



**LOCAL**  
 Cabinet decides to remove remaining COVID-19 restrictions **2**

**LOCAL**  
 EU Commission proposes entry-visa waiver for Kuwaitis, Qataris **5**

**LOCAL**  
 Kuwait 'based' travel website dupes passengers **7**



# Eid: A time to rejoice

THE TIMES KUWAIT REPORT

**E**id Al-Fitr is the spiritual culmination of the piety, self-restraint and compassion that prevailed during the holy month of Ramadan. It is unique among festivals in that it is not a celebration of a historical or religious event, nor is it a festival of other temporal affairs. The festival is purely a spiritual celebration of thanksgiving to Almighty Allah for giving us the fortitude to remain true to the dictates of the Holy Quran, and the spirit to observe fasting from dawn to dusk during the month of Ramadan.



Eid Al-Fitr is an occasion for both rejoicing and reflection for Muslims all over the world. The rejoicing comes not because the month of fasting and abstinence has ended, but from being able to rekindle our faith and from the knowledge that we were endowed by Almighty God with the strength to successfully

## H.H. the Amir greets citizens, residents on Eid

The Amiri Diwan is pleased to convey the congratulations of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah to citizens and residents on the blessed Eid Al-Fitr, wishing them all a happy occasion. The Amiri Diwan seizes this blessed occasion to voice congratulations and blessings to His Highness the Amir,

His Highness the Crown Prince and His Highness the Prime Minister on this occasion. His Highness the Amir also wished it to be a happy festival for the nation and both Arab and Muslim worlds, and many happy returns of the occasion to the entire world in security and peace.



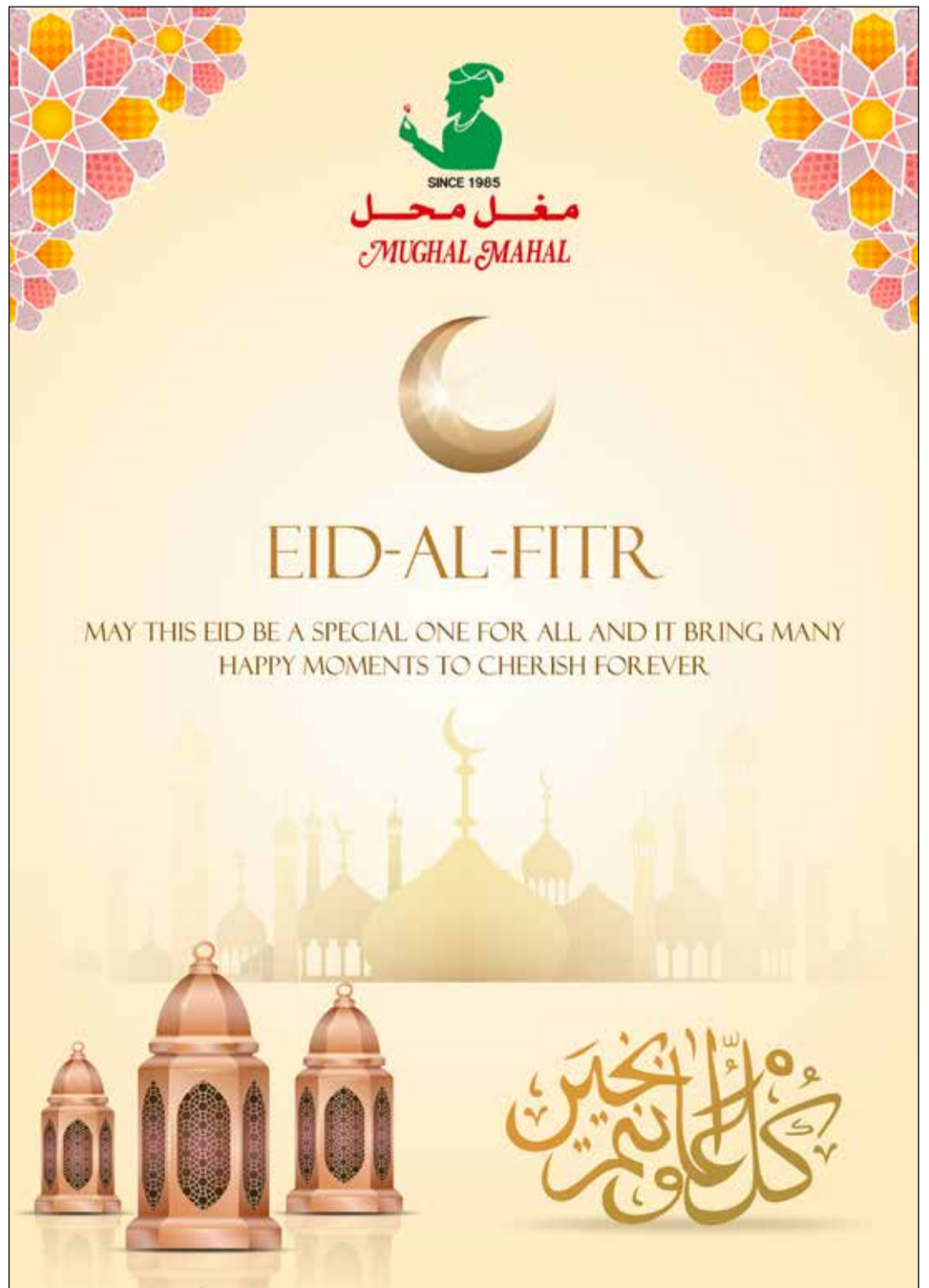
observe the Ramadan fast, and accomplish the spiritual aims of this holy month.

