

PLAYING CRICKET IN OPEN YARDS LEGAL: MUNICIPALITY NO INTENTION TO TERMINATE EXPATS AT PAAET

By A Saleh

KUWAIT: Kuwait Municipality Director General Ahmad Al-Manfouhi said fields used by the Asian community in open sandy areas to play cricket are not in violation and are OK to exist. He said these pitches are the same as football grounds in open sandy areas used by youth to play, provided that rules are adhered to. Meanwhile, Manfouhi sent the answer of the legal department to a question of member Mane Al-Ajmi that the municipal council decision is in effect and is being applied, and that complaints mentioned in the municipal

council letter that included claims that licenses are not being issued are untrue, and the legal department answered all appeals and complaints.

Expat workers

Director General of the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (PAAET) Ahmad Al-Athari said there is no intention to terminate expatriates working in administrative affairs at the authority to make room for Kuwaitis. He said the number of expats at PAAET is small and recruitment will open after the budget of appointments is approved. He said the authority will

select around 150 teachers out of 3,000 who applied to join the training faculty since applications opened in Ramadan, adding that PAAET will check the names of applicants to start holding interviews at the start of the school season.

Meanwhile, the Dean of Admissions and Registration at PAAET Rabah Al-Najda said the number of those admitted for the physical education major will be increased from 300 to 700 students. She said this comes at the request of the physical education department at the Basic Education College. She said that the number of female seats have been increased in PE

from 150 to 250 students because of the high number of applicants for this major.

Gold market

Commerce and Industry Minister Yousuf Al-Ali is considering several designs related to develop the gold market in Kuwait, to select one of them to start the development process. The proposed development according to the engineering designs include having the gold market building integrated with the gold kilns, which requires increasing the market's area from 1,200 sq m to nearly 2,000 sq m.



KUWAIT INTERIOR PERSONNEL ARREST 4 PERSONS WITH ARMS

KUWAIT: Ministry of Interior (MoI) personnel have detained four persons with guns and ammunition concealed at their houses, the MoI said in a statement yesterday. The personnel raided the house after examining authenticity of some certifications

granted to individuals and companies. During the search, it was revealed that a citizen had falsified permit for purchasing bullets. Inspectors searched the suspects' homes where they found caches of ammunition and an unlicensed pistol. —KUNA

NEW VIOLATIONS DISCOVERED IN SOCIAL ASSISTANCE SCAM

By Meshaal Al-Enezi

KUWAIT: Minister of Social Affairs and Labor and State Minister for Planning and Development Affairs Hind Al-Subaih said the task force following up with the social assistance scam at the ministry, which previously discovered violations worth millions of dinars, continued checking violations and discovered new ones estimated at thousands of cases where money is paid undeservedly.

Subaih said the newly-discovered cases include several categories that deserve aid including divorced women, university students, families of students abroad and rent allowance, besides discovering thousands of cases who were asked to update their records to make sure they still deserve aid but did not respond within the two-month period given to them, which is a clear indication that these cases are receiving aid unlawfully. Subaih said the number of new suspect cases is over 1,075, where doubts have been raised about them because of the presence of more than nine divorced women and other categories in one family, and these cases are repeated in more than 200 families, where the number of those who deserve aid in them varies between 4 to 9 divorced women, and these cases are being examined to make sure they deserve aid or not.

She said among the new suspect cases are nearly 2,000 cases of university students and families of students abroad and locally, because it was discovered that large number of students have dropped out of schools and others whose study period



Social Affairs Minister Hind Al-Subaih

ended over eight years ago. Procedures to stop the aid are being taken.

Shrimping season

Kuwait Fishermen Union said the shrimping season in international waters will start on Aug 1, adding that the union took undertakings from license owners and boat skippers to comply with the laws and Amiri decrees. The union's chairman Thaher Al-Suwayan said the union is keen on caring for the interests of all fishermen. Therefore, he asked customs officials to allow fishermen enter the sea from Shamlan and Fahaheel bays, because half of the boats are in Fahaheel Bay and belong to the union. He added that there are around 120 boats there, and demanded that they be allowed to enter Shuaiba port instead of Doha at the start of the season, because Fahaheel has a fish market that covers the southern areas.

MUNICIPALITY, INTERIOR DISCUSS LEGAL COORDINATION

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

KUWAIT: Kuwait Municipality Director General Ahmad Al-Manfouhi held a meeting with Major General Dr Fahad Al-Dousari, Director General of the Interior Ministry's Criminal Investigations Department. Legal advisors and others officials from both state departments attended the meeting, which took place last Thursday. The two sides discussed the current mechanism in regards to municipal violations, which are sent from the legal department in the municipality to the investigations department to carry out general prosecution. Discussions further covered some legal loopholes that violators take to their advantage.

