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Opinion

Support Arabs who won seats in the US Congress

Ahmed Al-Jarallah
Editor-in-Chief, the Arab Times

THE recent US election is transformative, because it created a strong foundation for progress through the selection of several senators and representatives of Arab descent.

This milestone is a vital turning point in the American political scene, which has been dominated by the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) since 1953.

Over the decades, AIPAC built a formidable influence network covering politics, media, cinema and financial sectors, prompting an American writer to describe it as an "agent of the Israeli government with a stranglehold."

Its influence became evident after the Tripartite Aggression by Britain, France and Israel against Egypt, during which former President Dwight D. Eisenhower played a decisive role in halting the assault.

At that time, the post-World War II reality became clear -- the United States emerged as the world's only superpower, eclipsing France and Britain.

In this environment, the Zionist lobbying framework instituted a monopolistic hold over American political affairs, executing the dual-track strategy that manifested in the domestic objective of neutralizing political factions capable of challenging its agenda or endangering its core interests, and the regional objective of systematically fortifying the dominance of Israel in the Arab world.

This system continued until the underlying realities of the Zionist ambition were exposed in many Arab countries after the fierce military reaction of Tel Aviv to the Oct 7, 2023 operation of Hamas, along with its continuous offensives in Lebanon and Syria.

Consequently, global support for the Israeli 'victimhood' narrative eroded, since it historically exploited the memory of the 'Nazi-style extermination' to realize discriminatory objectives.

This broader push against an exploitative narrative is proven by the election of several Arab figures to the US House of Representatives and Senate, as well as the appointment of many Muslim officials to key positions in the American government.

Despite the abundance of influential political, financial and economic figures who could have been organized into a formidable force, Arabs struggled for decades to build strong lobbying presence in international powers. This is in stark contrast to the Zionist movement, which cultivated deep-seated influence in the United States, Britain, France and Germany.

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GCC seals landmark deal for Gulf railway network



KUNA photo

Kuwait's Minister of Public Works Dr. Noura Al-Mashaan and GCC officials attend the signing ceremony of the General Agreement on the GCC Railway Project in Manama, held under the patronage of Bahrain's Crown Prince and Prime Minister Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa.

Dr. Al-Mashaan hails pact as Kuwait commits to 111-km link

MANAMA, Nov 8, (KUNA): Kuwait's Minister of Public Works Dr. Noura Al-Mashaan said Sunday that the General Agreement linking GCC states through the railway project represents a historic milestone in the course of joint Gulf action.

Speaking to KUNA after taking part in the signing ceremony in Manama alongside heads of GCC delegations, Al-Mashaan said the agreement was signed under the patronage of Bahrain's Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, on the sidelines of the 30th meeting of the GCC Transport Ministers Committee.

The meeting was hosted by Bahrain and chaired by Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications Dr. Sheikh Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, with the participation of GCC Secretary-General Jasem Al-Budaiwi.

Continued on Page 6

Attacks on Riyadh draw Kuwait's ire

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8, (Agencies): Kuwait expressed on Sunday its strong condemnation and denunciation of the continued terrorist attacks carried out by the Houthi militia on several areas in Saudi Arabia, with the latest being two ballistic missiles launched towards Riyadh, in a blatant violation of Saudi's sovereignty and a breach of international law.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs emphasized Kuwait's firm rejection of these attacks, which represents a serious escalation and a direct threat to civilians' lives, and undermine the region's stability.

It renewed its full solidarity with the brotherly Saudi Arabia, standing by all measures taken to protect its sovereignty and maintain stability and security, emphasizing that Saudi is an integral part of Kuwait and the GCC states' security.

Saudi Arabia said it intercepted incoming missiles targeting the kingdom's capital and other regions on Sunday, with falling debris damaging a building belonging to the state-owned oil giant Aramco in Riyadh's financial district.

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Home ID delivery eyed

PACI strikes off 485 residential addresses

By Mohammad Ghanem
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8: The Public Authority for Civil Information (PACI) announced in the official gazette, 'Kuwait Al-Youm', the start of the pre-qualification of companies interested in offering civil identification card delivery service.

PACI revealed that contracts will be awarded to companies, which meet the pre-qualification criteria stated in the official announcement.

This is in line with the efforts of PACI to simplify procedures and enhance service accessibility, without the need to visit its headquarters in South Surra or its service centers in different areas.

In another announcement, PACI confirmed the removal of 485 residential addresses from its records based on the notification of property owners or due to the demolition of buildings.

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6 Sheikh Ali welcomes guests at diwaniya in Shuwaikh





7 National Investments Company delivers positive performance, reporting net profit of KD 10.6 million and earnings per share of 13.3 fils for the first nine months of 2026





8 NBK Egypt delivers net profit of EGP 6.5 billion (equivalent to KWD 40 million) in 9M2026

Newswatch

6 lose citizenship

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8: The official gazette "Kuwait Al-youm" published two decrees in its latest edition revoking the Kuwaiti citizenship of six individuals, along with that of anyone who had acquired citizenship through them, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

Decree No. 173/2026 calls for the revocation of Kuwaiti citizenship from four individuals, as well as from those who obtained citizenship through them.

Decree No. 174/2026 stipulates the withdrawal of Kuwaiti citizenship from two individuals and anyone who acquired citizenship through them.

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ABU DHABI: The Coast Guard Division of the **UAE** National Guard Command rescued 22-member crew of a cargo ship after a fire broke out aboard the vessel in the Sea of Oman.

The crew, all from Arab nationalities, are safe and sound after receiving first aid, the National Guard said in a statement on their X account on Sunday early morning.

The rescue operation came in response to a mayday declared by the crew who were sent to competent agencies.

The operation was part of the National Guard's efforts to protect lives and enhance maritime security and safety, according to the statement. (KUNA)

Day by Day

ACROSS various parts of the world, including Italy, Spain, France and other European countries, inflation continues to rise, driving up prices and increasing the cost of living.

As citizens voice their concerns and struggle under these economic pressures, they often find themselves facing authorities that enforce the strict letter of the law rather than with understanding and compassion.

While upholding the law is essential, its application must balance compassion with firmness, recognising that measures appropriate in one era may no longer be suitable in another.

As the traditional Arab proverb wisely reminds us, "Moderation is the best policy."

... Yet tomorrow is another day.

Zahed Matar

Kuwait, Saudi finalize Hajj plans

RIYADH, Nov 8, (KUNA): Kuwait's Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Dr. Mohammad Al-Wasmi and Saudi Minister of Hajj and Umrah Dr. Tawfiq Al-Rabiah signed Sunday an agreement on arrangements for Kuwait's Hajj affairs for the 1448 AH season.



KUNA photo

Following the signing of the 1448 AH Hajj agreement, Kuwait's Dr. Mohammad Al-Wasmi (left) and Saudi Arabia's Dr. Tawfiq Al-Rabiah pose in Jeddah.

In a statement to KUNA following the signing in Jeddah, on the sidelines of the Hajj Conference and Exhibition, Al-Wasmi affirmed Kuwait's keenness to strengthen cooperation and coordination with Saudi Arabia to ensure a successful Hajj season and facilitate the performance of rituals in an atmosphere of security, reassurance and tranquility.

He said the agreement reflected ongoing coordination between the authorities responsible for Hajj affairs in the two countries and underscored their commitment to completing organizational, administrative and technical preparations well in advance to provide the best possible services to Kuwaiti pilgrims.

Al-Wasmi said Kuwait's participation in the Hajj Conference and Exhibition stemmed from its support for Saudi efforts to ensure the success of the event and contribute to its objectives as a leading platform for exchanging expertise and developing services provided to pilgrims.

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Candles and flowers are placed near the market square in Krakow, Poland, Sunday, Nov. 8, 2026, where several people were shot the day before. (AP)

Shooting kills 6

Kuwait mourns Krakow victims

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8, (Agencies): The Ministry of Foreign Affairs expressed Kuwait's sympathy and solidarity with Poland following the deadly shooting attack in Krakow city yesterday.

In a statement on Sunday, the Ministry reaffirmed condemnation of all forms of violence and terrorism.

It offered sincere condolences on behalf of the State of Kuwait to the people and government of Poland as well as the families of the victims, wishing the injured a quick recovery.

Poland began two days of national mourning on Sunday, after a 24-year-old man with far-right views drove into a busy central square in Krakow and opened fire, killing six people and wounding 15 others before police shot and wounded him.

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Kuwait economic zones 67 pct complete

By Najeh Bilal
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8: Recent findings from the Kuwait Direct Investment Promotion Authority (KDIPA) point to significant progress in the development of the Abdali and Wafra economic zones, which are being positioned as promising investment destinations.

Preparations are also underway for the Nuwaiseeb Free Trade Zone and the Al-Naayem Economic Zone.

Meanwhile, infrastructure works across the three economic zones in Abdali, Wafra and Al-Naayem have reached 67 percent completion, with the projects expected to be completed by 2027.

According to informed sources, the ongoing construction reflects a shift in the government's approach from planning to implementation.

By the end of this decade, Kuwait is expected to see a significant increase in foreign investment, which will play

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Prayer Timings

Fajr	04:46	Asr	14:35
Sunrise	06:07	Maghrib	16:57
Zohr	11:32	Isha	18:18

Food security, AI on agenda

Business leaders target fresh Kuwait-Jordan opportunities

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8: Director General of Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) Rabah Abdulrahman Al-Rabah recently met with Ambassador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to Kuwait Sinan Rakan Al-Majali and a delegation of Jordanian businesspeople operating here, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

They talked about ways to strengthen the economic and investment collaboration between the two nations, and strategies to broaden private sector partnerships that could generate opportunities for investors and promote shared interests.

During the meeting, Al-Rabah highlighted the unique and deeply entrenched relationship between Kuwait and Jordan. He pointed out that these relations solidified Kuwaiti investments in Jordan, and that Kuwait is currently the top Arab investor in the Kingdom.

He stressed that the interaction between business leaders and economic institutions in both countries is crucial for cementing partnerships and discovering new paths for collaboration.

He underscored the need to activate joint committees between the two countries by involving the business community in government initiatives aimed at strengthening this cooperation.

He confirmed the potential for developing new opportunities in various sectors, such as healthcare, cybersecurity, artificial intelligence and food security, where the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has considerable prospects and natural resources, especially in agriculture.

On the other hand, Al-Majali expressed his gratitude to the KCCI director general for the warm welcome.

He reaffirmed the strong fraternal and commercial bonds between Kuwait and Jordan, indicating that he is keen on promoting engagement among business leaders and investors, as well as to form commercial alliances between enterprises.

He emphasized the significance of partnering with KCCI to organize joint business meetings and trade fairs, as well as motivating Kuwaiti investors to look into various opportunities in Jordan.



KCCI photo

Photo during the meeting.



Crown Prince Diwan photo

His Highness the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah receives His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah.

Kuwait Deputy Amir receives PM, Ministers

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8, (KUNA): His Highness the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah received at Bayan Palace on Sunday His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah.

His Highness also received First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Fahad Yousef Saud Al-Sabah, Defense Minister Abdullah Ali Abdullah Al-Sabah and Foreign Minister Sheikh Jarrah Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah.

Minister Al-Huwailah tightens screws on Kuwait cooperatives

Disability tuition fees face push for faster payout

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8: Minister of Social Affairs, Family and Childhood Dr. Amthal Al-Huwailah has called for stricter monitoring of cooperative societies throughout Kuwait, warning that violations must be addressed promptly and those responsible held accountable without leniency, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

Dr. Al-Huwailah said this during a visit to the Control and Monitoring Center for Cooperative Societies, accompanied by the acting Undersecretary of the Ministry of Social Affairs Faisal Al-Kandari. The visit focused on reviewing the center's operations and monitoring the performance of cooperative societies and their branches.

The minister stressed the need to make greater use of modern technology to identify violations, strengthen regulatory oversight and ensure compliance with approved decisions, circulars and regulations.

She also called for closer coordination between the Control and Monitoring Center and the relevant inspection departments, alongside intensified field inspections to ensure that violations and other observations are dealt with promptly.

Dr. Al-Huwailah said protecting the rights of shareholders and consumers and safeguarding cooperative funds are among the top priorities for the ministry.

She further emphasized the importance of transparency, accountability and good governance in strengthening the cooperative sector.



Ministry of Social Affairs photo

Minister of Social Affairs, Family and Childhood Dr. Amthal Al-Huwailah during a visit to the Control and Monitoring Center for Cooperative Societies, accompanied by the acting Undersecretary of the Ministry of Social Affairs Faisal Al-Kandari.

In other news, Dr. Al-Huwailah has called for the immediate provision of all essential needs for residents of care homes and faster disbursement of tuition fees for beneficiaries of the Public Authority for Disability Affairs (PADA).

Dr. Al-Huwailah stressed the importance of removing administrative obstacles and ensuring that all eligible beneficiaries receive their financial entitlements without delay.

She said this during an inspection visit to the Elderly Care Home and the Children's Care Home, where she reviewed the standard of daily care and services provided to residents, as well as ongoing development works and facility improvements.

During the visit, the minister met with several residents and checked on their well-being and needs.

She emphasized that providing a safe and comprehensive environment for the elderly and children is a priority for the ministry.

Dr. Al-Huwailah directed officials to address any shortcomings immediately and continue improving facilities, services, and rehabilitation and recreational programs to enhance the quality of care.

She also praised the dedication of employees and staff at the care homes, commending their efforts in fulfilling their humanitarian responsibilities.

She affirmed that regular inspection visits would continue to monitor operations and ensure residents' needs are being met, describing the care of the elderly and children as a humanitarian and national responsibility.

In a separate development, Dr. Al-Huwailah, in her capacity as Chairperson of the Supreme Council for Disability Affairs, chaired a meeting at the headquarters of PADA to review the latest developments concerning tuition fee payments.

The meeting was attended by PADA's acting Director General, Dr. Khalifa Al-Hilal, the Deputy Director General for Financial and Administrative Affairs and Educational Services, and several department directors.

During the meeting, Dr. Al-Huwailah reviewed the payments already disbursed and the procedures underway to settle outstanding amounts. She instructed officials to accelerate the process and address any administrative or financial obstacles that could delay payments.

She also stressed the need for direct follow-up and stronger coordination among the relevant departments to complete the required procedures efficiently.

Al-Huwailah reaffirmed that protecting beneficiaries' rights remains a priority, emphasizing the importance of timely processing, accurate implementation, and ensuring that all eligible beneficiaries receive their entitlements regularly and without delay.

Other Voices

Autumn and permanence

By Suad Fahad Almojil

Autumn never passes without awakening memory, pen, thought, and mind. If a person receives wisdom from people who pass through his life and leave a trace, then nature has a greater role in scattering these seeds of wisdom in human consciousness. Here, autumn stands out as the season most interactive with human memory. Poets, writers, and philosophers have drawn from it all kinds of wisdom, and myths and stories have emerged from it that explain the meaning of life, existence, survival, and annihilation. Its natural features have answered existential questions that have always remained stuck in human consciousness, perplexed between the reality of existence and the nature of annihilation.



Almojil

Perhaps the most prominent lesson of autumn comes in what many human philosophies have adopted, especially Buddhist philosophy, which states in its most prominent teachings that reconciliation with fate and reality is the savior from human suffering, and that liberation from the illusion of control and resistance to inevitable change is the true gateway to liberation and inner peace thereafter.

The peaceful and submissive fall of autumn leaves does not mean surrender to death and annihilation here, but rather it is a message to humans to learn the skill of life and living, without being besieged by the fear of loss, or of the winds blowing in the opposite direction.

Humans live their lives as if life continues at a constant pace, and their sense of security becomes dependent on ensuring that continuity. From here arises the attachment that doubles the pain of loss. Humans realize that they are going to leave in the end, but they live with the obsession of death from the beginning of life, and the anxieties of the pain of losing loved ones and things surround them throughout the journey of life. Herein lies the wisdom of autumn, whose leaves do not fear the pain of annihilation when they fall, but rather realize that this is a condition of survival, and that loving things and being attached to them does not mean possessing them, but rather the opposite, liberation from them and acceptance of their passing. Youth departs, health declines, money diminishes, and loved ones pass away, and what remains is the story of life that is immortal. Therefore, it is wise here to stop being attached to things, people, and places, and to learn how to love them and enjoy their existence before they disappear.

There are many sermons and stories in philosophy about the issue of attachment, which we learn from nature with every autumn when its leaves fall quietly, peacefully, and in surrender. In Buddhist tradition, it is said that a woman lost her only child, and she was asked to bring a mustard seed from a house that had never known death. The woman went around to the houses, but she found mustard seeds in every house, as there was not a single house that had not lost one of its loved ones. Later, she realized that death was not her tragedy alone, and that it was wise not to stop loving her child, but to free herself from the idea that it was impossible to lose him.

There is a strong philosophical relationship between teachings that have passed through human history, stories, wisdom, and sermons, and the scene of falling leaves in every autumn season that passes us by. In both cases, there is one existential truth that says that everything in life is fleeting one day, and that the suffering of humans is not in the end of things and their passing, but rather in the constant attempt of humans, contrary to nature, to give all those things, loved ones, events, and places the quality of permanence and eternity. While nature does not resist the changes that occur to it, man goes on, throughout his life, to resist what he cannot change in the first place.

Nature's surrender to the conditions of transformation and change does not mean indifference in the course of life, nor do philosophical stories favor that. Rather, autumn teaches us, and philosophy teaches us, the safe conditions for enjoying a life without fear, and that enjoyment does not mean owning things, and that a beautiful and happy life does not need to be permanent and endless in order to be meaningful.

Other Voices

Ronald's perfumes and the actions in Gaza

By Ahmad alsarraf

THERE is hardly a woman in Kuwait, aged between 30 and 100, who has not heard of or used Estée Lauder's luxury cosmetics. I once traded in Estée Lauder perfumes in the mid-1970s, although only for a short period.

The Estée Lauder Companies Inc. is one of the world's leading companies in cosmetics, skincare and perfumery. It was founded 80 years ago in New York by Estée Lauder and her husband, Joseph.

Estée was the driving force behind the business. She learned how to formulate creams from her uncle, a chemist, and came up with the idea of offering a free gift with every purchase. Almost all cosmetics companies continue to follow this practice today.