Eid Al-Fitr is also an occasion for reflection. It allows us to offer our prayers and thanks to Almighty God for all the blessings he has bestowed upon us, as well as reflect on those less fortunate and empathize with them through our offerings of Zakat Al-Fitr and sharing that are highlights of this festival.

Eid Al-Fitr allows us to contemplate on whether we have fully imbibed the piety, the compassion, and the spiritual significance of the month-long observance of the divinely ordained Ramadan fast. It is also an opportunity to reflect on ourselves, to evaluate our actions and interactions with others; to ponder over our rights and also our responsibilities as citizens to society and to the larger world.

Eid Al-Fitr is an ideal moment for all of us to relight the essence of this festival in our hearts and to rededicate ourselves to the true message of Islam — of humility, of humanity, of respect, understanding, and acceptance of others, especially those we perceive to be different. Eid Al-Fitr this year is especially meaningful, as it allows us to thank Almighty God for having delivered us safely through two years

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8





# Cabinet decides to remove remaining COVID-19 restrictions



Council of Ministers decided in an extraordinary meeting held last week to remove the remaining restrictions and precautionary measures that were

introduced earlier to curb and curtail the spread of COVID-19 global pandemic, with effect from Sunday 1 May.

The new procedures stipulate that wearing a mask would be optional inside all open and closed places, with a commitment to wearing it for those who have disease symptoms.

Individuals will also be allowed to enter all closed public places, regardless of the status of immunization and without a PCR examination. Tests for non-vaccinated people in educational institutions and in workplaces have also been canceled.

The new measures also abolish the requirement for immunization and a PCR test for all those coming from abroad, regardless of their immunization status.

In addition, the new decision stipulates that sports fans would be allowed to return to the stadiums completely for those who were not immunized, and that the 'Shlonak' application will be used to follow only positive cases.

The decision includes urging worshippers to implement health requirements inside mosques and places of worship, such as bringing a prayer rug, wearing a mask, and to avoid going to the mosque for those who show contagious respiratory symptoms.

The new procedures also include updates regarding quarantine and isolation periods for infected people and those who come in contact with them. It stipulates that the infected person will be obligated to home quarantine for a period of 5 days, and

mandates them to wear a mask to complete the 14-day period from the date of infection.

As for those in contact, the quarantine period prescribed for them has been canceled regardless of the state of immunization, with their obligation to wear a mask for a period of 14 days from the date of their last contact, and to conduct a PCR examination if symptoms appear within 14 days from the date of contact.

On a related note, the Council of Ministers decided to cancel the main committee that had been formed through Cabinet Resolution No. 800 issued on 25 June, 2020, and mandated to follow up on the implementation of health requirements related to combating the spread of the Coronavirus.



## Mughal Mahal, Cozmo organize bowling tournament

First in Kuwait, when the Maharaja of food diplomacy join hands with the revolutionary astronauts of entertainment, everyone celebrates making memories across Cozmo Bowling Alley to Mughal Mahal Valley. This Ramadan, when the world broke

That's right, Mughal Mahal the Emperor of Indian cuisine powered the Ramadan Pro-Bowling event in Cozmo Kaifan the No. 1 destination for fun where enthusiastic men and women came forward and played with true spirits of sportsmanship while maintaining their spirituality.

