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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2026 / JUMADA AL-THANI 8, 1448 AH | emergency number 112 | NO. 19363 | 12 PAGES | 150 FILS

Final stop for security appeals

Special court's verdicts cannot be challenged

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

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 17: A decision was issued on Tuesday for establishing a special Court of Appeals to hear appeals involving state security crimes and terrorist acts.

The court will be headed by First Judge Mohammed Rashid Al-Duaij, with First Judge Nayef Al-Dahoum, Judge Dr. Salman Al-Suwait, and Judge Abdullah Al-Najm serving as members.

The court will have exclusive jurisdiction over appeals against judgments issued in cases involving external and internal state security crimes and terrorist acts, pursuant to Law No. 31/1970 and Decree-Law No. 47/2026.

Under Article 2 of Decree-Law No. 51/2026, the court's rulings will be final and may not be challenged through any legal avenue, including an appeal before the Court of Cassation.

Kuwait pledges stronger climate action at COP31

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 17, (KUNA): Kuwait's Cabinet reviewed the participation of His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, representing His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, in the leaders' summit of the COP31, held in Antalya, Turkiye, last Wednesday.

During the summit, His Highness the Prime Minister affirmed Kuwait's commitment to strengthening an integrated institutional approach to climate action, noting that the government was coordinating efforts across its entities to align climate commitments with national development projects.

The Cabinet meeting, chaired by His Highness the Prime Minister, was followed by a briefing from Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Shereeda Al-Maousherji on the meeting's agenda and outcomes.

At the outset, His Highness the Prime Minister expressed, on behalf of himself and the ministers, pleasure over the return of His Highness the Amir to Kuwait on Sunday from the US, following routine medical examinations that confirmed His Highness was in good health.

The Cabinet was also briefed on His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah's reception of Egyptian Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Egyptians Abroad Badr Abdelatty, during which they discussed bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest.

On the sidelines of COP31, His Highness the Prime Minister also met Lebanese Prime Minister Nawaf Salam and Pakistani Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif. The meetings addressed ways to strengthen bilateral relations and cooperation, as well as regional and international developments.

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PM Diwan photo

His Highness the Prime Minister chairs the weekly Cabinet meeting on Tuesday.

Kuwait slams continued Iranian attacks on Bahrain

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 17, (KUNA): Kuwait's Foreign Ministry strongly condemned continued Iranian attacks targeting Bahrain, most recently an attack on Tuesday, describing them as a flagrant violation of the Kingdom's sovereignty and territorial integrity, international law, the UN Charter and UN Security Council Resolution 2817.

In a statement on Tuesday, the ministry reaffirmed Kuwait's categorical rejection of the attacks, warning that they constitute a dangerous escalation that threatens regional security and stability.

It also reiterated Kuwait's full solidarity with Bahrain and its support for all measures taken by the Kingdom to safeguard its sovereignty, security and stability.

The Bahrain Defense Force said Tuesday its air defenses intercepted and destroyed several Iranian aerial threats before reaching their targets.

In a statement, the General Command accused Iran of continuing a systematic campaign of attacks against Bahrain and said all units remained on high alert.



Yemen's Ambassador Dr. Ali bin Safaa shares his views in an interview with Fares Ghaleb.

Yemen ambassador warns of wider regional security risks

By Fares Ghaleb
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 17: Ambassador of Yemen to Kuwait Dr. Ali bin Safaa said the crisis in his country has gone beyond the scope of an internal conflict, considering the regional and international implications.

Speaking to the newspaper on Tuesday, Ambasador Safaa warned that managing the conflict without addressing its root causes threatens the security and stability of the entire region, with the possibility of turning the Red Sea and Bab al-Mandab Strait into arenas of extortion and pose serious risks to global trade and energy supplies.

He pointed out that accepting coexistence with the Houthi coup has proven to be an ineffective and costly approach. He stated that restoring state institutions is now an urgent necessity to protect international navigation rather than an internal demand. He pointed out that in recent years, the international community focused on approaches aimed at freezing front lines and pursuing temporary humanitarian arrangements, hence accepting an imposed coexistence with the Houthi militias, which operate as a de facto authority backed by Iran. "However, the latest developments exposed the limitations of this approach and its inability to achieve sustainable stability in Yemen. The repercussions of the political vacuum and the fragility of state institutions are not limited to Yemen, but extend to threaten some of the world's most strategically important maritime routes," he asserted.

He added that the policy of "managing" the crisis gave armed groups ample time to regroup, and with Iranian support, expand their stockpiles of missiles and drones, transforming them from a threat to local and Gulf stability into a direct danger to international shipping. He stressed that "military patrols alone cannot guarantee maritime security or the freedom of global trade as long as the source of the threat remains on land." He stated that "restoring the Yemeni state and its institutions has become a regional and international security imperative, based on three fundamental considerations as follows:



Ambassador of Yemen to Kuwait Dr. Ali bin Safaa

- Protecting the Yemeni people and putting an end to the deterioration of their economic and living conditions,
- Safeguarding the Gulf and the wider Arab neighborhood while containing Iranian expansion,
- Securing international maritime routes, upon which the interests of the entire world depend.

He argued that "any political process that does not result in the disarmament of militias and the exclusive placement of weapons under state authority will only defer the crisis and open the door to an even greater catastrophe. Yemen needs a genuine international partnership that tackles the underlying causes of the war and restores the country's position as an active contributor to regional security and stability."

Asked about the latest military developments, he indicated that "the redeployment of southern forces in Bab al-Mandab and Al-Dabab Airport is consistent with strategic priorities, such as securing the interim capital -- Aden, enhancing the protection of maritime routes, and

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Kuwait calls for 'robust' UN-GCC institutional ties

NEW YORK, Nov 17, (KUNA): Kuwait has called for enhancing institutional cooperation between the United Nations and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

The statement was made Monday by Kuwait's Diplomatic Attaché Abdullah Bousakher before the UN General Assembly during its discussion of Agenda Item 128, concerning cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations.



Bousakher

Bousakher urged intensifying coordination and consultations on regional and international issues in a way that contributes to maintaining international peace and security and supporting preventive diplomacy and mediation efforts

He underlined the importance of partnership between the United Nations and regional organizations in maintaining international peace and security, preventing conflicts and resolving them through peaceful means, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, particularly the provisions of Chapter VIII.

Bousakher noted that Kuwait pays importance to cooperation between the United Nations and the GCC, given the Council's role in promoting regional security and stability, as well as its function as an institutional framework for coordination and consultation among its member states on regional and international issues.

Kuwait, as chair of the 45th session of the GCC Supreme Council and on behalf of the Council's member states, had submitted Draft Resolution 79/295

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Kuwait, India relations get renewed momentum at 65

NEW DELHI, Nov 17, (KUNA): Kuwait's Ambassador to India Meshal Al-Shemali said Tuesday that the 65th anniversary of diplomatic ties between the two countries offers an important opportunity to strengthen their strategic partnership and expand bilateral cooperation.

Speaking at a celebration hosted by the Kuwaiti Embassy in New Delhi, Al-Shemali said the alignment between Kuwait Vision 2035 and India's Viksit Bharat 2047 (Developed India 2047) opens broad prospects for cooperation in political, economic, commercial and social fields, serving the aspirations of both peoples.

He highlighted the deep historical roots of Kuwaiti-Indian relations, formally established in 1961 after centuries of maritime, trade and cultural ties. These longstanding relations have resulted in the signing of around 40 agreements and memoranda of understanding covering politics, trade, investment, defense, energy, labor, civil aviation, sports and health.

Additional MoUs aimed at expanding economic and commercial cooperation and strengthening food security are currently under negotiation and expected to be finalized soon, he added.

Al-Shemali noted that India is one of Kuwait's key trading partners, with bilateral trade reaching around USD 10 billion in the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

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KUNA photos

Photos during a celebration hosted by the Kuwaiti Embassy in New Delhi.



7 Zain Kuwait highlights role of digital innovation in smarter, more efficient energy management



9 ABK Wealth Management launches integrated digital investment & wealth management mobile application

Newswatch

MUSCAT: Oman's **Sultan Haitham bin Tariq** discussed the latest regional developments and diplomatic efforts to ease tensions during a meeting with Iranian Foreign Minister **Abbas Araghchi** in Muscat on Tuesday.

The meeting, held at Al-Alam Palace, addressed efforts to create conditions for resolving the crisis through peaceful means, in a way that would prevent further regional tensions and promote security and peace for all, Oman News Agency (ONA) reported. (KUNA)

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GAZA: Six Palestinians were killed on Tuesday in continued Israeli occupation airstrikes, artillery shelling and gunfire targeting various parts of the **Gaza Strip**, including displacement tents and residential gatherings, particularly in eastern and southern areas.

Health authorities said a 21-year-old Palestinian man was killed by Israeli gunfire east of **Deir Al-Balah**, while a six-year-old child was shot dead inside his family's tent in the **Abu Holi** area east of the city. (KUNA)

Prayer Timings

Fajr	04:52	Asr	14:32
Sunrise	06:14	Maghrib	16:52
Zohr	11:33	Isha	18:14

Sheikha Shaikha's decades of disability advocacy wins UN praise

UN highlights Kuwait's strides in disability empowerment

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 17, (KUNA): UN Secretary-General's Representative and Resident Coordinator in Kuwait Ghada Al-Taher stressed that integrating persons with disabilities is essential to building inclusive societies, achieving sustainable development and investing in human capital.

In a statement to KUNA, Al-Taher said she hosted "Mother of the Disabled" Sheikha Shaikha Al-Abdullah Al-Sabah at the UN House in Mishref for a dialogue recognizing her pioneering work in supporting persons with disabilities.

The meeting comes ahead of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities on December 3 and Human Rights Day on December 10.

She said the two occasions underscore that the rights of persons with disabilities are an integral part of human rights, requiring equal opportunities and the removal of barriers to their full participation in society.

Al-Taher noted that these efforts align with Kuwait Vision 2035, which prioritizes investment in people and the development of their capabilities. True development, she said, is measured not only by projects and infrastructure but also by a society's ability to provide opportunities for all and benefit from their potential.



KUNA photos

'Mother of the Disabled' Sheikha Shaikha Al-Abdullah Al-Sabah with UN Secretary-General's Representative and Resident Coordinator in Kuwait Ghada Al-Taher.

She added that the UN's approach has evolved beyond raising awareness to supporting practical programmes in rehabilitation, skills development and employment, in cooperation with specialized agencies, including UNESCO, the International Labour Organization and the World Health Organization.

She pointed out that support from the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, as part of a broader USD five million programme, had enabled 481 people to benefit from training programmes and helped around 231 secure employment opportunities. The initiative reflects shared Kuwait-UN priorities and supports Kuwait Vision 2035 and the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly those related to quality education, decent work, reduced inequalities and partnerships.

Al-Taher emphasized that persons with disabilities possess diverse talents and abilities that can enrich society when provided with an enabling environment. She praised Kuwaiti institutions and associations working with people with autism and visual, hearing and physical disabilities for raising awareness, providing support and promoting empowerment.

She also commended Sheikha Shaikha Al-Abdullah's decades of voluntary and community work, describing inspirational figures as catalysts for change and greater participation in humanitarian and social initiatives. She said Kuwait's experience offers an important example of progress in supporting persons with disabilities and strengthening their role in society.

For her part, Sheikha Shaikha Al-Abdullah told KUNA that her interest in disability issues began during intermediate school in the 1970s, when a blind classmate consistently excelled academically and ranked among the top students.

The experience prompted her to consider the circumstances and needs of other persons with disabilities and the availability of care and opportunities for them, she said.

Sheikha Shaikha said the issue remained central to her concerns after graduating from Kuwait University, adding that her focus was less on finding a job than on understanding the situation of persons with disabilities and finding ways to support them. The encouragement of the late Amir Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah played a major role in guiding her towards this field, she added.

Her practical work began when she joined a group of Kuwaiti women who established the Disabled Care Association in the 1970s, including Moudhi Al-Sultan, Munira Al-Mutawa and Munira Al-Qatami. Their aim was to provide children with disabilities and their families with suitable care and new opportunities.

She said Kuwait witnessed significant progress in social care during that period, extending its development efforts beyond state-building and infrastructure to investing in people and establishing specialized care services for persons with disabilities, including citizens, residents and GCC nationals.

Among the major milestones, she noted, was the opening of the Arab Open University, which expanded access to higher education for persons with disabilities. She also praised the role of public and private institutions in improving educational and care services, as well as the National Assembly's adoption of the law on the rights of persons with disabilities, which she said had become a model she cites during her international engagements.







KUNA photos

Kuwait's Foreign Minister Sheikh Jarrah Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah and ICRC President Mirjana Spoljaric during the Kuwait-ICRC fifth high-level strategic dialogue in Geneva.

Bid to strengthen ties

Kuwait, ICRC team up to trace conflict missing

GENEVA, Nov 17, (KUNA): Kuwait and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) held their fifth high-level strategic dialogue in Geneva on Tuesday, co-chaired by Foreign Minister Sheikh Jarrah Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah and ICRC President Mirjana Spoljaric.

According to a Foreign Ministry statement, the dialogue reviewed the longstanding relations and strategic partnership between Kuwait and the ICRC, describing them as an outstanding model of international humanitarian cooperation.

It highlighted Kuwait's role in supporting international humanitarian efforts and the committee's work, particularly through Kuwait's membership in the ICRC Donor Support Group for 2026-2027.

The two sides discussed ways to strengthen cooperation and coordination, as well as the latest humanitarian developments and challenges at regional and international levels and the ICRC's priorities for the coming period.

They also stressed the importance of promoting respect for international humanitarian law and keeping it high on the international agenda, alongside protecting civilians during armed conflicts.

Discussions also addressed missing persons in armed conflicts, efforts to determine their fate and support their families, and cooperation in implementing UN Security Council Resolution 2474 on missing persons in armed conflicts, introduced by Kuwait during its 2018-2019 membership of the Council.

On the sidelines of the dialogue, the two sides signed a framework agreement between the Kuwaiti government, represented by the Foreign Ministry, and the ICRC to cooperate in establishing a regional center of expertise specializing in the search for missing persons. The agreement was signed by Sheikh Jarrah and Spoljaric.

Kuwait celebrates 1st winner of prestigious UK book prize

Ambassador Al-Munayekh hails Kuwaiti scholar's win

By Ahmad Al-Hamily

LONDON, Nov 17, (KUNA): The 28th edition of the Sheikh Abdullah Mubarak Al-Sabah Book Prize in Middle Eastern Studies is particularly significant this year, marking the first time a Kuwaiti scholar has been among the winners of the prestigious prize, said Kuwait Ambassador to the United Kingdom Bader Al-Munayekh.

This came in a statement to KUNA late Monday on the sidelines of the book prize award ceremony held at SOAS University of London.

The prize -- sponsored by the Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah Foundation and represented by Sheikh Mubarak Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah -- saw "Monsoon Voyager: An Indian Ocean History" by Kuwaiti writer Fahad Bishara share top spot with "The Science of Music: Knowledge of Production in Medieval Baghdad and Beyond" by Mohammad Ansari.

Ambassador Al-Munayekh affirmed that this Kuwaiti achievement was a source of "great pride" and hoped that it would encourage other Kuwaitis to pursue similar paths toward academic excellence.

He highlighted the State of Kuwait's keenness on developing research and encouraging science and knowledge.

Delivering a speech at the ceremony, Al-Munayekh said that since its establishment in 1998, the prestigious book prize has played an important role in promoting Middle Eastern studies.

"Through its scholarship programmes and continued support for research, the Prize has helped nurture generations of students and advance the study of the Middle East at British universities," he added, commending Sheikh Mubarak Al-Sabah for "his vision, generosity, and unwavering commitment" to help establish it as "a lasting bridge of understanding and friendship between cultures."



KUNA photo

Sheikh Mubarak Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah and Kuwait Ambassador to the United Kingdom Bader Al-Munayekh award the Sheikh Abdullah Mubarak Al-Sabah Book Prize in Middle Eastern Studies to Kuwaiti writer Fahad Bishara.

"Kuwait has always placed great importance on education, culture, the arts, and literature, values that remain central under the guidance of His Highness the Amir," said Al-Munayekh, who congratulated the winners on their achievements and wished the event continued success in promoting scholarship and ties between Kuwait and the United Kingdom.

He also thanked SOAS for hosting the occasion, lauding it as a "leading institution renowned for its academic excellence and research on Asia, Africa, and the Middle East."

Delivering a speech on behalf of the foundation, Sheikh Mubarak Al-Sabah stressed that he took great pride in the fact that the prize -- bearing the name of his father, the late Sheikh Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah -- was "associated with scholars and publishers contributing to learning and scholarship."

He paid tribute to Sheikha Dr. Souad Al-Sabah for her support of the prize through the foundation under the auspices of the British-Kuwait Friendship Society, emphasizing the importance of encouraging writers and allowing scholarship the freedom "to investigate, to question, and to reach conclusions of its own."

Sheikh Mubarak Al-Sabah thanked various figures, SOAS University of London and the participating authors for their contributions to the book prize, stating that "It matters that people study our region closely, learn its languages, and give its history and people the attention they deserve."

Following the ceremony, winner Fahad Bishara said that it was an honor for a book about Kuwait and the Gulf region to be among the top recognized publications, adding that it was very important to document historical Kuwaiti voyages.

