

Local

Kuwait to pursue partnership between public, private sectors: Defense Minister

Legislations passed to facilitate foreign companies' entry into Kuwait

KUWAIT: Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Hamad Jaber Al-Ali Al-Sabah said that Kuwait realized the importance of working to activate partnership between the public and private sectors in the implementation of projects, pointing out the government's keenness to update its laws over the years. This was in a speech Sheikh Hamad Jaber Al-Ali delivered virtually yesterday at the opening of the first Kuwait Conference on Partnership between the Public and Private Sectors, entitled "Partnership Journey towards Growth and Prosperity," organized by Nouf Expo under the patronage of His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah. He hopes that the two-day conference would end with recommendations that would contribute to achieving goals and aspirations in building effective partnerships that would support the implementation of Kuwait's 2035 Vision.



DHAMAN to provide health care for all private sector workers

Meanwhile, Minister of Public Works and Minister of State for Communications and Information Technology Dr Rana Al-Fares said in her speech that the conference is vital for Kuwait. Fares, who is also Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Supreme Committee for Partnership Projects

between the Public and Private Sectors, noted that the committee is working to activate the participation of the local and international private sector in financing, implementing and operating development and strategic projects in Kuwait. Kuwait approved many legislations to facilitate the entry of foreign companies into the Kuwaiti market, she explained.

In the meantime, CEO of Health Assurance Hospitals Company (DHAMAN) Thamer Arab said in his speech that the conference reflects the economic and strategic direction and the expansion of the private sector participation. Countries and governments seek to develop health care by investing in strategic partnerships between both sectors, Arab added, noting that the company's first projects in the health sector were through health insurance hospitals to become a health care destination for all workers

in the private sector. Furthermore, Head of the Federation of Kuwaiti Engineering Offices and Consulting Houses Bader Al-Salman said in his speech that the conference constitutes an opportunity to gather specialized global expertise with local production sectors to contribute to the success of future development plans and make Kuwait a suitable investment destination for international and local companies. — KUNA



KUWAIT: Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Hamad Jaber Al-Ali Al-Sabah (top left) speaks during the opening of the first Kuwait Conference on Partnership between the Public and Private Sectors, held virtually yesterday. — KUNA

Prime Minister meets UN Special Envoy to Yemen



KUWAIT: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah meets UN Special Envoy for Yemen Hans Grundberg. — KUNA

KUWAIT: His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah received yesterday at Bayan Palace the visiting United Nations Special Envoy for Yemen Hans Grundberg, and his accompanying delegation.

The Head of His Highness the Prime Minister Diwan Abdulaziz Dekheel Al-Dekheel, and the Acting Assistance of Minister of Foreign Affairs for International Organizations Abdulaziz Al-Jarallah attended the meeting. — KUNA

UN official lauds managers of Kuwait's tires recycling plant

KUWAIT: The Resident Representative of the UN Secretary General Dr Tareq Al-Sheikh yesterday heaped praise upon organizers and managers of the used tires' recycling plant in Al-Salmi, where large amounts of used tires were recently moved to. This came in a press release issued by the resident office after a delegation from the office visited the recycling factory in Al-Salmi. Sheikh was quoted by the statement as emphasizing sustainability of recycling the used materials to cut volumes of the discarded

materials; noting that such industry contributes to bolstering the national economy.

Meanwhile, Alaa Hassan, Chairman and CEO at EPSCO Global General Contracting Company, said that it had dawned on her to launch the tires recycling factory in Arhia, occupying a vast land that could be used for building houses. Hassan added that the Kuwaiti government and the Environment Public Authority approved building the factory for EPSCO in the end of 2017. More than one million torn and used tires had been transported from Arhia per month. The recycling plant in Al-Salmi was built on a 20,000 square meter plot of land in 2019. Its capacity amounts to one to three million tires per year (8,300 tires per month). She added that the total amount of used tires in Kuwait per year amounts to 1.5 million. — KUNA



KUWAIT: A delegation from the UN resident's office in Kuwait poses for a group photo during a visit to the used tires' recycling plant in Al-Salmi yesterday. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

Around 12 suicides per month in Kuwait this year: Report

KUWAIT: The latest suicide cases of citizens and residents raises a red flag, as many of them used various means and methods in ending their lives. Suicides reached 120 cases from January until November 2021; around 12 cases per month, according to official statistics. Al-Qabas Arabic daily reported yesterday quoting security sources that a majority of these suicides are committed by Asians, with cases increasing since the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic.