Towards the end, there was the determination to win, a bustling atmosphere of positivity and a great show of energy was exhibited by everyone who got involved into making this a successful event of Ramadan 2022. We wish to experience more of such successful events that elate the community, promote health and make an undying impression of two of the most valuable brands from culinary to entertainment. Wishing many more lucky strikes to Cozmo Entertainment and Mughal Mahal for future endeavors. Thank You to the management of both organizations for believing in this tournament.



free from covid restrictions and families could observe the purity of fasting, praying and eating together, there came along a partnership that promoted not just eating well but playing too.



## Work on Dhaman Hospitals nears completion

Nearly 70 percent of work on two hospitals to provide healthcare services to expatriates have been completed so far, disclosed the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Kuwait Health Assurance Hospitals Company, Dhaman, last week.

Making this announcement during the company's ordinary general assembly held last Wednesday, Chairman of the Board, Mutlaq Al-Sanea, explained that when completed by the end of the year, the two hospitals coming up in Ahmadi and Jahra governorates are expected to cater to the large expatriate population in the country. Al-Sanea noted that the company had faced several challenges in its attempt to complete the hospitals project in time, due to restrictions introduced to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 global health crisis in 2020 and 2021. He added that, nevertheless, the company persevered in its endeavors and is set to open five primary health centers across the country as per the company's plans and strategies.

Al Sanea pointed out that the company's



third primary healthcare center, which was inaugurated in Dajeej area in 2020, began full-fledged operations at the start of 2021. Work is also progressing to equip two other centers in Jahra and Fahaheel to complete the requirements of the first phase for primary healthcare centers during the current year.

He pointed out that the company coordinates its efforts with the Ministry of Health so as to start transferring health services for expatriates working in the private sector to the Dhaman company system after the company begins its operations.

## Local companies receive lion's share of project contracts

Ten major local contracting companies have received the largest share of projects awarded so far this year, amounting to around US\$17 billion, notes a recent report in MEED magazine, which covers construction activities in the Middle East region.

The magazine reported that local Kuwait firm, Syed Hamid Behbehani & Sons Company topped the project-contract rankings, receiving contracts worth a total of \$3.4 billion for implementation. This was followed by two other local companies, Ahmadiyya Contracting and Trading Company with \$2.6 billion of projects, and Mohammed Abdul Mohsen Al-Kharafi & Sons Company with \$2.1 billion.

The Turkish Limak Company came in fourth place with contracts under implementation worth \$1.7 billion, followed by Al-Ahlia International General Trading and Contracting Company in fifth place with \$1.5 billion. Al-Hani Contracting and Trading Company and Al-Ghanim Trading and Contracting Company in the sixth and seventh places respectively received project contracts worth \$1.2 billion each.

Finally, three local companies, United Gulf Contracting, Badr Al Mulla & Brothers Company, Al



Ghanim and Jabour Company, ranked eighth, ninth and tenth, with contracts worth \$1.1 billion each.

The Turkish company Limak is working on its contract to build the new terminal at Kuwait International Airport at a value of \$1.7 billion, pointing out that the rest of the top ten are local contractors, which confirms the lack of international interest in the Kuwaiti market. However, the situation may change in future, especially if Kuwait is able to move forward with major infrastructure projects such as the railway network linking Kuwait to other Gulf Cooperation Council countries.



# Kuwait consumer confidence falls as global events weigh in

Araa Company for Research and Marketing Consultations issued its Consumer Confidence Index in Kuwait for March 2022, in cooperation with a local Arabic daily and sponsored by Lexus out of its interest to monitor the economic reality in Kuwait. All index rates for March decreased between 5 points as a minimum and 14 points as a maximum.

The Consumer Confidence index is the only indicator that measures the psychological factors of the consumer, based on People's opinions and perceptions of the current and future economic situation, and their expectations for their financial conditions.

The index is based on a research conducted on a sample of 500 people, distributed among Arab citizens and residents in all governorates. It is conducted by phone through random calls, taking into account the demographic structure of Kuwait.

The results of each of the six indicators are extracted based on the answers of the sample members determined by the questionnaire as "positive", "negative" or "neutral", and the results of the indicators are determined in the base month as a measure of the psychological state of consumers in Kuwait, which is equal to 100 points centered between optimism and pessimism among consumers.

