

Local

Govt comfortable with debating two grilling motions in inaugural session

Two real estate companies suspended for violating money laundering and terrorism funding law

By A Saleh

KUWAIT: The government is ready for the inaugural parliamentary session due to be held on Tuesday and discussing the grilling motions filed by MP Mohammed Hayef against Finance Minister Nayef Al-Hajraf and by MP Omar Al-Tabtabaei against Minister of State for Housing Affairs Jenan Bushehri, well-informed governmental sources said.

The government has the right upon parliamentary approval to demand postponing discussing both motions for two weeks because regulations give ministers the right of postponement without parliamentary approval if the concerned grilling motion was filed less than two weeks before the discussion session, and with approval if it was filed more than two weeks earlier, which is the case in both motions.

"However, the government will not postpone the discussion, which means that the inaugural session is expected to be a long one that may last until the early hours of Wednesday," the sources remarked, noting that the government believes that it would be more

comfortable discussing both motions in one session to ease the pressure and arrange more votes in favor of its ministers.

Further, the sources predicted that no-confidence motions will be filed and that the government already knows that at least 10 lawmakers are ready to file them for each motion. "Nonetheless, the government is fully confident this will not be achieved because it takes the votes of at least 25 lawmakers to pass a no-confidence motion," the sources explained, noting that 18 lawmakers are currently willing to vote in the no-confidence motions but the government is trying to reduce the number by contacting some of them. "If the government finds both ministers over barrels, it will then resort to a limited reshuffle, which is not likely to happen," the sources concluded.



Authority allocates 2,053 apartments for women

Money laundering

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI) announced suspending the licenses of two real estate companies as per law number 106/2013 pertaining money laundering and terrorism funding. In this regard, a statement issued by MoCI explained that the suspension decisions were made by undersecretary Abdullah Al-Afasi, ordering the temporary suspension of the two companies, their subsidiaries and partners' licenses and activities until the violations detected are removed.

Shamlan harbor

Kuwait Fishermen's Union stressed its keenness on protecting fishermen's rights and safety, adding that more and more complaints have been pouring in from fishermen concerning accidents and serious injuries they have been suffering because

of the old marina at Shamlan harbor. "Many fishermen have suffered from such accidents while sailing in and out of the harbor," the union said in a statement yesterday, noting that it had sent several complaints to the company responsible for maintaining the harbor demanding repairs, especially since the harbor has been serving fishermen for over 20 years without due maintenance. "Unfortunately, the company has been ignoring the complaints," the union said, noting that a citizen recently fell from the harbor and is currently receiving medical treatment for injuries to his leg and arm at Amiri Hospital.

2,053 apartments

The Public Authority for Housing Welfare stressed that the total value of its projects is around KD 1.3 billion, while the total number of citizens who have so far applied to get housing units in South Sabah Al-Ahmad City is 1,600, in addition to 320 applying to get an apartment in Jaber Al-Ahmad City's vertical housing units. The authority added 2,053 apartments will be allocated to be rented to Kuwaiti women.

local spotlight

Fraud



By Muna Al-Fuzai

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How many times has an email come to your inbox stating that you are eligible for immigration or study or work abroad or telling you that your dream life is waiting for you in X country? If you were planning to immigrate or study abroad and already started the official process with an authorized attorney, this should not be a surprise. But when an email comes to you without your request or consent or even thinking about the matter, then you need to stop and think twice before replying to such messages, because maybe this is a fraud or spam and you can lose your money along with wasting much time.

This article is not intended to frighten those who wish to immigrate or study abroad, but to alert people of the importance of taking the correct and legal steps to avoid trouble, loss of money and disappointment. There is an official government body in Kuwait called the consumer protection office, which has a big role in protecting the public from any possible fraud or cheating, either by a shop, restaurant or office. So anyone who feels that they have fallen victim to such ill practices should not hesitate to communicate with them - this is their job.

I believe that the safest, easiest and best way for those who want to emigrate or study abroad should be to go to the embassy of the country to which they want to move to get the right answers, as they know how to direct people, whether to the right sites for registration or authorized offices which they may deal with. The embassy will surely have the right response. Running behind a fake email or a call from an anonymous person is very dangerous. It could feed your dreams, but won't take you anywhere.

