

Local

Crown Prince attends 33rd Janadriyah Fest in Riyadh



RIYADH: HH the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah attends the Janadriyah Festival with Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud yesterday. — KUNA photos



Sheikh Nawaf is received by Saudi Prince Faisal bin Bandar bin Abdul Aziz at Riyadh airport.



Sheikh Nawaf is seen off at Kuwait airport by National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem and other senior state officials.

KUWAIT: Representing HH the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, HH the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and his accompanying delegation attended the 33rd edition of Al Janadriyah Festival 2018 in Riyadh yesterday. On his arrival, the Crown Prince was received by Saudi Prince Faisal bin Bandar bin Abdul Aziz, Kuwait's Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Sheikh Thamer Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and members of the Kuwaiti embassy in Riyadh. — KUNA

GCC Red Crescent chiefs recommend joint guidelines

KUWAIT: Heads of Red Crescent societies in GCC countries, at end of a meeting yesterday, recommended adoption of joint guidelines for voluntary work for a two-year mandate. The chiefs, who met within the framework of the 14th meeting of the committee that groups leaders of Gulf Red Crescent societies and associations, also called for hammering out an action plan for the commission (2020-2024). Voluntary guidelines, generally, set work mechanisms and a host of other issues regulating such relief activity.

The leaders of the GCC Red Crescent societies called for organizing, on the occasion of the GCC Red Crescent Society Day on Oct 23, workshops and educational activities at schools, universities and higher education institutions on promoting voluntary work. They also recommended involving civil societies for spreading such a culture. Moreover, they urged for supporting Dr Hilal Al-Sayer of the Kuwait Red Crescent in his nomination

to serve as member at the permanent commission of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

Meanwhile, Khalifa Al-Abri, the GCC secretary general assistant for economic affairs, lauded exemplary efforts undertaken by the GCC relief societies, namely the Kuwait Red Crescent Society. Musaed Al-Enezi of the Kuwait Red Crescent's department of youth and volunteers, lauded exhibition on the sidelines displaying works of the GCC societies at this level.

In his keynote statement at the meeting, which convened at Kuwait Red Crescent Society's headquarters, the society's deputy chairman Anwar Al-Hasawi said relief associations in GCC member countries have been working in harmony according to accords and common principles. He lauded the GCC General Secretariat for playing a key role for full coordination among these societies in catastrophes and humanitarian missions. Hasawi indicated that such close coordination among the GCC Red Crescent societies has become vital in the shadow of regional conflicts that resulted in large numbers of refugees, displaced people and orphans. The meeting, he added, is an annual opportunity to examine accomplishments, humanitarian needs and challenges in afflicted countries. — KUNA

Allowance increase for examiners eyed

By A Saleh

KUWAIT: The Civil Service Commission is considering a proposal to increase the allowances of members overseeing and grading exams at the request of the education ministry. The commission asked for the amount of the proposed allowance and the current annual cost of such allowances, in addition to the requested annual increases. Sources expected the proposal to be approved, especially since it was made on the instructions of the education minister.

The sources said the ministry told the commission the annual cost according to what is being paid now (2017-2018) is KD 6 million over two semesters, after canceling the four semester system. The ministry said the total value of the proposed allowance for those handling the examinations for the next fiscal year 2019-2020 is estimated at KD 7.5 million.

The CSC also announced that Tuesday, Jan 1, 2019 will be an official holiday.

Health insurance tender woes

The tender for providing health insurance for expats is facing many technical issues that may lead to canceling and reissuing it, which means that official authorities are not comfortable with it. It was found that five companies from the same group were trying to win it through different offers, although they are directly and indirectly related. The fatwa and legislation department said if the health ministry wants to sign contracts to provide the service of registering subscribers for health insurance, then they should follow the contracting routes mentioned in law 49/2016 with regards to public tenders.

7 new schools to open

Sources said the education ministry is preparing to open seven new schools in January. They said the ministry is putting the final touches on five schools in Sabah Al-Ahmad residential city (one kindergarten, two elementary, one intermediate and one secondary), in addition to an elementary school with female teachers in Qairawan and a school in Jaber Al-Ahmad.

Men forcing kid to smoke in custody

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

KUWAIT: Ahmadi detectives identified the person who forced a child to smoke a cigarette in a video that went viral on social media and was shown by a satellite channel. The Arab expat, who was summoned, said the child is the son of his friend and it was the father who was filming them for fun. The father admitted making the video, and was sent to the child protection department and charged accordingly. Further investigations revealed that the person who appeared in the clip forced children under 18 to work in a Fahaheel



market shop in violation of the residency law. Both men were sent to concerned authorities.

Quad ban in 2 areas

Traffic department added Khairan and Seaside Sabah Al-Ahmad City to residential areas where all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) are not allowed to be driven, implementing the Council of Ministers law 900/2009 regarding banning small vehicles from main roads, highways and neighborhoods.