

Local

Amir praises Kuwaiti youth's efforts in voluntary work

Sheikh Nawaf briefed on voluntary work's national strategy



KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah receives a copy of the national strategy for voluntary work. — Amiri Diwan and KUNA photos

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received at Bayan Palace yesterday Minister of Information and Culture and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Abdulrahman Al-Mutairi, Head of the Voluntary Work Center Sheikhha Amthal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Rawan Yarub Al-Fawzan and Mohammad Nasser Al-Atwan, where they briefed His Highness on the national strategy for voluntary work prepared by youth cadres, aims to organize and support voluntary work in the country. His Highness the Amir praised efforts and contributions in the field of voluntary work, stressing his support to strengthen the joint work between the volunteer teams and the various authorities of the state.

His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah also received minister Mutairi, Sheikhha Amthal, Fawzan and Atwan, who presented to him a similar briefing. His Highness the Crown Prince praised during the meeting the efforts of Kuwait youth in spreading the cul-

ture of humanitarian initiatives around the world, as he stressed the political leadership attention to voluntary charitable work, calling to show the world the bright image of Kuwait that enjoys a human culture stemming from the values of the Islamic religion.

Minister Mutairi and the high-level delegation members also made a similar presentation to His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, who praised efforts and contributions in the field of volunteer work, stressing his support to strengthen the joint work between the volunteer teams and the various authorities of the state. In other news, His Highness the Amir received His Highness Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah at Bayan Palace. His Highness the Amir also received Governor of the Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) Dr Mohammad Yousef Al-Hashel. His Highness the Crown Prince also received His Highness Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammad and Dr Hashel at Bayan Palace. — KUNA



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets His Highness Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah.



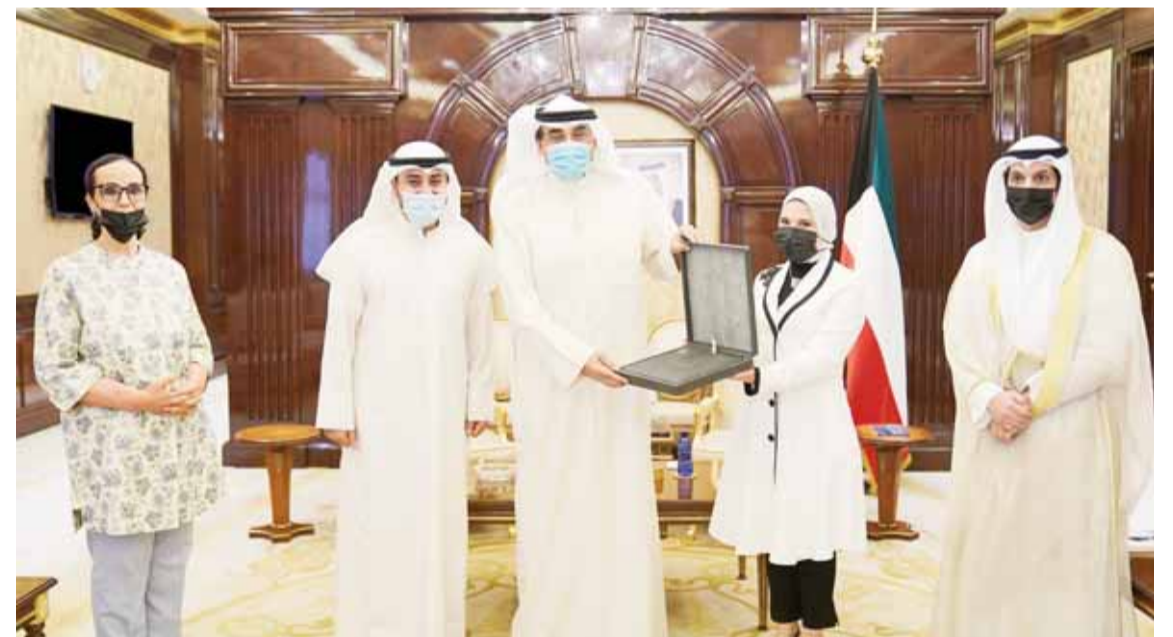
His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets Governor of the Central Bank of Kuwait Dr Mohammad Yousef Al-Hashel.



His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets His Highness Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah.



His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah receives a copy of the national strategy for voluntary work.



His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah receives a copy of the national strategy for voluntary work.

Jordan labels palace feud a...

Continued from Page 1

ban the publication of anything related to this inquiry at this stage," prosecutor Hassan Al-Abdallat said in a statement. "The ban on publication involves all audiovisual media and social networks, as well as the publication of all images or video clips relating to this subject on pain of legal action."

