

Local

Manpower authority responds to Farwaniya workers' strike

Govt employees protest to demand more allowances

By Nawara Fattahova

KUWAIT: Around 300 workers of a company in Farwaniya governorate went on strike yesterday morning demanding their salaries, which they claimed they haven't received for months. After the Public Authority for Manpower (PAM) received a call from Farwaniya police station informing them about the strike, representatives from the labor relations department immediately went to the scene. The inspectors registered a report of the strike, its reasons and the workers' demands.

Aseel Al-Mazyad, Official Spokesperson and PR and Media Manager at PAM, said the workers who went on strike claimed they haven't been paid for more than three months. "The workers also claimed that they paid some financial amounts to renew their visas. PAM's representatives listened to the laborers' complaints, and we are currently working on resolving the matter by following legal and administrative procedures in cooperation with other related institutions," Mazyad said.

Hazard allowance

Elsewhere, a large number of employees of the

Ministry of Electricity and Water held a sit-in at the ministry diwan in response to a call from the ministry employees' forum to demand payment of various allowances. Participants said most of them work in a dangerous environment and deserve to be appreciated. Member of the organizing com-



Study to increase service fees

mittee Mohammad Al-Mashaan said ministry workers feel they are marginalized as ministry and union officials are ignoring their demands. He said they face danger at worksites but receive only KD 35 monthly in hazard allowance.

Meanwhile, organizing committee member Mahmoud Al-Misbah said Environment Public Authority reports confirm the existence of high

levels of pollution at stations and various worksites. Engineer Nour Al-Salem said the protesters are demanding hazard, PC monitor and night shift allowances.

Coordination of the workers' forum Hassan Al-Shimmari said the ministry is delaying approval of employees' rights despite the immense efforts being exerted. He said despite Kuwait having the best standards of water production in the Arab world, their demands are being ignored. This comes while a group of social affairs ministry employees working at family care homes staged a protest at the ministries complex yesterday against a recent decision whereby they are asked to work on weekends in order to be paid overtime shift allowances.

Service increase

The recent developments come at a time in which the government is searching for ways to curb spending and offset state's budget deficit. In this regard, the finance ministry has reportedly written to ministries and their subsidiaries to review fees for services when preparing the 2022-2023 budget and increase them suitably.



Aseel Al-Mazyad

The ministry asked for prioritizing construction projects and contracts and postpone unnecessary items among them, Al-Anbaa Arabic daily reported yesterday quoting sources. Every ministry and government entity were informed about the budget ceiling allocated for them because of current financial situation of the state. They must commit to the

ceiling so that projects are not sent back. The ministry said Oct 14 is the deadline to submit budget proposals.

Acting Finance Ministry Undersecretary Aseel Al-Saad Al-Munaifi said ministries and authorities should send estimations of new appointees who will be needed, and estimate the indemnity amounts for non-Kuwaiti employees and include it in the budget drafts.

KCST participates in top cybersecurity competition

KUWAIT: Kuwait College of Science and Technology (KCST) students will represent Kuwait to participate in the Collegiate Penetration Testing Competition (CPTC) held by Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT). RIT University in Dubai, located in the emirate's silicon oasis, will be the hub that holds the competition of the Middle East region. The winning team will have the support to attend the global competition in the RIT main campus, NY, USA.

In order to prepare our students for their future jobs in cybersecurity domain, we need to provide them with hands-on experience in a real-world scenario. As it is not an easy task to provide our students with such an environment, CPTC offers this



opportunity as it uniquely allows participants to practice technical and non-technical skills they have learnt in an environment that resembles a real-world scenario.

CPTC was established in 2014, involving only local universities in New York. In 2016, CPTC has become a US national competition with universities from all over the US clustered in three regions. In 2019, CPTC became international as it included, in

addition to the new fourth region of the US, the UAE as a fifth region. Starting with year 2020, all universities can participate as part of Middle East (ME) region. Moreover, two additional regions, Canada and Europe, have been added. The competition is held in two phases regional and global. For this year, the regional competition will be held on October 23, 2021, while the global event takes place on January 6-9, 2022.

KFH signs partnership agreement with Kuwait Society for Handicapped

KUWAIT: Kuwait Finance House (KFH) has signed a partnership agreement, which is the first of its kind in the Kuwaiti banking sector, with the Kuwait Society for the Handicapped (KSH). This is in line with the bank's leadership in social responsibility and its great role in supporting and empowering people with special needs. The partnership undertakes various initiatives, including training a group of students with special needs in various departments in KFH.

KFH spares no effort in supporting the segment of people with special needs by contributing to their education, increasing their knowledge, and guiding them towards appropriate education and rehabilitation through training programs dedicated to them. That includes field visits to KFH branches and departments, and practical experiences to gain them experiences that would represent the first step on a career road and a crossing bridge to success in working life.

KFH is keen to select the appropriate training field for the abilities of students with special needs, taking into account their capabilities and individual differences in proportion to their abilities and inclinations, and to harness all possibilities for the success of this experience through assigning distinguished banking cadres to train the affiliates.

