

Local

Kuwait plans to switch to smart meters fully in 'shortest possible timeframe'

Around 200,000 smart meters imported for preliminary phase

KUWAIT: Kuwait's Ministry of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy is a significant contributor to the government's vision of digitalization and energy conservation, and the installation of smart electricity meters is considered a considerable leap in that regard. Stemming from the ministry's aim of providing continuous high-quality energy and straying away from an ordinary mechanism to a smart one comes the utilization of state-of-the-art technology and information systems. Mulaweh Al-Ajmi, Director of the ministry's maintenance and contract management department, said yesterday that the ministry is keen on translating Kuwait's vision of digitalization into reality as it has prepared a plan to switch all ordinary meters into smart ones in the shortest possible timeframe. Ajmi added that the ministry imported around 200,000 smart meters as part of its preliminary phase.



Mulaweh Al-Ajmi



KUWAIT: The smart meters imported by Kuwait's Ministry of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy.

The smart meters can improve and ensure energy efficiency and find a mechanism to monitor and rapidly repair faults. They could also raise consumer awareness regarding consumption rates, which in turn would contribute to saving energy and expenses. The new pre-paid meters will provide greater flexibility in terms of issuing bills and facilitating payments either via the ministry's website, smartphone application, or consumers' affairs centers.

Around 30,000 smart meters installed in Salmiya



Minister of Electricity and Minister of Social Affairs and Societal Development Dr Mashaan Al-Otaibi had previously stated that it was expected that around 800,000 meters would be installed within two to three years.

Additionally, the smart electricity meters could provide the ministry with necessary information in regards to what areas are in need of current strengthening, or even building new power stations.



A Ministry of Electricity, Water and Renewable Energy technician installs the smart meters. —KUNA photos

Due to the importance of the project, the ministry began giving notices to investment and trade sectors in the governorates of Farwaniya and Hawali in order to pay dues prior to installation of new meters. Around 30,000 smart meters have already been installed in Salmiya. There are three types of

smart meters: direct meters meant for stores and large apartments, single meters meant for small spaces, and LVCT meters designed for residential plots and villas. The ministry also plans on installing smart water meters for residential units in upcoming stages. —KUNA

Kuwait notifies UNSC of POWs update

NEW YORK: The State of Kuwait has informed the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Secretary-General and UNSC President about

the latest developments of the file of Kuwaiti prisoners of war (POWs), missing persons and third country nationals. This came in a letter addressed by Kuwait's Representative at the UN Ambassador Mansour Al-Otaibi, based on UNSC Resolution 2017/2013 and UNSC Statement dated November 24, 2020. The letter said that on November 18, 2021, the remains of 19 Kuwaiti martyrs and missing persons were identified according to DNA tests conducted by Kuwait's General Administration

of Criminal Evidence. The POWs were arrested during the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in 1990 and their remains were then included in the previous batches received in November 2020 as well as January, March and July of 2021, according to the letter. Intensive efforts were exerted to identify the remains in Iraq and the tripartite committee's technical subcommittee decided to allow an Iraqi technical team to check the sites of the remains under the International

Committee of the Red Cross. Kuwait thanked the Iraqi government, the members of the tripartite and technical subcommittee, the International Committee of the Red Cross, and the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) for their efforts in this regard, according to the letter. It is hoped that this human tragedy would come to an end at an early date, it said, adding that Kuwait would pursue efforts to identify the destiny of Kuwaiti POWs and other countries' nationals. —KUNA



Used tires on fire in Amghara.

Three hurt in Sixth Ring Road crash

KUWAIT: Three people were injured in a two-vehicle accident reported on Sixth Ring Road yesterday. Firemen were called to help a person out of his wrecked vehicle where he was trapped due to the impact. Emergency medical technicians transported the injured people to hospital for treatment, Kuwait Fire Force said. Meanwhile, firemen battled a blaze in a pile of used tires left in an open area in Amghara. An investigation was opened to reveal the cause of the fire.



KUWAIT: One of the vehicles involved in the crash.

National Guard offers assistance to special education school



KUWAIT: Assistant for Financial Affairs and resources management at Kuwait National Guard Major General Riyadh Twari visited the special education school's administration in Hawally to discuss offering support to people with special needs. He said the visit was made at the instruc-

tions of the higher command of KNG, represented by its Chief HH Sheikh Salem Al-Ali Al-Sabah and Deputy Chief Lt Gen Sheikh Ahmad Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, as part of KNG's social responsibility to help and support various sectors of Kuwait's society.

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