The company expanded significantly during the 1960s and 1970s, entering international markets and selling through renowned retailers, including the famous Harrods department store in London. In 1964, the company also introduced products specifically designed for men.

In 1995, the company was listed on the New York Stock Exchange, although the Lauder family retained control. Today, it is regarded as one of the dominant players in the global luxury cosmetics market.

The company generates annual sales and revenue of nearly $15 billion and has a market capitalization of approximately $40 billion.



Ahmad alsarraf

This corporate giant is headed by Ronald Lauder, heir to Estée Lauder and president of the World Jewish Congress, one of the most influential positions in the Jewish world. He recently gave an interview to the prominent Israeli newspaper Haaretz.

Lauder, the American billionaire who was close to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for many years, told the newspaper, "I sold my apartment in Tel Aviv and donated my house in Beersheba to the Jewish National Fund. I have completely severed my ties there. I have absolutely no intention of returning to Israel. There are too many petty conflicts everywhere."

According to reports by The Times of Israel and Haaretz covering the interview, Lauder did not reside permanently in Israel but spent a few weeks there each year at properties he owned, including a Bauhaus-style house in Bialik Square in Tel Aviv.

Last year, Lauder sold or donated all the properties he still owned in Israel. His remarks came amid a broader falling-out with Netanyahu ahead of the Israeli Knesset elections scheduled for October 27, 2016.

Lauder accused Netanyahu of choosing "politics over peace" and warned Israelis against re-electing him. His position added to the political tensions surrounding Netanyahu's leadership.

The Jewish billionaire's decision to sever his ties with Israel cannot be viewed separately from the events of October 7, 2016, particularly given that he had been one of Israel's strongest supporters, financially, politically and morally, for more than four decades.

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diwaniya ديوانية

A DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION

Workplace compliance is not suitable for next generation

"THE future workplace will not be shaped solely by artificial intelligence and digital transformation, but also by how individuals perceive authority, define success, and determine whether an organization deserves their commitment," Social Sciences Researcher Dr. **Randa Diab-Bahman** wrote for **Al-Seyassah** daily.



Dr. Diab-Bahman

"For managers from older generations, understanding the psychological factors that influence employee behaviour may become just as important as keeping pace with the technologies transforming the nature of work.

One of the most significant shifts introduced by the younger generation is a growing desire for autonomy, reflected in their preference for making independent decisions and completing tasks with minimal supervision.

When employees face excessive monitoring, unjustified rules or limited opportunities for professional growth, their motivation and engagement at work may gradually decline.

Younger employees are often more vocal in expressing their dissatisfaction with such practices. Unlike previous generations, who may have accepted long-established procedures without question, they are more inclined to challenge rules and practices they consider unnecessary.

Research conducted in the Arabian Gulf also offers valuable cultural insights into this shift.

Studies examining youth in the United Arab Emirates indicate that workplace flexibility, a supportive professional environment, opportunities for career development, and meaningful work are among the key factors influencing their career choices.

Similarly, research involving Generation Z engineering students in Kuwait has highlighted the importance of authentic and inclusive leadership, financial security, autonomy and opportunities for career development.

These findings suggest that younger employees do not challenge traditional workplace expectations simply for the sake of doing so. Rather, they seek to balance their aspirations for personal growth and independence with their need for stability, financial security and reliable leadership.

It can therefore be argued that Generation Z does not necessarily have an entirely different personality from previous generations. Instead, changes in social and technological environments have influenced how familiar psychological traits are expressed in the workplace.

Research to date suggests that this emerging generation of employees is more inclined to question established procedures, particularly when rules appear arbitrary, inconsistent or lacking a clear purpose.

The challenge for managers from older generations, therefore, is to grant employees greater autonomy without compromising accountability, introduce flexibility without undermining performance, and encourage open communication while maintaining professional standards.

It also requires a willingness to review and, where necessary, revise outdated workplace procedures without interpreting suggestions for change as personal criticism.

Achieving this transformation, however, calls for a fundamental shift in existing workplace practices. It requires a long-term plan for developing interpersonal and leadership skills, as meaningful change cannot happen overnight.

Moving away from compliance-driven management towards a leadership approach rooted in an understanding of human behaviour does not mean making work easier or allowing employees to dictate the terms of their employment.

Rather, it means understanding what motivates individuals to perform their tasks, what causes them to lose enthusiasm, how they respond to change and why they may resist it. This understanding can then be used to develop more effective leadership practices.

In today's workplace, the most capable managers are not necessarily those who exercise the greatest degree of control. They are those who recognise and harness the diverse strengths of their team members, bring out their full potential and, at the same time, maintain the professional standards and organisational discipline on which their institutions depend."

Also:

"Recognizing and mitigating risks are fundamental to maintaining security and stability," columnist Major General (ret.) **Faisal Musaed Al-Jazzaf** wrote for **Al-Seyassah** daily.

"Amid the rapid changes and fragile regional and international conditions we face today, risk management and threat assessment have become essential priorities, extending beyond security and military institutions to encompass every member of society.

At its core, security is a shared responsibility, while vigilance acts as the first line of defence against potential threats, incidents and emergencies that could undermine the nation's security and stability.

A comprehensive understanding of modern risks requires a clear awareness of their nature and the circumstances surrounding them. These risks range from cyber threats, misinformation and media manipulation to physical dangers and emergency situations that demand a high level of preparedness, vigilance and swift response.

1. Identify Risks and Assess Threats - The first step is to recognize potential risks and assess threats, particularly those associated with intellectual and media challenges, including the spread of misinformation.

During times of crisis, rumors and false information can spread rapidly, creating confusion among the public and potentially triggering panic.

Reliance on unofficial sources of information is among the most serious threats to the domestic front. Cybersecurity risks, including data breaches, information leaks and attempts to disrupt essential services, are also increasingly used as tools to create disorder. These threats highlight the urgent need for robust measures to protect personal and institutional information.

Field-level risks include emergency situations and failure to comply with security directives and regulatory instructions, which can disrupt daily life and create confusion concerning traffic management and public services.

2. Manage the Situation and Develop a Response Strategy - Addressing such circumstances requires clear, practical measures based on discipline, awareness and responsible conduct.

Information should be obtained exclusively from official sources. Statements issued by government authorities and reports carried by official media should serve as the primary reference for news and developments. The public should also exercise restraint and verify information before sharing or reposting any content.

3. Strengthen Self-Discipline and Compliance with the Law - Adhering to laws and instructions issued by security and civil authorities is not simply a matter of duty or personal discipline; it is a fundamental line of defence against attempts to exploit exceptional circumstances.



Al-Jazzaf

4. Enhance Preparedness and Community Awareness - Promote a culture of prevention within families and institutions, ensure that people understand how to respond appropriately during crises and emergencies, and educate younger generations to act with wisdom, responsibility and composure.

5. Strengthen National Unity and Solidarity - A united domestic front, committed to national leadership and state institutions, is essential to navigating crises and addressing challenges that could threaten the country's stability.

The challenges we face today require everyone to rise to the occasion, and shoulder our responsibilities.

A nation's security rests on the awareness of its people, the wisdom of its leadership and the discipline of its institutions.

Crises should serve to strengthen our resilience and unity, ensuring that our homeland remains a source of pride and honour, safe and secure under all circumstances.

Meanwhile, we extend our appreciation to the General Traffic Department and the Emergency Police for their extensive deployment across roads and streets to ensure smooth traffic flow as students leave schools and employees make their way home at the end of the working day."

— Compiled by Simi K. Kutty

Farwaniya Gov pushes for better municipal services

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8: Farwaniya Governor Sheikh Athbi Nasser Al-Athbi Al-Sabah received the Director of the Farwaniya and Mubarak Al-Kabeer municipality branches, Eng. Nawaf Al-Kandari, the Director of Farwaniya Municipality, Eng. Ahmed Dashti, and the Director of the Public Hygiene and Road Occupancy Department at Farwaniya Municipality, Mohammed Al-Jab'a, at the governorate headquarters on Sunday.

According to a press release issued by Farwaniya Governorate, several issues related to municipal services across the governorate were discussed, including the need to improve field operations, strengthen public cleanliness efforts, regulate road occupancy, and address service-related needs and observations in residential areas. These efforts aim to improve residents' quality of life and enhance the governorate's urban appearance.

Sheikh Athbi stressed the importance of continued coordination and cooperation between Farwaniya Governorate and Farwaniya Municipality.

He emphasized the need to intensify field inspections, maintain high standards of public cleanliness, address reported concerns promptly, and improve services for citizens and residents, ultimately serving the public interest and meeting the expectations of the governorate's residents.



Farwaniya Governorate photo

Farwaniya Governor Sheikh Athbi Nasser Al-Athbi Al-Sabah receives the officials at the governorate headquarters.

At the end of the meeting, Eng. Nawaf Al-Kandari expressed his sincere appreciation to the governor for his warm reception and continued commitment to strengthening cooperation and coordination with Farwaniya Municipality in the interest of the public.

Court awards father KD 45,000 over drowning of three children

Tanker lorry crash on Mutlaa Road kills Egyptian expat

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8: The Court of Appeals has ordered a woman to pay KD 45,000 in diya (Islamic blood money) and compensation for emotional distress to a father whose three children tragically drowned at sea, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The ruling followed a civil lawsuit filed by Lawyer Ali Al-Ali on behalf of the father, seeking compensation for the emotional suffering and losses resulting from the heartbreaking incident.

The case concerns the drowning of the three siblings, which was attributed to negligence in their supervision, according to the case records and an earlier criminal ruling.

In the related criminal proceedings, the court decided not to impose a formal sentence on the defendant but instead ordered her to undertake to maintain good conduct.

Lawyer Al-Ali subsequently filed the civil lawsuit, seeking to hold the defendant financially liable for the diya, as well as material and moral damages, stressing that his client was entitled to compensation for the loss of his three children.

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Water tanker, lorry collide: An Egyptian expatriate was killed in a traffic accident involving a water tanker and a half-lorry on Mutlaa Road at Kilo-0 mark recently, reports Al-Anba daily.

According to security sources, the water tanker was driven by an Indian expatriate born in 1990, while the half-lorry was driven by an Egyptian expatriate born in 1982. An Egyptian passenger born in 1970, who was accompanying the half-lorry driver, died as a result of the collision.

Kuwaiti amasses 561 traffic violations

Three months in jail for reckless driving at 190 km/h

By Jaber Al-Hamoud

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8: The Ahmadi Misdemeanor Court, presided over by Judge Mohammed Talal Al-Hajri, sentenced a Kuwaiti citizen to three months in prison with hard labor, effective immediately, for reckless driving and speeding.

The defendant was convicted of driving negligently and recklessly at 190 kilometers per hour, well above the permitted speed limit.

Court records revealed that the defendant had an extensive history of traffic violations, having previously committed 561 offenses, with accumulated fines exceeding KD 25,000, reflecting his persistent disregard for traffic regulations.

In its ruling, the court stressed that complying with traffic laws is not merely an administrative obligation but a fundamental responsibility aimed at protecting the lives, safety and property of all road users.

The court emphasized that public roads are shared spaces and that reckless driving that endangers others cannot be treated as a minor or temporary traffic violation.

It further stressed that human lives are irreplaceable and that a preventable mistake can lead to a tragedy that no subsequent punishment can undo or whose consequences time can erase.

The court concluded its ruling with a firm message, "Those who are not deterred by a sense of responsibility must be deterred by the rule of law."

Kuwait trains 36 officers in smart drug surveillance

By Munif Naif

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8: The Drug Control General Department (DCGD) at the Ministry of Interior organized a training program titled, "Smart Surveillance in Drug and Psychotropic Substance Cases," on Nov 1-5.

A total of 36 officers – 16 from Kuwait and 20 from other member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) – participated in the training program, which is part of ongoing efforts to strengthen security collaboration among GCC countries, hone the skills of security personnel, and raise the level of preparedness to handle the changing techniques in drug smuggling and distribution.

The training program focused on skill development in using smart surveillance technologies and contemporary methods for monitoring and tracking activities associated with drug-related offenses.

This approach aims to boost the effectiveness of security operations and refine the strategies for combating such crimes.

PAM steps up inspections to curb labor violations

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8: The Public Authority for Manpower (PAM), in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior's Public Security Sector, has carried out a joint inspection campaign targeting more than 70 establishments in Hawally Governorate, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

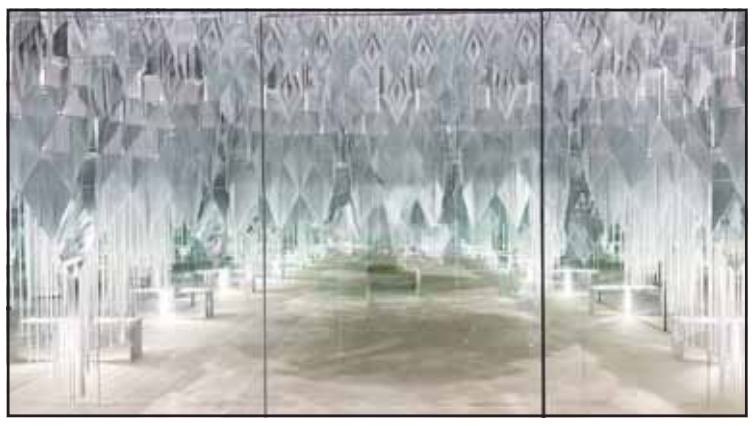
The campaign aimed to identify labor law violations, inspect companies and raise awareness among employers and employees about their respective rights and obligations.

In a statement, PAM explained that the campaign involved teams from the Labor Inspection Department, Labor Relations Department and Public Relations Department, which worked to identify and document violations involving employers and employees.

The inspection teams issued notices requiring establishments to rectify identified violations. They also checked for any indications or suspected cases of forced labor, taking the necessary legal measures where such cases were identified.

PAM affirmed that it would continue conducting field inspection campaigns in coordination with security agencies to regulate the labor market, ensure compliance with applicable laws and protect the rights of all parties involved.





Sadu Muqarnas created by Kuwaiti artist and architect Ghadeer Mohammad.

Kuwait's Sadu heritage takes center stage at Design Doha Biennial 2026

DOHA, Nov 8, (KUNA): Al-Sadu Weaving Cooperative Society has emphasized the significance of participating in the second edition of Design Doha Biennial 2026 in Qatar through the artwork 'Sadu Muqarnas,' which merges traditional Kuwaiti craftsmanship with Islamic architecture.

Speaking to Kuwait News Agency (KUNA), the Director General of Al-Sadu Society Sheikha Bibi Duaij Al-Sabah said that the participation aligns with the Society's commitment to presenting Kuwaiti heritage through a contemporary lens while engaging with the global cultural landscape.

Sheikha Bibi explained that Sadu Muqarnas, created by Kuwaiti artist and architect Ghadeer Mohammad, reinterprets traditional Sadu textile patterns using the architectural geometry of Islamic muqarnas (stalactite vaulting).

The piece features a muqarnas-inspired dome adorned with Sadu motifs, allowing visitors to walk inside and interact with its spatial, architectural, and cultural dimensions.

The artwork goes beyond aesthetic elements to highlight the cultural values, historical memory, and national identity embedded in Sadu weaving, she noted.

Sheikha Bibi reaffirmed that the Society, through the Sadu Art and Design Initiative, continues to empower Kuwaiti artists to innovate around heritage crafts for international platforms.



KUNA photos
Director General of Al-Sadu Society Sheikha Bibi Duaij Al-Sabah

The biennial serves as a vital platform for global artistic exchange, proving the adaptability of Kuwaiti heritage across generations, she added.

She concluded by underlining the importance of preserving Sadu as a cornerstone of Kuwaiti identity while modernizing its presentation, reiterating the Society's ongoing dedication to supporting local artisans and advancing Sadu, both regionally and internationally.

Kuwait expands humanitarian efforts with sustainable projects in Uganda, Mauritania

Charities improve lives of orphans, rural communities

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8, (KUNA): The State of Kuwait has continued its dedicated humanitarian mission worldwide under the "Kuwait is by Your Side" initiative, driven by directives from the higher leadership to provide long-term sustainable development alongside immediate relief.

Over the past week, major Kuwaiti charitable organizations executed significant educational, environmental, and healthcare projects in Uganda and Mauritania aimed at improving the lives of vulnerable communities and orphans.

In Uganda, the International Islamic Charity Organization (IICO) achieved a major environmental milestone.

Its Dar Al-Haya Primary Care School in the Kira-Kitikifumba region of Uganda earned official recognition under the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-30) "Generation Restoration School" initiative for exemplary sustainability and social responsibility.

Speaking to the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) on Saturday, IICO Deputy Director General for Corporate Communication Abdulrahman Al-Mutawa stated that the recognition underscores the school's success in integrating education, orphan care, and environmental conservation.

Al-Mutawa detailed that the school planted nearly 10,000 trees to boost green coverage, installed solar energy systems, established a rainwater harvesting network with a 60,000-liter capacity, improved waste management, and actively promoted environmental awareness among students.



