

Local

Expats, non-vaccinated have higher ICU numbers in Kuwait

COVID-19 vaccines given to people who received SMS: MOH

KUWAIT: Expatriates and people who haven't been vaccinated against COVID-19 have the highest numbers among hospitalized and ICU patients in Kuwait, head of the higher COVID-19 committee Dr Khaled Al-Jarallah said yesterday. The number of positive results from field swab tests have dropped except in investment residential areas and among expats, he added. The number of people in Kuwait who have received their COVID-19 vaccines is estimated to be nearing 800,000. Meanwhile, health authorities are looking to curb the rise in daily infections through plans to accelerate vaccinations in Ramadan with the hope of reaching one million vaccinated people soon.

In the meantime, the Ministry of Health said that all shots of COVID-19 vaccines were given on Thursday to all people who came to vaccination centers in accordance with a specific time set via short message service (SMS). In a press statement Friday, the ministry stressed the necessity of people's abidance by the timing of their doses set in the SMS they receive for a smooth process. This contributes to receiving vaccines within a high quality and safe manner without any interruption

or delay, it noted. It also helps avoid gatherings and enables people to take their doses as planned, according to the statement.

Kuwait had said Friday it registered eight new COVID-19 fatalities and 1,406 new infections in the past 24 hours. The ministry's spokesman Dr Abdullah Al-Sanad said that the death toll increased to 1,436 total fatalities, and the infections caseload to 254,472 as of Friday. Kuwait had announced five deaths and 1,391 cases on Thursday. The infections-to-swab ratio was 15.18 percent, down from 16.12 percent the previous day, Dr Sanad noted.

He added that 1,283 patients have recovered from the virus in the same period to reach 237,667 recoveries, which make the ratio of recoveries 93.40 percent from total conducted tests. The spokesman pointed out that ICU patients stood at 247 as of Friday, up from 244 the previous day, while the number of patients who received health care stood at 15,369 patients, up from 15,254 a day before. Dr Sanad called on the public to maintain social distancing, and to abide with all health regulations that would help in stopping the virus spread.



KUWAIT: In this March 1, 2021 file photo, people are seen lined up to enter the Kuwait Vaccination Center in Mishref. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

Zain shares Ramadan blessings with MOI frontliners

KUWAIT: Zain, the leading digital service provider in Kuwait, shared the blessings of the holy month of Ramadan with the Ministry of Interior's frontliners at traffic checkpoints by visiting them on the field. The company recognized the efforts of police officers by presenting them with Ramadan gifts as a sign of gratitude for their sacrifices in protecting the health and safety of the nation during the pandemic.

The initiative came as part of Zain's annual Ramadan campaign, which comes in line with the company's Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainability strategy. Zain's team visited a number of security

checkpoints operating during the partial curfew with the presence of MOI Assistant Undersecretary for Traffic and Operations Affairs Major-General Jamal Al-Sayegh, Zain Kuwait's Chief Corporate Communications and Relations Officer Waleed Al-Khashti, as well as MOI and Zain officials.

Zain's team presented police officers at the frontlines with Ramadan gifts as a sign of gratitude for their great efforts and selfless sacrifices during the pandemic, especially that they face extreme heat and the danger of infection on a daily basis to save lives and ensure everyone's safety during the holy month of Ramadan.

As the leading telecom operator in Kuwait, Zain tirelessly seeks to serve the community by organizing and supporting unique initiatives during the holy month in an effort to reflect the pivotal role of the private sector in supporting social sustainability projects. The company is proud of the long list of programs and projects it supports in strategic partnership with many non-profits, government institutions, and global entities.



Interior Minister checks several security points

KUWAIT: Kuwaiti Interior Minister Sheikh Thamer Ali Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah made a tour late Friday to check several security checkpoints around the country. The tour aimed to inspect the application of the required precautionary and health measures. In a statement, the General

Department of Public Relations and Media said yesterday that the tour comes within the Ministry's strategy to connect with the security forces at all locations. The Minister stressed the important role played by the security system to maintain law and order in the country and assured that no default will be allowed in keeping security and safety across the country. During the tour, the Interior Minister praised the citizens' cooperation with security members after listening to their notes. He stressed the ministry's efforts to ease and facilitate all obstacles according to the law, directing Security men to take into account the humanitarian situation and the peoples' exceptional circumstances during curfew hours. — KUNA

Kuwait curfew: What you need to know

KUWAIT: Kuwait imposed a curfew from 7:00 pm to 5:00 am until April 22, 2021 to help curb the sharp increase in COVID-19 cases registered in recent weeks. During the curfew hours, pharmacies, medical stores, co-operative societies and supermarkets are allowed to continue operation only through delivery services, while restaurants and cafes are allowed to deliver food from 7:00 pm to 3:00 am every day. Also during the curfew, people are allowed to go to prayers at mosques only by walking, and the government allowed people to practice walking and jogging from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm. The government meanwhile allowed salons and health clubs to reopen during the day but kept restaurants and cafes closed except for drive-through and delivery services. Meanwhile, taxis are allowed to carry only two passengers.

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry launched a booking service, allowing people to shop from 7:00 pm to 12:00 am during the curfew hours. The service is valid for all co-ops and supermarkets around Kuwait. To book an appointment, a shopper should visit www.moci.shop, enter the required information (civil ID number and serial number, contact number and email address), the reason for appointment (food supply center) and the time and date of the appointment. The shopper would then receive a barcode to show once

they reach the shopping center.

Where to obtain a curfew pass?

Citizens and residents that need a pass during the curfew hours to leave their homes can apply for a pass at <https://www.paci.gov.kw/>. The pass is available for those in need of emergency medical treatment, doctor's visits, blood donation, COVID-19 swabs and COVID-19 vaccinations.

Co-op delivery during curfew hours

During curfew hours, co-ops, grocery stores and other markets will be allowed to offer delivery services. Most co-ops will accept orders via delivery. Here is an incomplete list of co-op WhatsApp numbers. Each co-op will be responsible for deciding if and when they provide delivery services and not all may be providing.

Omariya Co-op
WhatsApp 6041-0067

Farwaniya Co-op
WhatsApp 6767-8211

Qairawan Co-op
WhatsApp 9000-3749

Jahra Co-op
WhatsApp 5160-2458

Abdulla Al-Mubarak Co-op
WhatsApp 6066-6338

Nuzha Co-op
WhatsApp 9784-5531

Khaitan Co-op
WhatsApp 6777-9745

Ardhiya Co-op
WhatsApp 6902-0779

Rabiya Co-op
WhatsApp 2438-8316

Wafra Farm Co-op
Tel: 9883-5245 / 5170-0085

Salmiya Co-op
Tel: 22253225

Jabriya Co-op
Tel: 1805-353
WhatsApp 6566-6084

Rawdha & Hawally
WhatsApp 9662-2883

Shaab Co-op
WhatsApp 9090-4455

Wafra Co-op
WhatsApp 5055-0539

Keifan Co-op
WhatsApp 5178-1719

Rehab Co-op
WhatsApp 9222-2358

Mishref Co-op
WhatsApp 5055-9900

Faiha Co-op
Tel: 1861-000
WhatsApp 9098-6000

Rumaithiya Co-op
WhatsApp 6066-0045

Bayan Co-op
WhatsApp 9004-2500

Fahaheel Co-op
WhatsApp 5178-9951

Adan & Qusour Co-op
Tel: 5034-3111 / 6593-3975

Salam Co-op
WhatsApp 9788-7832