Hamzah has made extensive use of the media to lash out against his situation, accusing Jordan's rulers of corruption, nepotism and ineptitude in a video message he sent to the BBC on Saturday. He sharply criticized the "incompetence that has been prevalent in our governing structure for the last 15 to 20 years and has been getting worse." "No-one is able to speak or express opinion on anything without being bullied, arrested, harassed and threatened," he charged.

He said he had been placed under house arrest in his Amman palace and that his phone and Internet were cut off, but that he was able to send his message using a satellite link. He also vowed he would not be silenced or stay confined at home. But Hamzah's tone changed after Abdullah sent another royal to speak with him Monday. The job of mediator was handed to Hamzah's uncle, Prince Hassan, 71, himself a former heir to the throne who was sidelined.

After their talk, the palace released a state-

ment in which the prince did not step away from all his criticism, but loyally pledged: "I will remain... faithful to the legacy of my ancestors, walking on their path, loyal to their path and their message and to His Majesty." Analyst Ahmed Awad, who heads the Phoenix Center for Economic Studies and Informatics, said "there has been a solution within the royal family, but not a solution to the political crisis in the country. "The real political crisis is not over ... as long as there are not more democratic reforms."

The crisis has laid bare divisions in a country usually seen as a bulwark of stability in the Middle East. Jordan borders Israel and the occupied West Bank, Syria, Iraq and Saudi Arabia. It hosts US troops and is home to millions of exiled Palestinians and more than half a million Syrian refugees. The Washington Post - which broke news of the crisis Saturday - wrote that speculation about an alleged "foreign connection" in the plot intensified after an unscheduled visit by a Saudi delegation.

The Saudis requested the release from arrest of Jordanian former royal advisor Bassem Awadallah, a Saudi passport holder, the newspaper said, quoting a senior Middle Eastern intelligence official. The group Human Rights Watch meanwhile said the crisis comes against the backdrop of a "diminishing space for freedom of expression and political dialogue" in Jordan.

Hamzah's comments reflect "public angst and frustration over the economic situation as well as the perceived increase of authoritarianism", its Middle East and North Africa deputy director Adam Coodle told AFP. "There's been just a creeping securitization of all the government agencies," he added. — AFP

IMF projects stronger growth...

Continued from Page 1

However, she stressed that the health crisis remains the critical factor in the economic recovery, and the slow rollout of vaccinations in many developing countries risks not just a worsening COVID-19 outbreak, but also a more troubling future for those nations. "The outlook presents daunting challenges... and the potential for persistent economic damage from the crisis," she said in the forward to the report, again warning against withdrawing support too soon.

"Without additional efforts to give all people a fair shot, cross-country gaps in living standards could widen significantly, and decades-long trends

of global poverty reduction could reverse," Gopinath said. She told reporters that governments must be mindful of rising debt and deficits, and use a "tailored approach which is specific to where they are in terms of the speed of their recovery."

And because the pandemic "has gone on for much longer than one might have expected" governments should target their scarce resources. In order to capture more revenues for their coffers, the IMF is "very much in favor of a global minimum corporate tax," Gopinath said.

A day after US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen called on G20 countries to adopt a minimum tax, Gopinath noted the "large amount" of tax avoidance with "countries sending money to tax havens". "That's reducing the tax base on which governments can collect revenues and do the necessary social and economic spending that's required," she said. "It is a big concern of ours." G20 finance ministers are expected to discuss the issue when they meet, virtually, today. — AFP

Dutch cargo ship adrift...

Continued from Page 1

the boat and the list was too severe. Footage from the Norwegian authorities shows a man in an orange survival suit throwing himself into the rough sea off the stern of the ship. The ship also suffered an engine failure and then began drifting towards the Norwegian coastline. Yesterday morning it was about 130 km northwest of the port city of Alesund.

One of the boats it was carrying on deck fell into

the sea, potentially helping to reduce its list, which is now estimated to be around 30 degrees after hovering between 40 and 50 degrees. "The situation seems to be more stable but there is still a risk that it could capsize," Hans-Petter Mortensholm with the Norwegian Coastal Administration (Kystverket), told AFP. "We want to put someone on board to arrange for a tow as soon as the weather conditions allow," he added.

The cargo ship contains 350 cu m of heavy fuel oil, 75 cu m of diesel and 10 cu m of lubricating oil. A Norwegian Coast Guard vessel arrived at the ship yesterday. The operator of the vessel has also called in the Dutch company Smit Salvage, which was involved in the refloating of the Ever Given in Egypt's Suez Canal last week. — AFP