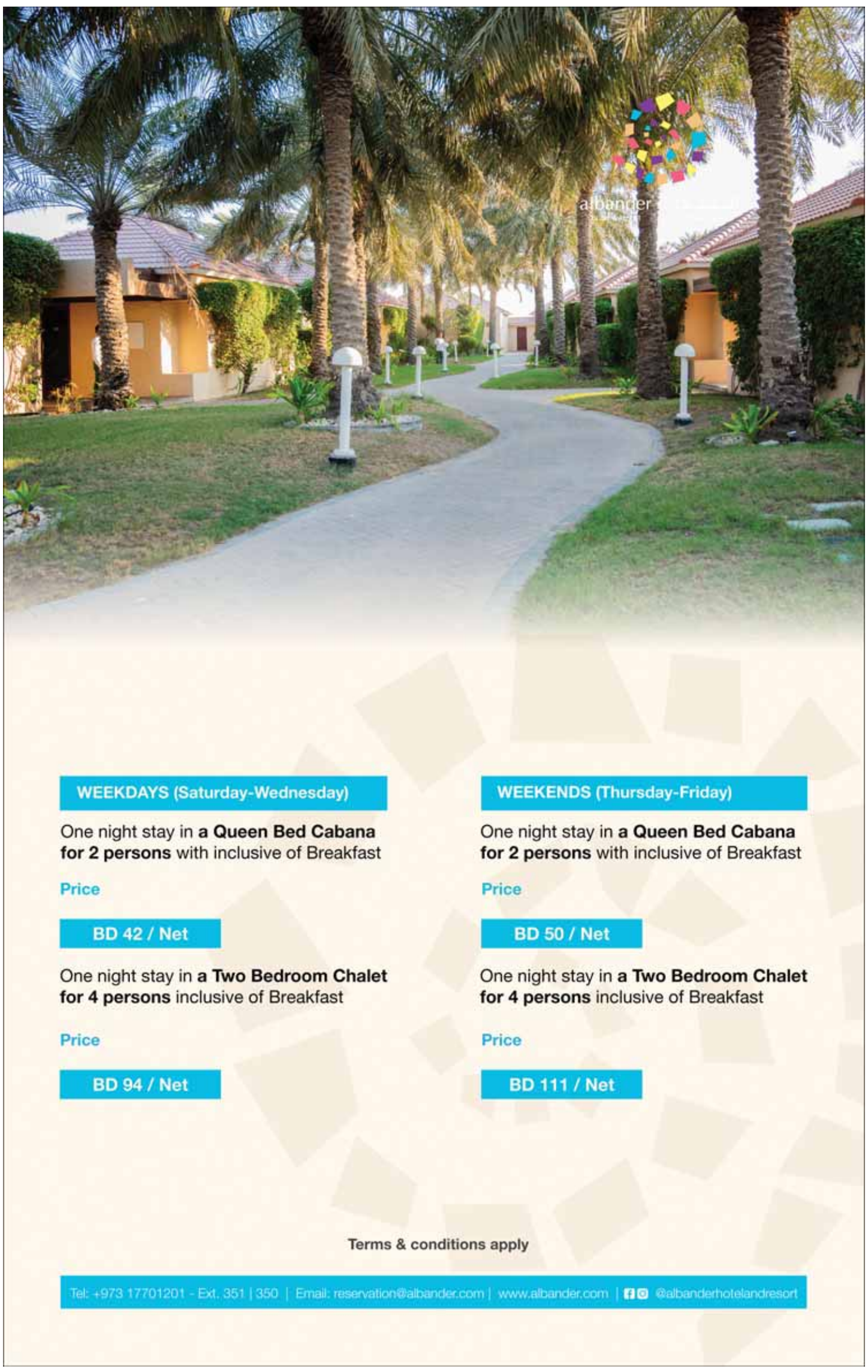
KUNA poto
Providing clean water and healthcare in Mauritania.

Concurrently in Mauritania, a delegation from the Sheikh Abdullah Al-Nouri Charity Society conducted field visits to inspect projects and inaugurate new infrastructure in remote, underserved villages.

Speaking to KUNA, Director of Resources and Media at the Society Abdulatif Al-Dawas announced the opening of multiple water supply networks designed to serve tens of thousands of residents across dozens of drought-stricken villages.

Al-Dawas added that the delegation also opened several health centers in isolated areas to deliver essential medical care locally, reducing the burden of long-distance travel for treatment.

He emphasized that the society prioritizes post-implementation field monitoring to ensure project sustainability, noting that the delegation identified further community needs for future water networks, schools, and medical facilities to maintain the continuous impact of Kuwaiti aid.



CMA steps up financial awareness campaigns at Kuwait universities

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8, (KUNA): The Kuwait Capital Markets Authority (CMA) said that it has carried out awareness-raising activities within the university sector, specifically at the Australian University and the American University in Kuwait.

The events are part of the CMA's national project initiatives aimed at promoting financial inclusion and investment awareness.

In a press release issued on Saturday, the CMA said that the activities held at the Australian University in Kuwait between November 2 and 5 featured five awareness workshops involving various student groups.

In this context, an information booth was set up on campus to promote the authority, explain its diverse range of activities, and showcase its key educational and awareness-building materials.

The event also addressed the development of capital markets and their investment instruments, striving for alignment with global best practices, as well as raising public awareness regarding securities market activities, according to the release.





Nazaha photos
Some photos from the event.

Nazaha presents GCC beneficial ownership guidelines in Vienna

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8, (KUNA): During Vienna-hosted meetings, Kuwait Anti-Corruption Authority (Nazaha) reviewed its experience in receiving and providing technical assistance to enhance beneficial ownership transparency, tracing the initiative's evolution from a conceptual idea into a Gulf guiding manual.

This came during the meetings of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery, held in Vienna from November 2 to 6.

This was highlighted during a presentation delivered to the intergovernmental working group in Vienna by Dr. Abdullah Al-Dabbous, a member of the Authority's Board of Directors, Nazaha said in a press release.

He said that Nazaha had prepared a guiding manual on practices and measures for identifying beneficial ownership for the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, collaborating with and drawing on the technical expertise of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), before the manual was officially adopted at the GCC level in October of last year.

He added that Nazaha sustained its efforts by organizing a specialized Gulf workshop last July, which produced recommendations that were subsequently approved by the GCC Ministerial Committee for Anti-Corruption last September, allowing the initiative to expand further across Arab and Islamic levels.

Kuwait expands e-services with online Medical Liability Certificate Requests

By Mohammad Ghanem

Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8: The Medical Liability Authority has launched the 'To Whom It May Concern Certificate Request' service on its electronic services portal, in line with its commitment to keep on improving its services, streamline procedures for beneficiaries to save their time and effort, and enable users to complete transactions remotely without visiting the authority.

The new service allows users to submit applications, pay fees and receive certificates online. It includes the 'No Objection' Certificate, a statement regarding complaints, and a certificate detailing penalties or complaints currently under review by the authority.

The issuance fee for each certificate is KD20. Once the fee is paid, the request will be processed and the certificate will be issued within three business days. The certificate is valid for three months.

To access the service, users should visit the authority's website (amr.gov.kw), select 'Services' and then 'Request Certificates'. Users must log in through the Kuwait Moblie ID application and complete the authentication process. They should specify their status and the type of certificate required, provide contact information, complete the form, attach any required document and submit the request. Once the application is reviewed and approved, the user will receive a notification through the 'Sahel' application to pay the fees electronically using K-Net. Upon issuance, the certificate can be downloaded from the electronic services portal, and a copy will also be sent to the user through 'Sahel'. The certificates are issued in a digital format and are valid without the need for physical signature or stamp.

Kuwait to host first Gulf Digestive Diseases Forum on November 12-14

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8: President of the Gastroenterology and Hepatology Association Dr. Heba Al-Farhan said the fourth conference of the association, along with the first Gulf Digestive Diseases Forum, will be held on Nov 12-14 under the patronage of Health Minister Dr. Ahmed Al-Awadhi, reports Al-Seyassah daily.



Dr. Heba Al-Farhan

In a press statement, Al-Farhan indicated that the conference is considered a vital scientific and medical platform for exploring treatment advancements and strategies for digestive system and liver diseases. She said the conference will focus on health issues and challenges common in the Arabian Gulf region, in addition to reviewing international progress in diagnosis and treatment.

She revealed that the conference aims to strengthen scientific and medical collaboration among specialized Gulf associations, facilitate the exchange of knowledge and experience among healthcare professionals, and update participants on the latest research and medical practices. She stated that this is expected to improve health services for patients and hone the skills of medical and nursing personnel.

She confirmed the involvement of experts from nine countries -- Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Canada, United Kingdom, United States of America and Egypt, proving the crucial role of the conference in promoting scientific dialogue between Gulf and international experts.

Kuwait participates in third Arab-Chinese Health Cooperation Forum in Cairo, Egypt

Exhibition showcases medical, pharmaceutical innovations

CAIRO, Nov 8, (KUNA): The third Arab-Chinese Health Cooperation Forum opened in the Egyptian capitol, Cairo on Sunday, with Kuwait participating under the theme "Innovation, Investment and Impact: Towards a New Phase of Arab-Chinese Cooperation."

The two-day forum aims to strengthen health cooperation, develop partnerships and exchange expertise to support healthcare systems and sustainable health development in Arab countries and China, the Arab League said.

Participants include Palestinian Health Minister Majed Abu Ramadan, who addressed the health situation in Gaza and the occupied Palestinian territories, senior Arab health officials and a Chinese delegation led by the Vice Minister of Health, alongside academics and researchers.

Discussions focus on health security, emergency preparedness, universal health coverage, healthcare workforce development, digital transformation, artificial intelligence, traditional medicine and investment in resilient medical and pharmaceutical supply chains.

The forum also seeks to explore new opportunities for Arab-Chinese cooperation and investment in healthcare.

The first Arab-Chinese Exhibition for Medical and Pharmaceutical Supplies and Equipment is being held at the Arab League headquarters from November 8 to 11, featuring Chinese companies and healthcare institutions.



KUNA photos

The third session of the Arab-Chinese Health Cooperation Forum kicks off in Cairo with Kuwait participating.

The exhibition showcases medical and pharmaceutical innovations and provides opportunities for investment, partnerships and expertise exchange.

The forum is expected to conclude with a joint declaration outlining priorities and a roadmap for future cooperation, to be submitted to the Council of Arab Health Ministers at a forthcoming session.

Kuwait is represented by Assistant Undersecretary for External Health Services at the Ministry of Health Dr. Hisham Kalandar.



Assistant Undersecretary for External Health Services at the Ministry of Health Dr. Hisham Kalandar



The third session of the Arab-Chinese Health Cooperation Forum kicks off in Cairo with Kuwait participating.





Sheikh Ali Al-Malik welcoming Arab Times and Al-Seyassah Editor-in-Chief Ahmed Al-Jarallah.



From right: Editor-in-Chief Al-Jarallah, Sheikh Daij Al-Khalifa, Sheikh Ali, Khaled Al-Dughaishim, and Ambassador Dhari Al-Ajran



Sheikh Ali receiving Ahmed Al-Fahad



Sheikh Mohammed Al-Malik, Osama Al-Babtain, and Iyad Al-Thuwaini



Sheikh Ali and Sheikh Khalid bin Badr Al-Muhammad



Sheikh Ali, Sheikh Mishal Al-Shamlan, and Iyad Abdulmohsen Al-Tuwaini



Sheikh Mohammed, Sheikh Ali Al-Malik, Khalid Al-Babtain, Saadoun Hammad, Saud Al-Babtain, Sheikh Mubarak Al-Sabah, and Osama Al-Babtain



Photos by Rezq Tawfiq

Saud Al-Farhan, Sheikh Faisal Al-Malik, and Sheikh Mubarak Al-Sabah

Sheikh Ali welcomes guests at diwaniya in Shuwaikh

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8: Sheikh Ali Abdulaziz Salem Al-Malik Al-Sabah warmly welcomed the attendees of his weekly diwaniya in Shuwaikh Residential Area, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

It was a gathering of sheikhs, ambassadors, prominent figures and friends.

In his welcoming remarks, Sheikh Ali affirmed that the Diwaniya is an open platform reflecting the traditional Kuwaiti values of unity and where diverse viewpoints are shared.

Throughout the gathering, the attendees discussed local issues in an atmosphere of warmth and familiarity. They expressed their gratitude to the host for the warm reception and hospitality extended to them.

Continued from Page 1

Support Arabs

Furthermore, individuals of Arab descent, who attained public office in the US Congress, French Parliament, British House of Commons or legislative bodies in Canada and Germany, did so through personal initiative and independent effort. They did not receive support from the Arab League or Arab governments.

The historical trajectory of the region -- from 1967 to the present -- shows a painful truth: regional bodies dedicated to collective Arab action functioned as a 'vocal phenomenon', prioritizing empty rhetoric over substantive and reliable impact.

Till date, organizations like the Arab League limited their role to releasing repetitive statements of "concern."

Nonetheless, the current US electoral landscape offers a vital opportunity to seriously pursue the creation of a dedicated 'Arab lobby' in the United States and other global capitals. Leading Arab states or the transformed Arab League should push for this strategic initiative.

The creation of an Arab 'lobby' within the international powers is an achievable goal, given the shared vision for the future of collective Arab action. The formation of such a lobbying group is now imperative, considering it will serve as a vital counterweight to Zionism, which caused widespread disruption in the Arab region in particular, and the entire world in general.

The present realities of the Arab world are the undeniable proof of this necessity. Arab nations must stop acting as passive viewers of the unfolding developments even if they have significant potential and resources.

PACI strikes

The affected individuals must visit the authority or use the 'Sahel' application to register their new address and submit the supporting documents within 30 days from the date of the announcement. Failure to do so will result in penalties stipulated in Article 33 of Law No. 32/1982, which include a fine of KD100 per individual.

Kuwait, Saudi

He stressed that Kuwait, at the leadership, government and people levels, consistently stood alongside Saudi Arabia and supported its efforts to serve pilgrims and ensure successful Hajj seasons.

He also affirmed Kuwait's full commitment to all decisions, regulations, instructions and organizational procedures adopted by the competent Saudi authorities concerning Hajj affairs.

Kuwait was keen to maintain full cooperation with Saudi counterparts and support all efforts to improve organizational efficiency, enhance service quality and safeguard pilgrims' security and safety, he added.

Attacks on

Witnesses in Riyadh said they heard a loud explosion Sunday morning and described damage across multiple floors of an Aramco building in the King Abdullah Financial District in Riyadh. Some floors appeared to be heavily damaged.

The witnesses spoke on condition of anonymity because of security concerns.

The Saudi-led coalition said its air defenses intercepted two ballistic missiles and two cruise missiles targeting Riyadh and other regions early Sunday, accusing the Houthis of launching the weapons.

The Saudi Energy Ministry said the attempted attack resulted in "falling shrapnel that caused minor damage to the building." It added that there were no casualties.

The Saudi Center for International Communication and Aramco did not immediately respond to a request for comment by The Associated Press.

Also, the Saudi-led coalition said it intercepted a ballistic missile overnight targeting Saudi Arabia's southern region, which borders Yemen and has repeatedly come under Houthi attacks.

GCC seals

Al-Mashaan said the project is a strategic pillar for strengthening economic integration and connectivity among GCC states. It will facilitate the movement of passengers and freight, support intra-Gulf trade, and improve the efficiency of transport and logistics services, opening wider prospects for cooperation and sustainable development.

She affirmed Kuwait's commitment, as the starting point of the project, to implementing its section in coordination with the Gulf Railway Authority and other member states. Kuwait's section extends approximately 111 kilometers from Al-Shaddadiya to Al-Nuwaiseeb on the border with Saudi Arabia.

Al-Mashaan stressed the importance of continued coordination and cooperation among member states and relevant authorities to ensure the integration of implementation phases and achieve the project's development and economic objectives.

She also praised the Gulf Railway Authority's role in overseeing the project, coordinating efforts among member states, and unifying technical and executive work to accelerate implementation and ensure the integration of the regional railway network.

The minister commended the GCC General Secretariat, led by Al-Budaiwi, for following up on the project until the agreement was signed, and thanked Bahrain for hosting and organizing the event.

Agreement establishes shared framework

GCC Secretary-General Jasem Al-Budaiwi said the General Agreement on the GCC Railway Project marks an important step toward strengthening Gulf integration in the transport sector and establishing a framework for an interconnected, interoperable regional railway network.

In a statement following his participation in the signing ceremony in Manama, Al-Budaiwi said the agreement would facilitate railway operations, strengthen connectivity, and ease transport movement among GCC member states.

The ceremony was held under the patronage of Bahrain's Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, with the participation of GCC transport ministers, including Kuwait's Minister of Public Works Dr. Noura Al-Mashaan.

Al-Budaiwi expressed sincere appreciation to Bahrain's King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the current chairman of the GCC Supreme Council, and other GCC leaders for their continued support of joint Gulf action and their directives to advance strategic projects serving member states and their peoples.

He also thanked Bahrain's Crown Prince and Prime Minister for patronizing and attending the signing ceremony.

Al-Budaiwi praised the continued efforts of the concerned teams in GCC states and the Gulf Railway Authority to complete the strategic project. He stressed its importance in advancing Gulf integration and fulfilling the aspirations of member states' peoples for an interconnected transport network that promotes economic development and shared prosperity.

Transport resilience and supply chains

GCC Secretary-General Jasem Al-Budaiwi said Sunday that strengthening connectivity between transport and logistics networks across member states is essential to safeguarding Gulf economic security, ensuring uninterrupted trade, and maintaining the flow of goods.

Addressing the 30th meeting of the GCC Transport Ministers Committee in Manama, Al-Budaiwi said integrating Gulf capabilities and diversifying supply routes would enhance member states' ability to confront crises and maintain market stability.

The meeting was chaired by Bahrain's Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications, Dr. Sheikh Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, with the participation of committee members, including Kuwait's Minister of Public Works Dr. Noura Al-Mashaan.

Al-Budaiwi noted that rapid regional and international developments, coupled with disruptions to maritime routes and rising shipping and insurance costs, have underscored the strategic importance of the transport and logistics sector in supporting market stability, trade flows, and essential services.

He stressed the need for stronger Gulf coordination to improve responses to such challenges.

He also expressed appreciation to the UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Oman for their cooperation, facilitation, and coordination efforts during the period of Iranian attacks, which helped provide alternative routes for the movement of goods and ensured the continuity of supply chains to other GCC states.

These efforts, he said, reflected the depth of Gulf solidarity and translated regional integration into practical measures serving the bloc's economic security and shared interests.

Al-Budaiwi pointed out that GCC investments in developing land, air, and maritime transport, infrastructure, and logistics facilities have improved the efficiency of the transport system and supported economic activity.

The transport and storage sector across GCC states recorded real growth of 5.7 percent in 2025, ranking among the fastest-growing non-oil economic activities, he added.

He said priorities for the coming period include enhancing integration between transport and logistics systems, diversifying transport and supply routes, and strengthening preparedness and joint coordination to address crises. These measures, he said, would reinforce supply-chain resilience and ensure the uninterrupted flow of goods and products.

In this regard, he recalled directives issued by GCC leaders during the 19th consultative meeting of the Supreme Council, held in Jeddah on April 28, 2026, to prepare a study on strengthening logistical integration among member states. He noted that the current meeting is reviewing progress in preparing the study.

Al-Budaiwi also described the GCC Railway Project, targeted for completion by the end of 2030, as a strategic initiative supporting Gulf integration. The project is expected to facilitate passenger and freight movement, link land transport networks with ports and logistics hubs, and enhance the efficiency and competitiveness of the region's transport system.

