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Crimes

Woman drowns at Khairan Resort

KUWAIT: A 29-year-old Ethiopian woman drowned while swimming at Khairan Resort beach, said security sources, noting that the body was referred to forensics. A case was filed for investigations to reveal the circumstances behind the incident.

Reckless driver arrested

A Kuwaiti was arrested for obstructing traffic flow, reckless driving, driving under the effect of drugs, possessing drugs, resisting arrest and attempting to escape from a checkpoint. Case papers indicate that a police patrol stopped the suspect in Hawally and ticketed him, but he tried to escape. He was then controlled and arrested. The suspect was also found to be inebriated, and on impounding the vehicle due to its bad technical condition, agents noticed drugs inside it. A case was filed and the suspect was referred to drugs control pending further investigations.

Search for thief

Someone recently reported that he tried to withdraw KD 500 from an ATM, and when the machine released his card without the money, he thought it was out of order and left to find another one. The man said that he then received an SMS from the bank reporting deducting the sum from his bank account. Checking with his bank, an employee told him that someone visited the ATM after him, took the cash he found in it and left. A case was filed and a search is on for the thief. —Translated by Kuwait Times from Al-Rai

Cabinet urges obtaining info about Amir's health from official sources

COVID-19 recovery rate increased, fatalities, hospitalizations went down

KUWAIT: The Kuwaiti Cabinet held its weekly session on Monday at Seif Palace under the chairmanship of His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah. After the meeting, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Interior and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Anas Al-Saleh stated the following: His Highness the Prime Minister briefed the Cabinet at the outset of the meeting on the improvement of His Highness the Amir's health, expressing best wishes and hopes for His Highness's speedy recovery. The Cabinet also urged everyone to obtain information related to His Highness the Amir's health from the official sources. Later, Minister of Health Sheikh Dr. Basel Al-Sabah briefed the Cabinet on the latest health develop-



Measures taken against 'primaries'

ments in the country in light of statistics and data related to the numbers of coronavirus cases of infection, recovery, deaths and those receiving treatment. He pointed out that recovery rate has increased whereas fatalities and hospitalizations have went down. Interior Minister Anas Al-Saleh informed the Cabinet of measures taken by the ministry regarding monitoring a number of locations that held 'primaries' in violation of Law 35/1962 regarding elections for National Assembly membership and its amendments, which criminalizes organization and/or participation of such elections. Furthermore, the Cabinet discussed the outcome of the no-confidence voting session against Saleh, also Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Cabinet



KUWAIT: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah chairs the Cabinet's meeting. — KUNA

Affairs, as well as the Minister of Education and Minister of Higher Education Saud Al-Harbi, held last Thursday regarding the renewal of the parliament's confidence in the two ministers. His Highness the Prime Minister congratulated the ministers on obtaining the confidence of MPs. — KUNA

Failure to follow precaution delays move to fifth phase

KUWAIT: The Cabinet on Monday decided postponing moving into the fifth phase of resuming normal life activities until further notice. The Cabinet blamed the increasing number of new cases of COVID-19 to negligence, not following health precautions and the recent increase of gatherings and crowding. Arabic daily Al-Rai reported yesterday. The Cabinet also urged relevant bodies to activate precautionary measures to limit the spread of infections and ensure the safety of citizens and residents, especially after specialized observers expressed fears that the current state of laxity might lead to re-imposing a partial curfew.

Notably, activities that are still banned and were scheduled to resume in the postponed fifth phase, including full-capacity staff, family gatherings and celebrations, wedding ceremonies, exhibitions, cinema and theatres, while some other activities were allowed to resume ahead of schedule at the beginning of phase four on Aug 18. Moreover, with the total numbers of COVID-19 infections in Kuwait approaching 100,000, the Ministry of Health (MoH) warned that health indicators show that Kuwait is still in the first wave and that the second one might possibly start

unless people respect preventive measures.

Seventh worldwide

Meanwhile, Al-Rai reported that according to the 'World Meter Indicator' which tracks COVID-19 infections worldwide round the clock, Kuwait ranked third in the GCC and the Arab world and seventh worldwide in terms of the number of COVID-19 infections compared to population. The World Meter showed in terms of the number of infections per million, Qatar stands first worldwide with 43,358 infections per million, Bahrain came second worldwide with 35,209 infections, while Kuwait is third in GCC states and seventh worldwide with 22,290 infections per million, which makes the ratio of infections versus the total population in Kuwait ahead of that in the world's most infected countries such as Brazil, US, Colombia and Spain.

