

Local

News in brief

Kuwait climbs on corruption index

KUWAIT: Kuwait's ranking improved by seven spots on Transparency International's annual 2020 Corruption Perceptions Index, registering improvements made on tackling corruption in the country since 2019, Kuwait's Anti-Corruption Authority (Nazaha) said. Kuwait scored an additional two points climbing to 42 on the CPI, which ranks 180 countries on their respective corruption levels, with a score of 100 reflecting freedom from corruption and zero being highly corrupt. —KUNA

Trade in local wood banned

KUWAIT: The ministry of commerce and industry has prohibited the trade of locally-cut timber by companies and individuals, aiming to protect vegetation in the country. Minister of Commerce and Industry and State Minister for Economic Affairs Faisal Al-Medlej issued a ministerial decree confirming the decision, according to a press statement. The move bars the display, sale, marketing or export of locally-sourced timber unless prior approval is obtained from relevant authorities, with legal measures to be taken against those found in violation. —KUNA

Audi Bureau slams MoE spending

KUWAIT: The State Audit Bureau reported the ministry of education spent KD 64 million on digital learning platforms and preparation for students during the coronavirus pandemic. Since March 2020, however, only 5 percent of the country's 426,000 students and teachers have used the e-learning portal. The Audit Bureau report notes there are various irregularities in the ministry's handling of education during the pandemic: Teachers are not using the fingerprint system, salaries and other financial disbursements to employees have been made unlawfully, internal controls are lacking and management oversight is weak, reported Al-Rai Arabic daily. The education ministry has a budget of more than KD 11 million for the 2019/2020 academic year.

Warning against ATVs

KUWAIT: Ahmadi Security Directorate has placed several signs about the dangers of quad bikes and small cycles inside residential areas and on main roads and highways. Several awareness signs were placed in vital areas of Seaside Sabah Al-Ahmad, while the chalets area and Wafra farms will get the signs later. The directorate asked parents to cooperate in this regard by supervising their children and educating them about the dangers of riding quad bikes in residential areas.

Youths fight in park

KUWAIT: The interior ministry's relations and security information department said police responded to a report about a fight in an Adailiya park. When they arrived, they found an injured juvenile, who was taken to hospital by medics. The fight - between cousins - was over playing football in the park. Further legal action will be taken against both youths.

Kuwait loses to Iraq in friendly

BASRA: Kuwait's national football team lost 1-2 to Iraq in an international friendly on Wednesday as part of preparations for the resumption of the Asian Qualifiers for the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 and AFC Asian Cup China 2023. The game took place at the Jidhe Al-Nakhlah Stadium in Basra.

The Iraqi team had the better start, but the Kuwaiti team was able to score the first goal of the match through Eid Al-Rashidi in the 24th minute of the game. In the beginning of the second half, Kuwait wasted many chances to score. In the last 10 minutes, Iraq's Mohammad Al-Dawoud was able to equalize due to lack of communication among Kuwaiti defenders. In the 88th minute, Ayman Hussain scored the winning goal for Iraq through the penalty spot.

The game was organized after an invitation from Iraqi Sports Minister Adnan Darjal to evaluate Iraq's readiness to host the upcoming 25th Gulf Cup in Basra. Kuwait will participate in



BASRA: Players vie for the ball during a friendly match between Kuwait and Iraq at the Jidhe Al-Nakhlah Stadium on Wednesday. —KUNA

the 2022 FIFA World Cup Asian qualifiers and the 2023 AFC Asian Cup in Group B with Australia, Jordan, China,

Taiwan and Nepal, while Iraq is in Group C, which includes Bahrain, Iran, Hong Kong and Cambodia. —KUNA

Jahra beat Shabab in volleyball league

KUWAIT: Jahra volleyball team defeated Al-Shabab by 3 games to 2 at the conclusion of the 9th round of the volleyball Premier League. Jahra has 12 points and is in fifth place, while Shabab with 9 points in the 6th and last place. The two teams will play with the second place winner of the first division. Those in the first and second place will then go to the Premier League, while the loser will drop to the first division.



Asian Shooting Championship begins virtually

By Abdellatif Sharaa

KUWAIT: The first virtual Asian Shooting Championship will start today at Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Olympic Shooting Complex, as Kuwait Shooting Federation is the organ-

izer. The tournament is under the patronage of President of Asian Shooting Confederation Sheikh Salman Sabah Al-Salem Al-Hmoud Al-Sabah in the skeet, trap, 10m air pistol and rifle, with 22 countries participating.

Secretary General of Kuwait and Arab Shooting Federations Obaid Al-Osaimi said official competitions will start at 10 am local time of each participating country. Competitions in the 10m air pistol for men and women will be held today, and the first day of skeet and trap shooting at 75 clay targets will be completed tomorrow.

The results of the 10m air rifle and finals of

the skeet and trap will be sent by each federation to the organizing committee in Kuwait, which will calculate the results and announce the top three winners.

Osaimi, who also chairs the planning and development committee at the ASC, said the organizing committee is keen on communicating with all participating federations through the technical control room where activities will be followed at various Asian shooting ranges in Asia. Osaimi thanked President of the Asian Shooting Federation Sheikh Salman for his efforts to improve the sport of shooting in Kuwait and Asia.