The book prize's runner-up award went to "Becoming Arab: The Formation of Arab Identity in The Medieval Middle East" by Yossef Rapoport.

Among the shortlisted entries mentioned by the judges was "Managing Religious Diversity in the Ottoman Empire" by Masayuki Ueno.

The Book Prize in Middle Eastern Studies is an annual award, honoring the best English-language scholarly publications on the Middle East region.

The event attracts around 50 nominations from some 20 publishers each year, with the prize money amounting to GBP 20,000 per annum.

Bid to explore fresh fields of cooperation

Kuwait, New Zealand seek to elevate ties

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 17, (KUNA): The Kuwait-New Zealand Joint Cooperation Committee concluded its second meeting in New Zealand, where both sides stressed the importance of continued coordination, cooperation and exchanges of views on various issues in the two countries' interests.

In a statement received by KUNA on Tuesday, the Kuwaiti Embassy in New Zealand said Kuwait's Assistant Foreign Minister for Americas Affairs, Minister Plenipotentiary Abdulaziz Al-Qadfan, led the Kuwaiti delegation at the joint committee meeting.

Acting assistant secretary for Europe, the Middle East, Africa and the Australia Group Nicole Roberton led New Zealand's delegation, Kuwait's Ambassador to New Zealand Sheikh Sabah Nasser Al-Malek Al-Sabah said in the statement issued by the embassy.



Photo by Kuwait Embassy in New Zealand

Group photo during the Kuwait-New Zealand Joint Cooperation Committee meeting.

The ambassador said the two sides reviewed issues of mutual interest, discussed ways to strengthen and expand bilateral relations across various fields and exchanged views on recent regional and international developments during the committee meeting.

He added that both sides reaffirmed the importance of maintaining coordination and cooperation and exchanging views on issues of shared interest, and expressed their desire to hold the third meeting of the committee in Kuwait.

diwaniya ديوانية

A DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION

Teachers, stop the bullies

"BULLYING has serious consequences, affecting not only the person being bullied but also the individual engaging in the behavior. Its effects can extend to families, schools, and society as a whole," Imam and preacher **Mohammed Al-Fawzan** wrote for **Al-Seyassah** daily.

"Bullying is not "innocent fun" when it involves hurting or humiliating others. Addressing it requires raising awareness, promoting a culture of respect, putting an end to such behavior, supporting victims, and holding those responsible appropriately accountable.



Al Fawzan

One woman shares her experience - "Twenty-five years later, I discovered that the girl who bullied me throughout middle school had become my son's teacher. I saw her for the first time at a parent-teacher meeting. The moment she looked up, I froze. She was the very same person who used to throw my shoes into the restroom, scribble on my clothes, and make me sit alone, away from the other girls, during lunch.

After middle school, the bullying drove me to move to another city and cut ties with all my former classmates. For 25 years, I had neither seen nor heard anything about her. After the meeting, I went home and told my husband just one thing, "We have to move our son to another class." The next morning, I was about to call the school when I opened my son's school notebook and found a lengthy note written by his teacher.

I recognized her handwriting from the very first line. The note began - "Dear Mother, I believe you still remember me. If you wish to move your son to another class, I will personally submit the request to the principal. But I have just one request - Give me one year. Let me protect your son." My hands began to tremble as I continued reading. She wrote that, after I left the school, another group of girls began bullying a child in her class.

This time, however, she found herself on the receiving end of the same behavior. She experienced firsthand some of the fear and loneliness I had endured for years. Only then did she truly understand the extent of the harm she had caused me.

In her letter, she explained that she had tried to find me to apologize but had no idea where I had gone and could not find a way to contact me. That was why she chose to become a teacher. She wanted to be someone who could prevent the very kind of harm she had once inflicted on another person.

In the end, I decided not to move my son to another class, not because I had forgiven her, but because I wanted to find out whether she had truly changed or whether her letter was nothing more than empty words.

During the first semester, one of the students hid my son's pencil case. That same day, the teacher addressed the entire class, contacted the student's family, and dealt with the incident immediately.

At the final parent-teacher meeting of the year, the teacher sat across from me, lowered her head, and said, "I don't expect you to forgive me, but I am truly remorseful and deeply sorry for everything I did to you." I didn't know how to respond.

The emotions I had carried within me for 25 years were too deep to be expressed in just a few sentences.

On the last day of school, my son came home with an essay he had written titled "My Teacher." I read through it until I reached the final line - "My teacher does not allow anyone to bully others." I read that sentence over and over again. The woman who had blighted years of my childhood had now become the very reason my own child would never have to endure the same experience.

I have come to understand one thing - We cannot change the past, and perhaps we cannot erase the pain others have inflicted upon us. Yet, people can learn from their worst mistakes and choose to spend the rest of their lives doing the exact opposite.

Sometimes, the best way to make amends for an old wound is to make sure it is never inflicted upon another child."

Also:

"A closer look at everyday life reveals that some of the deepest and most meaningful lessons can come from unexpected places, extending beyond the human world to other living beings," Kuwaiti writer **Dr. Nasser Hussein Abbas** wrote for **Al-Seyassah** daily.

"In a spontaneous scene captured by a surveillance camera outside a small shop, a young elephant calf reached out with its trunk to take some bananas that did not belong to it.

Its mother intervened firmly, returning the bananas to their place and preventing the calf from continuing its behavior.

This seemingly simple incident carries profound lessons for every parent and educator seeking to play a meaningful role in shaping a well-rounded and responsible individual.

True educational responsibility goes beyond verbal guidance and abstract advice. It requires attentive, practical involvement and a willingness to intervene and correct behavior as soon as it occurs.

The mother elephant in this scene did not remain a passive observer. Instead, she acted as a guide, instinctively rejecting the wrongdoing and demonstrating that immediate correction through example is a fundamental part of shaping behavior and instilling values.

Children and young people learn moral values not only through what they hear but, more importantly, through what they witness in real-life situations and how those values are put into practice.



Dr. Abbas

This animal behavior reflects the highest principles of integrity, respect for personal property, and recognition of the rights of others.

A child or student may be tempted by easy gains or find themselves taking something that does not belong to them. This is precisely where families and educational institutions play an essential role - instilling strong moral values that discourage dishonesty and reject the wrongful acquisition of others' property. The foundations of integrity must be established from early childhood.

This requires a calm yet firm approach that balances compassion with a clear rejection of misconduct. It should also be supported by practical strategies, such as positive reinforcement and giving children the opportunity to recognize and correct their own mistakes.

From an educational perspective, this incident reminds us that an ideal learning environment should not simply deliver academic curricula through rigid, traditional methods. It should also integrate behavioral values into daily activities and guidance sessions, making learning more dynamic, engaging, and interactive.

Schools that translate values into everyday practices help raise generations who understand that a person's true worth lies in integrity and a living conscience, not in what they might acquire through dishonest means.

Ultimately, this incident serves as a powerful reminder that education is a profound responsibility and a sacred trust that requires the conscious preservation of values.

Guiding behavior during its formative stages through carefully designed educational strategies is the surest way to build a conscientious society - one that respects the rights of others, upholds honesty, and promotes greater social and environmental awareness."

– Compiled by Simi K. Kutty

Two jailed over police assault

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 17: The Misdemeanor Court sentenced two defendants to two years in prison with hard labor after convicting them of assaulting and insulting two police officers while they were on duty and filming them without their knowledge or consent, following a brawl outside a wedding hall in Sulaibikhat, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The court acquitted three other defendants of the charges against them. It also acquitted the two police officers of charges of using excessive force, making threats, and publicly insulting others.

During the trial, Lawyer Abdulmohsen Al-Qattan, representing the fourth defendant, one of the police officers, argued that there was no conclusive evidence to support the charges against his client and that there was no proof he had exceeded the limits of his legal authority.

The court accepted Lawyer Al-Qattan's defense, finding that the victims' statements were not supported by conclusive evidence. It noted that the case file contained no definitive proof that the fourth defendant had threatened or insulted the officers, while the police investigation had also failed to establish the charges.

The court further ruled that using the degree of force necessary to enforce security measures does not constitute excessive force, provided it remains within the limits required by the circumstances.

Regarding the first and third defendants, the court found them guilty of insulting a public official, assaulting the two police officers, and misusing a telephone. Its ruling was based on the victims' statements, police investigations, and the report examining the mobile phones. The court sentenced both defendants to two years in prison with hard labor.

Kuwait seeks stronger int'l cooperation in civil aviation



Sheikh Humoud Mubarak Humoud Al-Sabah, President of Kuwait's Public Authority for Civil Aviation, heads the Kuwaiti delegation participating in the conference.



KUNA photos

Kuwait's Public Authority for Civil Aviation participates in the 7th Global Air Transport Conference.

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 17, (KUNA): Chairman of Kuwait's Public Authority for Civil Aviation Sheikh Hamoud Mubarak Al-Hamoud Al-Sabah held a series of meetings with senior officials and representatives of countries and international organizations concerned with civil aviation on the sidelines of the seventh ICAO World Air Transport Conference in Montreal.

The authority said in a statement on Tuesday that the meetings reflected Kuwait's keenness to strengthen international relations, expand cooperation and exchange expertise to develop its civil aviation sector and improve services.

Sheikh Hamoud met with President of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Council Toshiyuki Onuma to discuss enhancing cooperation and coordination, developing joint initiatives and reviewing key issues on the organization's agenda and upcoming international commitments.

The meeting also addressed ways to benefit from ICAO's technical expertise and capabilities in supporting Kuwait's civil aviation development plans, particularly in training, capacity-building, upgrading national personnel and exchanging technical knowledge.

Sheikh Hamoud also met with President of the Hellenic Civil Aviation Authority Christos Tsetouras to discuss developing bilateral cooperation in air transport, updating operational arrangements and flights between Kuwait and Greece, and expanding air connectivity.

In another meeting, he discussed with Airports Council International (ACI) Director General Justin Erbacci cooperation in airport management and operations, as well as opportunities to draw on international expertise to develop Kuwait International Airport, improve passenger services and facilities, upgrade infrastructure and enhance operational efficiency.

The authority said the meetings were part of its efforts to strengthen Kuwait's presence at international forums, develop ties with specialized organizations and friendly countries, and benefit from global expertise in civil aviation.

Court upholds 5-yr sentence for knife assault on minor

Kuwaiti arrested with 79 bottles of imported liquor in Kabd

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 17: The Criminal Court upheld a five-year prison sentence with hard labor against a defendant, rejecting his appeal against a default judgment convicting him of assaulting his wife's minor nephew with a knife and inflicting a facial injury following a dispute between the victim and the defendant's son, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

According to the medical report, the assault caused a 10-centimeter laceration that required sutures, as well as another injury extending to the forehead. The injuries were accompanied by swelling and a slight deviation of the left corner of the mouth.

The report confirmed that the injuries were caused by a sharp instrument and resulted in severe pain and facial disfigurement, although they healed within less than 30 days.

The court had initially sentenced the defendant in absentia to five years in prison with hard labor. However, he appealed the verdict, denying the charges against him.

His defense argued that the case lacked sufficient evidence and proof, pointing to contradictions in the statements of the victim and witnesses.

Lawyer Inaam Haidar, representing the minor victim, attended the hearing and called for the defendant's conviction and the upholding of the sentence. She also requested provisional civil compensation of KD 5,001.

She submitted a defense memorandum and supporting documents, aligning herself with the Public Prosecution's requests. The court upheld the five-year prison sentence with hard labor and referred the civil case to the competent court to rule on the compensation claim.

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Patrols foil liquor smuggling attempt: Jahra security patrols foiled an attempt by a Kuwaiti man in his 50s to evade security officers in the Kabd desert area after he aroused suspicion during a routine patrol. The incident ended with his arrest and the discovery of 79 bottles of imported liquor inside his four-wheel-drive vehicle, reports Al-Anba daily.

According to a security source, patrol officers became suspicious of the vehicle and ordered the driver to pull over for inspection. However, he refused to comply and attempted to flee, prompting officers to pursue him and bring the vehicle to a stop.

The suspect resisted officers after being stopped, but they managed to subdue him and take the necessary legal action.

A search of the vehicle led to the discovery of 79 bottles of imported liquor hidden inside.

❑ ❑ ❑

Elderly woman sustains fractures: An elderly woman sustained fractures after being struck by two girls riding an electric scooter near Youm Al Bahar Village. The girls fled the scene immediately after the collision, reports Al-Anba daily.

According to a security source, a Kuwaiti citizen born in 1995 said his mother, an Iranian woman born in 1959, had been involved in the accident. Security personnel immediately went to the scene to investigate the circumstances.

Eyewitnesses reported seeing two unidentified girls riding an electric scooter at the time of the incident. They said the girls left immediately after hitting the woman.

The injured woman was taken to hospital for treatment and is currently admitted to the new building at Al-Razi Hospital, suffering from fractures sustained in the accident.

A case was registered, and criminal investigators were assigned to identify and apprehend the two girls and question them to establish the circumstances of the incident.

The source said this incident highlights the need for caution when using fast modes of transport in areas frequented by pedestrians.

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Kuwaitis held to serve 97 years in prison: Officers from the General Department for the Execution of Judgments arrested two Kuwaiti citizens wanted under final court rulings in Salwa and Sulaibikhat. The combined prison sentences imposed on the two men totaled 97 years, reports Al-Anba daily.

According to a security source, detectives arrested a Kuwaiti man in Salwa who had been sentenced to seven years in prison under a final court ruling in a case involving the forgery of bank papers and documents. The arrest followed search and investigation efforts that enabled officers to locate him and take him into custody.

In a separate operation, officers arrested another Kuwaiti man in Sulaibikhat who was wanted under several court rulings in drug-related cases, carrying a combined prison sentence of 90 years. He was taken into custody and referred to the relevant authorities to complete the necessary legal procedures.

Dr. Al-Huwailah visits PADA to review disability services

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 17: Minister of Social Affairs, Family and Childhood Affairs Dr. Amthal Hadi Al-Huwailah visited the headquarters of the Public Authority for Disability Affairs (PADA) in Hawally on Monday, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

She was received by PADA Director General Dr. Dalal Al-Othman and the authority's deputy directors general overseeing various sectors.

During the visit, Al-Huwailah toured the reception areas to review workflow and assess the quality of services provided to people with disabilities.

She also met with several visitors, listened to their feedback and requests, and learned about the main challenges they face when completing their transactions.

She praised the efforts and dedication of the reception staff, stressing the importance of treating visitors with care, responding attentively to their needs, and providing the necessary assistance to ensure easy access to services.

Dr. Al-Huwailah also met with senior PADA officials and directed them to monitor workflow, address challenges and obstacles, improve operational efficiency, and expedite the processing of transactions.

She emphasized the need to further develop services and simplify procedures for people with disabilities and their caregivers.

MoCI warns against misuse of state symbols

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 17: The Ministry of Commerce and Industry has warned against displaying images of His Highness the Amir and His Highness the Crown Prince, or using the state emblem in commercial transactions involving goods, products, and publications of all kinds, in accordance with Ministerial Resolution No. 216/2014, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

In an official statement, the ministry explained that owners of commercial establishments, public and private sector institutions, companies, and individuals are prohibited from displaying, selling, or promoting products bearing images of His Highness the Amir or His Highness the Crown Prince, or the state emblem, as trademarks. It is also prohibited to use these symbols in a disrespectful manner, as stipulated in Article 16 of the resolution.

The ministry affirmed that its inspection teams continue to conduct campaigns in all governorates to identify such violations and take the necessary legal action against those responsible.



Kuwait University hosts ninth Int'l Conference on Energy Research, Development to advance sustainable solutions

Three-day confab focuses on renewable energy, storage and efficiency

By Mohammad Ghanem
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 17: Minister of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy Dr. Sabih Al-Mukhaizeem confirmed the significance of the Ninth International Conference on Energy Research and Development, asserting that "it comes at a time of increasing need to develop energy systems and strike a balance between security of supply, economic efficiency and environmental sustainability."

In a speech on behalf of His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Al-Abdullah -- sponsor of the conference, which opened Tuesday at Sabah Al-Salem University City, Al-Mukhaizeem revealed that the ministry is continuing its efforts to develop the electricity and water sectors. He said these efforts include expanding production capacity and improving operational reliability to meet the needs of the country and support its development projects. He indicated that the realization of these objectives requires long-term planning, investment in infrastructure and the use of scientific research to come up with plausible solutions.

On renewable energy projects, specifically the Shaqaya project, he pointed out that this project plays a crucial role in diversifying electricity generation sources and ensuring sustainability. He said the first and second phases have a combined generating capacity of 1,600 megawatts, while the third and fourth phases are expected to contribute an additional 3,000 megawatts.

He added that work is progressing on raising the operational efficiency of power stations and electricity networks, upgrading control systems and smart services, improving demand-side management and encouraging more responsible consumption.

On the other hand, Sarah Maston, President of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE), expressed happiness over attending the conference on behalf of the organization. She observed that energy "touches almost every aspect of our lives and underpins our economies, industries and the communities in which we live."

Maston pointed out that with energy demand continuing to grow, "there is an increasing need to think differently about how we produce, use and manage our resources." She also highlighted the progress being made in air-conditioning technologies, the incorporation of renewable energy and the optimization of various systems.

Meanwhile, Kuwait University President Dr. Dina Al-Mailem conveyed her deep gratitude and pride in the gesture of HH the Prime Minister to sponsor the conference.

She said this "reflects the political leadership's commitment—under the guidance of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled—to support education and scientific research, and underscores their dedication to empower academic and research institutions to contribute to the progress of Kuwait and the realization of its development aspirations."

She stressed that energy is vital to economic security, development and quality of life, hence, covering the energy needs of the country necessitates an efficient approach that conserves resources, safeguards the environment and ensures a sustainable future for coming generations.

She asserted that this issue is especially relevant to Kuwait, where air-conditioning systems account for around 70 percent of total electricity consumption. She said the conference focuses on diversifying energy sources, ensuring reliable supplies and curbing consumption and emissions, while maintaining a comfortable living environment.

She also pointed out that the three-day event, which attracted extensive international participation, "continues a 27-year scientific legacy. It is held every three years to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and expertise and to explore the future of energy."

In addition, Dr. Osama Al-Yousef, Chairman of the Supreme Organizing Committee for the conference, disclosed that the three-day event covers an extensive range of topics. "Our goal is to improve the utilization of energy resources within the sectors that consume the most energy in the arid regions of the Arabian Peninsula. We live in an environment where summer temperatures exceed 50 degrees Celsius and air conditioning accounts for the largest share of electrical energy consumption. This makes imported solutions insufficient, thus, local scientific research is a necessity rather than an option," he narrated.

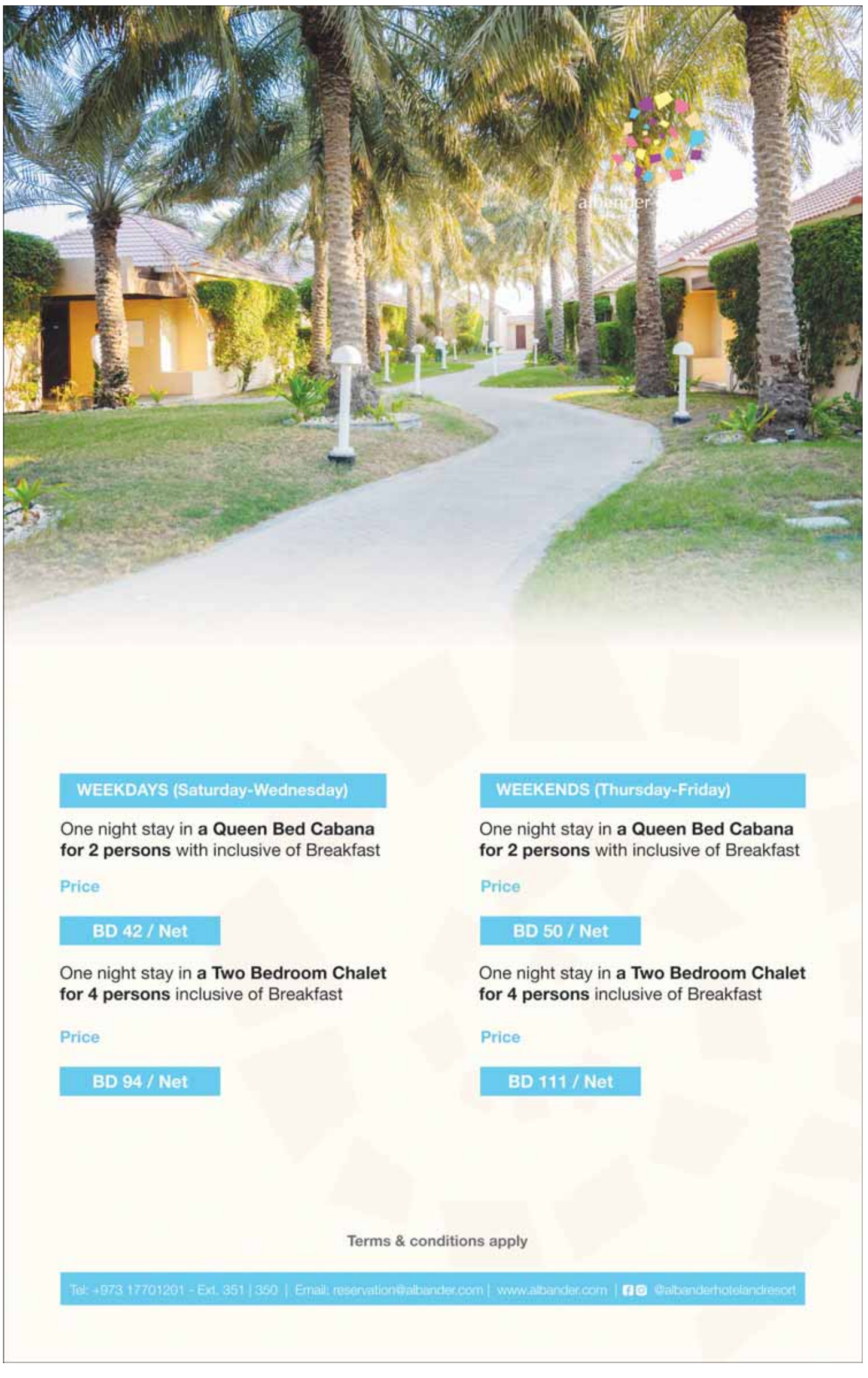






KUNA photos

Some photos from the event.



Continued from Page 1

Kuwait pledges

The Cabinet was further briefed on the opening of Microsoft's Innovation and Digital Transformation Center in Kuwait by His Highness the Prime Minister on Sunday.

He was briefed on the center's work in artificial intelligence, cloud computing and cybersecurity, as well as the Kuwait Skills initiative aimed at enhancing employment opportunities and developing national talent in government entities.

The Cabinet strongly condemned continued Iranian attacks against Bahrain, most recently on Tuesday, describing them as a flagrant violation of the Kingdom's sovereignty and territorial integrity, international law, the UN Charter and Security Council Resolution 2817.

It reaffirmed Kuwait's full solidarity with Bahrain and support for all measures taken to safeguard its security and stability.

It also condemned continued Houthi attacks on several areas in Saudi Arabia using ballistic and cruise missiles and drones, describing them as terrorist acts that threaten the Kingdom's sovereignty and civilian safety and undermine regional security.

Minister of Defense Sheikh Abdullah Ali Abdullah Al-Salem Al-Sabah briefed the Cabinet on the 23rd session of the GCC Joint Defense Council, held in Manama last week. The meeting approved the establishment of an advanced command post for the Unified Military Command in Kuwait.

He also briefed the Cabinet on the 43rd meeting of GCC interior ministers, which approved recommendations to enhance security cooperation and coordination and advance Gulf security integration.

The Cabinet reviewed the outcomes of the 14th Kuwait-Egypt Joint Committee meeting, held in Kuwait on Sunday and co-chaired by Foreign Minister Sheikh Jarrah Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah and his Egyptian counterpart Badr Abdelatty.

The meeting reviewed bilateral relations and ways to expand cooperation, as well as regional and international developments. It culminated in the signing of memoranda of understanding on participation in international exhibitions and markets, economic and free zones, and civil aviation. The two sides also signed executive programmes covering vocational training, culture and the arts, education, customs affairs, standards and metrology, and mutual recognition of conformity assessment certificates and procedures for exports and imports.

Meanwhile, Minister of State for Communications and Information Technology and Acting Minister of Information and Culture Omar Al-Omar briefed the Cabinet on Kuwait's election to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Council for Region E for the 2027-2030 term. The election took place Monday during the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in Doha.

Al-Omar, who headed Kuwait's delegation, expressed pride in the renewed membership and the confidence shown by countries worldwide, describing the result as a national achievement.

The Cabinet also reviewed several agenda items and reports submitted by ministerial committees, approving a number of them and referring others to the relevant committees for further study and recommendations.

Yemen ambassador

supporting efforts to end the siege of Taiz, while continuing the 'Dawn of Yemen' (Fajr al-Yemen) Operation until its objective of ending the Houthi coup is achieved." He explained that "this redeployment is a restructuring of forces following the considerable attrition sustained by government troops over the past several years."

He also stressed the importance of "strengthening the capabilities of the state and coastguard to protect the coastlines, ports and territorial waters, as well as combat smuggling, along with international efforts to protect vessels operating in the Red Sea."

He affirmed that "Yemen will not allow its territory, ports or maritime routes to become launching grounds for threats against neighboring countries or international interests."

He reiterated that "the Houthi threat has now expanded to include regional security, international navigation and humanitarian operations."

He drew attention to the "steadfastness of Taiz in confronting the Houthi siege and the militias have been unable to achieve their objectives in the city despite using various military tactics and putting sustained pressure."

On the humanitarian situation, he called for "a clear distinction between civilians residing in Houthi controlled areas and the militias themselves." He clarified that "the legitimate government is responsible for all Yemenis, whether they live in liberated territories or areas under Houthi control. It remains committed to providing humanitarian assistance to every citizen, while rejecting all forms of collective punishment."

He appealed to the international community to "extend economic, security and institutional assistance to the legitimate government so that it can discharge its responsibilities toward the Yemeni people throughout all governorates."

He urged the international community to "ensure the implementation of the United Nations Security Council resolutions on the arms embargo, dismantle smuggling and funding networks whether connected to Iran or other parties that support the Houthi militias, and put the Houthis on the Arab lists of terrorist organizations."

He underscored the importance of "exerting international pressure to guarantee the immediate release of the United Nations (UN) employees held by the Houthis." He voiced concern over the "trial of UN personnel in Sanaa and the possibility of unjust rulings," emphasizing that these developments call for a unified international position focused on restoring state institutions and ending security threats.

He is hoping for a "breakthrough in the Yemeni crisis," indicating that "the Houthis' practices have eroded their popularity, including among residents of territories under their control." He said the group has become increasingly dependent on intimidation and force to enlist young people and pressure students into joining it, as the slogans it previously used have gradually lost their appeal among the people.

Addressing the Houthis, he called on them to "surrender their weapons and participate in political life as one Yemeni faction." He asserted that they could "engage in party politics, participate in elections and seek public office, just like any other Yemeni citizen rather than enforcing their rule through force."

He challenged the Houthi doctrine that "governance is a divine entitlement belonging exclusively to a particular group," declaring that "such notions cannot provide a viable basis for establishing a modern state founded on equal citizenship."

He concluded that "the prospect of resolving the Yemeni crisis remains active regardless of how prolonged the war may become. A genuine political settlement must rest on equality among all Yemenis, respect for constitutional institutions and commitment to the democratic process. The restoration of state institutions and national sovereignty remains the national objective and the route to securing peace and stability in Yemen and the areas around it, while protecting international interests."



Sheikh Ali Al-Jaber and the UAE Ambassador



Photos by Rezk Tawfiq
Sheikh Hamad Jaber Al-Ali, Sheikh Abdullah Salem Al-Ali, Counselor Mohammed Abu Al-Hassan, the Ambassador of Morocco, and Marwan Boodai

Al Neyadi: The UAE and Kuwait are one heart … A brotherhood that creates an exceptional model



Editor-in-Chief Ahmed Al-Jarallah, the Ambassadors of Japan and Senegal, Saud Al-Farhan, Ahmed Behbehani, Madi Al-Khamis, and Jamal Al-Nasrallah

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

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 17: In a scene that embodied the depth of love uniting the Emirati and Kuwaiti peoples, the Diwan of the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates in Kuwait turned into a gathering of brotherhood and loyalty, after Ambassador Dr. Matar Al Neyadi received a group of Kuwaiti and diplomatic figures, in an attendance that reflected the special status enjoyed by the UAE, its leadership, and its people among Kuwaitis.

Al Neyadi affirmed that what unites the UAE and Kuwait is greater than a relationship between two states bound by interests and agreements; it is an extension of a long history of closeness, cohesion, and a shared destiny, stressing that the two countries live in an exceptional relationship summed up by the phrase "one country and one people," and which constitutes a model to be emulated in relations between states.

He explained, during his reception of visitors to the Embassy Diwan on Monday, that the bonds between the two sides draw their strength from their popular and social depth, and from a history rich in brotherly stances and mutual cooperation, noting that what distinguishes this relationship is its rootedness in the conscience of the two peoples, and that it is not limited to official and diplomatic frameworks.

The Emirati Ambassador pointed out that the brotherly relationship that brings together His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates, and his brother His Highness Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Amir of the State of Kuwait, embodies the depth of understanding and harmony between the leaderships of the two countries, and their shared keenness to enhance cooperation and coordination on Arab, regional, and international issues.

In a brotherly gesture, Al Neyadi expressed his warm and sincere congratulations to His Highness the Amir on his safe return to the homeland, praying to Almighty God to preserve His Highness, to continue leading the march of development, construction, and prosperity in Kuwait.

The Embassy Diwan had witnessed a wide attendance led by a number of Sheikhs of the ruling family, alongside Kuwaiti figures, businessmen, and members of the diplomatic corps accredited to the country, in a picture that reflected the extent of popular appreciation enjoyed by the UAE, and the feelings of affection and mutual respect that bind the peoples of the two countries.

The attendees exchanged friendly conversations and recalled milestones in the march of relations between the two countries, amid an atmosphere dominated by intimacy and the spirit of brotherhood, away from official protocols, confirming that Emirati-Kuwaiti ties are not the product of a phase or circumstance, but a deeply rooted relationship inherited by generations.

Thus, the Embassy Diwan on that evening appeared as more than a diplomatic headquarters; it was a space for expressing mutual love, and a witness to a relationship built by sincere stances before agreements, and cemented by the bonds of the two peoples before interests, so that the UAE and Kuwait remain a symbol of Gulf brotherhood that renews itself with every occasion.



Nasser Al-Roudan, Ambassador Al Neyadi, and Sheikh Khaled Al-Abdullah



Ahmed Alazemi, Bassam Al-Qassas, Ambassador Al Neyadi, Iyad Al-Thuwaini, and Yasser Abel



Sheikh Khalid Badr Al-Mohammed and Ambassador Al Neyadi

Continued from Page 1

Kuwait, India

Kuwait is also India's sixth-largest crude oil supplier and fourth-largest liquefied petroleum gas exporter, meeting around five percent of the country's energy needs.

The ambassador honored several friends of the embassy in recognition of their contributions to strengthening relations between the two countries.

As part of the anniversary celebrations, the embassy is organizing a three-day cultural exhibition in cooperation with Kuwait's Sadu House and Indian company Kashmir Loom, highlighting the long-standing cultural and artisanal ties between the two nations.

In turn, Indian Ministry of External Affairs Secretary (West) Ambassador Sibi George said the anniversary was an opportunity to reaffirm the strategic partnership and work toward a prosperous future for the peoples of both countries.

George, a former Indian ambassador to Kuwait, recalled high-level exchanges between the two countries, particularly Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Kuwait in December 2024, which helped strengthen ties across political, trade, investment, cultural and people-to-people fields.

He expressed confidence in further growth in bilateral relations and wished Al-Shemali success in his efforts to advance cooperation.

Kuwait calls

on cooperation between the United Nations and the GCC, which was adopted by the UN General Assembly by consensus on June 16, 2025, he stated.

Bousakher described the resolution as an important step toward developing institutional relations between the two organizations and building on the cooperation achieved over recent years in the areas of preserving peace and security, preventing and peacefully resolving conflicts, and supporting mediation and preventive diplomacy.

He stressed the need to translate the framework established by the resolution into practical steps by continuing high-level strategic dialogue, intensifying consultations and coordination between the two secretariats, and sharing assessments of regional developments and issues of mutual interest, in a manner that ensures complementarity between the efforts of both organizations while respecting their respective mandates.

Developments and challenges facing the Gulf region and the wider region stress the need for a close and effective partnership between the United Nations and the GCC, enabling better coordination on issues affecting regional security and stability and supporting diplomatic efforts and peaceful solutions. Bousakher reiterated Kuwait's commitment to supporting cooperation between the United Nations and the GCC.

Kuwait aid warms 2,000 Gaza families

GAZA, Nov 17, (KUNA): Palestine Tomorrow for Community Development Association announced Tuesday the distribution of winter clothing to around 2,000 displaced families across the Gaza Strip, as part of a series of upcoming winter relief projects supported by the Kuwait Relief Society.

Association Chairwoman Dr. Manal Siam told KUNA that the project targets some 12,000 people from displaced, affected and most vulnerable families across all governorates of Gaza. She said the initiative comes as harsh winter conditions affect tents and shelters, while recent storms have caused widespread damage to displaced families' belongings and necessities.



Kuwait reaffirms support for IAEA technical programme

VIENNA, Nov 17, (KUNA): Kuwait has reaffirmed its support for the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) Technical Cooperation Programme for 2027, pledging to help ensure the continuity and effectiveness of its activities in meeting member states' needs and national priorities.

The position was conveyed by Third Secretary at Kuwait's Permanent Mission to the UN and international organizations in Vienna, Ahmad Al-Daikan, during an IAEA meeting under the agenda item on the proposed 2027 programme.

Al-Daikan described the programme as a key pillar of the agency's work and a vital tool for promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear technology, transferring technical expertise and building national capacities in support of sustainable development goals.

He called on all member states to meet their financial commitments and pay their contributions to the Technical Cooperation Fund on time to ensure adequate resources for approved projects and activities and sustain the programme's ability to respond to members' needs.

He also noted that Kuwait submitted its fourth Country Programme Framework for Technical Cooperation for 2026-2035 on September 15, 2025, during the IAEA's 69th General Conference.

