

Kuwaiti teachers invited to Arabic teaching program in US



EU hits Apple with record €13bn tax bill



Internet star sings of Gaza cat and 'My Trousers'



Djokovic beats scare, Nadal eases at revamped US Open



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PUBLIC TRANSPORT, TAXI FARES REVISED AS PETROL PRICES RISE

NEW INCREASED TARIFFS BASED ON DISTANCE TRAVELLED

Min 30°
Max 48°
High Tide 10:46
Low Tide 04:59 & 18:06

NEW PETROL PRICES FROM SEPT 1

Premium (91 octane)	Super (95 octane)	Ultra (98 octane)
85 fils	105 fils	165 fils
↑ 60 fils	↑ 65 fils	↑ 90 fils



KUWAIT: Cars line up at a petrol station late into the night yesterday. Photo by Fouad Al-Shaikh



ABU DHABI: Smoke billows from a building under construction in a residential and commercial district of the capital after a fire broke out yesterday. — AFP

UNDER-CONSTRUCTION TOWER IN ABU DHABI CATCHES FIRE

ABU DHABI: A major fire broke out yesterday in a residential and commercial district of the United Arab Emirates' capital, witnesses said, injuring 13 people. The blaze was in a 25-storey building under construction beside the Rotana Beach Hotel and the Abu Dhabi Mall, emergency workers said. Witnesses said hundreds of laborers were evacuated from the building site as authorities sealed off the surrounding area, and a security official at the hotel said guests and staff were also evacuated as a precaution. Guests were put up overnight at its other properties in the city.

"The fire took place at the building which is in the final stages of construction," a technician with the Ghantoot Group which is undertaking the project told AFP. Thick black smoke could be seen billowing from the blue-colored tower for miles. Fire later broke out again in the lower part of the building, an AFP correspondent said. Emergency services, overseen by helicopters, were still battling the blaze by nightfall.

Continued on Page 13

MINISTER ASSURES NO HIKE IN PRICES

By Faten Omar

KUWAIT: Minister of Commerce and Industry Yousef Al-Ali affirmed yesterday that the introduction of new fuel prices from tomorrow will not "affect prices of basic commodities". Any unjustified bid to raise prices "will be met with firm measures by ministry inspectors", he said, warning wholesale and retail merchants and businessmen against hiking prices on the pretext that fuel costs have increased.

Ali was speaking during a visit to Siddeeq yesterday, adding there can be no increase in prices without the approval of the Ministry of Commerce. He said the government will apply law 10/79 with its penalties against price manipulators. "It is the citizens' right to complain and the ministry if anyone raises prices. The complainant must prove the increase with a receipt."

Continued on Page 13

By Shakir Reshamwala

KUWAIT: Long lines of cars snaked out of gas stations yesterday, as motorists rushed to fill up before petrol prices go up tomorrow, Sept 1. While government officials have reassured the public that prices of basic commodities and services will not be increased, Deputy Premier and Interior Minister Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khalid Al-Sabah yesterday issued ministerial decisions setting new tariffs for taxis and public transport. The new charges are based on the distance travelled.

According to the new amendments that go into effect tomorrow, public transport fares range from 150 fils within Kuwait City to as much as 600 fils to Jahra and Ahmadi. Travelling from Kuwait City on public transport to border areas will cost KD 2,500.

The new taxi fares have been set according to their type - private taxis, call taxis, roaming taxis - ranging from a base charge of 350 fils to 600 fils, which will

increase according to the distance travelled and the waiting period. As for airport taxis/limousines, the new fares are calculated on the type of vehicle and the destination, ranging from KD 5 to KD 35.

The Cabinet raised petrol prices late last month as part of economic reforms aimed at countering falling oil revenues.

From tomorrow, the price of low octane petrol will rise by 41 percent to 85 fils a liter from 60 fils, while high grade petrol will increase by 61 percent to 105 fils from 65 fils. These two types account for most of the petrol consumed in the country. The price of environmentally friendly low-emission "ultra" petrol will go up by 83 percent to 165 fils a liter from 95 fils.

The new ministerial decisions are as follows:

Article One
Article 1, 2 of ministerial decree 173/1982 shall be amended as follows:
Continued on Page 13

IRAN TO PAY COSTS OF INFERTILITY TREATMENT

PAGE 28

'WILLY WONKA' STAR GENE WILDER DIES

PAGE 39

TURKEY OP IN SYRIA FRAUGHT WITH RISK

IS SPOKESMAN ADNANI KILLED IN ALEPPO

QATAR, TURKEY ASSERTING TIES

DOHA: With his fate still uncertain just hours after the launch of the July 15 coup, Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan received his first call of support from a foreign leader. On the other end of the line was Qatar's Emir Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, giving his unequivocal backing for the embattled leader, Erdogan told Turkish media. "It was a significant show of political support at a time when the situation in Turkey was still highly uncertain," said Rice University's Kristian Coates Ulrichsen. "And it contrasted sharply with the lukewarm statements that came out of Western capitals, both at the time and in the weeks since the attempted coup."

Those tepid reactions from elsewhere have been readily highlighted by Erdogan supporters. And at the same time that Turkey has grown suspicious of some in the West, it has ostentatiously thanked the Gulf emirate, especially in Doha. August is a hot and sticky month in the Qatari capital when many envoys flee the heat and head overseas, but not so Turkish ambassador Ahmet Demirok who has been conspicuous only by his presence.

In the days following the coup, Demirok hosted a press conference at his embassy in part to give a government overview of the situation back home for the up to 8,000 Turks living in the emirate, and also to thank the Qataris. Earlier this month Demirok, together with the local Turkish Chamber

Continued on Page 13

operation in Syria could become a drawn-out affair that stokes tensions with Washington if Ankara continues to take the fight to US-backed Kurdish fighters, analysts say. Turkey says its unprecedented offensive aims to rid the border of both the Islamic State group and the anti-IS Kurdish YPG militia, which Ankara also considers a terrorist group. But since sending in tanks to help Syrian Arab rebels rout IS from the border town of Jarabulus last week, Turkey's fight has been mainly with forces affiliated to the YPG.

Yesterday, the US said it had brokered

a "loose agreement" between the two sides to suspend hostilities "for at least the next couple of days". Turkey neither confirmed nor denied the claim, saying only it awaited the fulfillment of a Kurdish promise to the US to retreat east of the Euphrates river "as soon as possible". Deputy Prime Minister Numan Kurtulmus confirmed Monday the army aimed to prevent the creation of a Kurdish-controlled corridor running nearly the entire length of the border, which would bolster Kurdish PKK rebels in southeast Turkey.

Continued on Page 13

DUBAI BURNISHES ARTS WITH NEW OPERA HOUSE



DUBAI: A woman walks near the new Dubai Opera on Aug 28, 2016. The city-state is opening the Dubai Opera tonight, in the shadow of the Burj Khalifa, the world's tallest building. The building resembles one of the many traditional wooden dhows still plying the Dubai Creek. — AP (See Page 37)



This undated image shows Abu Muhammad Al-Adnani, the Islamic State militant group's spokesman, who was killed in northern Syria. — AP