Kuwait reaffirms cooperation

Minister of Public Works Dr. Noura Al-Mashaan emphasized the importance of continued coordination and consultation among GCC countries during the 30th meeting of the GCC Ministerial Committee for Transport and Communications in Manama on Sunday.

The meeting was hosted by Bahrain, chaired by Bahrain's Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications Dr. Sheikh Abdullah bin Ahmad Al Khalifa, and attended by GCC Secretary-General Jasem Al-Budaiwi.

In a statement to KUNA, Al-Mashaan highlighted the need to strengthen joint Gulf action in the transport and communications sectors. Such cooperation, she said, would help unify visions, integrate efforts, develop the Gulf's transport system, and keep pace with rapid advancements in this vital sector.

She reaffirmed Kuwait's commitment to further developing the transport and communications sector, upgrading its infrastructure, and enhancing cooperation with fellow GCC states to implement joint strategic projects. These efforts, she said, would facilitate the movement of transport and trade while fostering greater integration and connectivity among member states.

Al-Mashaan commended Bahrain for hosting the meeting and providing the facilities necessary for its success. She expressed her gratitude and appreciation to Bahrain and the GCC General Secretariat for their efforts in organizing and preparing for the event.

Kuwait economic

a crucial role in diversifying national income sources, creating employment opportunities in non-oil sectors and strengthening the local economy's integration into global supply chains.

The sources revealed that KDIPA is moving ahead with efforts to reshape Kuwait's economic landscape.

They explained that KDIPA, through a comprehensive portfolio of investment-ready opportunities in strategic locations, aims to strengthen Kuwait's position as a competitive regional investment hub, attract international capital and encourage the localization of advanced technologies and innovation.

The initiative involves developing land allocated to KDIPA, covering an estimated total area of 19 square kilometers.

This extensive area is expected to be transformed into attractive destinations for foreign direct investment (FDI), offering fully developed land and facilities suitable for industrial, technological and logistics businesses. This will enable foreign investors to enter the Kuwaiti market while benefiting from competitive investment advantages.

Regarding the project's development and social impact, the sources noted that its expected benefits extend well beyond financial returns. At its core, the project aims to bring modern technologies and advanced technical expertise into Kuwait while creating high-quality, sustainable job opportunities for young Kuwaitis in innovative sectors.

It will also provide opportunities to develop local skills and train national professionals to meet the highest international standards.

The sources stressed that diversifying Kuwait's national income is no longer simply an option but an essential requirement for ensuring the country's long-term economic future.

They affirmed that linking these economic zones to the "value-added" concept is primarily aimed at attracting advanced manufacturing, technology and logistics industries. These sectors would help reduce reliance on oil as the main driver of economic activity while capitalizing on Kuwait's strategic geographical location to secure a greater share of regional and international supply chains.

Kuwait mourns

The attack, which Poland's defense minister described as an "act of terror," happened on Saturday in Main Square, in the heart of Krakow's Old Town. It is a major tourist hub in the country's second-largest city.

By Saturday evening, mourners had left candles in memory of the victims. The square remained partially closed on Sunday morning as authorities continued their investigation.

St. Mary's Trumpet Call, a traditional five-note melody played every hour from the highest tower of St. Mary's Basilica on the Main Square, was paused overnight in tribute to the victims. It was the first time the call had been missed since World War II.

Authorities also found the bodies of the assailant's sister, mother and father at the man's family home in Ostrowiec witokrzyski, a city about 150 kilometers (93 miles) northeast of Krakow. They likely died from gunshot wounds.

Marie-Ange Collaer wrote on Facebook that she and her family survived the shooting during a trip to Krakow from Brussels.

"We literally ran for our lives and managed to hide from the bullets flying around," she wrote. "Lying on the floor in a shop like in a bad police movie whilst you hear bullets everywhere."

U.K. resident Neil Thaxton and his wife also lived through the attack.

"We had just walked through the main square and heard the gunshots," Thaxton wrote on Facebook. "We thought it was fireworks then people started running, we went into a gift shop and the staff took us in the back of the shop and locked the doors and turned the lights off."

Alexandros Maronitis, a tourist from Greece, told The Associated Press that he couldn't get back to his lodgings for five hours after the tragedy.

"We saw the shooter when they picked him up with the ambulance," Maronitis said. "So, we're a bit afraid. It's our first time in Poland. We heard it's a safe country."

American tourist Marylin Green mourned the losses in the "beautiful city" during her first trip to Poland that also included the capital.

"I'm Polish, my parents were from here," she said. "I loved Warsaw. So I was really looking forward to coming here, too."

Witness Andy Hill told the BBC that he'd felt like he was in a movie scene.

"It doesn't feel real," the British tourist said. "And the trouble is, you have such an instantaneous moment to make a decision: Run. Stand still. There's an element of shock. But I just thought the easiest thing to do is dive through a doorway and just take refuge behind the windows."

Prosecutors said Sunday they opened an investigation into the murder and attempted murder of numerous people, including police officers, with the act "constituting a terrorist offense."

Four women and two men were killed in the Main Square shooting. Three of the women and one of the men were Polish, Krzysztof Jan Klczar, the Malopolska regional governor, said on Sunday. A man from the U.K. and a woman from an unidentified foreign country were also among the dead.

Business

Kuwait ready for second UNCAC review

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8: President of Kuwait Anti-Corruption Authority (Nazaha) Dr. Rana Al-Fares confirmed that Kuwait is fully prepared to participate in the Second Implementation Review Mechanism for the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), reports Al-Seyassah daily.

In a press statement, Nazaha pointed out that this proves the commitment of the country to support global efforts to promote integrity and fight against corruption.

شركة الاستثمارات الوطنية
National Investments Company

National Investments Company delivers positive performance, reporting net profit of KD 10.6 million and earnings per share of 13.3 fils for the first nine months of 2026



Khaled Waleed Al Falah

- Diversifying National Investments Company's business portfolio remains a key priority in achieving greater integration across its investment sectors and services
- The Company's financial performance reflects the effectiveness of its strategy and its ability to adapt to developments in the investment environment

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8: National Investments Company announced its financial results for the nine-month period ended 30 September 2026, as it continued to execute its strategy aimed at growing its investment business, enhancing operational efficiency and expanding its presence across local and regional markets. These efforts further reinforce the Company's competitiveness and position in the financial and investment services sector. The Company reported net profit of KD 10.6 million for the first nine months of 2026, representing earnings per share of 13.3 fils, while total revenues reached KD 25.1 million. As at the end of September 2026, total assets stood at KD 360.7 million, assets under management reached KD 1.4 billion and total equity attributable to shareholders of the Parent Company amounted to KD 212.8 million.

On a quarterly basis, the Company recorded net profit of approximately KD 3.6 million for Q3 2026, representing earnings per share of 4.5 fils, while total revenues reached KD 9.4 million. These results reflect the progress achieved across National Investments Company's core business sectors during 2026, despite challenges arising from geopolitical tensions and financial market volatility. They also demonstrate the efficiency of the Company's investment and operational management, its ability to leverage accumulated expertise and capitalize on available investment opportunities, supporting business growth and reinforcing the strength of its financial position.

Sustainable Strategic Growth

Commenting on the financial results, Khaled Waleed Al Falah, Chairman of the Board of National Investments Company, stated that the Company's financial performance during the first nine months of 2026 reflects the effectiveness of its strategic direction and its ability to adapt to developments in the investment environment. He noted that the current phase calls for a continued focus on diversifying revenue streams and broadening investment activities to support sustainable growth and create added value for shareholders and clients.

Al Falah explained that market developments throughout the year have underscored the importance of flexibility in investment decision-making, effective risk management and the ability to capitalize on attractive opportunities. He noted that the Company has drawn on its accumulated expertise across its various sectors to further develop its services and respond to the evolving needs of markets and clients.

He added that the achievements recorded during the period highlight the importance of aligning strategic planning with effective execution by deploying resources and capabilities efficiently, maintaining a balanced risk-return approach and safeguarding the long-term interests of shareholders and clients.

Diversifying Sources of Growth

Al Falah highlighted that diversifying National Investments Company's business portfolio remains a central pillar of its future plans, with a focus on achieving greater integration across its investment sectors and services. This approach provides the Company with greater flexibility to capitalize on opportunities throughout different stages of the economic cycle.

He explained that the Company is working to expand its client base and deliver specialized investment solutions across capital markets, advisory, asset management and alternative investments. Its integrated services encompass opportunity assessment, transaction structuring and execution, and asset management and value enhancement, further strengthening its contribution to capital markets activity in Kuwait and across the region.

Addressing corporate transformation, Al Falah affirmed that modernizing the Company's technology infrastructure remains a key priority in the continued development of its business model. He noted that the first phase of the five-year corporate transformation strategy has been completed, while 63% of the initiatives under the second phase have been achieved. The Company continues to upgrade its digital platforms and streamline its procedures to facilitate client access to investment services and information and enhance the overall client experience. In parallel, it continues to invest in human capital and specialized skills development to ensure its teams remain aligned with technological advancements and evolving service standards.

Institutional Sustainability

Al Falah noted that sustainability has become an integral part of National Investments Company's approach, reflecting its belief that the success of investment institutions should be measured not only by financial returns, but also by their ability to adopt responsible practices that deliver a positive long-term impact. He reaffirmed the Company's commitment to environmental, social and governance (ESG) principles, transparency and social responsibility, as well as the integration of sustainability and risk-management considerations into its institutional practices in line with international standards across the financial and investment sectors.

Concluding his remarks, Al Falah emphasized that the results achieved during the first nine months of 2026 provide a solid foundation on which to build the Company's accomplishments and advance its future priorities. He noted that the next phase will focus on implementing strategic initiatives, pursuing economically viable investment opportunities, developing innovative financial products and solutions and expanding the Company's regional presence. These efforts will be supported by continued financial discipline and prudent risk management to safeguard shareholder interests and sustain long-term growth.

Key Milestones

Fahad Abdulrahman AlMukhaizim, Board Member and Chief Executive Officer of National Investments Company, stated that the financial results for the first nine months of 2026 reflect the continued execution of the Company's strategic initiatives and progress across its various business sectors. He noted that the Company executed transactions with aggregate subscription coverage exceeding USD 2.5 billion during the nine-month period.

AlMukhaizim explained that the Financial Advisory Department within the Alternatives and Investment Banking Sector continued to reinforce its position as a trusted advisor to issuers, investors and regulatory authorities during the first nine months of 2026. Despite challenging market conditions, the department led and executed a number of significant financial and advisory transactions. Among these was the successful completion of a capital increase for Rawahel Holding Company, equivalent to 123.84% of its issued and paid-up capital, with subscription coverage reaching 104.37%. The Company also completed a fair-value assessment of a transportation-sector company in connection with a potential acquisition and structured the proposed transaction in line with the client's objectives and investment requirements.

Within Alternative Investments, AlMukhaizim noted that the team successfully attracted investments into several available opportunities. In parallel, it collaborated with relevant departments to modernize electronic platforms, enhance investor services and streamline internal procedures in accordance with best practices, accelerating transaction processing and improving the efficiency of request execution.

AlMukhaizim further stated that National Investments Company continues to advance a diversified pipeline of prospective transactions and projects. These include a rights issue for Al Masaken International Real Estate Development Company equivalent to 263.64% of its paid-up capital, which the Company is targeting to complete during the final quarter of 2026. The pipeline also includes two prospective listings on Boursa Kuwait in 2027, involving companies operating in the e-commerce and industrial sectors. In addition, the Company is in the final stages of discussions concerning the listing of a leading Kuwaiti construction company, alongside discussions regarding the transfer of a listed company from Boursa Kuwait's Main Market to its Premier Market. The Company is also evaluating strategic options for an entertainment-sector business. This broad pipeline highlights the diversity of its ongoing mandates, the depth of its advisory expertise and its role in supporting Kuwait's capital markets.

Commenting on the performance of the Institutional and Wealth Management Sector, AlMukhaizim noted that the sector achieved strong results during the first nine months of 2026, supported by the successful acquisition of new clients and the opening of a significant number of investment portfolio accounts across various categories. The Company's assets under management increased by 11.1% compared with the end of September 2025 and by 6.7% compared with the end of December 2025, reflecting the expansion of the sector's business and its growing contribution to total assets under management.

Regarding the Asset Management Sector, AlMukhaizim commended the positive results achieved during Q3 2026 despite the exceptional conditions experienced across GCC markets amid geopolitical developments, which affected investor sentiment and regional liquidity flows. He affirmed that the Company's investment strategies demonstrated a strong ability to adapt to these developments and manage market volatility with efficiency and flexibility.

AlMukhaizim also highlighted the performance of the Financial Instruments Team, which expanded its market-making services on Boursa Kuwait by adding three new listed companies to its portfolio, bringing the total number of companies covered to 22. This expansion reflects growing confidence among listed companies in the services provided, as well as the team's effectiveness in supporting securities liquidity and improving trading efficiency, further reinforcing National Investments Company's position as a leading provider of market-making services in Kuwait.

Turning to the Real Estate Sector, AlMukhaizim noted that the sector delivered positive performance during Q3 2026, supported by a measured expansion of its real estate portfolios, including commercial and investment projects under development. Occupancy rates also increased across owned and managed properties, reaching 100% at a significant number of them, supporting operational returns and recurring revenue streams. The sector continued to evaluate new investment opportunities as part of its plans to grow the real estate portfolio and expand the Company's operations across local and regional markets.

Regarding the Strategy and Corporate Development Sector, AlMukhaizim noted that it continued to implement the Company's five-year corporate transformation strategy during Q3 2026, following the formal completion of the first phase and the achievement of 63% of second-phase initiatives. He highlighted the launch of a new digital tool designed to enhance transparency and the accuracy of performance monitoring, providing management with a more comprehensive view of revenue streams and investment product performance. The sector also made progress in adopting artificial intelligence technologies, strengthening the Company's ability to innovate, enhance operational efficiency and increase automation and productivity. In coordination with the Asset Management Sector, it continued to develop and restructure the Company's products and services in line with strategic priorities and client requirements, while also advancing preparations for the launch of the electronic trading platform.

Addressing the Technology and Digital Transformation Sector, AlMukhaizim stated that it implemented a series of strategic initiatives during Q3 2026, including the launch of technology solutions and platforms designed to meet the requirements of the Company's business sectors. These initiatives contributed to greater operational efficiency, enhanced system security and stability, modernization of technology infrastructure and IT governance, and expanded automation, further strengthening the Company's technological readiness to support growth and innovation.

AlMukhaizim affirmed that the Human Capital Sector continued to empower employees and develop their capabilities during Q3 2026 through specialized technical, leadership and professional training programs. The sector also strengthened collaboration and communication across the Company's business sectors while supporting the development of young talent through the "Bidaya" program, which welcomed 15 university students and recent graduates, contributing to skills development and an improved working environment.

As one of the leading investment institutions in Kuwait and the region, National Investments Company remains committed to delivering integrated and innovative investment solutions based on a deep understanding of markets and client needs. These efforts support sustainable growth and long-term value creation. The Company also continues to uphold the highest standards of governance and transparency, further strengthening its position as a trusted partner in supporting and developing the investment sector.

International Recognition of Excellence

During 2026 to date, National Investments Company received four prestigious international awards recognizing its performance across investment, asset management, investor relations and capital markets. These accolades reflect the capabilities of its teams and the breadth of its specialized expertise. Three awards were presented as part of the 2026 Global Banking & Finance Review Awards: "Investment Brand of the Year in Kuwait 2026," "Best Asset Management Company in Kuwait 2026" and "Best Investor Relations Company in Kuwait 2026." The Company was also recognized as "Best Investment Bank in Kuwait for Equity Capital Markets" at the Euromoney Awards for Excellence 2026.

These awards reflect international recognition of National Investments Company's institutional performance, professional expertise and the efforts of its teams across the business. The Company views these achievements as further motivation to enhance service quality and adopt professional best practices that meet the expectations of its clients and shareholders while reinforcing a culture of excellence across its investment activities.

Measured Regional Expansion

Commenting on the Company's regional expansion plans, Khaled Waleed Al Falah explained that National Investments Company is broadening the scope of its business by leveraging its accumulated investment expertise and institutional capabilities to access new markets and provide clients with diversified opportunities at both regional and international levels. The Company has strengthened its regional presence through an office at the Dubai International Financial Centre and continues to pursue expansion across GCC markets. These efforts aim to broaden its client base, improve access to investment opportunities and provide integrated financial solutions tailored to the needs of different markets, while connecting investors with global investment opportunities and expanding its distribution network for financial products and services.



Fahad Abdulrahman AlMukhaizim:

- During the first nine months of 2026, the Company executed transactions with aggregate subscription coverage exceeding USD 2.5 billion
- We continue to advance a broad pipeline of prospective transactions, further strengthening our role in the development of Kuwait's capital markets

Recognition reinforces Markaz's leadership

Markaz wins 'Best Investment Bank in Kuwait' at MEED MENA Banking Excellence Awards 2026



Ahmad Al-Falah



Kuwait Financial Centre 'Markaz' receiving the 'Best Investment Bank in Kuwait' award.



Rasha Othman

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8: Kuwait Financial Centre "Markaz" has been named "Best Investment Bank in Kuwait" at the MEED MENA Banking Excellence Awards 2026, reaffirming its position as a leading investment banking institution in Kuwait and reflecting its continued commitment to delivering innovative financial solutions and exceptional value to clients.

The award was presented during a ceremony held on November 3, 2026, in Dubai, as part of Dubai Future Finance Week, bringing together prominent financial institutions, industry leaders, and banking professionals from across the Middle East and North Africa.

The MENA Banking Excellence Awards recognize financial institutions demonstrating outstanding performance, innovation, and excellence across the banking and financial services sector. Winners are selected by an independent panel of industry experts, with particular emphasis on measurable business performance, transaction execution, client relationships, and market leadership.

Commenting on the achievement, **Mr. Ahmed Al-Falah**, Managing Director, Investment Banking at Markaz said: "This recognition highlights Markaz's extensive investment banking expertise and its ability to structure and execute complex financial transactions that support the strategic objectives of corporates, institutions, and investors. We are proud to receive this recognition from MEED, which further motivates us to build on our achievements, strengthen our capabilities, and contribute to the continued development of Kuwait's investment banking sector. Through its comprehensive investment banking offering, Markaz provides specialized advisory services spanning equity and debt capital markets, mergers and acquisitions, initial public offerings, corporate restructuring, and capital structure advisory."