Al-Daikan also expressed Kuwait's commitment to continued close cooperation with the IAEA and to making effective use of the programme to advance development objectives and national priorities while strengthening the agency's role in serving all member states.



Xi to hold China-Russia-US summit

Trump arrives in Philippines to kick off Asia trip with economic deals, talks with allies

MANILA, Philippines, Nov 17, (Agencies): US President Donald Trump arrived in the Philippines on Tuesday, where he was scheduled to meet regional partners, talk trade, and seek a break from a series of setbacks at home, ranging from a major disruption to the US aviation industry to a scandal that has shaken the global AI industry.

Manila, the Philippine capital, is Trump's first stop on a three-day trip that will later take him to China for historic three-way nuclear talks with Chinese President Xi Jinping and Russian President Vladimir Putin, and, according to Trump, potentially for a meeting with North Korea's leader Kim Jong Un.

The visit marks Trump's first travel abroad since his party suffered deep losses in midterm elections. The White House and stock market alike have been rattled by the departure of Jensen Huang from Nvidia last week after admitting to an affair with an alleged Chinese government agent. Beijing has said it was not involved.

But Trump could not escape all the controversies still swirling in the US. Reporters asked him about the recent service outages involving Microsoft, the Federal Aviation Administration and online banking with JPMorgan Chase. The president played down the problems that caused mass flight cancellations and disrupted workdays.

"It's life," Trump said. "When you're big and powerful and you have all the money, things like that happen. It's fine."

The president was also asked about a CNN report that Iran was putting together plans to attack Washington with a dirty bomb or chemical weapons.

"Well, if there is, they will pay a price the likes of which no country has ever paid before," Trump said, adding, "I hope it's not. But we take it very seriously because they happen to be crazy."

Trump's first hours in the Philippines include all the reassuring optics from Washington's oldest treaty ally in Asia, including a cocktail reception and dinner with other world leaders, an intermission from some of the thorniest issues at home. He's being feted Tuesday night at a gala as the "guest of honor" at the annual summit of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

The ASEAN leaders have been working on a non-aggression pact with China in the contested waters of the South China Sea, a key global trade route. Confrontations have escalated in recent years, particularly between Chinese and Philippine coast guard and naval forces in disputed shoals.

After landing in Manila, Trump first met with the leaders of the Quad nations, comprising the US, Australia, India, and Japan, that have aimed to counter China's influence in the Asia Pacific, for the first time since Trump returned to the White House last year.

"We're all friends," Trump said. "It's a lot easier that way."

The president announced that the Quad would conduct an exercise featuring maritime patrol aircraft and launch an accelerator to speed the development of artificial intelligence.



US President Donald Trump inspects an honor guard after stepping off Air Force One on Nov 17, 2026, at Ninoy Aquino International Airport in Manila, Philippines. (AP)

Trump is scheduled to sign a trade deal with Thailand, the type of agreement he has relished striking since launching a trade war last year buttressed by steep tariff threats.

The US had announced a trade framework last October in which Thailand would remove tariffs on most American goods, as well as barriers for importing U.S. autos, food products and pharmaceutical drugs, according to the Office of the US Trade Representative. At the time, the Trump administration said Thailand would also spend more than $18 billion on U.S. aircraft and buy U.S. farm goods and liquefied natural gas.

The U.S. Supreme Court overturned in February the 19% tariff that Trump placed on goods from Thailand. The administration sought replacement tariffs in July by levying a 12.5% tax on imports from Thailand for not taking steps to oppose the use of forced labor.

Before the gala dinner Tuesday night, Trump will participate in what's billed as a "special summit" with the ASEAN leaders, where they are expected to discuss efforts to deepen trade and security ties as well as the region's longstanding conflicts, including yearslong violence in Myanmar and escalating disputes in the South China Sea, which Beijing claims virtually in its entirety.

Washington rejects China's expansive claim in the waterway, and has repeatedly stated that it's obligated to defend the Philippines if Filipino forces come under an armed attack.

About 1,500 left-wing protesters held a noisy rally in a downtown Manila square ahead of Trump's arrival, calling on Philippine leaders not to take their foreign policy cues from the U.S.

They waved red flags and held up a large streamer that read, "Resist US war and plunder!" They planned to burn an effigy of Trump. Riot police with shields and wooden truncheons stood nearby.

"The Philippine government should not deal with such a loser so our call to the Marcos administration is to stop being a puppet of Donald Trump and to uphold an independent foreign policy for the Philippines," protest leader Teddy Casiño told The Associated Press at the Liwasang Bonifacio square, referring to President Ferdinand Marcos Jr.

Nearly 23,000 police personnel and other law enforcers, including SWAT teams, were deployed to secure the ASEAN summit.

On Wednesday, Trump is set to receive a red-carpet welcome and full military honors from Marcos Jr., followed by a state banquet as part of his visit to the Malacanang presidential palace. Trump and Marcos are expected to affirm their commitment to their countries' longstanding treaty alliance.

Officials are arranging a possible brief reunion in Malacanang with an old acquaintance - Imelda Marcos - if she's well enough and gets her doctors' nod.

Also:

BEIJING: The meeting of the Chinese, Russian and **US** heads of state in south **China**'s Shenzhen will be the first face-to-face meeting in history involving the top leaders of the three countries, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson **Mao Ning** said on Monday.

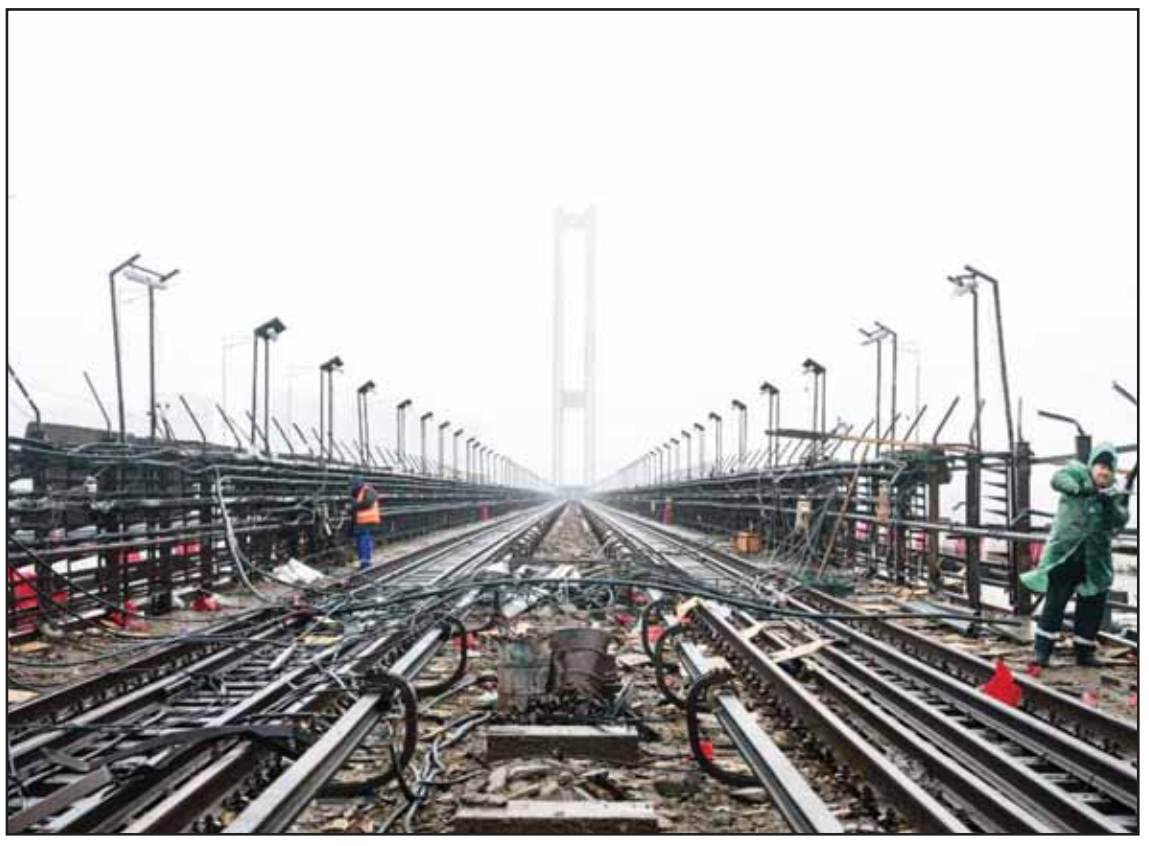
Chinese President **Xi Jinping** will hold a China-**Russia**-US summit with Russian President **Vladimir Putin** and US President **Donald Trump** in **Shenzhen** on Nov 19, according to the ministry.

Mao said the heads of state will have an in-depth exchange of views on maintaining world peace and promoting strategic stability in major country relations, which is of groundbreaking significance.

Noting that China, Russia and the United States are all founding members of the UN and permanent members of the UN Security Council, Mao said the three countries have fought together to achieve the victory of the World Anti-Fascist War.

Under current circumstances, the three countries shoulder the important responsibility of cooperating to address global challenges and promote world peace and stability, said Mao.

Strengthening communication, managing and controlling differences, and stabilizing relations among China, Russia and the United States serve the interests of the three countries, meet the expectations of the international community, and are conducive to stabilizing the world situation and promoting dialogue and cooperation, she said.



Workers cut electrical wires on the Southern Bridge, damaged in a Russian missile strike, in Kyiv, Ukraine on Nov 17. (AP)

Ukraine strikes major Russian bridge with drones as aerial attacks escalate

KYIV, Nov 17, (AP): A Ukrainian drone and missile attack prepared over several weeks struck a vital Russian rail and road bridge to the occupied Crimean Peninsula, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Tuesday, in a stunning blow after nearly five years of war.

Zelenskyy portrayed the "unprecedented" operation on the Kerch Bridge as a masterstroke, as Ukrainian forces gradually wore down Russian air defenses before bombarding the prized target with missiles and drones overnight.

He didn't detail the damage but unconfirmed media reports said that a span of the bridge collapsed in the attack, in what would be an embarrassing setback for Moscow.

The Russian-installed governor of Crimea, Sergei Aksyonov, said that traffic across the bridge has been halted and urged people "to refrain from trips in the direction of the bridge." He didn't mention any damage.

The Kerch Bridge is a crucial link in moving military and civilian supplies from Russia to Crimea and to support troops on the front line. The construction of the bridge, a potent symbol of Russia's illegal annexation of the peninsula in 2014, was inflammatory for Ukrainians.

Moscow's forces, meanwhile, fired ballistic missiles and drones at Kyiv, hitting two of the Ukrainian capital's main bridges and killing at least two people.

A recent escalation in aerial attacks came as Russia and Ukraine await a date for the next round of US-mediated talks aimed at ending the war that began with Moscow's full-scale invasion of its neighbor on Feb 24, 2022.

US President Donald Trump says he plans to talk about the war in Ukraine during his highly anticipated meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping and Russian President Vladimir Putin in China this week.

The Kerch Bridge attack was the culmination of weeks of preparatory strikes over seven stages of the operation, Zelenskyy said on social media.

Ukrainian forces knocked out defense systems, radars, electronic warfare equipment and other designated targets before launching Monday night's final attack, he said.

Domestically developed long-range drones struck the bridge's road section during the night while Ukraine's Neptune missiles and other drones aimed at the rail section, he said. Flamingo precision-guided missiles delivered the final blow, he said.

Russia's Investigative Committee said that the bridge was attacked by drones on both days and sustained damage. It didn't elaborate on the extent of the damage.

Zelenskyy noted that Russia has battered Ukrainian infrastructure, especially the power grid, every day.

"We have repeatedly offered Russia steps toward de-escalation - and every proposal has been met with loud rejection," he said.

Paraguay's ex-prez moved to military prison after reports of suite in custody

ASUNCIÓN, Paraguay, Nov 17, (AP): A Paraguayan judge on Monday ordered former President Santiago Peña moved out of a suite with a private gym and into a military prison as he awaits trial over the collapse of a major digital bank that toppled his government earlier this month.

Judge Osmar Legal ordered Peña transferred from the Presidential Escort Regiment, a military base in the capital, Asunción, where photos published by local media showed that his quarters also included a private bathroom, well-furnished office and spacious dining area.

Under the court order, a copy of which was obtained by The Associated Press, Peña will be held at the Viñas Cué military prison, apart from other detainees. He arrived there Monday afternoon, his 48th birthday, in handcuffs, a helmet and a bulletproof vest.

President Pedro Alliana opened a news conference Monday by announcing that he had ordered the dismissal of the regiment's commander, Col. José David Daiub, following allegations that Peña had received special treatment there.

Alliana, who served as Peña's vice president, pledged to give prosecutors whatever resources they need to investigate the bank's collapse.

"Paraguayans deserve to know the truth," he said.



Paraguay President Santiago Peña speaks to the media at United Nations headquarters on Sept 19, 2023. (AP)

Peña is in pretrial detention on charges including breach of trust, criminal association and administration for personal gain. Prosecutors allege that he used his influence to steer public money to Ueno Bank, a lender used by more than half of Paraguay's adults, as its executives made large insider loans to companies linked to the bank's owners. The criminal association charge, added Friday, alleges that he led an organization that shielded Ueno from oversight. Peña denies wrongdoing.

Paraguay's central bank eventually seized Ueno on Nov. 3 after declaring it insolvent, freezing the accounts of nearly 3 million customers and more than $850 million in public funds, and disrupting payments for households and small businesses. Three days later, the Senate removed Peña from office, and Alliana took over. A judge ordered Peña jailed the next day.

Subcontinent

Gas leak sparks alarm in India: A major gas leak at a well operated by state-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) in the southern Indian state of Andhra Pradesh on Tuesday prompted authorities to evacuate people within a 1-km radius to prevent loss of life, officials said.

The gas began to leak early Tuesday during drilling at Geddada village in the Mamidikuduru area of BR Ambedkar Konaseema district, about 190 km east of Amaravati, the capital city of Andhra Pradesh. (Xinhua)

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8 dead in vehicle collision: At least eight people were killed and 12 others injured when a passenger coaster collided head-on with an oil tanker in eastern Pakistan's Punjab province on Monday evening, local media reported on Tuesday.

The accident occurred on the Arifwala-Burewala Road in Pakpattan district, when a coaster travelling from Multan to Pakpattan collided with an oncoming oil tanker, trapping several passengers inside the wreckage. (Xinhua)

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Auto-rickshaw accident kills 4: Four people were killed after an auto-rickshaw plunged off a road in Nepal's western Bajhang district on Monday, police said.

The accident occurred at around 10:20 a.m. local time when the vehicle, carrying six people including the driver, fell down a hillside. (Xinhua)

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2 dead in avalanche: Two people were killed and six others injured when an avalanche struck a mountainside in the northern Afghan province of Badakhshan on Saturday, provincial police spokesman Ehsanullah Kamgar said.

The accident occurred when a group of gold miners were working at a gold mine in Arghanjkhwa district to extract the precious metal, the official said. (Xinhua)

Guinea sentences 224 over illegal gold mining

CONAKRY, Guinea, Nov 17, (AP): A court in Guinea sentenced 22 former local officials and 202 miners to prison over illegal gold mining in the country's northeast, the latest in a crackdown that has sparked deadly clashes and sent tens of thousands of people fleeing into neighboring Mali.

The government announced a crackdown on unauthorized gold mining earlier this month, saying it aims to curb environmental damage, including the destruction of farmland by heavy machinery and the pollution of rivers by chemicals. The crackdown turned violent last week, when clashes between protesters and security forces enforcing restrictions on gold mining in northeastern Guinea killed 10 people and injured 13 others.

On Monday, the Court for the Repression of Economic and Financial Offenses in Conakry, Guinea's capital, sentenced the 22 former officials from Siguiri, a major gold-producing area near Guinea's border with Mali, to two years in prison each for complicity in environmental degradation, destruction and water pollution. Each official was also fined 10 million Guinean francs (about $1,120).

The 202 illegal miners — who included several foreign nationals — received three-year prison sentences on the same charges, in addition to illegal mining. They were ordered to pay a combined fine of 10 billion Guinean francs ($1.1 million).

Also:

MAPUTO, Mozambique: Mozambique's opposition leader went on trial on Tuesday on charges of instigating terrorism and inciting civil disobedience during the monthslong anti-government protests that broke out following a disputed 2024 election, which kept the country's long-ruling party in power.

Venancio Mondlane, who was the runner-up in that presidential election, is the latest opposition figure in **Africa** to face what some analysts say are politically motivated charges meant to silence or remove criticism.

The 52-year-old's case is being heard at Mozambique's Supreme Court.

"I arrive calm and confident in my legal team," Mondlane said outside the court before the trial started.

Mondlane's trial follows the four-year prison sentence given to Tanzanian opposition leader Tundu Lissu earlier this month for inciting people to disrupt a 2025 election.



Independent candidate Venancio Mondlane holds up his finger after casting his vote in general elections in Maputo, Mozambique, Oct. 9, 2024. (AP)



In this image made from video provided by Mongolia's President's Office, President Khurelsukh Ukhnaa speaks during a news conference where he announced he would resign in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia on Nov 17. (AP)

Mongolia's president Khurelsukh resigns

ULAANBAATAR, Mongolia, Nov 17, (AP): Mongolia's President Khurelsukh Ukhnaa said Tuesday that he will resign after another politician from the ruling Mongolian People's Party accused him of benefiting financially from a government railway project seven years ago, when he served as prime minister.

