



**4** Kuwait marks 30th anniversary of key education landmark



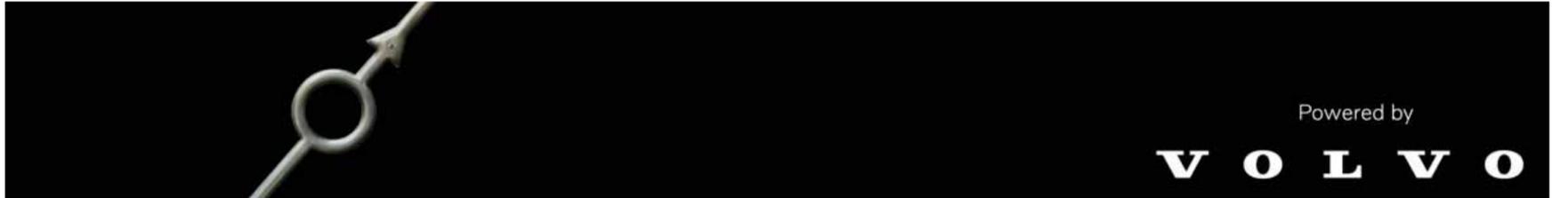
**6** Jailed Chadian ex-leader Habre dies in Senegal



**13** Businesses fear for Afghan rug weavers as Taliban take over



**14** European football giants to take 2bn euro COVID hit



# Kuwait resumes direct flights with six countries

## First flights from Egypt and India land in Kuwait today

### Amir receives bronze medal winner Rashidi



KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah with Tokyo 2020 Olympics bronze medal winner Abdullah Turqi Al-Rashidi. — Amiri Diwan photo

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received at Bayan Palace yesterday Minister of Electricity, Water, and Renewable Energy, Minister of Social Affairs and Community Development and Acting Minister of State for Youth Affairs Dr Mishaan Al-Otaibi, member of Kuwait Olympic Committee Sheikh Faisal Al-Nawaf Al-Sabah, Committee member and Head of Kuwait Delegation to Tokyo Olympics 2020 Fatima Hayat, and bronze medal winner Abdullah Turqi Al-Rashidi for winning Tokyo Olympics' skeet competition.

HH the Amir praised the outstanding sport achievement by Al-Rashidi that contributed to the hoisting of Kuwaiti flag at the Olympics stadium. HH the Amir also expressed his pride in other Kuwaiti athletes who participated in the Olympic Games and thanked them for their efforts and high-level performance. Top officials in the Amiri Diwan attended the meeting. On his part, shooter Al-Rashidi thanked His Highness for the considerable reception and continuous support for Kuwait's athletes. — KUNA

By B Izzak

KUWAIT: The Civil Aviation Authority yesterday announced the resumption of direct commercial flights with India, Egypt and four Asian nations starting today after several months of suspension to combat the coronavirus pandemic.

The resumption of the flights also includes Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Nepal. Together, the six nations have more than 70 percent of the 3.3 million expats living and working in Kuwait. The first flight is expected to arrive from Egypt after midnight on Wednesday to be followed with two flights from India. The civil aviation circular emphasized the need to observe health guidelines.

The decision to resume direct flights was taken by the Council of Ministers earlier this week on recommendation by the coronavirus ministerial committee following a sharp drop in the number of new cases and the number of patients. The civil aviation also recalled that immunized passengers are those who had received two doses of Pfizer, Moderna and AstraZeneca and one dose of Johnson and Johnson. Those who had received two doses of unapproved vaccines abroad - Sinopharm, Sinovac, Sputnik V - must receive an additional dose of one of the four approved vaccines.



KUWAIT: Passengers arrive at the Kuwait International Airport in this file photo.

Those who had been vaccinated in Kuwait can prove vaccination through Immune or Kuwait Mobile ID applications or Kuwait Mosafer platform, the civil aviation said.

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Newlywed couple Horlan Jeff Malaza and Mary Ann Malaza

### Filipino couple's fishing adventure turns into tragedy

By Ben Garcia

KUWAIT: Newlywed couple Horlan Jeff Malaza, 28 and Mary Ann Malaza, 30, decided to go out for some quality time fishing on the weekend. They went to a spot off Balajat Street in Salmiya on August 20, 2021. But two hours later Horlan had gone missing.

Thirty three hours later, his lifeless body was found in the sea about a kilometer away from where he had last been seen. His wife said Horlan worked the shore, wading into the water while fishing and must have been drowned that

way. "We went last Friday for fishing because he really loves fishing," said wife Mary Ann while talking to Kuwait Times at the couple's flat in Salmiya. "For me, it was the first time to go with him fishing, otherwise he would go fishing alone. That Friday, I was excited because we both were off work, and I promised him many times that I will accompany him that day, so we went," she said.

When they arrived at the area around 5pm, Horlan immediately went to a 'quiet spot' for fishing.

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KUWAIT: A photograph of Horlan Jeff Malaza taken shortly before he went missing off Balajat, Salmiya. — Photos courtesy Mary Ann Malaza

### Taliban issue new warning against airlift extension

KABUL: The Taliban yesterday urged skilled Afghans not to flee the country, as the new rulers of Afghanistan warned the United States and its NATO allies they would not accept an extension to a looming evacuation deadline-even as Western countries said time was running out.

A spokesman for the hardline Islamist group told America to stop taking "Afghan experts" such as engineers and doctors out of the country. "This country needs their expertise. They should not be taken to other countries," Zabihullah Mujahid told a press conference in the capital Kabul.

"They should not encourage the Afghan people to flee Afghanistan." European nations have said they would not be able to airlift at-risk Afghans before the August 31 cut-off, and United States President Joe Biden has faced calls from all corners to extend the evacuation window.

But speaking at a press conference in the capital Kabul, Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said the Islamist group opposes an extension. "They have planes, they have the airport, they should get their citizens and contractors out of here," said

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KABUL: In this handout image courtesy of the US Marine Corps, a child (center) looks at the aircraft as he is strolled towards his flight during an evacuation at Hamid Karzai International Airport, Kabul yesterday. — AFP

### Kuwait nears herd immunity in nine months

KUWAIT: Kuwait has nearly achieved herd immunity within just nine months of the start of the country's vaccination campaign against COVID-19, said Dr Khaled Al-Saeed, member of the Supreme Committee for COVID-19 yesterday. Kuwait has reached record number of daily vaccinations, inoculating around two percent of the population per day, he said. The country has managed to achieve this breakthrough administering only authorized vaccines while resisting pressures to use less efficient ones.

Minister of Health Sheikh Dr Basel Humoud Al-Sabah on Monday briefed the Cabinet ministers on the country's health situation amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The minister noted a continuing decline in coronavirus-related deaths, infections and hospitalizations, adding that the recovery rate has increased to 98.3 percent.

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