effective planning and strategic approach.

He said the players had risen to the occasion and shown a strong determination to win the title from the beginning of the competition.

Al-Osaimi also thanked the club's supporters for standing behind the team and praised the Basketball Association's efforts to develop the game at the local level.

Kuwait U-17 team launches campaign against Bahrain



Kuwaiti players hold training session.

MUSCAT, Nov 7: Kuwait's U-17 national team kicks off its AFC U-17 Asian Cup qualifying campaign against Bahrain at 4:00 pm on Sunday at Salalah Sports Complex Stadium in Oman.

The match marks the opening round of Group G, which also includes hosts Oman, Lebanon and Brunei.

Only the group winners from the seven qualifying groups will secure places in the final tournament, scheduled to take place in Uzbekistan in May 2027.

Kuwait will be looking to make a stronger impression after an early exit from last month's Gulf U-17 Championship in Qatar, where the team failed to progress beyond the group stage.

Man United under pressure

Okafor strikes in 97 seconds, Leeds edges Spurs amid VAR controversy

LONDON, Nov 7(Agencies): Substitute Noah Okafor had an immediate impact as he sent Leeds to a 1-0 win over Tottenham on Saturday in a Premier League match marked by controversy.

Okafor had been on the field for only 97 seconds when he gave Leeds the lead in the 79th minute. A throw-in was headed on by Dominic Calvert-Lewin and Harry Wilson pushed the ball into Okafor's path to drive home.

It was Leeds' first victory since a 4-1 rout of Newcastle almost two months ago and lifted the team into eighth, two points above Spurs - which had been looking for its fourth straight win after none from their first six matches.

Tottenham will feel Leeds should have played the second half with 10 men after a nasty challenge by Jayden Bogle on Mathys Tel in the 34th minute. It wasn't malicious but the late tackle saw Bogle's studs land on the trailing ankle of Tel, leaving the Tottenham forward writhing in agony.

A long VAR check for a possible red card for Bogle ended with no action deemed necessary. Tel tried to continue but had to come off a few minutes later.

Elsewhere, Arsenal beat Hull 1-0.

Man United under pressure, Liverpool seeks rebound LONDON, Nov. 7 (Xinhua) -- Manchester United will look to build on its midweek Champions League comeback against Roma at home to Aston Villa on Sunday, with manager Michael Carrick under mounting pressure as his side battles to avoid the Premier League relegation zone.

United sits fourth from bottom and could slip into the bottom three before kickoff if Nottingham Forest beats Manchester City or Crystal Palace earns a point against Liverpool.

Carrick has survived growing speculation over his future, but entering the international break in the relegation zone could leave his position untenable. Tuesday's fightback against Roma offered encouragement, although United must now show it can reproduce that resilience domestically.

Aston Villa arrives at Old Trafford unbeaten in five Premier League matches, despite being held to a 1-1 home draw by Fulham last weekend.

Unai Emery's side also suffered a 3-0 defeat at Barcelona in the Champions League in midweek, although the scoreline did not fully reflect Villa's attacking opportunities.

Liverpool will also be looking to bounce back from consecutive defeats at Crystal Palace on Sunday.

Andoni Iraola's side lost 1-0 at home to Arsenal last weekend before its defensive weaknesses were exposed again in Wednesday's Champions League defeat to Fenerbahce, raising questions about its Premier League title credentials.

Liverpool will nevertheless fancy its chances against a Palace side missing the suspended Jean-Philippe Mateta and struggling defensively. Palace manager Pierre Sage is also facing increasing scrutiny over his position.

Al-Saad secures Olympic berth with World Shooting Champ'ship bronze

China makes history with women's skeet podium sweep

DOHA, Nov 7, (Agencies): Kuwaiti shooter Abdulaziz Al-Saad claimed the bronze medal in the men's individual skeet event at the World Shooting Championship in Qatar, securing his place at the 2028 Los Angeles Olympic Games.



KUNA photo

Kuwaiti shooter Abdulaziz Al-Saad celebrates with officials on the podium.

President of the Kuwait and Arab Shooting Federations Duaij Al-Otaibi hailed the achievement, expressing his delight at Al-Saad's podium finish and Olympic qualification.

Al-Otaibi dedicated the success to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, and the Kuwaiti people.

He said the achievement was a source of pride for Kuwait, with Al-Saad finishing third and earning the bronze medal and an Olympic berth after facing stiff competition from some of the world's leading shooters.

Al-Otaibi also praised Qatar for its excellent organization and hospitality, thanking everyone who contributed to the achievement.

He voiced hope that Kuwait would build on this success and continue to make its mark at regional and international sporting events at shooting worlds.

In the men's skeet final, Denmark's Jesper Hansen edged Egypt's Azmy Mehelba in a shoot-off after both finished with 34 hits. Hansen prevailed 16-15 to claim gold. All three medalists secured Olympic quota places for their respective countries.

The championships continue on Saturday with the skeet mixed team event.

China made history at the ISSF World Championships, sweeping the women's skeet individual podium for the first time, while also claiming gold and bronze in the 10-meter air pistol mixed team event.

In the women's skeet final, Jiang Yiting hit 34 targets to secure gold, finishing two ahead of compatriot Che Yufei, who took silver with 32. Jiang Chaoyu completed the all-Chinese podium with 27 hits, marking the first time China had swept all three medals in the event at the World Championships.

Jiang Yiting, who won the event at the Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games earlier this year, added a world title to her achievements and secured a quota place for China at the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games.

"I'm so happy. This is my first world championship gold," Jiang said.

Reflecting on her performance, Jiang acknowledged that the competition had not been entirely smooth.

"I've had some ups and downs over the past few days, but I've managed to adjust," she said. "My teammates are also very good shooters, and we encourage each other."

Earlier in qualification, Jiang Chaoyu had finished second with 122 hits, while Jiang Yiting and Che each recorded 121 to advance to the eight-shooter final.

The Chinese trio also claimed the women's skeet team title with a combined qualification score of 364 hits, ahead of Britain on 353 and Italy on 352.

China's Shen Yiyao and Bu Shuaihang claimed the 10m air pistol mixed team title, scoring 487.1 points to beat Iran's Haniyeh Rostamiyan and Vahid Golkhandan by 5.8 points.

Bu contributed 246.7 points and Shen added 240.4, while the Iranian pair finished with 481.3 points.

Defending champions Yao Qianxun and Hu Kai of China, who won gold together at the 2025 World Championships in Cairo, settled for bronze with 416.6 points. Hu had won the men's individual 10m air pistol title on Thursday, while Yao took silver in the women's event.

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