Ms. Rasha Othman, Executive Vice President, Investment Banking (Capital Markets & Fixed Income) at Markaz, said: "This award is a testament to the dedication and expertise of our investment banking team, as well as the continued trust our clients place in Markaz. As Kuwait's financial markets evolve, we remain focused on providing tailored advisory services and innovative capital market solutions that address our clients' changing needs and support their long-term ambitions."

The award adds to Markaz's growing portfolio of regional and international accolades, further reinforcing its established track record in investment banking. Earlier this year, Markaz was also named "Best Investment Bank in Kuwait" at the Euromoney Awards for Excellence 2026, reflecting the institution's consistent performance and expertise in delivering sophisticated financial solutions.

With more than five decades of experience, Markaz continues to leverage its in-depth market knowledge, technical expertise, and client-centric approach to facilitate strategic transactions and support the development of Kuwait's capital markets. The institution remains committed to strengthening its investment banking capabilities and delivering sustainable, long-term value to its clients and stakeholders.

Empowering youth to shape future

KIPCO & Loyac extend partnership to empower 350 young people

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8: Kuwait Projects Company (Holding) – KIPCO – announced the renewal of its partnership with Loyac for the fourth consecutive year, sponsoring three programs that will benefit more than 350 young people. The programs focus on building confidence, strengthening communication skills and encouraging personal development.

Commenting on the partnership, KIPCO's Group Senior Vice President – Corporate Communications and Investor Relations, Ms Eman Al Awadhi, said:

"Investing in young people means giving them the tools and confidence to shape their own futures. Our partnership with LOYAC reflects our belief that learning extends beyond the classroom and that practical experiences play an important role in personal growth. Over the past four years, we have supported initiatives that encourage young people to discover their strengths, express their ideas and develop skills that will serve them throughout their lives."

For her part, Loyac Chairperson Ms Fadia Al Marzouq said:

"We are proud of our partnership with KIPCO, which reflects our shared belief in the importance of investing in young people and empowering them to develop their capabilities and prepare confidently for the future. Through these programs, we aim to provide meaningful experiences that foster self-reliance and emotional maturity, strengthen communication and self-expression skills and create a safe and encouraging environment where they can learn, exchange ideas and share their experiences. We value KIPCO's support and confidence in LOYAC's mission, which enables us to continue preparing young people to face future challenges and contribute meaningfully to their communities."



Eman Al Awadhi, KIPCO's Group Senior Vice President of Corporate Communications and Investor Relations, and Fadia Al Marzouq, LOYAC Chairperson, during the renewal of the partnership between the two organisations.

Under the renewed partnership, KIPCO will support three programs: 'ZAD Collective', a program for young people aged 14 to 17 focusing on self-reliance, personal values, identity and future readiness; 'Speaking Circle', an interactive platform designed to develop storytelling, public speaking and self-expression skills; and the 'Young & Empowered Summit', an event expected to bring together more than 250 participants aged 14 to 24 for interactive discussions and workshops covering public speaking, personal branding and financial literacy.

KIPCO's partnership with LOYAC began in 2023 and has since expanded to support programs addressing the interests and development needs of different age groups.

Bank's total assets reach EGP 280 billion in September 2026

NBK Egypt delivers net profit of EGP 6.5 billion (equivalent to KWD 40 million) in 9M2026

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8: National Bank of Kuwait – Egypt (NBK Egypt) reported net profits of approximately EGP 6.5 billion (equivalent to KWD 40 million) during the first nine months of 2026. Net operating income increased to approximately EGP 13.2 billion during the nine months ended September 30, 2026, compared with EGP 11.8 billion in the corresponding period of 2025, representing growth of 11.4%. Net interest income also rose to EGP 11.2 billion at the end of September 2026, compared with EGP 10.2 billion in the same period of 2025, an increase of 9.5%.

Net non-interest income grew by approximately 23% year-on-year to EGP 2.03 billion during the first nine months of 2026, compared with EGP 1.64 billion in the corresponding period of 2025. Meanwhile, profits from financial investments increased to EGP 77 million at the end of the third quarter of 2026, compared with EGP 38 million in the corresponding nine-month period of 2025, representing growth of 104%. The cost-to-income ratio stood at 26.8% at the end of the third quarter of 2026.

The Bank's total assets grew to approximately EGP 280 billion at the end of September 2026, compared with approximately EGP 225 billion at the end of 2025, representing growth of 25%. Net loans and credit facilities to banks and customers reached approximately EGP 150 billion at the end of the third quarter of 2026, compared with EGP 121 billion at the end of 2025, an increase of 24%. Customer deposits rose to EGP 212 billion at the end of the third quarter of 2026, compared with approximately EGP 180 billion at the end of 2025, representing growth of around 18%.

The ratio of net fee and commission income to net operating income increased to 11.9% at the end of the third quarter of 2026, compared with 11.3% in the corresponding period of 2025. Return on average assets (ROAA) stood at 3.4%, while return on average equity (ROAE) reached 26.4%.

Strong Operating Profits

Commenting on the financial results, Ms. Shaikha Al-Bahar, Deputy Group Chief Executive Officer, National Bank of Kuwait, and Chairman of NBK Egypt, said: "The strong growth in operating profits and NBK Egypt's financial performance during the third quarter of 2026 once again underscore the strength of our financial position and the resilience of our business model, which continues to generate solid earnings and deliver sustainable growth despite operational challenges locally and regionally."

Al-Bahar emphasized that the Bank's results during the first nine months of the year reflect its success in capitalizing on available market opportunities and maintaining balanced growth across its various business activities, supported by a strong capital base and well-established operating policies that have strengthened its ability to create sustainable value for shareholders and customers alike.

"NBK Egypt continues to consolidate its position as one of the leading banks operating in the Egyptian market. The growth rates achieved by the Bank reflect the effectiveness of its strategy and its ability to adapt to economic developments while capitalizing on market opportunities," she added.

Al-Bahar noted that the Bank's positive results reflect NBK Group's strategic vision for the Egyptian market since entering it in 2007. She highlighted that Egypt represents one of the Group's most important strategic markets and a key driver of future growth, supported by its strong economic fundamentals and promising investment opportunities.

She further emphasized NBK Egypt's continued efforts to strengthen its presence in the Egyptian banking sector and enhance its products and services to meet evolving customer needs and reinforce its competitive position. The Bank remains firmly on track to achieve its strategic objectives and expand its market share.

Turning to the broader economic outlook, Al-Bahar noted that the Egyptian government's ongoing economic reforms are helping improve the business environment and create further opportunities for growth and investment, expressing confidence in the future prospects of the Egyptian economy.



Yasser El Tayeb

El-Tayeb:

- We delivered strong growth across all financial indicators, demonstrating resilience amid operational challenges and geopolitical developments
- Strengthening our competitive position and further advancing our standing in retail and corporate banking remain key strategic objectives
- Accelerating digital transformation and expanding our range of digital banking services remain key priorities
- We remain committed to supporting the global shift toward sustainable finance and environmentally friendly projects



Ms. Shaikha Al-Bahar

Al-Bahar:

- We delivered solid results, reflecting our strong financial position and resilient business model
- NBK Egypt continues to make steady progress toward its strategic objectives and strengthening its market share
- Our strong capital base and established operating policies support sustainable value creation for shareholders and customers
- We view the Egyptian market as a key future growth driver for the Group, given its strong fundamentals and promising opportunities

Solid Business Performance

Meanwhile, Mr. Yasser El-Tayeb, Vice Chairman, CEO and Managing Director of NBK Egypt, said: "The Bank's financial results for the third quarter of 2026 clearly demonstrate its ability to continue delivering solid business performance despite the significant challenges facing the business community as a result of geopolitical developments in the region, which have affected the economic landscape both locally and regionally."

El-Tayeb noted that NBK Egypt continues to achieve balanced growth across all business segments while maintaining efficiency levels and risk ratios consistent with sustainable business growth. He attributed this performance to the Bank's prudent policies and sound business model, which enable it to respond flexibly to customers' needs.

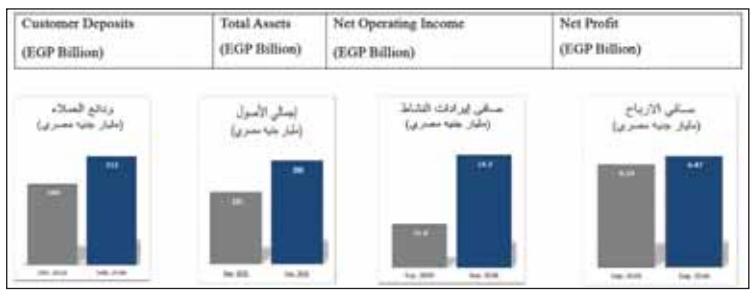
He explained that the majority of NBK Egypt's income is generated through corporate lending activities, alongside retail banking, which has grown significantly in importance, particularly in recent years. The Bank's credit portfolio is highly diversified, serving large corporations as well as small and medium-sized enterprises, while its retail banking portfolio caters to various customer segments. This reflects the strength and diversity of the Bank's income sources.

El-Tayeb emphasized that the Bank aims to further strengthen its position in retail banking over the coming period by introducing advanced products and services tailored to different customer segments, reinforcing the concept of a full-service bank capable of meeting all their financial needs.

The Bank also seeks to expand its Islamic banking services to meet the needs of a broad customer base and continuously develop the products offered to them. NBK Egypt is among the leading banks in the Egyptian market offering Islamic banking products and services alongside conventional banking solutions.

El-Tayeb further explained that the Bank remains committed to keeping pace with rapid technological advancements in banking services and continues to make substantial investments in this area to deliver distinctive digital banking experiences across all customer segments. These investments enable customers to conduct most of their banking transactions wherever and whenever they choose. The Bank also continues to encourage customers to make greater use of electronic payment methods and channels, in line with the broader policies and direction of the Egyptian government and the Central Bank of Egypt.

On sustainable finance, he noted that NBK Egypt remains firmly committed to supporting the global shift toward sustainable finance and the transition to a green economy. The Bank continues to support environmentally friendly projects that promote sustainability and greater reliance on renewable energy, while exploring solutions to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change and reduce carbon emissions. El-Tayeb emphasized that sustainable finance has become one of the most important instruments for supporting long-term financial stability.



Blowout payrolls lift dollar after midterm-driven sell-off

By National Bank of Kuwait

Global markets endured a volatile week shaped by the US midterm elections, a fresh round of central bank tightening and, finally, a far stronger-than-expected US jobs report. Democrats seized control of both the Senate and the House on Tuesday, and the dollar index slid to 101.21 on Wednesday, its lowest level since 30 September, before closing the session at 101.48, as investors reassessed the outlook for US fiscal spending and Treasury yields fell sharply. EUR/USD climbed to 1.1272, its highest since 6 October, while GBP/USD pushed beyond the mid-1.34s to its strongest level since mid-September ahead of the Bank of England decision. Risk appetite then deteriorated abruptly on Thursday, when the Nasdaq 100 plunged 6.36%, its worst single-day decline since March 2020, amid concerns over the impact of a Democratic Congress on AI and data-centre investment, pulling the 10-year Treasury yield to a near two-month low. Gold was a key beneficiary, rebounding by more than $250 from the one-year low of $3,869.85 hit the previous Friday to a session high of $4,146.63 on Thursday. Central banks continued to lean hawkish, with the RBA lifting its cash rate to 4.85% and the BoE raising Bank Rate to 4%, while euro-area inflation reached a three-year high of 4.0%. The dollar regained its footing on Friday as the equity rout lifted safe-haven demand, pushing NZD/USD to a 19-month low of 0.5539 and AUD/USD to a multi-month low of 0.6862, while USD/JPY remained anchored near 158. The October jobs report then delivered a decisive upside surprise, with payrolls rising 165,000 against expectations of 65,000, the previous two months revised up by a combined 84,000, and the unemployment rate easing to 4.1%. Treasury yields jumped on the release, with the 2-year yield up about 6bp to 4.54% and the 10-year rising to 4.90%, while futures-implied odds of a December Fed hike climbed to around 80% from 75% before the report. As of Friday afternoon, the dollar index stood near 101.98, up 0.4% on the day and broadly flat (+0.1%) on the week, with EUR/USD at 1.1173 and AUD/USD at 0.6874, while gold slipped back to around $4,061.

United States

US Job Openings Jump to Four-Month High

Job openings in the US rose unexpectedly by 333,000 to 7.523 million in September 2026, a four-month high, beating expectations of 7.15 million and following an upwardly revised 7.19 million in August. The job openings rate increased to 4.5% from 4.3%. Meanwhile, quits rose to 3.365 million from 3.044 million, well above consensus expectations of 3.05 million, lifting the quits rate to 2.1% from 1.9% and signalling greater worker confidence in finding new employment. Government openings also increased by 98,000 to 880,000. Overall, the data pointed to strengthening labour demand, a picture later reinforced by October's stronger-than-expected payrolls, adding to the case for continued Fed tightening.

Democrats Win Control of Congress, Weighing on the Dollar

Democrats seized control of both the Senate and the House of Representatives in Tuesday's midterm elections, scoring sweeping victories in some traditional Republican strongholds in what was widely viewed as a sharp rebuke to President Donald Trump. The result prompted markets to reassess the outlook for US fiscal spending and economic growth, while investors also weighed the potential for regulatory changes, including possible restrictions affecting the AI sector. The dollar index fell to 101.21 on Wednesday, its lowest level since 30 September, before recovering to close the session at 101.48, down 0.38% on the day, as Treasury yields declined sharply. Market participants also noted that the decisive outcome removed a source of uncertainty, helping the dollar pare its intraday losses. The greenback has since recovered the post-election decline, with the dollar index rebounding to around 101.98 on Friday following the stronger-than-expected payrolls report, leaving it broadly flat on the week.

US 10-Year Treasury Yield Falls to Two-Month Lows

The US 10-year Treasury yield declined to 4.83% on Thursday, hovering near two-month lows as a sharp equity sell-off drove investors toward safe-haven assets. Technology stocks faced selling pressure amid concerns over the impact of a Democratic election victory on AI and data centre investment, with yields already falling around 8bps following the midterm results. Labour market data released during the week painted a resilient picture, with ADP reporting 86K private-sector jobs added in October, initial jobless claims reaching a 57-year low, and Q3 productivity exceeding expectations, setting the stage for Friday's stronger-than-expected payrolls report.

US Payrolls Beat Expectations by a Wide Margin in October

US nonfarm payrolls rose by 165,000 in October 2026, far exceeding market expectations of 65,000 and marking the third-highest print of the year. Prior months were also revised higher, with September lifted to 60,000 from an initially reported 29,000 and August to 186,000 from 133,000, adding a combined 84,000 jobs. Private payrolls increased by 159,000. The unemployment rate eased to 4.1% from 4.2%, 0.1 percentage point below forecasts, while average hourly earnings rose 0.4% month-on-month and 3.1% year-on-year, both above market expectations. Following the release, the 2-year Treasury yield rose about 6bps to 4.54%, while futures-implied odds of a December Fed rate hike climbed to around 80% from roughly 75% before the report. The report capped a run of firm labour market indicators during the week, including a better-than-expected ADP private payrolls gain of 86,000 and a jump in JOLTS job openings to a four-month high. Overall, the stronger-than-expected hiring and wage figures suggest the US labour market is more resilient than markets had anticipated, strengthening the case for a further 25bps Fed rate hike at its December meeting.

The Greenback was last seen trading at 102.279.

United Kingdom

Bank of England Raises Interest Rates to 4%

The Bank of England raised its benchmark interest rate by 25bps to 4% in November 2026, in line with expectations, marking its first hike since August 2023. The decision passed by an 8-1 majority, with Catherine Mann favoring a larger 50bps increase. Policymakers now expect UK inflation to rise from 3.5% to around 5% by mid-2027, before gradually easing as higher energy costs fade and restrictive monetary policy takes effect. Stronger-than-expected economic activity also supported the case for further tightening. However, the BoE emphasized that future rate decisions will remain data-dependent, with no predetermined policy path, as it seeks to return inflation sustainably to its 2% target.

The GBP/USD currency pair was last seen trading at 1.3352.

Eurozone

Euro Area Inflation Hits Three-Year High of 4%

Annual inflation in the Euro Area rose to 4.0% in October 2026 from 3.8% in September, according to a flash estimate, in line with market expectations and marking the first time the rate has reached 4% since September 2023. The increase was primarily driven by energy, where inflation accelerated to 20.8% from 18.9%. Services inflation edged up to 3.3% from 3.2%, food, alcohol and tobacco rose to 1.6% from 1.3%, and non-energy industrial goods increased slightly to 1.2% from 1.1%. Core inflation, excluding energy, food, alcohol and tobacco, held steady at 2.5%. Among the largest economies, inflation rose in Italy (5.6% from 4.2%) and France (3.8% from 3.4%), but eased in Germany (2.8% from 3.3%) and Spain (4.9% from 5.0%). Inflation has now remained above the ECB's 2% target for eight consecutive months, with markets pricing a probability of just over 72% of an ECB rate hike in December.

The EUR/USD currency pair was last seen trading at 1.1145.

Asia-Pacific

China Manufacturing Activity Slips Back into Contraction

China's official NBS Manufacturing PMI fell to 49.3 in October 2026 from 50.1 in September, missing market expectations of 50.0 and marking its lowest reading since July. Broader activity also weakened, with the NBS Composite PMI Output Index declining to 49.7 from September's nine-month high of 50.7, the fifth contraction in overall business activity this year. NBS statistician Huo Lihui attributed the slowdown partly to the impact of the October holiday period, while business confidence eased to a seven-month low of 53.4 from 53.8. Separately, the People's Bank of China raised the amount of foreign currency that financial institutions must hold in reserve on Tuesday in a move to slow the yuan's rally, triggering the currency's largest one-day drop since mid-May.

The USD/CNY currency pair was last seen trading at 6.6770.

