

National Assembly Speaker Al-Ghanim sends condolence cables

HH Amir consoles Kazakh president over plane crash victims

KUWAIT CITY, Dec 28, (KUNA): His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah on Friday sent a cable to President of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, condoling with him over Bek Air plane crash. Scores of people were reported killed or injured.

In the cable, His Highness the Amir prayed to Allah Almighty to bestow mercy upon those killed, as well as wishing a speedy recovery for the injured. His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the

Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah sent similar cables. Meanwhile, National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanim on Friday sent cables to Chairman of the Kazakh Majilis Nurlan Nigmatulin and Chair-

woman of the Senate Dariga Nazarbayeva, condoling with them over Bek Air plane crash. Scores of people were reported killed or injured. In the cable, Al-Ghanim expressed deepest sympathies over the tragedy's victims.

'Multi-faceted'

Major events related to Kuwait govt, Premier throughout 2019

KUWAIT CITY, Dec 28, (KUNA): The State of Kuwait witnessed multi-faceted events throughout 2019 related to the government and His Highness the Prime Minister.

Following are major events related to the Cabinet and His Highness the Prime Minister:

Jan 21: The Kuwait Cabinet instructed the Ministry of Information to launch an awareness campaign to raise the flag of Kuwait and focus on its history for being a national symbol.

Jan 21: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah directed all government agencies to take measures to implement Kuwait's strategy to strengthen fight against corruption.

Jan 28: Kuwait Cabinet approved a draft decree to amend the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Jan 28: The Cabinet decided to assign a Higher Committee to follow up with the problem of rain and floods, and implement all solutions and recommendations within a specific period.

Feb 4: The Cabinet assigned Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sheikh Khaled Al-Jarrah Al-Sabah to organize by-elections in the second and third constituencies on March 13.

Visit

Feb 11: His Highness Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak arrived in the Jordanian capital on an official visit to discuss bilateral relations and open the new building of the Kuwaiti embassy in Amman.

Feb 18: The Cabinet approved the transfer of three sectors from the Office of the Minister of State for Youth Affairs to the General Authority for Youth Affairs, namely, "Youth Development," "Youth Projects" and "Supportive Services."

Feb 18: The Cabinet approved a draft decree to open an additional appropriation of KD 53.195 million to be added to the ministries and government department's budgets for the fiscal year (2018-19).

March 10: His Highness Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah patronized and attended a meeting for Youth Initiatives and Ideas as part of the National Youth Project (Kuwait is proud) at Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Cultural Center.

March 11: The Cabinet approves the addition of the Standing Committee to improving business environment to be part of the State of Kuwait to the Central Authority for Public Tender.

March 18: Kuwaiti cabinet decides to complete Kuwait Airport project (T2).

April 1: The Cabinet approves a draft law to amend some provisions of Law No. 32 of 1968 on monetary and the Central Bank of Kuwait, to regulate the banking profession, as well as another draft law on the issuance of the preventive settlement, restructuring, and bankruptcy.

April 8: The Cabinet approves draft decrees on air services agreement between Kuwait and Cyprus.

April 8: The Cabinet approves draft decrees on cooperation between Kuwait and Ukraine in the field of tourism.

April 30: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak patronized and attended the opening of the first conference of the municipal council.

May 20: The Cabinet forms a committee to regulate and organize fundraising and compensations.

July 8: The Cabinet approved two MoUs with Jordan on cooperation on social affairs and education.

July 16: The cabinet formed a national commission to coordinate the national strategy for promotion of integrity and fighting corruption.



Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak

July 29: The Cabinet approved a media cooperation agreement with Jordan.

July 29: The Cabinet approved an MoU on strategic dialogue with the US.

July 29: The Cabinet approved an MoU on social affairs cooperation with Morocco.

Sept 9: The government approved setting up the north economic zone.

Sept 9: The government approved an agreement to encourage direct investment with South Korea.

Sept 16: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak inaugurated Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad sport facility for the visually impaired, which is located in Maidan Hawally.

Sept 16: The government approved an agreement with the European Union over the immunity and privileges of members of the EU mission in Kuwait.

Approved

Sept 16: The Cabinet approved an agreement with Iraq on avoiding double taxation and tax evasion.

Sept 26: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak condemned, during a speech before the UN General Assembly in New York, attacks against Saudi Arabia and voiced support for all measures adopted by Riyadh to restore security and stability.

Oct 13: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak opened Kuwait oil and gas conference and exhibition at Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Cultural Center.

Oct 20: His Highness the Prime Minister arrived in Cairo on an official visit to Egypt.

Oct 29: His Highness the Prime Minister addressed the Parliament with the government's program, asserting keenness to have positive relationship with the National Assembly towards achieving Kuwait Vision 2035.

Nov 4: The Cabinet approved Faisal Al-Shaya as President of State Audit Bureau.

Nov 4: The Cabinet approved an Amiri decree of an amnesty against Fahad Al-Khanna, who submitted an appeal for His Highness the Amir.

Nov 12: Minister of state for housing Jenan Ramadhan announced her resignation.

Nov 14: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak submitted the government's resignation to His Highness the Amir to rearrange ministerial work.

Nov 18: His Highness the Prime Minister asked His Highness the Amir not to reassign him as Prime Minister.

Nov 19: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled took oath before His Highness the Amir as Prime Minister.

Dec 17: Kuwait's new 14-member government took oath before His Highness the Amir.

Kuwait Banking Assoc denies local bank data breach claims

One of the servers of Knet suffers 'technical malfunction'



The winners being honored.

