

Local

Kuwait Amir congratulates UAE on Mars probe mission success

Sheikh Nawaf meets Crown Prince, Prime Minister at Bayan Palace



KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah. — Amiri Diwan and KUNA photos

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent cables of congratulations to UAE's President Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al-Nahayan, Vice President and Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al-Maktoum, and Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al-Nahayan. In the cables, His Highness the Amir expressed his sincere congratulations on the fruitful mission of the

Hope Probe which successfully entered its orbit on Mars on Tuesday. His Highness the Amir lauded this historic and scientific achievement made by the UAE that embodies its space, technical and scientific progress, thanks to the ambitious vision of the country's leadership and unremitting efforts of its children.

This enhances the UAE's status in the international community on all levels, according to the Amir's cables. His Highness the Amir said this



His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah.

Emirati and Arab achievement is a source of pride for all, wishing everlasting health to Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed, Sheikh Mohammad bin Rashid and Sheikh Mohammad bin Zayed. His Highness the Amir also wished the UAE and its brotherly people further prosperity and progress under the wise leadership of Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed. His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad

Al-Sabah sent similar cables. In other news, His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received at Bayan Palace yesterday His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. His Highness the Amir also received His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah. Meanwhile, His Highness the Crown Prince received His Highness the Prime Minister at Bayan Palace. — KUNA

Kuwait's Assembly Speaker meets Qatari Amir, counterpart

DOHA: Kuwait's National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Ali Al-Ghanem met yesterday with Qatar's Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani and Chairman of the Qatari Shura Council Ahmad Al-Mahmoud during an official visit to the Gulf country. Ghanem conveyed to the Qatari Amir a verbal message from Kuwait's Amir His Highness Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, in which His Highness underscored the strong brotherly ties between Kuwait and Qatar, and

recent regional developments. Ghanem also conveyed His Highness's best wishes for Qatar and prayers for more evolution and prosperity. In reply, the Qatari Amir expressed his appreciation for His Highness the Amir of Kuwait's sincere sentiments wishing him a life filled with health and happiness. Later on, Speaker Ghanem held talks with his Qatari counterpart, Chairman of the Consultative Assembly of Qatar Ahmad bin Abdullah Al-Mahmud, in which they discussed ways of bolstering parliamentary cooperation between the two countries and raising the level of coordination in the upcoming international parliamentary events. Furthermore, the two sides also mentioned topics to be discussed in the next Inter-Parliamentary Union meeting and the importance of finding an Arab-Islamic agreement on those matters. — KUNA



DOHA: Kuwait's National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Ali Al-Ghanem meets Qatar's Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani. — KUNA

Hotel booking on return must ...

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DGCA Spokesman Saad Al-Otaibi told Al-Qabas Arabic daily that meetings are being held with concerned authorities to implement institu-

tional quarantine at local hotels for all arrivals for seven days at their own expense through registration on the Kuwait Mosafer app. Another seven days will be spent in home quarantine.

Otaibi said any citizen or expat cannot travel until after selecting and booking the place of quarantine at a Kuwait hotel and paying the cost in full, which is non-refundable and should be paid before traveling. Otaibi said exempting elderly passengers from institutional quarantine is still under discussion.

Houthi attack leaves Saudi...

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Yahya Sarie, spokesman for the Houthis' armed wing, claimed the airport was used to launch attacks on Yemen. But Yemen's information minister, Moammar Al-Eryani, denounced the attack as a "full-fledged war crime" as it endangered the lives of "thousands of civilian travellers of various nationalities". Abha's international airport, which has been struck by the rebels before, is just over 100 km from Saudi Arabia's southern border with Yemen.

The rebels appear to be stepping up attacks on the kingdom and on Riyadh-backed Yemeni forces after the United States moved last week to lift a short-lived designation of the Houthis as a terrorist group. The Houthis have resumed an offensive to seize the Yemeni government's last northern stronghold of Marib, according to a government source, with dozens of

casualties on both sides.

The US State Department on Friday said it had formally notified Congress of its intention to revoke a terrorism designation against the rebels, which had been announced in the final days of the previous administration of Donald Trump. The delisting move came a day after US President Joe Biden announced an end to American support for Saudi-led offensive operations in Yemen.

Biden's decisions last week mark a reversal of policies by the Trump administration, which staunchly backed Saudi Arabia and a fierce opponent of Houthi supporter Iran. Humanitarian groups were deeply opposed to the blacklisting, saying it jeopardized their operations in a country where the majority of people rely on aid and where they have no choice but to deal with the Houthis. Biden, who has also halted some weapons sales to Saudi Arabia, called Yemen's war a "catastrophe" which "has to end". Last week he appointed a US special envoy for Yemen, veteran diplomat Lenderking, who is expected to boost efforts to end the war. In his meeting with Prince Faisal yesterday, Lenderking discussed "developments concerning Yemen" as well as efforts to support a "comprehensive political solution" to the conflict. — AFP

the coronavirus pandemic, but the health ministry insisted that the closures will continue.

Rapporteur of the panel MP Saadoun Hammad said the committee discussed with health ministry representatives the latest developments and called on them to cancel the closures and focus on controlling arrivals from the airport and other borders. He said the ministry insisted it will continue with the closures and "we stressed that if the closures continue, the government should compensate businesses" affected by the measures.

He said that if the government does not end the closures, MPs will submit a draft law for compensation. Hammad said that MPs told the health ministry to test all people arriving through the airport and no one should be allowed to leave before learning the result. The government last week decided to close all shops from 8 pm to 5 am and completely shut health clubs, salons and barbershops. Kuwait also banned the entry of all foreigners for two weeks starting Feb 7.

E-learning to continue; MP...

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cancellation of the auction, adding the ministry will decide the price for vendors and supermarkets.

The decision went into effect yesterday, after large crowds were observed daily at the auction at the main Souq Sharq fish market. Sources at the commerce ministry said the barcode system that was used to organize appointments for consumers last year is ready for use again any time concerned authorities require it, after the drawbacks it faced earlier were removed.

In a related development, the National Assembly's health and labor committee yesterday called on the government to withdraw its latest decisions to close shops to contain the spread of



KUWAIT: Kuwait Times building illuminated with Kuwait's flag colors in celebration of the national holidays. — Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat