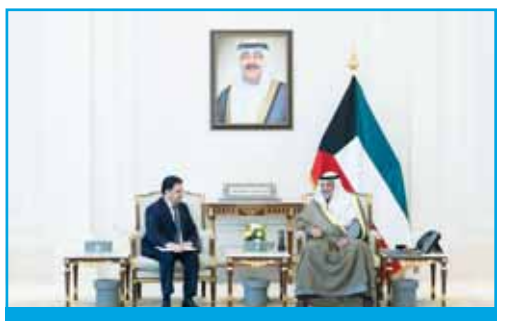


Amir receives message from Jordanian King Page 2

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Zain Group reports 17-yr high results for 9M 2026 Page 9

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2026 / JUMADA AL-THANI 1, 1448 AH | emergency number 112 | NO. 19357 | 12 PAGES | 150 FILS

KUWAIT TO HOST ADVANCED G.C.C. MILITARY COMMAND CENTER

Gulf states bolster defense shield

MANAMA, Nov 10, (Agencies): Kuwait's Minister of Defense Sheikh Abdullah Ali Abdullah Al-Salem Al-Sabah took part on Tuesday in the 23rd session of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Joint Defense Council, attended by GCC defense ministers and GCC Secretary-General Jassem Al-Budaiwi.

The meeting discussed ways to develop joint Gulf military cooperation and adopted decisions and recommendations aimed at strengthening integration among GCC armed forces and enhancing their defense capabilities and readiness, the Ministry of Defense said in a statement to KUNA.

The ministers approved the establishment of an advanced headquarters for the Unified Military Command in Kuwait, along with the allocation of appropriate forces to support its operations.

They expressed gratitude to GCC leaders for their continued support for joint military action and their commitment to developing the Gulf defense system.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the ministers affirmed that joint Gulf defense cooperation serves as a strong safeguard against various risks and threats, protects national interests and economic resources, and supports security and prosperity across the region.

Continued on Page 5



Ministry of Defense photo

Kuwait's Minister of Defense Sheikh Abdullah Ali Abdullah Al-Salem Al-Sabah takes part on Tuesday in the 23rd session of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Joint Defense Council in Manama.

- GCC pushes unified response
- Regional threats put unity in focus
- Bloc condemns Iranian attacks
- Saudi security reaffirmed as priority
- Saudi air defences foil Houthis missile and drone attacks
- Trump says Iran war 'militarily is effectively over'

Opinion



Ahmed Al-Jarallah

Editor-in-Chief, the Arab Times

Misfortune makes strange bedfellows

THE inescapable geographical realities have forced the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) member states to adopt a pragmatic stance on Iran. This stance brings to mind the famous verse of poet Abu al-Tayyib Al-Mutanabbi: "It is indeed difficult for a free-spirited soul to be forced into befriending an adversary it cannot avoid."

Historical relations have long been marked by Persian hostility toward the people in the region—a dynamic that persisted even after Persia embraced Islam.

An imperial mindset based on the belief that they are inherently superior over surrounding nations is at the heart of their ideology. Nevertheless, geographic proximity makes maintaining some level of engagement unavoidable.

Against this backdrop, current reports indicating progress toward the US-Iran agreement, along with western and European media commentary that GCC nations favor resolving the conflict and normalizing conditions, bring to mind the verse of Arab poet Nasr ibn Sayyar: "I spot the faint glow of burning embers buried beneath the ashes."

On the other hand, this strategy could be an Iranian tactic to assert their terms over the Arab Gulf states and America. They promote the illusion of an imminent agreement structured around their own demands—a deal anchored on the critical issue of Tehran's ambition for a military nuclear capability despite official claims of 'peaceful' intentions.

The statements of military officials and the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) must be scrutinized, particularly their warning that "any new aggression will not remain confined within the narrow geographical boundaries, as it could extend to the military bases or parties supporting hostile operations."

From a political standpoint, such a warning is a signal that Iran claims to reach targets at will, potentially extending to Europe. This stance indicates that the 'peaceful' nuclear initiative assurance is a deceptive facade to counter ambitions that the US-Israeli campaign initiated.

Heavy sanctions imposed by the United States are considered a major setback to the militarization of the nuclear endeavor of Tehran.

At the same time, the intensified maritime and land blockades support an international goal -- gradual weakening of the regime, as proven by the recent developments.

Continued on Page 5

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PM Diwan photo

Representative of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah is received by officials upon arrival in Antalya, Turkiye.

Amir Representative arrives in Turkiye for COP31 Summit

Representative of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, arrived in Antalya, Turkiye, on Tuesday leading Kuwait's delegation to the leaders' summit of the 31st Conference of the Parties (COP31) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

He was received by Kuwait's Ambassador to Turkiye Mohammad Marzouq Al-Shabo, Consul General in Istanbul Khaled Al-Khalifa, and members of the embassy and consulate.

In a press statement, His Highness the Prime Minister said Kuwait was continuing efforts to establish an integrated institutional approach to climate action, adding that the government was coordinating among its entities to link climate commitments with the country's various development projects.

He said Kuwait aimed to raise its emissions-reduction targets based on measurable goals, specific projects and clear methodologies for calculating emission cuts, ensuring that climate commitments were tied to actual implementation programs.

Continued on Page 5

Day by Day

GOVERNMENTS should avoid placing excessive pressure on the private sector.

Around the world, governments have adopted more flexible policies toward the private sector for compelling reasons. The current global economic climate is challenging, marked by widespread conflicts, rising costs, sluggish industrial and commercial growth, and increasing financial defaults.

To mitigate economic downturns, prevent a surge in corporate insolvencies, and curb rising unemployment, governments must adapt their policies to the economic realities of these difficult times.

... Yet tomorrow is another day.

Zahed Matar

Ownership limited to citizens

Freelancers get green light to operate office-free firms

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10, (KUNA): Kuwait's Ministry of Commerce and Industry issued two ministerial decisions regulating freelance business activities, specifying which activities are permitted and setting the conditions for licensing them.

In a statement to KUNA on Tuesday, the ministry said Decision No. 216 of 2026 sets the licensing rules, while Decision No. 217 of 2026 approves the list of permitted activities.

The list covers professional, scientific, technical, consulting and commercial activities, as well as building services, administrative and business support services, arts, entertainment, recreation, education and tourism.

It also covers rental and employment services, basic maintenance and repair trades, information and communications, real estate, and the manufacture of textiles, clothing and leather goods.

The rules allow eligible companies to operate without commercial premises. Applications can be submitted through Kuwait Business Center, Sahel or Sahel Business apps, or any other channel approved by the ministry.

The licensed entity must be a single-person company whose founder also serves as its manager. The founder must be a Kuwaiti citizen aged at least 21 with full legal capacity.

Applicants must also have no final custodial sentence for a felony or an offense involving dishonor or breach of trust, unless they have been legally rehabilitated.

The company must have a designated address, a post office box or an email address registered with the Public Authority for Civil Information. Using a private residence as the designated address requires the property owner's consent.

Companies must obtain approval from the relevant regulators where required. Licenses are valid for four years and may be renewed for further four-year terms.

Continued on Page 5



5 Cabinet wishes HH Amir well during US medical checkups



8 Maged Danial wins KD 125,000 in NBK's monthly Al Jawhara draw



Boursa Kuwait launches fixed-income platform with the listing of KFH sukuk 10

Vehicle valuations 'fixed' under new insurance rules

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10: The Chairman of the Supreme Committee of the Insurance Regulatory Unit, Mohammed Sulaiman Al-Otaibi, has issued Resolution No. 53/2026, introducing new regulations governing the issuance of insurance policies, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The resolution includes several key provisions, including fixing the insured value, prohibiting reductions in compensation, and granting insurance companies a 90-day grace period to incorporate Quick Response (QR) codes into comprehensive (supplementary) insurance policies.

It also stipulates that any ambiguity or lack of clarity in an insurance policy must be interpreted in favor of the policyholder.

Article 2 of the resolution prohibits the issuance, granting, or marketing of supplementary insurance policies unless the issuing company is licensed by the Insurance Regulatory Unit.

The resolution further requires companies to be included on the approved list of entities authorized to issue such insurance policies.

Continued on Page 5

Kuwait brings healthcare closer with AI, smart apps

CAIRO, Nov 10, (KUNA): Kuwait showcased its experience in developing digital healthcare through artificial intelligence (AI) and smart applications that enable citizens to access medical records, complete health transactions and follow up on treatment needs at home and abroad.



Dr. Hisham Kalandar

The presentation was delivered Tuesday by Assistant Undersecretary for External Health Services at the Ministry of Health Dr. Hisham Kalandar during the 65th session of the Council of Arab Health Ministers, held at the Arab League headquarters.

It covered three areas: digital empowerment of healthcare users, AI applications in healthcare and external medical services through the Virtual Health Office.

On digital empowerment, Kalandar highlighted the (Salem) application, an interactive platform bringing healthcare services together and providing users with medical records linked to the Ministry's systems.

It offers around 100 electronic services and integrates data from eight separate systems covering hospital appointments, outpatient clinics, primary healthcare and radiology.

Continued on Page 4

Fourth Ring Road's traffic plot thickens

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10: The Ministry of Public Works, in coordination with the General Traffic Department, announced the closure of the overpass at the intersection of the Fourth Ring Road and Damascus Street, along with the traffic signal providing access to the Fourth Ring Road towards Salmiya, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The closure coincides with the opening of the intersection of the Fourth Ring Road and King Faisal Road, opposite Qurtuba.

The ministry stated that the closure will take effect at dawn on Wednesday, November 11, and remain in place until dawn on Friday, November 20, 2026.

In a separate announcement, the ministry announced a partial closure of Hamad Al-Zuwair Street (Road 212) in Sabahiya as part of the Al-Ghawas Street development project.

The closure affects the section of the road extending from the Road 30 intersection towards Ahmadi to the beginning of the bridge.

Continued on Page 4

Prayer Timings

Fajr	04:47	Asr	14:34
Sunrise	06:08	Maghrib	16:56
Zohr	11:32	Isha	18:17

Stronger medical ties sought

Kuwait, Bahrain boost cooperation

MANAMA, Nov 10, (KUNA): Bahrain's Deputy Prime Minister Sheikh Khalid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa affirmed on Monday that the fraternal relations between Kuwait and Bahrain are proceeding on a path of continued cooperation and joint action in all fields.

Sheikh Khalid made the statement while receiving, in his office, Kuwait's Minister of Public Works Nora Al-Mashaan who is currently visiting the Kingdom, Bahrain News Agency (BNA) reported.

Cooperation between the two ministries in the two sisterly countries provide broader horizons toward sharing expertise, based on benefiting from successful experiences among GCC states which are a key pillar of the Gulf integration and aligning with rapid development needs, Sheikh Khalid said.

Within the framework of its presidency of the GCC 46th session the Kingdom is keen to continue to support the joint Gulf initiatives and projects, he stated.

He underscored the importance of signing public agreements regarding the railway project among GCC states, as a strategic step toward enhancing connectivity among GCC states and developing the transport and logistic services system in a way that backs economic development and achieve GCC interests.

Meanwhile, Al-Mashaan thanked Bahrain's Deputy Premier for warm reception, expressing pride for the deep-rooted relations between the two countries.

She also praised opportunities provided to develop technical and professional partnerships in various sectors of public works, wishing Bahrain and its people everlasting progress and prosperity.

In other news, Bahraini Health Minister Dr. Jalila bint Al-Sayed Jawad discussed with Kuwait's Ambassador to Bahrain Jassem Al-Najem ways to strengthen the fraternal relations and bilateral cooperation between the two brotherly countries and expand their horizons across various fields, particularly healthcare sector.

The Kuwaiti Embassy in Bahrain said in a statement to KUNA on Monday, that the meeting addressed the longstanding fraternal ties between the two countries, with both sides stressing the importance of maintaining coordination and communication between relevant authorities and enhancing joint cooperation.

The statement added that the meeting explored ways to develop cooperation between the two health ministries, benefit from shared expertise and experiences, and identify opportunities for collaboration in medical training and qualification, the statement added.

Both sides also emphasized the importance of activating the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the two health ministries and following up on the implementation of its areas of cooperation, in a manner that broadens the partnership and strengthens mutual interests.

Kuwait's Embassy in Bahrain was represented at the meeting by Counselor Abdulaziz Al-Fallah and Second Secretary Lujain Abu Alyan.



KUNA photo

Kuwait's Minister of Public Works Nora Al-Mashaan with Bahrain's Deputy Prime Minister Sheikh Khalid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa.



KUNA photo

Kuwait's Minister of State for Communications and Information Technology and Acting Minister of Information and Culture Omar Al-Omar and accompanying delegation with Secretary General of the ITU Doreen Bogdan-Martin.

'Safeguard digital lifelines'

Kuwait urges protection of civilian infrastructure

DOHA, Nov 10, (KUNA): Kuwait's Minister of State for Communications and Information Technology and Acting Minister of Information and Culture Omar Al-Omar rejected on Monday the targeting of civilian infrastructure, calling for stronger international protection for these facilities and keeping them out of conflict.

This came during his speech at the 2026 Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in Doha.

Al-Omar stressed the importance of boosting international cooperation to ensure communication services function well during times of peace and crises, as they are a cornerstone of development and a means of protecting lives.

He reviewed Kuwait's efforts in developing telecommunications networks and leveraging modern technologies, including advanced fifth-generation services and the national early warning system for emergencies.

Al-Omar discussed Kuwait's candidacy for membership in the ITU Council for the 2027-2030 term, emphasizing its eagerness to contribute to efficient management, enhancing network resilience, providing affordable communication services, and sharing expertise with developing countries.

Meanwhile, Al-Omar discussed with Estonia's Minister of Justice and Digital Affairs Liisa-Ly Pakosta opportunities for cooperation in the field of communications.

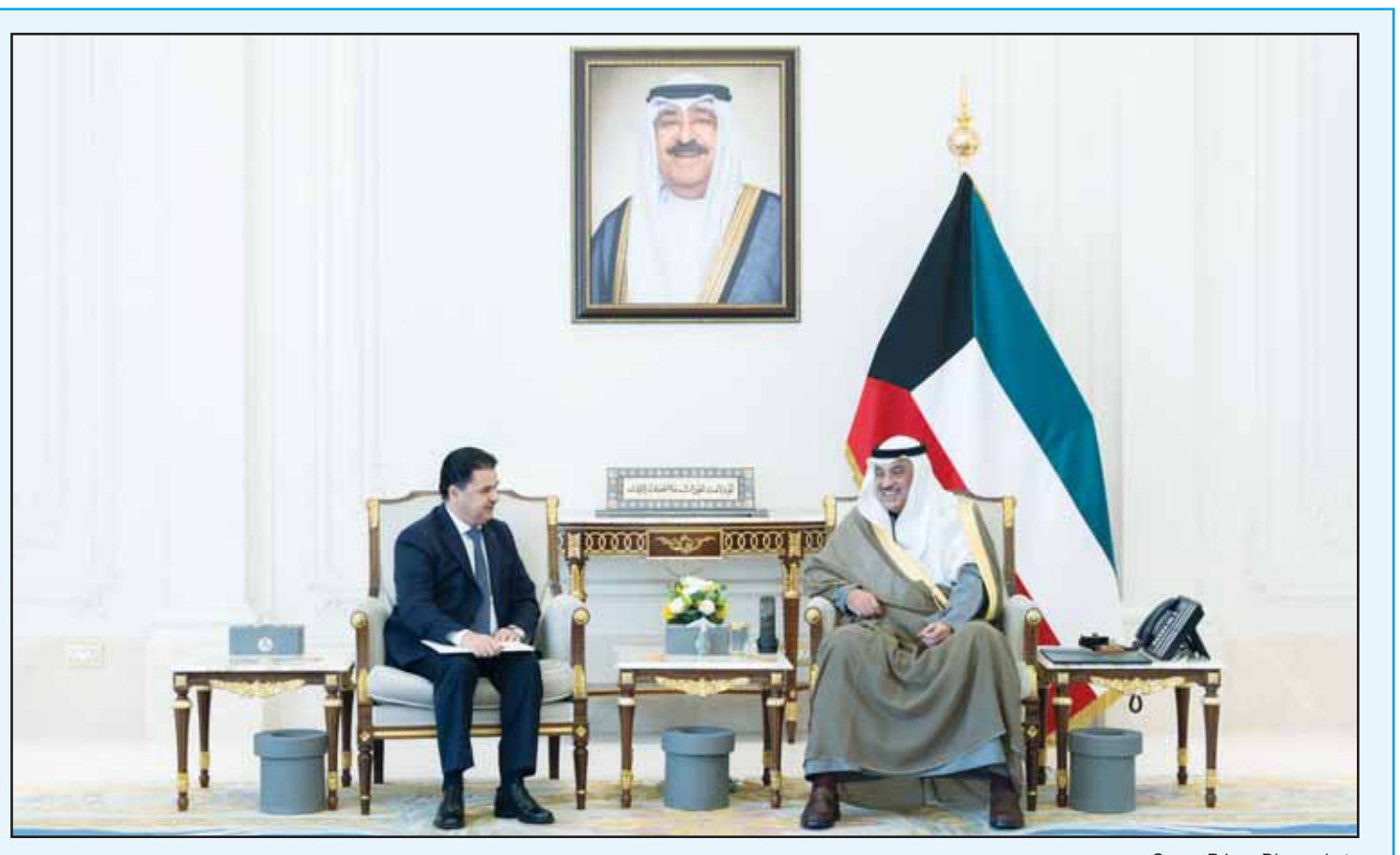
On the sidelines of the conference, both sides discussed strengthening cooperation in the field of telecommunications, as well as a number of topics of mutual interest.

The meeting was also attended by Kuwait's permanent representative to the UN and other international organizations in Geneva Ambassador Nasser Al-Hain, and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Communication and Information Technology Regulatory Authority (CITRA) Dr. Khaled Al-Zamel.

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) for 2026 kicked off on Monday in Doha, Qatar, with a Kuwaiti delegation led by Minister of State for Communications and Information Technology and Acting Minister of Information and Culture Omar Al-Omar.

In his opening speech, Qatar's Minister of Communications and Information Technology Mohammad Al-Mannai emphasized that Qatar's hosting of the conference reflects its commitment to supporting international cooperation, helping shape the future of the communications and IT sector, and enhancing opportunities for everyone.

He pointed out that digital connectivity should be inclusive to provide real opportunities for everyone and contribute to building a more sustainable digital future.



Crown Prince Diwan photo

His Highness the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah receives Jordanian Ambassador to Kuwait Sinan Rakan Al-Majali.

Amir receives message from Jordanian King

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10, (KUNA): His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received a written message from Jordanian King Abdullah II bin Al-Hussein on bilateral ties and ways to strengthen them across various fields.

Jordanian Ambassador to Kuwait Sinan Rakan Al-Majali delivered the message to His Highness the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah at Bayan Palace on Tuesday morning.