KUWAIT CITY, Dec 28, (KUNA): Kuwait Banking Association Chairman Adel Al-Majed on Thursday described social media claims that local banks had suffered data breaches as "fabrications and false news."

What occurred was a "technical malfunction" to one of the servers of the local e-debit payment gateway, Knet, which was handled immediately followed by the full resumption of services, he said in a statement.

On Tuesday, Knet services suffered a short-term pause followed by an announcement by The Shared Electronic Banking Services Co, which is in charge of running the e-gateway, of a technical malfunction that was later resolved.

The malfunction has "no correlation to local banking e-networks and data systems," said Al-Majed, adding "account holders' savings are safe and local banks have not been compromised as a result."

Local banks have been "keen on constantly updating and strengthening their security," he underlined.

PUC set to meet

KUWAIT CITY, Dec 28: Parliamentary Public Utilities Committee Chairman Mohamed Al-Hadiya said the committee will hold a meeting next week to discuss the commission's mandate to investigate causes of losses of Kuwaiti agricultural products compared to the imported ones, reports Al-Rai daily.

In his statement to the daily, Al-Hadiya disclosed the committee has asked the farmers union and the agriculture authority to determine the causes of the losses of agricultural products that are considered vital in ensuring food security.

He hopes the Kuwaiti products will achieve self-sufficiency and play an active role in maintaining food security. "We will look into everything related to Kuwaiti farms in terms of support, cooperation with the Ministry of Social Affairs represented by the Cooperative Sector in order to facilitate the mechanism for the supply of crops and products from farms to cooperative societies, and allotting a special corner in each cooperative society for Kuwaiti farm produce," he added.

Winners of 'Night Ability & Endurance' championship honored

Mubarak Al-Kabeer Equestrian Club honored the winners of the "Night Ability and Endurance" championship organized by the club.

According to a press release, Counselor Tareq Al-Nisf and Head

of the organizing committee Sultan Al-Azab represented the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Mubarak Al-Kabeer Equestrian Club Talal Al-Nisf in honoring the winners.

Despite some negative issues, the championship managed to

achieve its objectives. The championship is the first of its kind to be organized at night.

Al-Azab thanked the Director General of Public Authority for Sport Homoud Flaithah for his unlimited support.

Many milestones in different domains accomplished

Kuwait witnessed dev achievements in 2019

KUWAIT CITY, Dec 28, (KUNA): Kuwait witnessed development achievements throughout the year 2019, accomplishing many milestones in different domains.

The following are major development achievements.

Jan 16: Kuwait Direct Investment Promotion Authority (KDIPA) acquired its ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 10002:2018 Certification for enhancing performance efficiency and upgrading investor's services.

Feb 4: Kuwait's Petrochemical In-

dustries Company (PIC) obtained the International Standardization Organization (ISO) 31000 certificate in risk management.

Feb 23: Radio Kuwait won the first place at Arab level in programming, productions, and airtime categories during a media event in Algeria.

April 29: The Salam Palace Museum, which is considered a cultural and historic edifice, was inaugurated.

May 1: Jaber Al-Ahmad Cause-

way, which connect Kuwait City to Sabbiya and considered the 4th longest bridge in the world and with a total span of 49,900 kms, was inaugurated.

May 28: The Communication and Information Technology Regulatory Authority (CITRA) announced completion of tests of G5 networks in Kuwait.

June 17: Kuwait launches first stem cell clinic in Gulf region "Salwa Sabah Al-Ahmed Al-Sabah Stem Cell."

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News in Brief

'Greening, Environmental Awareness Day': Ahmadi Governorate, in collaboration with Ahmadi Educational Area, Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources, and Environment Public Authority, organized an awareness activity under the slogan "Greening and Environmental Awareness Day" at Nawfel Bin Al-Harith Middle School for Boys in Riqqah recently. The event was held under the auspices of Ahmadi Governor Sheikh Fawaz Khalid Al-Hamad Al-Sabah and powered by Burgan Bank.

500 functional jobs analyzed: Civil Service Commission (CSC) has analyzed 500 functional jobs under the replacement policy in the Ministry of Education for fiscal year 2019-2020. The list includes non-Kuwaiti teaching staff, a limited number of engineers, legal experts and researchers in social/psychological sector, reports Al-Rai daily.

'Al-Rahma keen on supporting youth': Assistant Secretary-General of Departmental Affairs at Al-Rahma Al-Alamiya Fahad Al-Shimmari stressed the importance of supporting the Kuwaiti youth especially for their pioneering role which helps in promoting the reputation of Kuwait on the humanitarian and volunteering levels.

In a press statement issued on the occasion of International Volunteering Day, Al-Shimmari affirmed the keenness of Al-Rahma Al-Alamiya to support the youth and their projects in all of the countries where the charity organization exists.

Meanwhile, Committee for Propagation and Guidance affiliated to the Islamic Heritage Revival Society organize a lecture titled "Following the footsteps of the righteous ancestors" recently. The lecture was delivered by the Islamic scholar Dr Abdulaziz Al-Sadhan from Saudi Arabia.

According to a press release, the lecture was part of the activities of the 28th Spring Camping.

Bushahri affirms importance of film 'Europe': Kuwaiti film maker Abdullah Bushahri affirmed the importance of the movie "Europe" directed by the Italian-Iraqi national Haider Rashid winning the best movie award at the 41st Cairo Film Festival to enhance the values of cooperation and joint cinema production, reports Al-Seyassah daily.