One of the readers sent me a complaint about this subject. He said he received an offer to emigrate abroad without his request, but he liked the idea. He paid a large sum of money for the procedures. But after several years, he did not go anywhere. I quote him here: "When I asked to refund the money, they said it's nonrefundable as it's mentioned in the receipt. They also said that I don't have a good enough band score in the IELTS exam."

I would like to mention that I do not know the conditions and requirements for immigration. Every country has certain requirements, and maybe a good command of English is a prerequisite. I had an expatriate friend who left Kuwait years ago and I remember that this matter took her about two years and required money, time and reviews, but what I know for sure is that she had a lawyer to review the conditions and terms of all paperwork.

The other thing that I would like to note is that there are intuitive things that people must pay attention to when signing any contract in Kuwait. For example, the contract must have both an Arabic and English version, because in the event of a dispute, the country's courts here will be the legal reference and make the final judgment. Unfortunately, I see a lot of people get into trouble because they do not speak Arabic, yet they sign papers in Arabic only out of confidence, and this is a mistake. When you put your name on a paper, then you must know what you are saying yes for! Caution is a duty and is required to avoid losing money and time.

2 kg drugs found in parcel coming from Europe

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

KUWAIT: Air cargo customs officers foiled an attempt to smuggle in around 2 kg of 'chemical' - a street name for a drug consisting of synthetic marijuana with added chemicals, by courier from a European country. The customs department informed the interior ministry to take further legal action. The discovery of the drugs was made after an inspector had suspicions that the parcel's contents were not as mentioned in the customs papers, so he opened it and found the illegal substance.

Garage fire

Firemen from the Industrial Shuwaikh, Ardiya



KUWAIT: A photo released by the customs department yesterday showing the drugs found inside a Kuwait-bound shipment.

and backup fire stations rushed to a Rai garage where a fire was reported. The blaze was in room where tools, equipment and spare parts were stored. The flames were put out before spreading. Investigations are under way to determine the cause of the blaze.



A fireman battles a blaze in a Rai garage.

Specialist reveals new technique to treat disc problems

By Abdellatif Sharaa

KUWAIT: Interventional radiologist, spinal column and chronic pain consultant Dr. Walid Al-Hajji spoke about a new technique to treat backbone disc problems. The treatment uses needles and advanced and accurate tools to resize the disc and make it smaller to allow the patient avoid major surgeries, he explained, adding that the success rate of these treatments is around 80 percent in most patients, along with exercising and reducing weight. He said modern medicine aims to reduce surgeries and this is the job of interventional radiology.



Dr. Walid Al-Hajji

Hajji said the percentage of disc cases is high in the Gulf region in general and Kuwait in particular - up to 70 percent in the elderly, while it also affects younger people due to obesity, along with athletes who are involved in sports such as weightlifting without strengthening the back muscles. He said young men who do not pay attention to strengthening their muscles before being involved in weightlifting are prone to cartilage slips more than others. He advised young people to strengthen their muscles before starting to lift weights.

Hajji said the elderly suffer from disc cases because of advanced age and weakened back muscles. He said most of those who suffer from disc disorders also suffer from sciatica, and its symptoms include pain that radiates to the legs, numbness in the feet, and muscle cramps in legs that increase with standing or sitting for long periods and sometimes with walking if the patient is overweight. Hajji said the percentage of women with disc cases increases after the age of 50 due to the danger of osteoporosis and may reach a prevalence of 80 percent, while youngsters are less prone to suffer from disc conditions. Hajji warned against laziness, lack of exercise and being overweight, because these are the main causes of disc conditions.

Municipality trims cleaning contracts to KD 124 million

KUWAIT: New government contracts for parking lot and street cleaning services are worth KD 124 million (\$410 million), which cost KD 160 million (\$528 million) less than previous deals, Kuwait Municipality said yesterday. The reduced cost is a testament to the municipality's commitment to preserve public funds, it said in a statement, commending the ubiquitous teams of janitors who toil in buildings and streets around-the-clock nationwide. The government will not hesitate to levy fines on any sweeping firm found to be negligent or not adhering to national laws, added the statement, highlighting that the contracts do not encompass commercial areas, as shopkeepers there deal with private suppliers of janitorial services. It went on to say that these contracts run smoothly for the most part, save for minor glitches here and there. — KUNA

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Only locally available candidates in Kuwait with a transferable Work Visa will be considered.

