Scan the QR code to access the Arab Times WhatsApp Channel

# ARAB TIMES

THE FIRST ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY IN FREE KUWAIT
Established in 1977 / www.arabtimesonline.com





Amir congratulates Sultan of Oman on National Day Page 2

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2026 / JUMADA AL-THANI 12, 1448 AH | emergency number 112 | NO. 19366 | 12 PAGES | 150 FILS

## Opinion



# 'The Souk Al-Manakh Crisis'... how long will the state continue spending money on it?

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

GOD says in the Quran – "And remind, for indeed, the reminder benefits the believers."

Inspired by this verse, I would like to revisit the Souk Al-Manakh crisis, the repercussions of which have continued since 1982.

Despite the enactment of Law No. 41/1993 to address this crisis, the issue remains unresolved, as though it was intended to become a source of public spending and waste, or even a means of benefiting certain parties. This is reminiscent of a period when social and parliamentary political pressure groups exercised control over state institutions.

This raises questions about the continued existence of the Difficult Debt Settlement Unit and its large workforce. The settlement process has been stalled since 1993 and continues to this day.

It appears that some parties are trying to profit from the funds of individuals who went bankrupt during the 1982 crisis. Many of those individuals have since passed away, leaving their heirs to pay the price with their livelihoods. Many of the surviving debtors are bankrupt and are subject to travel bans.

The purpose of the aforementioned law was to resolve the crisis by selling assets and settling outstanding debts. However, approximately KD 7 billion, spread across some 668 pending cases, remains unresolved.

This situation continues to place pressure on the state's general budget. According to accounting principles, the failure to collect outstanding debts affects actual revenues and increases accumulated receivables without generating liquidity. In other words, it contributes to a widening budget deficit.

The biggest problem is the 15 percent annual interest rate imposed on debts arising from the Souk Al-Manakh crisis and other non-performing loans. This has increased the total debt from KD 4 billion to KD 7 billion, and the amount continues to grow. This places further obstacles in the way of those trying to overcome the crisis and start anew, particularly those who have inherited these debts.

The seized shares, real estate, and other assets, valued at current market prices, represent approximately two-thirds of the total debt.

If there were a serious commitment to resolving this issue, finding a solution would be much easier.

Continued on Page 5

Follow me on:
@Ahmedaljaralah
Ahmed aljaralah
ahmed@aljarallah.com
Scan Me
Scan QR code to visit the website: aljarallah.com

# Capital corners 128 residency violators

## 246 actions mark crackdown

**KUWAIT CITY, Nov 21: The Ministry of Interior, in cooperation with the Kuwait Fire Force (KFF) and Kuwait Municipality, conducted a large-scale security campaign in the Capital Governorate, resulting in 246 enforcement actions, reports Al-Seyassah daily.**

In a press statement, the ministry explained that the campaign was conducted under the supervision and in the presence of Director General of the Capital Security Directorate Brigadier General Mohammed Rajab and his assistant, Brigadier General Saad Al-Omair.

Continued on Page 5



Crown Prince Diwan photo

His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah is welcomed by His Highness Sheikh Dr. Mohammad Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah at a ceremony marking the 50th anniversary of the founding of Sabah Al-Salem Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah Foundation. — See Page 2

# Turkiye puts Kuwait security first, says Ambassador Oguz

By Fares Ghaleb
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 21: Turkish Ambassador to Kuwait Can Oğuz affirmed that maintaining the security, sovereignty, territorial integrity, stability and prosperity of Kuwait is among the priorities of his country.

Speaking at a press conference, Ambassador Oğuz pointed out that Turkiye has proven its commitment to take the necessary measures in terms of the above during the recent regional crisis. He explained that defense cooperation is the pillar of bilateral relations, particularly amid the evolving regional developments and mounting security challenges. He reiterated Ankara's strong desire to solidify its defense partnership with Kuwait for the latter to fully benefit from the advanced capabilities of the military industry in his country.

He asserted that the Kuwaiti-Turkish relations are rooted in longstanding historical, institutional and public connections, built on solidarity, brotherhood and mutual understanding between the leaders and citizens of both countries.



Turkish Ambassador to Kuwait Can Oğuz engages with Kuwait media at a press conference.

He added that Turkiye looks at these ties from a long-term strategic perspective. He encapsulated the bilateral relationship in three central concepts--"promises, potential and partnership."

Continued on Page 5

## Newswatch

**KUWAIT CITY:** The State of Kuwait strongly condemned the repeated terrorist attacks by the Houthi militia against several areas in the sisterly **Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**, said a statement from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Thursday.

The treacherous attacks with ballistic and cruise missiles and UAVs targeted several civilian and economic facilities, including one of the towers of the financial center in **Riyadh**, in a flagrant violation of the international humanitarian law and the international law. (KUNA)

❑ ❑ ❑

**RIYADH:** The Coalition to Support Legitimacy in **Yemen** announced early Saturday that its air defenses intercepted and destroyed a drone launched by the terrorist Houthi militia toward **Saudi Arabia**'s southern region.

This was stated in a brief announcement by Official Spokesman for the Coalition Forces Brig. Gen. **Turki Al-Malki** via his official account on the social media platform X, without providing further details. (KUNA)

### 'Strong reserves shield credit standing'

# S&P affirms Kuwait's AA- with stable outlook

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 21, (KUNA): Standard and Poor's (S&P) Global Ratings affirmed Kuwait's sovereign credit rating at AA- with a stable outlook.

The confirmation reflects the country's robust financial position, strong credit fundamentals, and substantial sovereign assets and financial reserves, which collectively serve as buffers against economic shocks and help maintain financial stability, said Faisal Al-Muzaini, member and rapporteur of the Supreme Committee for Sovereign Credit Rating Governance, said in a press statement on Friday.

Al-Muzaini, also Director of the Public Debt Department at the Ministry of Finance, S&P assessment was based on a range of financial and economic strengths enjoyed by Kuwait, foremost among them its substantial sovereign assets, strong external financial position and availability of diverse financing options, in addition to financial and economic reforms expected to support growth and fiscal sustainability in the coming years.

He noted that the agency's report included positive projections for Kuwait's economic outlook, forecasting real GDP growth of around 13 percent in 2027 and an annual average of nearly eight percent over the 2027-2029 period. This growth is expected to be driven by a recovery in oil production, alongside the implementation of several investment and development projects in non-oil sectors.

The report also highlighted the importance of continuing ongoing economic and financial reforms and their expected role in boosting non-oil revenues and supporting economic activity, thereby consolidating fiscal sustainability and strengthening growth prospects in the coming years, he said.

Al-Muzaini affirmed that the agency considered the issuance of the decree-law on government sukuk a positive step toward developing the sovereign financing framework and broadening the range of financing instruments available to the state, enhancing flexibility in managing financing needs and supporting the development of domestic capital markets.

Continued on Page 5

### Trade hits $5 billion

# Kuwaiti investment footprint in Oman set to exceed $4 bln

By Fares Ghaleb
Al-Seyassah/Arab Times Staff

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 21: Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to Kuwait Ali Al-Shanfari said the relationship between the two countries in various fields like economic cooperation, investment, trade and tourism continued to grow.



Al-Shanfari

Speaking to journalists on the occasion of Oman's National Day, Al-Shanfari disclosed that the value of direct Kuwaiti investments in the Sultanate is expected to surpass $4 billion by 2026. The figures he presented place Kuwait at the forefront of investors in Oman among Gulf and Arab countries, while ranking third worldwide.

During the interview, he discussed the expansion of bilateral ties, main areas of cooperation, his priorities in Kuwait and the position of his country on current regional developments. He revealed that trade between the two countries amounted to around $5 billion in 2025. He explained that this underscores the strength of the economic partnership and the considerable attention that the leaders of the two countries give to the expansion of commercial and investment relations, as well as creating opportunities for the private sector.

He described the National Day as a special occasion for the Omani people to look back with pride and appreciation on the accomplishments in different fields. He said the celebration is an opportunity to reaffirm their determination to push for national development and nation-building with confidence and optimism under the wise leadership of Sultan Haitham bin Tariq.

He added that the Omani-Kuwaiti ties are characterized by strength, deep roots and brotherhood, with the full support of Sultan Haitham bin Tariq and his brother, His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. He stressed that this high-level support is a strong foundation for solidifying cooperation and fulfilling the ambitions of the two brotherly peoples.

He cited the Duqm Refinery as one of the valuable projects jointly undertaken by the two countries, describing it as one of the largest investment ventures involving two Gulf states. He said the initiative reflects the mutual trust and economic partnership between Kuwait and the Sultanate of Oman.

Continued on Page 5



9 ABK concludes Kuwait's first ABK Tour Kuwait cycling event with more than 1,000 participants



8 'Zain's World' returns at the heart of K-Land for the fourth consecutive year



8 Toyota ALSAYER selected as main partner of Kashta Marina Season 3

# War fears rise as Trump rejects Iran deal

WASHINGTON, Nov 21, (AP): As concerns grow of a potential return to all-out war between the U.S. and Iran, President Donald Trump said Friday that Tehran wants a deal to end hostilities but not one that is "acceptable" to him.

"We want to make a real deal, not a fake deal," he said at a White House news conference, adding that the Iranian government has been "bull--ing people for 51 years." Later, he renewed his consistent vow that "Iran will never have a nuclear weapon, ever."

Trump has oscillated between favoring an agreement that would end the fighting and saying the U.S. does not need to make any deal. Diplomats and analysts see the uncertainty about next steps, alongside the latest uneven back-and-forth hostilities, as reflective of the untenable position that both sides are in nearly nine months into the war.

A Middle Eastern diplomat said before Trump's news conference that the Gulf Arab states are concerned about the potential for a resumption in full-scale hostilities and are working through existing communications channels to seek a sustainable, if only partial, solution.

Such a solution, the diplomat said, could remove all constraints from shipping in the Strait of Hormuz, a crucial thoroughfare for the global energy trade, in exchange for limited sanctions relief for Iran and paving the way for a resumption in broader negotiations to include Tehran's nuclear program.

Continued on Page 5

**Prayer Timings**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Fajr | 04:55 | Asr | 14:31 |
| Sunrise | 06:17 | Maghrib | 16:51 |
| Zohr | 11:34 | Isha | 18:14 |



His Highness the Amir



Sultan of Oman

# Amir congratulates Sultan of Oman on National Day

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 21, (KUNA): His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent a congratulatory cable to Sultan Haitham bin Tariq of Oman on his country's National Day.

In the cable, His Highness expressed his sincere congratulations to the Sultan, praising the deep-rooted brotherly ties and historic relations between Kuwait and Oman, as well as the notable achievements made by the Sultanate during the Sultan's reign.

His Highness wished Sultan Haitham continued good health and well-being, and the people of Oman further progress and prosperity under his wise leadership.

Similarly, His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah sent a congratulatory cable to Sultan Haitham bin Tariq of Oman on his country's National Day.

In the cable, His Highness conveyed his sincere congratulations and best wishes to the Sultan, wishing him continued health and well-being and the brotherly Omani people further progress, development and prosperity.

His Highness also praised the strong historic relations between Kuwait and Oman and wished the two countries continued cooperation and closer ties.

His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah also sent a cable of congratulations to Sultan Haitham bin Tariq of Oman on his country's National Day.



His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah at a ceremony marking the 50th anniversary of the founding of Sabah Al-Salem Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah Foundation.

# Crown Prince attends Sabah Al-Salem Foundation jubilee



Crown Prince Diwan photos

His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah is welcomed by His Highness Sheikh Dr. Mohammad Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah.

## Golden milestone for charitable legacy

**KUWAIT CITY, Nov 21, (KUNA): In the presence of His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, a ceremony marking the 50th anniversary of the founding of Sabah Al-Salem Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah Foundation was held at its headquarters on Wednesday evening.**

Upon his arrival at the venue, His Highness the Crown Prince was warmly welcomed by His Highness Sheikh Dr. Mohammad Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah.

The event was also attended by His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, and Prince Turki Al-Faisal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, the ceremony's Guest of Honor and Keynote Speaker, who is the Founder and Member of the Board of Trustees of the King Faisal Foundation, Chairman of the King Faisal Center for Research and Islamic Studies, and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies.

The ceremony started with the National Anthem, followed by a documentary film showcasing the journey of the Sabah Al-Salem Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah Foundation since it was founded.

The Charity's Director-General Sheikha Mariam Mohammad Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah also delivered a speech on this occasion, followed by a keynote address from Prince Turki Al-Faisal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud.

The event's Guest of Honor, Prince Turki Al-Faisal bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, was also honored during the ceremony.

The Charity's founding members were honored during the ceremony: the late Abdulrahman Salem Al-Ateeqi, the late Jassim Hamad Al-Saqer, Abdulateef Yousuf Al-Hamad, Lulwa Abdulwahab Al-Qatami, Faisal Sultan Al-Essa, Dr. Abdulmohsen Al-Abdulrazzaq, the late Nasser Mohammad Al-Kharafi, the late Sulaiman Humoud Al-Zaid Al-Khaled, the late Ibrahim Makki, and the late Farraj Al-Adwani.

## Other Voices

# Modern and Prehistoric Ice

**By Ahmad alsarraf**

I drank my first glass of cold water from a very small, kerosene-powered cooler on my father's modest farm in Funaitees. Although the water was cold, the smell of kerosene was overpowering. The farm was eventually sold, along with the cooler, and my father made a few rupees from the sale, which was a considerable sum in the mid-1950s.



Ahmad alsarraf

Before that, we knew ice through locally operated factories, including Al-Saqr Ice Factory and Al-Kharafi Ice Factory in the central and mountainous areas, as well as Al-Ghanim Ice Factory, Marafie Ice Factory, and Al-Nisf Ice Factory in the eastern area.

These factories relied on imported machinery, initially manufactured in India and later in Britain.

American intelligence officer Kermit Roosevelt (1916–2000) served in Iran and played a pivotal role in the 1953 coup that overthrew Prime Minister Mohammad Mosaddegh.

Roosevelt believed that Arab nationalism (Arabism) could serve as a counterweight to the spread of communism, insisting that Arabs were not inherently hostile to the West. He also believed that coups in the Middle East could curb demands for liberal constitutions and elections, which communists might exploit to seize power.

He placed his bets on the Arabs rather than the Jews. However, the American administration favored Israel, and the influence of Roosevelt and other officials who advocated relying on Arab allies gradually declined.

In his official capacity, Roosevelt questioned Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi about the Iranian government's use of American aid, expressing concern that the assistance was not being used wisely and raising suspicions of corruption.

The Shah calmly replied, "Your aid to us is like a block of ice. You give it to me, and I pass it on to the Prime Minister, who in turn gives it to the Minister of Economy. By the time it reaches the entity responsible for implementing the project, it is already half its original size. It is impossible to know where the other half has disappeared."

The Shah's analogy draws inspiration from the natural environment. The civilizations of Iraq, China, and Iran were among the earliest to develop methods of collecting, storing, and preserving ice thousands of years ago, making it possible to use it during the hot summer months.

The earliest recorded evidence of ice storage dates back to the reign of Shulgi, King of Ur in Mesopotamia (2094–2046 BCE).

In China, the collection and storage of ice dates back to approximately 1100 BCE.

Around 400 BCE, the Persians took ice preservation a step further by constructing massive storage facilities known as yakhchals. These domed structures were built using heat-resistant mud bricks and enabled ice to be stored throughout the year, even in desert climates. This was achieved by carefully channeling water into shallow pools, where it froze overnight. The collected ice could then be used to chill drinks or prepare early forms of ice cream.