The decline in the confidence of the surveyed consumers in these regional and international conditions is logical given the worrying repercussions resulting from the Russian-Ukrainian military clash, the escalating conflict in terms of trade exchange and the measures taken by many countries, which have led and will lead to more difficulties in most parts of the world, especially on the level



of food security in developing countries.

Within this atmosphere, oil prices maintained their high rates despite their decline sometimes under pressures, such as the resort of the United States of America to use some of its strategic oil reserves to reduce prices and curb manifestations of political-popular opposition, as it pressured several other countries to resort to its reserves of fuel.

This is in addition to the negative impact of the re-spread of the Corona pandemic in the Chinese Republic and the resulting atrophy in production, and consequently a reduction in the levels of economic growth in general and production in particular, which leads to a decrease in demand.

Studies have proven high levels of monetary inflation in most countries of the world, whether as a result of the repercussions of Corona or the military and economic conflict that erupted during the month of February. It is declining as a result of direct

commodities and foodstuffs and the fear that some of them will be cut off.

In this general international climate that dominates public opinion, citizens scored an average of 93 points for the general index, down 12 points within a month, and Arab residents scored 114 points, a loss of 6 points from their previous balance.

At the level of regions, the capital scored 96 points, down by seven points, while Hawalli average decreased by 14 points, Al-Ahmadi by 10 points, Al-Farwaniya by 8 points, while Jahra added 4 points and Mubarak Al-Kabeer by one point. With reference to the decline in the confidence of simple workers with the level of intermediate studies and below, as their rates declined by rates ranging between 10 and 13 points. It is necessary to follow developments at all levels in the hope that the conditions of consumers will be better in the month of April.

local reasons, but rather for reasons of concern that pervades the countries of the world, especially with the rise in the prices of most

## MoH to automate all health services

The Ministry of Health has set a long-term plan to automate its services in all sectors. The plan is aimed at speeding up the work process and making it easier for visitors and the ministry employees at all its various facilities.

Ministry sources pointed out that the mechanization of the Ministry of Health's services will avoid errors, and considers this a qualitative leap in the Ministry's ambitious programs.

The sources stated the MOH seeks to keep



abreast of the most important developments in the health field, whether in terms of promotional, preventive, curative and rehabilitative services, or in terms of monitoring and analyzing health data.

**المزيني**  
**Al Muzaini**

**WIN**  
up to  
**100,000**

TRANSACTION THROUGH ANY OF OUR BRANCHES FOR A CHANCE TO WIN CASH PRIZES\*  
From 17/4 to 30/6

**\$30,000**  
MEGA PRIZE

**\$1,000** 3 WEEKLY WINNERS

**\$100** 4 DAILY WINNERS

**\$10,000**  
SPECIAL EIDEYAH PRIZE

2204107953 - المزيني (المزيني) \*conditions apply



## Thought “ for the week

A person who feel appreciated will always do more than is expected.

- Anonymous

## Five Vegetables will keep your Health at an Optimal Level

Ask Mira: Eating Right to Live Happy & Healthy



**Sweet potatoes:** Sweet potatoes are a rich source of B-complex vitamins, vitamin C, dietary fiber, carbohydrates and carotene. The CSPI, Center for Science in the Public Interest, Washington, D.C. has stated that sweet potatoes win over all other vegetables

in terms of their protein, vitamin, carbohydrate content and fiber, and have shown to lower the blood sugar levels of individuals suffering from type I and type II diabetes. Besides that, one sweet potato has 8 times the daily RDA of vitamin A, which supports healthy vision and your immune system.



other high fiber vegetables helps in weight loss without the need for unhealthy crash diets. Those tender green beans are a good source of vitamin C, dietary fiber, folate, vitamin K and silicon, needed for healthy bones, skin, and hair.

One cup of raw green beans has just 31 calories, 3g of fiber, 2 g of protein and zero cholesterol.



**Spinach:** A number of studies have shown that green leafy vegetables including spinach drastically reduce the chances of getting type 2 diabetes. Spinach increases your immune strength, enhances vision and fights against anemia. It is also a great source of antioxidants. It's best taken either raw or lightly boiled; steaming it with a pinch of salt works quite well as well. It has all the nutrients needed for a good health – Vitamin B complex, A, C, E and K and minerals like copper, manganese, calcium, iron, potassium, selenium and zinc.



