



KUWAIT: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah poses for a group photo during the Kuwaiti Diplomatic Institute graduation ceremony. —KUNA photos



PM PATRONIZES DIPLOMATIC INSTITUTE GRADUATION CEREMONY

KUWAIT: Under the auspices of His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, a Kuwaiti Diplomatic Institute graduation ceremony was held yesterday - celebrating the fifth class of diplomats. After the national anthem and verses from the holy Quran, Director General of the Saud Al-Nasser Al-Sabah Diplomatic Institute Ambassador Abdullatif Al-Sharekh addressed the 24 graduates, where he noted that the institute aims to instill national values in pupils.

Meanwhile, First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah said that the new diplomats will now foray into foreign affairs to serve the nation's best interests. Moreover, he wished every success for the new diplomats as they embark on their diplomatic

careers, urging them to pay heed to His Highness the Amir's advice and to keep the country's best interest at heart.

One of the graduates, Fahad Al-Ajmi, heaped praise on the institute for allowing the trainees the opportunity to hone their skills. Similarly, His Highness the Prime Minister applauded the institute's efforts, saying that diplomacy is essential to preserve national security and stability, at a time where the region has plunged into upheaval. He also encouraged the new diplomats to protect Kuwait's interests in regional and international affairs. The ceremony was attended by former Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mohammad Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah and Deputy Foreign Minister Khaled Al-Jarallah, along with other senior Foreign Ministry officials. —KUNA

KUWAIT OIL PRODUCTION HITS 2.75 MILLION BPD

KUWAIT: Kuwait's total oil production has reached around 2.75 million barrels per day (bpd), CEO of Kuwait Oil Company (KOC) Jamal Jaafar said yesterday. In a statement to the press on the sidelines of Kuwait's International Health Safety and Environment (KIHSE) Conference and Exhibition, Jaafar underscored Kuwait's commitment to an OPEC deal to cut oil output, which has no bearing on production. On Kuwait's production of natural gas, he revealed that free gas output totals out to be 180 million cubic feet per day, while production of associated gas is at 40 million cubic feet per day for every 100,000 barrels. The KOC official noted that the company is eyeing a boom in natural gas production to around 800 or 900 million cubic feet per day, adding that KOC's production capacity amounts to 3.1 million bpd. Moreover, Jaafar said that the company has launched a plethora of monumental projects that aim to ratchet up production capacity, all of which are environment-friendly. —KUNA

BLACKMAIL AND ROBBERY

KUWAIT: A policeman was sent to the Public Prosecution at the order of Criminal Security Affairs Maj Gen Abdelhameed Al-Awadhi for blackmail and robbery using his uniform. The suspect was caught in Mahboula with a victim in his car after blackmailing him, a security source said. The source said the suspect may be responsible for various thefts in the area. After confessing to seven, the office was charged with three. A security source said criminal detectives received tips about a policeman who blackmails expats, particularly roaming vendors. According to sources, the suspect always harasses vendors - asking them to pay money or face deportation.

Controversial video clip

A Tunisian woman and two citizens were arrested following the broadcast of a video clip that could harm national

unity. The three were charged with promoting vice, instigating strife and violating Kuwaiti societal customs and traditions. A security source said the Tunisian expat will be deported when investigations by the prosecution are complete. Detectives checked the tape, which was the subject of multiple complaints, and agreed it contained illegal content. The three were subsequently arrested for disseminating the material.

Bedoons arrested for drugs

Jahra police sent two bedoons to Drugs Control General Department after they were caught near Naseem with drugs. A security source said police stopped a car at dawn Wednesday, and found the driver and a companion confused. Officers then noticed drugs, and searched the car where they found hashish and other drug paraphernalia.

Kuwaiti beat girlfriend

A citizen accused his wife of damaging his 2015 model car, after insulting him. In another development, a man beat his girlfriend after he discovered that she has relations with another person. The woman complained to police and submitted a medical report, stating that she suffered bruises on her body and face. The Kuwaiti man confessed to beating her.

'Prostitutes' nabbed

Two Chinese women practiced prostitution under the cover of unlicensed medical massage inside a Salmiya flat. A security source said police received tips about their illegal practices in a Salmiya flat and, upon confirmation, raided it. The women said they publicized their activities on the internet, and charge customers KD 50 per hour. They were sent to concerned authorities.

—Al Rai/Al Anbaa

KUWAIT AFFIRMS ITS KEENNESS ON PROVIDING JOBS FOR YOUTH

MANAMA: The Manpower and Government Restructuring Program (MGRP) of Kuwait affirmed yesterday keenness on finding solutions and providing job opportunities for young Kuwaitis in various fields, particularly in small and medium enterprises. MGRP has keen interest in qualifying and employing national labor through holding specialized training courses for the youngsters that prepare and qualify them for employment and running their own small and medium enterprises, MGRP's Secretary-General Fawzy Al-Majdaly stated to KUNA.

Al-Majdaly made his remarks after taking part in a workshop, entitled "Developing small enterprises in GCC States", to discuss and address subjects related to supporting young businessmen and businesswomen in the field of small enterprises. The workshop aimed at exchanging expertise, reviewing Gulf States' experiences, discussing future developments, and finding ways to reform policies and laws in the field of supporting small enterprises at GCC countries, said the MGRP chief. —KUNA