The situation changed in the early 19th century when Frederick Tudor, known as the "Ice King," began harvesting ice from frozen lakes on his father's farm in New England. He packed the ice in containers insulated with sawdust and shipped it to warmer regions, including the southern United States and the Caribbean islands. This marked the beginning of the modern commercial ice trade.

By the first half of the 20th century, domestic refrigerators had become increasingly common, allowing more families to store ice at home and use it for various purposes.

❑ ❑ ❑

**Email:** a.alsarraf@alqabas.com.

# Kuwait's DGCA participates in ICAO Assembly session

WASHINGTON, Nov 21, (KUNA): The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) is participating in the extraordinary session of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Assembly, which began in Canada yesterday, Thursday, and concludes today.

In a statement, the DGCA noted that its delegation is led by its President, Sheikh Humoud Al-Mubarak Al-Hamoud Al-Sabah.

On the first day, the proceedings focused on establishing the legal framework for states to nominate themselves for four additional seats, approved during the previous regular Assembly session, which will increase the total number of seats on the ICAO Council from 36 to 40.

The session also addressed the nominations submitted by various states for these seats, as well as the voting mechanism scheduled for the second day.

The statement added that, on the sidelines of the event, the Kuwaiti delegation held a bilateral meeting with representatives from the Canadian civil aviation authority.

The discussions covered ways to develop and strengthen bilateral relations in civil aviation, as well as mechanisms for launching air services between the two countries.

Furthermore, the two sides explored the provision of necessary facilities and procedures to support this initiative, aiming to enhance air connectivity and expand the horizons of cooperation.

This participation reflects the DGCA's commitment to strengthening its presence in international forums, consolidating ties with civil aviation authorities worldwide, and fostering international cooperation, all in a manner that serves the interests of the civil aviation sector and supports its growth and advancement.

# Chinese, Kuwaiti writers bridge cultures through literature

**By John C. Fernandes**
Online Media Manager – Arab Times

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 21: Chinese and Kuwaiti writers, publishers and literature enthusiasts gathered on November 19 for a China-Kuwait Literary Salon held at the China Cultural Center in Kuwait alongside the 49th Kuwait International Book Fair.

The event, themed "Stories and Storytelling: A Literary Gathering," was jointly organized by the China Cultural Center in Kuwait, the Kuwait Writers Association, China Intercontinental Press and Xinhua News Agency's Kuwait Bureau, attracting more than 50 participants.

Liu Jinhong, Director of the China Cultural Center in Kuwait, welcomed the gathering, emphasizing that storytelling provides an important bridge between cultures and expressing hope that the event would encourage literary cooperation and introduce outstanding works from both countries to wider audiences.

Sheikha Dr. Al-Anoud Ibrahim Al-Sabah, Founder of the Kuwait-China Friendship Club, highlighted the universal nature of human emotions and the deep connections people maintain with their homeland and cultural roots. QiuHongyan, Director of the Book Publishing Center at China Intercontinental Press, also attended.











Photos during an event themed "Stories and Storytelling: A Literary Gathering," jointly organized by the China Cultural Center in Kuwait, the Kuwait Writers Association, China Intercontinental Press and Xinhua News Agency's Kuwait Bureau.

The highlight was a literary dialogue between Chinese writer Lu Min, Vice Chairperson of the Jiangsu Writers Association, and Kuwaiti writer Abdullah Al-Busais, Secretary-General of the Kuwait Writers Association.

Their discussion covered four themes: "The Dining Table and Human Relationships," "Family in Changing Times," "Fiction and Storytelling," and "Connecting with Readers," exploring literary inspiration, family relationships, narrative techniques and cross-cultural reading.

Lu Min discussed Al-Busais's novel The Scent of the Wolf, highlighting its exploration of the relationships between humans, animals and nature, and its potential for translation and international readership.

Al-Busais introduced the cultural significance of the Diwaniya, a traditional Kuwaiti gathering where people exchange stories, recite poetry and preserve cultural memories. He also discussed Nabati poetry and its close connection with storytelling and oral traditions.

The writers further exchanged views on translating Chinese literature into Arabic and introducing Kuwaiti literary works to Chinese readers, highlighting translation as an important tool for promoting mutual understanding.

The programme included an audience question-and-answer session, a book exhibition featuring works by both authors and publications on Chinese culture, followed by book-signing activities.

The salon provided a platform for literary dialogue and publishing cooperation, further strengthening cultural and people-to-people exchanges between China and Kuwait.

# diwaniya ديوانية

A DIGEST OF PUBLIC OPINION

## Public conduct mirrors society's identity and deep-rooted values

"THE public conduct of individuals within any society serves as a window through which others view its culture and civilization," columnist Major General (ret.) **Faisal Musaed Al-Jazzaf** wrote for **Al-Seyassah** daily.

"It acts as a compass for measuring the maturity of a society's identity and the strength and cohesion of its value system.

From showing mutual respect on the roads and preserving public property to maintaining appropriate standards of conduct in both digital and face-to-face interactions, these everyday behaviors reflect a deep sense of belonging and a genuine commitment to the common good.

Consequently, there is an urgent need to strengthen public awareness of the importance of responsible conduct, as it represents a fundamental pillar in building more civilized, respectful, and harmonious societies.



Musaed Jazzaf

Public conduct, as a reflection of values and a safeguard of the social fabric, cannot be separated from a society's ethical, religious, and cultural principles. Rather, it is the practical expression of those deeply rooted values.

When individuals adhere to standards of public conduct, they are doing more than simply complying with the law. They are actively demonstrating the values of cooperation, altruism, respect for others, and shared responsibility.

Meanwhile, neglecting seemingly minor matters, such as littering, disturbing others, or disregarding regulations in public spaces, can gradually undermine the social fabric and weaken an individual's sense of belonging to their community.

Therefore, investing in the promotion of responsible public conduct is a direct investment in quality of life and the overall well-being of society.

Institutional and societal integration - a partnership for positive change Improving public conduct cannot be achieved through individual efforts or punitive measures alone. Rather, it requires a comprehensive and collaborative approach that brings together the government, society, and the family.

This can be achieved through several important areas:

1. The family as the foundation - The primary responsibility rests with the family, which plays a fundamental role in instilling sound principles and strong moral values in younger generations. Through parental example and everyday experiences, children learn to respect rules, public property, and the rights of others.

2. Educational and academic institutions - Schools and universities play a vital role in raising awareness by incorporating the principles of good citizenship and social responsibility into their curricula and student activities.

3. The role of the media - The media has a significant influence on shaping public opinion, promoting positive role models, discouraging negative behaviors, and reinforcing the values of citizenship and social responsibility.

Furthermore, we extend our sincere appreciation to the Ministry of Interior for the continuous presence of its patrols, their efforts to facilitate traffic flow across all roads, and the assistance they provide in the event of traffic accidents or vehicle breakdowns."

### Also:

"Shingles is a health condition with rising incidence rates, particularly among older adults, due to the gradual decline in cellular immunity associated with aging," Kuwaiti writer **Dr. Maryam Mohammed Al-Mutairi** wrote for **Al-Seyassah** daily.

"It may begin with subtle symptoms, such as a burning sensation or mild tingling in a specific area of the body, followed by the appearance of a skin rash. At this stage, some people may mistakenly assume that these symptoms indicate a temporary skin condition.

In reality, however, they may signal an infection caused by a neurotropic virus known as the shingles virus, which can lead to pain and complications that may persist for an extended period.

Fortunately, the Ministry of Health, in line with World Health Organization's recommendations, provides a preventive vaccine against shingles at designated Ministry of Health centers.

Although shingles can be treated after infection, recovery may take a prolonged period. Therefore, scientific studies have confirmed the effectiveness of vaccination in preventing the disease.

The illness typically begins with pain, a burning sensation, tingling, or increased skin sensitivity, followed by a rash that is often painful. The risk increases with age, and the condition can interfere with daily activities, including sleep and rest.

One of the most serious potential complications is inflammation of the brain (encephalitis), particularly in individuals with weakened immune systems.

Can shingles affect the face and eyes?

Yes. When shingles affect the area around or near the eye, it can lead to complications that may impair vision.

Therefore, the appearance of a painful rash around the forehead, nose, or, most importantly, the eye, particularly when accompanied by pain, redness, or visual disturbances, requires immediate medical attention.

Can a person develop shingles more than once?

Yes. Having had shingles in the past does not necessarily prevent a person from developing it again.

Therefore, prevention is best.

Is shingles contagious?

The virus that causes shingles does not spread from person to person in the same way as many other viruses. Transmission occurs primarily through direct contact with fluid from the skin rash.

Therefore, the rash should be kept covered, good hygiene should be maintained, and direct contact with others and the sharing of personal items should be avoided.

Studies have shown that the vaccine is safe and typically consists of two doses, administered according to the individual's age and immune status.

Research indicates that the vaccine's efficacy exceeds 90 percent, including among individuals over the age of 70.

Vaccination is also an option for individuals with compromised immune systems, including organ transplant recipients, stem cell transplant patients, and those receiving certain immunosuppressive treatments.

The most common vaccine side effects include pain at the injection site, fatigue, muscle aches, and headaches. These side effects can generally be managed with standard pain relievers.

Kuwait's approach is aligned with the World Health Organization's recommendations for preventing shingles.

The ministry has established a systematic approach to disease prevention, which includes data collection and statistical analysis through the Public Health Department and vaccination centers, alongside efforts to raise public awareness about shingles and its prevention.

The ministry has also begun developing a database on shingles (herpes zoster) to monitor important factors, including incidence rates, at-risk populations, age, gender, potential complications, the health status of affected individuals, the nature of the pain, and the geographic distribution of cases.

As physicians, we can play an important role in promoting a culture of prevention and actively encouraging vaccination.

This responsibility should not be limited to dermatology clinics. Rather, all physicians, whether working in primary healthcare, family medicine, internal medicine, oncology, rheumatology, or chronic disease management, should use every patient encounter as an opportunity to educate patients about prevention and encourage vaccination.

As the saying goes, "A small effort in prevention can save a great deal in treatment."

So, why wait to take action?"

❑ ❑ ❑

"On Sunday, November 15, His Highness the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad returned to his homeland, Kuwait, following the successful completion of his medical examinations abroad. This is undoubtedly one of the happiest occasions to grace our beloved country," Researcher in History and the Biographies of Rulers, and Honoring the Families of the Honorable Martyrs **Abdullah Abbas Buwair** wrote for **Al-Seyassah** daily.



Abbas Buwair

"This occasion is no less joyful than the national celebrations observed by all Kuwaitis and residents, including National Day and Liberation Day.

We celebrate the return of His Highness the Amir, the leader of our nation, Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad, to his homeland in good health.

We pray to Almighty God to bless him with continued health and well-being, enabling him to continue his journey, steer the nation toward safe harbor, and ensure that the law is applied equally to all, without discrimination between rich and poor, young and old, citizens and sheikhs.

The law has always existed, but it is His Highness who has truly brought it to life through its consistent and equal enforcement.

Everyone is now equal before the law. His Highness the Amir has demonstrated that there is no place in Kuwait today for favoritism or nepotism. Merit and hard work are the only criteria.

Speaking about His Highness the Amir is no simple matter. His Highness welcomes everyone, keeping his doors open to all segments of society. He listens attentively to the needs and concerns of his visitors and addresses their requests in a manner that pleases God and upholds the law.

When someone is wronged, His Highness stands up for them, as he does not tolerate injustice. In doing so, he follows the noble Prophetic teaching narrated by Anas bin Malik (may God be pleased with him), "The Messenger of God (PBUH) said, 'Support your brother, whether he is an oppressor or oppressed.' A man asked, 'O Messenger of God, how can I support him if he is an oppressor?' The Messenger of God replied, 'You support him by preventing him from committing injustice.'" (Narrated by Al-Bukhari).

Today, we rejoice and raise our hands to the heavens in gratitude to Almighty God for blessing us with an Amir who stands by his people.

May your eyes be gladdened, Kuwait, by the safe return of His Highness the Amir to his homeland."

**– Compiled by Simi K. Kutty**

# Seed, seedling switch … growing passion, green culture passed from hand to hand









KUNA photos

Top and above: Photos from the 'Seed and Seedling Exchange' event.

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 21, (KUNA): From a tiny seed holding the promise of a booming plant to a green seedling passed from hand to hand, gardening enthusiasts' joint passions came together at the "Seed and Seedling Exchange" event held Saturday at Al-Abraj Park in the Adailiya area.

The event featured around 90 booths with farmers, nursery owners, and hobbyists participating to showcase a wide variety of seeds and seedlings and bring together agricultural expertise to help disseminate farming culture and spur the community to take up gardening.

In an eco-friendly effort merging agriculture and sustainability, telecommunications company Zain offered visitors the opportunity to trade in electronic waste, such as damaged devices, old batteries, and charging cables, for seedlings and plants, promoting a culture of environmental conservation.

# Massive counterfeit goods haul uncovered in residential building

## Ghanaian arrested for selling abortion pills

**KUWAIT CITY, Nov 21: Inspectors from the Commercial Control and Consumer Protection Department at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry seized a warehouse located in an investment residential building containing a large and diverse stock of counterfeit goods bearing international trademarks. The seizure involved a total of 40,870 items, reports Al-Seyassah daily.**

In an official statement, the ministry explained that the seizure was carried out due to the violation of Law No. 13/2015 concerning the Trademark System and Law No. 20/2019 concerning the Unified System for Combating Commercial Fraud in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries.

The seized goods were confiscated, a commercial fraud violation report was issued, and the warehouse was immediately closed. All necessary legal measures were also taken against those responsible.

❑ ❑ ❑

**KD 150 price tag in illegal trade:** The Criminal Security Sector, represented by the General Department of Criminal Investigation, arrested a Ghanaian national for distributing and selling abortion pills in Mahboula, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

Acting on information received by the Sabahiya Investigation Office of the Ahmadi Investigation Department, detectives launched search and investigation operations, which led to the suspect's arrest and the seizure of five strips of abortion pills. The suspect confessed to selling each strip for KD 150.

He stated that an unidentified individual had contacted him using a Ghanaian phone number and provided him with locations where he could collect the pills for distribution and sale.

The suspect, along with the seized items, was referred to the relevant authorities for further legal action.

❑ ❑ ❑

**Police uncover meth and chemical drug supplies:** The Ministry of Interior, represented by the Criminal Security Sector, arrested four individuals in three separate cases involving the possession of narcotics and intoxicants for trafficking and personal use, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

In a press statement issued, the ministry explained that the total amount of items seized in the three cases included approximately 7 grams of methamphetamine, 31 A4-sized sheets of paper infused with the synthetic drug known as "chemical," electronic cigarettes containing chemical liquid, and a precision scale.

The suspects were referred with the seized items to the relevant authorities for further legal action.

❑ ❑ ❑

**KD 3,000 fine overturned:** The Court of Cassation overturned the rulings issued by the lower court and the Court of Appeals against a resident in a case involving the sale of counterfeit perfumes, reports Al-Anba daily.

The court acquitted the defendant of the charge of possessing counterfeit perfumes with the intent to sell them. He had previously been fined KD 3,000 and ordered to close his shop for three months.

In 2024, authorities in Hawally identified the defendant and charged him with violating Law No. 62/2007 concerning combating fraud in commercial transactions. The Misdemeanor Court fined him KD 3,000 and ordered the closure of his shop, a ruling that was subsequently upheld by the Court of Appeals.

The defendant's lawyer, Abdulrahman Al-Saeed, argued that the conviction was based on flawed reasoning, unsound logic, and a misapplication of the law.

He maintained that the case file contained insufficient evidence to establish his client's responsibility for the alleged offenses.

The defense emphasized the presumption of innocence, arguing that criminal convictions must be based on conclusive evidence rather than mere assumptions.