Please submit your resume to ptgcareers@gmail.com.

Position 1: Sales Engineer – Road And Construction Equipment

- Education & Certification:**
- Bachelor's Degree / Diploma in any Engineering discipline.
- Skills, Competencies & Experience:**
- Expert knowledge required in Road / Asphalt / Pavers / Crushing equipment.
 - Very good communication (both verbal & written), interpersonal and presentation skills are required.
 - Independent problem solving ability and out of box thinking.
 - Knowledge of Arabic is a plus.
 - Kuwait driving license is mandatory.
 - Minimum 4 years' of experience in a related job function.

Position 2: Sales Engineer - Dewatering

- Education & Certification:**
- Bachelor's Degree / Diploma in any Engineering discipline.
- Skills, Competencies & Experience:**
- Candidate should have strong fundamental knowledge of dewatering pumps, systems and dewatering industry related equipment.
 - Very good communication (both verbal & written), interpersonal and presentation skills are required.
 - Knowledge of Arabic is a plus.
 - Kuwait driving license is mandatory.
 - Minimum 4 years' of experience in a related job function.

Position 3: Sales Engineer - Rentals

- Education & Certification:**
- Bachelor's Degree / Diploma in any Engineering discipline.
- Skills, Competencies & Experience:**
- Must have operational knowledge of Aerial and Access Platforms.
 - Product knowledge of Boom Lift, Mast Lift, Scissor Lift, and other equipment is required.
 - Very good communication (both verbal & written), interpersonal and presentation skills are required.
 - Knowledge of Arabic is a plus.
 - Kuwait driving license is mandatory.
 - Minimum 4 years' of experience in a related job function.

Position 4: Executive – Stores / Spare Parts

- Education & Certification:**
- Graduate or equivalent in any field of study.
- Skills, Competencies & Experience:**
- Should have experience managing record of sales, restocking the store, training store staff, planning promotional campaigns.
 - Check incoming materials for quality and quantity against invoices, purchase orders and packing slips or other documents.
 - Must be able to compile report of expenditure, and generate monthly stock report.
 - Very good communication (both verbal & written), interpersonal and presentation skills are required.
 - Knowledge of Arabic is a plus.
 - Minimum 3 years' of experience in a related job function.

Position 5: Sr. Representative – Collections

- Education & Certification:**
- Graduate or equivalent in any field of study.
- Skills, Competencies & Experience:**
- Locate and notify customers to solicit payment.
 - Liaise with customers to determine reasons for overdue payments, review of terms of sales, service, or credit contracts.
 - Persuade customers to pay amounts due on credit accounts or non-payable checks, or to return merchandise.
 - Receive payments and post amounts paid to customer accounts.
 - Record information about financial status of customers and collection efforts.
 - Knowledge of Arabic is mandatory.
 - Kuwait driving license is mandatory.
 - Minimum 4 years' experience in a related job function.

Position 6: Public Relations Officer (PRO)

- Education & Certification:**
- Graduate or equivalent in any field of study.
- Skills, Competencies & Experience:**
- Must be a native Arabic speaker with good command over English and use of emails.
 - Must be a resident of Kuwait for at least 10 years with valid Civil ID.
 - Should have relevant experience working for dealership(s) of Heavy Equipment where Traffic registration is a regular activity.
 - Should be well versed with Customs clearance procedures.
 - Should be able to liaise and manage visas related issues with Labor Ministry.
 - Should be able to liaise and manage activities with any other related Ministries to ensure a smooth working of the organisation.
 - Minimum 10+ years' experience in a related job function.

Position 7: Senior Technician

- Education & Certification:**
- Technical School or Diploma in related Engineering field.
- Skills, Competencies & Experience:**
- Should be able to read, understand and prepare Method Statements, P&ID's and Completion Reports.
 - Exposure to various Hydraulic and Pneumatic systems like Pumps, Compressors, Valves etc.,
 - Chemical application knowledge is an added advantage.
 - Minimum 5 years' of specific experience in Lube Oil Flushing, Air Blowing & Chemical Cleaning in the Oil and Gas Industry.