

Local

Amir commends success of liver transplant by all-Kuwaiti team

KUWAIT: HH the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent yesterday a congratulatory cable to Health Minister Sheikh Dr Basel Humoud Al-Sabah, expressing pride in the first successful liver transplant carried out by an all-Kuwaiti medical team. In the cable, HH the Amir commended the team's efforts to help a Kuwaiti patient in her 50s by carrying out this operation.

He added the success of the process had shown that national medical staff had the capabilities and the will to carry out their important duties. The Amir thanked the staff for their efforts and wished for the swift recovery of the patient. HH the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and HH the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah sent similar cables.

This was the first liver transplant by a Kuwaiti team and the 12th of its kind in the country. The patient suffered from complications of cirrhosis. General surgery and liver transplant consultant Dr Mohammad Jamal said the woman was repeatedly admitted to the ICU, and was scheduled to travel abroad for the procedure, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this was not possible. As she was in dire need for a transplant to save her life, extra efforts were made to find a donor.

Jamal said the procedure is considered a historic medical achievement, the result of professional planning that doctors worked on after many years of studying and preparing. He said the patient is in good health and is improving, and the transplanted liver is functioning well. He thanked Sheikh Basel for his support. —KUNA



KUWAIT: The liver transplant was the first by an all-Kuwaiti team. —KUNA

MoH conducts 4,000 tests for bank employees

KUWAIT: The health ministry's general health department announced that it had taken about 4,000 coronavirus swabs from employees in the banking sector. The department will continue running group swab tests across the country, especially for employees who come in direct contact with clients, head of the department Dr Fahad Al-Ghemlas told KUNA yesterday.

The ministry's teams are spread over different locations in the country to run PCR tests, especially in heavily infected areas, to prevent further spread of the disease, he added. Ghemlas noted that the department has been cooperating with Kuwait Banking Association to test employees of 23 banks since June. Meanwhile, he called on employees to take all safety measures against the virus, and to immediately report any symptoms of sickness. —KUNA



KUWAIT: A health official collects a swab sample from a bank employee to test for COVID-19. —KUNA

Kuwait blood bank helps save life of patient in UAE

KUWAIT: The Kuwait Central Blood Bank (KCBB) announced yesterday it had provided assistance to save the life of a patient residing in the UAE by donating a rare blood type. Head of transportation services at the Kuwaiti Health Ministry Dr Reem Al-Radhwan said the donation was carried out by browsing KCBB's database stretching back to 1989.

After identifying the rare blood type - Jk-null - the donation was sent to Abu Dhabi to assist in an open-heart surgery, Radhwan said. The donation is part of a Kuwait-run project to provide rare blood type donations to GCC and Arab nations. The first donation was in 2016 between Kuwait and the UAE and the second in 2017 between Kuwait and Qatar. —KUNA

Kuwait reports 330 new COVID cases, one death

KUWAIT: Kuwait listed 330 new coronavirus infections yesterday, taking the total number of cases to 141,547, while one fatality was recorded over the past 24 hours, upping the death toll from the outbreak to 872, the health ministry said. The number of people hospitalized with the virus currently stands at 5,925, with 80 of them in intensive care units, said ministry spokesman Dr Abdullah Al-Sanad, adding that some 7,458 swab tests were conducted in the past day, taking the total to 1,075,651 tests. The ministry earlier reported 717 more people recovered from the virus over the past day, raising the total of those who have overcome the disease to 134,750. The spokesman urged citizens and expatriates that abiding by health precautions, mainly following social distancing rules, is the only way to halt the spread of the virus. —KUNA



KUWAIT: Kuwait Fire Force warned citizens and residents in the country to exercise caution due to the unstable weather conditions. The authority stressed its readiness to handle any situation arising from these conditions, urging the public to contact 112 in case of any emergency. —Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat