

THE FIRST DAILY IN THE ARABIAN GULF

Woman wants compensation after flooding damages car



One killed, 14 wounded in Ohio nightclub shooting



Innovative fabrics bark up Tokyo fashion tree



Wizards shine as Clippers, Raptors clinch playoff spots





OIL PRODUCERS LOOK INTO ROLLOVER OF OUTPUT CUTS

Joint Saudi-Kuwait oilfields to resume operations: Marzouq



High Tide 11:57 & 23:38 **Low Tide** 05:48 & 17:50

NOD TO REDUCING **DETENTION PERIOD**

AID LINK TO LAW REJECTED By B Izzak

KUWAIT: The National Assembly's legal and legislative committee yesterday approved a draft law stipulating to reduce the detention period at police stations to 48 hours, reverting an amendment by the previous Assembly. The oppositiondominated Assembly elected in Feb 2012 had introduced an amendment to cut the detention period from four days to two. It also reduced preventive detention by the public prosecution to just 10 days from 21 previously.

But at the request of the interior ministry, the previous pro-government Assembly increased the detention period back to four days at police stations and 21 days by the public prosecution. A large number of opposition MPs had vowed to introduce the amendment in the current Assembly.

But the Assembly's foreign relations committee rejected a draft law stating that the government cannot provide foreign aid exceeding KD 10 million without the approval of the Assembly through legislation. The draft law was introduced by lawmakers in light of the current difficult financial situation due to the sharp fall in oil revenues.

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KUWAIT: (From left) Russian Energy Minister Alexander Novak, Kuwaiti Oil Minister Essam Al-Marzoug and OPEC Secretary General Mohammad Sanusi Barkindo attend a meeting of the 2nd Joint Ministerial Monitoring Committee of OPEC yesterday. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

KUWAIT: A joint committee of ministers from OPEC and non-OPEC oil producers has agreed to review whether a global pact to limit supplies should be extended by six months, it said in a statement yesterday. An earlier draft of the statement had said the committee "reports high level of conformity and recommends a six-month extension". But the final version said only that the committee had requested a technical group and for the OPEC Secretariat to "review the oil market conditions and revert ... in April, 2017 regarding the extension of the voluntary production adjustments".

Oil sector analysts said the lack of an immediate extension could drag on crude prices. "The dropping of the recommendation to extend cuts in favor of technical review committee is likely to lead to a lot of disappointment and potential further liquidation of long positions by money managers that will put downward pressure on oil prices," said Harry Tchilinguirian, head of commodities strategy at BNP Paribas in London. It was not immediately clear why the wording had been changed, although a senior industry source said the committee lacked the legal mandate to recommend an extension.

The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and rival oil-producing nations were meeting in Kuwait to review progress with their global pact to cut supplies. OPEC and 11 other leading producers including Russia agreed in December to cut their combined output by almost 1.8 million barrels per day (bpd) in the first half of the year. The original deal was to last six months, with the possibility of a six-month extension. "Any country has the freedom to say whether they do or they don't support (an extension). Unless we have conformity with everybody, we cannot go ahead with the extension of the deal," Kuwaiti Oil Minister Essam Al-Marzoug said

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