

Local

MP Shatti pushes amnesty for Abdaly cell members

Kuwait refuses to write off debts: Iraqi MP

By A Saleh and Meshaal Al-Enezi

KUWAIT: MP Khaled Al-Shatti stressed his persistence on a proposal he made to issue a general amnesty for Abdaly cell members, his former colleague Abdulhameed Dashti and bloggers. He added that the proposal will be discussed by the legislative affairs committee. "My proposal is just like any other made by other colleagues," he underlined, noting that all lawmakers work for the nation's best interests. He also expressed hopes that now since it has finished grilling Minister of State for Assembly Affairs Adel Al-Kharafi, the parliament will get down to accomplishing laws and legislations needed for both the country and citizens, especially after a majority voted against a no-confidence motion. He also urged the government to cooperate with the parliament in passing as many of the necessary laws as possible.

Iraq's debt

Member of the parliamentary integrity committee in the Iraqi parliament Alya Naseef stressed that Kuwait refuses to write

off its debts owed by the Iraqi government. She also questioned Saudi debts on the grounds that they are not documented by the U.N. Naseef added that most Arab countries had waived their debts as per the Paris Club agreement except Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, urging the Iraqi government to work on writing off these debts.

Mega projects

The Kuwait Authority for Partnership Projects' Director Mutlaq Al-Sane expected citizens will be invited to bid for the first Al-Zour Electricity Company in a few weeks. Sane said 50 percent of the company's shares will be offered in an initial public offering. He noted that the authority has three mega projects with capital exceeding \$1 billion each, of whose shares investors would own at least 26 percent and citizens 50 percent, while the remaining shares will be owned by the government.

Expired food

Food and nutrition inspectors destroyed 120 cartons of expired foodstuff weighing 45

kg, filed 24 citations and issued 10 warning notices while inspecting stores in Hawally, Capital and Farwaniya governorates. Capital inspection manager Abdul Rahman Al-Faes said inspection of foodstuff stores in Shuwaikh industrial area resulted in confiscating and destroying 120 cartons of expired



45 kg expired food confiscated

food items, filing four citations and issuing six warning notices. Hawally inspection manager Ali Al-Kandari said inspections in Salmiya and Maidan Hawally stores resulted in filing 17 citations and four warning notices. Meanwhile, Farwaniya inspection manager added that his team filed three citations for violations committed by some restaurants

and foodstuff stores in the area.

Trade union's board

Kuwait Trade Union Federation (KTUF) announced that the tenure of the executive board of the union of government employees' syndicates had legally expired as per a 'To Whom it May Concern' certificate issued by the Public Authority for Manpower. KTUF also reminded that membership of all board members is annulled by the end of the board's tenure.

Consequently, KTUF deems the board as illegitimate from a legal standpoint and has no right in representing KTUF or any member syndicate and has no right in using the union's headquarters to hold any activities, which is actually happening by the union leader who continues to dominate the building in violation of the law. KTUF also stressed that the union has no right to extend its own tenure, especially since a majority of member syndicates reject it. Further, KTUF strongly stressed that Awadh Shuqjar does not represent the union and has no right to speak in its name.



MP Khaled Al-Shatti

Engineers society

Kuwait Society of Engineers (KSE) held its ordinary general assembly, which approved the 2017 financial and administrative reports in the presence of 120 members, MSAL representatives and auditors, said KSE Chairman Faisal Dowayyeh.

Store owners fined for unlicensed signboards

By Hanan Al-Saadoun and Agencies

KUWAIT: Director of the inspection and municipality services follow-up department said 11 citations were issued for violations committed by store owners who installed signboards at their stores without licenses, made additions to signboards without a license and failed to renew the licenses of their signboards. Meanwhile, the public relations department at the municipality said the inspections and engineering follow-up department carried out inspections in Bneid Al-Gar, Adailiya and Shuwaikh, resulting in issuing 16 warnings - nine in Bneid Al-Qar and seven in Shuwaikh.

Police Sports

Hawally Governor and President of the International Police Sports Federation Gen Sheikh Ahmad Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah received members of the federation's general assembly who are participating in the federation's meetings in Kuwait from March 24 to 28.

Accident

A pick-up driver who was showing off near a traffic light in Sabahiya lost control of his vehicle and collided with a citizen's car. He then fled on foot. Some motorists filmed his escapades and his escape. The pick-up has

Saudi license plates, and detectives are working on arresting the suspect.

Domestic violence

A Gulf national accused her husband, a citizen, of kidnapping, beating and threatening to kill her. The woman said when she was on her way home, her husband forced her to stop and forced her into his vehicle and verbally insulted her. He then put his hands around her neck, threatening to kill her. She said he then dropped her at a traffic light. She said they have been separated for a year and a half and lives with her father in Sulaibiya. Investigations are underway.

Drug possession

Police in Salmiya approached two persons in a dark place, prompting one of them to escape, while the other couldn't go too far because of a leg injury. Police found two bags of a white substance and blue pills, in addition to drugs paraphernalia and money. The suspect told police about the man who was buying from him and he is being sought, while the drugs pusher was sent to the Drugs Control General Department. Separately, a driver left his car behind after colliding with a lamppost in Sabahiya and disappeared. Police found drugs and paraphernalia in the car. The license plate number belongs to a citizen, who is being sought by authorities.