The announcement came after Nyambaatar Khishgee, the former mayor of Ulaanbaatar, the country's capital, on Saturday accused Khurelsukh of receiving 25 million dollars in connection with the Tavantolgoi-Gashuunsukhait railway project. The former mayor belongs to a different faction of the same party as the president.

Following the accusations, the opposition Democratic Party then called for Khurelsukh to resign.

Business

Kuwaiti oil price rises 44 cents to $85.73 pb

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 17, (KUNA): The price of Kuwaiti oil rose by 44 cents to USD 85.73 per barrel (pb) in Monday trading from USD 85.29 pb on Friday, according to Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) on Tuesday.

In global markets, Brent crude fell by USD 3.40 to USD 92.44 pb, while US West Texas Intermediate fell by USD 2.84 to USD 85.72 pb.

Company supports KU's 9th International Conference on Energy Research and Development

Zain Kuwait highlights role of digital innovation in smarter, more efficient energy management



Dr. Subaih Al-Mukhaizeem with Nawaf Al-Gharabally and Dr. Dina Al-Mailem at Zain's booth.



Dr. Al-Mukhaizeem honors Al-Gharabally in recognition of Zain's support.

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 17: Zain Kuwait, the country's leading TechCo, is the Main Sponsor of the Ninth International Conference on Energy Research and Development, organized by Kuwait University under the patronage of H.H. the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah. The conference is taking place from 17 to 19 November at the Conference Center in Sabah Al-Salem University City, bringing together leading researchers, academics, experts, and specialists from Kuwait and around the world.

The conference's opening ceremony was attended by Minister of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy Dr. Subaih Al-Mukhaizeem, Zain Kuwait CEO Nawaf Al-Gharabally, and Kuwait University President Prof. Dr. Dina Al-Mailem, alongside senior officials, academic leaders, and representatives of government institutions and the private sector.

Zain's participation in this international scientific gathering reflects its commitment to supporting innovation and scientific research while strengthening collaboration between academia and industry to develop practical solutions to energy and sustainability challenges. It also highlights the growing role of advanced technologies and artificial intelligence in optimizing resource consumption, enhancing operational performance, and accelerating the transition towards a more sustainable future.

Through its booth at the accompanying exhibition, Zain is highlighting a range of smart solutions and technologies in energy management and digital infrastructure. The company is demonstrating advanced applications that leverage AI, the Internet of Things (IoT), and data analytics to enhance operational efficiency, optimize resource management, and help reduce energy consumption.

Zain's booth features three main sections, the first of which focuses on smart site technologies and power control systems. These solutions enable more intelligent and efficient energy monitoring and management across telecom sites, helping improve operational performance and optimize resource utilization.

The second section highlights AI-powered building and energy management solutions through interactive visual demonstrations. These applications leverage AI, IoT, and real-time data to provide deeper insights into facility performance and energy consumption, enabling smarter decisions that help reduce energy usage and enhance operational efficiency.

The third section highlights some of Zain's renewable energy initiatives, particularly its solar panel setup at the outdoor car park of its headquarters in Shuwaikh. The display introduces visitors to the initiative, which contributes to powering the company's main buildings, reflecting Zain's ongoing efforts to integrate clean energy solutions into its operations, improve energy efficiency, and reduce reliance on conventional energy sources.

As part of the conference's program, Zain is participating in a session to share an educational framework designed to support corporations in their transition towards Net-Zero greenhouse gas emissions. Drawing on the standards and guidance developed by the internationally recognized Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi), the presentation highlights a structured approach to establishing credible, science-based climate targets and translating them into practical decarbonization strategies.

The framework emphasizes the importance of measuring greenhouse gas emissions, establishing near-term and long-term science-based emissions reduction targets consistent with pathways to limit global warming to 1.5°C, developing actionable transition plans, and transparently monitoring and reporting progress. It also highlights the importance of prioritizing emissions reductions across corporate operations and value chains.

The session reflects Zain's commitment to advancing sustainability awareness and facilitating knowledge-sharing across the regional business community. By promoting internationally recognized climate target-setting methodologies and practical approaches to decarbonization, the company aims to encourage informed dialogue and support meaningful corporate climate action across industries.

The conference serves as an international platform for researchers, academics, policymakers, and industry representatives to exchange expertise and explore the latest developments in energy research and sustainable technologies. Particular emphasis is placed on optimizing energy resource utilization in the arid regions of the Arabian Peninsula, where environmental conditions present growing challenges for energy systems and consumption efficiency.

The conference's sessions and workshops also address a range of specialized scientific topics, including the future of renewable energy, energy conservation and conversion technologies, air conditioning and refrigeration systems, and the relationship between energy and the environment. Discussions further explore emerging technologies that support the transition towards more sustainable energy sources while fostering greater collaboration between academic institutions, government entities, and the private sector.

Through its support and participation in this conference, Zain reaffirms its commitment to leveraging its technological expertise and digital capabilities to help address environmental challenges and strengthen the role of the telecommunications and technology sector in advancing Kuwait's national energy efficiency and sustainability commitments. These efforts reflect Zain's vision as a purpose-driven TechCo, harnessing the power of technology and innovation to create a positive and lasting impact on society and the environment.

Partnership aims to develop professional competencies & enhance legal & regulatory knowledge

Boursa Kuwait signs memorandum of understanding with Kuwait Institute for Judicial & Legal Studies to strengthen cooperation & exchange expertise

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 17: Boursa Kuwait signed a memorandum of understanding with the Kuwait Institute for Judicial and Legal Studies to establish an institutional framework for cooperation in training, professional development, legal research and studies and the exchange of expertise, fostering greater knowledge integration between the legal and financial sectors.

Under the MoU, the two institutions will collaborate on implementing training programs and educational activities, organizing conferences, seminars and workshops and exchanging information and studies of mutual interest.

The agreement comes amid ongoing developments in the Kuwaiti capital market, including updates to regulatory frameworks and trading mechanisms and the introduction of new investment instruments. These developments highlight the importance of strengthening legal and regulatory knowledge and equipping professionals with the skills needed to navigate an evolving market environment.

Through the partnership, both institutions will draw on their respective expertise to facilitate knowledge exchange and closer collaboration between legal and financial professionals, enhancing the practical relevance of joint training programs and initiatives.

Al-Osaimi: Legal knowledge is essential to capital market development and efficiency

"Developing professional competencies and strengthening specialized knowledge are fundamental to the continued advancement of Kuwait's capital market, particularly as the market expands its range of investment products and modernizes its infrastructure and operational and regulatory frameworks," said Boursa Kuwait Chief Executive Officer Mohammad Saud Al-Osaimi.



Mohammad Saud Al-Osaimi



Bader Abdullah Al-Masaad, Director of the Kuwait Institute for Judicial and Legal Studies, Senior Advocate General and Counselor with an official.



Bader Abdullah Al-Masaad

"Our agreement with the Kuwait Institute for Judicial and Legal Studies aims to strengthen cooperation between the financial and legal sectors, facilitating the exchange of knowledge and expertise to support sound professional and institutional practices."

Al-Osaimi stated that Boursa Kuwait is committed to building productive partnerships with specialized national institutions, drawing on their collective expertise to support professional development.

"Through this collaboration, we aim to develop joint training programs and educational initiatives addressing the legal and regulatory aspects of capital markets, strengthening professional awareness and deepening understanding of market operations and requirements," he added.

Al-Osaimi emphasized that the partnership represents an important contribution to building a more efficient institutional environment, supporting the continued development of Kuwait's capital market and its ability to meet future needs.

Al-Masaad: The partnership supports specialized legal training and strengthens knowledge exchange

The Director of the Kuwait Institute for Judicial and Legal Studies, Senior Advocate General and Counselor Bader Abdullah Al-Masaad, emphasized the importance of the MoU in expanding cooperation with private sector institutions, stating that the Kuwait Institute for Judicial and Legal Studies is committed to developing its educational and training programs to keep pace with legislative and regulatory developments and meet the evolving needs of institutions across various sectors.

"This commitment reflects the Institute's mission to prepare and qualify judicial and legal professionals and enhance their professional capabilities. Our partnership with Boursa Kuwait forms part of our efforts to strengthen institutional cooperation, promote the exchange of academic and practical expertise and draw on specialized industry experience to enhance training programs and deepen legal knowledge," he said.

Al-Masaad emphasized that the partnership is particularly significant given the ongoing developments in financial markets and the increasingly specialized legal and regulatory requirements associated with them.

"We aim to organize educational and training programs that provide participants with practical insights into the legal aspects of securities market operations and trading mechanisms through this partnership," he said.

The Counselor added that the initiatives will also encourage knowledge exchange among judicial, legal and financial professionals, contributing to stronger professional practices and supporting Kuwait's legal and investment environment.

Strengthening integration between the legal and financial sector

Boursa Kuwait seeks to foster an environment that brings together legal expertise and practical experience, promoting greater awareness of the legislative and regulatory frameworks governing financial activities while supporting the development of legal and financial professionals.

Through the partnership, both entities seek to create opportunities for knowledge exchange and specialized educational and training initiatives, providing participants with a deeper understanding of securities market operations, trading mechanisms and the regulatory requirements governing market activities.

This collaboration is particularly relevant given the central role of legal and regulatory frameworks in supporting market efficiency, strengthening transparency and corporate governance and protecting investors' rights, as a comprehensive understanding of these frameworks is essential to promoting sound professional practices and ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements.

The initiatives will also facilitate dialogue between judicial and legal specialists and financial sector professionals, providing a platform to exchange perspectives on practical challenges and emerging issues affecting capital markets.

The partnership will further bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and professional practice by drawing on the expertise of both institutions to develop educational and training content covering the legal and operational aspects of securities markets.

These efforts will broaden specialized knowledge, strengthen professional capabilities and equip participants to keep pace with legislative and regulatory developments and the evolving financial landscape, while supporting the development of national talent in Kuwait.

Building on Boursa Kuwait's commitment to capital market education

The signing of the MoU forms part of Boursa Kuwait's ongoing efforts to create a positive and lasting impact on the community it serves, reflecting its commitment to initiatives that expand knowledge, develop expertise and strengthen the capabilities of stakeholders across the capital market.

The partnership aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal 4, "Quality Education," and Goal 17, "Partnerships for the Goals", and supports the objectives of Kuwait Vision 2035 to enhance the country's business and investment environment and strengthen its position as an attractive financial and investment hub.

The Kuwait Institute for Judicial and Legal Studies, whose Board of Directors is chaired by the Minister of Justice, plays an important role in preparing and qualifying legal professionals and enhancing their professional competencies. Throughout 2026, the Institute has expanded its cooperation with several national institutions in the areas of training, professional development and legal awareness.

Al-Munaikh outlines Vision 2035 prospects

Kuwait invites UK companies to tap into growing business opportunities

LONDON, Nov 17, (KUNA): Kuwait's Ambassador to the UK Bader Al-Munaikh urged British companies to expand their presence in Kuwait and benefit from its investor-friendly environment and legal incentives.

Speaking at an investment seminar hosted by the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, organized by the Kuwait Direct Investment Promotion Authority (KDIPA) in coordination with the Kuwaiti Embassy in London, Al-Munaikh highlighted Kuwait Vision 2035 and its objectives of diversifying the national economy, attracting expertise and innovation, and strengthening the private sector.

He said the vision offers promising investment opportunities in healthcare, technology, digital transformation, infrastructure, construction, logistics, and financial and professional services, while seeking to establish Kuwait as a regional hub for investment, logistics, finance and trade.

Bilateral trade reached USD 6.3 billion last year, although it declined this year due to regional developments, he said, adding that the potential for expanding economic ties far exceeds current levels. He also described Kuwait as a gateway to major regional markets.

Al-Munaikh welcomed the participation of around 40 British companies, saying it reflected Kuwait's appeal to British investors and the depth of relations between the two countries, which date back more than 250 years.

In turn, KDIPA Assistant Director General Sheikh Abdullah Al-Sabah said the authority was seeking to attract more British companies and strengthen Kuwait's position on the global investment map.

Speaking to KUNA and Kuwait Television, he said the seminar outlined Kuwait's investment laws, regulations and business environment in line with international best practices, as well as the incentives and facilities available to foreign investors.

He added that discussions covered the country's development plan, Kuwait Vision 2035, existing legislation and expected amendments.

KDIPA has attracted investments worth nearly KD 900 million from companies and institutions worldwide this year, he revealed.

The achievement reflected growing confidence in Kuwait's economy and the importance of a legislative framework that protects investments and provides businesses with opportunities for growth and expansion, he said.

The seminar brought together representatives of British companies from various sectors and officials from economic institutions, including London Chamber of Commerce and Industry President Julia Onslow-Cole and Chief Executive Karim Fathi.

KDIPA also presented an overview of incentives and facilities available to foreign investors, recent legislative developments, and the authority's role in supporting and following up with foreign companies throughout their investment journey.

Nearly 30 cooperation agreements prepared

Uzbekistan & Oman explore major investment deals worth $5 billion

MUSCAT, Nov 17: President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev and His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq of Oman held official talks at Al Alam Palace in Muscat on November 16, as part of the Uzbek President's state visit to the Sultanate of Oman on November 16–17, 2026.

The visit marks an important milestone in bilateral relations, representing the first state visit by an Uzbek President to Oman in 17 years. The previous visit took place on October 4–5, 2009, when the late President Islam Karimov met with the late Sultan Qaboos bin Said in Muscat.

According to Oman's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, nearly 30 agreements, cooperation documents and investment projects worth approximately $5 billion had been prepared ahead of the visit, reflecting the two countries' determination to significantly expand their economic and investment partnership.

Strengthening Bilateral Cooperation

According to the Press Service of the President of Uzbekistan, the discussions focused on strengthening political dialogue, expanding trade and economic cooperation, promoting investment opportunities, and developing cultural and humanitarian ties.

President Mirziyoyev expressed confidence that the historic visit would elevate Uzbek-Omani relations to a new level and open broader opportunities for mutually beneficial cooperation.

The Times of Oman also reported that the two leaders exchanged views on regional and international developments while exploring opportunities to deepen bilateral cooperation and partnership.

Bilateral Trade Targeted to Reach $500 Million

Economic and trade cooperation featured prominently on the agenda, with both countries expressing their commitment to increasing bilateral trade and diversifying investment partnerships.

According to figures released by Oman's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, bilateral trade amounted to approximately $2.3 million in 2025, increasing to $3.3 million during the first nine months of 2026.

Both sides aim to raise bilateral trade to $500 million in the coming years, alongside plans to increase the capital of the joint Uzbek-Omani investment company to $500 million.

To facilitate trade expansion, the two countries are working toward a preferential trade agreement designed to improve market access and promote the exchange of goods.

According to the Oman Observer, Uzbekistan has proposed launching preliminary negotiations in December 2026, with preferential trade arrangements potentially covering approximately 200 product categories.

Uzbekistan is exploring opportunities to increase exports to Oman, including fruits and vegetables, food products, textiles, copper, electrical equipment and household appliances.

Omani Ports to Open New Trade Routes

Transport and logistics cooperation represents another major priority of the visit.

As a landlocked country strategically located in Central Asia, Uzbekistan is seeking to utilize Oman's geographical position and maritime infrastructure to improve access to regional and international markets.

During a meeting of the Uzbekistan-Oman Intergovernmental Commission held in Muscat on November 15, officials discussed opportunities to utilize Omani ports, strengthen logistics networks, expand air cargo services and simplify customs procedures.

These initiatives are expected to facilitate trade flows, reduce logistical barriers and create new opportunities for exporters and investors from both countries.

Expanding Investment Opportunities

The President's visit also includes meetings with executives of leading Omani companies and investment institutions to explore joint projects and identify new areas of economic cooperation.

The proposed agreements and investment initiatives are expected to strengthen economic ties, encourage greater Omani investment in Uzbekistan and promote cooperation in priority sectors.

The visit reflects the shared commitment of Uzbekistan and Oman to establishing a long-term partnership based on mutual interests, stronger economic connectivity and sustainable development.

By expanding trade, investment and transport cooperation, both countries seek to unlock new opportunities for economic growth and shared prosperity.



Delegations from Oman and Uzbekistan during a commemorative meeting in the presence of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq and President Shavkat Mirziyoyev in Muscat.



His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq of Oman meets Uzbekistan's President, Shavkat Mirziyoyev in Muscat.

Oman's economy thrives amid regional uncertainty

By National Bank of Kuwait

Economy shielded from major conflict-related disruption: Oman has emerged as one of the GCC's strongest economic performers in 2026 thanks to its geographic and diplomatic positioning, which has shielded it from much of the disruption associated with the US-Iran conflict. This has allowed the economy to remain resilient while neighboring markets face greater uncertainty.

A key driver was the oil sector, with Oman the only GCC state to avoid a reduction in oil production at the outbreak of hostilities; in fact, crude output surged by almost 20% to a multi-year high of 949 kb/d in September.

Non-hydrocarbon GDP growth, meanwhile, is forecast to come in at the upper end of GCC estimates, at 2.0% in 2026, on the back of robust trade data—supported by the increased use of Omani ports during the conflict—and real estate and bank lending activity that has held up well in 2026 so far (+22% and +12% y/y, respectively in Q2) despite the regional strife. The tourism, construction and manufacturing sectors, though, have been adversely affected by the conflict. Tourism, a key pillar of the Vision 2040 strategy, had been growing on average by 6% y/y since 2022 before contracting in the first half of the year (-3.3%).

