



7 Post-colonial Hong Kong's first leader Tung dies at 89



8 Air traffic glitch disrupts flights at key UK airports



8 Egypt moves to build \$1bn AI data center with Nvidia tech



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School conduct rules, timings set

Ban on donations, promoting products, teachers using mobiles in class, disclosing info

EU Ambassador visits Kuwait Times

By Faten Omar

KUWAIT: EU Ambassador to Kuwait Anne Koistinen said 40 years of diplomatic relations have laid a strong foundation for an expanding EU-Kuwait partnership, with cooperation spanning politics, trade, security, energy, digitalization and people-to-people ties. Speaking during a visit to Kuwait Times and Kuwait News, she strongly condemned Iranian attacks on Kuwait and other Gulf states and stressed the EU's commitment to Gulf security, maritime operations and diplomatic efforts to prevent escalation.

Koistinen said the proposed EU-Kuwait strategic partnership agreement would provide a comprehensive framework for cooperation and expressed hope negotiations would begin soon. During her visit, she met with the newspaper's leadership and staff and toured its newsroom, social media department and archives. (See Page 2)



KUWAIT: Deputy Editor-in-Chief of Kuwait Times and Managing Partner of Kuwait News Abdullah Boftain and Kuwait Times Deputy Editor-in-Chief Jana Alnaqeeb receive EU Ambassador to Kuwait Anne Koistinen during her visit to Kuwait Times and Kuwait News. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

KUWAIT: Education Ministry Undersecretary Dr Khaled Al-Rashid issued directives regulating conduct and practices in schools, along with a decision setting working hours for various educational institutions ahead of the 2026/27 academic year. The directives prohibit collecting money or accepting gifts and donations, selling or promoting goods and services, exploiting school facilities for commercial purposes, or introducing unapproved food and beverages.

Schools may not hold events involving outside parties or allow photography without written approval. The use of the school's name or ministry logo in commercial materials also requires approval. Photographing, recording or publishing students' images or personal data without written consent is prohibited, as is sharing such material on private social media, linking it to personal information or using it outside educational purposes.

The directives also prohibit disclosing school records or confidential information about students, parents or employees, as well as spreading rumors or false, offensive or inappropriate content. Teaching staff are barred from using mobile phones or smart devices during classes except for educational purposes. Violations will be subject to immediate legal and administrative action.

Under the working-hours decision, kindergartens will operate from 7:15 am to 12:05 pm, primary schools from 7:15 am to 1:25 pm, intermediate schools from 7:30 am to 1:40 pm, and secondary schools from 7:45 am to 1:55 pm. Specialized tracks will operate from 7:30 am to 2:15 pm, while gifted education schools will run from 7:45 am to 1:55 pm. Special education schools will set their hours according to their plans, but may not start later than general education schools. — KUNA

Panel for national celebrations starts early preparations

KUWAIT: The permanent committee for the celebration of national holidays and occasions met Tuesday to discuss preparations for upcoming national celebrations and events. The meeting was chaired by committee Chairman and Acting Minister of Information and Culture Omar Al-Omar, in the presence of Chairman of the Volunteer Work Center Sheikh Amthal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and representatives of relevant government agencies.

The committee discussed its work mechanism, early preparations for national holidays, event organization and ways to strengthen coordination among government bodies. Al-Omar stressed the importance of unifying efforts and integrating roles to ensure national celebrations and events are organized to reflect Kuwait's status, national values and identity. — KUNA



MoI busts local liquor brewery

KUWAIT: Interior ministry detectives arrested four Asian nationals for using a farm in a desert area along Al-Abdaly Road to manufacture, store and sell locally produced liquor. The ministry said Wednesday that investigations led officers to the farm, where three suspects were caught red-handed manufacturing liquor. The fourth was arrested when he arrived to purchase a quantity for resale. A search of the site uncovered 236 plastic bottles filled with locally produced liquor and ready for sale, along with numerous barrels, raw materials used in production and cash. Three of the suspects were also wanted under arrest warrants, including in a fraud case. — KUNA



KUWAIT: National Guard Undersecretary Lt Gen Hamad Al-Barjas meets senior commanders and officers of the National Guard. — KUNA

New structure adopted by National Guard

KUWAIT: Kuwait National Guard Undersecretary Lt Gen Hamad Al-Barjas said the National Guard's new organizational structure is based on justice, transparency and equal opportunities, with appointments guided by specialization, competence and ability to perform duties and responsibilities.

Speaking at a meeting with senior commanders and officers following approval of the new structure, Al-Barjas said the changes aim to strengthen institutional work, improve coordination among units and clearly define responsibilities and areas of authority. He stressed that competence, experience and specialization are key criteria for assigning responsibilities and leadership positions, urging officers to work as one team, develop their skills and make the best use of the National Guard's human resources and expertise. — KUNA (See Page 5)

Nod to draft decree-law on public tenders

KUWAIT: The Cabinet approved on Wednesday a draft decree-law amending certain provisions of law no. 49 of 2016 on public tenders. The amendment aims to simplify procedures, address

difficulties and challenges arising from practical application, and enhance the flexibility of relevant authorities in dealing with actual circumstances that serve the public interest and ensure that public tender procedures are carried out with speed, efficiency, transparency and fairness.

This came during the Cabinet's weekly meeting chaired by Acting Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sheikh Fahad Al-Yousef Al-Sabah. — KUNA (See Page 3)



KUWAIT: Acting Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sheikh Fahad Al-Yousef Al-Sabah chairs a Cabinet meeting. — KUNA

Iran, US hit tankers in major escalation

Kuwait condemns Iranian attacks on Jordan

WASHINGTON/TEHRAN: Iran said on Wednesday it had attacked 10 ships near the Strait of Hormuz after the US sank five Iranian oil tankers, in the biggest declared wave of tit-for-tat attacks on shipping by both sides since the start of the six-month-old war. The attacks sent the price of oil surging, with benchmark Brent crude futures breaching \$100 a barrel for the first time since July. At least one seafarer aboard a tanker was reported killed and another listed as missing.

Iran also said it had fired ballistic missiles at a base used by US forces in Jordan. Kuwait's ministry of foreign affairs expressed Kuwait's strong condemnation and denunciation of the "heinous" Iranian attacks targeting Jordan with a number of missiles, describing them as a blatant violation of Jordan's sovereignty and a flagrant breach of the principles of international law, the UN Charter and UN Security Council Resolution 2817.



Screen grab shows a US military strike on an Iranian tanker in the Gulf of Oman. — AFP

The ministry stressed the need to halt these attacks, prioritize de-escalation and dialogue, and abide by the rules of international law in a manner that safeguards the security and stability of the region and spares its people further tension and escalation.

The ministry affirmed Kuwait's full solidarity with Jordan and its support for all measures taken by Jordan to safeguard its sovereignty and preserve its security and stability.

Iran's Revolutionary Guards on Wednesday said a new "prohibited zone" would cover waters many miles beyond the Strait of Hormuz and apply to ships as far as the Arabian Sea. Iran had first announced the "prohibited zone" earlier this week as it continued talks with Oman over a temporary shipping route through the strait.

In an interview with state television, Revolutionary Guards spokesman Hossein Mohebi said the "prohibited zone" would cover "part of the Sea of Oman and another part of the Arabian Sea, along the route that can lead to the Strait of Hormuz". — Agencies (See Page 6)