

## Local

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Sibi George

## Indian envoy George to leave Kuwait

KUWAIT: Indian Ambassador to Kuwait Sibi George is tipped to be the new envoy to Japan, according to reliable sources. George will replace the current Indian Ambassador to Japan Sanjay Kumar Verma, who in turn will move to Canada.

However, it is not clear who will replace George in Kuwait as an official confirmation regarding the reshuffle is still awaited, the sources added.

George, over the last two years as Indian ambassador to Kuwait, has earned considerable reputation among Kuwaiti citizens and Indian community with his skillful diplomatic acumen and pragmatic community outreach programs. He has radically overhauled the consular services at the embassy and made the embassy services more accessible to the mammoth Indian diaspora.

### News in brief

#### MoH urges pilgrims to do PCR test

KUWAIT: The Ministry of Health on Tuesday demanded pilgrims to take a PCR test within a period of three days from their arrival to Kuwait. In a press statement, the ministry said the pilgrims can take the tests at the government-run Jaber Bridge Center every day from 05:00 pm to 10:00 pm and the Jaber Al-Ahmad Hospital from 08:00 am to 12 pm or at any of the private medical laboratories. It advised the pilgrims to check the test result at the ministry's Immune app and ask for help if they felt ill during the first ten days of their return.

#### Rumaihiya man falls to death

KUWAIT: An Arab resident fell to his death from a house under construction in Rumaihiya. The victim, a laborer, fell in the elevator's well, Kuwait Fire Force said, adding that Bidaa rescue men recovered the body and handed it to forensics. In another case, Mishref firemen opened the door of a house in Salwa area and found the body of a dead Asian domestic helper, KFF said.



#### Kuwait oil price down to \$108.37 pb

KUWAIT: The price of Kuwaiti oil went down 87 cents to \$108.37 per barrel on Tuesday, compared with \$109.24 pb since last Friday, Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) said Wednesday. The price of the Brent crude at the global market was also down by \$7.61 to \$99.49 per barrel, the same with the West Texas Intermediate, which went down by \$8.25 to \$95.84 pb.

### Photo of the day



KUWAIT: An ice cream vendor pours water on his head to cool off as he waits for customers near a street in Mutlaa, northwest of Kuwait City. The weather is expected to remain very hot in the coming few days, with the temperature reaching up to 48 degrees Celsius. —Photo by Fouad Al-Shaikh

## Kuwait's Minister of Defense underlines importance of recruiting youths to join army



KUWAIT: Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Talal Khaled Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah in a group photo during his visit to Kuwait Air Defense Force base. —Defense Ministry photos

KUWAIT: Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Talal Khaled Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah affirmed Wednesday on the process of recruiting Kuwaiti youths to join the army, which he described represent one of the top priorities of Kuwait leadership. Sheikh Talal made his remarks during a visit Wednesday morning to Kuwait Air Defense Force base, adding that this interest comes from the wise leadership's keenness to open the way for national cadres and competencies and to provide them with the opportunity to participate and contribute to achieving the desired goals, objectives and aspirations. During the visit, the minister conveyed greetings and congratulations of His Highness the Amir, Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, and His Highness the Crown Prince, Sheikh Mishaal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah to members of the Kuwaiti army on the occasion of Eid Al-Adha and their appreciation for the role they play in preserving the security and safety of the country. The minister stressed that the tasks, duties and continuous work the army and air force are performing around the clock shows level of professionalism, competence, and technical capabilities in dealing with defense systems that require high skill and accuracy.

Meanwhile, Sheikh Talal Khaled Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah expressed condolences over the death of a Kuwaiti serviceman who was shot by one of his colleagues on Tuesday. "Sheikh Talal Al-Khaled condemns this regrettable act which runs counter to the values of our conservative Islamic society," a statement from the Ministry of Defense. Soon after the incident, the Minister convened a meeting with the leaders of the Military Security Directorate at the Army General Staff to find out the details and circumstances of the incident. He stressed that he is following up in person the probes, being conducted by the Military Security Directorate and the competent authorities at the Ministry of Interior, to know the findings of the investigations and the details and motives of this incident. "The Kuwaiti army lost one of its loyal sons," the statement quoted the minister as saying. He issued directives to conduct a comprehensive review of the security and health procedures followed in all army units and camps, and should there be any fail to implement them, the person responsible will be held accountable. "The safety of the



Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Talal Khaled Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah attends a meeting with leaders of the Military Security Directorate at the Army General Staff.

service members is our first priority," he underscored.

The General Staff of the Kuwaiti Army had said Tuesday a serviceman was shot dead by his colleague who was immediately referred to interrogations. The competent investigators continue probing the incident, which took place at Al-

Mubarakiya camps, to determine all circumstances around it, according to a statement called on social media to avoid circulating inaccurate news on such incidents and, instead, seek news from credible official sources, notably the Moral Guidance and Public Relations Department. —KUNA



Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Talal Khaled Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah is greeted at Kuwait Air Defense Force base.



Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Talal Khaled Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah speaks with officers at Kuwait Air Defense Force base.