

Local

Crown Prince receives top state officials at Bayan Palace

Amir sends condolences to Saudi King



KUWAIT: His Highness the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets Speaker of the National Assembly Marzouq Al-Ghanem. — KUNA photos



His Highness the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah.



His Highness the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Justice, and Minister of State for Enhancing Transparency Abdullah Al-Roumi.



His Highness the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Hamad Jaber Al-Ali Al-Sabah and Minister of Interior Sheikh Thamer Ali Al-Sabah.

KUWAIT: His Highness the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received at Bayan Palace yesterday Speaker of the National Assembly Marzouq Al-Ghanem, His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Hamad Jaber Al-Ali Al-Sabah and Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Justice, and Minister of State for Enhancing Transparency Abdullah Al-Roumi. His Highness Sheikh Mishal also received Minister of Interior Sheikh Thamer Ali Al-Sabah.

In other news, His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent yesterday a cable of condolences to Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud. In the cable, His Highness expressed sincere condolences and sympathies on the demise of Prince Abdullah bin Mohammad bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud bin Faisal Al-Saud, wishing solace for the royal family. His Highness the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah sent similar cables. — KUNA

Kuwait, Serbia discuss ties in Belgrade meeting



BELGRADE: Kuwait's Foreign Minister Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah meets with Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic. — KUNA photos



Kuwait's Foreign Minister Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah meets with his Serbian counterpart Nikola Selakovic.

BELGRADE: Kuwait's Foreign Minister and State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah met in Belgrade yesterday with Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic. The meeting tackled bilateral ties and ways of enhancing them. Kuwait and Serbia will

celebrate in 2023 the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries. The meeting was held prior to the ministerial meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement countries on October 11-12 to mark the 60th anniversary of the movement. Meanwhile,

Sheikh Dr Ahmad met with his Serbian counterpart Nikola Selakovic. During the meeting, both sides discussed the Kuwaiti-Serbian relations. Moreover, the two officials discussed subjects of common interest and latest regional and international developments. — KUNA

Kuwait, Iraq foreign ministers meet



BELGRADE: Kuwait's Foreign Minister Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Al-Sabah meets with his Iraqi counterpart Fuad Hussein. — KUNA

BELGRADE: Foreign Minister Sheikh Dr Ahmad Nasser Al-Sabah held talks yesterday with his Iraqi counterpart Fuad Hussein on the sidelines of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) summit in the Serbian capital Belgrade.

On the 60th anniversary of the Cold War era bloc's inception, the Kuwaiti and Iraqi foreign ministers discussed bilateral ties and current happenings around the world, said a foreign ministry statement. — KUNA

MoH launches vaccination...

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former Australian race discrimination commissioner, told AFP. There will still be limits on mass gatherings and international borders and schools will not fully reopen for a few weeks yet. But otherwise daily life will look more like normal.

For most of the pandemic, Australia successfully suppressed infections through border closures, lockdowns and aggressive testing and tracing. But the Delta variant put paid to any dream of "COVID-zero", at least in the largest cities of Melbourne and Sydney which are now pivoting to "living with COVID". "It's a big day for our state," said New South Wales' recently

appointed conservative premier Dominic Perrottet. After "100 days of blood, sweat and no beers," he said, "you've earned it."

Meanwhile, Malaysia eased domestic and international travel curbs yesterday for those fully vaccinated against the coronavirus, as a fierce outbreak slows and inoculation rates rise. The Southeast Asian nation had faced its worst COVID-19 wave in recent months, prompting authorities to impose a tough nationwide lockdown. But with case numbers falling and the inoculation rollout picking up speed, authorities began lifting curbs, with businesses allowed to reopen and workers slowly returning to offices.

In a televised address yesterday, Prime Minister Ismail Sabri Yaakob announced fully inoculated people can move freely within the country, as well as fly overseas without special permission. "According to the ministry of health, the vaccination rate for the adult population... has reached 90 percent," he said. — Agencies

Thousands rally against Tunisia...

