

Local

Japan's post-disaster reconstruction symbol reopens with Kuwait's help

Japanese governor thanks Kuwait for reconstruction assistance

Fukushima, JAPAN: Japan's national soccer facilities considered as a symbol of reconstruction from the 2011 disaster fully reopened yesterday through a massive restoration project, in which Kuwait has made great contributions. With attendance of Japanese Princess Hisako, Reconstruction Minister Hiromichi Watanabe, Kuwaiti Ambassador to Japan Hasan Mohammad Zaman and other dignitaries, a ceremony was held to celebrate the full resumption of J-Village, one of the country's biggest soccer complexes in the northeastern region. The complex straddling towns of Naraha and Hirono was forced to close in 2011 due to the magnitude 9 earthquake and tsunami that left nearly 19,000 people dead or missing, as well as the ensuing nuclear meltdowns. Located just 20 km away from the crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant, the facilities had served as an operational base to battle the nuclear accident. As a result, J-Village's functions as a national soccer-training center had been suspended until last July, when it partially reopened after a seven-year hiatus.

Following the catastrophe, upon directives of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Kuwait extended the donation of 5 million barrels of crude oil worth about \$500 million to help post-quake reconstruction in the three hardest-hit prefectures including Fukushima. Home to the damaged nuclear plant, Fukushima Prefecture has been using its allocated share of JPY 15.4 billion (\$138 million) in various projects, such as support to small and medium-sized companies affected by the nuclear accident, restoration of cultural properties and rebuilding homes of disaster victims.

According to the Fukushima prefectural government, in carrying out the restoration of J-Village, the prefecture utilized Kuwait's donation of about JPY 3 billion



Fukushima, JAPAN: Japanese Princess Hisako, Reconstruction Minister Hiromichi Watanabe, Kuwaiti Ambassador to Japan Hasan Zaman and other officials attend the ceremony. —KUNA photos



Balloons released during a ceremony held to celebrate the reopening of the J-Village in Fukushima, Japan.

(\$27 million) to construct a new eight-story accommodation building and pursue promotional activities for J-Village's reopening, including yesterday's ceremony. In the complex, a plaque engraving the gratitude to Kuwait is displayed, which says, "The project is made possible by the donation from Kuwait provided through the Japanese Red Cross Society for the recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami in 2011."

In his speech at the ceremony, Fukushima Governor Masao Uchibori explained that J-Village first opened in 1997 as Japan's first national football training center and has worked to promote sport and activate the local region. It was used as a training camp for the Japan national football team for the FIFA World Cup, for various national tournaments and for the training camps of various top teams, attracting some 500,000 people annually until the 2011 nuclear crisis.

The Tokyo Olympics next year will be held under the banner of the 'Reconstruction Olympics,' with the Japanese government trying to show case the country's reconstruction from the

2011 disaster to the world. Pointing out that J-Village will be the starting point for the Japan leg of the Olympic torch relay, Uchibori said, "We will be happy to send out a message at home and abroad that any difficulties can be overcome. Having completed roles of J-Village as a logistics hub and a housing for workers engaged in the cleanup and other operations, the governor underlined his determination to address full restoration of his prefecture. We shall continue to contribute to the promotion of sports in this area, and deal with the revival and creation of the entire Fukushima."

Meanwhile, Watanabe affirmed that Japan is steadily advancing along the path of reconstruction. J-Village is recognized as a symbol of post-disaster reconstruction. "After starting from J-Village, the torch will travel across the country. I wish that the Olympic torch will become a glimpse of hope that lights up the disaster-struck areas" the minister said. Speaking after the ceremony, Zaman said he is pleased to be part of the landmark ceremony at the invitation of Fukushima Governor. "Kuwait's donation

to Japan, which was extended by an initiative of HH the Amir, has played a significant role in realizing the reopening of J-Village," the ambassador said. "Today's event is an excellent opportunity and it is our pleasure to help with Japan's reconstruction," he said. J-Village is called a sacred place for Japanese soccer fans and players. With the full reopening, J-Village facilities, including 10 soccer pitches, a 5,000-capacity stadium, an all-weather practice field, a lecture hall in addition to the Kuwait-dedicated accommodation building became available on a site of 49 hectares.

Uchibori meanwhile renewed gratitude to Kuwait for its "generous assistance" and "sincere support" after the 2011 triple disaster of an earthquake, tsunami and nuclear meltdown. Fukushima Governor Masao Uchibori voiced his appreciation during his talks with Ambassador Zaman on the sidelines of the reopening ceremony. "The restoration and the revitalization of our prefecture is in progress despite of some difficulties, and Kuwait's solidarity will boost our confidence," Governor Uchibori said.

REQUIRED

INTERNAL AUDITOR

Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree
- Min 3-5 years Experience as internal auditor
- Bilingual (English & Arabic)
- Transferable Visa

Interested candidates may please

send your CVs to recruitment1205@gmail.com

2019 KUWAIT-KOREA BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP



4th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relation

We, KOTRA Kuwait, Commercial Section of the Embassy of the Republic of Korea cordially invite all business people / entrepreneurs in Kuwait to attend our special event in commemoration of Kuwait -Korea 40th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relation.

Date May 2 (Thursday) 01:30 PM – 5:30 PM
Location Messilah Room 1, 2nd floor, Jumeirah Hotel, Kuwait
Contents Pre-arranged 1:1 business meetings with the Korean official delegation

For Registration and Details, Contact :

- Mr. Zoher Ali (Oil&Gas) : 6664-8945
- Mr. Mohamad Obeid (Medical) : 6699-6083
- Mr. Mithun Cherian (Others) : 9093-7326
- E-mail: kuwaitkbc@gmail.com

CATEGORY	No.	COMPANY NAME/WEBSITE	PRODUCTS
Oil & Gas	01	SeoulTech Co., Ltd. www.seoul-tech.kr	Oil & Gas maintenance
	02	Spring Peace Corporation www.springpeace.co.kr	Construction Materials, Equipment
	03	G-TOPS Co., Ltd. www.global-tops.com	Equipment & System for Plants
	04	K-TECH GLOBAL CORP. www.ktgco.com	Tube or pipe fittings
	05	SATCO CO., LTD www.satcokorea.com	Flange & Forging
Medical	06	CHEUM INTERNATIONAL CO., LTD. www.cheuminternational.com	Portable dermal HA Injector
	07	ForU http://en.for-u.co.kr	Wireless medical camera
	08	MOM HEALTHCARE www.Momhc.com	Magnetic waist protector
	09	HANSUNG MEDICAL CO.,LTD www.hsm01.com	High Pressure Steam Sterilizer
	10	Powerful X Co., Ltd www.powerfulx.com	Muscle & Skin recovery cream
Others	11	Heerim Architects & Planners www.heerim.com	Architectural Design & Management
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	13	Michigan Technology www.mdaldof.com	Water treatment plants.
	14	ECOPRO CO., LTD www.ecopro.co.kr	N2O Abatement System, CO2 Absorbent
	15	SEONE Co., Ltd www.seone.com	Water Purifier, Auto Wet Towel Dispenser
	16	Loofen Co., Ltd. www.loofen.com	Food Waste Dehydrator
	17	ACE Engineering Co.,Ltd www.acecontainer.com	Container, Defence Industry, Tri-con
	18	LOTUS A.C.T, Inc www.lotusact.com	Animal feeds & additives products
	19	SIGONGmedia www.sigongmedia.co.kr/eng	Digital online education platform
	20	JL TECH N/A	Food Packing Machine.