RBA Raises Cash Rate to Highest Level Since 2008

The Reserve Bank of Australia raised its cash rate by 25bps to 4.85% on 3 November 2026, its highest level since November 2008 and the fifth hike of the year following increases in February, March, May and September. The decision was not unanimous, with six Board members voting for the increase and three favouring a hold at 4.60%. The Board described inflation as broadly based across the economy, noting that underlying inflation reached 3.7% annually in September, that domestic capacity pressures appear stronger than previously assessed, and that higher fuel prices are feeding into other prices. Policymakers now expect inflation to remain above 3% through much of 2027 and judged that further tightening was needed to return it to the 2–3% target range. Economists remain divided on the outlook, with some expecting a pause and others anticipating another hike in December or February, ahead of the next Board meeting on 7–8 December.

The AUD/USD currency pair was last seen trading at 0.6869.

Kuwait

USD/KWD closed last week at 0.30785.

FX Rates – November 8, 2026

	Previous Week Levels				This Week's Expected Range		3-Month
Currencies	Open	Low	High	Close	Minimum	Maximum	Forward
EUR	1.1155	1.1130	1.1272	1.1143	1.0950	1.225	1.1188
GBP	1.3390	1.3339	1.3506	1.3349	1.3250	1.3435	1.3353
JPY	157.45	157.21	158.76	158.45	157.55	160.40	157.33
CHF	0.8245	0.8124	0.8253	0.8124	0.8040	0.8300	0.8115

Al-Salmiya Group reports KWD 2.05M net profit in Q3

Adwan Al Adwani, Chairman & Chief Executive Officer, announced that the financial results of Al-Salmiya Group for Enterprise Development Co. (a subsidiary 81.9% owned by Al Tijaria Real Estate Company) for the financial period ended 30 September 2026 recorded a net profit of KWD 2,052,154 (Two million fity two thousands one hundered fifty four KD) .

Commenting on the financial results for the third quarter of 2026, Al Adwani stated that the achieved results reflect stable operational performance and improved investment revenues, supported by the continued development of the Company's projects and operational facilities. The company achieved a return on Equity (ROE) of 5.7%, Return on Assets (ROA) of 3.9%, and a Return on Capital (ROC) of 6.84%.

Al Adwani affirmed that Al-Salmiya Group for Enterprise Development Co. continues to strengthen the role of its projects, foremost among them Boulevard Park, as a vibrant destination for families and the community by supporting recreational and community activities, while enhancing the visitor experience and developing its services and facilities to meet the needs of various segments of society.

He also noted that the Company is preparing to commence the development of its integrated commercial project in Al Qairawan, in collaboration with the Public Authority for Housing Welfare (PAHW). The project forms part of the Company's expansion strategy to develop distinctive projects that serve different segments of the community. It will comprise a commercial complex, a health club, and public parking facilities. The Company is currently completing the preliminary procedures to commence implementation in accordance with the approved project timeline.

In line with its strategy of diversifying its international investments and expanding its recurring income portfolio, Al-Salmiya Group has invested in two income-generating logistics and transportation centres in the State of Texas, USA.

Al Adwani emphasized that Al-Salmiya Group for Enterprise Development Co. is committed to Establishing the Sustainability principles of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) through continuing its community and environmental initiatives, driven by its social responsibility and its belief in the importance of supporting activities that serve the community and promote sustainability, creating a positive and lasting impact.

As part of the community initiatives held during the third quarter of 2026, Boulevard Park continued to serve as the venue sponsor by hosting a heart health awareness campaign organized by Al Tijaria Real Estate Company in collaboration with the Kuwait Heart Foundation. The campaign offered free blood pressure, blood sugar, and cholesterol screenings, in addition to health guidance provided by the Foundation's medical team, with the aim of raising awareness of the importance of regular checkups and early detection.



Adwan Al Adwani, Chairman and CEO of Al Salmiya Group for Enterprise Development

During the third quarter of 2026, Boulevard also hosted activities under its interactive summer program, "Bashasha… Away from Screens," in collaboration with the "Sagheerak Safeeruk" educational initiative. The program featured a range of educational and recreational activities for children under the theme "Plant and Protect." The activities aimed to introduce children to the importance of planting, greening, and environmental conservation through interactive experiences combining learning and entertainment, while developing their skills and encouraging creativity and exploration through meaningful experiences that enrich their time and create a positive, lasting impact.

As part of its environmental initiatives, the Company continued during the third quarter of 2026 to implement its weekly initiative of distributing seedlings to visitors of Boulevard Park under the slogan "Plant Today… for a Better Tomorrow." The initiative aims to raise awareness of the importance of tree planting and preserving green spaces, foster an environmental culture, and encourage members of the community to take an active part in environmental efforts.

In conclusion, Mr. Adwan M. A. Al Adwani prayed to Almighty God to protect Kuwait and its people from all harm and to bless Kuwait with lasting peace, safety, and stability under the wise leadership of His Highness the Amir of the State of Kuwait, Sheikh Mishaal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah; His Highness the Crown Prince, Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah; and His Highness Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, Prime Minister of the State of Kuwait, may God preserve and protect them. He also extended his sincere appreciation to the company's shareholders, the members of the Board of Directors, and all employees for their dedication, commitment, and continued support, reaffirming that Al-Salmiya Group for Enterprise Development Co. will continue working towards achieving its future vision, strengthening its position through the implementation of its strategic plans, and creating sustainable value for its shareholders.

Adwan M. A. Al Adwani
Chairman & CEO

Geopolitical events continued to influence regional conditions in Q3

Gulf Bank holds its third quarter 2026 earnings webcast

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8: Gulf Bank held its third quarter 2026 earnings webcast on Thursday 5th November 2026, to present and discuss the Bank's financial performance. The webcast was organized by EFG Hermes and presented by Sami Mahfouz, Acting Chief Executive Officer of Gulf Bank, and Mr. David Challinor, Chief Financial Officer of Gulf Bank. The discussion was moderated by Ms. Dalal AlDousari, Deputy General Manager of Investor Relations at Gulf Bank.

Operating Environment

Mr. Sami Mahfouz, Acting Chief Executive Officer of Gulf Bank, commenced the webcast with key updates regarding Gulf Bank's operating environment during the third quarter of 2026. Mahfouz stated: "The regional operating environment continued to be shaped by geopolitical developments during the third quarter, which influenced market sentiment and led to greater caution in investment decisions. Although uncertainty may affect the pace of business activity, Kuwait continued to benefit from a stable financial system and progress across several national initiatives. We remain optimistic that an improvement in regional conditions would strengthen business confidence and support broader economic momentum."

Mr. Mahfouz added "locally, one of the most significant developments was the issuance of the Decree related to real estate financing welfare. This was complemented by the qualification of 22 consortiums under the Real Estate Developer Program, an important step toward accelerating residential development and increasing private-sector participation."

He added: "Against this backdrop, Gulf Bank maintained healthy business momentum during the first nine months of the year, with lending growth primarily driven by strong corporate demand. This performance was achieved while preserving asset quality through disciplined credit management. Looking ahead, we expect government development projects and recent economic reforms to contribute to a promising financing pipeline and create opportunities across the Bank's business segments over time."



Sami Mahfouz



David Challinor



Dalal AlDousari

Sami Mahfouz:

- Gulf Bank maintained healthy business momentum during the first nine months of the year, with lending growth primarily driven by strong corporate demand.
- Kuwait continued to benefit from a stable financial system and progress across several national initiatives.
- Gulf Bank Obtained the Central Bank's approval for the full conversion of the Bank to operate in accordance with Islamic Sharia'a principles and to proceed with completing the remaining procedures.

David Challinor:

- The Overall Asset Quality on the Loan Book continues to be excellent with credit costs declined by 30%, compared with the same period last year.
- Gross loans increased by 6.8% year to date, ahead of industry growth of 3.8% to the end of September 2026.
- We expect our operating costs to normalize at some point next year as the strategic projects move toward completion.

Margins

Commenting on Margins and NIM's, Mr. David Challinor, Chief Financial Officer of Gulf Bank stated: "We saw a continued sequential expansion in margin during Q3, with the margin increasing by a further 3 basis points from Q2. This follows the 8-basis-point improvement in Q2. However, funding costs were elevated in the latter part of Q3 as tighter liquidity conditions continued to affect deposit pricing, together with increased cost of funds related to the foreign currency funding. As for guidance, at the start of the year we never provided any due to the number of moving parts and the unclear outlook on future benchmark rates and liquidity conditions."

Loan Growth

In regard to loan growth, Mr. Challinor noted: "Gross loans increased by 6.8% year to date, ahead of industry growth of 3.8% to the end of September 2026. This was entirely driven by corporate lending, which grew by 12.1% year to date, compared to a market growth of 3.5%. As we indicated during the half-year earnings call, we expected loan growth to moderate following the strong expansion recorded in the first six months. On the retail side, this remains an important area of focus given the attractive yields. Our approach continues to be selective, with disciplined underwriting and an emphasis on portfolio quality rather than growth. In terms of guidance, we started the year targeting high-single-digit loan growth, and we expect the full-year position to consolidate around this level."

Operating Expense

On operating expense Mr. Challinor mentioned: "Operating expenses increased by 8% during the first nine months of 2026 compared with the same period last year, reflecting expenditure associated with our strategic projects and other non-recurring items. We expect these costs to normalize at some point next year as the projects move toward completion. Sequentially, we saw operating expenses decline by 2.5%, reflecting our continued focus on cost discipline. In terms of guidance, we continue to expect full-year operating expense growth to be in the high single-digit range."

Cost of Risk

On Cost of Risk, Mr. Challinor, remarked: "The overall asset-quality on the book continues to be excellent. Credit costs declined by KD 8.1 million, or 30%, compared with the same period last year, bringing the cost of risk to 40 basis points. Asset quality remained resilient, with Stage 3 loans stable at 1.2%. Stage 2 loans increased modestly to 3.2%, mainly due to the downgrade of a few corporate accounts during the quarter, but the ratio remains among the lowest in the market, indicating the overall health of the portfolio. In terms of guidance, we lowered our full-year cost-of-risk expectation during the first half to be below 50 basis points. And based on the performance during the first nine months, we continue to expect the full-year outcome to be below that level."

Non-interest Income

In regard to the decline in Non-interest income, Mr. Challinor noted: "Non-interest income reached KD 30.8 million during the first nine months of 2026, representing a slight decline of 1% compared with the same period last year. This follows growth of 10% during the first half of the year, with the change in Q3 mainly reflecting lower loan-arrangement fees due to a flat corporate loan book, and softer card-related income."

Islamic Conversion

Addressing the next steps and expected timeline for Gulf Bank's conversion to an Islamic bank following the Central Bank of Kuwait's approval, Mr. Sami Mahfouz, Acting Chief Executive Officer of Gulf Bank, noted: "First, it is important to clarify that this is an interim approval, rather than the final approval to operate as a Sharia-compliant bank. It allows Gulf Bank to proceed with the conversion process and complete the necessary requirements to obtain an Islamic banking license from the relevant authorities. The next steps include obtaining shareholders' approval, amending the Bank's Articles of Association and commercial registration, completing the required corporate and administrative procedures, and finalizing the necessary arrangements with our clients. As the process involves several third parties, we are unable to provide a precise timeline at this stage. We will disclose any material developments as the process progresses."

Appreciation

Mr. Mahfouz concluded his comments: "As this is David's last earnings call as Gulf Bank's Chief Financial Officer before his conclusion of the executive phase of his career, I would like to take a moment to thank David personally for his friendship, as well as leadership, commitment and valuable contribution to the Bank over the past five years. Looking forward,

I am pleased to welcome Ms. Lity Mathews as our new Acting Chief Financial Officer. Lity has been with Gulf Bank for ten years, serving as Deputy Chief Financial Officer, and brings extensive banking and finance experience as well as a deep knowledge of the Bank. I would also like to announce to everyone that Dalal will be expanding her role to take on the role of the Deputy Chief Financial Officer, and support Lity and Bank in the next phase of its journey."

Uber brings exclusive ride deals to Zain Perks

Zain joins forces with Uber to bring exclusive mobility benefits to customers in Kuwait



Al-Gharabally and Al-Asmar with Zain and Uber officials.



Nawaf Al-Gharabally and Antonio Al-Asmar signing the partnership agreement.

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8: Zain Kuwait, the country's leading TechCo, is announcing an exclusive strategic partnership with Uber, the global mobility platform, to introduce a new range of mobility benefits and exclusive offers for Zain customers in Kuwait. The collaboration reflects Zain's ongoing journey of enriching the customer experience beyond connectivity, bringing greater convenience, value, and rewards to everyday life.

Through this collaboration, Uber joins the Zain Perks platform, giving Zain customers access to exclusive ride offers and promotions across Uber's mobility services. The partnership will also see the introduction of special offers linked to Zain's roaming plans, extending the value of Zain's services and making travel experiences more convenient and rewarding.

The partnership represents another step in Zain's strategy to build a growing ecosystem of digital services and lifestyle benefits around its customers. By collaborating with leading global platforms such as Uber, Zain continues to expand its customer value proposition, bringing together connectivity, mobility, and everyday experiences through meaningful partnerships that respond to evolving customer needs.

Nawaf Al-Gharabally, CEO of Zain Kuwait, said: "At Zain, we continue to redefine the value we bring to our customers, going beyond connectivity to become an integral part of their everyday lives. This partnership with Uber reflects that vision as we build a connected ecosystem of services and experiences that make life simpler, more convenient, and more rewarding, in line with our purpose of "Better Lives. Lasting Connections."

He added: "By bringing together Zain's market leadership and Uber's global expertise in mobility, we are creating new opportunities to deliver tangible benefits that extend across the customer journey. Our focus remains on translating strategic partnerships into meaningful value that strengthens our customers' experience and reinforces Zain's position as a leading digital lifestyle provider."

Antonio Alasmar, General Manager at Uber for RoMENA, said: "At Uber, we are committed to making mobility more accessible, convenient, and reliable across the region. Our partnership with Zain brings together our expertise in mobility and Zain's extensive reach in Kuwait to introduce exclusive offers and new benefits for Zain customers. Through this collaboration, we look forward to making everyday journeys and travel experiences more seamless, while expanding access to convenient and reliable mobility solutions."

The collaboration further strengthensZain Perks, the company's growing digital rewards platform, which connects Zain customers with exclusive privileges across a diverse range of lifestyle, entertainment, shopping, dining, and other everyday experiences. The addition of Uber expands the program into mobility, introducing new ways for customers to enjoy added value by being a member of the Zain family.

The partnership follows Uber's launch in Kuwait in September 2026, bringing its on-demand ride-hailing services to residents and visitors through the Uber app. The service offers a convenient way to get around the country, complementing existing transportation options and supporting Kuwait's evolving mobility landscape.

Customers in Kuwait can choose from several ride options, including Taxi, Uber Comfort, Uber Black, and Uber Lux, depending on their preferences and transportation needs. The platform also offers features designed to enhance convenience and flexibility, including multiple destinations, scheduled rides, digital cashless payments, and support from Uber's 24/7 global incident response team.

Through this exclusive partnership, Zain and Uber aim to make mobility more accessible and rewarding for customers, combining the strengths of two established brands to deliver practical benefits that enhance everyday experiences and support the continued evolution of Kuwait's digital services ecosystem.

Warba Bank strengthens partnership with GUST Public Relations Club to support student talent and youth empowerment

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8: Warba Bank announced that it is sponsoring and partnering with the Public Relations Club at the Gulf University for Science and Technology (GUST) to support a series of student-led events and activities throughout the 2026–2027 academic year. The partnership aims to develop students' professional skills, expand their practical experience, and provide opportunities to engage with organizations and companies across different sectors.

The partnership forms part of Warba Bank's efforts to support education and youth development, strengthen connections between the banking sector and emerging national talent, and help students gain skills and experience relevant to their future careers.

Investing in Youth and Applied Learning

The partnership encompasses more than eight major student-led events across the academic year, combining educational, professional, sports, and awareness activities. These initiatives provide an interactive platform for students to develop their capabilities, explore career interests, and understand job market requirements.



Ayman Al-Mutairi

The initiatives also provide opportunities for sponsoring organizations to strengthen their presence on campus, engage directly with students, and build professional relationships with educational institutions.

Al-Mutairi: Empowering Youth and Connecting Education with Practice

Commenting on the collaboration, Ayman Al-Mutairi, Senior Director of Public Relations and Corporate Communications at Warba Bank, stated:

"Warba Bank is committed to playing an active role in initiatives that support young people in their educational and professional development. We believe that meaningful investment begins with people, and that empowering future generations requires providing opportunities to gain knowledge and practical experience and turn their ambitions into tangible achievements."



Partnership signing between Warba Bank and Gulf University's Public Relations Club.

Al-Mutairi added: "Our partnership with the GUST Public Relations Club reflects our commitment to supporting student initiatives that go beyond academic learning to support personal development, strengthen leadership and communication skills, and encourage initiative and teamwork."

Al-Mutairi concluded: "Through this partnership, we aim to provide students with valuable educational and professional experiences and opportunities to learn about workplace environments and requirements, helping prepare them for their future careers and active participation in national development."

A Diverse Calendar of Campus Initiatives

The partnership includes a range of student-led events scheduled throughout the 2026–2027 academic year:

- Movember Week (November 2026): A health awareness campaign focused on men's physical and mental health, including prostate cancer awareness, early detection education, and healthy lifestyle habits through interactive activities, educational booths, and community engagement.
- PR Market Week (December 2026): A flagship campus event showcasing student entrepreneurs and local businesses through interactive exhibition booths, promoting entrepreneurship, supporting startups, and facilitating direct networking between students and participating organizations.
- Sustainability Week (February 2027): A dedicated environmental campaign promoting sustainable practices, resource conservation, and environmental responsibility among students through interactive activities, educational booths, and eco-friendly initiatives, reflecting Warba Bank's sustainability priorities.
- Ramadan Padel Tournament (Ramadan 2027): An athletic tournament held during the Holy Month of Ramadan to promote teamwork, physical activity, and healthy lifestyle choices among students.
- F1 Week (March 2027): A themed event inspired by Formula 1 racing, featuring interactive activities, competitions, and entertainment experiences to engage the campus community.

Specialized Workshops and Professional Seminars

In addition to campus campaigns, the agenda includes specialized professional workshops and seminars hosted by experts and practitioners in public relations, media, and corporate communications.