Head of His Highness the Crown Prince's Diwan Sheikh Thamer Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah and senior officials attended the meeting.

Kuwait, South Korea expand cooperation on several fronts

From C-130s to T2, ties take new flight

By Fares Ghaleb
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10: Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Kuwait H.E. Kim, Jang Hyun pointed out that regional developments have highlighted the longstanding bond of friendship between Kuwait and South Korea, while strengthening the commitment of both countries to expand cooperation in different fields like infrastructure, healthcare and defense, as well as cultural and tourism exchanges.

The ambassador made the statement at the event organized by the South Korean Embassy on the occasion of the National Foundation Day and Armed Forces Day.

Minister of State for Municipal and Housing Affairs Abdulatif Al-Mishari, Head of the National Military Service Authority Brigadier General Nayef Al-Azmi, several ambassadors, heads of diplomatic missions and other prominent individuals attended the event.

Kim started his speech by expressing appreciation to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Sabah and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah for their leadership and continuous efforts to solidify the friendship and partnership between the two countries.

Looking back on his tenure in Kuwait since arriving last May, he also expressed appreciation for the gracious welcome that the Kuwaiti people and members of the diplomatic community extended to him. He added that he was honored to be welcomed by His Highness the Amir when he submitted his credentials in September.

He praised the Kuwaiti government for its resolute handling of regional developments, as well as the determination of the people of Kuwait. He revealed that his experience in the country gives him a profound feeling of safety and stability.

He recalled South Korea's support for Kuwait during the 1990 Iraqi invasion, when his country sent a military medical assistance team and an airlift unit consisting of five C-130 aircraft, in addition to the financial support for the international coalition's campaign to liberate Kuwait. He is happy that the Kuwaiti people continue to hold this contribution in high regard.









Photos by Rezk Tawfiq

Photos during the event organized by the South Korean Embassy on the occasion of the National Foundation Day and Armed Forces Day.

He remembered the deployment of South Korean engineers to Kuwait in the midst of the recent security emergency to carry out repairs at damaged refineries, describing their assistance as valuable during a challenging period.

He stressed that the close relationship between the two countries is reflected in their continuous consultations, solid bilateral ties and joint initiatives aimed at building a common future.

On political cooperation, he cited an important telephone discussion held last March between Foreign Affairs Minister Sheikh Jarrah Al-Ahmad and his South Korean counterpart Cho Hyun, followed by the trip to Seoul in August -- the first visit by a Kuwaiti foreign affairs minister to the South Korean capital in 19 years. He disclosed that the discussions were conducted in a constructive and friendly atmosphere, affirming the depth of relations between the two countries.

On the economic sector, he mentioned the substantial contribution made by South Korean companies over several decades, beginning in the 1970s, to the construction and development of much of Kuwait's infrastructure. He voiced his eagerness to build on this successful cooperation in the years ahead.

He added that Incheon International Airport Corporation, which is in charge of operating Terminal Fourt at Kuwait International Airport, maintained smooth services despite the additional operational burden caused by flights redirected there after Terminal One was temporarily shut down, helping ensure that Kuwait remained linked to international destinations. He said the corporation is now preparing to take on the operation of Terminal Two, while other South Korean companies are seeking opportunities to participate in infrastructure developments to stimulate progress and improve public services.

He indicated that healthcare is another field with considerable potential, pointing out that Kuwaiti doctors undergo advanced professional training in South Korea. He also drew attention to the frequent visits of South Korean surgeons, who carry out procedures in cooperation with their Kuwaiti colleagues and organize medical conferences. He called for wider cooperation in clinical training and medical education to further develop expertise and strengthen the sector.

On tourism, he disclosed that around 4,000 Kuwaitis travel to South Korea each year -- 27 percent rise from pre-pandemic figures. He added that Kuwaiti visitors can remain in the country for as long as 90 days for tourism purposes or business meetings.



Members of the Diplomatic Corps pose for a group photo during the event organized by the South Korean Embassy on the occasion of the National Foundation Day and Armed Forces Day.

diwaniya ديوانية

A DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION

Egypt balances development goals and regional security challenges

"DURING my recent stay in Cairo, the "Egypt 2026 Forum" was a frequent topic of discussion in private circles and the media, serving as a platform for dialogue on the present and future of the Egyptian state," former Bahraini Minister of Labor and Social Development **Abdulnabi Al-Shuala** wrote for Al-Seyassah daily.

"Held over six days in the New Administrative Capital under the theme "A Look at Today... A Vision for Tomorrow," the forum brought together approximately 9,000 participants, including policy-makers, experts, and representatives from various sectors of society.



Al-Shuala

The discussions addressed several critical issues, including the economy, public debt, education, healthcare, employment, food and water security, as well as the security of the nation and its citizens.

Bringing these diverse issues together on a single platform reflects an understanding that development is not measured solely by the projects undertaken, but by their impact on people's lives in terms of service quality, employment opportunities, and the ability to cope with the rising cost of living.

This highlights the importance of moving beyond simply reviewing completed projects and focusing instead on evaluating their actual outcomes, taking into account citizens' experiences and identifying existing gaps and challenges.

Projects derive their true value when they translate into better services, wider opportunities, and tangible improvements in people's lives.

Meaningful dialogue also enables institutions to assess the impact of their decisions and adjust their course whenever necessary.

This becomes even more critical in light of the economic pressures currently facing Egypt, particularly the need to manage public debt, secure sustainable sources of foreign currency, and meet the population's needs for food, water, education, healthcare, and employment.

These issues are closely interconnected. Productive investment creates more job opportunities, quality education prepares young people to fill these positions, and improved public services strengthen public confidence in the effectiveness of government policies.

Water-related issues also featured prominently in discussions in Cairo, coinciding with the 9th Cairo Water Week, held from October 25 to 29 under the theme "Water as a Catalyst for Peace, Shared Prosperity, and a Sustainable Planet," and the 7th Arab Water Conference, held on October 26 and 27.

These gatherings are particularly significant for Egypt given the water security challenges it faces, foremost among them the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD).

Protecting the rights of downstream countries and the interests of all parties requires serious dialogue, clear understandings, and cooperation to ensure the equitable use of water resources and prevent tensions from escalating.

These priorities are closely linked to broader regional tensions and the risks they pose to trade routes, navigation, and energy and food supplies, particularly in the Red Sea and the Bab el-Mandeb Strait, as well as their potential repercussions for the Suez Canal and the Egyptian economy.

Consequently, economic and social preparedness has become an integral part of the national security framework, alongside the protection of strategic interests and diplomatic efforts to contain regional escalation.

Against this backdrop, the Egyptian House of Representatives, during a closed plenary session on Monday, October 26, voted by a majority of at least two-thirds to authorize President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi to take the necessary measures to provide defensive military support to Saudi Arabia, should Riyadh request it.

The decision underscores the importance of Saudi Arabia's security to Egypt and the wider region, reaffirming the principles of Arab solidarity.

However, the authorization remains conditional upon a formal request from Saudi Arabia and does not, in itself, mean that a decision to deploy troops has been made.

Furthermore, maintaining the defensive nature of this mandate and pursuing diplomatic solutions remain essential to preventing the conflict from spreading further.

Among the most notable announcements at the "Egypt 2026 Forum" was the decision to make it an annual event, supported by monthly dialogues focusing on specific sectors, as well as a mechanism to monitor the implementation of decisions and recommendations.

While these steps provide a foundation for the forum's continuity, its ultimate success will depend on the effectiveness of its follow-up mechanisms, particularly transparent reporting on progress and setbacks, clearly defined responsibilities for proposed initiatives, and specific timelines and measurable performance indicators.

The participation of thousands provides a broad platform for discussion. However, the real impact will only be felt when citizens see that their voices are being heard and recognize a tangible connection between the ideas discussed at these forums and improvements in their daily lives.

At a time when Egypt faces multiple interconnected challenges, ranging from development and water security to regional threats, the country needs a dialogue that encourages broader participation, a development agenda whose results are felt by the people, and Arab cooperation that protects security and shared interests while reducing the risks of escalation."

Also:

"When a dispute or disagreement arises between two people, and one of them presents their side of the story to family members or friends, it is important not to accept their account at face value without first speaking to the other party and hearing their perspective," Kuwaiti citizen **Sheikh Ali Al-Jaber Al-Ahmad** wrote for **Al-Seyassah daily**.



Sheikh Ali

"People often portray themselves as being in the right and present themselves as innocent, when, in reality, they may lack both credibility and a conscience.

Although we are all aware that artificial intelligence is becoming increasingly capable of mimicking reality, and that much of the content circulating on social media is false, we still tend to believe what we see and hear.

Does this reflect a high degree of good faith on our part, or does a form of foolishness take hold of our minds the moment we watch a video or hear a news report? What is the purpose behind the short, sensational stories that frequently appear on TikTok? These are tales of betrayal or theft, featuring only a handful of characters and characterized by poor production, acting, and writing.

How should you react when discussing a subject you know well and are confident about, only to find someone in the group, whether among friends, acquaintances, or others, deliberately taking the opposing position and distorting the meaning of what you have said? Even after you try to convince them with facts, they remain stubborn. In such situations, the best course of action is to remain silent, keep an open mind, and let them say whatever they wish."

Such individuals are common in society, and sometimes the only way to deal with them is through silence.

Ethics is the one subject that is not taught at universities. A sanitation worker may possess it, while someone with an advanced academic degree may lack it entirely.

If you do not find justice in the courts of this world, take your case to the court of the Hereafter. There, the witnesses are angels, the records are preserved, and the Judge is the wisest of all judges.

Dear God, protect Kuwait, its people, and its leadership from all evil and harm."

– Compiled by Simi K. Kutty

Mubarak Al-Kabeer Gov discusses service improvements with co-op representatives

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10: Sheikh Sabah Bader Al-Sabah, Mubarak Al-Kabeer Governor and acting Hawally Governor, met with representatives of the Mubarak Al-Kabeer and Al-Qurain Cooperative Society to discuss the latest developments in its operations and plans to improve services for shareholders and residents, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The meeting was held at the governor's office, where Sheikh Sabah received Mohammed Abdulrahman Al-Enezi, Head of the Services Committee and Board Member of the cooperative society, and Rashed Ahmed Al-Jalawi, Rapporteur of the Services Committee and Board Member.

Discussions focused on the cooperative society's ongoing activities and ways to enhance service standards to better meet the needs and expectations of shareholders and the local community.



Mubarak Al-Kabeer Governorate photo

Sheikh Sabah Al-Bader Al-Sabah receives a delegation from Mubarak Al-Kabeer and Al-Qurain Cooperative Society.

Sheikh Sabah praised the efforts of the cooperative society's Board of Directors and Services Committee, emphasizing the important role cooperative societies play in serving the community. He also reaffirmed his commitment to supporting initiatives aimed at developing and strengthening the cooperative sector.

Customs foils attempt to smuggle 5.65 kg of marijuana in parcels from South Africa

Seizure carried out under directives of Sheikh Fahad

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10: The Air Cargo Customs Department has foiled an attempt to smuggle 5.650 kilograms of suspected marijuana into the country in two parcels arriving from South Africa, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

According to a statement by the General Administration of Customs (GAC), the seizure was carried out under the directives of First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Fahad Al-Yousef.



The seized drugs.

Customs inspectors discovered the suspected herbal cannabis concealed inside the two parcels, which had been declared as containing ceiling lamps.

Following the seizure, the Customs Investigation and Research Department coordinated with the Ministry of Interior's Drug Control General Department to complete the necessary legal procedures.

GAC reaffirmed its commitment to preventing narcotics smuggling through the country's customs ports and strengthening cooperation with relevant security agencies to protect society.

Capital Gov inspects Damascus St



Capital Governor Sheikh Abdullah Salem Al-Ali reviews conditions on Damascus Street.

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10: The Capital Governor Sheikh Abdullah Salem Al-Ali inspected Damascus Street in coordination with the General Traffic Department and the Traffic Engineering Department to identify practical solutions to traffic congestion, improve traffic flow, and enhance road safety, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

18 traffic services via Kuwait Mobile ID

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10, (KUNA): The Ministry of Interior announced on Monday that it is now allowing applicants unable to attend in person to complete 18 traffic-related transactions by authorizing representatives to handle procedures on their behalf, following the completion of electronic authentication through the "Kuwait Mobile ID" app.

In a statement, the ministry said the available services include transferring vehicle ownership, issuing replacement plates for lost or damaged vehicle number plates, renewing vehicle registration, collecting vehicle number plates, cancelling vehicle licences, obtaining parental consent to transfer vehicle ownership to a minor, registering a new vehicle, and deregistering a vehicle.

The services also include the inspection of new vehicles, driving licence transactions, driving permits, transferring traffic violations, withdrawing driving licences under the demerit points system, renewing and issuing traffic signature, releasing impounded vehicles, and more.

The step comes as part of efforts to facilitate measures and improve services offered by checkers in a way that saves time and effort and enhances the efficiency of achieving transactions, it stated.

35 individuals stripped of Kuwaiti citizenship

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10: The Supreme Committee for the Verification of Kuwaiti Nationality has issued Resolution No. 21/112/2026, revoking the Kuwaiti citizenship of 35 individuals, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The decision was published on Tuesday in a special supplement to the official gazette "Kuwait Al-youm".

The resolution is based on Article 11 of Amiri Decree No. 15/1959 concerning the Kuwaiti Nationality Law, as amended.

MoI urges public to use only licensed transport

By Munif Naif
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10: The Ministry of Interior has warned against using buses for transportation or rental services that fall outside the scope of their authorized licenses, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

In a statement, the ministry urged the public to deal only with licensed bus rental companies and ensure that both the company and the bus are authorized for the intended purpose, whether transporting workers or school students.

The ministry stressed that compliance with relevant laws and regulations is essential to ensuring public safety.

Appeals Court orders PADA to recognize disability

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10: The Court of Appeals has upheld a lower court ruling ordering the Public Authority for Disability Affairs (PADA) to recognize Kuwaiti woman as having a permanent visual disability and issue her a disability certificate specifying the type, nature and severity of her impairment, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The case was filed following PADA's refusal to classify the woman as visually disabled, despite medical reports submitted to the court confirming that she had completely lost sight in her right eye.

Lawyer Bashar Al-Nassar, representing the plaintiff, said the medical evidence clearly established his client's visual impairment, insisting that PADA's decision was inconsistent with the findings documented in the medical reports and case records.

6 food outlets closed, 126kg of contaminated food destroyed

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10: The Public Authority for Food and Nutrition (PAFN) has ordered the closure of six food establishments in Mubarak Al-Kabeer Governorate following the detection of multiple health and safety violations, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

During inspection campaigns, authorities confiscated and destroyed 126 kilograms of contaminated food products of unknown origin and issued citations against the establishments involved.

Its inspection team in Mubarak Al-Kabeer Department uncovered several violations, including failure to meet general hygiene standards, handling food without complying with technical and health requirements, operating without a valid health license, and distributing adulterated food products.

❑ ❑ ❑

Egyptian held over relabeling: PAFN reaffirmed its commitment to continuing inspection campaigns to protect public health, safeguard consumers, and ensure compliance with food safety regulations.

The Criminal Investigation Division of the General Department of Criminal Investigation has arrested an Egyptian national accused of tampering with expiration labels on spoiled fish and meat to prepare the products for resale to restaurants, reports Al-Seyassah daily.



MEWRE announces scholarship and study leave recipients for 2026/2027

By Mohammad Ghanem
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10: The Ministry of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy has announced the list of employees selected for its scholarship and study leave program for the academic year 2026/2027.

This program is in line with the commitment of the ministry to develop the skills of its national workforce by providing them the opportunity to obtain advanced academic and scientific credentials, thereby, honing their professional skills and boosting the operational efficiency of various sectors in the ministry.

Sources revealed that the list of successful candidates can be accessed through the employee portal on the official website of the ministry.

Sources said the program is a manifestation of the dedication of the ministry to develop human resources by providing its employees with opportunities to continue their studies in accordance with the operational demands and growth needs of the ministry.



Jahra Governor Hamad Al-Habashi meets Dr. Musaed Mohammed Al-Shammari.

Jahra Governor meets education official

ahra Governor Hamad Al-Habashi received Dr. Musaed Mohammed Al-Shammari, the acting Director of the Educational Affairs Department at the Jahra Educational Zone, at the Jahra Governorate headquarters.

According to a press release issued by Jahra Governorate, the two sides discussed various educational matters concerning the governorate and explored ways to strengthen cooperation and coordination between Jahra Governorate and Jahra Educational Zone.

These efforts aim to support the educational process and improve the school environment.

The governor reaffirmed the governorate's commitment to supporting initiatives that enhance the quality of educational services and strengthen partnerships with relevant stakeholders for the benefit of students and educational staff throughout the governorate.



Minister of Education Eng. Sayed Jalal Al-Tabtabaei with the students.

'Dirasati' exhibition highlights university programs and digital education services

Minister of Education opens event

By Inaas Awadh
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10: Minister of Education Eng. Sayed Jalal Al-Tabtabaei opened the Sixth 'Dirasati' (My Studies) Exhibition at the Mishref Fairgrounds (Hall Eight) on Monday.

Present at the opening ceremony were Assistant Undersecretary for Educational Affairs in the Ministry of Education Eng. Hamad Al-Hamad, Director General of the Support Services General Department Maryam Al-Enezi, and Director of the Public Relations and Educational Media Department Arwa Al-Ayyar.

The pavilion of the ministry in the exhibition showcases services provided to students, teachers and administrative staff, digital applications and learning resources like 'Hamad Chat' and 'Salem and Abeer' application, and explanations on how to utilize them and their role in supporting the educational process.

This is in line with the commitment of the ministry to use technology in the development of the educational system and in streamlining services.

During his tour of the exhibition, Al-Tabtabaei emphasized the importance of such events in promoting communication between educational institutions, students and parents, while exploring opportunities for education and professional development.

He said the exhibition is a valuable platform for students to learn about educational pathways, labor market requirements, and e various programs and specializations offered by higher education institutions in and outside the country, thereby, enabling them to make informed decisions about their academic journey based on their personal interests and aspirations. He added that the exhibition embodies social partnership and collaboration between the public and private sectors.

