

Local

# Kuwait welcomes Saudi Crown Prince's visit, sets date for parliament resumption

Great opportunity to exchange views over issues of mutual interest



KUWAIT: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah presides over the cabinet weekly meeting. — KUNA

**KUWAIT:** The government of Kuwait yesterday congratulated the Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz and the Saudi people for the Kingdom's national day and welcomed Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman's upcoming visit to Kuwait. The visit is part of deep-rooted relations between Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, and would be a great opportunity to exchange views over a host of issues of mutual interest, as well as further cementing cooperation at different levels, Deputy Premier and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Anas Al-Saleh said in a statement after the cabinet meeting.

The meeting was chaired by His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah. The cabinet members were informed about His Highness the Prime Minister's trip to New York to represent His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah to the UN General Assembly's 73rd Session. HH the Prime Minister will be accompanied by Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, Minister of Social Affairs and Labor and Minister of State for Economic Affairs Hind Al-Sabeeh, Minister of

Health Sheikh Dr Bassel Al-Sabah, Minister of Education and Minister of Higher Education Dr Hamed Al-Azmi.

In other news, the date for the start of the National Assembly's third regular session of the 15th legislative term has been finalized for October 30th, Kuwait's top lawmaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem said yesterday. "After much consultation with all lawmakers and the government, we have agreed that parliament will officially resume on October 30," Al-Ghanim told the press.

The cabinet, meanwhile, approved a draft law over the

right to have access to information with the aim of boost in transparency and fighting corruption, as well as the executive bylaw of the conflict of interest law.

The cabinet assigned several government bodies to tackle water ponds in Sabah Al-Ahmad Area and took note of a KD 2 million donation from the Ali Abdulwahab Al-Mutawa company to buy medicine for cancer patients and approved a draft decree to hold the 3rd term of the 15th legislative session of the parliament on October 30. — KUNA

In my view

## Why is there a war on expats?



By Talal Al-Ghannam

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**G**ood day to my honorable brothers and sisters. It has been long since I wrote my last article and in today's column I would like to talk about Kuwait's ongoing war on the honorable expatriates who have come here to earn a decent living. In the past few months, expatriates have been subjected to a fierce war by many citizens who call for deporting a large number of foreign workers as Kuwait has become an ever growing center for such labor.

In every country, there are big portions of expatriates who come to the country legally and with the consent of the official authorities to seek a decent living. They didn't enter the country illegally to be deported under extremely stressful conditions. The majority of expats have come here according to authenticated contracts either as domestic helpers, laborers or are seeking jobs in the private sector. It is a shame to see so many citizens call for reduction of the number of expatriate workers even when the majority of their jobs do not suit them.

The blame should not be put on the legal expatriates who come here to serve the country and get salaries in return for their service. The blame must be put on the sponsors who brought them here while refusing to provide them with decent jobs or the proper paperwork. They can't be blamed because officially they are here with authentic contracts and entered the country through legal ports. So how come we are so eager to deport them?

Another point I want to elaborate on is that if such a foreign labor force becomes absent from the country, who then would take their place? I am talking about some professions a Kuwaiti would never do such as domestic helpers, public road cleaners, gas station dispenser and so many other jobs that an expat is willing to handle. So, for the sake of Almighty Allah, give those people a chance to work peacefully, serve Kuwait and fight those who wish to harm the country through ignorance.

## Limited reshuffling in a few hospitals

**KUWAIT:** MOH undersecretary, Dr Mustafa Redha recently approved a limited reshuffling in some hospitals and polyclinics' assistant managers, said informed sources noting that reshuffling included appointing Bader Fahad Al-Mutairi as assistant manager at Kuwait Psychiatric Health Center, Meshaal Salem Al-Thefeiri as assistant manager at Jaber Al-Ahmed Molecular medicine center, Anwar Misfer Al-Otaibin to NBK hospital, Meshaal Soud Al-Rasheed to the physiotherapy hospital, Musaed Sabah Al-Shemmari to KCCC, Nashi Abdullah Al-Rasheed to Farwaniya hospital, Ahmed Moussa Al-Ramadhan to Adan hospital, Abdullah Omar Al-Otaibi to Sabah Al-Ahmed Kidney and urology center and Meshaal Nahar Al-Mutairi to Al-Razi hospital. — Al-Anbaa

## Municipality celebrates Saudi national day



By Hanan Al-Saadoun

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait Municipality celebrated Saudi Arabia's 88th National Day by raising Saudi flags in Mubarakiya market. The municipality prepared a program in cooperation with the information ministry that included several activities including folkloric bands shows and Saudi patriotic songs. Saudi flags were distributed to those in the market along with a display broadcasting from Sheikh Mubarak kiosk yard live on Kuwait television.



## 27 reports listed on parliamentary agenda

By A Saleh / Meshaal Al-Enezi

**KUWAIT:** Well-informed government sources said 27 reports were listed on parliamentary committee agendas, of which nine, including expats' health insurance, advocates' profession, contesting cassation court verdicts and organizing the import of energy foods, are those that both executives and lawmakers have already agreed upon.

The sources added that five reports are being discussed, while 10 others are disputed, including taxing expat remittances, increasing public service fees, the state's public debt, nomination for leading positions, shortening detention periods, reducing the interest on social security loans, amending the citizenship law, turning Kuwait Airways into a company, amending the Municipal Council con-

stituencies and amending the parliament's rules of procedure.

### Unfinished topics

Head of the parliamentary budgets and final statements committee Adnan Abdulsamad said the committee met to discuss some unfinished topics on the committee's agenda and follow up the most important issues to adopt in the next parliamentary term. Abdulsamad added that the topics include having more control on monitoring the exceptional armament budget, linking educational system outcomes to local market needs, collecting the government's overdue debts and depositing government profits in the future generations fund.

### Control units at municipality

The Municipal Council's environment affairs committee approved a proposal made on establishing control units at the municipality and various government bodies in collaboration with EPA to monitor environmental performance.

### Criminal court

The criminal court yesterday sentenced a bedoon to five years in jail with labor and abstained from punishing a number of male and female citizens over charges of forging medical reports.

## New recruitment strategy for citizens in MEW

**KUWAIT:** Oil Minister, Electricity and Water Minister Eng Bakheet Al-Rashidi said MEW finished a new strategy that aims at qualified Kuwaitis to get more involved in MEW's works and activities.

He said that the general aim of the new strategy is to encourage Kuwaitis to serve Kuwait and its people in addition to providing more jobs for them. Al-Rashidi said the strategy includes increasing training programs at the main manufacturers that the ministry deals with in important and technical fields, so that the training programs take place at the same manufacturing environment, to ensure trainees the best training quality. —Al-Anbaa

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