

News

in brief

VERBAL FIRING ILLEGAL

KUWAIT: An employer or company has no right to verbally terminate any employee for any reason, Acting Director of the Public Authority for Manpower Abdullah Al-Mutawtah said. The labor law in the private sector stipulates that termination should be done through an official letter signed by the employer and has a specified date, while an employee is given the legal 90 days' termination period, he explained. "Verbal termination is a violation to the labor law, and such practice is subject to punishment according to the law," he explained. — Al-Anbaa

Natural reserves

KUWAIT: Kuwait plans to carry out the 'largest environmental rehabilitation project in the world' by creating five major natural reserves over a total area of 1,600 square kilometers, said a source at the Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources. The \$470 million project is expected to finish in 2022, he added. — Al-Anbaa

Education's budget

KUWAIT: The Ministry of Education is requesting a KD 1.6 billion budget to cover its expenses for the 2017/2018 fiscal year, Assistant Undersecretary for Financial Affairs Yousuf Al-Najjar said. The budget was recently prepared and submitted to the Finance Ministry for approval, he added. — Al-Rai

Genetic records

KUWAIT: Kuwait is studying a project to collect genome data for Kuwaiti citizens in order to create a genetic record for each individual that can be used to prevent genetic diseases and help cut spending on medicine, said Dr Laila Bastaki, Head of the Kuwait Medical Genetics Center. The project can be applied on all Kuwaitis or certain families, she added. — Al-Rai

Environmental reports

KUWAIT: The Environment Public Authority (EPA) made a request to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to compel companies working in Kuwait to present periodic environmental monitoring reports for developmental and industrial projects, sources said. This condition should also cover projects that require environmental and social impact studies before being executed, they added. — Al-Qabas



الانباء

Al-Anbaa

STAFF OF MOSES

By Saad Al-Mo'tesh

I enjoy the speeches given by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and like to quote him because the wisdom and lessons that he shares are like roadmaps not only to the cabinet members, but also to ordinary citizens. "It is impossible to please all people," His Highness once said to newly appointed cabinet members. He suggested that everyone must adapt to this concept in all areas of life. These wise words can apply to our children when it is hard to agree with them.

The same applies to ministers who are about to be selected for the upcoming cabinet. They should not surrender to illogical demands of lawmakers who only

aim at pleasing their voters by pressuring ministers to unethically appoint some of them in certain positions. This will create an obstacle for competent citizens who

have any parliamentary or tribal support and are capable of achieving prosperity for Kuwait if each MP gives in to his voters' wishes.

The solution this is His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah has the Staff of Moses which will help him accomplish our wishes. However, you have to consider that leading Moses' Staff was more than just making rivers split and driving a herd of sheep.

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— Translated by Kuwait Times

الانباء Al-Anbaa

SPEAKERSHIP ELECTION SURPRISE

By Thaar Al-Rasheedi

The opposition of the annulled 2012 parliament did not last more than a year before it dismantled into tiny blocs, and this is exactly what will happen to the new opposition born after the recent parliamentary elections for several reasons. The most important reason is that the new opposition does not belong to a single political trend and each member has their own agenda, though they agree on broad general policies. Such dissimilarities will come to surface with a grilling motion or vital voting on any bill.

The new opposition includes major blocs; Islamite and independent MPs. Islamic MPs are divided into three different groups while each of the independent ones have their own thoughts and ideas. Since inception, the new opposition is only

The speakership election will reveal the real nature of the new opposition

nominal coherent and that will appear during the speakership and the parliamentary committees' elections on Sunday.

The speakership election will reveal the real nature of the new opposition if they will or will not continue with the same power and momentum. Their real power will be clear before the end of next month, and opposition MPs will not be more than seven while the other 26 opposition MPs will change positions according to political variations.

Accordingly, the speakership elections have already exhibited a considerable difference prior to the second competitor. I will not support a particular candidate. I am just analyzing the facts, after the opposition bloc decided to run for the speakership elections with two candidates, which will be clear on December 11.

— Translated by Kuwait Times

KIB SPONSORS JOB FAIR AT COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AT KUWAIT UNIVERSITY

KUWAIT: Kuwait International Bank (KIB) recently participated in sponsoring the Annual Job Fair at the College of Business Administration at Kuwait University. The sponsorship came in line with the Bank's efforts to support young national talents, particularly fresh graduates, and provide them with promising career opportunities.

"KIB's participation in this job fair stems from our strong belief in the ability of youth to succeed, innovate and create across all sectors - but especially in the realm of business which remains one of the main pillars of our country's economy," said Nawaf Najia, Manager of the Corporate Communications Unit at KIB.

He further added: "These kinds of events are a great opportunity for us to meet with new graduates and to engage with them in an open conversation. It also allows us to introduce these young talents to the many different career opportunities that KIB has to offer, which are tailored to meet their personal and professional aspirations. This all comes in line with our recruitment strategies which focus on attracting the best talents and investing heavily in our human resources."