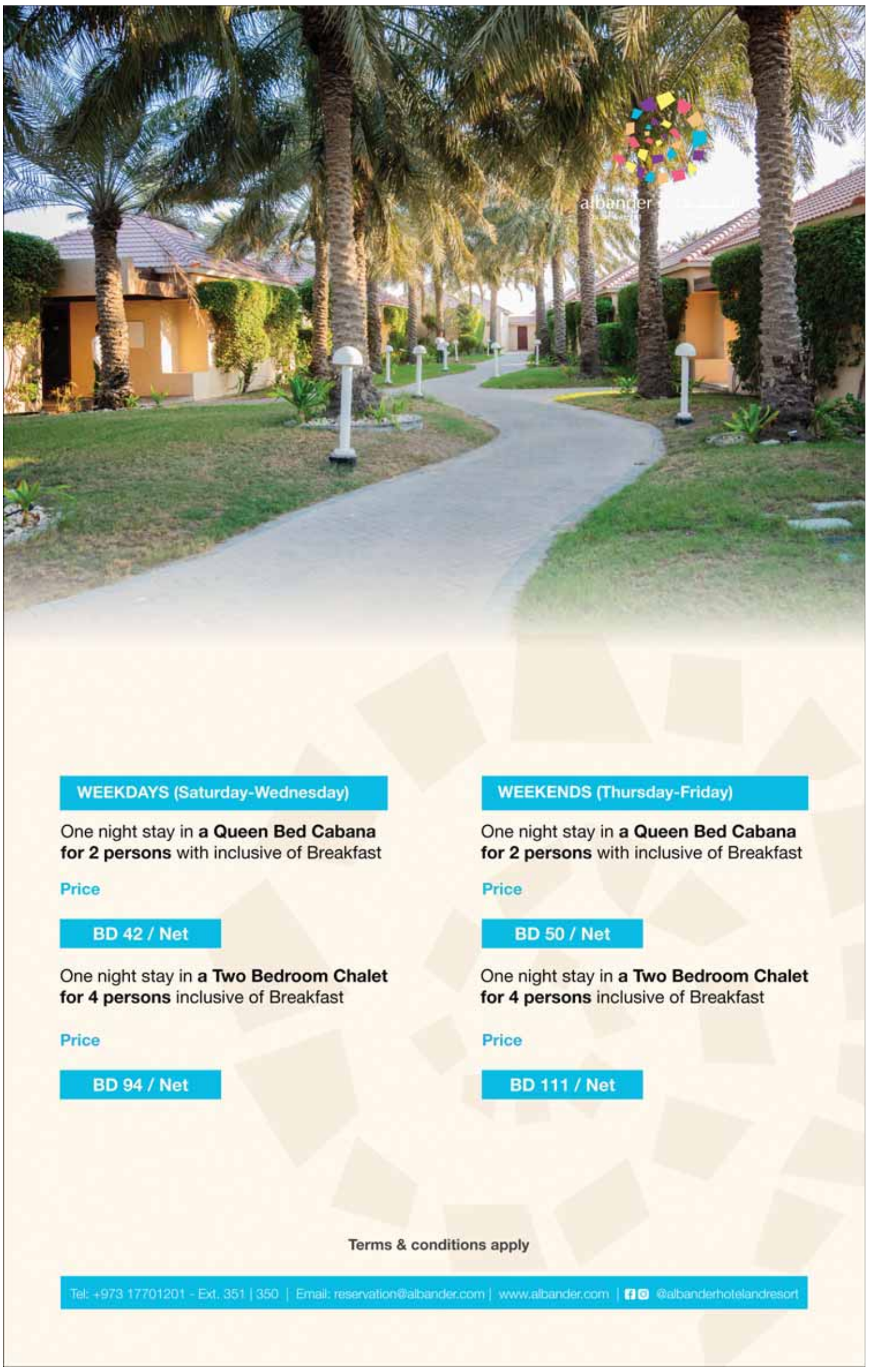
He urged the students to fully benefit from the event in order to select options that align with their individual capabilities and ambitions.

He then prayed for the success of the students and for the protection of Kuwait, His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and its people, asking that the nation be blessed with permanent security, safety and prosperity.

On the other hand, Al-Enezi revealed that the exhibition features a selection of public and private universities to introduce students to various academic specializations, admission requirements and enrollment criteria, while helping them choose paths that align with the needs of the labor market.

She affirmed that the remarkable turnout from the very first hours of the exhibition, indicating that the number of visitors reached around 4,210.

She added that the four-day exhibition will continue until Nov 12, and it is open in the morning and evening.





KUNA photo

A selection of the artistic and creative works on display at the forum.

Kuwait University opens third student talent, innovation forum

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10, (KUNA): Kuwait University opened its third Student Talent and Innovation Forum and Exhibition on Tuesday under the patronage of Kuwait University President Dr. Dina Al-Mailam.

Held under the theme "Challenge, Innovation, Sustainability," the two-day event brings together students to showcase projects and innovations across a range of fields.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Dean of Student Affairs Dr. Salem Al-Shammari said the forum gives students a platform to present their ideas and reflects the university's commitment to identifying and nurturing talent.

He said the university seeks to foster creativity and give students opportunities to demonstrate their abilities and sharpen their skills.

Workshops, competitions and other student activities help participants develop their talents while encouraging healthy competition, innovation and teamwork, Al-Shammari added.

He stressed that talent is a starting point and that determination, hard work and continuous development turn potential into achievement.

The opening program included a tour of the exhibition, followed by discussions with the Science and Technology Challenge team and students who shared their experiences and presented their projects.

The forum aims to help students exchange experiences and turn academic ideas into practical projects that address social and environmental challenges.

Continued from Page 1

Kuwait brings

On healthcare AI, he presented several initiatives, including (Salem Bot), an intelligent assistant that helps users understand and analyze their health information, while stressing that it does not replace medical consultations.

Other initiatives include (Rapid AI), an AI-powered system that assists in diagnosing strokes through non-contrast CT scans.

AI technology is also being tested in colonoscopy to detect tissue abnormalities in real time, with advanced testing and clinical evaluation currently underway in Kuwait.

Kalandar also highlighted the use of the medical (ChatGPT) application to help users understand their medical records through text and voice interactions and summarize and translate their contents.

It also explains prescriptions and medication instructions, and provides health guidance.

Kalandar stressed that these services are intended for awareness and information and do not replace consultations with doctors or pharmacists.

On external healthcare services, he outlined the Virtual Health Office initiative for emergencies, which aims to provide more efficient and sustainable services to Kuwaitis abroad.

The office facilitates information-sharing with relevant authorities, manages correspondence and follow-ups, and coordinates responsibilities among patients, their companions, treating hospitals, Ministry of Health departments and diplomatic missions.

Medical evacuation statistics for 2020-2025 showed that more than 350 patients were transported by medical evacuation aircraft, while over 1,000 patients were transferred to and from Kuwait accompanied by medical teams from more than 30 countries. The service operates around the clock throughout the year.

Emergency case management and coverage of treatment costs for Kuwaiti citizens abroad extended to more than 50 countries over the past five years.

Kalandar said the Virtual Health Office improves financial efficiency by reducing the need for additional overseas premises and resources. It also speeds up decision-making through a centralized team and enhances service quality, governance, follow-up and timely access to treatment.

He said healthcare quality and governance indicators include response times from application completion to reply, follow-up completion, patient experience and service costs.

Concluding his presentation, Kalandar outlined future plans to expand access to healthcare services from within Kuwait while maintaining quality through virtual clinics, telemedicine and stronger electronic integration with treatment institutions.

Fourth Ring

According to the ministry, one lane will be closed, while two lanes will remain open to traffic. One lane will provide access to the bridge, while the other will serve vehicles entering Sabahiya.

The partial closure took effect in the early hours of Tuesday, November 10, 2026.





Photos during the 57th International Conference on Social Work held at the National Library of Kuwait.

Al-Busais: Digital shift must protect human dignity

Kuwait conference highlights technology's role in social work

By Bassam Al-Qassas
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10: Under the patronage of Professor Dr. Fayza Mohammed Al-Kharafi and the Al-Awazem Charity Foundation, the 57th International Conference on Social Work opened at the National Library of Kuwait under the slogan: "The Future of Social Work in Light of Digital Change: We Keep Pace with Technology Without Losing Our Humanity."

The conference brought together experts, specialists, and practitioners from Kuwait and abroad to discuss how the profession can embrace digital transformation and artificial intelligence while preserving its human values, professional ethics, and commitment to dignity.

A shared vision

The opening speeches conveyed a unified message: technology should serve humanity, not replace the empathy, judgment, and human relationships at the heart of social work.

Counselor Hamad Zaid Saud Al-Busais, Chairman of Al-Awazem Charity Foundation's Board of Directors, said digital transformation must make social services more accessible while protecting beneficiaries' privacy and dignity. He stressed that institutions must provide clear support pathways, understand individual circumstances, and safeguard the data entrusted to them.

He noted that the Foundation's sponsorship reflects its commitment to exchanging expertise and turning conference outcomes into practical procedures, stronger data protection, and measurable impact. He also thanked the Ministry of Social Affairs, the National Library of Kuwait, partner organizations, and all contributors to the event.

Technology and humanity

The President of the International Organization for Women's Empowerment and Capacity Building, "Tamkeen," said that empowering women, strengthening families, and preventing violence are shared responsibilities requiring coordinated efforts and institutional partnerships.



Counselor Hamad Zaid Saud Al-Busais, Chairman of Al-Awazem Charity Foundation's Board of Directors, delivers a speech.

She emphasized that technology can expand access to services and learning, but cannot replace human conscience, empathy, or understanding. She called for responsible digital transformation that promotes social justice, protects rights, and expands opportunities for vulnerable groups.

She added that women's empowerment is a practical vision, not merely a slogan, and that preventing societal violence requires shifting from reaction to prevention, addressing root causes, and using technology to strengthen awareness, protection, and access to services.

Preserving professional identity

Professor Dr. Lubna Akrush, President of the Association of Social Workers in Jordan, said digital transformation is now essential for improving service efficiency and reaching those most in need. However, she stressed that it must not undermine the profession's core values: human dignity, empathy, privacy, trust, and the professional relationship with beneficiaries.

She explained that technology remains a supportive tool and cannot replace professional judgment or a deep understanding of individuals, families, and communities. The conference themes, she said, challenge participants to develop digital skills, review practices, and prepare for future needs while preserving social work's human identity.

Looking ahead

The speakers agreed that scientific and professional gatherings help exchange knowledge, build Arab partnerships, and develop practices that respond to societal change. They emphasized that the conference's true success will be measured by practical recommendations that translate into improved services and a tangible impact on people's lives.

Continued from Page 1

Misfortune makes

Modern history reflects the same ancient patterns, as Iran's ability for political maneuvering is becoming more sophisticated. By deploying sectarian proxy networks—a strategy akin to the 'Trojan horse', Tehran has extended its reach beyond Lebanon, Syria and Iraq to include Yemen and other countries. It has infused the Arab and non-Arab intellectual and cultural fields with its altered ideological framework.

A thorough assessment of Abu al-Tayyib's third verse in the context of the regional neighbors of Iran exposed the reality of the Persian ethos driven by an intense and deep-seated desire for revenge.

This underlying nature continues whether an Iranian presents himself as a harmless lamb or a devoted and affectionate ally. The poet captured such a disposition with striking accuracy when he said: "The absolute peak of hypocrisy is when a person smiles and acts completely cool to your face, while secretly burning with toxic hatred inside."

Vehicle valuations

The resolution also prohibits insurance companies from introducing exclusions or deductibles that could undermine the core purpose or basic coverage of an insurance policy or violate the provisions of the resolution.

It also requires companies to determine policy premiums in accordance with their existing insurance agreements or based on an assessment certified by an actuary approved by the Insurance Regulatory Unit, provided that the premiums do not fall below the established minimum threshold.

The resolution prohibits insurance companies from reassessing a vehicle's value or referring to its market value at the time of an accident, whether when issuing the policy or following the occurrence of an insured event.

In addition, insurance companies are required to inspect and photograph vehicles before issuing insurance policies and refund the premiums covering any remaining period if a policy is cancelled by the company.

The resolution stipulates that the value agreed upon when the insurance policy is issued shall serve as the basis for calculating compensation.

Article 8 requires insurance companies to specify whether vehicle repairs will be carried out at an authorized dealership or an approved repair workshop. Companies must also provide policyholders with a copy of the vehicle inspection report.

Any cancellation of an insurance policy by either party must be made in writing to be considered valid.

Meanwhile, Article 11 prohibits insurance companies from classifying a vehicle as a total loss unless it meets one of two conditions - a technical total loss or an economic partial loss.

The resolution also requires the wreckage of any vehicle to be documented and assessed before disposal.

It further obliges eligible insurance companies to comply with the principles and guidelines governing the implementation of QR codes for electronic documents.

These requirements include creating a separate electronic record for each issued document within the automated system and linking each record to a QR code.

Freelancers get

Companies must open a bank account in their name and use electronic payment methods approved by the Central Bank of Kuwait. They must disclose their commercial registration number on official accounts and in business dealings, and display it alongside the company name on their websites and social media accounts.

The rules prohibit companies from receiving clients or other visitors at private residences. Companies may use, market and sell designs, innovations, ideas and artistic models produced through their activities.

They may contract licensed businesses with commercial or industrial premises for manufacturing, production, preparation, printing and packaging. They may also contract licensed warehouses and other facilities to store products, process and fulfill orders, and handle related logistics.

Companies may display, market and sell their products and services at exhibitions, temporary markets and on online platforms, subject to applicable rules.

The ministry's Commercial Registration and Economic Activities Department will identify eligible activities. The minister may add, amend or remove activities by a decision published in the Official Gazette.

Amir Representative

He also highlighted Kuwait's commitment to the Circular Carbon Economy approach as a practical framework for addressing emissions across all sectors, stressing the summit's importance in developing action programs and strengthening international efforts to mitigate climate change. (KUNA)

Gulf states

Meanwhile, Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) defense ministers approved the establishment of a forward headquarters for the GCC Unified Military Command in Kuwait and the assignment of forces to it, GCC Secretary General Jasem Al-Budaiwi said Tuesday.

The decision came at the 23rd session of the GCC Joint Defense Council, chaired by Bahraini Minister of Defense Affairs Lieutenant General Abdullah Al-Nuaimi and attended by GCC defense ministers, including Kuwait's Sheikh Abdullah Ali Abdullah Al-Salem Al-Sabah.

Al-Budaiwi thanked Bahrain's King Hamad bin Isa Al-Khalifa, current chair of the GCC Supreme Council, for his support and guidance, and praised GCC leaders' efforts to strengthen cooperation among member states.

He said GCC leaders attach great importance to joint military cooperation, given the responsibility of member states' armed forces to safeguard their security, stability and independence.

He recalled directives issued by GCC leaders at their extraordinary meeting in Jeddah last April to strengthen joint military cooperation and improve member states' ability to confront shared threats.

Al-Budaiwi praised the military coordination among GCC states in responding to what he described as Iranian attacks, saying their joint efforts strengthened their ability to protect their territory, resources, citizens and residents.

He commended GCC armed forces for their courage and professionalism in repelling the attacks and paid tribute to those killed in the line of duty, wishing the injured a speedy recovery.

Al-Budaiwi strongly condemned the Iranian attacks that he said damaged civilian facilities and infrastructure in GCC countries. He also condemned Houthi militia attacks on Saudi Arabia, including the targeting of holy sites, as a violation of the Kingdom's security and sovereignty.

He reaffirmed the GCC's full solidarity with Saudi Arabia and its support for measures to protect the Kingdom's security, stability, territorial integrity and holy sites, stressing that Saudi security is integral to that of all GCC states.

Al-Budaiwi said the council's decisions would further deepen military integration among GCC member states.

In latest developments, the Saudi-led Coalition to Support Legitimacy in Yemen announced on Tuesday that it had intercepted and destroyed two missiles, one ballistic and the other a cruise missile, launched by the Houthi militia towards Riyadh, in addition to a drone in the Eastern Region.

The announcement was made in a brief statement by the coalition's official spokesperson, Major General Turki Al-Maliki, through his official account on the social media platform X, with no further details provided.

The Saudi-led Coalition to Support Legitimacy in Yemen also announced on Monday that it had destroyed two factories used by the Houthi militia to assemble and manufacture components for ballistic missiles, and a chemical plant used to mix and produce solid propellant for ballistic missiles.

This came in a statement made by Maj. Gen. Turki Al Maliki, the coalition's official spokesman, adding that the coalition ruined also an electronics facility used to assemble electronic systems for ballistic missiles.

The coalition will continue efforts to weaken and dismantle the Houthi militia's ballistic missile network, he noted.

Elsewhere, US President Donald Trump on Monday told reporters he believes the war in Iran "militarily is effectively over," suggesting that - at least for now - he's not prepared to resume the bombardment that has devastated the Islamic Republic and caused reverberations across the global economy.

The president made a surprise visit to the White House briefing room after meeting earlier in the day with Qatar's prime minister, Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al Thani.

"Iran militarily is effectively over," Trump said. "We're just keeping it the status quo."

He added that Iran has been "decapitated" but said he is still looking to make sure there's a long-term solution to ensuring that Iran's nuclear program is defanged.

It was some of Trump's most definitive comments about moving away from his threat to resume strikes on Iran after the U.S. midterm elections had passed.

The president's Republican Party lost both chambers of Congress to Democrats in last week's elections. The elections were shadowed by dissatisfaction among the American electorate over the 8-month-old war, which has led to a surge in fuel prices that's impacted nearly ever sector of the global economy.

Trump, over the course of the conflict, has repeatedly said he is on the cusp of ordering U.S. forces to escalate attacks if Iran's leaders don't quickly agree to U.S. terms to end the war, only to back down. In earlier cycles, he has also edged away with a last-minute declaration, sometimes at the behest of Gulf allies, that he's going to give diplomacy more time.

In a posting on social media shortly before speaking to reporters, Trump once again asserted that Middle East allies - Qatar, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Bahrain, Kuwait and others - "would prefer the status quo." Minutes later, in his exchange with reporters, he sought to assure war-weary Americans that there was "positive momentum" and that he saw a "good chance" that the war "could get ended."

"They're talking to us, and they're talking very politely, And we'll see what happens," Trump said. He added, "The military action doesn't seem to be a very necessary thing, but we're locked and loaded, ready to go for any reason that changes."

Trump, however, gave no hint of a drawdown of the thousands of U.S. troops who have been shifted to the waters off of Iran and maintain a naval blockade to stem the flow of Iranian oil into the global market.

"We're keeping it going. We have the greatest military blockade ever," Trump said.

Qatari officials last week presented proposals on Iran's nuclear program, according to two Middle East government officials familiar with the matter who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

The White House declined to comment, though Trump last week alluded to ongoing indirect talks with Tehran.

Cabinet wishes HH Amir well during US medical checkups

Kuwait approves new Family Court Law



PM Diwan photo

HH the PM chairs the weekly Cabinet meeting on Tuesday.

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10, (KUNA): Kuwait's Cabinet wished His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah success in his routine medical checkups in the United States, praying for his continued good health and safe return home.

The Cabinet, chaired by His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, also strongly condemned continued Houthi attacks on Saudi Arabia, including the launch of two ballistic missiles toward Riyadh and an attempted missile strike on Madinah.

In a statement delivered after the meeting, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Shereeda Al-Maousherji said the Cabinet described the attacks as a blatant violation of Saudi sovereignty and international law, and a serious escalation threatening civilian lives and regional stability.