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Marzouki," who served as president between 2011 and 2014 and now lives in Paris, said a man in his 50s as he bought a flag.

Many others identified as supporters of the Islamist-inspired Ennahdha party, which was the biggest in the now-suspended parliament. Some complained to AFP about alleged police intimidation to prevent them moving forward. "I'm not your enemy, I've come out of love for Tunisia," a demonstrator with the country's flag in his hand told a policeman.

Helmeted, black-clad riot police were deployed, and demonstrators were forbidden from entering a stretch of Bourguiba Avenue where the interior ministry is located. "The rally is blocked", and

"shame on you", a voice in the crowd called. The size of yesterday's rally exceeded that of an estimated 2,000 who demonstrated against Saied's "coup d'etat" on the same thoroughfare two weeks earlier. Last week however, an estimated 10,000 people rallied nationwide in support of the president, police sources said.

Tunisia was the birthplace of the Arab Spring uprisings, with the resignation of the country's dictator Zine El Abidine Ben Ali in January 2011. Although Saied's July measures enjoyed significant public support, civil society groups have warned of a drift away from democracy. "We're from a generation who've known torture and haven't had an easy life! We're the ones who elected Saied and we'll be the ones who'll get him out of power," said a man in his 60s among yesterday's crowd, which was mostly gathered in front of the municipal theatre. Saied, elected on an anti-system ticket in late 2019, has said his action seeks to save Tunisia from "imminent peril" and a socio-economic crisis aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic. — AFP

'Father of Pak nuclear bomb'...

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Arrangements were quickly made for a state funeral yesterday afternoon at Islamabad's Faisal Mosque, with all government ministers and armed forces officers asked to attend. Flags were also ordered to fly at half-mast. According to Islamic tradition, burials should take place as soon as possible, usually within 24 hours of death.

Just hours after news of Khan's death broke, an orange mechanical digger was busy clearing a grave as mourners began arriving for the service at the giant mosque - the sixth-largest in the world. It began rain-

ing heavily as Khan's coffin, draped with a Pakistani flag, was carried through a sea of black umbrellas.

Amid tight security, a massive crowd gathered to bid him farewell, with many making videos and snapping pictures as the coffin was carried into a tent-covered area accommodating Khan's family members, ministers and other top officials. Nearby, thousands of members of the public crammed into an uncovered enclosure, getting soaked as they prayed in the downpour.

Khan was lauded for bringing the nation up to par with India in the atomic field and making its defenses "impregnable". But he found himself in the international crosshairs when he was accused of illegally sharing nuclear technology with Iran, Libya and North Korea.

He confessed in 2004, after the International Atomic Energy Agency - the UN nuclear watchdog - put Pakistani scientists at the center of a global atomic black market. — AFP

Iraqis vote with little hope...

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Travel between provinces was banned and restaurants, shopping centers and airports closed.

The vote was marred by technical problems at some stations, including malfunctioning equipment and fingerprint readers, said the prime minister's office and AFP journalists. One soldier was killed and another wounded by "accidental fire" from a fellow soldier at a polling station in Diyala province, east of Baghdad, officials said. Authorities also reported the arrest of 77 suspects for electoral "violations".

Preliminary results of the vote are expected within 24 hours, but the final outcome could take 10 days. The official turnout figure for Iraq's last polls in 2018 was 44.5 percent. A new single-member constituency system for electing Iraq's 329 lawmakers is supposed to boost independents versus the traditional blocs largely centered on religious, ethnic and clan affiliations.

But many analysts believe the change will be limited. "The election will likely result in another fragmented parliament, followed by opaque, corrupt horse-trading," wrote researchers Bilal Wahab and Calvin Wilder in an analysis published by the Washington Institute. "Few expect this election to amount to more than a game of musical chairs, and the (protest) movement's core demands - curbing systemic corruption, creating jobs and holding armed groups accountable - are unlikely to be met." — AFP