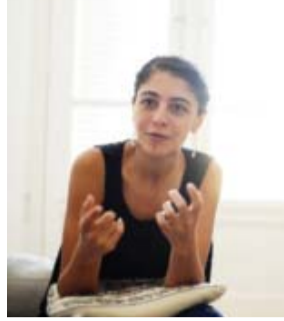


Gas stations jam-packed on eve of price hike



Fight against Egypt sexual harassment bearing fruit



Singer Chris Brown freed after standoff with LA police



Serena starts strong in bid for seventh US Open title



KUWAIT TO SUE DRUG KINGPINS, OPEN MORE ANTI-DRUG OFFICES

MOI FOILS ATTEMPT TO SMUGGLE HASHISH FROM IRAN



Min 30°
Max 48°
High Tide 00:18 & 11:37
Low Tide 05:52 & 18:46



KUWAIT RANKS LAST IN WORLD EXPAT INDEX

By Aakash Bakaya

KUWAIT: In the latest list from Expat Insider, Kuwait, along with Greece and Nigeria, made up the bottom three nations, while Taiwan and Malta topped the list of the world's friendliest countries for expats. The Expat Insider survey from InterNations group provided an in-depth analysis of everyday expat life in more than 60 countries around the globe. The results looked at everything from quality of life to ease of settling in. In Kuwait, foreign recruits made up the greater majority of the survey population at 6 percent. Kuwait has remained at the bottom of the list for more than three years running.

The GCC states' rankings in the Quality of Life Index are, for the most part, among the worst in the world: Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait rank 55th, 63rd, and 65th out of 67 countries, with the UAE and Oman standing out at 23 and 32 respectively. Under the Quality of Life index, respondents were asked questions about their satisfaction with their leisure options, travel and transportation, health services, safety and personal happiness. (See Page 5)



KUWAIT: Three suspected drug smugglers are seen with the haul of hashish that was busted. — MoI

By A Saleh and Hanan Al-Saadoun

KUWAIT: Kuwait intends to sue drug kingpins in some foreign countries, accusing them of tirelessly working to smuggle drugs into Kuwait with the help of their accomplices in both Kuwait and some neighboring countries, high-ranking Interior Ministry official sources said. The sources added that Kuwait has official and firm evidence linking these drug lords to the narcotics seized in Kuwait, and stressed that lawsuits would be filed in each drug trafficker's respective country.

Moreover, the sources highlighted that as part of coordination with other countries to exchange classified information, Kuwait intends to establish its own anti-drug offices in key countries to place drug dealers under close surveillance and foil their attempts to smuggle drugs into Kuwait before they actually arrive. Notably, Kuwait does have two such offices in Lebanon and Pakistan, while a third is pending to open in Iraq, the main country through which drugs are smuggled into Kuwait and other GCC states.

Meanwhile, the Interior Ministry announced yesterday it foiled an attempt to smuggle 160 kg of hashish from Iran into Kuwait. The Drugs Control General Department was tipped off that a drug trafficker was planning to bring in a large amount of cannabis into the country by sea, the ministry's security information department said in a statement. A task force was formed and investigations confirmed the information.

The trafficker, who holds a Gulf nationality, was arrested with the narcotics, and he confessed to his crime.

He led security bodies to the residence of his two partners, both stateless (bedoons), who were found to be registered offenders. The three suspects and the drugs, worth KD 300,000, were referred to the prosecution.

ROUSSEFF STRIPPED OF PRESIDENCY

BRASILIA: Brazil's Dilma Rousseff was stripped of the country's presidency yesterday in a Senate impeachment vote ending 13 years of leftist rule in Latin America's biggest economy. Rousseff, 68, was convicted by 61 of the 81 senators of illegally manipulating the national budget. The vote, passing the needed two-thirds majority, meant she was immediately removed from office. However, in a surprise twist, a separate vote to bar Rousseff from holding any public office for eight years failed to pass, meaning she could in theory reenter political life.

Cheers - and cries of disappointment - erupted in the blue-carpeted, circular Senate chamber as the impeachment verdict flashed up on the electronic voting screen. Pro-impeachment senators burst into a rendering of the national anthem, some waving Brazilian flags, while leftist allies of Rousseff, who claims she has been the victim of a right-wing coup d'etat, stood stony-faced.

Continued on Page 13



BRASILIA: Brazil's Dilma Rousseff is pictured at the Alvorada presidential palace after she was stripped of the country's presidency in a Senate impeachment vote yesterday. — AFP

WEALTHY QATARIS TASTE AUSTERITY

DOHA: Fly economy class, share an office, cancel journal subscriptions: These are some of the requests being put to government employees in Qatar, as low energy prices force austerity even among the world's wealthiest citizens. With huge offshore gas reserves, a small population and billions of dollars of foreign assets, Qatar has weathered the global oil price slump since mid-2014 better than many of its Gulf Arab neighbors.

But the decline in state energy income comes at a time when Doha is pursuing a \$200 billion infrastructure upgrade for the 2022 football World Cup and building ports and hospitals, squeezing finances and leading to budget cuts. The foreign workers who make up the bulk of Qatar's 2.3 million population have borne the brunt of cutbacks; thousands have

lost their jobs as the government has sought to shield its citizens from the impact of austerity.

But the world's top liquefied natural gas exporter faces a \$12.8 billion budget deficit this year, its first deficit in over a decade, and has halved its forecasts for economic growth. Now even the 300,000 citizens of the world's richest nation per citizen are feeling the pinch in a shakeup of state entities, which employ about nine out of 10 Qatari workers. "Your responsibility in light of the falling oil prices is bigger," Qatar's Emir Sheikh Tamim said in a November speech that warned against "waste and extravagance", and said the state could no longer "provide for everything" as the country diversifies its economy away from oil and gas.

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DUTERTE WARNS RETURNING WORKERS: DON'T DO DRUGS

MANILA: Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte, heavily criticized for a brutal anti-narcotics drive in which hundreds have been killed, yesterday welcomed home more than 100 Filipinos abandoned in desert camps in Saudi Arabia with a warning - don't do drugs. The Southeast Asian nation's war on drugs has gained some popular support but the wave of killings has shocked rights groups and brought expressions of concern from the United States, a close ally of Manila.

Duterte railed against the United Nations this month after it called for an end to the killings. "Avoid drugs at all cost because it could cost your life too," Duterte told the workers after an almost 10-hour flight from Dammam. The number of drug-related killings in the Philippines has reached 2,000 since Duterte became president two months ago on a pledge to wipe out the drug trade.

Migrant oil and construction workers, abandoned in

their thousands by Saudi employers during the kingdom's economic slump, are fighting to claim back wages and benefits. "I lost my job so my children were forced to drop out of college and they were mad at me but what can I do?" Ronie Surilla, 47, a construction worker living for almost a decade in Saudi Arabia, told Reuters, adding that he had not been paid for eight months.

Filipinos living and working outside the country sent home a record \$13.2 billion in remittances, a major driver of the Southeast Asian nation's household consumption, in the first half of 2016. For the returning overseas workforce, the president committed to boost the economy and provide jobs. The Philippines' economy grew at 7 percent in the second quarter from a year earlier, its highest level in three years. It made the Philippines the fastest growing among all countries that have reported so far for the second quarter. — Reuters

CONDOLENCES

Kuwait Times Editor-in-Chief,
management and staff convey their
deepest condolences to

Karam Family

on the sad demise of

Mustafa Karam

May Allah Almighty bestow His mercy on him