Kuwait reaffirmed its full solidarity with Saudi Arabia and support for all measures it takes to safeguard its sovereignty, security and stability, stressing that the Kingdom's security is integral to that of Kuwait and other GCC states.

The Cabinet also reviewed Finance Minister Dr. Yaqoub Al-Rifai's participation in the 42nd ministerial meeting of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (COMCEC), held in Istanbul.

At the meeting, Al-Rifai warned that repeated attacks against Saudi Arabia and several GCC and Arab OIC member states threatened regional security and stability, while disruptions to the Strait of Hormuz had affected global economic activity and supply chains. He reaffirmed Kuwait's solidarity with the affected countries and called for urgent measures to address the economic and trade repercussions.

The Cabinet was also briefed by Foreign Minister Sheikh Jarrah Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah on diplomatic efforts and regional developments, including his phone contacts with Qatar's Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani, Egyptian Foreign Minister Badr Abdelatty and Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi.

The calls addressed regional developments, de-escalation efforts, maritime security and freedom of navigation.

Separately, Public Works Minister Dr. Noura Al-Mashaan briefed the Cabinet on the GCC general agreement linking member states through the Gulf Railway project, signed in Bahrain on Sunday.

She described the agreement as a historic step toward implementation, saying it would strengthen economic integration, facilitate passenger and freight transport, boost intra-GCC trade and improve logistics services.

Al-Mashaan said Kuwait, as the project's starting point, was committed to implementing its section in coordination with the GCC Railway Authority and member states.

The Cabinet also approved a draft decree-law issuing a new Family Court Law, aimed at streamlining procedures in family disputes, expediting rulings and strengthening their enforcement while safeguarding children's best interests.

The proposed legislation allows custodial parents to obtain and renew children's official documents and enroll them in schools without a separate court order, regulates child handover and visitation centers, and permits coercive fines for failure to comply with visitation or overnight-stay obligations.

The draft decree-law was referred to His Highness the Deputy Amir Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah.

The Cabinet further congratulated the unified government services application (Sahel) on winning two awards at the seventh GCC Digital Government Award in Bahrain: Best Comprehensive Government Application and Excellence in Best Government Digital Service for its "Newborn Journey" service.

It praised the achievement as reflecting Kuwait's progress in digital transformation and called for further development of the application and expansion of integrated digital services for citizens and residents.

The Cabinet also reviewed several agenda items and committee reports, approving some and referring others to the relevant ministerial committees for further study.

KD 119mn shaved off health waste bill

By Mohammad Ghanem
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10: The Board of Directors of the Central Agency for Public Tenders (CAPT) has approved the technical evaluation results for the bids of the study, design and construction supervision of the Salwa Health Center project of the Health Ministry.

The board authorized the opening of bids from five consulting firms that met the technical evaluation threshold, while five other firms did not pass the evaluation.

This decision is in response to the request of the ministry during the meeting of CAPT on Nov 2.

Separately, the State Audit Bureau (SAB) has approved the waste disposal tender of the Health Ministry.

This is a confirmation of the report that the newspaper published on Oct 26 with the headline, "KD181.9 Million for Waste Disposal in Health Districts: Awaiting State Audit Bureau Approval."

The total value of the contract is KD181,790,330 -- a significant cost saving of KD119,277,799 after the thorough review and audit of SAB. This saving was achieved by correcting mathematical errors in items 1, 2, 7, 8 and 10, along with adjustment of certain prices in Tables 5 and 6 related to Item 5.

On Oct 19, the ministry submitted the tender, which includes cleaning services, internal transport and waste disposal, at a cost of KD181.909 million, as per the decision of the Central Agency for Public Tenders (CAPT) to award the contract based on the recommendation of the ministry during its meeting on Aug 5.

The tender has 10 components -- Al-Sabah Specialized Medical District (1) at a cost of KD17.120 million, Al-Sabah Specialized Medical District (2) at a cost of KD21.096 million, Al-Sabah Medical District (3) at a cost of KD23.137 million, Capital Health District at KD13.852 million, Hawally Health District at KD11.296 million, Farwaniya Health District at KD19.533 million, Jahra Health District at KD21.020 million, Ahmadi Health District at KD24.737 million, Mubarak Al-Kabeer Health District at KD14.493 million, and the headquarters and central facilities of the ministry at a total cost of KD15.620 million.

What's On SPOTLIGHT

Spectacular celebration of young talents

Pearl Fest 2026: A radiant evening of art, culture and achievement at ICSK Junior











Some photos from the event

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10: The Indian Community School Kuwait – Junior Wing brought down the curtain on its much-anticipated Pearl Fest 2026 with a spectacular Valedictory Ceremony on Saturday, 31st October 2026 at ICSK senior. The evening celebrated artistic excellence, academic achievement and the many talents of the school's young learners.

The resplendent evening was graced by Chief Guest Dr. Susovana Sujit Nair, renowned oncologist and health educator, Vice President of Forum of Indian Doctors and the esteemed members of the Board of Trustees: Hon. Chairman Mr. Sheikh Abdul Rehman, Hon. Vice Chairman Mr. Vinu Kumar Nair, and Hon. Secretary Mr. Amer Mohammed. Principals, and vice principals from all branches, proud parents and talented students completed the gathering, marking the triumphant culmination of weeks of diligent preparation and dedicated effort.

Principal Mrs. C. Sheeja warmly welcomed the distinguished gathering and, in an inspiring address, spoke of the school's commitment to the betterment of all its students. Describing Pearl Fest as a gateway to excellence, she encouraged students to meet each opportunity with courage, curiosity and enthusiasm, noting that every performance on stage reflects the discipline, teamwork and dedication that shape confident individuals. She congratulated the participants and winners, reminding them that true success lies in perseverance and humility, and assured them of the school's constant encouragement throughout their journey. She also expressed heartfelt gratitude to the parents for their continued support and to the teachers for their commitment in guiding young learners towards their potential and making this event happen brilliantly.

The Chief Guest, Dr. Susovana Sujit Nair, a compassionate oncologist and tireless health educator, delivered an inspiring address rooted in her professional experience. She emphasised the value of awareness, prevention and timely care, reminding students, parents and teachers that safeguarding well-being begins with being mindful of one's surroundings. She lauded the school's initiatives for children and the spirit of teamwork that marked the occasion. A gifted singer as well, Dr. Nair mesmerised the audience by effortlessly rendering a song in her soothing, melodious voice. If her profession is devoted to healing patients, her music showed that a voice, too, can heal, bringing comfort and calm to every heart in the hall.

The ceremony opened with a scintillating performance by the kindergarten fancy dress winners and participants. With children appearing as flowers and butterflies fluttering in the breeze, the stage resembled a vibrant garden, gracefully choreographed and full of charm. Thoughtfully designed costumes made the segment both entertaining and enriching.

Among the highlights were the Quranic recitation, the lamp-lighting and the Kuwait national anthem, honouring the heritage of the host nation. The inspirational song Together We Shine and the invocation dance An Ode to the Divine lent the programme a serene beginning.

Between the prize distributions, the stage came alive as tiny feet tapped, twirled and leapt to the rhythm, turning the auditorium into a kaleidoscope of colour and joy. With dazzling costumes, flawless coordination and infectious energy, the young dancers held the audience spellbound from the first beat to the final bow. Every step told a story, every smile lit the stage, and the thunderous applause said it all.

The prize distribution ceremony magnificently recognised outstanding achievements across all categories. The Chief Guest, the distinguished members of the Board of Trustees and the Senior Administrator of ICSK and principals of the other branches felicitated the winners. Their encouraging presence lent grandeur to the occasion and inspired every young performer in the hall to aim higher.

The prestigious titles of Kalathilak and Kalaprathibha were conferred on exceptional performers who demonstrated consistent excellence:

Category 1: Adah Rehan Parkar (UKG-E) and Mohammed Zahan Zubair (UKG-B)

Category 2: Rithika Vipin (1-B) and Hussain Kazi (2-H)

Category 3: Reyna Elizabeth Philip (4-D) and Nathan Laloo Arun (4-F)

Category 4: Maanasa Chithy Narayanan (6-E) and Evans Biji (6-G)

Their dedication and versatile talents have set thundering benchmarks of excellence, and their achievement is a shining example of what passion, practice and perseverance can accomplish.

In a gracious gesture of gratitude, Hon. Chairman Mr. Sheikh Abdul Rahiman, together with Principal Mrs. C. Sheeja, presented a token of appreciation to the Chief Guest, Dr. Susovana Sujit Nair, honouring her valuable presence and the enriching words of wisdom she shared with the gathering. Tokens of appreciation were also presented to the Incharges of Pearl Fest, in recognition of their tireless efforts and dedicated service in making the event happen flawlessly.

Activity Coordinator Ms. Sivagami Kumar proposed the vote of thanks with heartfelt gratitude. She acknowledged the gracious presence of the distinguished guests and expressed sincere appreciation for the students' dedication, the parents' tireless support and the passionate commitment of the ICSK Junior family.

The memorable evening reflected the spirit of the ICSK family, with board members, administrators and educators setting aside personal commitments to celebrate together with genuine enthusiasm. Pearl Fest 2026 embodied ICSK Junior's commitment to nurturing young minds with care, creating a sanctuary where every child is lovingly guided to discover, polish and celebrate their unique gifts.



Photo from the event

HMWA observes Pinktober with cancer awareness program

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10: The HMWA successfully organized a Cancer Awareness Program as part of the global Pinktober campaign at Rajdhani Hotel, Kuwait, bringing together a large section of society specially healthcare advocates, community leaders, and residents for an informative session on cancer prevention and early detection.

The program featured visiting dignitary from India Prof. Mohammad Masood Ahmed, Chief Operating Officer of Renova Bibi Cancer Hospital, Hyderabad, as the keynote speaker. Addressing the gathering, Prof. Ahmed emphasized the importance of cancer awareness, regular health screenings, early diagnosis, and advancements in treatment, highlighting that timely detection can significantly improve health outcomes and save lives.

The event commenced with the recitation of the Holy Quran by Br. Younus. Ex Fima and HMWA president Mr. Ifthekhar Ahmed introduced Prof. Mohammad Masood Ahmed and highlighted his distinguished contributions to healthcare and cancer care services..

Among the distinguished attendees were Mr. Asad Khan, Mr. Kareem Irfan, Malik Sahab, and IMWA president Mr. Haneef. Mr. Asad Khan, Mr. Kareem Irfan, and Israr Ahmed Prof Arbab attended the event as Guests of Honour addressed the gathering and presented mementoes to Prof. Mohammad Masood Ahmed and noted journalist Dr. Asif in recognition of their contributions to healthcare awareness and community service. Dr Nayeem president HMWA gave the welcome and presidential address and welcome all visiting and local guest with a strong message of health care and timely intervention. MrMujataba Quadri presented the activities done by HMW through a PPT in particular TEAMS school run by the society and the challenges of running an educational institution in poor localities.

HMWA Executive Committee members Abdul Jabbar, Aslam Sahab, Mushtaq Ahmed, Zubair Ansari, Moazzam Ali, Mubeen Khan, Omar, Tariq Iqbal, and Ateeq-ur-Rahman and others welcomed the guests and dignitaries and presented bouquets as a gesture of appreciation.

A special highlight of the event was the presentation of a ceremonial shawl to Prof. Mohammad Masood Ahmedand Dr Asif a famous journalist from Hyderabad in recognition of their outstanding contributions to healthcare, cancer awareness, and community welfare. The honor was presented by Mr. Nisar Juddy, Dr. Nayeem, and Mr. Abdul Azeem.

The program concluded with an engaging interactive question-and-answer session, during which participants received practical guidance on cancer prevention, screening, and early detection. The vote of thanks was delivered by Mr. Ateeq-ur-Rahman, who expressed gratitude to the chief guest, guests of honor, organizers, volunteers, and attendees for making the event a success.

The proceedings were skillfully conducted by HMWA vice president Mr. Abdul Azeem, who enriched the program by quoting timely poetry from Allama Muhammad Iqbal, inspiring the audience with messages of hope, self-awareness, and service to society.

Capital Education Area marks historic extinguishing of Kuwait's last oil well

By Tasneem A. Al-Muhanna

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10: The Capital Education Area commemorated one of the most significant milestones in Kuwait's modern history on Monday with a national event titled "Extinguishing the Last Oil Well," celebrating the country's resilience and recovery following the devastating Iraqi invasion of 1990.

Organized for the second consecutive year by the Public Relations and Educational Media Department, in collaboration with the Social Studies Technical Supervision Department, the event brought together 16 schools from various educational levels in a collective tribute to Kuwait's determination, unity, and national pride.

The commemoration marked the 35th anniversary of the extinguishing of Kuwait's final burning oil well on November 6, 1991, an achievement that symbolized the nation's remarkable recovery from one of the most devastating environmental disasters in modern history.

During the Iraqi occupation, hundreds of Kuwait's oil wells were deliberately set ablaze, sending enormous clouds of smoke across the country and causing widespread environmental and economic destruction. The successful extinguishing of the final well became a defining moment in Kuwait's post-liberation recovery and a lasting symbol of national perseverance.

Mashael Al-Hadad, Head of the Public Relations and Educational Media Department at the Capital Education Area, emphasized the importance of commemorating this historic achievement while introducing younger generations to the challenges Kuwait faced following the invasion.

"The purpose of this event is not only to commemorate the extinguishing of the last oil well, but also to introduce the younger generation to Kuwait's history, the magnitude of the challenges our country faced following the Iraqi invasion, and the importance of strengthening loyalty, national belonging, and the preservation of our nation's resources," Al-Hadad said.

Students Celebrate Kuwait's Resilience Through Creativity

The event featured a diverse program of patriotic poetry, national performances, educational exhibitions, and creative projects, allowing students to explore and express their understanding of a defining chapter in Kuwait's history.



Patriotic dance





Some photos from the event

Fatima Abdulmohsen from Al-Sawari Primary School for Girls opened the student performances with a patriotic poetry recital reflecting love and devotion to Kuwait. She was followed by Fatima Bader from Bibi Al-Salem Secondary School for Girls, whose poetry highlighted national pride and belonging.

Wael Al-Enezi from Al-Shaya Primary School for Boys and Layan Al-Sharifi from Bahra Primary

School for Girls also presented patriotic poems celebrating Kuwait's heritage and enduring spirit.

The performances concluded with a national dance presented by students from Sulaibikhat Primary School for Girls, adding an artistic expression of patriotism to the commemorative occasion.

Al-Hadad highlighted the enthusiasm and creativity demonstrated by the participating schools, noting that the variety of activities reflected the educational significance of the initiative.

"This year, 16 schools from different educational levels participated, and we were keen to ensure that their contributions were diverse and distinctive, ranging from exhibitions, models, and creative projects depicting the oil well fires and the tremendous efforts made to extinguish them, to patriotic poetry and national performances presented by our students," she explained.

Recognizing Educational Excellence and Collaboration

The ceremony also honored the contributions of the Social Studies Technical Supervision

Department and the participating schools for their efforts in supporting the national initiative.

Ghadir Al-Jiran, Senior Social Studies Supervisor at the Capital Education Area, was recognized for her department's collaboration in organizing the event and promoting historical awareness among students.

Representatives of participating primary, intermediate, and secondary schools were also honored for their contributions to the event's educational and cultural activities. The recognition underscored the cooperation among supervisors, school administrators, teachers, and students that made the initiative possible.

Exhibition Brings a Defining Chapter of History to Life

An accompanying exhibition featured student projects, historical representations, and creative displays illustrating the destruction caused by the oil well fires and the extraordinary efforts undertaken to extinguish them.

Educational leaders and invited guests toured the exhibition, viewing detailed models, artistic presentations, and educational projects that explored the environmental consequences of the fires and the efforts to restore Kuwait's oil infrastructure.

The displays offered students a hands-on way to engage with history, connecting classroom learning with a pivotal moment in the country's recovery.

Two armies largely deadlocked on front line

US-mediated talks on ending Russia-Ukraine war begin in Abu Dhabi

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates, Nov 10, (AP): Three-way talks between Russia, Ukraine and the United States opened Tuesday in the United Arab Emirates, as Washington made another push to end the war that followed Moscow's all-out invasion of its neighbor nearly five years ago.

The two-day session in the UAE's capital, Abu Dhabi, is the first such meeting since February. It will focus on establishing future security guarantees for the warring countries, the White House said before the discussions. Russia sees NATO as a threat, and Ukraine wants to prevent future Russian invasions.

U.S. President Donald Trump's son-in-law, Jared Kushner, who along with US envoy Steve Witkoff is trying to broker a settlement, said that he believed that there were "some good ideas how to bridge" the differences between the two sides.

But hopes of progress in ending Europe's biggest conflict since World War II are tempered by the absence of any significant breakthroughs in three previous rounds of talks early this year. The war has already killed hundreds of thousands of soldiers and thousands of civilians, analysts and humanitarian organizations say.

There are no signs the fighting is abating, and the talks took place against a backdrop of new long-range strikes between Russia and Ukraine. The two armies are largely deadlocked on the front line.

Russia launched 162 drones of various types and a ballistic missile at Ukraine overnight, Ukraine's air force said.

Meanwhile, Russia's Ministry of Defense said that its forces shot down 155 Ukrainian drones overnight above eight Russian regions, as well as the Crimean Peninsula, which Russia annexed from Ukraine in 2014.

"I don't have overly high expectations" for the talks, German Chancellor Friedrich Merz said in an interview with ZDF television on Monday night.

Kushner said in opening remarks at the talks that the goal is to "create a new framework and a new understanding building upon the different institutions and understandings of the past."

"We take what's worked, we try to identify what's failed, why we're in this position and hopefully create a new framework that leads us for decades, if not centuries, of peace," Kushner said.

NATO commander US Gen. Alexus Grynkewich, who was also present, pointed to "some great progress in the past in a military-to-military dialogue in a trilateral format."



The United States, Ukraine and EU members have a consultation meeting before a trilateral negotiation involving Ukraine, the US and Russia in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates on Nov 10. (AP)

He said that the US delegation looked forward "to working with both sides as we seek to advance the progress we've made in the past and continue this pursuit to set the foundations for a lasting peace."

Rustem Umerov, the head of Ukraine's Foreign Intelligence Service who is leading Kyiv's delegation, thanked the US for its efforts to end Russia's invasion.

"Our people are waiting to end this war. And we hope that we will achieve the lasting peace for Ukraine," he said.

The head of the Russian delegation, Vladimir Medinsky, noted at the start of the talks that the Russian delegation "has become bigger and more professional."

He expressed hope that the meeting "will allow us to advance on the path towards peace in the interests of the people of Russia and the people of Ukraine."

Umerov said that the day began with a meeting between the Ukrainian team, the US envoys and representatives from the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, NATO and the European Commission.

The Russian and Ukrainian governments remain far apart on key elements of any prospective deal.