## MoI warns ATV drivers

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 21: The Ministry of Interior urged citizens and residents to refrain from driving all-terrain vehicles on highways, main roads, paved roads, in residential areas, or on sidewalks, warning that such practices pose a danger to drivers, pedestrians, and other road users, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

The ministry explained that violating vehicles will be impounded and their drivers referred to the relevant authorities following the completion of legal procedures. Violators may face imprisonment under Article 33-bis of the Traffic Law.

The ministry called on everyone to cooperate and report violations through the General Traffic Department's WhatsApp number 99324092.

## Egyptian child found dead at family home in Mahboula

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 21: Security authorities and the Public Prosecution launched an investigation to determine the circumstances surrounding the death of an Egyptian child inside his family's home in Mahboula, reports Al-Anba daily.

According to security sources, a report was received from the child's father, who said his son, born in 2015, had been found dead in his bedroom at the family residence in Mahboula. A patrol from the relevant police station was dispatched to the scene to examine the incident.

The Public Prosecutor also visited the scene and ordered the case to be registered under its initial legal classification, as documented in the official report. The forensic evidence team was instructed to collect evidence and examine the scene.

The Public Prosecution also ordered detectives to investigate and establish all the circumstances surrounding the child's death. A forensic doctor arrived at the scene, and the relevant authorities completed the necessary legal and technical procedures.

## Landmine explosion kills Bangladeshi shepherd

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 21: A Bangladeshi shepherd was killed when a landmine left over from the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait exploded while he was in the Al-Salmi desert, reports Al-Anba daily.

A nearby camel was also injured in the explosion.

The Ministry of Interior's Operations Room received a report of an explosion in a desert area of Al-Salmi. Authorities subsequently discovered the shepherd's body, which had sustained severe injuries.

According to security sources, security personnel and forensic investigators rushed to the scene. Initial investigations revealed that the shepherd, born in 1998, had died after accidentally stepping on an anti-personnel landmine left over from the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

The explosion also injured a nearby camel, which was found lying on the ground with visible injuries.





The diving team during the cleanup of Al-Jahra Reserve.



KUNA photos

Cleaning the Al-Mangaf coast with volunteers.

## Kuwait Diving Team launches coastal cleanup campaign

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 21, (KUNA): The Kuwaiti Diving Team launched a nationwide campaign to clean the country's coastlines and protect the marine environment, in cooperation with government and private entities, associations, schools, and volunteers, continuing until early April.

Team leader Waleed Al-Fadhel told KUNA on Saturday that members of the Indian community took part in the campaign's initial activities, cleaning Al-Manqaf coastline and removing large quantities of plastic waste and ropes.

Al-Fadhel added that the team also cleaned Al-Jahra Reserve, removing discarded fishing nets and large quantities of plastic waste to protect natural habitats and biodiversity.

He said the campaign aims to remove large quantities of solid and plastic waste washed into coastal areas through drainage systems, warning of the threat to marine ecosystems and biodiversity and the need to protect marine resources for future generations.

He explained the campaign raises environmental awareness, promotes sustainability and volunteerism, and strengthens community partnerships to preserve Kuwait's coastlines and nature reserves.

Al-Fadhel urged beachgoers to avoid littering and protect marine wildlife, calling on individuals, institutions, and schools to join upcoming cleanup activities by registering through the team's official social media accounts.

# Kuwait targets carbon neutrality by 2060 and 15% emissions cut by 2035 at COP31

### Over 8,000 mangrove seedlings planted

**KUWAIT CITY, Nov 21, (KUNA): The Environment Public Authority (EPA) said Kuwait's participation at the 31st Conference of the Parties (COP31) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, recently held in Antalya, Turkiye, reaffirms its commitment to international efforts to combat climate change and achieve sustainable development.**

EPA Acting Director General and head of Kuwait's delegation to the conference Nouf Behbehani told KUNA that Kuwait presented its National Low-Carbon Development Roadmap through 2060, approved by the Cabinet in 2025, aims to build a low-emission economy and pursue carbon neutrality across key sectors by 2060.

She said achieving this target would involve expanding renewable and solar energy, gradually replacing heavy fossil fuels with natural gas in electricity generation, improving energy efficiency, managing waste and strengthening natural carbon sinks, including mangrove forests.

Behbehani added that Kuwait is working to develop its third Nationally Determined Contribution, targeting an unconditional reduction of up to 15 percent of total emissions by 2035 through national projects and scientifically based methodologies that are measurable and verifiable.

She also said Kuwait is also continuing to adopt the Circular Carbon Economy approach, focusing on reducing, reusing, recycling and removing carbon emissions while leveraging modern technologies in line with national development priorities.



KUNA photo

Acting Director General of the Environment Public Authority, Nouf Behbehani, and Head of the State of Kuwait's delegation participating in the 31st Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP31).

Kuwait also participated in the fourth ministerial meeting of the Mangrove Alliance for Climate (MAC), held on the sidelines of the conference, where it showcased achievements of its national mangrove restoration project, launched in 2018 and implemented in nine phases, she said.

The project has resulted in the planting of more than 8,000 seedlings and thousands of seeds, as well as the rehabilitation of around 3,800 square meters at (Jahra Nature Reserve), alongside planting trials at other coastal sites. The trees have also successfully produced seeds locally since 2022.

The project involved regional cooperation with the United Arab Emirates, resulting in the planting of around 4,000 seeds during 2025 and 2026, while she commended contributions by Oman, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia.

She also stressed that Kuwait continues to develop its national capacity to propagate mangroves through the marine nursery at Jahra Nature Reserve, expand the use of locally sourced seeds and study new planting sites to strengthen climate resilience and preserve biodiversity and coastal ecosystems.

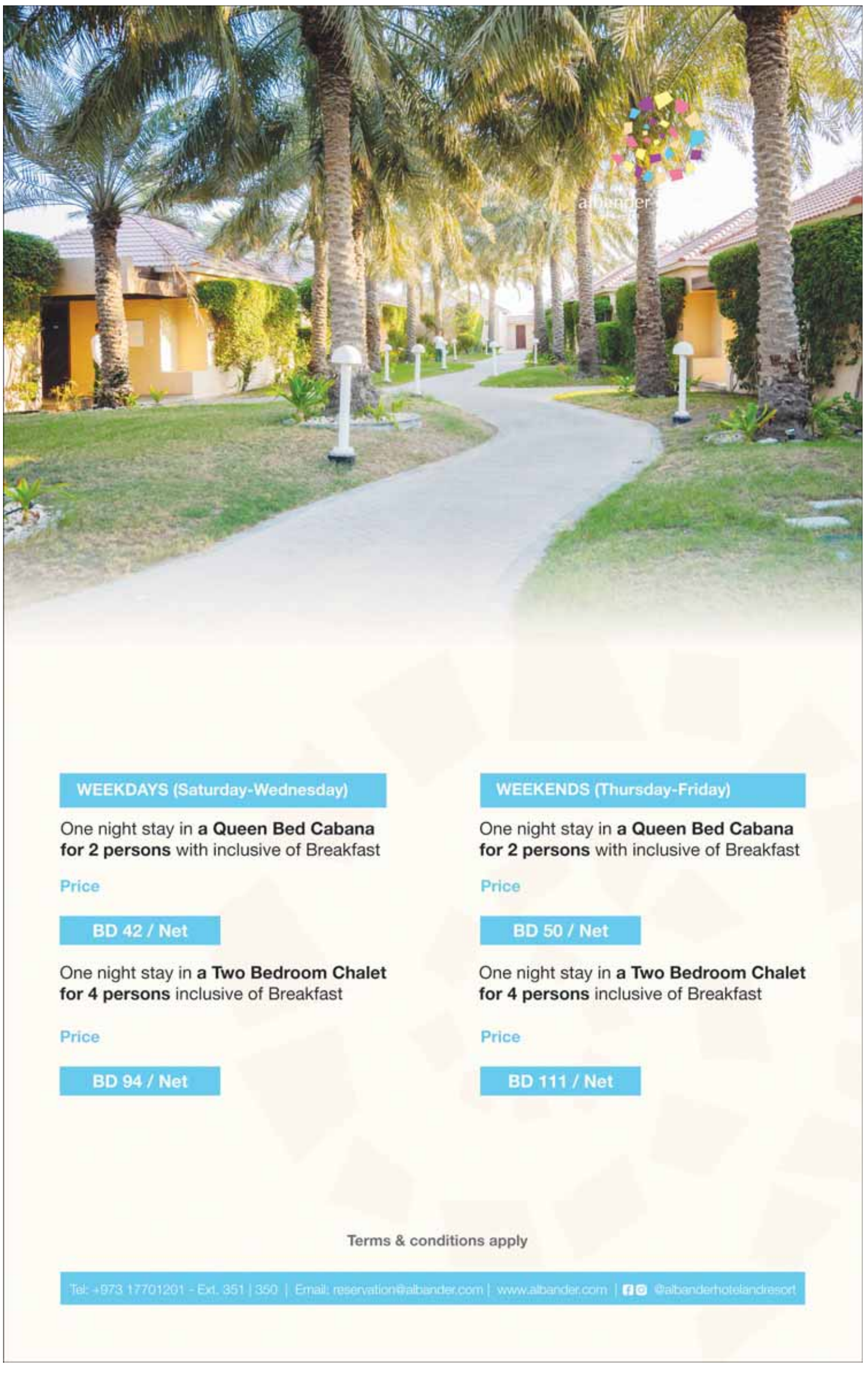
Behbehani said the EPA has adopted a unified environmental sustainability reporting system for government entities based on measurable national indicators, enhancing transparency and accountability while embedding sustainability in government planning and decision-making.

She underscored the importance of balancing climate ambition with energy security, economic stability and development priorities, while meeting international commitments related to climate finance, technology transfer and capacity-building.

Such efforts, she said, should enable developing countries to implement mitigation and adaptation programs without compromising their right to sustainable development, while respecting each country's right to determine suitable pathways and technologies according to its national circumstances, guided by the principles of equity, justice and common but differentiated responsibilities.

She highlighted the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development's international development and humanitarian role, noting that since its establishment in 1961, the fund has financed 1,043 development projects in 108 countries, with total funding exceeding USD 22 billion, reflecting Kuwait's approach to international solidarity and development support.

She affirmed Kuwait and EPA's commitment to continued cooperation, knowledge exchange with brotherly countries, and stronger partnerships to protect the environment and address climate change, expressing hope that the conference outcomes would translate pledges into action.




# Kuwait reaffirms call for ME free of nuke weapons, WMDs

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 21, (KUNA): The State of Kuwait reiterated on Friday the importance of establishing a Middle East free of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction (WMDs).

Second Secretary at Kuwait's Permanent Mission to the UN in Vienna Dr. Sarah Al-Ajmi made the remarks during the meetings of the IAEA Board of Governors.

She called for subjecting all Israeli occupation nuclear facilities to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Comprehensive Safeguards System and for obliging the Israeli occupation to join the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

Al-Ajmi expressed Kuwait's support for the statements delivered by the Arab Group under this agenda item, restating its commitment to creating a nuclear- and WMD-free Middle East in line with the 1995 NPT Review Conference resolution and the outcomes of the 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences.

She also reaffirmed the IAEA's essential role as the competent authority for implementing the comprehensive safeguards system and the primary guarantor for verifying the peaceful nature of nuclear programs, noting that all Middle Eastern countries adhere to the NPT and apply comprehensive safeguards agreements, with the exception of the Israeli occupation, which is an occupying power.

The Israeli occupation continues to refuse to subject all its nuclear facilities to the IAEA's comprehensive safeguards system, and also rejects initiatives aimed at enabling the IAEA to apply this system in the Middle East or taking solemn steps toward establishing a nuclear and WMD-freed region, she stressed.

She pointed to the Israeli occupation's continued non-compliance and flagrant violations of resolutions of international legitimacy, recalling, in this regard, the resolution concerning the convening of a conference to establish a nuclear- and WMD-free as well as relevant Security Council resolutions, including Resolution 487, which demanded the Israeli occupation to be put under the IAEA safeguards system.

In conclusion, the Kuwaiti diplomat called on the international community to live up to its responsibilities by urging the Israeli occupation to join the NPT.




KUNA photo

Second Secretary at Kuwait's Permanent Mission to the UN in Vienna Dr. Sarah Al-Ajmi makes remarks during the meetings of the IAEA Board of Governors.



Group photo.



Photos by Rezq Tawfiq
Hisham Al-Bassam, Omar Al-Omar, Counselors Darrar Al-Asousi and Hussein Al-Huraithi, and Jamal Al-Omar



Omar Jamal Al-Omar, Sheikh Yousef Al-Abdullah, and Dr. Issa Al-Issa

## Al-Omar welcomes guests at Adailiya diwaniya gathering

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 21: Jamal Al-Omar welcomed guests in a friendly atmosphere filled with warmth and fellowship at the Al-Omar Diwaniya in Adailiya -- a manifestation of the deeply rooted Kuwaiti traditions of hospitality and social connection, reports Al-Seyassah daily.

During the gathering, guests engaged in friendly conversations on public affairs and important social issues, affirming the vital role that diwaniyas play in strengthening community ties and fostering closer bond among citizens.

Al-Omar expressed his heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to everyone who attended, commending their unwavering commitment to maintain such valued social ties. He also wished all his guests lasting good health, happiness and success.



Moroccan Ambassador Ali Ibn Issa, Editor-in-Chief Ahmed Al-Jarallah, Jamal Al-Omar, Omar Al-Omar, and Saud Al-Farhan



Salem Dhiyab, Al-Omr, and the Iraqi Ambassador, Dr. Osama Al-Nashi



Omar Al-Omar, Mohammed Jaafar, and Mubarak Jaafar



Dr. Nasser Al-Ajil and Dr. Bader Al-Omar



Omar Al-Omar and lawyer Abdullah Al-Kandari

# 'Partnership, dialogue mark strategic basis for Gulf relations'

RIYADH, Nov 21, (KUNA): GCC Secretary General Jasem Al-Budaiwi said Saturday the GCC states have made partnership and dialogue a strategic foundation in their relations with their neighborhood and partners, and are keen to build ties that support security and stability and open broader horizons for shared development and prosperity.

Al-Budaiwi made the remarks while addressing the parliamentary event titled "Addressing Shared Challenges through Dialogue and Cooperation," held as part of the 2026 Mediterranean Dialogues Forum on Friday at the Royal Palace in Naples, Italy, with the participation of chairpersons and members of foreign affairs committees from a number of parliaments.

He expressed his deep appreciation to the parliaments of the Mediterranean states for their stances of solidarity with the GCC states regarding the Iranian attacks, and their support for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in confronting the terrorist assaults by the Houthi militia.

"The developments witnessed in the region during the current year, along with their accompanying repercussions on energy and food prices and maritime navigation, have underlined the deep linkage between Gulf security and the stability of the global economy," he said.

The GCC states have adhered to a steadfast approach based on de-escalation, dialogue, and respect for state sovereignty, while maintaining the continuity of their economic activity and the flow of energy supplies to global markets, including European markets, he added.

Moreover, he pointed out that the GCC states' ability to navigate these circumstances rests on a 45-year journey of institutional building and joint Gulf action, saying that this experience has proven the significance of integration and coordination in facing crises and safeguarding achievements, and has reinforced the GCC's standing as a reliable partner in backing security and stability.

He also reviewed the economic transformations underway in the GCC states and the expansion of their non-oil sectors, including tourism, financial services, logistics, advanced industries, and renewable energy, noting the role of qualified and ambitious youth in spearheading these transformations.

Furthermore, he highlighted the contribution of Gulf investments in Mediterranean countries, particularly in the ports, energy, tourism, and infrastructure sectors, in creating job opportunities and advancing mutual interests.