These sessions aim to share real-world expertise, introduce students to industry practices and workplace challenges, and help bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application. The sessions also provide opportunities for students to build professional relationships with participating speakers and experts, while developing practical skills relevant to careers in media, public relations, marketing, and corporate communications.

Strengthening Community and Educational Impact

This partnership reflects Warba Bank's ongoing strategy to expand its community contributions through collaboration with higher education institutions and student clubs. By supporting initiatives focused on youth development and capacity building, the bank reinforces its active role in national development beyond core banking services, helping prepare a skilled generation ready to innovate and contribute to Kuwait's progress.

LuLu Hypermarket launches 'LuLu Wali Diwali 2026' across Kuwait









Photos during the event

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8: LuLu Hypermarket has launched its vibrant 'LuLu Wali Diwali 2026' celebrations across all its outlets in Kuwait, bringing the joy, color, and festive spirit of the Festival of Lights to customers and communities throughout the country.

The week-long celebration features exclusive Diwali promotions, cultural programmes, and exciting festive activities, creating a lively and memorable experience for shoppers and visitors of all ages.

The grand opening ceremony was held on November 7 at LuLu Hypermarket's Al Rai outlet, where members of LuLu's management inaugurated the festivities by lighting the traditional Diwali lamp, symbolising the triumph of light over darkness and the beginning of the celebrations. The event featured an engaging line-up of cultural performances, interactive activities, and competitions that celebrated the rich cultural diversity and creativity of the community.

One of the key highlights was the Diwali Rangoli Competition, which brought together participants to showcase their artistic talents through vibrant and intricate traditional designs. The winners were recognised and rewarded with valuable prizes for first, second, and third places. Visitors were also treated to captivating cultural performances, adding to the festive atmosphere and making the occasion even more special.

To mark the occasion, all LuLu Hypermarket outlets across Kuwait have been beautifully decorated with Diwali-themed displays, featuring traditional lights, colourful motifs, and specially designed selfie counters that have become popular photo spots for shoppers, allowing them to capture and share their festive moments.

Adding to the celebrations, LuLu Hypermarket has rolled out an extensive range of special Diwali promotions across a wide selection of festive essentials, including namkeen, traditional sweets, ethnic clothing, diyas, decorative lights, and home décor products. Dedicated Diwali sweet counters have also been set up at every outlet, offering customers an assortment of authentic festive delicacies to make their celebrations even sweeter.

Further enhancing the festive shopping experience, LuLu has introduced a Diwali Shopping Gift Card, providing customers with a convenient and thoughtful way to share the joy of the season and spread festive cheer among their family and friends.

With its vibrant decorations, engaging cultural activities, exclusive festive offers, and a wide assortment of traditional products, 'LuLu Wali Diwali 2026' once again highlights LuLu Hypermarket's commitment to celebrating cultural diversity and bringing communities together. Through this colourful celebration, LuLu continues to create memorable festive experiences for shoppers across Kuwait, spreading the message of light, happiness, and togetherness.

ARAB TIMES
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Eight-course elegance to royal Chinese banquets

Taiwan on a plate: From Hakka culinary traditions at Lakeshore to royal dining at Taipei's Grand Hotel

By John C. Fernandes
Online Media Manager – Arab Times

Lakeshore Restaurant: Where tradition meets contemporary dining

OUR journey to explore Taiwan's exquisite cuisine began on a delightful note with an eight-course lunch at Lakeshore Restaurant in Hsinchu. More than just a meal, it was a wonderful introduction to Taiwan's rich culinary heritage, where traditional Hakka flavours meet contemporary fine dining.

Led by Executive Chef Tsai Jui-Lang, the restaurant celebrates the Hakka philosophy of respecting nature, cherishing ingredients and bringing out the best in seasonal produce.

Our culinary experience featured an interesting selection of dishes, including Oriental Beauty Tea-Smoked Abalone, Salt-Baked Chicken, Flying Fish Roe with Egg Yolk, Five Willow Branch Fish, Sakura Shrimp Bibimbap and traditional Hakka Rice Vermicelli. The meal concluded with MAN YUE Grass Jelly, a refreshing seasonal dessert.

Complementing the food is the restaurant's elegant, warm ambience, with large windows overlooking greenery, creating a peaceful setting for a relaxed dining experience.

With its thoughtful presentation, distinctive flavours and respect for culinary traditions, Lakeshore Restaurant offers visitors a memorable taste of Taiwan. If you are exploring Hsinchu, this is certainly a dining experience worth adding to your itinerary.

Dining like royalty at Taipei's Grand Hotel

A visit to Taiwan would hardly be complete without experiencing the grandeur of The Grand Hotel Taipei, one of the island's most iconic landmarks. Standing majestically on Yuanshan since 1952, this magnificent palace-like building, with its striking red pillars, golden roof tiles and traditional Chinese architecture, offers a glimpse into Taiwan's rich history and cultural heritage.

Established by Madam Chiang Kai-shek (Soong Mei-ling), The Grand Hotel was Taiwan's first five-star hotel and has welcomed numerous world leaders, royalty, diplomats and distinguished personalities over the decades. Its magnificent architecture and breathtaking setting, overlooking the Keelung River and surrounded by lush greenery, make it a destination in itself.

Our visit included a memorable lunch at Yuan Yuan Restaurant, located beside the hotel's main lobby, where authentic Jiangzhe cuisine, traditional North Chinese delicacies and noodles take centre stage.

The elaborate banquet menu offered a delightful variety of flavours, beginning with the Four Delights selection of braised gluten, chicken with orange sauce, vegetarian goose, osmanthus taro and confit mushrooms, followed by an appetizing platter and seafood soup with scallops.



Grand Hotel

The highlights continued with golden sand oatmeal prawn balls, crispy oat-crusted prawns with salted egg yolk, pan-fried chicken cutlet with premium sauce and crispy soybean-crusted halibut. Braised noodles with preserved mustard greens added a traditional touch, while steamed red bean rice cake and fresh seasonal Taiwanese fruits brought the meal to a pleasant conclusion.

What makes dining at The Grand Hotel special is the combination of culinary tradition, elegant surroundings and the experience of being part of a place steeped in history.

The Grand Hotel is more than a luxury hotel; it is a symbol of Taiwan's heritage, hospitality and grandeur. And enjoying a traditional Chinese banquet within its magnificent walls makes the visit all the more memorable.



Lakeshore Restaurant



Group photo



Braised meat



Pan seared chicken steak



Sakura shrimp bibimbap



Seasoned veggies

'Making food is an act of love in every way'

Awkwafina digs into culinary roots to try something little crazy: Open a restaurant

NEW YORK, Nov 8, (AP): Awkwafina was feeling under the weather recently and decided she was going to make soup. And that startled her because she hasn't always been the kind of person who made soup.

"If I had told myself like a year or so ago that I would be looking at ingredients to make a soup, that would be like insane," she says, laughing. "Like, a soup? 'Hell, no, it's just a hot liquid.'"

The actor-comedian-rapper's 180-degree shift is largely thanks to her latest project: Putting together a menu and finding a location and staff to open her own restaurant.

The eight-episode Apple TV series "Awkwafina: The Unlikely Cook" premiered Friday follows her journey, from learning to make stir-fry at the Culinary Institute of America to waitressing in downtown L.A. Along the way, she turned herself into a pretty good cook.

"I have these friends that are cooking up all kinds of stuff all the time. And I always felt like I was never going to be really a member of that club," she says.

"But it's so accessible. It really is a world that you can step into anytime. No one's going to tell you that you can't do it or you're not good enough."

It turns out that the Golden Globe- and Emmy-winning Awkwafina, born Nora Lum, comes from restaurant royalty.

Her family ran Lum's, an iconic Cantonese restaurant in the New York borough of Queens that closed in the 1990s after four decades.

Awkwafina's plan to reopen the restaurant - as a pop-up for one night - sent her across America to find dishes to honor her past: To Texas to do her own twist on Lum's barbecue spare ribs, and to Hawaii for a pupu platter.

Martin Yan, the first breakthrough Chinese TV chef, teaches her how to make chicken chow mein, and she learns to make Peking duck in San Francisco, first carefully plucking out the feathers by hand. "I love giving ducks Brazilians," she jokes on the show.

The mission was to do something that would make her family proud, especially for her father and grandmother, who helped raise her when her mother died young.



This image released by Apple TV shows Awkwafina at the Culinary Institute of America in an episode of 'Awkwafina: The Unlikely Cook.' (AP)

"I feel connected to my ancestors because I'm repeating dishes in a process that they did," she says. Making food, she adds, "is an act of love in every way."

Executive producer David Brindley says Awkwafina and the filmmakers didn't intend to end with a pop-up. The series was initially pitched as an exploration of Asian American food but, things grew more personal and meaningful.

"It sets it apart, I think, from lots of other food travel shows because it's got an authenticity at the heart of it," he says.

Awkwafina waitressed at the Golden Dragon banquet hall in Los Angeles, learnt to make Korean-style dumplings from chef Roy Choi and collaborated on a logo and font for the menu. She chose a pizzeria in Manhattan as the site for the pop-up, which fed 50 guests.

Awkwafina leaned on a lot of Asian American food specialists during the series and was struck by how many are reentering an industry their parents didn't want them to work in.

"Their parents came here and worked in kitchens, started restaurants and takeout places so that their kids could become lawyers and doctors," she says. "And so to see people go back to their roots, it's almost like rebellious."

Pulling it all together was stressful - especially nailing the show-stopping duck dish with pineapple salsa cooked in a pizza oven at the end - and Awkwafina saw a new side of herself.

"I had never seen myself ever be flustered, be serious, rushing around," she says. "That was really weird to see. It was a version of myself that I'd never noticed before."

Viewers watch a woman who started the series struggle to make ramen with Spam be able to master complex meals by the end, even suggesting a dish be more tangy or that a sauce should be added to the shrimp.

So complete is the transformation that Awkwafina is in the process of reopening Lum's for the long-term, not just as a pop-up.

"Without the show, I don't think I would have been able to do that confidently," she says. "I would not have been able to just dive into that."

Brindley says viewers will delight in seeing the host go from zero to hero - starting with knowing very little about food and ending up in command, opening a restaurant.

"What the show does is say to the viewers that it's never too late to try something new, try something different, and you, too, can master that. That might be food, it might well be something else," he says. "That is, I think, really inspiring."

Variety

BEIJING: Executives of Xinhua News Agency, the Associated Press (AP), Reuters, Agence France-Presse (AFP) and CNN held dialogue during the 7th World Media Summit, discussing the direction, pathways and measures for media evolution in the intelligent era.

Fu Hua, president of Xinhua News Agency, said that as artificial intelligence (AI) technology advances, media practitioners should make good use of AI while safeguarding the credibility of mainstream media.

"Xinhua is willing to strengthen dialogue with all parties to advance the industry's development and promote exchanges and cooperation," Fu said. (Xinhua)

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GABORONE: A Chinese talent show and graduation ceremony was held on Saturday by the Confucius Institute at the University of Botswana in Gaborone, the capital of Botswana, to showcase local students' Chinese proficiency and the beauty of Chinese culture.

Nomsa Kelepile, who celebrated her 13th birthday on Saturday, emerged as this year's champion among eight contestants, who showcased their talents through dubbing, storytelling, singing, poetry recitation and dancing.

Emmanuel Moswela, the manager of the Department of Student Life and Experience at the University of Botswana, described the event as an opportunity to showcase the students' talent for the Chinese language. (Xinhua)

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DAR ES SALAAM: Tanzania's Serengeti National Park will host the 2026 World Travel Awards grand final gala ceremony on Dec. 12, marking another milestone in the country's efforts to strengthen its position as a leading global tourism destination, according to a statement issued on Friday by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism.

The announcement was made by Graham Cooke, founder and president of the World Travel Awards, during a special event at the World Travel Market international tourism exhibition in London, according to the statement. (Xinhua)

Chinese top gymnastics qualification standings

China and Senegal shine in beach wrestling at Dakar 2026 YOG

DAKAR, Nov. 8, (Xinhua): China's Zhao Min won the women's 75kg beach wrestling gold at the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games (YOG) on Saturday, while host nation Senegal also had a successful day in beach wrestling, winning its first-ever two gold medals at YOG.

Zhao went unbeaten in her three group-stage bouts before defeating Senegal's Elisabeth Ebedo Diatta in the semifinals. She then beat India's Taniya in the final.

Taniya scored the opening point, but Zhao quickly drew level. The two wrestlers then engaged in a tight contest, with Zhao scoring a decisive point just 1.2 seconds before the final whistle to clinch the gold.

"Perhaps I had too long a break after the semifinal and my body had cooled down. In those final few seconds, I wasn't thinking about anything. I was just focused on wrestling," Zhao said.

"I just kept telling myself not to think too much. Once you step into the circle, before the wrestling even begins, you never know who is stronger," she added.

In other beach wrestling events, Venezuela's Wilfredo Grabiel Rodriguez Gonzalez won the men's 60kg title, while Senegal's Elisabeth Diatta and Maguette Diop triumphed in the women's 55kg and men's 80kg categories, respectively.



China's Zhao Min shows her gold medal after the award ceremony of the women's 75kg beach wrestling at the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games in Saly, Senegal. (Xinhua)

Diop said the victory was particularly meaningful as Senegal became the first African nation to host an Olympic event.

"Winning the gold medal here in Senegal with my people, I'm just so proud. It was not easy at all, but we did it," he said.

In gymnastics, China's men's team, comprising Yang Lanbin, Li Lezheng and Zhao Ruiyang, topped the qualification standings with a total of 159.228 points to book its place in Monday's team final. The Chinese gymnasts delivered solid performances in floor exercise, rings and vault.

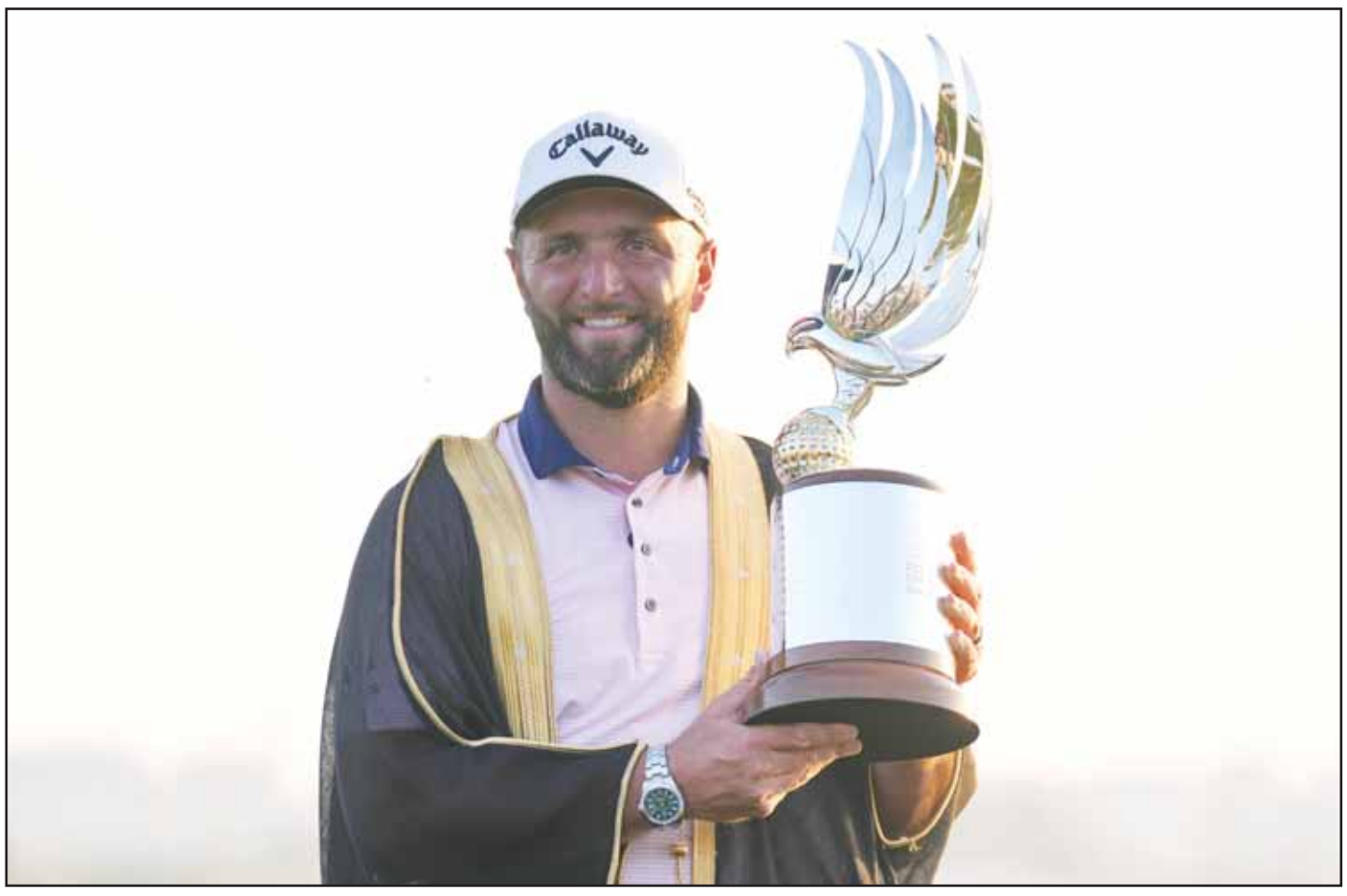
As for the individual all-around qualification, Britain's Uzair Chowdhury led the field with 80.798 points, followed by Yang with 79.897 and Japan's Naoto Shiroiwa with 79.265. Li placed fifth with 77.131, while Zhao finished seventh with 76.197.

Under the competition rules, the top 18 gymnasts advance to the individual all-around final, with each delegation allowed a maximum of two athletes. Yang and Li will therefore represent China in Tuesday's final.

"The vault was what I was most satisfied with today," Yang said after the competition, adding that the landing was beyond expectations.

Rahm holds off McIlroy, Hatton to win Abu Dhabi Championship

Jon begins career rebuild



Jon Rahm of Spain poses with the championship trophy after winning the Abu Dhabi Golf Championship in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. (AP)

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates, Nov 8, (AP): Jon Rahm fought off Ryder Cup teammates Rory McIlroy and Tyrrell Hatton to win the Abu Dhabi Championship on Sunday for his first European tour title in four years, marking a successful start to the Spaniard's career rebuild following the demise of LIV Golf.