Looking ahead, non-oil growth is expected to strengthen as regional pressures ease and investment in the development plan pipeline progresses. To that end, the authorities will find support from strong Omani private sector employment (+7% y/y in September), a notable success in recent years. Moreover, continued efforts to expand hydrocarbon production capacity, especially for LNG, will further support growth.

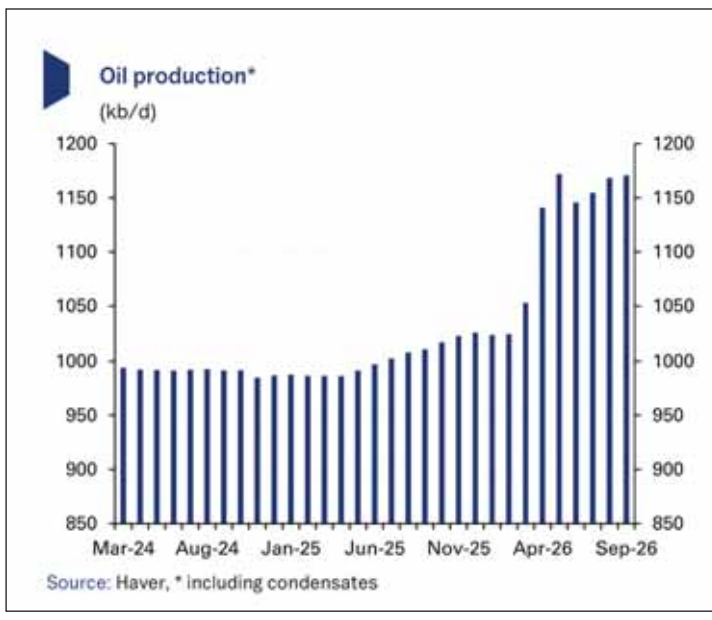
Stronger fiscal position creates space to pursue diversification plans with more vigor: The government has made progress in recent years strengthening its public finances, in pursuit of its latest 5-year development plan target of preserving fiscal discipline while prioritizing investment in economic diversification projects. Through a combination of post-pandemic fiscal discipline, based on subsidy reforms, expenditure rationalization and revenue augmentation (non-oil receipts hit a record 38% of all revenues in 2025), the government has been able to lower both its deficit and public debt levels, the latter declining sharply from 64% of GDP in 2020 to under 35% by end-2025. Government debt earned an investment-grade sovereign rating by all three major credit rating agencies in 2025 as a result. Moreover, with energy exports in 2026 unconstrained by Strait of Hormuz considerations, the Sultanate has been able to capitalize on higher energy prices and 2026 could see the largest fiscal surplus on record. Overall, the much-improved fiscal space provides a solid platform for the Sultanate to accelerate progress toward the authorities' diversification objectives.

Economic prospects hinge on advancing diversification agenda and US-Iran conflict de-escalation: While Oman has largely been outside the line of fire in the ongoing conflict, a return to a 'hot' war or a long, protracted period of regional tension will, nevertheless, prove unsettling for business, investment, and tourism, upon which the Sultanate's Vision 2040 plan hinges. On the upside, Oman is expected to leverage its geographical position as a potential conduit for GCC trade and hydrocarbon exports, through additional pipelines and expanded port infrastructure in partnership with its neighbors as they look to prevent a repeat of 2026 by increasing export routes that bypass the Strait of Hormuz.

Key economic indicators

		2024	2025	2026f	2027f
Nominal GDP	$bn	108	110	131	129
Real GDP	% y/y	1.7	2.3	4.6	3.2
- Oil sector	% y/y	-2.7	1.1	10.0	3.7
- Non-oil sector	% y/y	3.7	3.0	2.0	3.0
Inflation (avg.)	% y/y	0.6	1.0	3.0	2.0
Fiscal balance	% of GDP	1.3	-1.1	4.3	1.3
Current acc. balance	% of GDP	3.4	-1.1	5.5	2.6

Source: Official sources, NBK forecasts, *end of period



Source: Haver, * including condensates

New rules target data centers

US tightens China chip curbs

WASHINGTON, Nov 17, (AP): The Trump administration on Monday issued new rules to restrict remote access to advanced U.S. computing chips and servers, marking the latest step to limit China's abilities to use U.S. chips to train their best artificial intelligence models.

Last week, Nvidia co-founder Jensen Huang resigned as CEO following scrutiny of his ties to a Chinese executive who used to lead Singapore-based Megaspeed International, which is suspected of diverting advanced Nvidia chips to China in violation of U.S. export controls. The company provides computing power to Chinese companies using chips housed in Southeast Asian data centers, including facilities in Malaysia.

"The rule is designed to ensure that existing restrictions on access to sensitive American technology cannot be circumvented through remote computing arrangements involving data centers in third countries," the Bureau of Industry and Security under the Commerce Department said in issuing the rule that took effect immediately.

The rule came on the same day President Donald Trump departed for a trip to Asia, where he expects to meet Chinese leader Xi Jinping for the third time this year amid a fragile truce on trade.

Under the new rule, overseas data centers that serve companies in countries including China, Russia, Iran and Cuba are required to identify their end users. There also will be additional licensing requirements for sales of chips for Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand or Brazil - countries that "present a higher-than-normal risk of diversion" to unauthorized destinations, the rule says.

The U.S. bans sales of the country's most advanced AI chips to China, seeking to maintain an edge in its rivalry with China for predominance in artificial intelligence. However, many lawmakers and policymakers believe the country's export control rules are not tough enough and filled with loopholes such as cloud computing that allows China to rent processing power built on American technology.

Last year, U.S. Rep. Michael Lawler, a New York Republican, introduced a bill to broaden the U.S. export controls to include remote access. He told Congress "physical export controls" under current rules do not apply to remote access, allowing China to "access our tech through the cloud" and giving it "a real tool to sidestep" U.S. export restrictions. The bill has passed the House.

In the Senate, lawmakers also are seeking tougher legislation to prevent China from accessing advanced U.S. chip and AI technologies. Bills include proposals that would let Congress review licenses to sell advanced AI chips to China, ask the Department of Commerce to track AI chips to ensure they are not diverted to unauthorized regions, and compel U.S. allies such as the Netherlands and Japan to match U.S. restrictions on exports to Chinese chipmakers.

Egypt seeks to strengthen copyright protection & safeguard creators' rights amid AI innovation

CAIRO, Nov 17, (KUNA): Egypt's Prime Minister Mostafa Madbouly stressed on Monday the government's obligation to continue efforts to renovate the legislative framework governing intellectual property to align with technological developments, including artificial intelligence applications.

Madbouly made the remarks during the opening session of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) conference held in Egypt's New Administrative Capital, bringing together WIPO Director General Daren Tang, some ministers, representatives of international organizations as well as participants and experts from Egypt and various countries around the world.

Madbouly noted that artificial intelligence opens broad horizons for innovation and creativity.

He added that AI also simultaneously raises legal, economic, cultural and ethical questions concerning data sources, the use of copyrighted works, creators' rights, attribution of works to their rightful owners, and the distribution of the resulting economic value.

Madbouly pointed out that the challenge does not lie in choosing between protecting rights and promoting technology, but rather in establishing a balanced framework allowing technological progress to flourish while safeguarding creators' legitimate rights and ensuring they receive fair benefits from their work.

He elaborated that Egypt pays much importance to developing its intellectual property system, based on its conviction that the system is no longer limited to protecting rights, but has become an important tool for supporting innovation, enhancing economic competitiveness, encouraging investment, and transforming knowledge and creativity into added value and sustainable employment opportunities.

Meanwhile, Tang urged the development of the intellectual property system to align with rapid advances in artificial intelligence, emphasizing the need to preserve the status of human creators as the central pillar of the creative process.

He said that their responsibility is to ensure that copyright continues to serve the creative human spirit and that human creators in Egypt and around the world remain at the heart of the global intellectual property system.

He expressed appreciation for the ongoing cooperation between WIPO and Egypt, commending steps taken by Egypt to progress its national intellectual property system and highlighting the role played by the Egyptian Intellectual Property Authority in this regard.

The conference is set to discuss some issues related to the right of author and the role of intellectual property in backing cultural and innovative industries and more.



Egyptian Prime Minister Mostafa Madbouly addresses the opening WIPO conference.



WIPO Director General Daren Tang delivers a speech during the conference in Egypt.

New app marks milestone in digital transformation

ABK Wealth Management launches integrated digital investment & wealth management mobile application

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 17: ABK Wealth Management, the investment arm of Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) Group, has launched its new digital investment and wealth management mobile application, marking a key milestone in its digital transformation strategy and ongoing efforts to enhance the customer experience. The app provides an integrated investment experience designed around convenience, speed and security.

The application will empower investors by providing them with a fully-integrated and seamless digital investment services. It also reflects ABK Wealth Management's continued investment in technology and innovation to enhance operational efficiency and support Kuwait's ambitions to build an advanced digital economy.

Through a single digital platform, customers can access a comprehensive range of investment solutions and opportunities offered by ABK Wealth Management, including investment funds, managed portfolio strategies, as well as private investment opportunities and deals. The app also enables customers to open an account and take advantage of a broad range of investment solutions across local, regional and international markets.

The app has been designed to cover the customer's investment journey from onboarding through to investing and ongoing account management. Customers can open an account, explore investment solutions and products aligned with their needs and investment objectives, and invest in solutions that are suitable for them made within a single digital channel. The app reduces the need for multiple traditional steps and provides a more efficient, seamless and transparent investment experience.

Beyond investing, the app enables customers to manage and monitor their investments from anywhere through an user-friendly digital interface. Interactive dashboards provide a comprehensive view of portfolio



Sherif ElRafie, Chief Executive Officer of ABK Wealth Management

holdings and investments, complemented by periodic performance reports and notifications and updates on investment activities and developments.

The app has also been developed in line with advanced cybersecurity and data protection standards, helping safeguard the confidentiality of customers' financial and personal information and providing a secure and trusted digital environment for managing their investments.

Commenting on the launch, Sherif ElRafie, Chief



ABK Wealth Management flyer

Executive Officer of ABK Wealth Management, said, "The launch of our new digital app marks an important milestone in our digital transformation journey and underscores our commitment to delivering innovative investment solutions that keep pace with the rapid developments across the investment and financial technology sectors.

"We have designed an integrated experience that accompanies customers throughout their investment journey, enabling them to access our solutions, invest and monitor performance with ease, while maintaining the highest standards of security and privacy."

ElRafie added, "Our vision is to build an integrated digital investment ecosystem that combines our expertise in investment and wealth management with the latest advancements in financial technology. This app is a key step towards realising that vision, bringing the customer journey together within one digital environment and creating a simpler and more efficient way to access our investment capabilities."

He noted that the app represents one of the key pillars of ABK Wealth Management's digital roadmap, while continuing to develop its digital infrastructure and deliver new features and services in line with customers' evolving needs and expectations.

ElRafie continued, "Digital transformation is no longer simply about making traditional services available through electronic channels. It is an opportunity to rethink the investment journey itself. Our focus is on using technology to provide customers with greater accessibility and a more seamless experience, while preserving the expertise and trusted investment approach at the heart of our offering."

He concluded, "Our investment in digital infrastructure and financial technology is an investment in the future of wealth management. We will continue to expand our digital capabilities and develop solutions that enhance the value we provide to our customers, while further strengthening ABK Wealth Management's position as a local investment partner with a global reach."

Action Energy Company highlights growth outlook

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 17: Action Energy Company K.S.C.P. (AEC) (Premier Market Boursa Kuwait: ALFTAQA), Kuwait's leading local partner for integrated upstream services, owner and operator of one of the youngest rig fleets in the region, held its earnings webcast to discuss its financial results for the nine months ended 30 September 2026.

During the webcast, senior management reviewed the Company's key financial and operational performance, the market fundamentals underpinning its business, and its outlook for the period ahead. Management highlighted that the Company is moving from its investment phase into earnings conversion, as seven rigs move from mobilization into operation and new oilfield services contracts begin contributing from the fourth quarter of 2026. The Company remains focused on strengthening its core drilling business in Kuwait, expanding into higher-value oilfield services, pursuing selective regional growth opportunities, and maintaining a strong financial position, while delivering sustainable long-term value for shareholders.

The Company's contracted backlog reached KWD 341 million, of which approximately KWD 213 million relates to contracts under mobilization, comprising KWD 77 million for the seven additional rigs and KWD 136 million for oilfield services. These contracts are expected to begin contributing to revenue between the fourth quarter of 2026 and the second quarter of 2027, providing revenue visibility over the next five to seven years.

Eng. Rawaf Bourisli, Vice Chairman of Action Energy Company, said: "Action Energy remains committed to delivering safe, efficient, and reliable upstream services that support Kuwait's and the region's long-term energy ambitions, backed by a modern fleet, a highly capable team, disciplined execution, strong partnerships with national oil companies, and a firm commitment to local content, national capability building, and HSE standards. Since 2022, we have expanded our fleet from 4 rigs to 20 currently in operation, with 7 additional rigs under mobilization, representing a further 35% increase in fleet size. We have also maintained 100% fleet utilization this year, with zero lost-time incidents. Our revenue has continued to grow across different market conditions, reflecting the strength of our operating model and our ability to execute efficiently."

The Company had previously disclosed to Boursa Kuwait the renewal of a rig lease agreement with KCA Deutag (KCAD), which is expected to generate approximately USD 5.5 million in annual revenue over a five-year term, with an option to extend for an additional two years.

الشركة العملية للطاقة (ش.م.ك.م)
Action Energy Company (K.S.C.P)

Bourisli commented: "Our rig lease agreement with KCA Deutag (KCAD) reflects our focus on strengthening long-term revenue visibility while investing in upgrades to deliver a higher-specification drilling rig. Under the revised arrangement, the total contract value increases from approximately USD 22.4 million over the remaining three years of the previous agreement to approximately USD 38.5 million over seven years, comprising a five-year term and a two-year extension option. The agreement also ensures 100% utilization of the upgraded rig over the longer term, providing greater revenue visibility and supporting the long-term sustainability of our operations."

On the Company's growth outlook, Bourisli said: "Third-quarter results reflect a period of investment ahead of revenue generation. With much of the investment phase behind us, our focus is now shifting toward converting these investments into revenue and earnings. Seven additional rigs are progressing from mobilization toward operation, while new oilfield service lines are expected



Ahmad M. Al-Ajlan, Board Member & CEO



Eng. Rawaf I. Bourisli, Vice Chairman



Jainuddin Jhabuawala, General Manager - Finance

to begin contributing to revenue between Q4 2026 and Q2 2027. AEC maintains the financial flexibility to support continued growth in Kuwait and pursue selective expansion opportunities across the GCC, underpinned by disciplined capital allocation."

Ahmad Al-Ajlan, Board Member and Chief Executive Officer, said: "Our next phase of growth is built around three strategic pillars. First, strengthening our position in our core market of Kuwait, where Kuwait Oil Company (KOC) aims to increase production capacity to 4.0 million barrels per day by 2035. Second, expanding our oilfield services portfolio, having already secured contracts for electric submersible pumps (ESP), slickline, inspection, and once-through steam generator (OTSG) services. This expansion will diversify our revenue streams, generate recurring service revenue, and deepen our relationship with KOC. Third, pursuing selective expansion across GCC markets and evaluating strategic M&A opportunities. These priorities are underpinned by disciplined capital allocation, conservative leverage, and a commitment to delivering sustainable returns to shareholders."

Jainuddin Jhabuawala, General Manager, Finance, said: "Operating cash flow increased 74% to KWD 9.9 million, representing cash conversion of approximately 74% of EBITDA, compared with 48% in the same period last year. This reflects the Company's improved ability to convert operating earnings into cash. Oilfield services now account for approximately 40% of the Company's contracted backlog, while their contribution to current revenue remains limited, reflecting the mobilization phase ahead of these services becoming operational."

China and Egypt strengthen investment ties at forum featuring 300 companies

CAIRO, Nov. 17, (Xinhua): The second China-Egypt Investment Forum was held in Cairo on Monday, bringing together around 300 companies and institutions from the two countries to discuss ways to expand investment and strengthen bilateral economic cooperation.

The forum was jointly organized by the Chinese Embassy in Egypt, Egypt's Ministry of Investment and Foreign Trade, the General Authority for Investment and Free Zones, and the Egyptian Businessmen's Association.

Speaking at the forum, Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs Hussein Issa said that holding the forum regularly is important for advancing bilateral relations and deepening cooperation in areas of mutual interest, including the economy, investment, social affairs, and trade.

He called on Chinese businesses to make full use of the investment facilitation measures and preferential policies offered by the



Chinese Ambassador to Egypt Liao Liqiang delivers a speech at the first China-Egypt Investment Forum in Cairo, Egypt, Nov 9, 2025. (Xinhua)

Egyptian government, stressing that Egypt would fully support the development of Chinese businesses in the country.

Mohamed Farid Saleh, Egyptian Minister of Investment and Foreign Trade, described China as an important strategic partner, saying the two countries have a solid foundation for cooperation and broad prospects for strengthening their ties.