Russian President Vladimir Putin wants Ukraine to pull its troops back from four regions of Ukraine that Moscow annexed in September 2022 but has never fully captured. He also demands that Ukraine abandon its bid to join NATO, accept strict limits on its military and drop restrictions on the Russian language and the Moscow-affiliated Orthodox Church in Ukraine.

Putin wants a comprehensive peace deal on those conditions and won't agree to a general halt in hostilities, arguing that it would only allow Ukrainian troops to rest and replenish their weapons stockpiles.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, who was visiting Denmark on Tuesday, rejects Putin's demands to voluntarily cede territory. Zelenskyy also rejects any limits on Ukraine's military or its arrangements with Western partners, which Kyiv sees as essential security guarantees to stop Moscow from invading again.

Ukraine argues that an immediate ceasefire is the necessary first step toward negotiating a wider settlement and says a direct meeting between Putin and Zelenskyy is the only way territorial issues can be settled. Putin has spurned those suggestions.

The Russian and Ukrainian delegations include senior officials who have attended previous rounds of talks.

Russia's chief negotiator is Medinsky, a Putin aide who has led Moscow's team since the first direct peace talks with Ukraine in Istanbul in March 2022. The Russian delegation also includes deputy foreign ministers Sergei Ryabkov and Mikhail Galuzin, military intelligence chief Igor Kostyukov and deputy chief of the General Staff's operational department, Yuri Zhigarlovsky.

Apart from Umerov, the Ukrainian delegation also reportedly includes Zelenskyy's chief of staff, Kyrylo Budanov, his deputy, Sergiy Kyslytsya, and Davyd Arakhamia, the parliamentary faction leader of Zelenskyy's Servant of the People party.

Last week, Trump declared that some kind of grand deal about European security was in the works, describing it as "a big agreement" that is "going to involve more than Ukraine."



Smoke rises aftermath of an explosion at the Habas iron and steel plant in Izmir, Turkey on Nov 9. (AP)

Death toll rises to 16 in Turkish steel plant explosion

The death toll from a massive explosion at an iron and steel factory in Türkiye's western province of Izmir has risen to 16, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said on Monday.

Erdogan said at a press conference that an investigation was under way to determine the cause of the blast and those responsible for the negligence.

The blast occurred at around 12:00 p.m. local time (0900 GMT) at the HABAS iron and steel plant in the Aliaga district, the Izmir Governor's Office said in a statement.

It occurred during planned maintenance on one of its electric arc furnaces, according to a statement from HABAS. The explosion caused severe structural damage and sparked a fire, later brought under control by emergency crews. (Xinhua)

Trump's foreign policy won't change after GOP election losses, says Rubio

PARIS, Nov 10, (AP): US Secretary of State Marco Rubio said Republican losses in the midterm elections will not affect the Trump administration's approach to foreign policy, with clear differences on global crises emerging among top diplomats from Group of 7 allies who gathered Monday in Paris.

Rubio, who spoke to reporters after talks with his counterparts from the G7 industrialized democracies, said President Donald Trump will decide US policies as he sees fit, regardless of his Republican Party's wipeout in the midterms. He said Trump is intent on ending conflicts with Iran and between Russia and Ukraine but that the United States will maintain an "America First" approach on the world stage.

"Congress has a role to play in our foreign policy, particularly on what it funds and in its oversight function, but the No. 1 factor in determining foreign policy has always been and will remain the president," Rubio said.

The Paris meeting is Rubio's first overseas trip since Democrats seized control of Congress, partly because of deeply unpopular administration policies such as the Iran war. Allies have raised questions this week about whether the Trump administration would shift its positions.

Whether on the Russia-Ukraine war, Iran or the International Criminal Court, the US, UK, Canada, France, Germany, Italy and Japan appeared far apart as two days of talks got underway, although all agreed on the need to end the conflicts as quickly as possible.

Rubio said the US would not back down on its opposition to the international war crimes court, which the other G7 members belong to but the Trump administration wants to dismantle.



US Secretary of State Marco Rubio speaks to the press after a meeting with France's President on the sidelines of the G7 foreign ministers summit, in Paris on Nov 9. (AP)

On the Russia-Ukraine war, Rubio declined to offer a prediction about the prospects for talks that begin Tuesday in Abu Dhabi between Russia, Ukraine and U.S. envoys Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner. But he said the Trump administration would keep trying to mediate a deal.

"Your chances of success are zero if you're not trying, so we're going to continue to try," he said.

On the question of artificial intelligence, Rubio said the U.S. opposed efforts to rein in the technology promoted by some G7 members, while acknowledging the need to balance mitigating the dangers the rapidly developing technology poses.

"We're very concerned about these global institutions trying to regulate something that would stifle innovation," he said. "We don't think that's the right approach from our perspective."

Although Rubio said the US political situation was not raised in the meetings, several of his colleagues made clear that it was a question that needs to be addressed.

Canadian Foreign Minister Anita Anand, whose country has faced withering criticism and insults from Trump, said how Washington will proceed is an open question.

"In terms of the US and its approach, I will say that the president has executive powers," she told reporters in Paris.

Many defectors see daughter of North Korea's Kim Jong Un as heir apparent

SEOUL, South Korea, Nov 10, (AP): Until she fled North Korea three years ago, Kim Yumi felt deeply frustrated whenever state TV showed leader Kim Jong Un with his young daughter. The message, she felt, was clear and worrying: North Korea was laying the groundwork for an eventual hereditary transfer of power, this time to Kim's daughter.

Publicly questioning the Kim dynasty's hold on power would mean severe persecution. Already angered by draconian pandemic regulations that ruined her family's fishing business, she defected to South Korea by boat with her family.

"My husband and I didn't want our children to live under a fourth-generation dictatorship. As parents, we thought the best thing we could do for our children was to give them freedom," said Kim Yumi, 32, who now lives in Seoul.

North Korea allows no dissent and harshly punishes attempts to flee the country. Established in 1948, the nation is nominally a socialist republic, but in reality it is an authoritarian dynasty, with three generations of the Kim family ruling in succession. There was no known public resistance during its previous two successions - from state founder Kim Il Sung to his son Kim Jong Il in 1994 and then from Kim Jong Il to his son Kim Jong Un in 2011.

This time, North Korea is apparently trying something radical.

Kim Jong Un's repeated public appearances with his daughter over the past four years have led to speculation that she's being groomed as her father's heir.

The question of who will become North Korea's next leader is crucial because that person will face a huge challenge - governing an impoverished, nuclear-armed nation whose 26 million people have little political freedom and live under strict state surveillance while being cut off from much of the outside world.

North Koreans have no say in the selection of their future leader, and analysts and defectors say they will passively accept a third dynastic succession - at least publicly.



In this photo provided by the North Korean government, its leader Kim Jong Un, center, and his daughter, reportedly named Kim Ju Ae, visit a military training base in North Korea on March 19. (AP)

To gauge North Koreans' private views, The Associated Press spoke with nearly a dozen defectors who still have contacts in North Korea or witnessed the country's previous power successions, as well as several experts.

Not much is known about Kim's daughter except that she's reportedly about 13 and named Kim Ju Ae.

Since late 2022, she has made dozens of public appearances, all of them with her father at big events like weapons tests and military parades. State media has called her Kim's "most beloved" and "respected" child. Her status has been emphasized by images showing an elderly general kneeling before her and her standing in front of her father.

South Korea's spy agency says she is Kim's likely heir. Eight of the 11 defectors interviewed by the AP shared that view; the others disagreed, citing the North's deeply patriarchal culture.

"During her visits to missile launch sites and factories, the way senior North Korean officials treat Kim Ju Ae involves protocols reserved for a successor, not the ones simply for a daughter of Kim Jong Un," said Tae Yongho, a former minister at North Korea's Embassy in London who defected to South Korea in 2016. "They are repeating the same protocol and treatment they provided for Kim Jong Un," when he accompanied his father as his heir.

Kang Mi-Jin, a defector who runs a company analyzing North Korea's economy, said her contacts inside the North told her over smuggled phones that they think Kim Ju Ae is in line to succeed her father.

Jung Gwang-il, a defector who specializes in smuggling outside information to North Korea, said the North Koreans he meets as they visit Chinese border towns also hold the same belief.

Former NBA star Dennis Rodman was the first to reveal her identity, holding her as a baby during a 2013 trip to Pyongyang.

Much of the skepticism about Kim Ju Ae as a potential leader stems from her being female. South Korean officials believe she has a younger sibling whose gender hasn't been confirmed.

Women in North Korea remain deeply underrepresented in senior posts.

Europe

Bulgaria crash kills 18: A thick fog on a motorway in eastern Bulgaria caused a string of vehicle crashes that killed at least 18 people and injured dozens on Tuesday, a government minister said.

Dense fog on the motorway linking the capital Sofia with the Black Sea port of Burgas led to two pileups. The accidents forced the closure of the road in both directions, Health Minister Katya Ivkova said. (AP)

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1 dead in Spain explosion: One police officer was killed and another injured in an explosion on Tuesday morning in Oviedo, northern Spain, Spanish news agency EFE reported, citing National Police sources.

The officers discovered a backpack containing an explosive device at a residential building in the city's Villafria neighborhood at around 7:00 a.m. local time (0600 GMT) while responding to a shooting incident that left a woman injured, and the device subsequently detonated, EFE reported. (Xinhua)

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Orbán's brother held: Former Hungarian prime minister Viktor Orbán 's younger brother was taken into police custody on Monday, the new prime minister said, part of a probe into suspected human trafficking and influence peddling committed while the elder Orbán was still in office.

The move was part of a comprehensive push by Hungary's new government, led by Prime Minister Péter Magyar, to unearth suspected corruption and abuses of office committed by Orbán's far-right administration and associated business circles during his 16 years in power. (AP)

Bid to fight gangs

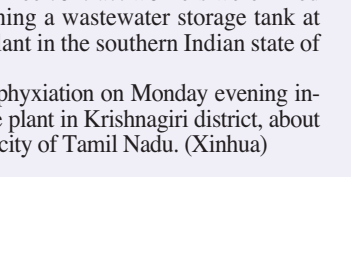
Haitian PM to visit El Salvador

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador, Nov 10, (AP): Haiti's prime minister will meet with El Salvador's government next week in a visit to the Central American nation to discuss the future of Salvadoran troops in Haiti, a Salvadoran government official confirmed to The Associated Press on Monday.

The source spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the matter. It was not clear if Haitian Prime Minister Alix Didier Fils-Aimé would meet directly with Salvadoran President Nayib Bukele.

The visit comes as Bukele has ramped up his offensive against Haiti's gangs with at least 2,500 Salvadoran forces now operating in Haiti.

The offensive began in October after four Salvadoran aviation technicians went missing in an attack by gangs. Since, Bukele has sought to project an image as a crusader on crime coming to vanquish Haitian gangs, which control whole parts of Haiti's territory and are deeply entwined with some of the country's political elite.



El Salvador's President Nayib Bukele, addresses a news conference at the presidential palace in San Salvador, El Salvador on Oct 16. (AP)

On Sunday, Haitian police and Salvadoran soldiers destroyed a home of Wilson Joseph, the leader of 400 Mawozo, one of Haiti's most powerful gangs. The operation was first reported by Haitian media and confirmed by Damian Merlo, a lobbyist working for El Salvador's government.

Subcontinent

Sri Lanka bus collision kills 5: At least five people were killed and more than 50 others injured in a multiple-bus collision in Sri Lanka's North Central Province on Tuesday, police said.

The accident occurred on the Medawachchiya-Rambewa section of the A9 highway in the Anuradhapura district and involved two buses operated by the state-run Sri Lanka Transport Board and a private bus. (Xinhua)

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3 workers dead in India: At least three contract workers were killed after inhaling toxic gas while cleaning a wastewater storage tank at the Tata Electronics iPhone parts plant in the southern Indian state of Tamil Nadu, police said Tuesday.

The workers died of suspected asphyxiation on Monday evening inside a nano-filtration feed tank of the plant in Krishnagiri district, about 291 km west of Chennai, the capital city of Tamil Nadu. (Xinhua)

Business

OAPEC highlights AI role in Arab energy sector

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10, (KUNA): Secretary-General of the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) Khaled Al-Otaibi, affirmed on Tuesday that artificial intelligence (AI), big data analytics, and digital twins enable organizations to make more accurate, rapid, and effective decisions.

Furthermore, these technologies play a key role in improving asset management, reducing operational costs, and enhancing the reliability of facilities, thereby strengthening the competitiveness of Arab companies in global markets.

11 new winners in Al Jawhara and Al Jawhara Junior draws

Maged Danial wins KD 125,000 in NBK's monthly Al Jawhara draw

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10: National Bank of Kuwait (NBK) announced the winners of the monthly Al Jawhara and Al Jawhara Junior draws during an event held at its headquarters in the presence of several Bank officials. The draws were broadcast live across NBK's digital channels and social media platforms, reaffirming the Bank's commitment to transparency and strengthening customer trust.

The event celebrated a new group of Al Jawhara winners, as the account continues to offer Kuwait's largest savings prize program of its kind, featuring a diverse range of draws and cash prizes that provide customers with opportunities to win throughout the year.

The draw saw NBK customer Maged Moheb Fakhry Danial win the Al Jawhara monthly prize of KD 125,000, while customers Abdullah Khaled Abdullah Al-Sarraf, Jawzaa Khaled Dhahwi Al-Dafeeri and Hassan Ahmed Sayed Radwan each won KD 20,000 in the weekly draw.



Representatives from the international audit firms Deloitte and Grant Thornton oversee the draw process.

The event also featured the monthly Al Jawhara Junior draw, which awarded cash prizes to seven winners. Customers Ali Ahmad Jassem Shamouh, Mohammad Bader Yaqoub Mulla Ali, and Hasan Salman Adel Abd Alrasoul, each received KD 1,000, while Habeebah Mohammad Qasem Murad, Ali Abdelrahman Khamis Abdelghani Elfarra, Narjes Maitham Ibrahim Nasrallah Al-Atram, and Bibi Abdullah Jassim Al-Mohammad Ali, each won KD 500.



Hisham Al Nusif

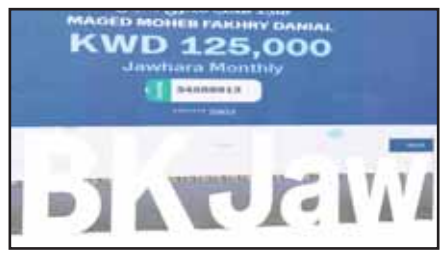
All draws were conducted in the presence and under the supervision of representatives from the international audit firms Deloitte and Grant Thornton, ensuring the highest standards of transparency, impartiality and equal opportunities for all participants.

Commenting on the occasion, Hisham Al-Nusif, Chief, Consumer Banking at NBK, said: "Al Jawhara has firmly established its position as one of Kuwait's leading savings accounts, supported by its extensive range of draws and rewarding cash prizes throughout the year. The account also offers a host of benefits that provide customers with a rewarding savings experience aligned with their aspirations and financial needs."

"Al Jawhara draws are conducted with the highest levels of transparency and integrity, following clearly defined procedures and under the supervision of independent audit firms. This further reinforces the trust and credibility that have distinguished the account over the years," Al-Nusif added.

He emphasized that the continued strong interest in Al Jawhara reflects customers' confidence in NBK and its ability to deliver banking products and services that meet their diverse needs. It also highlights the account's standing as one of the most attractive savings products in the Kuwaiti market.

Al Jawhara offers customers opportunities to win cash prizes throughout the year, including



A digital screen displaying a KWD 125,000 grand prize win for Maged Moheb Fakhry Danial during the NBK Al Jawhara's monthly prize.

weekly and monthly draws, as well as the KD 1 million grand prize draw held three times annually, in addition to Al Jawhara Junior prizes. The combined annual prize pool for Al Jawhara and Al Jawhara Junior totals KD 5 million, making it the largest savings prize program of its kind in Kuwait.

zain

Financial Results
9 Months 2026

REVENUE
1.8
KD BILLION
+4%

EBITDA
587
KD MILLION
+4%

NET INCOME
304
KD MILLION
+59%

EPS
70
FILS

CUSTOMERS
53
MILLION
+3%

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A Wonderful World

Warba Bank reports KD 36.7 mln net profit in first 9 months of '26

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10: Warba Bank announced its financial results for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2026, reporting financial and operational performance that reflects the bank's continued implementation of its strategic plans and efforts to strengthen its competitive position in Kuwait's banking sector.

The results reflect the bank's balanced business model, combining measured expansion, diversification of investment activities, development of banking services, operational efficiency, and continued investment in modern technologies to support long-term growth as a leading Islamic financial institution.



Hamad Al-Sayer

Solid Financial and Operating Performance

Warba Bank recorded a net profit of KD 36.7 million for the first nine months of 2026, with earnings per share (EPS) reaching 6.93 fils.

These results reflect a disciplined operating strategy focused on diversifying income sources, enhancing returns from banking and investment activities, improving resource allocation, and maintaining the quality of the financing portfolio and the bank's assets to support sustainable long-term growth.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2026, net investment income reached KD 24.6 million, while net fees and commission income totaled KD 10.7 million, and net financing income stood at KD 51.5 million.

Warba Bank also continued to strengthen its business activities. Total assets stood at KD 6.6 billion, up 8%, while depositors' accounts reached KD 4.1 billion, up 19%. Equity attributable to the bank's shareholders totaled KD 825.8 million, and financing receivables stood at KD 4.5 billion.

These indicators highlight the bank's strategy of balancing business growth with maintaining a strong financial position, reinforcing its capacity to execute future plans and capitalize on market opportunities.

Al-Sayer: A Strategy Rooted in Sustainable Growth and Stakeholder Trust

Commenting on the financial results, Hamad Musaed Al-Sayer, Chairman of Warba Bank, stated:

"The results achieved by Warba Bank during the first nine months of 2026 reflect the success of our clear strategic vision. Our strategy is focused on building a strong banking institution capable of achieving sustainable growth while maintaining high levels of efficiency and flexibility in responding to economic and financial changes."



Al-Ghanem

Al-Sayer continued: "During the period, we remained focused on strengthening the bank's capabilities and market presence, supported by a solid capital base and the enduring trust of our shareholders and clients. This provides strong motivation to continue our development and achieve further milestones."

Al-Sayer added: "Our ambitions extend beyond financial figures. We are committed to delivering an integrated banking experience that aligns with our clients' evolving aspirations and keeps pace with rapid technological advancements across the industry. We pursue this through investment in national talent, the development of banking services, and stronger strategic partnerships. We also place significant emphasis on advancing our role within Kuwaiti society, driven by our responsibility to support national economic development and build a more innovative, sustainable banking sector."

Al-Sayer concluded: "We look ahead with confidence, remaining committed to executing our strategic objectives to strengthen Warba Bank's position in the Islamic banking sector and contribute actively to Kuwait's future vision."

Digital Transformation: Continuous Innovation and Enhanced Customer Experience

Warba Bank continues to prioritize digital transformation as a key strategic driver for operational efficiency and service excellence. The bank is expanding its suite of digital solutions and enhancing its banking platforms to deliver a more seamless, flexible customer journey that meets the evolving demands of modern financial transactions.

Investment Activities: Diversifying Opportunities and Expanding Market Presence

Investment activities represent a strategic growth pillar for Warba Bank. The bank continues to develop its investment portfolio and diversify its activities to capitalize on opportunities across local, regional, and international markets.

This is supported by expanding corporate financing capabilities, strengthening relationships with regional and global financial institutions, and participating in financing and investment transactions aligned with the bank's strategic objectives and Sharia principles.

Warba Bank also prioritizes sustainable environmental practices by optimizing resource management and reducing the environmental impact of its operations, aligning with modern standards for responsible banking.

These initiatives reflect the bank's commitment to balancing economic performance with environmental and social stewardship, serving as an active partner in Kuwait's sustainable development agenda.

Al-Ghanem: Building an Efficient, Innovation-Led Banking Model

For his part, Shaheen Hamad Al-Ghanem, Chief Executive Officer at Warba Bank, stated:

"The financial results recorded during the first nine months of 2026 demonstrate the effectiveness of our operating model. We remain focused on delivering balanced growth by diversifying revenue streams, safeguarding asset quality, and improving resource management efficiency, thereby supporting the stability of our financial performance and positioning the bank for continued expansion."

Al-Ghanem added: "We continue to develop our banking services, placing customer experience at the center of our priorities by using technology and innovation to design more flexible and advanced financial solutions. Digital transformation is pivotal to the future of the financial services industry; consequently, we continue to scale our technological capabilities and develop our banking channels and products to meet our customers' needs and expectations."

Revenue grows 4% YoY to KD 1.8 billion

Zain Group reports 17-yr high results for 9M 2026

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10: Zain Group, a leading regional TechCo providing innovative ICT and digital lifestyle solutions in eight markets across the Middle East and Africa, released its consolidated financial results for the third quarter (Q3) and nine-months (9M) periods ended 30 September 2026. The Group now serves 53 million active customers, a 3% year-on-year (YoY) increase.

For 9M 2026, Zain Group reported a 17-year high consolidated revenue of KD 1.8 billion (USD 5.71 billion), an increase of 4% YoY. Consolidated EBITDA reached KD 587 million (USD 1.91 billion), up 4% YoY, reflecting an EBITDA margin of 34%. Net income soared 59% YoY to KD 304 million (USD 990 million), which includes a gain of USD 501 million from Group's strategic investments undertaken by Zain Ventures. Earnings per share (EPS) stood at 70 fils (USD 0.23).

In Q3 2026, Zain Group generated consolidated revenue of KD 615 million (USD 2.0 billion), an increase of 2% YoY. EBITDA for the quarter reached KD 209 million (USD 681 million), up 1% YoY, reflecting an EBITDA margin of 34%. Net income for the three-month period amounted to KD 84 million (USD 273 million), up 30% YoY, with earnings per share (EPS) of 19 fils (USD 0.06).

Key Operational Notes for Q3 & 9M 2026

1. Interim cash dividend of 17 fils per share, totalling KD 73.6 million (USD239 million) was distributed to eligible shareholders on 6 October 2026 for the first half of the year
2. Exceptional net profit growth in KSA (+45%) during 9M 2026
3. 9M 2026 data revenue grew 11% YoY to reach USD 2.3 billion, representing 39% of Group revenue
4. Zain invested USD 501 million in CAPEX during 9M 2026, representing 9% of revenues
5. Zain Ventures strategic investments record notable gains of USD 501 million for 9M 2026
6. Growth verticals delivered USD 759 million in revenue, representing a robust growth of 30% YoY
7. Fintech services witness customer growth of 31% and revenue growth of 6% for 9M 2026
8. Enterprise revenue grows 12% YoY, as ZainTECH and B2B teams win key B2B and B2G accounts
9. ZainTECH revenue rises 17% YoY, expands to Egypt and scales up other markets
10. Zain Omantel International (ZOI) records exceptional revenue growth of 46% YoY
11. Operations in Kuwait, KSA, Bahrain and Jordan witness growth in 5G revenues
12. Sudan operation impacted by 15% currency devaluation during the quarter
13. Zain and Ooredoo complete first closing of 50/50 regional tower platform, combining 4,000 towers
14. Forbes names Zain the world's best telecoms employer and one of the top 100 employers globally
15. Zain Group earns inaugural MEIRA Gold Standard Certification for Investor Relations excellence
16. Zain Group's MSCI rating for ESG upgraded to 'AA'

Nour Al-Jassim, Chair of the Board, Zain Group, said: "The Board is working closely with management to address regional socio-economic challenges and build a resilient, future-ready organization positioned for sustainable growth and long-term shareholder value. As the company and digital landscape continue to evolve rapidly, we remain committed to balancing commercial ambition with ESG priorities and constructive collaboration with regulators and stakeholders across our markets. These record-breaking results, marked by numerous achievements for the quarter, reaffirm the success of our actions and decisions."

Bader Al-Kharafi, Zain Vice-Chairman and Group CEO commented, "Our transformation into an innovative technology driven and investment focused TechCo is delivering revenue growth and creating shareholder value. These 17-year-high 9M results reflect the diligent execution of our '4WARD-Progress with Purpose' strategy, reinforced by monetization of our network upgrades and ICT resources, coupled with methodical investment in technologies and high-quality opportunities across the global entrepreneurial ecosystem."

"Despite continued regional instability, that impacted roaming, device availability and enterprise revenue across several key markets, alongside currency devaluation in Sudan, our teams stayed focused on cost optimization, strengthening our networks, rolling out vital ICT and individual lifestyle services, all while delivering an exceptional customer experience."

"That focus translated into tangible progress with healthy growth across many of our operations and growth business verticals. Our home market Kuwait continues to dominate its leading position, sealing multiple lucrative Enterprise deals with many more in the pipeline, activating a new 100G connection to Europe that strengthened the country's international connectivity resilience, as well as growing its 5G-Advanced value proposition across many service offerings."

"It was pleasing to see Zain KSA report 45% net income growth for the nine-month period, driven by the monetization of its upgraded 5G-A network, which is supporting customer growth; business diversification and the acquisition of key enterprise clients; the continued development of its digital operator-Yaqoot, and profitable growth of its microfinance fintech entity Tamam, each contributing to the Kingdom's evolving needs."

"Zain Iraq's forward momentum and continued network expansion resulted in its highest quarterly revenue and customer numbers in more than a decade. In light of Iraq's 13% currency devaluation in October 2026, we are implementing initiatives to mitigate the financial impact on this steadily growing market. In Sudan, ongoing network site restoration is driving customer growth and revenue; however, despite the team's efforts, these gains were not fully reflected in financial results due to the sharp depreciation of the Sudanese pound against the US dollar. We are also undertaking mitigation measures to reduce the impact going forward."

"We are highly confident that our key strategic and successful business verticals, ZainTECH and Zain Omantel International impressive revenue growth to date will continue while delivering essential ICT and connectivity services across the region and beyond. ZainTECH's recent expansion to Egypt is a positive move that will support the digital transformation ambitions of local enterprises and government entities."

"We are also extremely confident of the growth potential in our fintech vertical, comprising 'Bede' in Kuwait, Bahrain, and Sudan; 'Tamam' in KSA; and 'Zain Cash' in Jordan and Iraq whose combined customer base grew 31% over the year to now exceed 6.8 million, driving a 6% increase in revenue. We will foster this space, provide life-enriching services and drive financial inclusion across our footprint."

"Rewarding our evolution into AI-focused technology driven and investment company, Zain Ventures investments in high-growth companies including SpaceX, Cohere, Groq and Revolut had a significant positive impact on our financial performance for the 9M period with a USD 501 million gain. We will continue to pursue strategic investments while methodically divesting to strengthen cash flows."

"We have revised our strategic Tower infrastructure plans with the first closing and integration of Zain's tower network in Kuwait with Ooredoo's towers in Qatar, creating a new platform that combines 4,000 towers. Each entity will hold 50% with more towers to be added in due course, subject to regulatory approval and closing conditions. This first closing reflects our shared strategy of building focused, scalable and sustainable platforms that unlock greater value from our assets while supporting the reduction of the region's carbon footprint."

"Forbes distinguished ranking of Zain as the world's best telecoms employer and one of the top 100 employers globally reflects the Board and Executive Management's commitment to responsible business practices, talent development and an inclusive workplace culture. Our 8,000 talented workforce are focused on delivering meaningful connectivity that enhances experiences for our customers, employees, and shareholders."

"Zain Group's receipt of the inaugural MEIRA Gold Standard Certification for Investor Relations excellence, which recognizes the maturity and effectiveness of corporate investor relations programs and their alignment with international best practices, reinforces the importance we place on clear, consistent, and timely communication with shareholders, investors, analysts, and the wider financial community. As investor expectations continue to evolve, the Group views strong investor relations as an essential pillar in building market confidence, supporting informed investment decisions, and creating sustainable long-term value."

"On a final note, Morgan Stanley Capital International's (MSCI) upgrade of Zain's Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) rating from 'A' to 'AA' marked a significant milestone in the company's evolution into a diversified and sustainable TechCo, reflecting our ongoing commitment to sustainable growth, sound governance, and responsible business leadership. This rating makes Zain the highest-rated company in Kuwait across all industries within the MSCI ESG assessment universe and places Zain Group in the Leader category among a global peer universe of 164 telecommunications companies. By ensuring that our governance frameworks remain aligned with evolving international standards and best practices across every business function, we have strengthened our ability to anticipate risks, safeguard stakeholder trust, and create lasting value. This progress also advances our purpose: 'Better Lives. Lasting Connections.'"



Nour Al-Jasim, Zain Group Chair of the Board



Bader Al Kharafi, Vice-Chairman and Group CEO

- Group consolidated EBITDA grew 4% to KD 587 million (USD 1.91 billion) for 9M 2026

Leadership comments:

- Chair of the Board, Mrs Nour Al-Jassim: "The Board is working closely with management to mitigate the regional socio-economic challenges and build a resilient, sustainable and future-ready organization"
- Vice-Chairman & Group CEO, Bader Al-Kharafi: "Our transformation into an innovative AI and investment focused TechCo is delivering revenue growth and creating shareholder value"

Key business highlights – Q3 and 9M 2026:

- Q3 2026 revenue up 2% YoY to KD 615m (USD 2.0 bn), Net Income up 30% to KD 84m (USD 273 m)
- Interim 17 fils dividend totalling KD 73.6m (USD 239 m) distributed to shareholders on 6 October 2026
- Customer base grew 3% to reach 53 m, driven by network restoration in Sudan and expansion in Iraq
- Across all markets, Zain invested USD 501 million in CAPEX (9% of revenue)
- Data revenue grew 11% YoY to reach USD 2.3 billion, representing 39% of total Group revenue
- Exceptional 45% net profit growth in KSA during 9M 2026
- Zain Ventures strategic investments record notable gains of USD 501 million for 9M 2026
- Growth verticals delivered USD 759 million in revenue for 9M, a robust growth of 30% YoY
- Enterprise revenue grew 12%, as ZainTECH and local B2B teams win major clients
- ZainTECH revenue rose 17% YoY, expands to Egypt and scales up other markets
- Zain Omantel International (ZOI) records remarkable revenue growth of 46% YoY
- 5G-Advanced services across Kuwait and KSA driving strong customer adoption
- Fintech customer growth of 31% boosts revenue 6% YoY across multiple markets
- First closing of tower platform combining 4,000 towers in Kuwait and Qatar
- Forbes names Zain the world's best telecoms employer and one of the top 100 employers globally
- Zain earns inaugural MEIRA Gold Standard Certification for Investor Relations excellence
- Zain Group's MSCI rating for ESG upgraded to 'AA'

Group Key Performance Indicators (KD and USD) for the first nine months (9M) 2026

Consolidated Revenue	KD 1.8 billion	- USD 5.71 billion
EBITDA	KD 587 million	- USD 1.91 billion
EBITDA Margin	34%	
Net Income	KD 304 million	- USD 990 million
EPS	70 fils	- USD 0.23

Group Key Performance Indicators (KD and USD) for third quarter (Q3) 2026

Consolidated Revenue	KD 615 million	- USD 2.0 billion
EBITDA	KD 209 million	- USD 681 Million
EBITDA Margin	34%	
Net Income	KD 84 million	- USD 273 million
EPS	19 fils	- USD 0.06



Zain HQ 2026

Operational review of key markets for the Q3 & 9M period ended 30 September, 2026

Kuwait: Zain Group's flagship and most profitable operation maintained its market leadership, serving a customer base of 2.6 million. Q3 2026 revenue reached KD 93 million (USD 302 million). EBITDA grew 4% to reach KD 35.7 million (USD 116 million), reflecting an improved EBITDA margin of 38%. Q3 net income reached KD 19 million (USD 62 million), while 9M 2026 net income stood at KD 55 million (USD 178 million). Data revenue grew 7% YoY in 9M 2026, representing 41% of total revenue.

Notable achievements by the operation include the successful bid in partnership with ZOI of a 15-year connectivity and colocation project linking Google's three Kuwait data centers. Additionally, collaboration with ZainTECH secured a five-year national smart-metering program with the country's Ministry of Electricity, Water, and Renewable Energy. With a focus on monetizing its 5G-Advanced network, the operation witnessed healthy MAX broadband plans and home internet revenue growth. Unfortunately, regional instability impacted roaming revenue and delayed multiple lucrative Enterprise deals. Zain Kuwait activated a new 100G connection to Europe, strengthening the country's international connectivity resilience.

Saudi Arabia: Revenue for Q3-2026 grew 3% YoY to reach USD 756 million, with EBITDA reaching USD 223 million, reflecting an EBITDA margin of 29%. Net income for Q3 stood at USD 36 million, while 9M 2026 net income increased 45% to reach USD 144 million. The launch of 5G-Advanced services in Riyadh and Jeddah, drove a 4% increase in data revenue, representing 41% of total revenue in 9M 2026, while the customer base grew 3% to reach 8.9 million.

Iraq: Zain Iraq recorded revenue of USD 368 million in Q3 2026, up 8% YoY with EBITDA reaching USD 126 million. Net profit for Q3 reached USD 37 million, with 9M 2026 net profit reaching USD 108 million. Zain Iraq's customer base increased 4% YoY to 21.1 million, maintaining its market-leading position. Performance was driven by effective execution of its commercial strategy, continued network deployment in strategically relevant regions, and solid contributions from its subsidiaries Horizon and NextGen, despite ongoing regional instability and macroeconomic pressures.

Sudan: Revenue for Q3-2026 stood at USD 155 million, with EBITDA of USD 71 million reflecting an EBITDA margin of 46%. Net income reached USD 63 million for the quarter, bringing nine-month net income to USD 178 million. Customer base expanded by 8% YoY, reaching 13.2 million.

Jordan: Q3-2026 revenue grew 4% YoY to reach USD 159 million, with EBITDA for Q3 up 5% to reach USD 61 million, reflecting an EBITDA margin of 38%. Net income for Q3 increased 4% to reach USD 21 million, while 9M 2026 net income stood at USD 61 million with growth of 2%. The ongoing expansion of 5G, FTTH and 4G services across the country led to data revenue growth of 9% for 9M 2026, which now represents 57% of total revenue. Zain Jordan served 4.4 million customers, up 1%, maintaining its market leadership.

Bahrain: Revenue for Q3 2026 grew 13% YoY to reach USD 58 million, with EBITDA growing 4% to reach USD 16.6 million, reflecting an EBITDA margin of 28%. Q3 net income increased 4% to reach USD 4.5 million, and 9M 2026 net income increased 2% to USD 11.3 million. 9M 2026 data revenue grew 4% to represent 47% of total revenue.

KD 200 million supporting Kuwait's economic growth

Boursa Kuwait launches fixed-income platform with the listing of KFH sukuk

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10: Boursa Kuwait launched its fixed-income market with the inaugural listing of Kuwait Finance House (KFH) sukuk valued at KD 200 million, under the trading symbol KFH T1S3.

The listing introduces a new asset class to Boursa Kuwait, marking a significant milestone in its transition towards a multi-asset market where equities and fixed-income instruments complement one another in serving the needs of the national economy.

By providing a regulated platform for bonds and sukuk, the exchange enables institutions to diversify their funding sources and access additional financing options to support their investment and expansion plans. For eligible investors, these instruments offer different rights, profit distribution arrangements and structures, broadening opportunities for portfolio diversification in line with their investment objectives.

The listing received approval from the Capital Markets Authority (CMA) on 5 November 2026, following Boursa Kuwait's recommendation and the fulfilment of applicable requirements governing the listing, trading and disclosure of bonds and sukuk.

Issued in May 2026, the KFH sukuk are perpetual Mudaraba instruments compliant with Islamic Sharia principles and qualify as Additional Tier 1 (AT1) capital. They carry an initial profit distribution rate of 5.50% per annum, with semi-annual distributions subject to the terms and conditions of the issuance.

The listing now establishes a presence within the regulated capital market, facilitating transactions in the instruments and access to the associated disclosures and information, in accordance with the applicable requirements and the terms of the sukuk.



Chairman – Bader-Al-Kharafi



Boursa Kuwait CEO - Mohammad Al-Osaimi



KFH Chairman – Hamad Al-Marzouq



KFH Group CEO Khaled Al-Shamlan

Al-Kharafi: Capital market to play a key role in Kuwait's economic ambitions

The listing holds strategic significance in positioning the Kuwaiti capital market as an attractive destination for domestic institutions considering debt instrument issuances, while strengthening the country's financial services ecosystem.

Beyond expanding the range of listed instruments, a regulated market for bonds and sukuk can stimulate demand for related services, including legal and Sharia advisory services, credit analysis and asset management, creating opportunities to leverage national talent and specialized expertise, while retaining a greater share of the economic value generated by these activities within Kuwait.

Commenting on the significance of the listing, Boursa Kuwait Chairman Mr. Bader Nasser Al-Kharafi said: "With the listing of Kuwait Finance House sukuk, Boursa Kuwait introduces a new asset class, reinforcing its pivotal role in the Kuwaiti capital market's transition towards a multi-asset market. This milestone establishes an additional channel connecting capital with investment opportunities, enabling institutions to pursue their financing ambitions and strengthen their competitiveness.

"More importantly, it brings us closer to our vision of a capital market that plays a central role in Kuwait's economic progress, translating the strength of its institutions and the availability of capital into productive investments that generate lasting value for the country."

Elaborating on Boursa Kuwait's strategic priorities, the Boursa Kuwait Chairman added that continued investment in market infrastructure and capabilities reflects a long-term commitment to supporting the financing needs of Kuwait's institutions.