**Broccoli:** Broccoli is a very important source of antioxidants which fight against all sorts of cancers. Research has proved that people who regularly consume broccoli can lower their chances of getting bladder cancer as compared to people who don't. A medium stalk is enough to provide your daily requirement of Vitamins K and C which are important for the maintenance of strong bones. Those vitamins are well preserved even when the broccoli is cooked!

**Green beans:** The research published in the Journal of Nutrition has shown that regular intake of green beans and



**Garlic:** Cardiovascular diseases like heart attacks and strokes are the world's biggest killers. High blood pressure is one of the most important triggers of these diseases.

High doses of garlic appear to improve blood pressure for those with high blood pressure, and supplements may be as effective as regular medications. Garlic also contains antioxidants that protect against cell damage and aging. It reduces the risk of Alzheimer's disease and Dementia, so it makes sense that it could also help you live longer!

"Let your food be the medicine, and your medicine be the food."

*Eat like Mira*

Create healthy habits, not restrictions

To subscribe to my diet programs,  
don't forget to log in to:  
[www.eatlikemira.com](http://www.eatlikemira.com).



Mira is a go-to source for nutrition and wellness and has joined The Times Kuwait team in a new weekly column discussing nutrition and answering queries. You can send in your questions to [infotimeskuwait@gmail.com](mailto:infotimeskuwait@gmail.com)

## RECIPE

# SHEERMAL

(Semi-sweet Bread)



Try out this delicious Ramadan recipe to add variety to your Iftar platter. Sheermal, a common Persian flatbread, comes from the word 'Sheer' which in Farsi language means milk, and 'mal' which stands for applying or kneading. So Sheermal refers to a flatbread that is prepared using milk infused with aromatic saffron and a touch of cardamom from the land of Kashmir. The recipe goes well with tea or coffee.

Preparation/ cooking time: One hour and half  
Serving: For 4 to 5 persons

### Ingredients

- 2 cup All purpose flour
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 3 tbsp sugar powder
- 1tsp Instant yeast
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 1/2 tsp cardamom powder
- 1/2 cup lukewarm milk infused with 1/2 tsp saffron threads
- 2 tbsp Rose water
- 3 tbsp ghee plus extra melted ghee for brushing
- 1 tbsp sesame seeds, shredded dry coconut, roughly chopped or sliced almond, pistachios or cashew nuts.

### Preparation:

- In a large bowl add all dry ingredients the flour, salt, sugar, instant yeast, ghee, cardamom and mix.
- To this add the saffron milk.
- Knead well to form a soft dough.
- Cover and set aside for 1-1/2 hours to rise.
- Preheat the oven to 200°C. Line the baking tray with parchment paper.
- Punch down and divide the dough into equal sized portions.
- Roll out each portion into a circle of about 1/2 inch thickness.
- Prick the rolled dough with a fork so that it will not puff up in the oven.
- When you are ready to bake, brush them with Rose water.
- Sprinkle sesame seeds and sliced almond, pistachios or cashew shreds
- Place the baking tray on the middle rack of the oven.
- Bake at 180°C for 10 to 12 minutes or until it becomes golden yellow color.
- Once the bread is baked and out of the oven, but still warm, brush with melted ghee and serve.



Chef Chhaya Thakker



Indian Chef Chhaya Thakker, who has a huge following online on WhatsApp and YouTube will be sharing her favorite recipes and cooking tips with readers of The Times Kuwait. For feedback, you can write to [editortimeskuwait@gmail.com](mailto:editortimeskuwait@gmail.com)



# EU Commission proposes entry-visa waiver for Kuwaitis, Qataris

Last week, the European Union (EU) Commission proposed to lift visa requirements for nationals of Kuwait and Qatar. If approved by the European Parliament, the visa-waiver would allow Kuwait and Qatari nationals holding biometric passports to travel to the EU without the need for a visa, for short stays of up to 90 days in any 180-day period for business, tourism or family purposes.

The proposal comes after the EU Commission assessed a number of criteria including irregular migration, public policy and security, economic benefits, and the Union's relations with the two countries, as well as its contribution to strengthening relations with Gulf countries.