Law amended

Interior Ministry Undersecretary Lieutenant General Suleiman Al-Fahad issued a circular to amend law number 35/2016, which includes the period that arrested suspects can be remanded in custody in felony and misdemeanor cases, as well as explaining the procedures to jail the suspect on precautionary basis as far as the length of detention and the authority to do so goes. Following the amendment, the first item in the second paragraph in article 60 of the law now reads "it is not allowed to keep the arrested person detained for more than four days in felony cases and 48 hours in misdemeanor cases, without a written order from the investigator."



HUMAN RIGHTS IN BALANCE

Local Spotlight



By Muna Al-Fuzai

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The world is too busy confronting terrorism these days, whether internal or external, so the issue of preserving human rights is no longer a top priority. In fact, it has become a source of contradiction among governments in the East and West. Reality confirms that people follow news of coups, but it does not take a lot of time for the world to forget the event and leave it to the authorities to punish those who were involved or eliminate opponents, whether guilty or not.

Last week, the world became occupied with the coup attempt in Turkey, especially after having raised many concerns over human rights. Many countries have called on the Turkish authorities to preserve the rights of the arrested people, whether investigations prove that they were part of the attempt or not, as they are entitled to their human rights. Turkey's deputy prime minister said on Thursday that Ankara will suspend the European Convention on Human Rights temporarily as France did, after declaring a state of emergency in the country.

The chaos in any system in the world after a coup makes it difficult to identify the masterminds, and because of this, many innocent people fall victim to injustice. The repeated political and military coup attempts in the Arab and Islamic world have made talk about killing people seem normal, which shouldn't be so.

Syria, a close neighbor of Turkey, has been conducting daily massacres for years. The UN envoy in Syria warned about the deterioration of the situation there, particularly about 300,000 civilians who are in need of assistance. This number seems very small to those who have been murdering or torturing people over the past years, and warnings mean nothing to them.

For example, a few days ago, some human rights activists broadcasted a video of one of the Syrian opposition militias slaughtering a teenager, which led to a large wave of condemnation. Heads of these militias said that they will prosecute the perpetrators of the crime and condemned such acts as against the principles of the Syrian revolution, human rights and heavenly laws. Moreover, they will punish the offenders, but how? By killing them too? The result is the same - more death and violation of human dignity.

On Friday in Munich, a German man of Iranian descent killed nine innocent people in a shooting at a shopping center at the Olympia mall in the city and injured 16 others, including three who are in serious condition and two children. The shooter later killed himself, but people were killed for no reason, including kids.

All these crimes of terrorism, regardless of their intent, provoke fear within people and the recurrence of such incidents on a daily basis has turned it to normal news. This can get dangerous in the long run, because the number of dead people, whether innocents or criminals, will keep increasing, especially during wars.

Solutions are not impossible because controlling refugees from war zones in the Arab world is possible if they are free from psychological and mental illness regardless of age, sex and gender. Terrorism needs a new perspective and vision. It is becoming a cycle of sudden and random killings by people who may not be criminals but suffer from mental illness. They are like walking time-bombs ready to violate others' rights at any moment.

E-STAMPS BRING IN KD 17 MILLION: FINANCE MINISTER

KUWAIT: Sales of the e-stamps have brought in some KD 17 million (about \$56.21 million) for the Ministry of Finance since the service was introduced last year, according to a ministry statement yesterday.

Up to five million e-stamps have been sold since the ministry was tasked with implementing the cabinet resolution 13/2015, committing government bodies to applying the e-stamps system in all their activities, it added. Meanwhile, the Interior Ministry has recently launched the e-visa service as part of the efforts to provide the infrastructure for e-payment, to streamline obtaining government dues electronically.

The service is completed and fees are paid through e-stamps, in cooperation with the Shared Electronic Banking Co. (KNET), the statement noted. As of the FY 2017-2018, fees on all government services are to be paid through e-stamps. According to the relevant resolution. The service is now applied in 34 government bodies. —KUNA



KUWAIT: UN envoy for Yemen Ould Cheikh Ahmed meets with the Yemeni Government delegation. — KUNA

UN ENVOY HOLDS TALKS WITH YEMENI GOVT OFFICIALS

KUWAIT: The UN envoy for Yemen Ould Cheikh Ahmed held talks yesterday with the Yemeni Government delegation taking part in the peace consultations. The discussions are expected to focus on cessation of combat action in full in Yemen, activating the pacification committee, forming military committees that would be tasked with overseeing gunmen's withdrawal, guns' handover and opening safe passageways for delivering humanitarian supplies to

those in need. Cheikh Ahmed later met Kuwaiti diplomats to discuss the Yemeni issue. He also met the prisoners' committee and a team of the International Committee of the Red Cross to discuss relevant topics. The UN troubleshooter, expected to depart to Mauritania to attend the Arab summit due on Monday, will be back in Kuwait on Tuesday to pursue the UN-sponsored consultations involving representatives of the Yemeni parties. — KUNA



KUWAIT: The National Bank of Kuwait (NBK) held the first course of its 2016 summer training program, which is dedicated to university and school students aged between 14 and 21 years.