The GCC chief touched upon the GCC integration experience and its successes in the Customs Union, the GCC Common Market, and the power grid interconnection, alongside ongoing work on the GCC Railway project. He affirmed that this experience offers a practical model of the benefits that regional cooperation can deliver for citizens and economies.

He stressed that partnership is founded on mutual commitments, including opening markets, clear rules, ensuring fair treatment for Gulf investments and trade, and facilitating the movement of citizens and the business sector.

In this context, he referred to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on strategic dialogue and economic cooperation signed by the General Secretariat with the Italian side last July, and the importance of backing its implementation to achieve practical results.

In conclusion, he pointed to the convening of the Second Conference of Speakers of GCC Legislative Councils and the European Parliament in Brussels on 16 October, stressing the keenness to expand parliamentary communication channels between the Gulf and the Mediterranean, given the opportunities they provide to sustain dialogue and bridge viewpoints, particularly during difficult circumstances.



KUNA photo
GCC Secretary General Jasem Al-Budaiwi addressing the parliamentary event titled "Addressing Shared Challenges through Dialogue and Cooperation."

Continued from Page 1

## 'The Souk

On the other hand, officials must recognize that the state budget includes debts classified as collectible. However, over time, these debts become uncollectible and are written off, turning into a compounded loss.

Therefore, the budget deficit cannot be allowed to persist because of bad debts.

Addressing these debts today could provide a way to bridge the budget deficit. More importantly, it would encourage heirs and surviving debtors to resume work and productive activities.

The tragic irony is that imposing 15 percent interest on outstanding debts in the event of default has only increased their value. In other words, debtors now need another bailout, as though Law No. 41/1993 was designed to create insolvency rather than rescue those affected by the crisis.

Based on this, 668 pending cases, involving a total of KD 7 billion, are still unresolved. Adding the operational costs of the agency responsible for handling these cases increases the cost annually to no avail.

As a general rule, the state's right to claim public debts expires after 15 years, while the limitation period is five years for taxes, fees, and amounts paid to employees without legal justification.

This raises an important question for officials - Would it not be appropriate to write off and cancel these debts and settle the final accounts to bring an end to the predicament of the ongoing Souk Al-Manakh crisis, which has persisted for nearly 44 years? Shouldn't the millions spent annually on the supervisors and employees of the agency tasked with addressing this crisis be saved?

I raised this question in February, and I reiterate it today in response to the Quranic verse – "And remind, for indeed, the reminder benefits the believers."

## Capital corners

The campaign resulted in the arrest of 58 individuals for violating residency and labor laws, 45 individuals wanted for absconding or holding expired residency permits, and seven individuals found in possession of narcotics. Also, seven individuals wanted for arrest, six individuals wanted in civil cases involving financial matters, and six individuals wanted in criminal cases were apprehended.

The campaign also resulted in the issuance of several traffic citations, the impoundment of 18 vehicles wanted for judicial seizure, and the impoundment of five motorcycles at the traffic impound lot. Five individuals were referred to the traffic police station, while two undocumented workers were apprehended.

According to the statement, KFF administratively closed 28 shops and issued 27 closure warnings. Meanwhile, Kuwait Municipality removed 31 abandoned vehicles.

## Turkiye puts

He indicated that the progress achieved to date could be a strong basis for further development, while the available opportunities call for intensified joint efforts to translate the existing potential into concrete initiatives and accomplishments.

Asked about the stance of Turkiye on the attacks against Kuwait during the regional crisis, Ouz confirmed that Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoan reached out to HH the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah within the first 24 hours of the aggression. He reaffirmed Ankara's full support for Kuwait and its unequivocal condemnation of the attacks on the country and other Gulf states.

He stressed that Turkiye will continue standing beside Kuwait, as the latter's security and stability are fundamental to safeguarding the region as a whole. He stated that cooperation between the two nations has been proven to be a driving force beyond political understanding into effective collaboration during periods of crisis.

On prospects for future military cooperation, he cited Kuwait's purchase of the Turkish 'Bayraktar' system in 2023, which signaled the beginning of a promising new chapter in bilateral defense relations. He revealed that Turkiye achieved substantial progress in developing its military and technological capabilities, hence, creating extensive opportunities for closer collaboration with Kuwait and other Gulf countries.

He recalled that the intergovernmental agreement related to the defense industry was signed when HH the Amir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad visited Ankara two years ago. He said the agreement is the principal framework governing collaboration between the relevant institutions and companies in both countries.

He also stressed that Ankara is keen to take this partnership to more advanced stages through expanded joint initiatives and the exchange of technical expertise and industrial capabilities. He added that Turkish institutions strongly support widening the scope of defense cooperation with Kuwait.

On economic relations, he disclosed that the value of Kuwaiti investments in Turkiye exceeds $2 billion, whereas the value of Turkish investments in Kuwait is around $70 million and the interest of Turkish businesses in the Kuwaiti market continues to grow steadily. He stated that Turkish companies have completed 54 projects in Kuwait since 2013, at a total value of $10 billion. He explained that these figures demonstrate the extensive involvement of Turkish companies in construction and infrastructure, while reflecting the Kuwaiti market's confidence in their expertise and capabilities. He added that bilateral trade has exceeded $1 billion, although the current figure remains below what the two economies could achieve. He stressed that both countries intend to raise the value of their commercial exchange to $5 billion in the coming period.

On political coordination, he revealed that Kuwait and Turkiye are making preparations for another session of the Kuwaiti-Turkish Strategic Dialogue. He disclosed that discussions are ongoing to agree on a suitable date, finalize the agenda, and determine the overall framework of the session.

Regarding food security cooperation, he affirmed the growing significance of this matter, particularly in view of global challenges and disruptions to international trade movements and supply chains. He believes that resolving regional crises through political and diplomatic channels will lead to market stability and the reliability of food supplies, especially in countries most vulnerable to economic uncertainty.

## S&P affirms

Developing the legislative framework governing public debt instruments will help diversify funding sources through conventional and Islamic financing instruments, broaden the investor base and improve access to domestic and international debt markets, thereby enhancing the efficiency of public debt management in line with the state's financing needs, he noted.

The approval of the decree-law on mortgage financing for eligible housing welfare beneficiaries also represents an important step in developing Kuwait's housing finance system, he said, noting that it expands financing options available to eligible citizens and strengthens the participation of the banking and financial sectors in housing.

S&P Global Ratings is one of the world's leading credit rating agencies, and its ratings serve as an important reference for investors and financial institutions in assessing countries' creditworthiness and their ability to meet financial obligations, he added.

## Kuwaiti investment

He confirmed that the two sides are keen on broadening their collaboration in the years ahead, particularly in logistics, investment and industry, by making effective use of available opportunities and the economic resources of both countries.

He also revealed that business delegations from several sectors recently traveled to Oman to assess investment prospects and establish closer links between the two countries' business communities. He expressed optimism that Kuwaiti investments in the Sultanate will continue to increase in the coming years.

On institutional cooperation, he stated that the 11th meeting of the Omani-Kuwaiti Joint Committee, held this year in Oman's Wilayat of Jabal Al Akhdar and co-chaired by the foreign ministers of the two countries, is a proof of their shared determination to strengthen bilateral ties and address issues of mutual concern. He pointed out that the periodic meetings of the committee affirm the commitment of both leaders to expand cooperation in several areas. He added that political relations have progressed to an advanced level, characterized by ongoing coordination and regular consultations.

He indicated that tourism is one of the pillars of Oman Vision 2040, disclosing that the the Sultanate offers a wide variety of attractions, ranging from mountains and coastlines to natural landscapes, making it an appealing destination for tourists with different preferences.

On the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) railway project, he considers it one of the important projects of GCC member states due to its anticipated economic, commercial and tourism benefits.

Commenting on regional developments and Oman's diplomatic efforts to mediate disputes and ease tensions, he asserted that the foreign policy of his country is based on dialogue, consultation, and the promotion of peaceful conflict resolution, rather than war or military intervention. He stated that experience proved that military action cannot provide lasting solutions to crises and disagreements. He reiterated Oman's call for easing tensions and giving priority to dialogue to protect national security and the stability of peoples.

He said Oman has built a good reputation and gained the trust of numerous regional and international parties over several decades. "This standing has enabled the Sultanate to undertake diplomatic initiatives distinguished by neutrality and credibility," he added. He emphasized that such confidence was earned through years of commitment to maintaining balanced positions and pursuing a consistent foreign policy.

He revealed that this approach was originally established by the late Sultan Qaboos bin Said and continues under Sultan Haitham bin Tariq, further consolidating Oman's international standing and its contribution to regional and global stability.

He affirmed that Kuwait and Oman have similar views on addressing regional crises, favoring peaceful settlement, dialogue and consultation. He also highlighted the continuous coordination between the foreign ministries of both countries on regional developments and matters of mutual concern.

Regarding the Omani community living in Kuwait, he estimated that there are around 2,000 Omanis here. He clarified that the Omani presence in Kuwait has a long history, predating the formal establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries by many years.

With regard to tourism, he disclosed that Oman received about 30,000 visitors from Kuwait this year, based on the statistics available to him. He is hoping that the number of visitors will continue to increase, reflecting the growing interest among Kuwaitis in exploring the Sultanate's tourist attractions.

## War fears

The diplomat, who spoke on condition of anonymity due to the sensitivity of the conversations, said those countries that are seeking to mediate put little confidence in public posturing from both the U.S. and Iran and took seriously only statements made in closed-door negotiations.

The Associated Press has reported that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has pushed for the U.S. to restart the war or allow Israel to launch airstrikes on Iran's nuclear facilities and missile capabilities.

Iran has widened its attacks on its Gulf neighbors in the last week, targeting a U.S. air base in Kuwait and launching several attacks on Bahrain following a U.S. fighter jet striking a Revolutionary Guard missile launch site Tuesday on Qeshm Island in the Strait of Hormuz.

It had been about two months since Tehran had ordered such attacks targeting U.S. facilities in neighboring countries, and the country said it was in response to U.S. drone surveillance operations and an attack on Iranian communications towers.

Analysts described the tit-for-tat but somewhat measured attacks as part of a larger signaling from both sides that despite external pressure to reengage, there is little appetite or capability from either to return to the height of the war.

"The level of kinetic activity, the open threats both sides are leveling against the other, underscores that this is an incredibly volatile moment," said Mona Yacoubian, director of the Middle East program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

# Dar AlMuhama brings legal and business leaders together at GC Elite Leaders Kuwait

## Kuwait's first programme of its kind highlights role of general counsel in shaping business decisions



**KUWAIT CITY, Nov 21: GC Elite announced the honourees of GC Elite Leaders Kuwait 2026, the first programme of its kind in Kuwait, at a ceremony on Tuesday evening, 17 November, at Jumeirah Messilah Beach. Held in partnership with Dar AlMuhama, the programme's Exclusive Country Partner in Kuwait, the ceremony brought together general counsel and senior executives to recognise in-house legal leaders who have helped guide investment decisions, strengthen governance and manage risk within their organisations.**































Some photos from the event.

The honourees were selected through independent research conducted by GC Elite, informed by a survey of peers across Kuwait's legal community. GC Elite led the research, assessed the findings and selected the honourees. Dar AlMuhama helped develop the programme in Kuwait and organise the ceremony. The firm also produced a video series exploring how in-house counsel weigh opportunities against risks and present options to management.

Addressing the honourees, Abdulrahman Alhouti, Managing Partner of Dar AlMuhama, said, "Your most important contributions may never appear in an annual report, a newspaper headline or an award submission. Their impact is evident in the decisions your organisations make, the risks they avoid and the trust they place in you."

Gurpartap Basra, CEO of GC Elite, said, "Our research in Kuwait underscores how far the role of general counsel has evolved. Around three quarters of respondents sit on their organisation's executive committee or leadership team, and 38.4% spend more than half their working time on strategic business matters. Their role goes well beyond responding to legal problems as they arise. They are business leaders who help shape decisions, manage risk and influence the direction of their organisations."

In his keynote address, Mohammad Badr Al-Jouan spoke directly to business owners and executives. "Give your general counsel the resources they need. Often, the most expensive lawyer is the one you did not consult when the time was right." Drawing on his investment experience, he explained why general counsel should be involved from the outset of any transaction. Expected returns may justify an investment, he said, but the real test of a deal's value comes after signing, when the organisation must be able to protect its rights and enforce the terms it agreed to. "Opportunity attracts capital," Al-Jouan said. "Trust keeps it there."

Amr Wageeh, adviser to the GC Elite Board in Kuwait, described a situation familiar to in-house counsel. Management brings forward a proposal and asks whether to proceed or stop. "I believe legal leadership is most evident when we offer a third answer," he said. "There is a better way forward." He urged the audience to judge the success of in-house counsel by the quality of the decisions they help improve and to make room for the next generation of legal leaders. He concluded, "Your title may earn you a seat at the table. Trust gives you a voice. Sound judgement and the courage to exercise it give that voice weight."

At the programme's launch, Alhouti set out what Dar AlMuhama and GC Elite hoped to achieve through the partnership. "Through this partnership, we aim to strengthen connections and encourage the exchange of experience among in-house legal leaders, helping to build a more closely connected professional community that supports institutions, businesses and investors in Kuwait." At the ceremony, he summed up what that meant for the honourees and their peers. "No legal leader should have to face every challenge alone."

Dar AlMuhama congratulates the honourees on this recognition. The firm believes one of the programme's most lasting contributions will be the professional relationships it fosters, so that when in-house counsel face a complex issue, they can turn to a colleague at another organisation who has faced it before and can share what they learnt.

# Business

## Kuwaiti crude oil down $1.14 to $80.74

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 21, (KUNA): The price of Kuwaiti oil went down USD 1.14 to reach USD 80.74 per barrel (pb) in Friday's trading, from USD 81.88 pb the previous day, according to Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) on Saturday.

In global markets, Brent crude went up by 59 cents to USD 92.57 pb, while US West Texas Intermediate rose by 77 cents to USD 83.98 pb.

**Bid to attract global investment under Vision 2035**

## Kuwait accelerates economic reforms

**By Haitham Salah**

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 21, (KUNA): Kuwait is pursuing a series of economic and development initiatives aimed at strengthening the national economy, improving the investment climate and accelerating strategic projects, alongside updating legislation governing commercial and financial activities, expanding digital transformation and harnessing modern technologies.

These efforts form part of the country's strategy to diversify revenue sources, increase private sector participation in economic activity, attract foreign investment and improve resource management, to support the goals of the "New Kuwait Vision 2035" and the economy's resilience to regional and global developments.

International economic indicators reflect positive growth forecasts, as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) forecasted real GDP growth of 2.6 percent in 2025 and 3.8 percent in 2026, with non-oil GDP growth of 2.7 percent and 3 percent respectively, supported by increased public investments and improved performance of non-oil sectors.

Kuwait has taken significant steps to develop public finance management and strengthen financing flexibility.

A key measure was the issuance of Decree-Law No. 60 of 2025 on Financing and Liquidity, which established a legal framework for public borrowing, set a public debt ceiling of KD 30 billion (approximately USD 92 billion) and authorized financial instruments with maturities of up to 50 years.

The framework aims to diversify funding sources, broaden liquidity management options and finance budgetary requirements and development projects, enhancing the ability for long-term financial planning.

In 2026, Kuwait introduced further legislation to expand financing instruments and public asset management, including Law No. 90 of 2026 on Government Sukuk and Decree-Law No. 81 of 2026 related to borrowing from future generations' reserves under specific conditions and safeguards, expanding the financial instruments available to the state while considering the sustainability of resources and the rights of future generations.

