

News in brief

Amir offers condolences

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah on Sunday sent a cable to Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, offering sincere and heartfelt condolence over the death of Princess Modhi bint Musaed bin Abdulrahman bin Faisal Al Saud. His Highness the 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 the Saudi king two cables of identical sentiments.

21 pilgrimage expeditions

KUWAIT: Director General of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation Yousef Al-Fozan announced on Sunday that Kuwait would organize 21 expeditions for the annual hajj rituals, within six days, to transport up to 6,216 pilgrims to the holy sites in Saudi Arabia. The pilgrims will travel for the annual rites aboard four flights, with one set on Thursday. The four involved airlines are Kuwait Airways, Al-Jazeera, the Saudi Airways and NAS. A plan had been worked out to organize smooth arrival of the pilgrims at King Abdul Aziz Airport in Jeddah, he said, adding that the KAC flights would be launched from T-4 air facility, Al-Jazeera's flights from T-5 while of the Saudi and NAS airways from the terminal number one.

Excellent work bonus

KUWAIT: Minister of Public Works, Minister of Electricity and Water and Renewed Energy Ali Al-Mousa issued a ministerial decision to grant the excellent work bonus for MPW employees, sources told Kuwait Times, noting that the amounts will be paid before Eid-Al-Adha. The estimated value of the bonuses is KD 8 million and 11,350 out of 15,000 employees are estimated to be entitled to receive it. Meanwhile MPW decided the responsibilities and authorities and standards of selecting the supervising engineer, project engineer and services contracts supervisors and their deputies.

Arab Parliament supports Somalia

CARIO: The Arab Parliament supports all measures to ensure peace and security in Somalia, said a top Arab lawmaker on Sunday. The Arab Parliament Speaker Adel Al-Asoumi congratulated in a press statement Somalia's Hamza Barre on winning the trust of parliament, becoming the Prime Minister of his country. This endorsement came in recognition of Barre's talents and expertise, he affirmed. He stressed that Somalia was in need of a government capable of addressing any challenges namely the food crisis and natural disasters including draughts.

KUNA training center launches mobile journalism program

KUWAIT: Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) Center for the Development of Media Skills launched Sunday the Mobile Journalism - Initial Level within its 2022-2023 training season. In a press statement, the Center said that the program, which will last for four days and presented by the academic and media figure Abdullah Kafawin from Jordan TV Channel, aims to refine and develop the trainees' practical skills in photography, video editing, and montage using mobile applications and smart devices. The program, taking place at the KUNA headquarter focuses on the basics of the mobile journalism, the various communication tools, multimedia stories, and text writing. The Center called on those wishing to register in the center's programs to call 2221800 (ext. 1878 - 1802 - 1540).

On June 8, KUNA Center for the Development of Media Skills concluded its first training program 'reports, publications and documentary materials', with the participation of 14 trainees from KUNA and the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation, on the basis of writing news reports and publications, drafting news introductions and their types, choosing their topics, and setting up indexes and brochures schemes. The center will also hold, within its training season 2022-2023, three programs: mobile journalism - advanced level, analytical reading of the Kuwait Stock Exchange - history - listing - trading and grammar in editing press news. —KUNA

Photo of the Day



KUWAIT: A pigeon drinks water from a fountain in Kuwait City on June 25, 2022, as temperatures reach around 50C degrees during the country's long dry summer. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

Workers say market stable but warn labor shortage could cause crisis, price hikes

Self-employed laborers essential for various sectors in Kuwait

By Nawara Fattahova

KUWAIT: Last week, some MPs proposed setting a quota for people of each nationality residing in Kuwait to lessen the number of expats from some nationalities with huge numbers to improve the demographics of the country. This proposal included a plan for decreasing the numbers of large communities within two or three years, starting with reducing the number of marginal workers, especially those who do not work for their actual sponsors, mentioning plumbers, electricians and other technicians working individually.

Kuwait Times interviewed workers from different



Labor exodus adds pressure on remaining workers

professions working individually or in companies to learn more about the impact of such a decision on the marketplace. Waleed, a self-employed plumber and decor repairman, believes the present number of laborers is suitable for the Kuwait market. "There is a huge number of self-employed plumbers in Kuwait, and if they leave the country, this will cause a crisis. The remaining plumbers will definitely hike their prices. Customers will also have to wait for longer periods due to the shortage in the market," he told Kuwait Times.

Painter Abu Yasser, who is also self-employed, agrees that if a large number of painters leave the country, it will place great pressure on the remain-



ing painters. "I work daily from morning till evening, and although it's summer, I still have a lot of work. If all of us painters leave, then the customer will be the first to be affected by this decision," he noted.

Hossam, an employee at a company repairing air conditioners, said their company won't change the prices for their services. "We respect the pricelist of the company and are not planning any increase. If self-employed AC technicians leave the country and we receive more work, then our company will recruit workers from abroad. During summer, which is the high season for AC repair, we have a lot of work, and if self-employed technicians leave the country, the market will face a crisis," he said.

Mohammed, a self-employed repairer of washing

machines, refrigerators, freezers and ovens, noted that during the past week, his work has been slow, but usually he is busy. "I don't think there is an excess of technicians working in my field in Kuwait. I'm sure if all self-employed technicians leave, companies will raise the prices of their services due to the increased demand," he said.

Ahmad, an employee at a pest control company, stressed the present number of workers in this field in Kuwait matches the demand. "If a great shortage occurs in the market, we will increase the prices of our services due to the pressure on our staff. We are currently doing the work demanded in the market, so I believe if all skilled workers leave, a huge shortage will occur," he pointed out.

Kuwait takes effective role in joint Arab action: Education Official

RABAT: The Director General of the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO) Dr Mohammad Ould Amar said on Sunday that Kuwait has a distinguished position and an effective role in the development of joint Arab action in education, culture and science through its achievements. In an interview on the sidelines of his participation in the Seventh International Conference of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), which was held recently in Marrakesh, Morocco, he recalled the movement of authorship, publishing and scientific research carried out by Kuwait then sharing it with Arab countries.

He mentioned major Kuwaiti pioneering institutions in the fields of science, culture, media and the press, which contributed to building a common collective Arab awareness. He thanked and showed gratitude to Kuwait, the leadership, government and people for their continuous support to ALECSO, noting the good cooperation from the Kuwaiti

National Committee for Education, Culture and Science in implementing all the activities by ALECSO. He recalled the role that Kuwait played during the time of the former Director General of ALECSO Dr Abdullah Muhareb who completed the organization's building, while Dr Saud Al-Harbi, former director general of ALECSO, was able to get it out of the tough circumstances.

Kuwait continues to participate in ALECSO's vital activities such as contributing to the regional forum on "Protection of Cultural Heritage in the Arab countries in Times of Crisis," which was held in Beirut last June three to four, in collaboration with the International Alliance for the Protection of Heritage in Conflict Areas, he underlined. Kuwait is hosting the meetings of the Arab Expert Committee on Cultural and Natural Heritage he said, pointing out that one of the hopeful projects is the initiative of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah to organize an international donors conference on education in Somalia. ALECSO is one of the most prominent and oldest joint Arab action organizations, working since its inception in the 70s to carry out its knowledge and mission defined in enabling intellectual unity between the parts of the Arab world through education, culture and science. —KUNA



RABAT: The Director General of the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO) Dr Mohammad Ould Amar. —KUNA