Senior Manager Employee Engagement at KFH Sara Al-Salem said that these initiatives play a major role in enhancing employees' job engagement and loyalty to KFH employees due to its interest in this category, which represents



Sara Al-Salem



Baraa Al-Jenae

an integral part of the community.

Salem explained that one of the most important objectives of KFH's partnership with KSH is to ensure the integration of these people with members of the community and qualify them to obtain training and development, which contributes to offering job opportunities that would provide them with a material income, therefore giving them a degree of psychological and social stability. In addition to the contribution of helping students with special needs to increase their ability to work and produce, and to show the energy of this segment and make it a productive element in the development of society.

She added that KFH supports KSH, which provides integrated care and services, including rehabilitation, psychological, social and educational services, within the framework of its pioneering role in social responsibility.

Deputy Director General of the Kuwait Society for the Handicapped Baraa Al-Jenae said: "For 50 years, KSH has been providing integrated health care, educational and rehabilitation services for children with special needs of all



KUWAIT: KSH students during training at KFH branch.

nationalities, free of charge, and currently KSH is providing these services to nearly 500 of our children. We are pleased to cooperate with KFH to train a group of students with special needs in various departments in KFH in pursuit of KSH's goals of providing care, education and innovative support that can enrich and achieve continuous positive change for the lives of the people we serve."

He added that it has been noticed that there are increasing demand factors related to providing job opportunities for people with special needs, hence the idea of joint cooperation with KFH to enhance their training alongside their non-disabled peers, especially for those over the age of eighteen. In addition to integrating people with special needs in all aspects of life through the implementation of partnership agreements related to people with special needs to obtain vocational training, and to provide employment opportunities in various fields in a manner that suits their inclinations and capabilities. Countries benefit from their contribution to the economy and development of the societies in which they live, train and work in order to achieve social justice and independence in life.

Proven track record

KFH has a proven track record of

supporting people with special needs in various sports, cultural and scientific activities. KFH also participates in various conferences and events dedicated to this community segment, focusing on the care required for them and displaying their talents, abilities and skills.

In terms of banking, KFH provides the possibility to benefit from banking products and services for people with special needs and provides all means to ensure their access to banking services without incurring any additional fees or costs, and this includes allocating a special branch for them in each governorate, with adequate parking spaces, wheelchairs and other means necessary for customers with special needs.

KFH also provides at least one ATM in the branch that provides banking services for people with special needs, with easy access, and provides complete privacy for the customer through a glass room that opens with a card, and the use of headphones is available as well. KFH has specialized employees who are proficient in sign language to provide banking services to people with special needs within its keenness to include all segments of society in an optimal manner and in accordance with the highest standards of service quality.

Diagnostic Imaging Center launches new services

KUWAIT: Dr Abdulmohsen Bannakhi, Consultant and Head of the Diagnostic Imaging Center (DIC) at Dasman Diabetes Institute, which was established by Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences, has recently stated that: "DIC is unique in its kind, as it is equipped with the latest advanced equipment in the world and the highest quality standards are set to ensure the best level of care. Dasman Diabetes Institute and DIC obtained the highest level of Accreditation Canada International, the diamond level."

DIC offers quality radiology investigations to all people of Kuwait. It is equipped with state-of-the-art equipment, delivering quality output. DIC maintains the highest quality of patient care and performs radiology tests in accordance with accreditation standards to ensure quality and safety.

DIC also actively participates in research by providing dedicated radiological investigations to support various research studies. These research collaborations have been instituted at national and international levels. Our highly experienced team assures excellent quality of procedures and reports through highly experienced and competent staff.

Dr Bannakhi added that DIC, in addition to the above, receives many cases daily from various medical specialties and is not limited to people with diabetes. In addition, DIC accepts most insurance types, including Afiah.

He added that, DIC also provides highly advanced MRI 3T and 1.5T (wide-bore), MRI magnetic examinations with high speed and resolution imaging applications. The center also has the latest high-definition tomography (CT) devices with innovative low-radiation technology performance for full-body imaging and accurate imaging of blood vessels in the body, including evaluation of the coronary arteries.

In addition, the DIC offers ultrasound examinations, and many other services and tests, including Bone Mineral Densitometry (BMD) and body composition. Furthermore, it provides digital x-ray and Orthopantomogram (OPG), in addition to an integrated diagnostic vascular laboratory.

Dasman Diabetes Institute is a non-profit organization that aims at scientific research, therefore, the services provided in DIC are at competitive prices and accessible to everyone. In conclusion, Dr Bannakhi said that DIC has launched a new service to communicate with the public through WhatsApp on the number 65055011, for various patients from different medical specialties to inquire about the services provided and prices, and to book appointments and everything related.



Dr Abdulmohsen Bannakhi

Kuwait Fire Force Chief opens Istiqlal fire station



KUWAIT: Deputizing for Foreign Minister and State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Sheikh Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah, Fire Force Chief Lt Gen Khalid Al-Mikrad opened the Al-Istiqlal fire station in West Abdullah Al-Mubarak. Deputy Chief for Firefighting Sector Maj Gen Jamal Nasser was also present. Mikrad said this is the fourth station opened this year in new areas, adding more stations will be opened soon.