As part of efforts to improve the legislative and commercial environment, Decree-Law No. 78 of 2026 on Combating Commercial Concealment was issued, comprising of 14 articles that seeks to prevent unlicensed economic activities and arrangements allowing others to conduct business unlawfully through the use of another party's trade name, commercial license or registration.

The law is a step towards strengthening transparency, protecting fair competition and curbing the misuse of commercial licenses, thereby improving market regulation and safeguarding the rights of investors and licensed business owners.

In September 2026, the Cabinet approved a draft decree-law amending certain provisions of Companies Law No. 1 of 2016, aiming to simplify company formation procedures, strengthen confidence in commercial transactions and establish a more flexible and transparent business environment. Once enacted and implemented, the changes are expected to reduce paperwork on businesses.

In another step to enhance the investment environment, Decree-Law No. 120 of 2026 issued the Arbitration Law and published in the Official Gazette (Kuwait Al-Yawm) on October 18, 2026, including an integrated system for regulating arbitration in Kuwait. The law aims to develop dispute resolution mechanisms, especially commercial and investment.

Kuwait also issued Decree-Law No. 10 of 2026 regulating the digital commerce sector, establishing a legislative framework for commercial transactions conducted through digital platforms, supporting the growth of e-commerce, and keeping pace with developments in the digital economy.

As part of efforts to address housing challenges and developing financing tools, Decree-Law No. 114 of 2026 was issued concerning real estate financing for those eligible for housing care, aiming to expand citizens' options by enabling financing from banks and financing and investment companies supervised by the Central Bank of Kuwait, alongside the Kuwait Credit Bank.

The financing can be used to purchase units from real estate developers or build government plots, with the State bearing the interest on the subsidized financing according to the established regulations, setting a maximum repayment period of 25 years and provides for the possibility of rescheduling distressed financing for up to five years. Implementation to begin after the publication of its executive regulations.

Regarding the development of the real estate sector, Law No. 118 of 2023 concerning real estate developers aims to enhance private sector participation in the establishment and economic development of residential areas by establishing companies responsible for implementing integrated housing projects that include residential, commercial, and service components, thereby reducing the state's executive and financial burdens.

The amendments to the law under Decree-Law No. 89 of 2025 included enhancing the flexibility of company establishment, expanding residential product options, and regulating standards and technical specifications for projects. The measures are intended to diversify housing supply, accelerate implementation and attract investment, complementing the real estate finance law to facilitate the purchase of units from developers.

Kuwait has also witnessed growing interest from international financial and investment institutions during 2025 and 2026, reflecting opportunities in the local market across financial services, technology and infrastructure.

These developments included the opening of a BlackRock office in September 2025 and a Goldman Sachs office in October of the same year, alongside other international institutions. Their presence is expected to support the transfer of expertise and broaden investment and financial services.

The Shaheen project emerged as one of the most important investment deals after the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) announced the lease-and-leaseback agreement for Kuwait's domestic pipeline network for crude oil export, with a total value of USD 16 billion. The largest foreign direct investment in Kuwait's history, according to the corporation.

Expected proceeds amount to about USD 7.8 billion, supporting capital expenditure and plans to increase production capacity to 4 million barrels per day by 2035.

The partnership demonstrates Kuwait's ability to attract long-term international investment and benefit from global expertise and capital in developing strategic infrastructure, while retaining national ownership of the assets, operational control and production and refining decisions.

Alongside major investment agreements, Kuwait has recorded notable progress in attracting foreign direct investment, with newly approved investments reaching approximately KD 948 million (USD 3.1 billion) during fiscal year 2025/2026, through 17 new investment entities, according to data from the Kuwait Direct Investment Promotion Authority (KDIPA).

Thus, the total cumulative approved investments from 2015 until the end of March 2026 rose to about KD 2.92 billion (approximately USD 9.6 billion), reflecting an expanding investor base and broader opportunities in the Kuwaiti market.

These figures highlight the government's efforts to attract value-added investments, transferring technology and expertise, create employment opportunities and increase private-sector participation, particularly infrastructure, telecommunications, technology, energy and services sectors.

These developments complement the Shaheen project, highlighting two parallel approaches to attracting investment: securing global capital for major strategic projects and expanding the presence of foreign companies across various economic sectors.

Meanwhile, the government continues to implement strategic projects aimed at modernizing infrastructure and improving public services, including Mubarak Al-Kabeer Port, and the new passenger terminal at Kuwait International Airport.

Kuwait is also advancing its technological infrastructure and adopting artificial intelligence as part of broader efforts to build a more efficient digital economy, improve government services and increase institutional productivity.

In this context, Kuwait launched fifth-generation advanced telecommunications technology (5G Advanced) in June 2025, with speeds of up to three gigabits per second, enhancing telecommunications networks' capacity.

Government cooperation with global technology companies has also expanded, particularly with Google Cloud, to develop cloud services and data centers. The partnership has included the use of Apigee application programming interfaces (APIs) to facilitate data exchange between government entities and strengthen digital integration.

Cooperation with Microsoft has included providing Copilot tools to government entities and expanding their use in administrative operations, data analysis and service development.

These initiatives are accompanied by efforts to train national personnel and enhance their digital skills to meet the requirements of the future economy.

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry continues to develop services for business owners and investors by expanding electronic services and simplifying company incorporation and licensing procedures, to reduce the time and effort required to complete procedures.

These efforts are complemented by new legislations addressing digital commerce, commercial concealment and amendments to the Companies Law, supporting market regulation, facilitating investor entry and strengthening confidence in commercial transactions.

Kuwait's economic and legislative developments during 2025 and 2026 reflect a broader drive to enhance economic competitiveness through updating legislations, attracting investment, accelerating strategic projects and digital transformation, to support sustainable growth, increase productivity, expand non-oil exports and achieve the objectives of Kuwait Vision 2035, establishing the country as a regional financial, commercial and investment hub.

Offering investors Shariah-compliant solutions

## KIB Invest expands its investment offering with three funds across money markets and equities

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 21: KIB Invest, the investment arm of Kuwait International Bank (KIB), announced that three Shariah-compliant funds are now available to investors: the KD Money Market Fund, the USD Money Market Fund, and the KIB Kuwait Equity Fund. Accessible through the KIB Invest mobile app, the funds provide investors with greater choice across different investment objectives and horizons, while offering a convenient digital investment experience. The expansion reflects KIB Invest's continued focus on broadening access to Shariah-compliant investment solutions and enhancing the client experience through digital channels.

Commenting on the announcement, Jamal Al-Barrak, Chief Executive Officer of KIB Invest, said: "Expanding our fund offering represents another important step in our strategy to provide clients with a comprehensive range of Shariah-compliant investment solutions that respond to their evolving needs. With money market funds in both Kuwaiti Dinar and US Dollars, alongside the KIB Kuwait Equity Fund, investors now have greater choice in selecting the funds that best align with their financial objectives and investment horizons."

Al-Barrak further explained: "Together, the three funds address a spectrum of investment needs, from short-term liquidity management and capital preservation to longer-term capital growth through Shariah-compliant equities. This enables us to serve our customers with different objectives while continuing to open more opportunities available to them through KIB Invest."

The KD Money Market Fund is designed for investors seeking capital preservation and liquidity in Kuwaiti Dinar. It invests in highly liquid short- and medium-term Shariah-compliant money market instruments and aims to deliver competitive returns while offering flexible access to capital through weekly liquidity. With no subscription or redemption fees and a minimum investment of KD 1,000, the Fund offers investors a flexible solution for managing surplus cash.



Jamal Al-Barrak, Chief Executive Officer of KIB Invest

The USD Money Market Fund is designed for investors seeking to manage their US dollar liquidity. It invests in short-term USD instruments that comply with Shariah principles and aims to generate stable returns while maintaining an emphasis on capital preservation and liquidity. It offers weekly liquidity, with a minimum investment of USD 5000.

For investors with a longer-term investment horizon, the KIB Kuwait Equity Fund seeks to achieve capital appreciation through a diversified portfolio of Shariah-compliant equities listed on Boursa Kuwait. The Fund is managed by KIB Invest's experienced investment team and has a minimum investment requirement of KD 1,000.

Together, the three funds further strengthen KIB Invest's growing suite of investment solutions and reinforce its strategy of offering clients options across different asset classes, investment horizons, and risk profiles.

All three funds can be accessed directly through the KIB Invest mobile app, extending the investment journey from account opening to portfolio monitoring through a single digital channel. Investors can open an investment account, subscribe to and redeem fund units, and monitor their portfolios and investment performance in real time from their mobile devices. The app combines access to professionally managed investment solutions with a simple and seamless digital experience and is available for download on the App Store and Google Play. For more information, visit www.kibinvest.com or contact funds@kibinvest.com.

It is worth noting that KIB Invest remains focused on expanding its Shariah-compliant investment offering, strengthening its investment capabilities, and leveraging technology to make its services more accessible to investors. At the same time, the company continues to maintain high standards of governance, transparency, and regulatory compliance as it develops solutions that respond to evolving investor needs.

It should be noted that the past performance of investment funds is not an indication of their future results. Investors should read the fund's prospectus before making any investment decision.

**Other Voices**

## Crude oil vs. value-added petroleum products

**By Kamel Al-Harami**
Independent Oil Analyst

THE real challenge lies in the difference between selling crude oil in its raw form and processing it into finished petroleum products with significantly higher added value. This translates into higher profit margins, a bigger customer base, and direct exposure to household consumers. The added value comes from dealing directly with the end customer on a daily basis, meeting their needs, and building lasting relationships to retain their loyalty.



Kamel Al-Harami

This reflects the current state of the oil market. While crude oil is readily available almost everywhere, the real supply squeeze is affecting finished refined products, which are now in greater demand. With winter approaching, the need for heating oil is also increasing.

The pressure on heating oil supplies is significant, with more than 50 percent of Russian refining capacity out of operation. Whether the actual figure is lower, at around 30 percent, as Russia claims, the underlying fact is that this is the time of year when heating oil demand rises and refineries should be operating at full capacity, creating excellent profit margins.

Regardless of which figure is correct, the situation means greater demand for supplies from outside sources to fill the gap. The United States is the only country capable of meeting such a large volume of heating oil demand. This could eventually lead to further increases in domestic petroleum product prices in the United States, as exporting refined products becomes more attractive to American refiners.

It is always finished petroleum products that are in demand. Producing crude oil alone does not generate the same level of added value. This is what drives the expansion of refineries and the production of refined petroleum products, creating greater added value while increasing the number of customers and locations

This is where Kuwait's oil industry stands ahead of other oil-producing countries. Its finished petroleum products reach customers across the globe, supported by six refineries located in and outside the Arabian Gulf region, extending as far east as Vietnam and west to the Milazzo refinery in Italy. Domestic refining capacity totals 1.4 million barrels per day, with three additional refineries in Oman, Vietnam, and Milazzo, Italy, providing a combined capacity of 600,000 barrels per day.

Kuwait's oil industry has not stopped at the refinery gate. It has gone further by establishing direct relationships with customers through service stations that serve their daily needs. These stations offer a wide range of services, including laundry, groceries, and postal services, making them almost a second home for customers. They operate around the clock, 24 hours a day.

These are the types of services provided by Q8 stations in Europe and Vietnam, with the concept eventually returning to Kuwait, its original home.

Kuwait must do everything possible to extract the maximum added value from its oil resources, remain competitive with its peers, and, whenever possible, stay ahead of them. This is particularly important in highly competitive and challenging environments where every penny counts.

Moving into downstream operations is challenging, but it is also rewarding and demanding.

Kuwait has never stopped striving to remain competitive, and it must continue to do so. Oil is the country's sole source of income, and its value must be enhanced to the greatest possible extent.

The industry must not stop at any stage of the oil value chain, as opportunities to generate further added value exist at every level.

Oil is Kuwait's bread and butter.

**Email:** naftikuwaiti@yahoo.com

**Al-Marzouq calls for deeper engagement**

## Kuwait & US seek stronger economic ties through investment cooperation

WASHINGTON, Nov 21, (KUNA): Kuwait's Minister of State for Economic Affairs and Investment and Acting Minister of Commerce and Industry Abdulaziz Al-Marzouq met with representatives of the US Chamber of Commerce to discuss ways to strengthen economic, trade and investment ties.

The meeting reviewed the distinguished economic relations between Kuwait and the United States and explored opportunities to expand cooperation between the two friendly countries, said the Kuwaiti Ministry of State for Economic Affairs and Investment in a statement.

The talks focused on ways to enhance the role of the US private sector in supporting development and investment projects in Kuwait, particularly in priority economic sectors.

Al-Marzouq also took part, during his visit to Washington, in a roundtable meeting organized by the US Chamber of Commerce.

The meeting, which gathered representatives of several American companies and institutions, reviewed Kuwait's economic vision and efforts to improve the business environment, modernize investment-related legislation and procedures, and strengthen public-private partnerships and foreign investors.

In his address at the meeting, Al-Marzouq affirmed Kuwait's keenness to broaden cooperation with the US business community and benefit from the expertise and advanced technologies of American companies, in a way that contributes to diversifying the economic base, attracting high-quality investments and supporting sustainable economic development.

Al-Ajmi praises OQ8 workforce and partners

## Duqm Refinery exports 934 shipments to global markets since operations began

MUSCAT, Nov 21 (KUNA): Chief Executive Officer of Duqm Refinery and Petrochemical Industries Company (OQ8), engineer Abdullah Al-Ajmi, announced Saturday that the refinery had exported 934 shipments of products to global markets since its first export operations in May 2023.

In a statement to KUNA, Al-Ajmi said the refinery handled 301 vessels in 2026, bringing the cumulative total to 934, compared with 633 vessels by the end of 2025, noting this achievement coincides with Oman's National Day celebrations and reflected the refinery's ability to translate its production capabilities into export performance, strengthening its presence in international markets.

Al-Ajmi said the progress affirmed the efficiency of an integrated system linking production, storage and shipping, supported by careful planning, operational discipline and coordination among the relevant teams.

He explained that the refinery continues, from its location in Special Economic Zone Authority of Duqm in Oman, to support the region's position as a hub for industry, energy, and logistics services, in line with the directions of economic diversification in the Sultanate of Oman.



KUNA photo

An employee works and inspects equipment at the Duqm Refinery.

Al-Ajmi said the achievement also reflected the refinery's ability to turn a shared vision into tangible results, reinforcing confidence in its products and its capacity to meet global market demand, praising the employees' expertise, the coordinated efforts of its leadership, and the support provided by shareholders and partners.

Regarding the Kuwaiti-Omani partnership, Al-Ajmi said the close ties between the two countries provided OQ8 with a solid foundation for continued sustainable growth, adding that as an equal joint venture between Oman's OQ Group and Kuwait Petroleum International (Q8), OQ8 embodies the depth of economic bilateral relations.

He added that the development of the refinery's operations demonstrated the partnership's ability to combine industrial expertise, commercial capabilities and investment vision, transforming them into a stronger presence in the global energy sector.

Al-Ajmi said employees and management were at the heart of this progress, with responsibilities integrated across operations, maintenance, technical services, commercial activities, logistics and support functions.

TechCo supports homegrown entertainment across Kuwait

# ‘Zain’s World’ returns at the heart of K-Land for the fourth consecutive year



Sheikh Sabah Bader Al-Sabah, Anwar Al-Halila, Waleed Al-Khashti, and Fahad Al-Baghli inaugurate the new season.



Zain strengthens its presence in Kuwait’s entertainment scene by supporting outstanding homegrown initiatives.




Zain’s World’ offers children a variety of fun-filled experiences to create lasting memories.