The EU High Representative/Vice-

President, Josep Borrell, said: "Our proposal to lift visa requirements for Qatari and Kuwaiti nationals is a first step to make it easier for people from the entire region to travel to the European Union. The final objective is to ensure regional coherence and ultimately achieve visa free travel for all Gulf Cooperation Council countries. Together with our upcoming Joint Communication on the Gulf, this proposal will reinforce the overall partnership and strengthen the cooperation between the EU and the Gulf Cooperation Council."

It is now for the European Parliament and the Council to examine the proposal and decide whether to grant visa-free travel to nationals of Kuwait and Qatar. If the proposal is adopted, the EU will then



negotiate a visa-waiver agreement with the two countries to ensure full visa reciprocity for EU citizens. Visa-free travel to the EU for nationals of Qatar and Kuwait will start applying once the visa waiver agreement enters into force.

Exemptions from the visa requirement

play a key role in facilitating people-to-people contacts and strengthening political, economic, research, educational, cultural and societal exchanges. The proposal for visa exemption for Kuwait and Qatar nationals is a step towards stronger regional coherence in the Gulf region, following the visa exemption granted to the United Arab Emirates in 2014.

Under the visa exemption, travelers can visit all EU Member States except for Ireland, as well as the four Schengen associated countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland). The visa exemption does not provide for the right to work in the EU, although Member States have the possibility to allow travelers to conduct a paid activity during their stay.

## MoI launches digital visit visa

Last week, the Ministry of Interior (MoI) launched a new service that enables the paying and printing of electronic civil entry visas (e-Visa), through the companies' platform on the ministry's official website.

An announcement to this effect from the Security Media Department indicated that the issuance of paper entry visas through the Public Authority of Manpower will now be suspended.

The issuance of e-visas comes in cooperation between the General Administration of Residency Affairs, the General Administration of Information Systems and the Public Authority of Manpower.



## South Korea to resume visa-free entry for Kuwaitis

Visa-free entry for Kuwaiti nationals to South Korea is to resume from 1 May through the K-ETA (Korea Electronic Travel Authorization) platform, which grants visa-free entry to South Korea for nationals of select countries.

An announcement to this effect notes that Kuwaiti citizens intending to travel to South Korea will need to apply for the K-ETA by providing personal and travel-related information through the K-ETA homepage website, or the mobile app at least 72 hours

before boarding the flight. The online addresses are: Website URL: [www.k-eta.go.kr](http://www.k-eta.go.kr) and Mobile App: [m.k-eta.go.kr](http://m.k-eta.go.kr)

The visa-free entry allows Kuwaiti nationals to visit South Korea for a duration of 90 days for tourism, treatment, business meeting, attendance at a conference, or visiting families or relatives.

The K-ETA will be valid for up to two years from the date of issuance of K-ETA, and is available for multiple trips during their period of validity as long as the uploaded personal information has not changed. Additionally, travelers with the K-ETA will be exempt from submitting arrival cards enabling them to pass through airport immigration swiftly. Applicants can receive the results by email within 72 hours after completing the applications.



## Win WEEKLY with KIECO when remitting via our app in Ramadan.

T&Cs apply.\*



Embrace the spirit of giving.

### Remit with KIECO.





## IDF organizes Ghabqa 2022



On the occasion of the holy month of Ramadan, the Indian Doctors Forum (IDF), Kuwait recently held their annual 'Ghabqa' get-together at the Hotel Crowne Plaza.

Eminent Kuwaiti and Indian personalities including members of the royal family, government officials, diplomats, and medical fraternity from the Indian and Kuwaiti communities attended the event in large numbers.

The chief guest of the evening Ambassador of India H.E. Sibi George inaugurated the event in the presence of the Ambassador of Tajikistan H.E. Zubaydullo Zubaydzoda and a galaxy of prominent Kuwaitis that included the President of Kuwait Medical Association, Dr Ibrahim Al Towala, Secretary General of Kuwait Institute of Medical Specialization, Dr Fawaz Al Refai, Assistant Undersecretary of Military Medical Services Sheikh Dr. Abdullah Meshal Al Sabah, Head of Health Services in Ahmadi Governorate, Dr. Ahmed Al Shatti, Head of Health Services

in Farwaniya Governorate, Dr. Mohammed Al Rashidi, KNPC Deputy CEO, Engineer Abdul Aziz Al Duaij, and former President of Kuwait University, Prof Abdulla Behbehani.

