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KUWAIT PLEDGES \$30 MILLION AS QUAKE DEATH TOLL NEARS 20,000

KUWAITI TEAM BEGINS SEARCH, RESCUE OPERATIONS IN TURKEY



KUWAIT: At the behest of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and the direction of His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, the Kuwaiti Cabinet pledged \$30 million in aid of the earthquake-struck people in Turkey and Syria. The funding includes \$15 million for the disaster relief in Syria and an equal sum for Turkey, the Cabinet said in a press release on Thursday.

Meanwhile, Kuwait's Fire Force Colonel Ayman Al-Mufareh said that his team has started search and rescue operations in the earthquake-affected areas in Turkey. Al-Mufareh, who is also head of Kuwait Fire Force delegation there, said in a statement to KUNA that the Kuwaiti team is currently in Islaheya area, one of the areas severely affected by earthquake that struck Turkey recently.

He explained that the Kuwaiti search and rescue team consists of 45 members, including 40 rescuers, three medics, and two people from the Ministry of Information (a reporter and a photographer) to document and publish information on an up-to-date basis. "Search and rescue teams are currently being dispatched to collapsed buildings," he added.

He said that the Kuwaiti search and rescue team is currently conducting search operations in one of the buildings consisting of eight floors,



Kuwait's Fire Force Colonel Ayman Al-Mufareh

indicating that according to the information, the building contains 60 people under the rubble. "There is no information yet that there are survivors in the building," Colonel Al-Mufareh added, stressing that they are making great efforts to penetrate the collapsed roofs and go into the delicate parts inside the building.

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N KOREA UNVEILS 'RECORD' NUMBER OF ICBMS

SEOUL: North Korea's Kim Jong Un oversaw a major military parade showcasing a record number of nuclear and intercontinental ballistic missiles, state media reported Thursday, including what analysts said was possibly a new solid-fuelled ICBM. The parade on Wednesday to mark the 75th founding anniversary of North Korea's armed forces featured fireworks, military bands and uniformed soldiers marching in unison to spell out "2.8" - the date of the celebration - and "75", the official Korean Central News Agency reported.

Kim attended the parade with his wife, Ri Sol Ju, and daughter Ju Ae, video on state media showed. He wore the black coat and fedora combination favored by his grandfather, North Korea's founding leader Kim Il Sung. Images showed Kim flanked by his top generals in Pyongyang's central Kim Il Sung Square, saluting as troops and missile units paraded past while patriotic music played. The weapons on show included at least 10 of the

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PYONGYANG: Photo shows an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) during a military parade. — AFP

FOUNDATION LAID FOR AASU

By Faten Omar

KUWAIT: Marking a significant milestone in Kuwait's higher education sector, Minister of Education and Minister of Higher Education and Research Dr Hamad Al-Adwani on Thursday announced the laying of the foundation stone for Abdullah Al-Salem University (AASU).

Addressing a press conference, Dr Al-Adwani stated that the opening of the new

public university of Abdullah Al-Salem (AASU) is a historic event. Officially announcing the laying of the foundation stone of AASU, he also said that the first batch of students will be admitted in the beginning of the academic year 2023-2024 next September. He pointed out that the opening of Abdullah Al-Salem University is a significant achievement as it is one of the pillars of the government's work program to become a strategic partner in the higher education sector in Kuwait along with other educational institutions in order to prepare qualified and skilled citizens to contribute to the labor market. (See Page 3)



KUWAIT: Minister of Education and Minister of Higher Education and Research Dr Hamad Al-Adwani on Thursday announced the laying of the foundation stone for Abdullah Al-Salem University (AASU).

NUWAIR AND MALVA BLOSSOM IN KUWAIT

KUWAIT: With spring falling early this year in Kuwait, Nuwair and Malva flowers are now beginning to blossom out everywhere in the country, adorning streets, roads and even the desert in a naturally-shaped eye-catching image that brings serenity, joy and delight. Speaking to KUNA on Nuwair-growing in Kuwait, Dr Sara Al-Ateeqi, a voluntary environment protection team member, said the fact that Nuwair and Malva flowers are now widespread in all Kuwaiti areas

actually gives a feeling of calmness and pleasure thanks to their bright yellow and green colors.

Nuwair, in fact, is a group of yellow, orange and white spring plants and called Nuwair since it looks like the sun in view of its brilliance and splendor, she said, adding that its name differs from one species to another and even according to the time it grows up. Blossoming out in desert and along roads during winter and spring, Nuwair is locally renowned as "Al-Hanwa", "Al-Houthan", "Al-Zamlouk", "Al-Marar", "Al-Adheed" and "Al-Hambzan", Al-Ateeqi elaborated. With regards to Malva, she said it does not belong to the species of Nuwair. — KUNA (See Page 3)



KUWAIT: Nuwair flowers begin to blossom across Kuwait. — KUNA

MAN UNITED 'IN TALKS' WITH QATARI INVESTORS

LONDON: Manchester United have reportedly opened talks with Qatari investors as speculation intensifies over the future ownership of the Premier League giants ahead of a deadline for bids. The American Glazer family, who completed their takeover of the 20-times English champions in 2005, announced in November that they were open

to a sale or investment. British billionaire Jim Ratcliffe's Ineos company officially joined the race to buy the club last month-the only bidder to publicly declare an interest so far.

Potential buyers are understood to have until February 17 to table offers. The Daily Mail said a group of private investors from Qatar want to buy United and talks have taken place with the club's hierarchy, confident that theirs would be the strongest bid. But the Qatar Sports Investments (QSI) bought French champions Paris Saint-Germain in 2011 - meaning a full buyout of United would not be permitted under current UEFA

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MANCHESTER: A Manchester United flag is pictured on the corner of the pitch prior to the start of the English Premier League football match on February 8, 2023. — AFP



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