

Local

Kuwait's Amir condoles with Egypt's President over terrorist attack victims

Kuwait parliament chief condoles with Egypt over Sinai terror act

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah sent on Saturday a cable of condolences to Egypt's President Abdelattah Al-Sisi on the terrorist act which targeted a water plant, east of Suez Canal, that killed and wounded some military personnel. In the cable, His Highness the Amir stressed Kuwait's strong condemnation and denunciation of this heinous terrorist act, and its support to Egypt in all measures it takes to face such terror acts. His Highness the Amir prayed to Allah the Almighty to bestow mercy upon victims' souls, wishing a rapid recovery to those injured. 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 two similar cables.

Assembly Marzouq Al-Ghanem Saturday sent two cables of condolences to his Egyptian counterpart Dr Hanafi Al-Jebali and President of Senate Abdulwahab Abdelrazeq. In the cables, Ghanem expressed sincere sympathy over the terrorist attack on a water-lifting plant in the Sinai Peninsula. Ghanem condemned strongly all terrorist attacks, stressing Kuwaiti people's full solidarity with the brotherly Egyptian people against all acts that threaten the country's security and stability. He also prayed to Allah Almighty to bestow His mercy upon the victims' souls, wishing a speedy recovery to those injured.

Earlier, the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry voiced the country's condemnation and denunciation of the terrorist assault. The ministry stressed Kuwait's solidarity with, and support to, Egypt in all meas-



His Highness the Amir
Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah



Egypt's President Abdelattah Al-Sisi

ures it takes to maintain its security and stability, and to confront terrorism and extremism, said a statement made by the

ministry. The ministry also expressed its sincere condolences to the relatives of those killed, and to Egypt's leadership,

government and people, wishing a rapid recovery to those injured.

The Gulf Cooperation Council Chief Dr Nayef Al-Hajraf on Saturday condemned an armed attack on a water-lifting station in the Sinai Peninsula that killed 11 soldiers and hurt five others as a "cowardly terrorist" attack. Gulf states stand in solidarity with Egypt in confronting violence, extremism and terrorism, the secretary-general of the six-nation bloc said in a statement. He underlined the bloc's "total rejection" of the attack, saying these acts "contradict religious and humanitarian principles and moral values." On behalf of the GCC, he also expressed his sincere condolences and sympathy to the families of the victims, to Egypt's government and its people, wishing those injured a swift recovery. —KUNA

US First Lady guest of honor at Kuwaiti Embassy gala dinner

WASHINGTON: US First Lady Dr Jill Biden attended on May 4, 2022 the Kuwait-America Foundation gala dinner as guest of honor, which was held at the Kuwait Embassy in the nation's capital in support of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) impactful work worldwide.

Kuwaiti Ambassador to the US Sheikh Salem Al-Sabah and his wife Sheikh Rima Al-Sabah hosted this year's gala dinner. The event recognized the longstanding commitment to promoting and securing peace on the global stage of CIA Director William Burns, the Public Service Award Recipient and Hollywood actor Ben Stiller, the Private Citizen Award Recipient, whose unwavering dedication and tireless work on behalf of refugees and displaced people around the world is inspiring. In her remarks, the First Lady, addressing Sheikh Salem and Sheikh Rima, said "you and Rima have been such good friends to us over the years, as well as being humanitarian leaders," noting that she's "so grateful." She shed light on the "responsibility to not just support refugees, but end the tragedies that forced them from their homes."

"I'm grateful for the work of organizations like Kuwait-America Foundation that have taken up this cause as well. There is so much work to do," she remarked. In his speech, Kuwait's Ambassador to the US Sheikh Salem Al-Sabah said that the refugee crisis "only continues to grow more dire by the day. That today we are still seeing an increase in human suffering because of displacement is heartbreaking."

"The number of people forced to leave their

homes, fleeing violence and destruction, rises daily - particularly as the horrible war in Ukraine rages on," he added. He continued, "We are honored to not only recognize UNHCR's vital work this evening, but to also join with them in a call to action." He affirmed that Kuwait was "proud to be a longstanding supporter of the UNHCR," indicating that "over the last 10 years alone, Kuwait's contributions to the agency have amounted to more than \$432 million, establishing Kuwait as the top donor to UNHCR in the region over the last decade." "As a result of our initiatives and generous support, and in recognition of our leading regional and international philanthropic role, Kuwait has been designated as a 'humanitarian hub,'" he remarked.

\$1 million for UNHCR

Sheikha Rima Al-Sabah, also UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador, announced that "this year alone we have, once again, raised over \$1 million for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees." "Together, we are helping to save lives and build better futures for the millions of people around the globe forced from home," she said. "We are all bearing witness to an unprecedented level of displacement... And tragically, the numbers only continue to rise. It is a humanitarian crisis without comparison, but UNHCR is at its forefront." She continued that "the determined support of everyone in this room is helping the UN Refugee Agency and its nearly 18,000 people on the ground in 132 countries to protect some of the world's most vulnerable people, providing them with shelter, medical care, education, healthcare - and the hope - they so desperately need."

Meanwhile, CIA chief Burns said he is "honored and humbled" for receiving the Public Service Award. "I have the privilege of serving as director of the CIA, leading exceptional women and men who as we sit here this evening, are doing hard jobs and hard places around the world," Burns

added. "In honoring me, you really are honoring all of them." He also expressed "particular appreciation for the work UNHCR... UNHCR is truly indispensable."

Actor Ben Stiller — also a UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador — said "to receive this private citizen award, it is just an honor. I received a few awards in my life, a few. This one feels very different." "While this honor is in my name, it's really a recognition of the efforts of the UN refugee agency and all the people who work there," he added.

Meanwhile, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi thanked in his remarks Sheikh Salem and his wife, saying "what you have been doing for many, many years now, assemble people here... talking about important causes, making people aware of difficult problems and challenges around the world and asking for their support has been invaluable." He re-emphasized that Sheikh Salem is the ambassador of a country that "has been recognized as a champion of humanitarianism," and that Sheikh Rima, who he has asked to remain as UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador, "is the ambassador of an organization that tries to help as much as it can."

"So really to you, to the State of Kuwait... thank you very much," he remarked. Among the attendees at the gala dinner were First Lady Jill Biden, CIA Director William Burns, UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador Actor Ben Stiller, UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi, Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas. Also attending were Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Senator Bob Menendez, Senators Jim Risch and Roy Blunt, Congresswoman Debbie Dingell, and Counsellor to the President Michael Donilon.

Deputy Chief of Staff of the President Bruce Reed, CBS news Margaret Brennan who served as



WASHINGTON: This photo released by the Kuwaiti Embassy in the US shows Sheikh Rima Al-Sabah, the wife of the Kuwaiti Ambassador to the US Sheikh Salem Al-Sabah (left), with US First Lady Dr Jill Biden during the Kuwait-America Foundation gala dinner.

master of ceremonies, as well as the ambassadors of Saudi Arabia, Qatar, UAE, Bahrain, Jordan, Ukraine, and Germany. US Secretary of State Antony Blinken was scheduled to attend and deliver keynote remarks but he had tested positive for COVID-19. Over the past 21 years, Sheikh Salem and his wife Sheikh Rima have hosted at the Kuwait Embassy residence three US Presidents (George W. Bush, Bill Clinton and Donald Trump), three Vice Presidents (Dick Cheney, Mike Pence and Joe Biden), First Ladies (Laura Bush, Melania Trump and Jill Biden), as well as every US Secretary of State (Colin Powell, Condoleezza Rice, Hillary Clinton, John Kerry, Rex Tillerson and Mike Pompeo), among countless other US dignitaries. —KUNA



KUWAIT: Public sector employees are seen at the Ministries' Complex on Sunday on the first day back to work after the long Eid Al-Fitr holiday. — Photos by Fouad Al-Shaikh



ICSK Amman conducts investiture ceremony for 2022-2023

KUWAIT: The Indian Community School Kuwait, Amman Branch conducted its investiture ceremony for the academic year 2022-2023, on April 28, 2022. It is an occasion where the young students are prepared to don the mantle of leadership and discharge the responsibilities entrusted to them by the school. After a gap of two years and following the necessary guidelines, the ceremony was held on campus with great enthusiasm and vivaciousness. The newly elected members were duly sworn in during the solemn occasion.

Earlier, the students were allotted four houses: Victors, Leaders, Achievers and Winners. The nominations to contest in the senate election were filed by the selected candidates on 12th April, 2022. 72 contestants competed for various positions. Subsequently, two days of colorful campaigning and 'Meet the candidate' program were held on campus wherein the contestants introduced themselves and sincerely expressed their visions to the voters. The online election was conducted on 18th April, 2022 with students from classes VIII to X casting their votes. The result of the election was declared by Principal Rajesh Nair on April 19, 2022.

The Chief Guest of the ceremony was Deepak Bindal, Vice-President - Investments, Gulf Investments Corporation and Chairman, ICAI Kuwait Chapter. The ceremony commenced with the handing over of the school and house flags to the Senate elects by the Chief Guest, Deepak.

Principal, Rajesh Nair delivered the welcome

speech and extended a warm welcome to the Chief Guest Deepak Bindal and felicitated him by presenting a memento. Principal congratulated the newly elected Senate Members and wished them well. He also reminded them to proudly execute the new duties and responsibilities vested on them.

The Senate Advisor Sumitra Nandakumar presented the entire electoral process and congratulated the winners. In his address, the Chief Guest Deepak Bindal congratulated the newly elected members. In his motivating and thought-provoking speech, he urged the elected members to take up the responsibilities, use opportunities and balance them well with academics.

The highlight of the program was the investiture of the Senate. The senate advisor and house mentors received their badges. The chief guest Deepak Bindal pinned the badges to the newly elected school senate. Principal Rajesh Nair administered the Oath to the newly elected senate members. The President of the Student Senate, Rebecca Maryam Chibu conveyed her gratitude and delivered the acceptance speech on behalf of all the senate members followed by a video presentation on 'Our gratitude and promises' by senate.

The 6th edition of online annual School magazine 'Darpan 2022' was released by the Chief Guest while the Chief Staff editor Rohini Rajsekhar expressed her gratitude to the editorial board and all those who contributed articles to the magazine.

The vote of thanks was rendered by the Vice Principal Dr Mary Isaac wherein she thanked the guests, parents and all those who took part and supported the program. She also reminded the newly sworn in senate to carry out their responsibilities with confidence and commitment. The program was concluded with the senate marching off the venue escorting the guests.