They added security authorities will deport any resident who attempts to commit suicide, after the increase in such attempts, particularly from Jaber Causeway. Police stations have received repeated calls about suicide attempts, mostly by Asians, and firefighters have responded and saved 10 lives since the start of the pandemic.

The National Diwan of Human Rights revealed in a study conducted with seven government entities to find the reasons behind the rising number of suicides by citizens and residents. Chairman of the complaints committee at the Diwan Ali Al-Baghli said "having three suicide cases in one day should catch the attention of the society to act quickly to save more lives". He said Kuwait registered the largest number of suicide cases in its history during 2020.

Kuwaiti Oil Minister attends Abu Dhabi int'l conference

ABU DHABI: Participants in a discussion panel at the opening ceremony of Abu Dhabi International Petroleum Exhibition and Conference (ADIPEC 2021) yesterday stressed on the importance of the OPEC+ role in achieving balance in the market through setting a forecast plan for 2022. Kuwaiti Minister of Oil and Higher Education Dr Mohammad Al-Fares headed the Kuwaiti delegation, which included CEO of Kuwait Petroleum Cooperation (KPC) Hashem Hashem and Kuwaiti OPEC governor Mohammad Al-Shatti.

Participants at the start of the gathering pointed out that oil producers increased the output and ensured sufficient supply to the market, thus paving the way for improved living conditions. They said that developing countries need investments to increase their production in oil and gas to improve their economy and standard of life. UAE Minister of Energy and Infrastructure Suhail Almazroui attended the discussion panel alongside OPEC General Secretary Mohammad Barkindo, Omani Minister of

Oil and Gas Mohammad Al-Ramhi and Guinean Minister of Mines Hydrocarbons Gabriel Lima.

The convention, held after UN's Climate Change Conference (COP-26) that discussed means of protecting the environment, is due to proceed until November 18. ADIPEC 2021 is sponsored by the President of UAE Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al-Nahyan, represented by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Presidential Affairs Sheikh Mansour Bin Zayed Al-Nahyan. Officials from several countries are partaking in the event. Egypt will be hosting COP-27 and the UAE will host COP-28. The regional countries' planned hosting of the international conferences depict the role of the Middle East in investing in renewable energy, securing the energy and environment worldwide.

The OPEC+ alliance decided during a ministerial meeting, on November 4, to maintain current oil production and increase the output gradually. Oil ministers of OPEC and non-OPEC oil-producing countries had agreed on hiking the oil production by some 400,000 barrels per day until December.

The conference focuses on new market dynamics, future fuel, future energy companies and transformational technologies. There are 51 national and international oil companies and 26 booths from 167 countries taking part in the event. The conference also includes the 11th edition of the ADIPEC awards, which will be hosted today with the participation of over 700 projects from more than 50 countries. — KUNA



ABU DHABI: Kuwaiti Minister of Oil Dr Mohammad Al-Fares (third from left) speaks during the Abu Dhabi International Petroleum Exhibition and Conference. — KUNA

GCC military command an achievement by members: Secretary General

RIYADH: Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Secretary General Nayef Al-Hajraf yesterday affirmed that activation of the joint GCC military command is one of the common achievements attained by the member states. Hajraf made the statement during a meeting with Commander of the Joint GCC Military Command Colonel General Eid Awad Al-Shalawi, held at the GCC Secretariat General headquarters, the Official Saudi Press Agency (SPA) said yesterday. Hajraf commended efforts of the senior officers at the command, established with a gracious blessing on part of their royalty and highnesses, the top GCC leaders. It has been set up for sake of attaining security, stability and independence of the GCC member states, Hajraf said further.

The Secretary General quoted Hajraf as affirming significance of the relations and cooperation between the two sides and the need for boosting this coordination. It added that Hajraf and OIC Secretary General Dr Yousef Al-Othaimeen discussed issues of joint concern during a meeting and the need for enhancing cooperation between the two sides.

The GCC, established in the early 1980s in the shadow of a major war between Iran and Iraq, groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the UAE, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman. It was established to achieve closer cooperation among the regional countries at various levels. — KUNA

Meanwhile, the GCC and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) have inked a memo of the executive program; complementary to a memo signed by the two sides in 2008. The GCC Secretariat General said in a statement yesterday that the inked memo stipulated activation of technical-level meetings for addressing issues such as combating terrorism, human rights and common efforts.



RIYADH: GCC Secretary General Nayef Al-Hajraf and OIC Secretary General Dr Yousef Al-Othaimeen are seen following their meeting in Riyadh yesterday. — KUNA