Rahm shot 5-under 67 and was 23-under par for the week at Yas Links, two strokes clear of Hatton (68) and four ahead of McIlroy (69) in the first of the two season-ending playoff tournaments in the United Arab Emirates.

This was Rahm's first event in seven weeks, during which time his wife gave birth to their second daughter - their fourth child - and he set about finalizing a departure from LIV that will see him giving up millions of dollars owed to him.

With LIV this week announcing plans to wind down operations anyway, Rahm is sure to be heading back to the established tours for next season - and has a big win to bring with him for what he acknowledged was a new stage in his life.

"After everything that's gone on," Rahm said, "and some poor play and some battles mentally with a lot of noise, to come back out after a bit of rest and being with the family, it's quite special."

His last victory on the European tour's regular circuit was the World Tour Championship in November 2022, which was followed by a green jacket at the Masters a few months later and then the world No. 1 ranking before a controversial move to LIV.

His peerless iron play this week suggests a return to his 2021-23 level, when he collected his two major titles. It was certainly too good for McIlroy and their rivals in an exciting final round at Yas Links.

At one stage early in the back nine, Rahm, McIlroy, Hatton and Francesco Laporta were tied for the lead on 20 under, only for Rahm to pull away with three birdies in a five-hole span from No. 11.

McIlroy's Sunday charge, which started with a birdie and an eagle on his first two holes of the day, slowed with a bogey at No. 15, while Laporta - chasing his first title - fell out of contention with a triple-bogey at the short par-3 13th. The Italian wound up shooting 72 and finished alone in fourth, six strokes behind Rahm.

Hatton, meanwhile, kept his card clean but couldn't make enough birdies to reel in Rahm, who walked down the par-5 18th with a two-shot lead and played it safe to make par.

"As far as I'm concerned, except the (tee) shot on No. 17, I played a pretty flawless round," said Rahm, who banked a winner's check of $1.5 million. "It was really, really something."

Two former LIV players finishing 1-2 is perhaps a sign of things to come on the European tour, with many wanting to come back to their roots after the end of the breakaway circuit that once was fueled by Saudi cash.

McIlroy's disappointment at failing to win will have been slightly tempered by his surge in the season-long Race to Dubai standings.

With his third-place finish, the world No. 2 moved above Patrick Reed and into second place, behind only Eugenio Chacarra with one event left - the World Tour Championship in Dubai starting Thursday.

Chacarra, a 26-year-old Spaniard in his first full season on the tour, finished tied for 22nd this week and Reed tied for 43rd in the 70-man field.

McIlroy is almost 534 points behind Chacarra, with 2,000 on offer for the winner next week and then 1,335 up for grabs for second place and 752 for third place.

McIlroy is looking to join Colin Montgomerie on a record eight Race to Dubai titles. In the Scot's day, it was called the Order of Merit.

As for this week in Abu Dhabi, getting a two-shot penalty - turning a double-bogey 6 to an 8 - on Thursday hurt McIlroy's chances. Still, he was encouraged by his performance.

"It was a week where I had my chances," McIlroy said.

"I would have loved to have won the tournament, but enough positive signs to feel good going into next week."

Rahm moved up to No. 6 in the Race to Dubai standings so there is an outside chance that he could win the season-long race. One thing is for sure: he would need to win on the Earth course next week to have any hope.

"Actually gives me a little extra incentive next week," he said. "I really didn't think I was going to have a chance. Those are better odds than I expected."

Curry scores 41 points

Warriors win seventh straight

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov 8, (AP): Stephen Curry converted a three-point play with 1:38 left in overtime that put Golden State ahead then scored a layup in the final minute to finish with 41 points, six rebounds and six assists, and the Warriors held off the Orlando Magic 126-119 on Saturday night for their seventh straight win.

Wendell Carter Jr. missed two free throws with 1:15 remaining that would have tied the game before Curry came through again.

Warriors rookie Yaxel Lendeborg made a key 3-pointer in overtime and contributed 23 points and eight rebounds. A day earlier he shared a video of gifting his mother a home in California.

Golden State started 0-3 and now has its longest winning streak since seven in a row from March 3-15, 2025.

Franz Wagner had 30 points and 11 assists and Tristan da Silva and Carter each scored 19 for the Magic, who have lost four straight on the Warriors' home floor.

Brandin Podziemski scored 15 points and Draymond Green had a season-high 13 assists for Golden State.

The final minutes of regulation were a back-and-forth scoring frenzy. Curry made a go-ahead layup with 25.2 seconds left and Jamal Cain's putback with 2 seconds left on Orlando's third try in the final moments sent it into overtime. Cain had 18 points and 12 rebounds off the bench to help rally the Magic, who trailed 57-41 at halftime then led 78-77 going into the final period.

Curry recorded his second 40-point game this season and fourth in the last five with at least 30 points. It was his



Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry (30) reacts after a three point basket against the Orlando Magic during the first half of an NBA basketball game in San Francisco. (AP)

16th 40-point effort after age 35, most in NBA history. LeBron James has 15 and Michael Jordan did it 12 times.

The 38-year-old Curry, in his 18th season, also became the seventh player ever with 26,000 points, 5,000 rebounds and 6,000 assists, according to ELIAS.

Georges Niang and Carter received double technicals at the 9:17 mark of the second quarter when they tussled after Niang grabbed the Orlando center in the paint. Security guards kept Green from getting involved following his ejection against Phoenix last Monday.

Niang notched his third straight double-digit scoring game with 11 points.

Egypt sacks coach Hassan over 'negative impact' on team image

CAIRO, Nov 8, (AP): Egypt coach Hossam Hassan was sacked for what the soccer federation cited as "a negative impact on the positive image of the team."

The Egyptian Football Association did not elaborate in a statement, adding only that "maintaining the team's stability is a paramount priority" that cannot be compromised.

Egyptian media believed the decision had more to do with Hassan's personal life than rumors of disagreements with Egypt players including star forward Mohamed Salah.

Egypt's Supreme Council for Media Regulation banned Hassan last week from appearing in all media outlets, an unprecedented decision against a national coach. That followed disputes in Hassan's personal life becoming public.

Hassan was appointed Egypt coach in 2024 and became the first former Egypt player to coach the national team at a World Cup this year. Egypt was knocked out by Argentina in the last 16.

The EFA immediately replaced Hassan with Ali Maher, a long-time head coach in the Egyptian Premier League currently leading fourth-placed Ceramica Cleopatra.

Maher must get quickly up to speed. Egypt plays Malawi on Nov. 13 and 17 in qualifying for the 2027 Africa Cup of Nations. Egypt leads Group B.

Dallas eliminates Rapids from playoff contention

Messi becomes 1st back-to-back Golden Boot winner

MIAMI, Nov 8, (AP): Lionel Messi was held scoreless as Inter Miami blew a three-goal halftime lead and drew 3-3 with Charlotte FC on Saturday in its Major League Soccer regular-season finale.

Messi finished the season with 26 goals and is poised to become the first player in MLS history to win back-to-back Golden Boots.

Ian Fray put Miami ahead in the 14th minute following a corner kick. Luis Suárez tapped one in from close range in the 33rd after Germán Berterame headed Messi's corner toward the goal. Rodrigo De Paul made it 3-0 in the 42nd with a shot from outside the penalty area.

Then came Charlotte's surge.

Liel Abada scored in the 50th and 55th minutes, and Rodolfo Aloko tied it in the 90th when he put away the rebound after Tyger Smalls hit the post.

The last time Miami gave up a 3-0 lead at Nu Stadium was on May 2, when Orlando City rallied to win 4-3.

Miami finished second in the Eastern Conference with 60 points after third-place New England lost 1-0 at Orlando. Nashville beat Cincinnati 2-0 to finish with 77 points, breaking Miami's MLS single-season record of 74 set in 2024.

Kaick Ferreira, known simply as "Kaick", scored the go-ahead goal in the 88th and FC Dallas beat Colorado 3-1 to eliminati the Rapids from playoff contention.

Colorado (12-15-7) could have secured a spot in the MLS Cup playoffs with a win.

Dallas (16-8-10) clinched the No. 2 seed in the Western Conference and plays seventh-seeded Portland in the best-of-three first round.



Charlotte defender Harry Toffolo (15) blocks a shot on goal by Inter Miami forward Leo Messi (10) during the first half of an MLS game Miami, Fla. (AP)

Kaick cut back to evade a defender and blasted a shot from the top of the penalty box under the crossbar and inside the right post that made it 2-1.

Joaquín Valiente put away a first-touch shot, off a cross played by Kaick, that made it 1-1 in the 75th minute and Santiago Moreno capped the scoring in the second minute of stoppage time.

Morgan Whittaker scored a goal for the fourth consecutive game for the Rapids. Nico Hansen had seven saves.

Gonzalo Tapia netted a pair of goals and Brais Méndez scored the winner in stoppage time to help the Columbus Crew pull out a 4-3 Decision Day victory over the Chicago Fire.

Columbus (14-15-5) trailed three times before rallying to avoid the Eastern Conference wild-card match. The Crew jumped from ninth place to seventh after FC Cincinnati lost 2-0 to Nashville SC. Columbus will play No. 2 seed Inter Miami in the best-of-three first round.





A participant clears a hurdle during the equestrian opening round.

Sports

Double victory for Kuwaiti

Al-Kharafi makes strong start in equestrian league



Photos by Rezk Tawfik

Champions on the podium.

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8: Kuwait Equestrian Club star Ali Jassem Al-Kharafi made a flying start to the sixth edition of the local equestrian league, claiming two victories in the opening round held at Sahara Equestrian Resort amid strong participation from riders representing Kuwait's clubs and equestrian centers.

Sponsored by UDV, the competition offered total prize money exceeding KD 10,000.

Al-Kharafi dominated the Grand Prix event over 140 cm, securing first place with a faultless round in 67.28 seconds. His Kuwait Equestrian Club teammate Bjorn Kuerthz finished second, followed by Abdulrahman Al-Mudhahka, Abdullah Al-Awadhi, Rakan Al-Hasawi and Latifa Al-Hajri.

The Kuwaiti star continued his winning form in the Intermediate Grand Prix over 130 cm, with Kuerthz taking second place ahead of Yara Al-Hunaidi and Ali Ahmed Al-Kharafi, completing a clean sweep of the top four places for Kuwait Equestrian Club.

In the Small Grand Prix over 120 cm, Mohammed Al-Shammari took top honors, followed by Ali Al-Kharafi, Meshaal Al-Subaie, Sogo Baby, Abdullah Al-Osaimi and Joud Al-Hassan.

The opening day's events also featured victories for Abdullah Al-Roudhan in the 120 cm category, Ali Al-Kharafi in the 135 cm event, and Hussein Al-Kharafi in the 125 cm competition.

Sousa to name squad

Kuwait set to begin preparations for Syria and Honduras friendlies

By Hassan Mosa
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8: Kuwait national team coach Hélio Sousa will announce his squad this morning as the Blue prepare for two international friendlies during the FIFA international break.

Kuwait will take on Syria next Friday at 6:00 pm at Al-Sadaqa Wal-Salam Stadium, followed by a meeting with Honduras on November 17 at the same venue.

The Blues will launch their preparations on Monday at Jaber Al-Mubarak Stadium.

Meanwhile, the Syrian national team delegation is scheduled to arrive in Kuwait on Monday, with training set to begin on Tuesday.

Syria coach José María Lana has named his squad for the friendly against Kuwait. The 43-man squad includes Ahmed Ashqar, Ahmed Madanieh, Shaher Al-Shaker, Alaa Al-Din Dali, Al-Miqdad Ahmad, Amro Al-Midan, Khaled Ibrahim, Khattab Meshleb, Haitham Alloush, Khaled Al-Hajjah, Mahmoud Nayef, Koran Khilo, Abdullah Al-Shami, Mahmoud Al-Mawas, Khaled Kordagli, Mohammad Zaid, Mohammad Al-Mustafa, Omar Al-Soma, Zakaria Hanan, Omar Khribin, Ammar Ramadan, Mohammad Yazan, Mohammad Fares, Mohammad Al-Hallaq, Abdulrazzaq Al-Mohammad, Muhannad Mando, Mohammad Othman, Mahmoud Daoud, George Younan, Mustafa Abdul Latif, Jan Yahya, Pablo Sabbag, Mohammad Eid, Dalho Mohsen, Elias Hadaya, Aiham Oso, Ziad Fateh, Almar Ibrahim, Antonio Tino, Noah Leon, Johannes Danho, Wissam Dokhan and Ahmad Faqa.



Kuwait national team coach Hélio Sousa.

Brighton soars to 2nd, Chelsea loses

Liverpool back to winning ways



Liverpool's Cody Gakpo, left, and Crystal Palace's Chris Richards challenge for the ball during the English Premier League soccer match between Crystal Palace and Liverpool in London. (AP)

MANCHESTER, England, Nov 8, (AP): High flying Brighton moved up second in the Premier League with a 2-0 win against Brentford on Sunday.

Liverpool is back to winning ways, beating Crystal Palace 3-1, while Chelsea fell to a surprise 1-0 defeat to relegation-fighting Sunderland.

Brighton's outstanding start to the campaign continued with a seventh win from 10 games to leave it five points adrift of leader and defending champion Arsenal.

Goals from Diego Gomez and Pascal Gross secured victory at the Amex Stadium for Fabian Hurzeler's team, which is becoming the surprise story of the season.

Liverpool bounced back from back-to-back losses to Arsenal in the league and Fenerbahce in the Champions League to pick up three points at Palace.

Alexis Mac Allister, Florian Wirtz and Alexander Isak were all on target at Selhurst Park. A stoppage-time penalty from Eddie Nketiah reduced the deficit, but did little to ease the pressure on Palace coach Pierre Sage, with his team bottom of the standings heading into the international break.

Isak now has eight goals in all competitions for Liverpool this season.

Sunderland moved off the foot of the table with victory against Chelsea. Enzo Le Fee's first-half penalty settled the game at the Stadium of Light and saw Chelsea drop to fifth, with Liverpool climbing to fourth.

Bournemouth is seventh after a 2-1 win at Ipswich. Evanilson scored his seventh goal in eight games to put Bournemouth ahead at Portman Road and a Leif Davis own goal made it 2-0 at the break.

Jack Clarke pulled one back for Ipswich with a second-half penalty.

Napoli's lackluster form continued Sunday in a 1-1 draw at home with Lazio that consolidated the visiting team's Serie A lead.

Tributes for Tenerife forward Jesús de Miguel - the player who died after a second division game on Monday - continued.

Lazio forward Davide Frattesi fired in his team's opener in the 28th minute after Tijjani Noslin on the left played him in against the lethargic-looking Napoli defense.

The home supporters made their ire known but watched as the team clawed itself level through Alfonso Pedraza's own goal after the break. The Spanish defender was trying to prevent Scott McTominay and Rasmus Højlund from converting Noa Lang's cross. Lang in particular had already been subjected to boos from the home fans.

The goal staved off a third straight defeat for Napoli after Wednesday's 4-1 loss at Porto in the Champions League and last weekend's 2-0 loss at old rival Juventus. But coach Massimiliano Allegri will remain under pressure with just four wins and three draws from 11 Serie A games so far.

Lazio - which remained unbeaten alongside crosstown rival Roma two points behind - was assured of staying top with Inter Milan four points adrift before facing a visit from in-form Como later.

Real Madrid, Paris Saint-Germain and Bayern Munich all won their matches on Saturday.

'Association's doors are open to all clubs'

Partnership, not guardianship is key to handball development: Al-Shuraie

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8: Kuwait Handball Association President Eng. Ahmed Al-Shuraie has underlined the importance of strong cooperation between the association and clubs in advancing the game, saying the board is guided by the principle of "partnership, not guardianship."

He stressed that the association's doors are open to all clubs and that regulations will be applied equally and without exception.

Al-Shuraie said a technical assessment program has been introduced for junior and youth teams at clubs to evaluate players and help improve their skills through clearly defined standards and simple on-field tests. He described the development of younger players as a central part of the association's long-term plan to establish a solid and sustainable base for Kuwaiti handball.



Kuwait Handball Association President, Eng. Ahmed Al-Shuraie

He also said work is underway on an integrated schedule for the new season that takes into consideration the commitments of clubs and national teams. The association is meanwhile seeking to improve coaching standards and ensure that coaches meet the certification requirements introduced this season.

On differences of opinion, Al-Shuraie said these were inevitable but should be handled through dialogue, meetings and official channels, while respecting the regulations governing the game.

Turning to the senior national team, he said preparations for the World Championship in Germany, which gets underway on Jan 13, 2027, would take priority in the coming period. The tournament will be Kuwait's 10th appearance at the world event and its second consecutive participation.

Kuwait Club starts as favorite against Sulaibikhat

Golden Square clashes intensify volleyball title race

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

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 8: The race for a place in the Premier Volleyball League final begins on Monday as the four semifinalists take to the court in the 2025-2026 season's Golden Square at the Kuwait Volleyball Association Hall in Sheikh Saad Al-Abdullah Sports Complex.

Kuwait Club faces Sulaibikhat at 5:00 pm, while Qadsia meets Kazma in the second semifinal at 7:00 pm, with both matches carrying high stakes as the teams seek to book their places in the title decider.

The preliminary stage ended last week with Kuwait Club topping the standings, followed by Qadsia, Kazma and Sulaibikhat. Under the competition format, the leader faces the fourth-placed team, while the runners-up take on the third-placed side.



Players in action during league match.

Defending champion Kuwait Club will start its semifinal against Sulaibikhat as favorite, having demonstrated its quality and depth throughout the campaign. Its experience and strength across all positions give it an edge, but Sulaibikhat will be determined to challenge the odds after making history by reaching the semifinals for the first time. The team secured its place at the expense of Al-Arabi and will look to build on that achievement by pursuing a place in the final.

The other semifinal between Qadsia and Kazma promises a closely fought contest, with little separating the two sides in terms of technical ability and ambitions. Both teams are eager to remain in contention for the championship, making the encounter difficult to predict and leaving the outcome open.

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