KD 17,000 debt

A female citizen wanted on theft cases ignored police instructions after being caught in Mubarak Al-Kabeer and resisted arrest. She was also found wanted over a KD 17,000 debt. Police stopped her late at night and she was found wanted to serve a jail sentence, in addition of having four arrest warrants against her.



KUWAIT: This photo released by Kuwait Municipality yesterday shows an unlicensed signboard at a store whose owner was fined during a recent crackdown.

Kuwait decries deadly blasts in Somalia, Afghanistan

KUWAIT: The State of Kuwait on Friday condemned in strong terms two terrorist bomb blasts that took place in the cities of Mogadishu and Kabul last week, leaving more than 40 people dead. An official source at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs affirmed Kuwait's support for Somalia and Afghanistan in measures they may take against violence, extremism and terrorism.

He urged the international community to double efforts in facing the hateful phenomenon of terrorism so humanity may enjoy safety and stability. The source expressed condolences to victims' families wishing the injured quick recovery. At least 14 people were killed and several others wounded on Thursday when a car bomb blew up outside a popular hotel in Somalia's capital Mogadishu. The Al-Qaeda aligned Shabaab group said it was responsible for the blast in front of the Weheliye hotel in the city center, claiming it had targeted a gathering of government officials, army and intelligence officers. On Wednesday, at least 26 people were killed and 18 others wounded in a suicide blast in Afghanistan's capital city Kabul. — KUNA



BERLIN: Minister of Commerce and Industry and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Khalid Al-Roudhan (left) presents a memento to Chairman of German-Arab Chamber of Industry and Commerce Peter Ramsauer. — KUNA

Roudhan boosts economic ties with Germany

BERLIN: Promoting economic relations and investments between Kuwait and Germany featured high on the agenda of the talks Minister of Commerce and Industry and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Khalid Al-Roudhan held in Berlin. Meeting with Germany's Minister of Economy Peter Altmaier, Roudhan invited him to visit Kuwait and get acquainted with the investment opportunities in the country. He said Friday that during talks with German officials over two days, he felt high interest in the region, Kuwait in particular.

Roudhan lauded the deep-rooted ties between the two countries, saying that Kuwait can take advantages of the

Germany's long expertise in a variety of fields, small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), for instance. The minister's talks with Chairman of German-Arab Chamber of Industry and Commerce Peter Ramsauer addressed means of bolstering bilateral cooperation in economic fields that can benefit the national development plan and improve the business climate in Kuwait. They also emphasized the significance of developing investment ties between the two countries.

Kuwait is the first regional importer from Germany with \$500 million (\$1.7 billion) in 2016. The country's investments in Germany are worth \$30 billion. In addition, Roudhan attended a conference hosted by the German Near and Middle East Association (NuMOV), on luring foreign investments to Kuwait. The two-day visit aimed to further boost bilateral economic, trade and investment relations between the two countries, and to attract German companies to open branches in Kuwait to support industries. — KUNA

Weekly roundup of Kuwait's humanitarian action

KUWAIT: Living up to its UN-bestowed status as an International Humanitarian Center, the State of Kuwait continued providing humanitarian aid to needy people in several countries throughout the week. In Bangladesh, the Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS) distributed relief aid to the Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh to alleviate their suffering in tough conditions. The relief aid was distributed in the Cox-Bazar region in the presence of Kuwait's

Ambassador to Bangladesh, Adel Hayat.

This came in cooperation between the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED) and the United Nations' World Food Programme (WFP). Secretary General of KRCS Maha Al-Barjas said. The relief campaign included the distribution of food to more than 14,000 refugees for three months of about \$500,000.

KFAED donated \$1 million to provide humanitarian aid to the Rohingya refugees, she said. Kuwait has allocated about KD 4.5 million (\$15 million) to support the Rohingya refugees, she said. Barjas called on regional and international humanitarian and human rights organizations to intensify their efforts and humanitarian movements to provide assistance to those affected.

Meanwhile, Kuwait has donated \$2 million to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), as part of its annual financial aid to support the UN organization.

Kuwait's Ambassador to Jordan Dr Hamad Al-Duaij handed the donation to the UNRWA's representative in Jordan, where he told KUNA that the financial aid represented an earnest desire to help the Palestinian people, many of whom live in misery.

Chief of the UNRWA Donor Relations Division, Marc Lassouaoui stressed the importance of Kuwait's annual contribution to UNRWA's budget and its role in supporting the agency's operations in the sectors of health, education, and relief. The amount received from the Kuwaiti government will allocate to support the education of more than half a million Palestinian refugees in the countries of the region, in addition to providing health care to 5.3 million refugees in neighboring countries. UNRWA, which was established by the UN General Assembly in 1949, provides aid to around 5 million Palestinian refugees in Jordan, Lebanon and Syria. — KUNA



DHAKA: Members of Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS) distribute relief aid to the Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh. — KUNA



AMMAN: Kuwait's Ambassador to Jordan Dr Hamad Al-Duaij hands over a donation from Kuwait to the UNRWA's representative in Jordan.