The World Meter report also showed that Oman came fourth in GCC states and 12th worldwide with 15,780 infections per million, Saudi Arabia came fifth among GCC states and 33rd worldwide with 9,325 infections per million and UAE came sixth among GCC states and 37th worldwide with 8,018 infections per million.

In addition, the World Meter showed Iraq stands 45th worldwide with 7,186 infections per million, Lebanon 84th worldwide with 3,565 infections per million and Libya 92nd worldwide with 3,306 infections per million, while Morocco registered 2,282 infections per million. Finally, despite the total number of infections reaching 101,009, World Meter showed

Egypt stands 132nd worldwide with only 983 infections per million.

Grade 12 students

In other news, the Ministry of Education (MoE) announced that yesterday was the final date to input grade 12 students' grades in the system, online classes will continue today and tomorrow, and graduation certificates will be distributed on Sunday, Al-Anbaa Arabic daily reported. In this regard, MoE undersecretary Osama Al-Sultan notified all educational zones that the grading system will be closed by the end of working hours yesterday and instructed all school directors to make sure the final grades are entered and online classes continue till Thursday, September 17. Meanwhile, MoE hailed the parliamentary proposal made by MP Osama Al-Shaheen to exempt one of the students' parents from going to their government work in order to stay home and supervise their children during the online learning process.

In my view

Any journey starts with a step



By Abdellatif Sharaa

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Being interested in fighting anything that harms my fellow human beings, I read publications of all types, especially as they speak about something new. I am an optimistic person by nature and what I went through in my life proves it, so a statement by the CEO of a leading tobacco company raised my hopes that first the cigarette as we know will be extinct, then the so-called alternatives will go into the history books once and for all.

"I am convinced it is possible to completely end cigarette sales in many countries within 10 to 15 years," said the company's CEO in a report that was published recently. The statement said that while the company insists smoking alternatives are less harmful than cigarettes, some health groups have expressed concern that heat-not-burn products expose consumers to other toxins and argue that long-term effects are not yet known.

The American FDA which approved the sale of an alternative still did not rule whether it can be marketed as less risky than cigarettes. It is known that what makes one hooked on smoking is nicotine, as the National Institute on Drug Abuse answered the question whether nicotine is addictive as follows:

"Yes. Most smokers use tobacco regularly because they are addicted to nicotine. Addiction is characterized by compulsive drug-seeking and use, even in the face of negative health consequences. The majority of smokers would like to stop smoking, and each year about half try to quit permanently. Yet, only about six percent of smokers are able to quit in a given year. Most smokers will need to make multiple attempts before they are able to quit permanently."

I do understand that companies are always for development and enhancement of their performance in the business world, but all must be careful about what is being delivered into the human body. When a person gets sick and finds it necessary to take medicine, they are most likely to complain of some side effects of the medicine itself despite safety and toxicity studies on it. Although most people can tolerate the side effects, some find themselves compelled to take other medicines to counter the side effects, and so on.

I hope that man will be considerate towards humankind and work towards protecting the race he belongs to from many inflicted harms, the majority of which are manmade, be it in industry or in the streets - even the high seas are not spared.

The journey of 1,000 miles starts with a step, so let us have hope that as tobacco companies are going after alternatives to the traditional cigarette because of its obvious harms, one day even the so-called alternatives will rest in history books and businesses will turn to products beneficial to their fellow brothers and sisters. Nothing is impossible - nothing!

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KUWAIT: A 28-year-old bedoon man died in a three-car accident reported in Sulaibiya Monday night. Sulaibikhat fire station men handled the accident. An investigation was opened.

Kuwait participates in World Cleanup Day

KUWAIT: Chief of the Al-Nowair initiative Sheikh Intisar Salem Al-Ali Al-Sabah announced a cleaning Kuwait campaign, marking World Cleanup Day, next Saturday in Jahra and Ahmadi governorates. In a statement, Sheikh Intisar said Kuwait's participation at the world Cleanup Day is the first of its kind, as it will enhance Kuwait's environmental position internationally. Last year, 20.1 million people participated in this global campaign from 180 countries around the world, she said, noting that it is the largest environmental cleanup campaign the world has seen. She praised the response of state institutions to this campaign, as the number of participants in the campaign has reached more than 2,000 and is expected to reach 3,000 participants. The goal of adopting this campaign is to promote the culture of cleaning the environment in the Kuwaiti society, she said. Meanwhile, Sheikh Intisar said that awareness meeting was held for representatives of the bodies and institutions participating in the campaign, during which the areas to be covered by the cleaning campaign were reviewed, and they are divided into six sites in Al-Khuwaisat area in Jahra Governorate, as well as Al-Khairan and Al-Wafra in Ahmadi Governorate. — KUNA