"We are building a market that responds to the evolving requirements of businesses, encourages investment in productive sectors and strengthens the private sector's contribution to economic diversification," he said.

"The activation of the fixed-income platform is a tangible step towards that objective. We encourage institutions to take advantage of the opportunities it offers to broaden their funding sources, and we look forward to this inaugural listing establishing a foundation for further issuances that contribute to the depth and sophistication of the market."

Turning to the role of Kuwait Finance House in achieving this milestone, Al-Kharafi said:

"On behalf of the Board of Directors and myself, I extend my sincere appreciation to the Chairman of Kuwait Finance House Group, its Board of Directors and executive management for their confidence in Boursa Kuwait and their decision to list these sukuk."

"As one of Kuwait's leading financial institutions, KFH's participation lends particular significance to this inaugural listing. Its decision demonstrates how collaboration between the banking sector and the capital market can translate shared ambitions into concrete achievements that benefit the wider economy."

Al-Marzouq: The listing builds on the group's expertise and leadership in the issuance of Sukuk

"The listing and trading of sukuk on Boursa Kuwait marks a historic milestone and an unprecedented development in Kuwait's capital market, and we are proud that KFH sukuk are the first fixed-income instruments to be listed on Boursa Kuwait, a milestone that reaffirms our confidence in the local market and our commitment to contributing to its advancement," said Kuwait Finance House Group Chairman Mr. Hamad Abdulmohsen Al-Marzouq.

"The listing builds on the Group's experience and expertise in sukuk issuance and its continued efforts to offer Sharia-compliant capital instruments that address evolving financing and investment needs. We believe that establishing a domestic sukuk market presents an important opportunity to strengthen the relationship between the banking sector and the capital market, enable institutions to diversify their funding sources and reinforce Kuwait's position in Islamic finance."

Al-Marzouq added that Kuwait has a well-established network of institutions and specialized expertise in Islamic finance, which has contributed to the strong presence of Kuwaiti financial institutions in regional and international sukuk markets.

"Listing these instruments locally provides an opportunity to leverage these capabilities in building a market that responds to genuine financing and investment needs," he said.

"We hope our participation will encourage other institutions to consider incorporating sukuk into their financing strategies, while strengthening cooperation between the banking sector and the capital market and enhancing the competitiveness of Kuwait's financial sector."

Al-Marzouq concluded his remarks by expressing his appreciation to Boursa Kuwait, the Capital Markets Authority, Kuwait Clearing Company and all relevant stakeholders for their cooperation in completing the listing requirements.

Al-Osaimi: Operational efficiency and integrated services to support future listings

The launch of Boursa Kuwait's bonds and Sukuk platform follows a series of regulatory developments in 2026 concerning the listing, trading and disclosure of fixed-income instruments, including amendments to listing requirements and the ongoing obligations of issuers and obligors, alongside corresponding changes to the exchange's rulebook, all of which were approved by the CMA in April. Together, these measures established the framework for accommodating financial instruments with requirements distinct from those of equities.

"The listing of KFH sukuk marks the commencement of operations on our bonds and sukuk platform, culminating in the extensive preparations undertaken in collaboration with our partners across the capital market apparatus," said Boursa Kuwait CEO Mr. Mohammad Saud Al-Osaimi.

"Our efforts have focused on adapting trading systems and listing procedures to the requirements of fixed-income instruments, establishing a dedicated trading board and coordinating with Kuwait Clearing Company on clearing and settlement services. We have also worked closely with brokers to facilitate transactions through approved channels. Our responsibility now is to ensure the platform operates efficiently, with integrated services and clear procedures for all market participants," he added.

Addressing the importance of transparency and ongoing disclosure, Al-Osaimi added that reliable information and timely disclosures are fundamental to the operation of this market, particularly given the different profit distribution schedules, redemption terms and other conditions associated with each issuance.

Al-Shamlan: Expanding and diversifying Sharia-compliant investment and financing instruments

Commenting on the occasion, Kuwait Finance House Group CEO Mr. Khaled Yousef Al-Shamlan said:

"The listing of the first sukuk on Boursa Kuwait reaffirms Kuwait Finance House's pioneering role in expanding and diversifying Sharia-compliant investment and financing instruments. This listing is also aligned with the Group's strategy to enhance capital management efficiency and align its resources with its growth and expansion plans, while maintaining financial strength and compliance with regulatory requirements."

"These efforts support the bank's ability to finance development projects and contribute to economic activity in Kuwait," he added.

Al-Shamlan stated that the listing introduces a new asset class for investors alongside equities and real estate investment trusts (REITs), providing greater investment diversification, enhancing liquidity and supporting more effective risk management.

"The listing demonstrates the complementary roles of Kuwait Finance House as an issuer and arranger of Islamic capital instruments, and Boursa Kuwait as a regulated platform for trading, disclosure and market development," he said.

"This collaboration enhances the attractiveness of the local market and provides broader opportunities for investors and institutions. It also reaffirms Kuwait Finance House's continued leadership in introducing initiatives that expand the range of innovative Islamic investment products, while supporting the growth of Kuwait's capital market and strengthening the country's position as a regional financial center," he added.

Commercial Real Estate Company posts profit of KD 12.26 mln in Q3

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10: Mr. Abdulfatah Marafie, Chairman of The Commercial Real Estate Company (Al-Tijaria), stated that the Company's financial results for the period ended 30 September 2026 recorded net profits of KD 12,258,039 (Twelve million two hundred fifty eight thousand thirty nine Kuwaiti Dinars).

Commenting on the financial results for the third Quarter of 2026, Mr. Marafie stated that, despite the prevailing geopolitical circumstances and their impact on economic conditions, the third quarter of the year witnessed a slight decline in net operating income, growth in the results of associate companies, and a decline in valuation gains on certain investments compared with the corresponding period of the previous year.

With regard to the Company's financial indicators for the third quarter of 2026, the return on shareholders' equity reached 4.0%, the return on total assets stood at 2.4%, and the return on the Company's capital amounted to 6.3%.

Mr. Marafie affirmed that, Al-Tijaria has maintained its strong performance while closely monitoring ongoing developments and assessing their potential impact on economic conditions. The Company continues to take proactive measures to adapt to these challenges, safeguard shareholders' rights, and preserve its strong financial position.

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



Abdulfatah M. R. Marafie- Chairman

During 2026, the Company, together with its strategic investors, also successfully exited its investment in 501 First Residences in Miami, a 40-storey residential tower comprising 476 units, following the successful development and sale of the residential units, resulting in profits being recognized by the Company.

Mr. Marafie also highlighted that Al Tijaria is committed to Establishing the Sustainability principles of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) through continuous implementation of a number of national, community, environmental, and educational initiatives during the third quarter of the year, reaffirming its commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and its role as an active partner in supporting sustainable development.

ALSAYER supports Kuwait's industrial future as Platinum Sponsor



Photo during the event

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10: As part of its commitment to supporting national development and advancing Kuwait's industrial sector, ALSAYER Group participated as the Platinum Sponsor of the Kuwait Industries Conference and Exhibition (KI NEXT 26), held on October 28 and 29, 2026, at Jumeirah Messilah Beach Hotel.

The event brought together government officials, industry leaders, innovators, investors, and public and private sector representatives to discuss Kuwait's industrial transformation and sustainable economic growth. Discussions focused on industrial development, digital transformation, innovation, sustainability, competitiveness, exports, entrepreneurship, and the adoption of advanced technologies.

ALSAYER Group's Platinum Sponsorship reflects its long-standing support for national industries and Kuwait's economic diversification efforts. The Group believes that investing in industrial growth, innovation, and human capital is essential to building a resilient and sustainable future for Kuwait.

The conference featured several prominent government and industry figures, including Mr. Shamlan Hamoud Al-Juhaidli, Acting Director General of the Public Authority for Industry; Mr. Jassem Mohammed Al-Mesailim, Senior Director of the Industrial Bank of Kuwait; and Mr. Osama Abdulridha Safar, Chief Executive Officer for Administrative Affairs of Kuwait Cement Company. Leading industrial, economic, and sustainability experts also contributed to discussions on Kuwait's industrial future and Vision 2035 objectives.

ALSAYER Group was represented by Mr. Salah Mohammad, Lexus Marketing General Manager; Mr. Abdullah Salah Al-Shuwaie, Advisor to the Automobile Dealers Union, General Manager of Government Relations and Customer Affairs, and Legal Representative of ALSAYER Group; Eng. Barak Al-Maraghi, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Al-Dhow Environment Projects Company (EPC); and Mr. Basem Waleed Hathat, Senior Manager of Commercial and Business Development at ALSAYER Car Rental. The representatives engaged with industry leaders and stakeholders to explore collaboration opportunities and initiatives supporting Kuwait's industrial advancement.

During the conference, Mr. Salah Mohammad stated:

"Our participation and Platinum Sponsorship represent more than a symbolic presence. They reflect ALSAYER Group's long-standing commitment to supporting national industry, strengthening its capabilities, and enabling it to compete regionally and globally. We believe Kuwait's industrial sector holds tremendous potential and that investing in its growth is an investment in the country's future and sustainable economy.

Strong performance reflects core business resilience

Action Energy Company reports Q3 2026 financial results

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10: Action Energy Company K.S.C.P. (AEC) (Boursa Kuwait Premier Market: ALFTAQA), Kuwait's leading local partner for integrated upstream services, owner and operator of one of the youngest rig fleets in the region, today announced its financial results for the third quarter and nine-month period ended 30 September 2026.

Key Financial Highlights (KWD million)

	Q3 2026	Q3 2025	YoY %	9M 2026	9M 2025	YoY %
Revenue	8.8	9.3	-4.5%	26.9	22.7	+18.5%
EBITDA	4.4	4.8	-9.1%	13.4	11.8	+13.1%
Net Profit	2.1	1.8	+20.3%	6.5	4.0	+62.9%
EPS (Fils)	3.77	4.66	-19%	11.49	10.62	+8%



Sheikh Mubarak Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah-Chairman



Ahmad M. Al-Ajlan – Board Member & CEO

Financial Review

For the third quarter of 2026, the Company reported a net profit of KWD 2.1 million, representing a robust 20.3% YoY growth. This strong performance underscores the resilience of the Company's core business activities. Looking at the broader period, the growth trajectory remains highly visible with net profit for the first nine months of 2026 surging 62.9% YoY to reach KWD 6.5 million.

EBITDA for the quarter stood at KWD 4.4 million, down 9.1% YoY. This contraction was primarily driven by revised rig lease rates under a new contract with Kuwait Oil Company (KOC). While impacting short-term margins, this contract secures the deployment of the contracted rigs for the next 5 to 6 years, ensuring the continuity of the Company's 100% fleet utilization rate.

Concurrently, EBITDA reflected a planned increase in G&A expenses. This increase is an investment in the Company's near-term scaling, as it mobilizes seven new rigs and broadens its oilfield service lines. Additional headwinds included a lower volume of rig moves and the absence of a one-time revenue contribution recorded in Q3 2025.

Sheikh Mubarak Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah, Chairman of Action Energy Company (AEC), said: "AEC delivered strong results for the first nine months of 2026, with record net profit of KWD 6.5 million and operating cash flow up 73.8% year-over-year. This performance reflects the strength of our business and puts us in a solid position to execute our long-term growth strategy. We continue to invest in our people, equipment, and capabilities to support Kuwait's upstream oil and gas sector. Our focus remains on delivering long-term value for our shareholders, and strengthening AEC's position as a trusted partner to Kuwait's energy industry."

Ahmad Mohammad Al-Ajlan, Board Member and Chief Executive Officer, said: "AEC delivered strong profitability through the first nine months of 2026, with third-quarter net profit rising 20.3% year-over-year to KWD 2.1 million. We continued to invest in expanding our operating capabilities, making steady progress on the mobilization of seven new rigs and the expansion of our oilfield service lines, supported by a contracted backlog of KWD 340.7 million. These investments will increase our operating capacity, broaden our service offering, and position us for the next phase of growth. We remain focused on safe, reliable execution, financial discipline, and delivering sustainable growth and long-term returns for our shareholders."

Operational Review by Business Line

■ **Drilling Services**

Drilling and workover services account for approximately 60% of the Company's total backlog, with Action Energy operating 20 rigs during the period. Core drilling revenue increased 4.2% YoY to KWD 7.2 million, while revenue from rig leasing, mobilization, and ancillary services declined. The decline was primarily driven by revised rental rates for certain rigs under a new contract with Kuwait Oil Company, which extends the contracted tenure of these assets for the next 5 to 6 years, together with lower rig-move activity and the absence of a one-off ancillary revenue item recorded in the comparative period. Mobilization for the deployment of seven new rigs (four 1,500 HP, one 1,000 HP, and two 750 HP) are progressing, with operations expected to commence in Q1 2027.

■ **Oilfield Services**

Oilfield Services' contribution to backlog rose from 28% in Q1 to 40% in Q3 2026, an increase of 12 percentage points, reflecting the Company's focus on continued strategic expansion into higher-value service lines, which strengthens the diversification of its revenue streams and deepens its integration across the upstream value chain. During the nine-month period, the Company continued to advance the mobilization of its electric submersible pumps (ESP), Slickline and once-through steam generator (OTSG) service lines in line with the planned schedule.

Business Outlook

AEC's strategic priorities for Q4 2026 and Q1 2027 are to continue executing the KWD 340.7 million backlog and complete the mobilization of the seven new rigs, receive new oilfield services equipment, while maintaining safe and reliable operations across the 20-rig fleet, managing liquidity, leverage and remaining capital expenditure with net debt to equity kept at or below 1.25x, converting the backlog into profitable revenue, and selectively pursuing profitable opportunities in the digital space.

AEC continues to monitor regional developments closely while maintaining its focus on delivering high-quality services and creating long-term value for its shareholders.

ABK announces Alfouz draw winners for October 2026

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10: Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) announced the winners of its Alfouz draw account for the month of October 2026, which took place on 9 November 2026, reaffirming its commitment to rewarding customers and promoting a culture of saving through one of Kuwait's most rewarding banking products.

The winners of the October 2026 weekly draw, each receiving KD 1,000 per month for one year, are: Huwaida Ali Abdulaziz, Najah Mohammad Alfandi, and Ali Ahmad Dashti.

The winner of the monthly draw receiving KD 2,000 per month for 1 year, is Hebah Barrak Al Tukhaim.

To further enhance audience engagement, the live broadcast featured a series of interactive questions that gave viewers the opportunity to learn more about ABK and the benefits of the Alfouz account. Winners of prizes including Alshaya and Talabat Gift Cards, during these competitions were announced live during the draw.

The enhanced prize structure includes weekly, monthly, quarterly, semi-annual, and annual draws, with rewards distributed as monthly salary-style payouts. Customers can win between KD 1,000 and KD 3,000 per month in the weekly, monthly and quarterly draws, depending on the prize tier.

In addition, the semi-annual and annual draws offer prizes of KD 5,000 per month for periods of 5 and 10 years, respectively. Customers can participate in the draws by maintaining a minimum balance of KD 200 in their Alfouz draw account.

ABK congratulates all winners and encourages customers to continue saving through the Alfouz draw account to maximize their chances of winning future draws and benefiting from its rewarding prize structure.



Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) monthly draw winners announcement ceremony.

South Africa's Le Roux takes high jump gold

China sweeps gymnastics team titles, adds 3 athletics medals at YOG

DAKAR, Nov 10, (Xinhua): China claimed titles in both men's and women's team gymnastics at the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games (YOG) on Monday, and added two silver medals and a bronze in athletics.

China's women's 3x3 basketball team also took silver after a narrow final defeat.

At the Dakar Exhibition Center, China's men's gymnastics team, comprising Yang Lanbin, Li Lezheng and Zhao Ruiyang, delivered strong performances in floor exercise, horizontal bar and parallel bars to score 158.463 points and finish ahead of Japan and Britain.

In the women's final, Chen Ziyan, Zhong Qi and Xie Guying combined solid performances on the uneven bars and balance beam to secure gold with 107.798 points, edging Japan by 0.234 points.

Yang said the gold medal had not come easily, noting that the team had undertaken intensive routine training every week during preparations while working to manage fatigue and avoid injuries.

"The competition went very smoothly today, and everyone was able to perform with confidence," he added.

Xie said the team had delivered as expected in its traditionally strong events, the uneven bars and balance beam. She added that unity and cooperation among teammates had been key to their success.

"In a team event, the most important thing is for everyone to work together and support one another," she said.

At Iba Mar Diop Stadium, China collected two silver medals and a bronze in athletics.

Chen Shijie clocked a personal best of 13.40 seconds to take silver in the men's 110m hurdles, while Jamaica's Marquies Page won the gold in 12.95 seconds.

Chen said he had been overly excited and a bit nervous, which affected his rhythm during the race.

Noting that he had bruised his foot while practicing the hurdles, he said: "I still lack experience in major competitions." In the men's high jump, Liu Sen cleared 2.14 meters, setting a personal best and earning silver. South Africa's



Xie Guying (2nd left), Zhong Qi (3rd left) and Chen Ziyan (2nd right) of Team China with their coaches celebrate during the awarding ceremony of the Artistic Gymnastics women's team final at Dakar 2026 Summer Youth Olympic Games at Dakar Expo Center in Diamniadio, Senegal. (Xinhua)

Matao Le Roux took gold with 2.16 meters. Liu Han claimed bronze in the men's 400m in 47.16 seconds, while the United Arab Emirates' Saeed Omar won gold in 46.40 seconds.

Among other events featuring Chinese athletes, Italy's Poko Silvia Canape won the women's long jump, with Liu Lixuan finishing sixth. Colombia's Ilsa Mayerlin Cordoba claimed the women's javelin title, while Wang Changle also placed sixth. Wang Tengfei finished fourth in his men's 400m hurdles semifinal heat to qualify for Tuesday's final.

Ethiopia was the most successful nation on the athletics track, winning three gold medals. Junedin Abdo triumphed in the men's 2,000m steeplechase, Wabi Seblega won the men's 1,500m, and Netsanet Selemon claimed the women's 800m title.

Egypt's Yahya Sawaby won the men's discus, Brazil's Pyetro Henrico Souza took the men's shot put, Nigeria's Praise Ugoh claimed the women's 400m, and Kenya's Faith Rono won the women's 3,000m.

In 3x3 basketball, China's women's team edged host Senegal 21-19 in the semifinals to reach the final, where it narrowly lost 12-11 to Poland to take silver.

China's coach Liu Shengbin said the team had faced numerous challenges during preparations, with the young players lacking experience in international competitions.

Despite overcoming difficulties related to weather, time differences and food, the players felt considerable psychological pressure in the final and made some mistakes, Liu said, adding, "They gave everything they had. I don't think there is anything to regret." In the men's final, Senegal edged Lithuania 14-13 to claim the gold medal.

In Saly, China's women's beach handball team lost 2-1 to Spain before beating Croatia by the same score in the group stage. The team will face Mexico in its final group match on Tuesday.