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 21: Zain Kuwait, the country’s leading TechCo, is bringing its popular ‘Zain’s World’ play area back to K-Land for the fourth consecutive year, welcoming families and children to another season of fun and entertainment. The return marks another chapter in Zain’s longstanding strategic partnership with the Touristic Enterprises Company (TEC), bringing more memorable experiences and joyful moments to one of Kuwait’s favorite family attractions throughout the winter and spring seasons.

Zain participated in the new season’s opening ceremony, attended by Mubarak Al-Kabeer Governor and Acting Hawally Governor Sheikh Sabah Bader Al-Sabah, TEC CEO Anwar Al-Halila, Zain Kuwait Chief Corporate Affairs and Relations Officer Waleed Al-Khashti, and K-Land Co-founder Fahad Al-Baghli.

K-Land returns this year with a refreshed look and an even wider variety of experiences, following a series of enhancements and expansions that introduced new spaces and family seating areas overlooking the sea. The destination also features green spaces and a beach lagoon home to flamingos, along with increased capacity to provide visitors with greater comfort and enjoyment. Together, these additions create an integrated destination that brings games, activities, restaurants, and cafés together in a vibrant winter atmosphere along the Arabian Gulf coastline.

At the heart of this experience, ‘Zain’s World’ welcomes children and families with a diverse selection of games and entertainment experiences across an indoor play area spanning nearly 2,000 square meters. The space brings a variety of games and activities together under one roof, creating an interactive environment filled with fun and adventure, where visitors can enjoy quality time and create lasting memories with their families.

As always, Zain is preparing to bring even more excitement to its ‘Zain’s World’ area through a series of engaging activities and interactive experiences throughout the coming months. These will coincide with various seasons and celebrations, including Kuwait’s National and Liberation Day festivities, Ramadan’s Girgeaan celebrations, and other occasions that bring families and children together, making every visit another opportunity to share joyful moments and create wonderful memories.

Zain’s continued support for K-Land reflects its commitment to championing homegrown initiatives that contribute to Kuwait’s growing tourism and entertainment sector while opening new opportunities for local entrepreneurs and businesses. The partnership also underscores Zain’s belief in the power of public-private collaboration to create innovative family attractions, promote domestic tourism, and bring more diverse entertainment experiences to the community.

K-Land stands as a testament to Kuwaiti creativity, brought to life by a talented team of local entrepreneurs who have successfully introduced an entertainment concept inspired by leading international experiences while remaining deeply rooted in local culture. Through games and designs that draw inspiration from Kuwait’s iconic landmarks and cultural identity, the destination brings entertainment and pride in national heritage together in one unique experience.

Zain continues to play an active role in events and initiatives that bring communities together and enrich everyday experiences, guided by its purpose of creating “Better Lives. Lasting Connections.” Through these efforts, the company remains dedicated to bringing its Wonderful World to life in the moments that unite families and friends, adding more joy and positivity to everyday life.

Partnership celebrates Kuwaiti creativity

# Toyota ALSAYER selected as main partner of Kashta Marina Season 3



KUWAIT CITY, Nov 21: Mohamed Naser Al Sayer & Sons Est. Co. and Toyota has announced its participation as the Main Partner of Kashta Marina Season Three, organized by Richter Creative Office at Marina Garden from 26 November 2026 to 2 January 2027. Running for 38 days, the new season is expected to welcome approximately half a million visitors from Kuwait and across the Gulf region.

The partnership was officially announced during a press conference attended by Yarub Bourahma, Co-Founder and Director of Cultural Events at “Kashta” at The Scientific Center; Martin Ahern, Senior Manager, Toyota Sales and Marketing at Mohamed Naser Al Sayer & Sons Est. Co.; Basma Al Jassim, Acting Director General of Kuwait’s National Fund for Small and Medium Enterprise Development; Abdulaziz Al Nasser, Senior Vice President, Operations and Property Management at Marina; and Suwaid Al Hajri, representative of SNOONU’s Board of Directors from the sisterly State of Qatar.

During the press conference, Martin Aherne stated: “This partnership embodies ALSAYER Group’s enduring commitment to empowering creators, entrepreneurs and local businesses. By providing dedicated platforms to showcase their products and ideas, connect directly with the public, and develop their talents into promising experiences and sustainable ventures, we continue a proud legacy of nurturing distinguished Kuwaiti talent and advancing innovation, creativity and community entrepreneurship.”

As Main Partner, Toyota ALSAYER will contribute to enriching the visitor experience and expanding opportunities for local entrepreneurs and creative talents. The partnership supports a dynamic platform where Kuwaiti heritage, contemporary creativity, entrepreneurship and family entertainment come together in one distinctive destination.

Inspired by Kuwait’s rich cultural identity, Kashta Marina will welcome visitors through entrances modelled on the historic gates of Kuwait’s old city wall. These gateways will lead through traditional pathways, known locally as sikkak, to six distinctive open courtyards, or barahat, each offering its own identity and experience.

Throughout the season, the courtyards will feature local businesses, cultural and creative experiences, live demonstrations, and activities for families and children. Visitors will have the opportunity to discover locally made products, meet talented creators and entrepreneurs, and learn more about the ideas and stories behind their ventures.

The programme will also feature “Kashta Samrat,” a series of live musical evenings bringing audiences together with artists and musicians in a welcoming atmosphere inspired by culture, community and shared experiences.

Kashta Marina Season Three follows the remarkable success of its two previous editions. The inaugural event attracted approximately 40,000 visitors in 2025, while the second season welcomed nearly 200,000 visitors in early 2026. Building on this momentum, Richter Creative Office expects the upcoming season to receive approximately half a million visitors.

The season is further supported by Marina World as Venue Partner and the National Fund for Small and Medium Enterprise Development as Strategic Partner. Sanad will assist participating businesses with licensing procedures and organizational coordination.

Kashta Marina will open its doors on 26 November 2026, offering an engaging experience where heritage, creativity, entrepreneurship and music come together. Through its role as Main Partner, Toyota ALSAYER reaffirms its commitment to empowering Kuwaiti talent, supporting promising entrepreneurs and creating meaningful opportunities for innovative ideas to grow and connect with the wider community.

**Reinforcing its commitment to supporting local communities**

# talabat partners with Kuwait Association for Needy Families to support up to 100 students

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 21: Reinforcing its commitment to supporting local communities in Kuwait, talabat, the leading everyday app in the Middle East & North Africa (MENA), has partnered with the Kuwait Association for Needy Families (KANF), in collaboration with Al Qabas as its media partner, on a community initiative aimed at supporting educational continuity and easing financial pressures on families in need. Under the campaign “Delivering Kindness and Fulfilling Dreams,” the initiative combines school tuition support with practical nutrition assistance to help students continue their learning journeys with greater stability and readiness.

Aligned with KANF’s Tuition Fees Project, talabat is sponsoring the full school tuition fees for up to 100 students registered in private and community schools who are at risk of educational disruption due to financial hardship. The support is provided under the supervision and criteria of the Ministry of Social Affairs, with tuition disbursements managed directly with educational institutions in line with the approved social welfare framework.

Commenting on the initiative, Amal Bukhamseen, Manager of Corporate Affairs at talabat Kuwait, said: “Every child deserves access to a stable education and the opportunity to learn, grow and reach their full potential. Through our partnership with the Kuwait Association for Needy Families, we are proud to help ease the financial burden of tuition fees for up to 100 students in need, while also supporting their day-to-day nutritional needs. Our goal is to stand alongside families in Kuwait throughout their children’s educational journeys.”

Complementing the tuition sponsorship, talabat is distributing approximately 200 curated boxes containing lunchboxes and nutrition essentials directly to families. By combining access to schooling with everyday nourishment, the initiative reflects a holistic approach to student wellbeing and recognizes that a stable learning experience depends not only on being able to remain in the classroom, but also on having the practical support needed to participate and learn effectively.



Representatives of talabat and Kuwait Association for Needy Families in a group photo.



talabat distributed approximately 200 curated boxes to families.

- talabat will cover full school tuition fees for up to 100 students in need through Kuwait Association for Needy Families
- Approximately 200 curated boxes of school lunch and nutrition essentials will be delivered directly to families

Eng. Bader Al-Mubarak, Chairman of the Board at Kuwait Association for Needy Families (KANF), added: “Investing in education is one of the most effective pathways to long-term community empowerment. Through this collaboration with talabat, we are helping safeguard the academic futures of students at risk of educational disruption while easing the financial strain on their families. We value talabat’s proactive support for our mission and its holistic approach to empowering our youth.”

With financial assistance provided under official social welfare guidelines and tuition payments made directly to educational institutions, the partnership reinforces the importance of transparency and accountability in delivering meaningful community support.

The initiative also forms part of talabat’s wider corporate social responsibility (CSR) efforts in Kuwait, reflecting its ongoing commitment to supporting youth development, empowering families and strengthening local communities. Through meaningful partnerships that address both educational needs and everyday challenges, talabat continues to create opportunities that contribute to long-term wellbeing and development across Kuwait.





Top & above: Representatives from Mohamed Naser Al Sayer & Sons Est. Co., and Toyota, & Kashta Marina Season 3 attend the partnership agreement signing ceremony.

Strengthening institutional cooperation and service quality

# stc signs MoU with the Kuwait Institute for Judicial & Legal Studies

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 21: Kuwait Telecommunications Company – stc, a leader in enabling digital transformation and providing innovative services and platforms to customers in Kuwait, announced that it has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Kuwait Institute for Judicial and Legal Studies to strengthen institutional cooperation and coordination between the parties. The MoU was signed by Eng. Muataz Aldharrab, CEO of stc, and Institute Director Senior Counselor Bader Al-Mesaad on behalf of the Institute.

The signing ceremony was attended by representatives from both organizations. Representing the Institute were Counselor Saud Al-Sanea, Deputy Director for Continuing and Specialized Qualification; Counselor Dr. Ahmad Al-Muqalled, Deputy Director for Relations, Communications and Research; and Counselor Nawaf Al-Zoubi, a member of the Institute’s Technical Office. Ahmad Al Murad, Chief Business Excellence Officer, attended the ceremony on behalf of stc.

At the signing, Senior Counselor Al-Mesaad said that the MoU aimed to strengthen cooperation, particularly in training, professional development and promoting legal awareness. He highlighted the Institute’s leading national role in supporting the development of government entities, building institutional capacity and improving workforce capabilities. These efforts enhance the quality of government services and promote a culture of continuous learning and training, as well as institutional excellence, in line with Kuwait’s development and administrative modernization priorities.

During the ceremony, Eng. Muataz Aldharrab, CEO of stc, welcomed the agreement and emphasized the Company’s continued efforts to expand its relationships and strategic partnerships. He said this would strengthen stc’s leadership in the sector and encourage the exchange of expertise and knowledge, benefiting both its employees and the wider community.

He also expressed his hope that the cooperation would lead to training programs and knowledge-sharing initiatives addressing the legal and regulatory aspects of capital markets, helping raise professional awareness and deepen understanding of market operations and requirements. The agreement will allow both organizations to draw on their specialized expertise and strengthen engagement between legal and financial professionals, helping participants in joint programs and initiatives develop their professional capabilities.

The MoU also forms part of stc’s efforts to create a positive and lasting impact in the community in line with its corporate social responsibility framework. This will further build on the Company’s ongoing work to strengthen partnerships and deliver initiatives that broaden knowledge and develop expertise and skills. These efforts align with Kuwait Vision 2035’s objectives of improving the business and investment environment, while positioning Kuwait as an attractive financial and investment hub.

The Kuwait Institute for Judicial and Legal Studies continues to develop its academic and training programs to keep pace with legislative and regulatory developments and meet the needs of institutions across different sectors. This work is guided by its mission to prepare and train judicial and legal professionals and enhance their professional capabilities.



Eng. Muataz Aldharrab, CEO of stc and Institute Director Senior Counselor Bader Al-Mesaad during the signing ceremony of the agreement.

- **Aldharrab:** We continue to expand our relationships and strategic partnerships to strengthen our leadership in the sector
- **Al-Mesaad:** We aim to strengthen cooperation with the private sector in training and legal awareness

Event highlighted ABK's commitment to promoting sport and healthier lifestyles

# ABK concludes Kuwait's first ABK Tour Kuwait cycling event with more than 1,000 participants

KUWAIT CITY, Nov. 21: Al Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) successfully concluded ABK Tour Kuwait, the first cycling event of its kind in Kuwait. Held on Saturday, the event began at the start line and race village on Shuwaikh Beach before extending along Gulf Road. Participants collected their race kits on Friday. The event was organized by SUFFIX, a company specializing in sporting events, with the support of several leading local sponsors.

Recognized as part of this year's Kuwait Season for Youth and Sports, the event attracted more than 1,000 participants of all ages, with categories for kids, time trial, and an open ride. The kid's race was held in the village on Shuwaikh Beach on 21 November, while Gulf Road was closed to traffic and designated as the route for the main race.

The event formed part of ABK's ongoing commitment to social responsibility and its efforts to promote sport and healthy lifestyles in Kuwait. Safety was a priority throughout, with all cyclists required to wear helmets during the race.

The event was attended by the Minister of State for Youth and Sports Affairs, Dr. Tareq Al-Jalahma, who presented awards to the top finishers. Members of ABK's Executive Management, SUFFIX Chief Operating Officer Ahmed Almajed and other company representatives were also in attendance.

Cyclists enjoyed a spirited and competitive atmosphere across designated routes suited to different abilities, with the highest safety standards observed throughout the event.

On this occasion, Sager Albenali, Chief Communications Officer at ABK said, "Today, we are proud to mark a historic milestone that adds to our record of community initiatives. This event reinforces our position as the first banking institution to launch a cycling event of this scale in Kuwait. Taking the lead in introducing events of this kind reflects our ambition to go beyond traditional community initiatives and create memorable experiences that leave ABK's mark on Kuwait's sporting community."

He added, "We were keen to raise participants' awareness, particularly among children, of the importance of cycling safely. We provided helmets as part of their complete race kits for use during the event."

"We are delighted with the success of this event, which marks an important milestone in our community initiatives," he continued. "The strong turnout reflects growing awareness of the importance of sport and the popularity of cycling in Kuwait. It also shows how much cycling enthusiasts have looked forward to an opportunity to ride on a route reserved for them along Gulf Road."

Albenali affirmed ABK's commitment to initiatives that combine recreation and health while strengthening community ties. He noted that the participation of professional cyclists, enthusiasts and families demonstrated the demand for an event of this kind. Through ABK Tour Kuwait, the Bank has helped establish a new standard for large-scale community sporting events in Kuwait.

He explained that, from the earliest planning stages, ABK wanted the event to be more than a sporting competition. It was designed as an experience combining physical challenge, family entertainment and support for national talent.

Albenali added that the event's impact extends beyond sport. By encouraging cycling as an environmentally friendly means of transport that can reduce carbon emissions and promote public health, ABK is strengthening its role in community development and sustainability. He said this supports the Bank's contribution to a more sustainable future for Kuwait, in line with New Kuwait Vision 2035.

**Appreciation**

Albenali thanked all official, security and medical entities involved, particularly the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of State for Youth and Sports Affairs. He also expressed his appreciation to the teams and volunteers from ABK and SUFFIX whose efforts helped make the inaugural event a success.

**Laying the Foundation**

Concluding his remarks, Albenali said that laying the foundation for Kuwait's first cycling race marks the beginning of a new journey that ABK will continue to develop in the years ahead. He affirmed the Bank's determination to remain at the forefront of innovative ideas that serve the community, improve quality of life in Kuwait and inspire future generations.

He stressed that the race is the first step in a series of future programs and initiatives. Supporting development and quality of life in Kuwait will remain a priority in ABK's annual social responsibility program.

**A Distinctive Partnership**

For his part, SUFFIX Chief Operating Officer Ahmed Almajed expressed pride in the company's strategic partnership with ABK to organize Kuwait's first cycling race of this scale and level of professionalism.