Saleh noted that Chinese companies had made significant strides in the Egyptian market in recent years, saying Egypt looks forward to attracting more Chinese investment, encouraging existing companies to expand their operations, and bringing new projects to the country.

He also highlighted the importance of deepening investment cooperation in industry, energy and services, promoting technology localization, and strengthening the production and export capabilities of Egypt's key industries.

Meanwhile, Chinese Ambassador to Egypt Liao Liqiang said that investment cooperation between the two countries has yielded fruitful results in recent years, noting that the Belt and Road Initiative is highly aligned with Egypt's Vision 2030 and has provided sustained impetus to bilateral economic and trade cooperation.

He said Chinese companies operating in Egypt were expanding their presence beyond traditional sectors such as textiles, household appliances and automobiles into emerging fields, including new energy and the digital economy.

Liao noted that Chinese enterprises had become deeply rooted in local communities and contributed to improving people's livelihoods by participating in major projects in areas such as infrastructure development, telecommunications upgrades, electricity grid modernization, and poverty alleviation through agricultural development.

He added that an increasing number of Egyptian employees had become key contributors to the development of Chinese companies operating in the country.

The forum also featured presentations on Egypt's investment policies and panel discussions on the mutually reinforcing roles of trade and investment, industrial localization through industrial and supply chain cooperation, and comprehensive services to support high-quality industrial development in both countries.

This is for promotional purposes and does not omit any essential information related to the investment in the subject financial security

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Reminder to subscribe in the share capital increase of

Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait K.S.C.P.

Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait K.S.C.P. would like to remind Eligible Shareholders and Pre-emption Right Holders to subscribe in the increase of the Bank's share capital.

Offering Shares	750,000,000 ordinary shares
Offering Price	200 fils per share (nominal value of 100 fils and issuance premium of 100 fils)
Total Value of the Offering	KD 150,000,000
Subscription Period	Commences on Sunday, 8 November 2026 (inclusive) and ends on Sunday, 22 November 2026 at 1:00pm.
Pre-emptive Rights Trading Period	Commences on Sunday, 8 November 2026 (inclusive) and ends on Sunday, 15 November 2026 (inclusive)
Eligible Subscribers	Shareholders who are recorded in the shareholder register of the Issuer as at close of Record Date (4 November 2026) and the holders of the Pre-emption Rights who have obtained such rights before the end of Pre-emption Right trading period
Entitled Shares	Eligible Shareholders will be entitled to approximately 27,464 Issue Shares for every 100,000 existing shares held
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This is for promotional purpose and does not omit any essential information related to the investment in the subject financial security. For further details on any such risk factors, please refer to the downloadable/printable version of the Prospectus relating to the offering on the Issuer's website (www.eahli.com), or Lead Manager and Subscription Agent's website (www.abkwealth.com), or Boursa Kuwait's website (www.boursakuwait.com.kw). The terms and conditions in the Prospectus and the Subscription Application Form shall apply. You are hereby advised to read and understand the contents of the Prospectus and to seek the advice of an advisor licensed by law and which specializes in advising on the contents of the Prospectus, investment in shares and the risks thereto prior to making a decision to subscribe. The Kuwait Capital Markets Authority or any regulatory organization in the State of Kuwait shall not bear any liability for the contents of this announcement or its accuracy, and has not approved its contents or verified the correctness and accuracy of any information contained therein. Furthermore, the Kuwait Capital Markets Authority or any regulatory organization in the State of Kuwait shall not bear any liability of any kind for any loss arising from reliance on all or any part of the contents of the Prospectus. It is recommended to consult an investment advisor.

Books

Suad Almojil's 30-year writing journey compiled in 10-volume collection

Paper and Pen: Human questions in an era of knowledge and transformation

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 17: The collection comprises ten volumes and nearly two thousand articles spanning 4,500 pages.

From the future of education and artificial intelligence to the arts, philosophy, and the environment, the collection explores the diverse interests of Kuwaiti writer Suad Fahad Almojil over the course of three decades.

In one of her articles on the future of education, Almojil envisions a scenario that seemed unconventional at the time of writing - a student learning mathematics from Albert Einstein, not the man himself, but a computer system that embodies his image and simulates his interactions with students.

In other articles, she examines the relationship between reality and imagination and explores how modern technology creates images that can blur the line between truth and what appears on screens.

These topics reveal a dimension of Almojil's interests that may go unnoticed by readers familiar only with her political commentary. While she closely follows developments in society, she is equally attentive to the forces that may reshape human life in the future. She is committed to exploring the questions raised by technology, culture, and science.

This scope becomes even more evident with the completion of the Waraqa wa Qalam (Paper and Pen) collection, published by That Al-Salasil. Spanning ten volumes and totaling 4,500 pages, the collection comprises nearly 2,000 articles covering thirty diverse fields, from August 1991 to December 2024.

While the first four volumes highlight Almojil's focus on democracy, civil liberties, economics, and international affairs, the final six reveal other facets of her experience. They shed light on her engagement with culture, knowledge, and everyday concerns, moving beyond the conventional tendency to define a journalist solely by her political interests.



Kuwaiti writer Suad Fahad Almojil



Suad Fahad Almojil's 10-volume collection

Where does the educator stand in the face of the machine?

The eighth volume offers compelling insights into education and scientific advancement. It goes beyond discussions of curricula and university-related challenges to explore the very future of learning.

In her article "Computers Go Directly to Students' Heads!", Almojil explores a vision of education built around advanced computer systems capable of interacting with students and delivering knowledge in ways that differ from traditional teaching methods. This vision raises questions about the future role of the teacher and whether technology can take over some of their functions.

This focus is part of other articles in which Almojil examines the role of the teacher and their relationship with the curriculum and the student.

In her articles "The Teacher First" and "The Teacher First... The Teacher Last!," Almojil examines the human element in the educational process. Her writings on scientific developments also explore topics such as the Fourth Industrial Revolution, genetic engineering, and the future of technology.

These articles take on added significance today, as artificial intelligence tools have become central to global discussions about education and work. Their value lies not in identifying predictions that have come true, but in recognizing that Almojil was exploring the relationship between humans and technology long before it became a subject of widespread everyday discussion.

Culture and questions of reality

In the sixth volume, Almojil explores topics that may seem far removed from direct political debate but remain closely connected to how people understand the world around them.

In articles such as "The World Lives in a Matrix" and "How Imagination and Reality Have Become Intertwined?", Al-Muajil examines the relationship between reality and the images presented by contemporary culture, as well as the questions technology raises about how people perceive the world.

Cinema, Arabic song, and the visual arts also feature in other articles, including "Sadness and Melancholy in Arabic Song" and "The Battlefront and the Cinema Hall Front."

These articles go beyond the creative works themselves to examine their relationship with public consciousness and what they reveal about the conditions of society.

Notably, Almojil's interests are not confined to a single perspective. Alongside articles exploring abstract intellectual questions are discussions of specific artistic experiences and reflections on historical figures and symbols of the past, all in a tone distinct from her political commentary.

Translation as a window into other cultures

The tenth volume brings together reports and articles that Almojil translated from foreign periodicals and published in the Kuwaiti press, alongside a selection of journalistic interviews.

The nature of these selections highlights the diversity of Almojil's interests, ranging from yoga and meditation and their relationship to the body and mind to the experience of Palestinian thinker Edward Said and the principles of Freudian psychoanalysis.

In an article titled "The Separation of Cultures: A Cause of Misunderstanding Among the Elite," Edward Said emerges as a thinker who lived between two cultures and viewed the interaction of civilizations as something that transcends the rigid boundaries separating them.

The collection also includes an article on the relationship between history and fiction, another on Spanish artist Salvador Dalí, and several pieces exploring Impressionism and European artistic movements.

The translation of these materials does not necessarily imply Almojil's endorsement of all the ideas they present. Rather, the selection offers readers a glimpse into her interests and the subjects she considered worthy of public attention.

Almojil's work in translation is an extension of her intellectual and cultural interests, which are also based on her experience as a university professor. Alongside her journalistic work, translation reflects her commitment to introducing Arab readers to a diverse range of ideas and experiences.

Issues that resonate with people's lives

In contrast to these intellectual and scientific interests, the articles in the seventh volume reveal Almojil's engagement with issues that directly affect people's lives, particularly health, the environment, and public services.

Almojil explores a range of environmental topics, including the protection of natural resources, pollution, and the shared responsibility for addressing problems whose effects extend beyond geographical boundaries.

The volume also highlights humanitarian initiatives, with Almojil examining institutions and experiences related to childcare and volunteer work in articles such as "Beit Abdullah," "KACCH: An Icon of Volunteer Work," and "The Story of the Child Najla."

What do these interests reveal?

Almojil's articles do not necessarily share the same style or depth of analysis, nor do they follow a single set of recurring themes. An article about education, for instance, differs inherently from one examining a work of art, pollution, or the performance of a public institution.

Yet the transition between these subjects reveals that her interest in public affairs extends beyond politics and economics to encompass the knowledge people acquire, the culture they engage with, and the health and environmental conditions in which they live.

The impact of time is also evident in these writings. Some articles explore scientific and technological possibilities that once seemed far-fetched but have since become part of everyday discussions. Others address issues that are relevant, even as circumstances and approaches to addressing them have evolved.

With the completion of Waraqa wa Qalam (Paper and Pen), the ten volumes offer a window into Suad Al-Muajil's experience through chosen topics and the subjects that sparked her interest.

Almojil continues to write on her blog of the same name. Her articles from past decades are now available for readers to revisit in the context of a world that has changed considerably since they were first published.

Stage

Occasion features performance by renowned Polish Radio National Symphony Orchestra

Kuwait Music Academy to hold 8th International Chopin Competition in January 2027

By Cezary Owerkowicz
Special to the Arab Times

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 17: The Kuwait Music Academy (KMA) will organize the 8th International Chopin Competition in Kuwait (8th ICCK) in January 2027, continuing a tradition that began in 1999 and has produced seven editions over the past 26 years.

The upcoming competition will coincide with the centenary of the first International Chopin Competition, held in Warsaw in January 1927. Recognized as the world's first piano competition, the event quickly gained popularity among young musicians and audiences, eventually becoming a model for hundreds of music competitions worldwide.

However, the Warsaw competition remains distinctive for its exclusive dedication to the works of one composer, Polish pianist and composer Frederic Chopin (1810-1849). Similar competitions have since been established in several countries, including Kuwait.

Why Chopin?

What accounts for Chopin's extraordinary and enduring popularity?

Described in an obituary as "a Pole by heart and a citizen of the world by talent," Chopin continues to captivate audiences through music that combines simplicity and beauty with remarkable sophistication.

His melodies possess the lyrical qualities of Italian bel canto, enriched by elaborate musical ornamentation. His compositions express wonder at life, a longing for dreams and the distinctive rhythms of Polish dances, blending childlike innocence with mature wisdom.

Chopin's music is never quite the same, continually revealing familiar emotions and ideas from new perspectives. This enduring capacity for discovery is among the hallmarks of his genius.

For nearly two centuries, his compositions have brought beauty, inspiration and love to audiences around the world, reflecting the universal emotions that continue to draw listeners to his music.

Kuwait: A Chopin oasis in the Gulf

Kuwait hosted its first International Chopin Competition in 1999 under the patronage of then Minister Prof. Dr. Sheikha Rasha Al-Sabah. The event commemorated the 150th anniversary of Chopin's death.

The seventh edition, held in 2025, took place at the Yarmouk Cultural Centre, founded by Her Highness Sheikha Hussa Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah, whose contributions to Kuwait's cultural development are widely recognized.



Polish ambassador presents 1st Junior Prize to Witold Masternak.

A major milestone came in 2010 when Kuwait hosted the fifth International Chopin Competition as a Gulf-wide event, coinciding with UNESCO's Chopin Year, which marked the 200th anniversary of the composer's birth.

The Kuwait competition followed similar events in Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.

The fifth edition was held under the honorary patronage of the late HH Minister Sheikh Nasser Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, who personally presented awards to the winners. The Grand Prix was awarded to Faisal Al-Bahairi of Kuwait and Feifei Li of China.

The occasion also featured a performance by the renowned Polish Radio National Symphony Orchestra in Kuwait.

In recognition of their achievements, the Polish minister of culture invited four laureates of the competition to Poland for a special trip titled "In the Footsteps of Chopin." The programme included a masterclass at the Chopin Academy and participation in the "Chopin and His Europe" Festival.

It was during this period that Polish media described Kuwait as a "Chopin Oasis," highlighting the country's growing contribution to classical music in the Gulf region.

From competition winners to international artists

The achievements of the competition's laureates demonstrate its role in nurturing young musical talent and opening doors to international opportunities.



Poster of 8th ICC in January 2027



Faisal Al Bahairi opens 7th ICC in 2025.

Among the winners of the first edition, Firaz Barber is now lecturing in Paris, while Dr. Donia Jarrar has established herself in Los Angeles. Jarrar was recognized as a female composer by the National Opera Center. Her opera, "Seamstress," which tells the story of Palestinian women, has also been accepted into the US Library of Congress.

Other laureates have pursued



1st prize awarded to Danah A.Rabeea by Polish ambassador. Behind are Mr. Karol, Ms. Fajer & Prof Cezary.

distinguished careers in music and education. Fajer Al-Mazidi became a co-founder of the Kuwait Music Academy, while Prof. Magda Boukanan, also a Prix d'Europe winner, is now lecturing in Montreal, Canada.

Moroccan composer Ghita Amar has gained recognition for her work, while Kuwaiti pianist Faisal Al-Bahairi has become a prominent figure in the country's music scene. Feifei Li graduated from the Royal Academy of Music and established her own music school in Manchester, United Kingdom.

The seventh competition's winner, Dana Ahmed Rabeea, continues her studies at KMA under the guidance of Karol Masternak while collecting prizes at international music competitions across Europe and Asia.

Several other talented Kuwaiti women have also emerged among the competition's laureates, including Shahad Tarik Al-Asad and Sondos Hameed Mubarak.

The achievements and professional journeys of other winners from Kuwait, the Gulf region, India, Japan, South Korea, China and Europe further illustrate the competition's international reach and lasting impact.

The organizers also expressed appreciation to Arab Times for supporting and following the development of the competition's young talents since its inception.

Music as a social phenomenon

Music is a collaborative art that requires three essential elements: a composer, a performer and a listener. Without any one of them, music cannot fully exist. Teachers, patrons and organizers also play an important role in nurturing musical culture and ensuring its continuity.

The competition pays tribute to these contributors, particularly Prof. Jerzy Zurawlew (1886-1980), the visionary educator and organizer behind the first International Chopin Competition in Warsaw in 1927, as well as the teachers who have guided participating musicians over the years.

Recognizing those who have contributed to musical development, organizers say, is essential to building a foundation for future achievements.

Competition and recognition are also important to young people's development, including in the fields of art and music. Indeed, artistic competitions were once part of the Olympic Games, with medals awarded to artists in antiquity and continuing into the modern Olympic era until the mid-20th century.

The objectives of the 1927 Warsaw competition remain relevant to the 2027 Kuwait edition: promoting musical culture and education, giving young musicians opportunities to meet, exchange experiences and compete with peers from different cultural backgrounds, and allowing them to present their achievements before an audience.

Beyond recognizing individual talent, the International Chopin Competition serves a broader social purpose by bringing people together through music and encouraging cultural exchange.

Applications now open

The Kuwait Music Academy has announced that applications are now open for the eighth International Chopin Competition, scheduled for January 2027.

Pianists and music enthusiasts interested in participating may visit the academy's website at www.kuwaitma.com or contact the organizers at +965 90994561 or +965 6568600.

Further information, including the detailed competition guidelines and registration form, is available through the following link:

https://forms.gle/zV2vWgmjxoXTLsC8

The organizers have invited young pianists to take part in the competition and share their musical talents, continuing a tradition that has connected generations of performers and audiences through the enduring works of Frederic Chopin.

Sheikh Mubarak expresses pleasure at sponsoring the competition

Al-Da'wa Falconry Competition concludes with selection of Kuwait team for Dubai Champ'ship

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 17: Under the patronage and in the presence of Sheikh Mubarak Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah, the Al-Da'wa Falconry Competition, organized by the Falconry and Traditional Games Association, concluded on Saturday, November 14 at the Camel Racing Club in Kabd.

According to a press release, the two-day competition determined the team that will represent Kuwait at the fourth edition of the International Federation of Falconry Championships, scheduled to take place in Dubai in December.

Sheikh Mubarak Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah expressed his pleasure at sponsoring the competition, emphasizing that falconry is a deeply rooted tradition passed down through generations from fathers and grandfathers.

He stated that Kuwait has a long history of falconry, with its falconers, exhibitions, and competitions, noting that Kuwaiti youth have demonstrated their skills in this field. He wished the team representing Kuwait every success.



Sheikh Mubarak Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah poses with officials.



A flyer of the championship.

Sheikh Mubarak Al-Sabah also recalled that his late father, Sheikh Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah (May God have mercy on him), was one of the country's most prominent falconers and a strong supporter of the hobby.

He noted that his father used to take visiting journalists on falconry trips to introduce them to an important part of Arabian Peninsula heritage and highlight the role of falconry in the lives of Kuwaitis.

It is worth highlighting that the falconers competed in six rounds in the young falcon category, held on a 300-meter track. The organizing committee awarded prizes to the top competitors.