KIB is always keen on participating in different career and student fairs, as well as other youth-focused events. This comes in line with the Bank's strategic and comprehensive social responsibility program which focuses largely on supporting young national talents, especially fresh graduates, and promoting their future development.



Esra Al-Habib attends the Fikra event.



Group picture for the sponsors of Fikra Program.

GULF BANK GOLD SPONSOR OF 2ND FIKRA PROGRAM TRANSFORMING IDEAS INTO BUSINESS PROJECTS

KUWAIT: Gulf Bank announced its gold sponsorship of Fikra Program in a press conference held to launch the second edition of this program that empowers a new generation of entrepreneurs to develop successful businesses. The press conference, which was organized by Cubicle Services, took place on Tuesday 6 December 2016, at Al-Hamra Tower-Exhibition Hall, in Kuwait City.

Having strategically partnered with the Ministry of State for Youth Affairs, Fikra Program organizers along with the sponsors confirmed that the deadline for entrepreneurs to submit their projects and ideas is January 1 2017.

Abdulrahman Al-Fawaz, CEO of Cubicle Services addressed the business incubators by explaining that Fikra Program for business development is being launched in its

second edition after accomplishing a great success last year. Fawaz said: "The program seeks to encourage young Kuwaitis to turn their business ideas from mere thoughts into business plans and implementations, by applying the highest standards of development and training before presenting their projects to potential investors."

"Fikra Program embodies the spirit of cooperation between all institutions involved in the youth and SMEs whether these institutions are from the private or public sector. The incubators' business activities are part of an ecosystem where sponsors of Fikra Program are playing a pivotal role in contributing to the promotion and development of SMEs."

Esra Al-Habib, Gulf Bank's External Communications Manager also made a statement highlighting the importance of

supporting young entrepreneurs and said: "Gulf Bank is proud to be the gold sponsor of Fikra Program in its second edition and we are pleased to incorporate it as part of our social responsibility plan. In fact, Gulf Bank is strongly committed to giving back to Kuwait as it supports numerous events and initiatives focusing on youth, education, health and fitness, helping the underprivileged, women's empowerment, as well as promoting Kuwait's heritage and culture."

Habib added: "We believe in the high potential of the youth in Kuwait, we are fond of supporting their innovative ideas and projects. We are here to sponsor Fikra Program in order contribute in turning youth's dreams into reality which will eventually create new employment opportunities, and enhance our economy by diversifying it."

The main goal of Fikra Program is to empower a new generation of entrepreneurs to develop successful businesses and advance the local Kuwaiti market. It is an intensive entrepreneurship training that provides aspiring entrepreneurs with the technical skills and business knowledge needed to launch their own businesses such as leadership skills, comprehensive business plan, investment opportunities and others. The first edition of the program resulted in establishing 33 percent of businesses, while 44 percent are still in the negotiation phase with investors.

For more information on Gulf Bank, please visit one of Gulf Bank's 56 branches, call the Customer Contact Center on 1805805, log on to www.e-gulfbank.com, Gulf Bank's bilingual website, or visit its social media channels.



AHLI UNITED BANK PROVIDES VALUABLE JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT COLLEGE JOB FAIR

KUWAIT: In line with its long-term strategy to support young talent in Kuwait, Ahli United Bank is participating in Kuwait University's Business Administration College Job Fair, which commenced Sunday 4, December 2016 at the university campus in Shuwaikh.

Through this participation, the Bank seeks to connect with students and graduates of different business majors with the aim of attracting and recruiting young talent, especially Kuwaiti nationals, by discussing internship opportunities across the Bank's departments with them.

Naqeeb Amin, Ahli United Bank's Human Resources Manager underlined the Bank's firm belief in the younger generation of new students, saying:

"Today's youth has great potential with innovative ideas to help any company to grow faster and better compete in a global environment". Amin added: "Kuwait University is a prestigious institution producing thousands of young national and non-national graduates every year. Having a variety of talent and capabilities, we are delighted to support their ambitions and help them attain their career objectives in the banking sector by offering them promising job and/or internship opportunities at AUB".

Ahli United Bank has participated in several job fairs organized by many private and public universities in Kuwait in line with their growing role in the country's economic welfare,

which is to provide job opportunities for young ambitious Kuwaitis, urging them to join the private sector. This enables the youth to contribute to the growth and development taking place in the country, particularly the banking sector.

Kuwait University's Business Administration College Job Fair will welcome students and graduates every day, from 8 am to 3 pm, until the 8th of December, 2016. For more information on AUB's wide range of products and services, please visit any of the Bank's branches, call Hayakum telebanking service on 1812000, or log on the bank's website www.ahliunit-ed.com.kw to find out more about its latest activities.