"Our team worked to the highest security and safety standards to ensure an exceptional, seamless experience for every participant," he said. "Organizing this landmark race represents a major step forward for sporting events in Kuwait. SUFFIX is proud to have helped turn this ambitious vision into reality, and we look forward to delivering more innovative sporting events in the future."

**Precision and Professionalism**

Almajed added, "From the earliest planning stages, we drew on our extensive experience in managing major events to deliver an inaugural edition with the highest levels of precision and professionalism, in line with international cycling standards. The technical and organizational aspects of the event, particularly the safety of the race routes, were top priorities for our team. Each route was carefully designed for different abilities, from professionals seeking a challenge to enthusiasts and families looking for a safe, enjoyable sporting experience."

He said the close cooperation between the SUFFIX and ABK teams was instrumental in overcoming logistical challenges and delivering an exceptional experience for spectators and cyclists alike. He also expressed appreciation for ABK's trust, which reflects the complementary roles of the banking sector and national companies specializing in sports and entertainment.

**Race Village**

"The race village at Shuwaikh Beach demonstrated our ability to create an environment that brings sport and community entertainment together," Almajed said. "Facilities and logistical services were arranged to accommodate large numbers of visitors smoothly, showcasing the ability of national operations teams to manage major events efficiently."

The village featured family areas and stands hosted by several leading local sponsors, adding to the event's festive atmosphere.

**Memorable Scenes**

From the starting line, the race route was filled with scenes that reflected the cyclists' enthusiasm and passion. Gulf Road came alive with speed, determination and a spirit of challenge.

The moments leading up to the finish line, accompanied by cheers from the crowd, captured the event's success in creating a distinctive sporting experience. Families followed the race throughout, helping turn ABK Tour Kuwait into a celebration that brought the community together.

**Pledge for a Dedicated Cycling Route**

During the event, participants and attendees signed a pledge calling on the relevant authorities to establish a dedicated route for cyclists in Kuwait. The proposed route would help ensure their safety and give them a place to enjoy cycling throughout the year.

**Widespread Praise**

The event concluded to widespread praise from participants and spectators, who welcomed its professional organization and festive atmosphere from the opening moments through to the awards ceremony.

Its success marks a milestone in Kuwait's sporting calendar and demonstrates the private sector's ability to create initiatives with a positive impact on the community.

Through this initiative, ABK continues to strengthen its approach to organizing and supporting programs that promote public health and quality of life. The Bank remains committed to introducing innovative events that meet the aspirations of the Kuwaiti community.



Dr. Tareq Al-Jalahma, Minister of State for Youth and Sports Affairs, at the starting line of the race.



Dr. Tareq Al-Jalahma, Minister of State for Youth and Sports Affairs, alongside members of the Bank's Executive Management.



Event highlights featuring Dr. Tareq Al-Jalahma.



Professional cyclists take on the challenge.



Young participants receive safety helmets at the cycling event.



A glimpse of the race.



A participant showcasing his medal.




Strong participation in the first-of-its-kind event.



Professional cyclists take on the challenge.



The Kuwaiti flag takes center stage at Kuwait's first-ever cycling event, bringing together participants of all ages.



Men's winners celebrate on the podium.



Women's winners celebrate on the podium.



Competitive Spirit in Action.



Signing a pledge to support dedicated cycling tracks.



Fun activities and entertainment at racing village, Shuwaikh Beach.

# What's On SPOTLIGHT

'Buhay Mo, Buhay OFW' tops 16 original entries

# Bautista wins inaugural Himig ng Bayani Songwriting Competition



Himig ng Bayani – The OFW Singing Competition Grand Winner Charisse Bautista shakes hands with Philippine Ambassador to Kuwait His Excellency Jose A. Cabrera III.



Himig ng Bayani – The OFW Singing Competition first runner-up Jadewyn M. dela Rosa shakes hands with Kiko "KIKX" Salazar.



Himig ng Bayani – The OFW Singing Competition second runner-up Roberto Martinez Garcia shakes hands with OWWA Administrator Patricia Yvonne "PY" Caunan.

**By Marlon Aquino Malinao**
Managing Editor, Arab Times

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 21: There is a particular kind of loneliness that comes with working thousands of miles away from home. It is found in birthdays celebrated through a video call, family gatherings witnessed only through photographs, children growing up through a phone screen and the quiet moments when an overseas Filipino worker (OFW) wishes, more than anything, to be home.

It is the pain of missing someone while working hard for them. It is the courage to say "I'm fine" even on difficult days. It is the promise to keep going because somewhere in the Philippines, a family is waiting, hoping and counting on the sacrifice being made far away.

On Friday, those feelings found a voice.

At the Grand Finale of Himig ng Bayani – The OFW Songwriting Competition at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, the stories of overseas Filipino workers unfolded not through speeches or statistics, but through songs written from the heart. Melodies carried memories of home, lyrics spoke of separation and perseverance, and performances revealed emotions that many OFWs rarely have the opportunity to express.

There were tears in the audience. Members of the judging panel were moved. Even Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) Administrator Patricia Yvonne "PY" Caunan was touched by the deeply personal compositions.

Some songs were so close to the realities of overseas life that listening became an emotional experience in itself. For those gathered in the hall, the stories were familiar. They were about parents who had to leave their children, spouses who learned to love across distances, workers who carried their families' hopes on their shoulders and Filipinos who continued to dream despite the hardships of life abroad.

For one afternoon, the distance between Kuwait and home seemed a little shorter. The struggles of OFWs were transformed into music, and the emotions they often kept to themselves were shared with an audience that understood.

Organized by the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) and OWWA-OWO Kuwait, the competition brought together 16 finalists whose original compositions celebrated the lives, sacrifices and enduring spirit of overseas Filipino workers.

Hosted by popular and dynamic Filipino DJs Raymund and Xiano, who served as masters of ceremony, the event featured a series of performances and presentations leading to the much-anticipated announcement of the winners.

At the end of the competition, Charisse Bautista emerged as champion with her original composition, "Buhay Mo, Buhay OFW," topping the 16 entries.

There was one champion, but the night belonged to every songwriter who dared to turn a personal experience into a song and every OFW who found a part of their own life in the music.

**When music touched the heart**

The finalists brought different stories to the stage, but their compositions shared a common heartbeat.

Some spoke of refusing to surrender when life becomes difficult. Others recalled the pain of being separated from loved ones, the smiles worn to conceal sadness, the promises made before leaving home and the hope of one day returning to the people who matter most.

For the audience, these were not simply lyrics to appreciate. They were memories brought back to life.

That connection made the performances so powerful. The tears were not merely reactions to a beautiful melody or an impressive vocal performance. They came from recognizing the emotions behind the words.



OWWA Administrator Patricia Yvonne "PY" Caunan addressing the audience during the awards ceremony.



Rondi Nelli Quito Cabiton receives the People's Choice Award from Kiko "KIKX" Salazar for "Inang Kadama."



Himig ng Bayani – The OFW Singing Competition Top 3 with Ambassador Cabrera, OWWA Administrator Caunan, Deputy Administrator for Operations Bahia-Catapang, Welfare Officers, judges and finalists pose for a group photo.



OWWA Administrator Patricia Yvonne "PY" Caunan with OWWA-OWO Kuwait team and production team.

The Grand Finale was attended by Philippine Ambassador to Kuwait His Excellency Jose A. Cabrera III and OWWA Administrator Caunan. In her keynote message, the OWWA administrator underscored the importance of recognizing and supporting overseas Filipino workers, whose contributions extend beyond their work and economic sacrifices.

The competition offered another way to honor them: by allowing OFWs to tell their stories in their own words, through their own music.

**One champion, 16 stories of courage**

Bautista's "Buhay Mo, Buhay OFW" secured the championship with 93.18 points.

Jadewyn M. dela Rosa placed first runner-up with "Padayon Lang Bai," earning 87.70 points, while Roberto Martinez Garcia finished second runner-up with "Sa Isang Bahagi Ng Mundo," which received 87.55 points.

Rondi Nelli Quito Cabiton received the People's Choice Award for "Inang Kadama," earning recognition for the composition's connection with the audience.

For the finalists, reaching the Grand Finale was already a meaningful achievement. Their songs had been heard, their experiences acknowledged and their voices given a platform. Whether they went home with a trophy or not, each had shared something personal with a community that understood its meaning.

**A fair stage for every songwriter**

Behind the emotional performances was a selection process designed to give every songwriter an equal opportunity.

The preliminary screening was conducted through blind evaluation, with entries identified only by assigned numbers. Originality, creativity, musicality and message formed the basis of the assessment.

For the Grand Finale, the contestants performed their original compositions live, without musical instruments, in accordance with the competition rules.

The judging panel comprised Nadia D. Benito, Cultural Officer of the Philippine Embassy in Kuwait; Director Ana Dominique M. Consulta, Director IV of OWWA's Policy and Program Development Office; and Francisco "Kiko" Salazar, the multi-awarded Filipino songwriter, composer, singer and music producer known professionally as Kiko "KIKX" Salazar.

The first and second judges each accounted for 30 percent of the final score, while the third judge contributed 40 percent.

As competition director, Marlon Aquino Malinao presented the judging criteria and explained the rules to the finalists.

**Salazar brings OPM hits to the celebration**

The evening's musical program added another dimension to the celebration of Filipino talent with the launch of the official Himig ng Bayani original theme song, composed and arranged by Salazar.

Ivan Ortiz, Charvin Molaco, Mansour Melad Amin and Ana Mae Fausto performed the original soundtrack before delighting the audience with some of Salazar's popular hit songs.

The musical celebration reached another highlight when Salazar himself took the stage for a special number, performing his well-loved hit "Akin Ka Na Lang." The audience responded enthusiastically as the songwriter joined the performers in bringing his music to life.

The performances brought a lively dimension to an evening largely defined by the deeply personal stories of the contestants. They also showcased the Filipino musical talent behind the event and paid tribute to the man who composed and arranged its official soundtrack.

**An afternoon that will stay in the heart**

The awarding ceremony brought Ambassador Cabrera, OWWA Admin Caunan, Deputy Administrator for Operations Rosalia Susana S. Bahia-Catapang, OWWA Welfare Officers Lorna R. Obedoza and Emmanuel Santiago Diaz along with the panel of judges to present the awards and recognize the achievements of the finalists.

Welfare Officer Diaz delivered the closing remarks, bringing the program to a close.

Yet the most memorable moments that afternoon could not be measured by scores or trophies. They were found in the songs that made listeners think of home, in the emotions shared across the audience and in the realization that the person sitting beside them might be carrying the same longing expressed onstage.

For the contestants, writing and performing their songs meant giving shape to experiences that are not always easy to put into words. For those listening, the music offered recognition, comfort and, perhaps, the feeling that they were not alone in their struggles.

That was the deeper achievement of Himig ng Bayani. It gave OFWs something beyond a competition: a stage on which their lives, sacrifices and hopes could be heard in their own voices.

When the lights dimmed and the last notes faded, the songs remained. So did the emotions they stirred and the reminder that behind every OFW is a story of someone loved, someone missed, a dream pursued and a home waiting.

### New agreement 'represents an opportunity to reconnect with the DNA of this Championship'

# Ben Sulayem drives return of V8 engines to F1 World Championship from 2030

DUBAI, Nov 21: FIA President Mohammed Ben Sulayem said that a milestone agreement to bring back V8 engines to the FIA Formula One World Championship from 2030 is a major victory for the sport, its fans and the future direction of Grand Prix Racing.

The FIA announced last night that the 2030 Formula 1 Power Unit technical framework has been unanimously agreed between the global governing body for motor sport, Formula One Management (FOM), the teams and Formula 1 Power Unit manufacturers.

"This agreement marks a significant milestone in shaping the future of Formula 1," said FIA President Ben Sulayem, who has been the driving force behind efforts to secure the return of V8 engines.

"From the outset I have been clear in my ambition to deliver a sport that is more competitive and more exciting for our fans, while remaining at the forefront of innovation and sustainability.

"The return of V8 engines represents an opportunity to reconnect with the DNA of this Championship, bringing back the sound, emotion and pure racing that is loved worldwide. Our vision is clear, lighter, simpler and more affordable cars that put driver skill at the heart of the competition.

"I want to thank all involved for their collaboration. This is an important step forward, and demonstrates what we can achieve when we work together to deliver the best possible future for our sport." The FIA presented F1 Power Unit regulations for introduction from 2030 with a 2.1 litre turbocharged V8 as the power unit of choice carrying over some geometrical specifics.



Mohammed Ben Sulayem – President of FIA

The overriding objective is to deliver a power unit which is a lot less complex, lighter and cheaper than the current power units.

It will feature limited hybridisation, relevant and sustainable technology with the aim of enhancing attack-oriented racing and a sound which resonates with fans. Additionally, the plan is to marry the V8 power unit to a chassis which will also be lighter, more agile and placing greater emphasis on driver skill and close racing. The next step is to present a definitive 2030 Regulatory Framework to the FIA World Motor Sport Council (WMSC) meeting in Shanghai next month. All regulatory changes are subject to approval by the WMSC.

FIA President Ben Sulayem, a 14-time FIA Middle East rally champion, has emphasised that his experience as a driver combined with a desire to give passionate race fans around the world what they truly want, lay behind his commitment to bring back V8 engines to the FIA Formula One World Championship.

His rallying career gave him a practical understanding of what drivers, teams and organisers need from the sport, and he says this told him that a lighter F1 car, one a driver can push to the limit, is the foundation of great racing.

The FIA President will be in attendance at the 35th edition of the Abu Dhabi Desert Challenge which brings the 2026 FIA World Rally-Raid Championship to its climax over the next six days. The spectacular event, founded by Ben Sulayem in 1991, has its ceremonial start in Al Ain tomorrow night.

# Harden posts 26th 50-point game to move past Kobe as Cavs top Pacers



Oklahoma City Thunder guard Shai Gilgeous-Alexander, right, drives past New Orleans Pelicans guard Jeremiah Fears during the second half of an NBA Cup basketball game in Oklahoma City. (AP)

## OKC improves to 2-1 in NBA Cup

**CLEVELAND, Nov 21, (AP): James Harden scored 51 points as the Cleveland Cavaliers defeated the Indiana Pacers 128-119 in an NBA Cup game.**

It was the 18-year veteran guard's 26th 50-point game, passing the late Kobe Bryant for third-most 50-point games in NBA history. It was Harden's first since he had 55 points for the Los Angeles Clippers against the Charlotte Hornets on Nov. 22, 2025.

Harden is the 15th player to have a 50-point game for Cleveland. It was also his best scoring game with the Cavaliers since being acquired near the trade deadline in February.

Harden was 15 of 26 from the field, including 7 of 11 from beyond the arc. He also made all 14 of his free throws along with six rebounds and six assists for the Cavaliers, who have won three of four and improved to 2-1 in East Group B.

Donovan Mitchell added 20 points. Peyton Watson, who missed Wednesday's game due to a lower back contusion after being injured on Monday against Chicago, scored 15.



Cleveland Cavaliers guard James Harden reacts during an NBA Cup basketball game against the Indiana Pacers in Cleveland. (AP)

### Thunder 126, Pelicans 120

In Oklahoma City, Shai Gilgeous-Alexander scored 40 points and the Oklahoma City Thunder rallied in the fourth quarter for a 126-120 win over the New Orleans Pelicans to improve to 2-1 in NBA Cup play.

Gilgeous-Alexander's 3-point play with 34.8 seconds left gave Oklahoma City, which trailed by 16 points in the third quarter, a 124-116 lead.

Rookie Aday Mara added 22 points on 11-of-15 shooting and had 16 rebounds for the Thunder. Jared McCain and rookie Bennett Stirtz each scored 18 points for the Thunder, who are 8-5 since the loss of three starters to long-term injuries.