In the women's windsurfing, Wu Ziyan slipped to third overall after finishing sixth and seventh in races four and five, respectively, and recording a DNC in race six. Races seven to nine are scheduled for Tuesday.

In fencing, Hong Kong, China's Ho Shing Him Harris defeated Japan's Maeda Masashi 15-8 to win the men's individual foil title. In taekwondo, Chinese Taipei's Cheng Po-Yu won the men's 55kg gold, while South Korea's Lee Si-woo claimed the women's 49kg title.

Türkiye's Dunya Yenihayat defeated Whang Ye-Eun from the United States to win the women's individual archery title.

Wemby has 40 points, 9 blocks as Spurs extend winning streak

Warriors rout undermanned Pelicans

PHOENIX, Nov 10, (AP): Victor Wembanyama scored 40 points, grabbed 11 rebounds and blocked nine shots in another dominant performance to help the San Antonio Spurs beat the Phoenix Suns 122-96 on Monday night.

The Spurs have now won nine straight games after dropping their first two contests of the season.

The Suns had no answer for the 7-foot-4 Wembanyama, who controlled the game at both ends of the floor, particularly during the first half. The two-time All-Star had 22 points, six rebounds and five blocks before the break as the Spurs used a 21-2 run to take a 61-46 halftime advantage.

Dylan Harper scored 14 of his 17 points in the third quarter to help the Spurs extend their lead 93-68, which allowed the starters to sit for much of the fourth. Wembanyama finished 15 of 19 from the floor, including 2 of 3 from beyond the arc and needed just 25 minutes on the floor to do his damage.

De'Aaron Fox added 15 points while Julian Champagnie and Harrison Barnes both had 11.

It's the second time in four games that Wembanyama has had a massive stat line during an MVP-worthy run to start the regular season. He had career highs of 52 points and 24 rebounds in a 112-111 win over the Dallas Mavericks on Wednesday and might have approached those numbers against the Suns if he had played more.

Devin Booker led the Suns with 32 points on 10 of 17 shooting. Khaman Maluach was the only other player who scored in double figures with 11 points.

The Suns shot just 39.3% from the field and were outrebounded 55-35. They have a 2-2 record on their current seven-game homestand.

Warriors 138, Pelicans 87

In San Francisco, Stephen Curry scored 25 points in 20-plus minutes, Yaxel Lendeborg had



Houston Rockets guard Marcus Smart (36) passes to forward Kevin Durant (7) against Denver Nuggets forward Spencer Jones (21) during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Houston. (AP)

23 points, seven rebounds and four assists, and the Golden State Warriors won their eighth straight game by running away from the undermanned New Orleans Pelicans early for victory .

Brandin Podziemski added 25 points while Curry wound up 6 for 10 with four 3-pointers coming off a 41-point performance in Saturday's 126-119 overtime win against Orlando. He passed DeMar DeRozan (26,800) for 16th place on the NBA's career scoring list with 26,803.

Golden State had three players with at least 20 points for the second time this season and the Warriors finished with 30 or more assists - 37 - for the third straight game and fifth in the last six. They are 6-0 when doing so.

Injured guard Jimmy Butler dressed up like a member of the coaching staff and held a clipboard, writing "PASS TO STEPH" on it.

Derik Queen scored 16 points off the bench and Dejounte Murray added 12 points for the Pelicans, who were out of the game almost from the tipoff and trailed 72-43 at halftime on the way to losing a third straight after a four-game winning streak.

Golden State led 35-20 after one quarter as New Orleans shot just 7 of 23 and missed 10 of 12 3-point tries. The Warriors built a 23-point lead early in the second as Podziemski scored four quick points and rolled from there.

Charles Bassey contributed 12 points and 10 rebounds off the bench and De'Anthony Melton scored 16 with four 3s.

Lendeborg and Pelicans guard Jordan Poole, both former Michigan stars, traded jerseys afterward.

New Orleans rested Zion Williamson a night after a 139-123 road loss to the Clippers and Trey Murphy III also sat out to manage his troublesome knees after he scored 26 in Los Angeles on Sunday.

Rockets 110, Nuggets 100

In Houston, Kevin Durant had 23 points and Alperen Sengun added 20 to lead the Houston Rockets to win over the Denver Nuggets that snapped a two-game skid.

Denver's Jamal Murray made two free throws to cut the lead to six points with about five minutes left. But Christian Braun missed a pair of free throws after that and Houston got baskets from Sengun and Amen Thompson to push the lead to 100-90 with four minutes remaining.

The Rockets got back on track after losing to Minnesota and Phoenix following a 7-1 start to the season.

Brady exits Birmingham stake

Bayern coach Kompany returns to club for first time since collapse

MUNICH, Nov 10, (AP): Bayern Munich coach Vincent Kompany returned to the club's training ground for the first time since he collapsed during practice last month.

The 40-year-old Kompany had medical appointments at the Säbener Street complex, Kicker magazine reported, as he took another step toward his planned return after the international break.

Bayern had no team training on Tuesday with most of the players away. The team's next game is at home to Cologne in the Bundesliga on Nov. 20.

Bayern powerbroker Uli Hoeneß said on Sunday that Kompany would return in time for that match.

Kompany collapsed while observing a training session on Oct. 23 and was hospitalized for meningeal irritation, an inflammation of the tissue around the brain or spinal cord. He had been dealing with a viral infection and hip injury.

Assistant Aaron Danks took charge of the team while Kompany was away and oversaw wins against Freiburg, Magdeburg, Atlético Madrid and Mainz with the only blot a 2-2 draw with Borussia Dortmund in der Klassiker on Oct. 31.

❑ ❑ ❑

NFL great Tom Brady has relinquished his minority share in English soccer club Birmingham, the club said.

The seven-time Super Bowl winner bought a stake in the second division club as part of the 2023 takeover by the Knighthead group, headed by his friend and business partner Tom Wagner.

But Brady has chosen to step away despite Birmingham moving to the top of the Championship standings on Saturday after beating Swansea 2-1.

"Birmingham City Football Club expresses its sincere gratitude to Tom Brady for his involvement with and unwavering support for the club over the last three years," the club said in a statement.

"It was truly amazing to have someone with Tom's experience and passion associated with the club, and the club looks forward to continuing to build on that foundation from the training ground to the Birmingham community."

Birmingham has expressed big ambitions on and off the pitch. Wagner has indicated his desire to reach the Premier League, while plans are in place for a new 62,000-capacity stadium in the city.

❑ ❑ ❑



Kompany

The Saputo family has begun the process to sell CF Montreal, the Major League Soccer club announced .

The family has owned the team since 1992, when the then-Montreal Impact was part of the American Professional Soccer League. The club joined MLS in 2012.

Saputo said the family would prefer to sell to a buyer that will keep the team in Montreal, but would not rule out the possibility that new ownership could move the club.

Montreal is coming off its worst season in MLS, going 6-20-8 and finishing last in the Eastern Conference.

At a news conference on Monday, Saputo insisted the decision to sell was not based on the team's performance or financial concerns.

❑ ❑ ❑

Carlos Vicens is the new coach at Ligue 1 club Lyon after the sudden departure of Paulo Fonseca.

The seven-time French champion said late that the 43-year-old Spanish coach signed an 18-month contract to June 30, 2028. Fonseca left abruptly to join Sporting Lisbon last week.

Vicens previously worked at Manchester City, initially coaching in the academy where he notably managed the under-18s. He later joined Pep Guardiola's coaching staff in 2021 and spent four seasons with the first team.

Lyon said Vicens' playing philosophy, high standards and emphasis on player development aligned with the club aims.

Spain dominates men's and women's lineups

Messi voted again by players to World XI team

GENEVA, Nov 10, (AP): Lionel Messi's peers gave him one more appearance in the FIFPRO World XI lineup after nearly 20,000 players voted for their best team in a poll organized by the global union.

At age 39, the Argentina icon was elected on the team as part a four-superstar attack alongside Kylian Mbappé, Erling Haaland and Lamine Yamal. Ballon d'Or winner Harry Kane missed out.

This is Messi's 18th year appearing in the XI and he was last chosen in 2023.

The Inter Miami forward also was the only men's World XI selection playing for a club outside Europe. Paris Saint-Germain's Morocco right-back Achraf Hakimi was the only other selection from a national team outside Europe.

Spain's World Cup-winning squads dominated with four players including 19-year-old Yamal voted on the men's team and five on the Women's World XI, including three-time Ballon d'Or winners Alexia Putellas and Aitana Bonmati, also announced Monday by the Netherlands-based union.

The women's team also had five players from European champion England though again none from the United States. FIFPRO said more than 6,500 women players from 64 countries voted.

Orlando Pride and Zambia forward Barbra Banda was the only team member with an African or North and South American connection elected.

The combined age of Barcelona pair Yamal and defender Pau Cubarsí adds up to a couple of days fewer than the 39 years, four months of former club great Messi. The World XI team has a third Barcelona and Spain player in Rodri, who signed from Manchester City after winning the FIFA Golden Ball trophy as best player at the World Cup.

Goalkeeper David Raya was a backup for Spain though won election to the World XI for his performances with Arsenal, the Premier League winner and Champions League beaten finalist.

Two-time Champions League winner PSG had a hat trick of players in the elected lineup with Hakimi joined by left back Nuno Mendes and midfielder Vitinha.



Inter Miami forward Leo Messi (10) aims a shot on goal as Charlotte goalkeeper Kristijan Kahlina (1) and defender Nathan Byrne (14) defend during the second half of an MLS game in Miami, Fla. (AP)

Change Name

I, SAKINA KHOJEMA(Old Name), holder of Indian Passport No. V7307650, daughter of KHOJEMA ALI, residing at Khaitan, Block 4, Street 87, Floor 5, Kuwait, hereby declare that I have changed my name from SAKINA KHOJEMA to SAKINA MAMJI. Henceforth, I shall be known as SAKINA MAMJI for all purposes and in all official records.

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San Antonio Spurs forward Victor Wembanyama, left, drives past Phoenix Suns center Khaman Maluach for a score during an NBA basketball game in Phoenix. (AP)

Sports

Kuwait youngsters eager to seize chance

Al-Bannai: Comprehensive nutrition plan prepared for players

By Hassan Mosa
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10: Kuwait national team medical director Dr Abdulmajeed Al-Bannai revealed that Mohammed Daham has suffered a cut near his Achilles tendon and will need approximately 10 days to recover. He said he had advised against including the player in the current squad.

Al-Bannai also confirmed that Mohammed Al-Huwaidi is suffering from an adductor muscle tear and requires plasma injection treatment. His condition will be reassessed in the coming days to determine whether he can recover in time for the two friendly matches.

Several other players have sustained minor bruises while representing their clubs in the Zain Premier League. However, the medical staff is monitoring their conditions individually to ensure they are properly prepared.

He added that the team's nutrition specialist had developed a comprehensive dietary program in coordination with the hotel hosting the Blue delegation. The current moderate weather does not warrant extensive use of nutritional supplements, unlike during the hot summer months.

Al-Bannai described the players' fitness levels as "acceptable," praising the fitness coach's efforts to maintain and improve their physical condition. He nevertheless stressed that physical preparation and fitness development are primarily the responsibility of the clubs.

Kuwait's senior national team is continuing its daily training sessions ahead of friendly matches against Syria and Honduras on November 13 and 17, respectively, during the current international break.

Despite the postponement of the Asian Cup from January to December 2027, Portuguese coach Helio Sousa has opted to establish a long-term preparation program for the Blue.

The plan includes training sessions, domestic and overseas camps, and friendly matches during the March and June 2027 international breaks. Preparations will continue towards the qualifying campaign for the 2030 FIFA World Cup, which is scheduled to begin next August.

Twenty-eight players attended the opening training session at Al-Sadaqa Wal-Salam Stadium , out of the 30 selected for the camp, which runs until November 18.

The squad includes Khaled Al-Rashidi, Dhari Al-Otaibi, Abdulrahman Al-Fadhli, Fahad Al-Hajri, Khaled Sabah, Abdulwahab Al-Awadhi, Rashed Al-Dosari, Abdulaziz Naji, Waleed Saad, Muath Al-Dhafiri, Saleh Al-Makhtab, Hamoud Al-Sanousi, Abdullah Al-Saeedi, Abdullah Al-Qurayzi, Nasser Faleh, Ahmed Al-Dhafiri, Mohammed Al-Huwaidi, Jassim Al-Matar, Mahdi Dashti, Muath Al-Osaimi, Bandar Al-Salama, Mubarak Al-Fenini, Eid Al-Rashidi, Shabeeb Al-Khaldi, Youssef Nasser, Abdullah Al-Awadhi, Abdulrahman Al-Rashidi, Mohammed Daham and Youssef Majed.

Sousa's decision to summon a large squad is intended to give as many players as possible an opportunity to feature in the two friendlies. The list includes several promising young talents, notably Ali Hassan, Waleed Saad, Abdullah Al-Qurayzi, Abdulrahman Al-Rashidi, Saleh Al-Makhtab, Abdullah Al-Saeedi and Hamoud Al-Sanousi.

Saad and Al-Saeedi are receiving their first national team call-ups, while several others have returned after an absence, including Al-Huwaidi, Al-Salama, Al-Fenini, Dhari and Dashti.

Sousa is keen to provide younger players with greater opportunities to demonstrate their abilities, build confidence and gain valuable experience alongside established internationals such as Ahmed Al-Dhafiri, Khaled Al-Rashidi, Youssef Nasser, Eid Al-Rashidi, Rashed

Former international star and national team general supervisor Mohammed Bunyan stressed that the squad consists largely of young players who need patience, encouragement and continued support to achieve the desired progress.

In his first remarks since taking up the position, Bunyan said he was awaiting the coaching staff's preparations for the next phase following the current gathering.

He explained that Sousa and his staff would present their program after the conclusion of the training camp.

Promising Al-Nasr player Ali Hassan expressed his happiness and pride at earning a place in the team.

Speaking ahead of training, Hassan said he had been eagerly anticipating the announcement of the national team roster.

"When the squad is announced, you cannot even sleep," he said, describing the excitement and pride associated with representing the country.

He identified Ahmed Al-Dhafiri and Shabeeb Al-Khaldi as his role models and expressed hope of giving his best, contributing to the team and making the supporters happy.

Al-Arabi player Bandar Al-Salama expressed his delight at returning to the national team after a lengthy absence, thanking Sousa for placing his trust in him and recalling him to the squad.

He said the players carried a great responsibility to deliver strong performances and bring happiness to the fans, expressing hope that the team would make the most of its two friendly encounters.

The Syrian national team delegation arrived yesterday and immediately began preparations for Friday's encounter against Kuwait. The team will then travel to Abu Dhabi to face the UAE in a friendly next Tuesday.

Spanish coach Jose Lana selected 23 players for the squad: Elias Hadaya, Khaled Ibrahim, Shaher Al-Shaker, Aiham Ousou, Abdullah Al-Shami, Abdulrazzaq Mohammed, Ahmed Faqa, Khaled Kardaghli, Wissam Dakhan, Zakaria Hanan, Mohammed Othman, Elmar Ibrahim, Mohammed Al-Hallaq, Noah Shamon, Mahmoud Al-Aswad, Ahmed Al-Dali, Jan Mustafa, Omar Al-Somah, Omar Khribin, Mahmoud Dawood, Ziad Ghanoum, Mohammed Mustafa and George Younan.



Players intensify training for the friendlies.



Shabeeb and Hassan take part in their first training session.

Bunyan speaks for the first time since his appointment as national team general supervisor.



Goalkeepers with the coach.



Al-Saeedi gets first taste of Kuwait training.

Kuwait Club, Qadsia qualify for Premier Volleyball League final

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

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 10: Kuwait Club and Qadsia will face off in the Premier Volleyball League final tomorrow after defeating Sulaibikhat and Kazma, respectively, in the semifinals. The competition is being completed from last season.

Kuwait Club cruised into the final with a 3-0 victory over Sulaibikhat, while Qadsia secured the second spot after beating Kazma 3-1. The two traditional rivals will now battle for the title, while Kazma and Sulaibikhat will contest third place.

Kuwait Club had to overcome a spirited challenge from Sulaibikhat, who put up strong resistance in the opening two sets. However, Kuwait's Club's experience and the quality of its foreign professionals, Brazilian Marcos De Souza and Swedish Jakob Link, made the difference at crucial stages.



Qadsia player spikes the ball against Kazma.

In the second semifinal, Qadsia gained revenge on Kazma after losing its previous two encounters. The Yellow Brigade recovered from dropping the opening set to claim a 3-1 win. Kazma, known as the Orange team, edged the first set 30-28, but Qadsia responded emphatically by winning the next three sets to seal itsplace in the final.

Impressive Pakistan debutants leave Lanka trailing by 320 runs in 1st test

RAWALPINDI, Pakistan, Nov 10, (AP): Pakistan's debutants continued to inspire to leave Sri Lanka trailing by 320 runs with seven first-innings wickets in hand after two days of the first cricket test on Tuesday.

Fast bowler Saqib Khan, one of the four newcomers, brought the greenish pitch to life with 2-54 as Sri Lanka reached 114-3 before bad light brought an early closure for the second successive day. Nearly 26 overs were not bowled.

Only 67.2 overs were possible on Day 1 when Pakistan reached 281-5 with play continuing in floodlights for almost 45 minutes on both days at Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium.

Pakistan declared at 434-9 midway into the second session on Tuesday after five half-centuries - three to debutants - and a 48. Saud Shakeel missed out on his first century in over two years on 93.

At stumps, Kamindu Mendis survived a close lbw review and a leading edge fell just short of the fielder to be unbeaten on 40 and former test captain Dhananjaya de Silva had 22.

"There are about 140 chances that



Pakistan's Raza Ullah bowls during the second day of the first Test cricket match between Pakistan and Sri Lanka, in Rawalpindi, Pakistan. (AP)

have missed the edge and beaten the bat from both sides, so probably says enough that there's a chance of a result," Sri Lanka fielding and spin coach Jordan Gregory said.

"So far Kamindu and DDS have put on a good partnership and we would like to see that partnership progress."

Pakistan's most experienced seamer Mohammad Abbas and Saqib hit the right lengths with the new ball and both struck in their second overs to have Sri Lanka reeling at 12-2.

Abbas extracted movement from his off stump line and found the outside edge of Pasindu Sooriyabandara, who was promoted to open the innings in his third test and out for a duck.

Saqib struck off his ninth delivery in test cricket when he squared up the experienced Dinesh Chandimal from a perfect length ball that angled across the right hander and edged the shoulder of the bat to the slips cordon.

Sri Lanka slumped further in the shortened final session when Lahiru Udara, who struck seven fours in his aggressive 42, played a loose drive to Saqib and edged to wicketkeeper Ghazi Ghori only two balls after a reprieve from Mohammad Taha, who grassed a one-handed catch at gully.

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