

Kuwait to permit partial professional sports

KUWAIT: New sports rules will be adopted in Kuwait soon, allowing football, handball, volleyball and basketball players to be dedicated to their games during a sports season, Director-General of the Kuwaiti Public Authority for Sport Humoud Flaiteh said yesterday. Distinguished individual athletes representing Kuwaiti national sports teams are also entitled to the same status in line with the imminent regulations.

Flaiteh said in a statement to the press. The move, which comes at the behest of Minister of Information and Culture and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Abdulrahman Al-Mutairi, is part of the authority's 2022-2028 strategy purposed to spur young athletes to excel in their favorite games. The rules, which have capped the efforts of an ad hoc group, will enable athletes to have more time to get proper training and revamp their technical levels and full dedication to the sport, the official pointed out. However, the authority has set out clear-cut and unequivocal criteria and controls to ensure that sports clubs and federations will put the fresh regulations, once approved, in place in a proper mode, he stressed.

The rules are just a step towards the application of full professional sports in the country, he said, hoping that the plan will help Kuwaiti athletes develop their performance and participation both at home and abroad. —KUNA

Indian embassy celebrates India's constitution day

By Sajeev K Peter

KUWAIT: Embassy of India in Kuwait celebrated 'Constitution Day of India' on Friday, commemorating the adoption of the country's constitution. The ceremony got off to a solemn start with Indian Ambassador Sibi George paying floral tribute to the statue of Mahatma Gandhi at the embassy premises. Welcoming members of Indian diaspora and representatives of Indian associations in Kuwait, the ambassador underlined the importance of constitution of India in making India one of the biggest democracies of the world. On November 26, 1949, the constituent assembly of India adopted the constitution of India which came into effect on January 26, 1950.

"Every day, it is the constitution of India that gets celebrated when we conduct our day-to-day life in peaceful and orderly manner. Every day, it is the constitution of India that gets celebrated when we conduct our examinations all across the country to select people on the basis of merit. Its influence and impact are so deep at everything in India," the ambassador said in his opening remarks.

The ambassador noted that due to the constitution, unity in diversity can be seen across the length and breadth of India. "Today, we remember the members of the constituent assembly, its president Dr Rajendra Prasad and the chairman of the drafting committee Dr B R Ambedkar and many others who gave us this constitution. The constitution has provided India the necessary framework helping the country make achievements in diverse fields, including atomic energy, space science, agriculture, biotechnology and information technology," he said.

He concluded his speech by reading the 'Preamble of the Indian Constitution'. A video on 'Attack of 26/11', in which Prime Minister Narendra Modi paying homage to martyrs of the terror attack on Mumbai, the financial capital of India, was screened. A documentary on 'Making of Constitution of India' was screened and winners of 'Arts Exhibition' organized by the Indian Women Network (IWN) were felicitated on the occasion. An exhibition on 'Making of Constitution of India' was also jointly inaugurated by the ambassador and his spouse Joice Sibi at the embassy premises.



KUWAIT: Indian Ambassador Sibi George, Joice Sibi and others take a look at a portrait on display at the exhibition on 'Making of Constitution of India' at the Indian embassy.

Photo of the Day



KUWAIT: Vehicles drive along a highway as Kuwait City's skyline is seen. —Photo by Fouad Al-Shaikh

Iran official visits Kuwait, UAE ahead of nuke talks



KUWAIT: Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah (right) meets Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Ali Bagheri in Kuwait City on Thursday. —KUNA photos



Kuwaiti Deputy Foreign Minister Majdi Al-Dhafiri (right) meets Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Ali Bagheri.

ABU DHABI: A senior Iranian official visited Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates last week, state media said, days before he heads for talks with world powers on his country's nuclear program. The visit by Ali Bagheri, Tehran's chief nuclear negotiator, is the first to Gulf Arab states by an official of the new government of Iran's ultraconservative President Ebrahim Raisi.

On Wednesday Bagheri, who is also Iran's deputy foreign minister, travelled to Abu Dhabi where he met Anwar Gargash, adviser to the UAE

president. The discussions focused on strengthening "ties on the basis of good neighborliness and mutual respect" and developing economic and trade links, the official Emirati news agency WAM said.

On Thursday, Bagheri visited Kuwait where he spoke of "deep ties" between the two countries, according to the official KUNA agency. Commenting on his tour, Bagheri said there was agreement to "open a new chapter" with the UAE and to "open new horizons" with Kuwait.

The United Arab Emirates downgraded ties with Iran in 2016 amid rivalry between its ally Saudi Arabia and the Islamic republic. Talks to restore the 2015 nuclear deal between Iran and world powers are due to resume in Vienna on Monday, after a suspension since June.

The deal has been gradually disintegrating since former US president Donald Trump unilaterally withdrew from it in 2018. President Joe Biden's administration says it is working to return the United States to the accord. —AFP

KFH supports first carbon offset platform in Kuwait

KUWAIT: Kuwait Finance House (KFH) signed a strategic partnership with Sidra Initiative and Green Dream Team under the umbrella of (KFH is Green) campaign. This activity comes as part of its efforts to protect environment and achieve the plantation and greening of Kuwait as part of its social responsibility.

This strategic partnership aims to spread awareness on the significance of reserving environment and plantation. The partnership comprises of several environment projects and activities in the field of tree plantation and the elimination of carbon emissions.

The partnership aims to unify efforts to increase greenery in Kuwait and encourage environment friendly initiatives. Also, through this kind of initiatives, KFH can support UN Sustainable Development Goals which are compatible with Kuwait's 2035 vision.

KFH Assistant Manager - Public Relations, Fahad Al-Saad said: This agreement represents an integral part of KFH strategy which aims to continue efforts to achieve a sustainable impact for its social initiatives and contributions, thus reflecting the bank's interest in various issues namely the environment issue. Through these initiatives, we expect KFH to be the main supporter to preserve Kuwait's environment and enhance environmental culture among society members and to encourage them to protect environment.

From his side, Shabeeb Alajmi, Green Dream Team Leader said that "A strategic partnership has been signed with KFH to support biological diversification in the State of Kuwait and increase plantation of wild trees in natural



KUWAIT: The officials attend a press conference announcing the partnership.

reserves. We thank KFH for this initiative and wish you all prosperity and success"

The founder of Sidra Initiative, Khaled Alwaqqyan expressed his pleasure in signing the strategic partnership with KFH. He said "Through this partnership we shall establish the first Carbon Offset Platform in Kuwait. We shall initially mitigate carbon emissions by increasing trees plantation and other future environmental projects will follow later"

The Carbon Offset Platform designed by "Sidra" is considered as a center to facilitate the plantation of trees by giving all individuals and institutions an equal opportunity to participate in this project.

To crown this strategic partnership among KFH, Sidra and Green Dream, KFH is participating in the initial stage of this project by planting 500 trees including 3 years maintenance, which

is the average nursing period required for the tree to be self-sufficient.

KFH plans to exert more efforts in the coming stages to plant more trees and organize similar initiatives. To this end, KFH has encouraged all its employees in addition to the voluntary team to participate in the tree plantation campaign in Abdali reserve as determined by the Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources (PAAAFR).

It is worth mentioning that KFH has participated recently with the PAAAFR in supporting the tree plantation and greening campaign for the agricultural season 2021/2022. The partnership is considered as part of the tree plantation and greening campaign of Kuwait areas. Also, KFH has participated with the authority, in the opening day, in the plantation of Sider trees and participated in other events within the same campaign.