Embassy of India
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Law to control commercial violations soon

Kuwaiti Ministry of Commerce and Industry has prepared a draft decree-law for combating commercial violation cover-up practices with the aim of preventing any foreigner, whether an individual or a legal entity, from engaging in economic activity within Kuwait without securing the necessary licenses from the relevant authorities, in accordance with the existing laws. The proposed law prohibits any individual or entity from enabling expatriates to violate this ban through cover-up practices. This includes allowing them to use trade names, licenses, official approvals, commercial registrations, or any other means that would facilitate illegal business operations. The draft law also prohibits obstructing or hindering authorities from performing their duties by either withholding required information or providing false or misleading data.

Kuwait's 2025-26 budget aims at non-oil revenues and job creation

The Ministry of Finance held the General Budget Conference for the fiscal year of 2025-26 under the patronage of the Minister of Finance and Minister of State for Economic Affairs and Investment. The Minister highlighted that non-oil revenues are expected to rise, and expenditures will continue to be rationalized. The draft budget for the upcoming fiscal year of 2025-26 reflects the government's commitment to achieving financial balance through the implementation of financial and economic reforms, as well as improving administrative efficiency. The focus will be on capital projects and infrastructure that directly benefit citizens, given that 15,853 new jobs are set to be created in the next financial year. Minister also indicated that the budget deficit could increase due to the decline in oil prices, as Kuwait remains heavily reliant on oil revenue.

Indian contractor bids lowest for Kuwait gas project

An Indian company, Megha Engineering and Infrastructure Limited (MEIL) has submitted the lowest bid for a Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC)'s project to develop a gas sweetening and recovery facility in West Kuwait. MEIL submitted a lowest bid of KD69.2mln ($224m). The full list of bids is: MEIL (India): KD69.2m, Al-Khorayef (Saudi Arabia): KD74.5m, Mechanical Engineering and Contracting Company (MECC,Kuwait):KD94.8m, China Oil HBP Science and Technology Corporation (China): KD97.9m, Spetco (Kuwait) KD99.5m and Jereh Oil and Gas Corporation (China): KD102.8m. Separately, in November 2024, KPC confirmed that it planned to spend US$140 billion on its long-term energy strategy.

KFAED, WFP sign MoU for development cooperation

Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for development cooperation with the World Food Programme (WFP) for technical cooperation and joint efforts. The MoU focuses on financing economic and social development in developing countries where both entities operate, as well as bilateral coordination and the exchange of information and technical expertise. The five-year MoU is

renewable, with cooperation between the two sides being expected to focus on specific activities including the exchange of information and knowledge to leverage their experiences, resources, and expertise.

Kuwait powers innovation with $340m data center investment

Kuwait is steadily advancing toward regional leadership in innovation, technology, and data centers, despite challenges such as privacy concerns and expansion issues. investment in the data center market is expected to reach $340 million over the next four years, particularly with the ongoing expansion of data centers, as well as technological and green energy investments. six data centers have been allocated, along with the construction of seven state-of-the-art technology facilities throughout Kuwait. The annual growth rate of the data center market in Kuwait has reached approximately 11.19 percent in the past two years and is projected to continue at the same pace until 2029.

Kuwait secures Chinese expertise for Mubarak Port

Kuwaiti Ministry of Public Works awarded a contract for studying, designing and providing pre-implementation services for the completion of the Mubarak Al-Kabeer Port project to the State Construction and Transportation Company Limited, which is affiliated with the Chinese Ministry of Transport and was nominated by the Chinese government. This agreement is in line with Decree-Law No. 155/2024 on the approval of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Kuwait and China to cooperate in the implementation of Mubarak Al-Kabeer Port project. The project aims to establish a commercial port in the country to be a regional center for transportation within the strategic transformation under Vision Kuwait 2035; as well as to develop the northern region as an integrated economic and urban system based on the comprehensive and integrated vision for developing the State, which takes into account all economic and urban aspects.

Kuwait restores imprisonment for evasive debtors in new law

The Council of Ministers has approved two draft decrees amending key provisions of Kuwait's Civil and Commercial Procedures Law and Bankruptcy Law. Announced by Justice Minister, these amendments aim to tackle the growing issue of non-payment by solvent debtors, which has contributed to a rise in bad debts and negatively impacted the country's economic climate. The reforms also focus on improving enforcement efficiency, reducing the opportunity for debtors to conceal assets, and strengthening penalties for abuse of suspension mechanisms. This move is seen as part of Kuwait's broader effort to improve the investment climate and restore confidence in the country's financial system. these changes are essential for protecting the national economy, reducing bad debts, and ensuring a fair and transparent legal environment that balances the interests of both creditors and debtors. The amendments align with international best practices and aim to modernize Kuwaiti laws for a more equitable economic landscape.

Kuwait Airways plans to expand fleet, details yet to be disclosed

The Board of Directors of Kuwait Airways is currently preparing to increase its air fleet, which currently consists of 33 aircraft. The existing Kuwait Airways fleet has a variety of aircraft, including the most luxurious variants equipped with advanced technology. The incumbent Board of Directors is focusing on the implementation of the Kuwaitization policy, as it has been working hard to hire the largest number of Kuwaitis since assuming responsibility in September 2023. Moreover, the Public Authority for Civil Information (PACI) recently announced that the number of Kuwaitis employed at Kuwait Airways still does not

meet the desired percentage as per the Kuwaitization policy. It stated that their total number of employees till end December 2024 reached 5,234 and out of it 1,120 are Kuwaitis (118 females and 1,002 males); while the total number of non-Kuwaiti workers reached 4,114 (2,787 males and 1,327 females).

Kuwait jumps 3 spots among the world emerging markets

Kuwait advances three spots in the annual 50-country Agility Emerging Markets Logistics Index, improving its competitiveness in domestic logistics and business fundamentals at a time when it has embraced the PPP model to deliver its Vision 2035 ambitions. Kuwait's improved performance in the 2025 Index comes as the Gulf region stands out as a beacon of resilience and gateway to the rest of the world for major Asian exporters and other trading nations. It is clear that Kuwait is entering a new phase, the features of which are evident in the government's ability to involve the private sector in its key development projects. The government has astutely managed difficult economic issues with an eye toward the future, improving the country's competitiveness and business climate.

KUFPEC aims to boost oil and gas collaboration with Egypt

Kuwait Foreign Petroleum Exploration Company (KUFPEC) has affirmed eagerness to enhance collaboration with Egypt in oil and gas fields, along expanding its exploration activities. KUFPEC delegation took part in the event EGYPES 2025 held at Egypt. It is the largest and most important energy Conference and Exhibition nationwide and Kuwait is working on boosting cooperation with Egypt in this field. KUFPEC is also working on expanding its work in Egypt through several projects like Minya West, Khofo - north of Al-Amriay- and others.

Kuwait powers up as renewable energy projects valued at KD 1b

Minister of Electricity, Water, and Renewable Energy (MNWRE) has announced that the estimated value of renewable energy projects in Kuwait is approximately KD 1 billion. The implementation of each project is expected to take between 2 to 2 ½ years. The first is being implemented in cooperation with China in Shaqaya (phases three and four) to generate 3,000 megawatts. The second is a renewable energy project in partnership with the Public Authority for Partnership Projects, with a capacity of 2,700 megawatts. Within the next four years, the share of renewable energy in the total energy production will increase to around 30 percent.

With regards,

(Davinder Punj)
Second Secretary (Commerce)