### Magic 113, Nets111

In New York, Franz Wagner scored 35 points, including a game-winning jumper with 2.4 seconds left, and the Orlando Magic beat the Brooklyn Nets 113-111.

Facing his older brother and former teammate Mo Wagner for the first time after spending their last five seasons together in Orlando, Franz Wagner stepped back and hit a 14-foot jumper steps away from the Nets bench.

Brooklyn called a timeout and Julius Randle had a chance to win it but missed a 28-foot 3-pointer.

### Wizards 98, Bulls 94

In Chicago, Anthony Davis had 36 points and 11 rebounds, and the Washington Wizards beat the Chicago Bulls 98-94.

AJ Dybantsa had 20 points, 10 rebounds and six assists for Washington, which posted its second straight win after an eight-game losing streak. Trae Young scored 16 points, and Kyshawn George finished with 11.

### Raptors 105, Pistons 102

In Detroit, Scottie Barnes scored 29 points, including a layup with 14 seconds left, and the Toronto Raptors ended their six-game losing streak with a 105-102 win over the Detroit Pistons.

Toronto, which led by as many as 14, got the ball after a Detroit turnover with the score tied at 99. Barnes missed a driving layup, but Jakob Poeltl tipped it in to put the Raptors up 101-99 with 27.1 seconds to play.

Cade Cunningham answered with a 3-pointer to give Detroit a one-point lead with 19.8 seconds left, but Barnes hit the layup and then picked off Cunningham's pass.

## England captain out for months

# Kane undergoes surgery overnight on ankle injury

MUNICH, Nov 21, (AP): England captain Harry Kane is looking to come back improved for "the business end of the season" after undergoing surgery on a ligament tear that will keep the Bayern Munich star out for several months.

Kane tore a ligament in his left ankle during 1-1 draw with Cologne and Bayern said on Saturday that the Ballon d'Or winner had undergone "successful surgery overnight." The team had earlier said that Kane would be out for "the next few months." Kane posted a photo on Instagram of himself smiling broadly, while sitting on a hospital bed after the surgery, with his leg encased in a medical boot.

"The highs and lows of life!," the 33-year-old Kane wrote. "Obviously very disappointed to get this injury but as always it's an opportunity to show resilience and improvement going into 2027.



Bayern Munich's Harry Kane suffers an injury during the German Bundesliga match between Bayern Munich and FC Koln in Munich, Germany. (AP)

"I'll be back fresh and ready to go for the business end of the season!" Kane also quoted friend and former New England Patriots star Julian Edelman when he added, "Tough times don't last, tough people do." Kane was taken down in the area by Cologne defender Joel Schmied, who reached Michael Olise's low cross first but knocked into the Ballon d'Or winner's left leg in his follow through at the back post.

Kane writhed in pain. Although he gingerly got back to his feet and initially continued playing, he soon hobbled off the field with two physiotherapists after treatment.

Since joining from Spurs in 2023, he has scored 156 goals in 161 competitive games and helped the team win two Bundesliga titles and the German Cup.

He became the first Englishman to win the Ballon d'Or in 25 years last month and two weeks ago signed a contract extension that will keep him in Bavaria until June 2029.

# Kuwait's Al-Sarraf dominates Rotax Max Challenge Round 3

MANAMA, Nov 21: Kuwaiti racer Abdulaziz Al-Sarraf of 965 Motors Club delivered an outstanding performance, winning every stage of the third round of the Rotax Max Bahrain Challenge karting championship.

Al-Sarraf dominated the competition from the free practice sessions through to the final race, securing first place in the free practice, qualifying, pre-final and final races to complete a clean sweep in the third round.

On this occasion, 965 Motors Club Chairman Sheikh Athbi Nayef Al-Jaber Al-Sabah expressed pride in Al-Sarraf's impressive performance and his achievement of winning every stage of the round.

He said the result reflects the growing standard and competitive spirit of Kuwaiti racers and serves as motivation to pursue further success in the upcoming rounds.



Kuwaiti racer Abdulaziz Al-Sarraf receiving the championship trophy.

## China loses to Spain in U17 WC opener

DOHA, Nov 21, (Xinhua): China's long-awaited return to the FIFA U-17 World Cup after 21 years got off to a disappointing start , as the team lost 5-0 to Spain in its Group H opener in Doha.

China last competed in the U-17 World Cup in 2005 and qualified for this year's edition by finishing runner-up at the AFC U-17 Asian Cup.

Facing Spain, one of the tournament favorites, China adopted a 4-4-2 formation, sitting deep and looking to counterattack through target man Zhao Songyuan.

Spain dominated from the outset, frequently threatening down the flanks, but China held firm defensively to keep the score level through the first 40 minutes.

In the 40th minute, Kuang Zhaolei was penalized for pulling an opponent inside the box, and Jordi Pesquer converted to put Spain ahead.

In first-half stoppage time, Ebrima Tonkara dribbled past several defenders before winning a free kick, which he curled into the top corner to double Spain's lead.

Spain enjoyed 76 percent possession in the first half and registered seven shots, four on target, while China managed just one shot off target.

China pushed higher up the pitch after the break in search of a comeback, enjoying more possession but struggling to create scoring opportunities.

In the 73rd minute, Tonkara carried the ball from his own half into the attacking third before Owen Emeka finished from a tight angle. Emeka added another six minutes later to make it 4-0.

China's Wan Xiang had two consecutive efforts on target in the 81st and 82nd minutes, but both were denied by Spanish goalkeeper Picras.

In the 85th minute, Guillermo Trujillano scored the fifth goal for the Spanish side.

China will face Morocco in its second group match next Monday, while Spain will take on Fiji.

## Best of the Rest

**Ning, Stolz split golds at World Cup:** Milan-Cortina Olympic champions Ning Zhongyan and Jordan Stolz split the men's 1,500 meter and 500 meters golds on the second day of the Speed Skating World Cup in Obihiro, Japan.

Ning, the Chinese Olympic 1,500m champion, set a new track record of one minute and 43.58 seconds to claim his second straight victory in this distance and his third World Cup title of the season. (Xinhua)

❑ ❑ ❑

**Lauren Price new undisputed champion:** Olympic gold medalist and now an undisputed champion as a professional.

Lauren Price says she's ready for more.

"It's all about the big fights now," she said, "and it's all about that legacy." Price beat Michaela Kotaskova late Friday night by unanimous decision to add the WBO title to her collection and become the undisputed world champion at welterweight. (AP)





Australia's Sam Harper bats during the T20 cricket international between Australia and England in Melbourne, Australia. (AP)

# Sports

## Kuwait Wushu Kung Fu Championship ends on a high note



Wushu Kung Fu champions honored.

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 21: The Kuwait Wushu Kung Fu Committee concluded the 2026 Kuwait Wushu Kung Fu Championship, with local clubs competing in an event that showcased a high technical standard and strong performances from participating athletes.

The championship was overseen by Committee Chairman Nasser Al-Loghani and Committee Member Abdulrahman Al-Muqaddam.

In the overall standings, Himmam Al-Abtal Club, coached by Abdulrahman Al-Turki, secured first place. Champion Factory Club, under coach Mohammed Al-Jazzaf, finished runner-up, while Al-Tamimi Tai Chi Club, coached by Dhari Al-Tamimi, took third place. Al-Qimam Al-Shamikha Club, led by coach Mahmoud Salahat, finished fourth.

Following the championship, the committee held belt examinations for several athletes to evaluate their technical abilities, assess their progress, and prepare them for upcoming Arab and international competitions.

The committee also thanked the participating clubs, coaches, and athletes for their contributions, expressing its hope for continued progress and further achievements for Kuwaiti Wushu Kung Fu.

## Kuwait launches inaugural Tent Pegging League Championship



Highlights from the championship.

KUWAIT CITY, Nov 21: The Kuwait Equestrian Federation launched its inaugural Tent Pegging League Championship for the 2026-2027 season on Wednesday, with 12 riders competing in lance and sword events.

The championship, hosted at the Hunting and Equestrian Club arena, will continue until April 2027, featuring five rounds.

The opening round drew a sizeable crowd and featured keen competition among the 12 participants: Ali Jamal, Abdullah Al-Daihani, Yousef Al-Otaibi, Othman Al-Fadhli, Mohammed Al-Ansari, Hussein Al-Ajmi, Ghannam Al-Batsh, Abdullah Al-Hindi, Talal Al-Ajmi, Khaled Al-Shaheen, Ali Al-Hazzaa and Abdullah Al-Hamad.

Abdulaziz Al-Sharakh, a member of the Kuwait Equestrian Federation's Tent Pegging and Mounted Shooting Committee, said equestrian events hold special significance as they embody Arab history and heritage and enjoy considerable popularity across the Gulf, particularly in Kuwait.

He said the inaugural lance and sword championship represents an important milestone for the sport's enthusiasts and adds to the growing achievements of Kuwaiti equestrianism.

Al-Sharakh also pointed out that Kuwait's national team had qualified for the finals of the Tent Pegging and Mounted Shooting World Cup, emphasizing the need to build a wider fan base for the discipline locally and support its continued development.

## City's 20-game winning run against Fulham ends

### Chelsea thrashed by Leeds

**LONDON, Nov 21, (AP): One of the longest winning streaks in English soccer history is over.**

Manchester City's run of poor Premier League results isn't.

After 20 straight victories over Fulham dating back to 2012, City finally came up short against the London club when the teams drew 1-1 in the league on Saturday.

Boos greeted the final whistle at Etihad Stadium, with City's winless run in the league extending to four games - a stretch that has come soon after the club was found guilty of large-scale financial rule-breaking that leaves its future shrouded in uncertainty.

City needed a stunning, edge-of-the-area volley by Elliot Anderson in the 57th minute to salvage a point, after Rodrigo Muniz gave Fulham the lead in the 16th.

Things are even more desperate for Chelsea, which was humiliated in a 4-1 home loss to Leeds after losing key midfielder Moises Caicedo to injury midway through the first half when the score was 0-0.

Chelsea, which isn't playing in European competition this season, has lost four of its last seven league games to put manager Xabi Alonso under increasing pressure in his first season in charge of the big-spending London club.



Manchester City's Ilima Ndiaye, left, battles for the ball with Fulham's Antonee Robinson during the English Premier League soccer match between Manchester City and Fulham in Manchester, England. (AP)

Tottenham beat Ipswich 2-0 after a goal and assist from 18-year-old Luca Williams-Barnett on his first senior start, Bournemouth climbed to fourth place by beating Nottingham Forest 2-0, Thomas Frank's first match as Crystal Palace manager ended in a 3-2 loss at Coventry, and Aston Villa was held 0-0 by Sunderland.

The late game sees first-place Arsenal visit Newcastle. The defending champions can extend their lead to eight points with a win.

City was coming off three straight losses - to Aston Villa, Brighton and Nottingham Forest - that had knocked Enzo Maresca's side off the top of the league and into third place.

The losing streak might be over but it again wasn't a convincing display by City, with Erling Haaland guilty of wasting two great chances in the first half - and having one goal ruled out in contentious circumstances.

After having a close-range effort saved by Bernd Leno, Haaland followed up and bundled the ball out of the Fulham goalkeeper's possession and into the net on the goalline.

It was judged that Haaland kicked the ball out of Leno's hands, with the Premier League saying Leno was deemed to be "in control of the ball."

While Maresca felt it was "quite clear" that it was a goal, Leno argued he had the ball in his hands.

"I had the feeling I controlled the ball," the goalkeeper said, "and Haaland crashed into me."

Maresca, who replaced long-time City manager Pep Guardiola over the summer, said he'd be happy to see his team start winning games 1-0.

"I can see many positive aspects," he said, "because this is something we started four months ago, not four years ago."

Bayern Munich recovered from losing Harry Kane to an ankle injury and conceding an early goal to draw with Cologne 1-1.



Ipswich Town's Daizen Maeda, left, and Tottenham Hotspur's Marcos Senesi battle for the ball during the English Premier League soccer match between Tottenham Hotspur and Ipswich Town, in London. (AP)

A Roberto Fernández goal gave Espanyol a 1-0 win at Athletic Bilbao in La Liga, while Le Havre remained without a win in Ligue 1 after going down to an Antoine Mille double and a late Renaud Ripart penalty at Troyes 3-1.

The night was supposed to be a happy one for Bayern, which welcomed coach Vincent Kompany back to the dugout a month after he collapsed while watching the reserve squad train.

However, Kompany saw his team go behind after just 11 minutes when winger Mikey Moore, on loan from Tottenham, started and finished a counterattack.

Athletic came into Friday's match unbeaten in four but it was surprised by a resurgent Espanyol, which climbed three places into 10th.

Visiting Espanyol got the only goal midway through the second period when Fernández guided a neat right-foot shot past goal keeper Unai Simon.

The win extended Espanyol's unbeaten run to three games under new coach Eder Sarabia. Bilbao remained a point above it in seventh place in La Liga.

## Australia beats England by three wickets in thrilling chase, sparked by Chaudhary

MELBOURNE, Australia, Nov 21, (AP): Australia beat England by three wickets in a thrilling Twenty20 cricket international Saturday at the Melbourne Cricket Ground, inspired by a match-winning display from Nikhil Chaudhary.

Having taken 2-21 with his leg-spin, Chaudhary made 66 from 38 balls to tee his side up for a chase of 188 - a record at the MCG.

India-born Chaudhary arrived in Australia on a tourist visa six years ago and ended up staying because of COVID travel restrictions.

"My parents came over from India last night, so nothing better than getting a player of the match in front of them which is their first game here watching me," Chaudhary said.

Both sides were below strength due to forthcoming test duties but a home XI dominated by unfamiliar faces, including Chaudhary in his debut on Australian soil, squeezed over the line.

Chaudhary fell with 20 needed off the last two overs but an England attack missing the likes of Jofra Archer, Josh Tongue and Sonny Baker did not have enough.

Sam Curran, player of the T20 World Cup final at the MCG four years, attempted to defend 11 off the last over but was unable to hold off Jack Edwards, who won it off the penultimate delivery, to reach 191-7.

The teams play the second of five T20s on Tuesday at Carrara on the Gold Coast south of Brisbane.

England won the one-day international series 2-1, including a 97-run victory in the decider at Hobart on Wednesday.

## Alcaraz shakes off thigh injury to reach final

TURIN, Italy, Nov 21, (AP): Carlos Alcaraz had his left thigh wrapped up. Tape on his right knee. Memories of the 4 ½ months he missed earlier this year due to a right wrist injury.

Still, the seven-time Grand Slam champion produced solid tennis when he needed it most.

Alcaraz dug himself out of a deficit to grind his way past U.S. Open runner-up Ben Shelton 3-6, 6-3, 7-6 (1) on Saturday and reach the championship match at the ATP Finals.

Alcaraz extended his winning streak to 13 matches despite injuring his left hamstring during a match against Daniil Medvedev during the group phase.

Alcaraz improved to 5-1 in his career against Shelton, with the lone loss being their memorable five-setter at the U.S. Open this year, which ended at 3:33 a.m.

Alcaraz is attempting to win the trophy at the Finals for the first time. He lost to Jannik Sinner in the championship match a year ago.



Spain's Carlos Alcaraz serves the ball to United States' Ben Shelton during their semifinal tennis match of the ATP World Tour Finals, in Turin, Italy. (AP)

Sinner ended this season early due to a right knee injury.

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:
Tel: 99659717 - 50232062
E-mail: advt@arabtimesonline.com
Annual Subscriptions:
Individuals KD 30, Companies & Official Departments KD 45
Airmail charges extra for overseas
Tel: 51526559 - 51508991