

RAIN EXPECTED TILL END OF MONTH

By Meshaal Al-Enezi

KUWAIT: Meteorologist Essa Ramadan predicted Kuwait will witness moderate to strong rain from next week till the end of the month. Ramadan added that following a period of dry weather since October, the Wasm rainfall would exceed 30 mm and would help annual desert plants bloom. Ramadan forecast western, eastern and central Saudi areas, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, UAE and Iraq will receive rain from Nov 23 until Nov 28 or 29, sometimes accompanied by thunder.

Housing units

Statistics issued by the Public Authority for Housing Welfare (PAHW) yesterday said the total number of housing units distributed since the beginning of the government-provided housing scheme is 128,639, including 60,608 houses, 66,563 residential land plots and

1,468 apartments. Statistics also showed that the total number of units distributed in the Mutlaa residential project so far is 11,338.

Investigation

Kuwait Nursing Association secretary Sami Obaid Al-Mutairi urged Health Minister Dr Ali Al-Obaidi to refer the head of the nursing staff at the chest diseases hospital to investigation over the growing number of complaints filed against him by nurses, accusing him of injustice and abuse. Mutairi said that the head nurse was very partial in terms of night shifts and off days. He added he also listed certain female nurses on overtime lists while they were actually dispatched on official missions, while others who really deserve overtime were deprived of it. "He only favors his nearest and dearest," said Mutairi, calling for officially investigating the matter.

AFRICA ACTION SUMMIT KICKS OFF IN MARRAKESH

MARRAKESH: The Africa Action Summit kicked off in Marrakesh, Morocco, yesterday, on the sidelines of the 22nd session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 22) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah is attending the summit as Representative of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah. The summit, hosted at the Royal Palace in Marrakesh, was called for by Moroccan King Mohammed VI, and is attended by several country leaders and heads of state.

It adds the momentum to the structural initiatives and projects seeking an effective confrontation of the impact of climate change on the continent, in addition to developing a model for sustainable development that responds to the expectations of the African peoples.

During an African tour last week, the Moroccan Monarch called in the Senegalese capital of Dakar for a summit on the fringe of COP 22 to crystalize a vision for defending the demands of the continent, focusing on financing and transfer of technology. Africa has been among the world regions worst-hit by the effects of climate change, the Monarch said, vowing to develop the COP 22 (Marrakesh,

November 7-18) as a conference for the continent. Addressing the COP 22 on Tuesday, His Highness the Amir reiterated Kuwait's commitment to joining in supporting the efforts exerted by the UN to combat climate change. Kuwait has voluntarily put well-studied plans, based on scientific and economic research, within its available possibilities, to rehabilitate its oil installa-

tions, as its oil sector seeks to adopt a new strategy, founded on scientific and economic grounds, that aim to limit emissions, His Highness the Amir added. His Highness the Amir stressed that Kuwait is about to complete the constitutional procedures for the ratification of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. —KUNA



MARRAKESH: First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah attends the summit. — KUNA



Tahir Khan



Professor Andreas Roposch

PORTLAND HOSPITAL CONSULTANTS PARTICIPATE AT PAEDIATRIC CONFERENCE

KUWAIT: The Portland Hospital for woman and children, one of HCA Healthcare UK hospitals, is proud to announce that two of its consultant orthopaedic surgeons, Professor Andreas Roposch and Tahir Khan, will be participating at the 5th Paediatric Orthopaedic Surgery Conference held by Al-Razi Orthopaedic Hospital in cooperation with the Ministry of Health starting today, November 17th for three days at Sheikhha salwa Al Sabah Hall, in the Marina Crescent.

Professor Andreas Roposch, Director of the London Hip Ultrasound Course and Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon at Portland Hospital, and Tahir Khan, consultant orthopaedic surgeon at the Portland Hospital and the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, will be giving lectures throughout the three days on different topics. Some are: Benign Musculoskeletal Tumors, Management of Osteogenesis Imperfecta, Updates on the Graf Method of Hip Ultrasound for DDH and Hip Arthroscopy and FA. Khan will also be participating at the Hip Arthroscopy Workshop held on day two.

MINISTRY BOUND BY CSC DECISIONS ON TEACHER'S ALLOWANCES: OFFICIAL

By A Saleh

KUWAIT: The Ministry of Education (MoE) is committed to paying the rent allowance difference to female expat teachers retroactively as per a Civil Service Commission (CSC) decision, MOE's Assistant Undersecretary for Financial Affairs Yousif Al-Najjar stressed. "MoE is an executive body and the ruling made by the constitutional court is mandatory and unquestionable," he said, strongly denying that the ministry is manipulating teachers. He was referring to a court ruling which ordered the ministry to pay female expatriate teachers the same allowance paid to male teachers.

"We have a decision from the CSC on adjusting expat female teachers' rent allowance from KD 90 to KD 150 retroactively at a total cost of KD 47 million," he explained, noting that MoE has asked the finance ministry to provide the sum but has not received any response yet. "The due sums will be paid sooner or later," he added, further indicated that if not paid this year, they would be paid next year after the new budget is approved in April. "This decision has nothing to do with reducing the rent allowance to KD 60," he remarked, referring to the CSC's recent decision this year to cut the monthly allowance back by KD 90.

Najjar said that the amount would be paid as soon as the money arrives from the finance ministry and that the teachers should not sue the ministry or be abused by law firms urging them to do so and waste their money, as their rights are protected by law. "MoE was not a party in the case filed by a teacher against the CSC decision, who later got a constitutional court ruling annulling it, and accordingly, CSC decided paying the difference to all expat female teachers retroactively since 2011," he explained, promising expat female teachers will get their rights in full.

FIVE MEN ARRESTED FOR 'ILLEGAL' WASTE DISPOSAL

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

KUWAIT: Criminal detectives arrested five persons who appeared in video footage posted online while dumping trash in the stables area, which is a crime punishable by law. The suspects, four Egyptians and one Syrian, were sent to concerned authorities for further legal action.

Separately, the public cleanliness and road occupancy department at Jahra Municipality branch removed all camps that were pitched in off limits areas in Sulaibiya. The public relations department said in a statement that tours by the Municipality continue to take such actions, as 101 camps have been removed so far.

Meanwhile, the vegetable market municipality center carried out several inspection campaigns in Shuwaikh that included stores, butcher shops, supermarkets and co-ops, resulting in issuing 49 citations that varied between selling food items without health certificates, working in restaurants without health licenses and employing a worker before receiving a health certificate.

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