Saif Al-Shalahi, Chairman of the Association's Board of Directors and a member of the International Association for Falconry, explained that the qualifying rounds gave participants an opportunity to test their readiness ahead of the international competition.

He also highlighted the Association's commitment to attracting young people to falconry.

Dr. Al-Huwailah praises Kuwaiti Paralympic champs achievements

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 17: Minister of Social, Family and Childhood Affairs Dr. Amthal Al-Huwailah affirmed on Monday that the achievements of Kuwait's Paralympic champions reflect the coordinated efforts of relevant authorities and their commitment to supporting athletes with disabilities, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The minister said this in a press statement after her meeting with Kuwait Paralympic Committee President Mansour Al-Sarheed, Secretary-General Adel Al-Rajeeb, and the Kuwaiti athletes who recently won medals at the Asian Para Games in Japan.

Dr. Al-Huwailah praised the athletes' accomplishments. She congratulated Faisal Surour, who won a gold medal, and Dhari Batti and Malak Al-Anzi, who each secured a bronze medal. She commended their determination and their efforts to raise Kuwait's flag at international competitions.

Dr. Al-Huwailah reaffirmed her commitment to supporting people with disabilities and removing obstacles they face, helping them develop their abilities and achieve further success in sports.



KUNA photo

Minister of Social, Family and Childhood Affairs Dr. Amthal Al-Huwailah poses with the Paralympians.

Sheikh Dhari honors Al-Roumi

'Muzahim Al-Ghayah' wins Al-Roumi Cup



Al-Roumi honored in the presence of Al-Nisf and Sheikh Sabah Fahad Al-Nasser.

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 17: "Muzahim Al-Ghayah," representing the Presidential Stable and trained and ridden by Mohammed Al-Saree, secured the Alaa Hamad Al-Roumi Cup in the sixth race of the opening meeting of the Kuwait Hunting and Equestrian Club's 2026-2027 season.

The 1,200-meter contest was reserved for Arabian horses of Egyptian bloodlines in the C4 maiden category. "Muzahim Al-Ghayah" crossed the finish line in 1:39.44 minutes to claim the title.

The meeting was attended by Minister of State for Youth and Sports Affairs Dr. Tareq Al-Jalahma, Mubarak Al-Kabeer Governor Sheikh Sabah Bader Sabah Al-Salem, club Chairman Sheikh Dhari Fahad Al-Ahmad, and Chairman of the Supreme Horse Racing Committee Sheikh Sabah Fahad Al-Nasser.

Al-Roumi, owner of Al-Raya Stud, joined Sheikh Dhari and Sheikh Sabah in presenting the trophy to the winning connections. Sheikh Dhari also honored Al-Roumi in recognition of his contribution to supporting horse racing. The ceremony was attended by Talal Khaled Al-Nisf, owner of Al-Sharq Stud.

Al-Roumi expressed satisfaction with the success of the initiative to stage races for Arabian horses of Egyptian bloodlines. Launched last season, the initiative has attracted considerable interest from horse enthusiasts and breeders, with participants competing fiercely for the top honors.

He also thanked the Kuwait Hunting and Equestrian Club's management, the Supreme Horse Racing Committee and the club director for their continued support of equestrian sports, particularly horse racing.

In the fifth race, "Khuzam Al-Saad," owned by Al-Hayyan, captured the Cup of the late Sheikh Nasser Fahad Sabah Al-Nasser Al-Sabah. The contest was held for C3 maiden horses over 1,400 meters.

"Mabrouk 2," "Maqayees," "Rafeeat Al-Ameed," "Dakkak," and "Ashqar Hamoud" won the remaining races.

76ers beat Nets without James

Suns claim first road win of season

DENVER, Nov 17, (AP): Devin Booker led seven Phoenix players in doubles figures with 20 points and the Suns beat the Denver Nuggets 117-105 on Monday night for their first road win of the season.

The Suns were playing on the second night of a back-to-back and looked hungrier with a 22-11 advantage in second-chance points. Phoenix, the worst rebounding team in the league, also had a 60-42 edge on the boards in improving to 1-3 away from home.

The balanced-scoring attack helped the Suns overcome a big night from Nikola Jokic, who finished with 28 points, 15 rebounds and seven assists. Jamal Murray added 28 despite dealing with foul trouble.

The game featured 14 ties and 10 lead changes before Phoenix pulled away in the third quarter. The Suns led by as many as 19 in the fourth before Denver cut it to eight with 43 seconds remaining. The Phoenix bench outscored the Nuggets' reserves by a 42-19 margin.

Denver finished with 17 turnovers (Jokic had seven). The team now has five games with 15 or more turnovers.

It was Denver's first game at Ball Arena since a 128-109 win over Toronto on Nov. 4. The Nuggets did have a quick trip to elevation in Mexico City when they played Indiana as part of a trip in which the team went 3-1.

Murray was hounded up and down the court all night by Dillon Brooks & Co. Brooks picked up a technical foul in the third quarter after making a 3-pointer for appearing to motion toward the Nuggets bench.

This marked the second matchup between the teams. Denver won 127-120 at Phoenix on Oct. 30 in an NBA Cup group stage game.

Murray and Jokic recently became the first pair of teammates to record 1,000 or more assists to each other since tracking started in 1997-98.

Joel Embiid scored a season-high 37 points, Jaylen Brown matched his season best with 31 and the superstars provided the Philadelphia 76ers with more than enough in LeBron James' absence to beat the Brooklyn Nets 135-123.

Brown added 13 rebounds but wasn't in the game for the finish after a collision with Julius Randle in the fourth quarter opened a cut on his head. Brown returned to the game wearing a headband after being treated, but then left again a few minutes later - though coach Nick Nurse said that departure was because Brown was feeling tightness in his hamstring.

James sat out on the second half of the 76ers' back-to-back games and Philadelphia improved to 4-0 without him. Tyrese Maxey finished with 24 points and nine assists.

Embiid had 24 points by halftime of what appeared would be a blowout. The Nets made it a game in the fourth quarter before the center helped turn them back, scoring six straight Philadelphia points to extend a six-point lead back into double figures and then making a 3-pointer with 51 seconds remaining after Brooklyn had climbed back within four.

Julius Randle scored 33 points and Michael Porter Jr. added 25 for the Nets, who fell to 3-10. Second-year guard Nolan Traore matched his career high with 23 points.

Embiid sat out the victory Sunday over Indiana in which James passed Jason Kidd to move into No. 3 on the NBA's career assists list. The 76ers didn't officially list Embiid as available Monday until about half an hour before the game, but it was clear he was fine. He had 13 points in the first quarter as Philadelphia took a 33-26 lead.



Phoenix Suns guard Devin Booker, right, drives past Denver Nuggets forward Spencer Jones in the first half of an NBA basketball game in Denver. (AP)

Dutch suffer heavy defeat

Dominant Germany confirms renaissance under Klopp

BERLIN, Nov 17, (AP): Florian Wirtz scored twice and Germany booked its place in the Nations League quarterfinals by routing the Netherlands 5-0 in Berlin.

More importantly, it was confirmation of the German team's renaissance under new coach Jürgen Klopp, whose appointment ushered in new optimism around his young team with progress evident over his six games in charge.

Nico Schlotterbeck was the oldest goal-scorer at 26, Wirtz is still just 23, the 24-year-old Derry Scherhant broke the deadlock, and Brajan Gruda, 22, set up two goals and scored one on what was just his second appearance for Germany. He also scored on his debut in Friday's 3-1 win in Serbia.

Klopp clearly enjoyed each of the goals but he praised the players' work rate as key.

"Everyone who was here today is going home with a smile, and won't be questioning the German national team for the next three or four months. That's a good thing," Klopp said, referring to the previous negativity around the side.

"When you think of the German team, yo, this could develop into something, and that's good."

It was the Germany men's last game with Adidas gear before Nike takes over.



Germany's Jonathan Tah, Germany's Aleksandar Pavlovic and Netherland's Teun Koopmeiners go for a header challenge for the ball during the UEFA Nations League soccer match between Germany and the Netherlands in Berlin, Germany. (AP)

Substitute Giorgos Masouras' 69th-minute strike was enough for Greece to beat Serbia 1-0 at home in the other group game, but it was not enough for progress as Germany and the Netherlands both look forward to Friday's quarterfinal draw. All three three teams finished with 11 points.

Local favorite Scherhant twice hit the post before opening the scoring with a brilliant strike before the break, cutting inside to elude Dutch captain Denzel Dumfries and then shooting inside the top right corner. Bart Verbruggen got his fingers to the ball but couldn't prevent its progress.

Scherhant, who used to score such goals in the same stadium for Hertha Berlin, pointed to the ground to indicate he was home again.

"You couldn't have imagined it going any better," said Scherhant, who now plays for Freiburg.

Wirtz's goal, on the hour mark, was arguably better, winning the ball back from Dumfries after an attack broke down, feigning with his right foot to set up his left and then unleashing the ball in off the left post from outside the penalty area.

Schlotterbeck sealed the result five minutes later with a low header to Gruda's free kick, and Wirtz volleyed in his second in the 71st after Gruda was left free on the right. It prompted some Dutch fans to head for the exits.

Gruda got Germany's fifth in the 77th, prompting furious Dutch goalkeeper Verbruggen to call a team meeting to remonstrate with his teammates. By then it was too late.

Switzerland was already assured of promotion to League A as the Group B1 winner before enjoying a 4-0 win over Scotland in St. Gallen.

Lewis Ferguson's own goal ended the visitors' fine start in the 22nd minute. The Scotland midfielder was attempting to cut out Zachary Athekame's cross but only prodded it into his own net.

Winsley Boteli and Alvyn Sanches scored their first goals for Switzerland after the break, and Zeki Amdouni completed the rout late.

Slovenia defeated North Macedonia 3-0 away in the other group game.

Also, there were wins for the Faeroe Islands over Moldova, Estonia over Bulgaria, Lithuania over Liechtenstein, and Iceland over Luxembourg; Kazakhstan and Slovakia drew 2-2, and Gibraltar drew with Malta 1-1.





Burgan player goes for goal during the Federation Cup final match between Burgan and Sulaibikhat.

Sports

Burgan lifts historic Kuwait Federation Cup title



KUNA photos

Burgan players celebrate with officials on the podium.

Al-Sulaibikhat hails steady progress despite final loss

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 17, (KUNA): Burgan was crowned champion of the 58th Kuwait Handball Federation Cup for the 2025-2026 season, claiming their first title in the competition after defeating Al-Sulaibikhat 32-29 in the final.

Burgan secured the trophy following an exciting, high-quality encounter at Sheikh Saad Al-Abdullah Sports Complex, capping a successful campaign with a historic achievement.

Speaking to KUNA after the awards ceremony, Burgan Club Director Abdulaziz Najeeb attributed the team's progress to the collective efforts of the club's board, technical staff, players and supporters.

He stressed that the club's ambitions go beyond winning this year's cup, adding that Burgan intend to further develop the team and establish themselves as regular contenders for all available titles.

Meanwhile, Al-Sulaibikhat Club Chairman Saad Al-Enezi said his team's performance had improved steadily since the start of the season, culminating in its appearance in the Federation Cup final. He described reaching the final as a reflection of the collective efforts of everyone at the club.

Al-Enezi congratulated Burgan and its board on winning the 2025-2026 title, acknowledging that its opponent deserved the championship.

Al-Arabi finished third after defeating Kazma 29-26 in the third-place playoff.

Kuwait Club remains the competition's most successful team with 15 titles, followed by Al-Arabi with 10. Al-Salmiya and Kazma have won eight each, Al-Qadsia seven, Khaitan four, Al-Fahaheel three, Al-Sulaibikhat two and Burgan one.

The Kuwait Handball Federation Cup was first introduced in the 1966-1967 season.

Kuwait returns home after finishing 2nd at Asian Junior Padel Champ'ship



KUNA photo

Kuwait padel team welcomed home.

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 17, (KUNA): Kuwait's junior national padel team returned home on Monday after finishing runner-up at the 2026 Asian Junior Padel Championship in Jakarta, Indonesia.

The team received a warm welcome at the airport from sports officials, parents and supporters, who gathered to celebrate its impressive showing at the continental competition.

Speaking to KUNA, Kuwait Padel Club Chairman Wael Al-Qatami attributed the team's achievement to a comprehensive preparation program and a clear development strategy adopted by the club's management and national teams.

He said the plan focused on nurturing young talent, improving players' technical abilities and preparing them to compete at the highest levels.

Al-Qatami noted that 17 Asian national teams took part in the championship, which featured boys' and girls' competitions across the under-14, under-16 and under-18 categories.

The second edition of the continental tournament was organized by the Indonesian Padel Federation under the supervision of the International Padel Federation (FIP) from Nov 7 to 14.

He expressed confidence in the ability of Kuwaiti players to continue producing strong results at continental and international competitions.

Kuwait receives ISSF congratulations

Al-Otaibi hails Kuwait shooters historic World Championship success in Doha



KUNA photo

Kuwaiti and Arab Shooting Federations President Eng. Duaij Al-Otaibi

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 17: Kuwaiti and Arab Shooting Federations President Eng. Duaij Al-Otaibi described Kuwait's success at the World Shooting Championships in Doha as a significant milestone in the country's sporting history, highlighting the growing international standing of Kuwaiti shooting.

Kuwait's shooters returned from the championship with two gold medals, a bronze and two qualification spots for the Olympic Games, underlining their ability to compete against the world's best and bring honor to the country at major international events.

Abdulrahman Al-Feihaan led the campaign by winning the men's individual trap gold before adding a team gold alongside teammates Khaled Al-Mudhaf and Talal Al-Rashidi. Abdulaziz Al-Saad also reached the podium, claiming bronze in the men's skeet competition.

The results also secured Kuwait two Olympic qualification spots, with Al-Feihaan earning one in trap and Al-Saad securing the other in skeet, paving the way for the country's participation in future Olympic competitions.

Al-Otaibi disclosed that the Kuwait Shooting Federation had received an official letter of congratulations from the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF). Its president, Senator Luciano Rossi, and other officials commended the Kuwaiti federation and its athletes for their impressive performances.

He said the message represented international recognition of the progress made by Kuwaiti shooting and its established presence on the global stage.

Al-Otaibi attributed the success to years of planning, hard work and sustained preparation, coupled with efforts to raise the technical standards of the athletes. He also acknowledged the contribution of the federation's board, technical and administrative teams, and praised the determination and competitive spirit displayed by the shooters throughout the tournament.

He concluded by expressing gratitude for the continued support of Kuwait's political leadership, led by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Al-Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah.

Al-Otaibi said this support provides athletes with the motivation to pursue further success and continue representing Kuwait with distinction at international competitions.

Sri Lanka collapses to 85-6 against Pakistan's pace in second cricket test

RAWALPINDI, Pakistan, Nov 17, (AP): Pakistan's pace bowlers ripped through Sri Lanka's batting lineup on a greenish wicket as the tourists collapsed to 85-6 in the opening session of the second cricket test.

Mohammad Abbas (2-12) and express fast bowler Razaullah (2-11) exploited the early moisture on the pitch and took two wickets each after Saqib Khan (1-29) found the outside edge of Pasindu Sooriyabandara's bat in his second over.

Captain Kusal Mendis, who made 32, counterpunched against the pace attack in the second hour and shared a 49-run partnership with Sonal Dinusha before top-edging Aamer Jamal (1-23) to fine leg just before lunch. Dinusha was the only other batter to reach double figures and was unbeaten on 15.

Pakistan's pace attack justified captain Babar Azam's decision to take advantage of green wicket and bowl first after winning the toss. Abbas and Saqib were spot on with their line and lengths. Saqib followed his seven-wicket haul in the drawn debut first test last week with his outswingers repeatedly troubling the batters before Sooriyabandara played a lose drive and edged to wicketkeeper Ghazi Ghori.

Abbas bowled an economical opening spell of 8-3-9-2 by continuously bowling in the off stump channel and picking up the wickets of Dinesh Chandimal, caught at forward short leg, and Kamindu Mendis, who chipped to short cover where Tayyab Arif plucked a spectacular two-handed diving catch.

Lahiru Udara, who labored for 32 deliveries and scored 4 runs, was lucky when Arif couldn't grab an opportunity at point in Saqib's opening spell. But he fell to the pace of Razaullah when he was well caught by Mohammad Taha at first slip.

Pakistan continued to make inroads and the first test century-makers Dhananjaya de Silva and Kusal Mendis both fell within an extended 2-1/2 hour opening session.

De Silva wasted one of the three Sri Lankan reviews when Razaullah's delivery struck him on the back foot plumb in front of middle stump as Sri Lanka slumped to 36-5. Mendis struck five boundaries before needlessly top-edging to fine leg and giving Jamal his first wicket.

Jamal replaced Arafat Minhas in the only change Pakistan made to the first test playing XI. Sri Lanka dropped one of the four pace bowlers, Dilshan Madushanka, and brought in specialist spinner Prabath Jayasuriya.

The second test was relocated to Rawalpindi due to increases in the smog level in Lahore last week.

ARAB TIMES
THE FIRST ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY IN FREE KUWAIT
Published by: Arab Times Publishing House
Editor-in-Chief
AHMED AL JARALLAH
Editorial Office:
Tel: 24826912 - Airport Road, Shuwaikh
P.O. Box: 2270, 13023 Safat, Kuwait
E-mail: arabtimes@arabtimesonline.com
Advertising:
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