The event, which was anchored by IDF Treasurer Dr. Jaganath Chodankar, began with rendition of the national anthems of Kuwait and India, followed by recitation of verses from the Holy Quran by Abdulrahman Galsoorker, and a welcome address by General Secretary of IDF, Dr. Nazim Parker.

In his address to the gathering, President of IDF Dr. Amir Ahmed, highlighted the various contributions made by members of the forum in the fight against COVID-19, under the patronage and support of the honorable Ambassador of India. He also noted the free tele consultation done 24/7 in different Indian regional languages by members of IDF; a symposiums on COVID-19 held to create health awareness, and a video presentation as well as several webinars in different languages to educate the community and encourage as well as

motivate them to vaccinate against COVID-19. He also drew attention to the special edition of IDF Health Guide on the global pandemic, which was released by officials at MOH.

In his speech on the occasion, Ambassador George expressed his happiness at the presence of a large number of eminent Kuwaitis and appreciated the strong traditionally vibrant bilateral relationship and people-to-people engagement. He spoke at length about the mutually beneficial and friendly relationship between India and Kuwait during COVID-19 crisis, especially as this year marks the 60th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

The Indian ambassador was full of praise for the doctors and medical professionals for their role-played in the fight against the pandemic. He recalled the cooperation in the medical sector between the two countries, with India sending a specialized team of experts in the initial period of pandemic to Kuwait, as well as a shipment of Indian manufactured CoviShield vaccine to Kuwait.

For its part, Kuwait responded promptly when India faced a medical emergency during the second wave of the pandemic by sending medical oxygen supplies to India. The ambassador also recounted the fruitful visit of the Indian Foreign Minister to Kuwait, and concluded his address by wishing everyone Ramadhan Kareem.

Dr. Hassan Ali Khan delivered the Ramadan Message and enlightened the audience, while Dr. Ahmed Al Shatti and Eng. Abdul Aziz Al Duaij delivered felicitation speeches on the occasion.

The highlights of the evening included a fancy dress show by the lovely children of IDF members, and a Ramadan Quiz conducted for the audience, and an exciting raffle draw. The evening ended with a vote of thanks by Vice president IDF Dr. Sunil Yadav, followed by a sumptuous buffet dinner enjoyed by the guests and members.

Girgyaan gifts were handed to the guests and members as they left the hall, marking an end to a grand evening.

## LuLu Hypermarket launches 'Digift' campaign



As part of the ongoing 'Big Eid Deals' promotion, LuLu Hypermarket, the retail market leader in the region, launched a unique 'Digift' campaign at all its outlets in Kuwait.

The 'Digift' campaign was inaugurated on 28 April at the AlRai outlet of LuLu Hypermarket by well-known tech influencer Sayed Mohamed Alhashemi, in the presence of top LuLu Hypermarket management officials.

The 'digift' campaign is a digital shopping festival held online and covering all LuLu Hypermarket outlets in Kuwait. Attractive and amazing discounts on TVs, laptops, mobile phones, electronics, home appliances, IT

products and accessories, and a whole lot more are being offered as part of the 'Digift' campaign.

The 'Digift' campaign builds on the hypermarket's strong online presence through its industry-leading website, www.luluhypermarkets.com, which offers customers an unique digital shopping experience that is both easy and intuitive to use for customers from various segments of society. As the holy month of Ramadan draws to a close, the 'Big Eid Deals' festival being held at all LuLu Hypermarket branches in Kuwait continues to draw a large number of shoppers attracted by the multiplicity of promotions taking place simultaneously.

Among the promotions attracting the largest number of shoppers are the Toy Fest, which provides special offers on a variety of toys and bicycles for kids; the Chocolate Festival that offers chocoholics the opportunity to indulge in their favorite cocoa treats at attractive prices; Yummy Meals fest that offers biriyani, machboos, kabsa and an A-list of tantalizing dishes at unbelievable prices; and the Arabic Salads Platter, where fresh and healthy treats are on special offers.

In addition, there are the Dates and Nuts Fest that draw shoppers with special prices on nuts and all varieties of dates; Fragrances & More, a one-of-its-kind offer on high-end perfumes and

fragrances; and the extraordinarily popular 'Half-Pay-Back Fest' on fashion, footwear, ladies bags, baby accessories and eye wear, where every KD20 purchase by a customer entails them to KD10 free gift voucher. Also on offer during the promotion period are huge discounts on churidar material with exclusive designs crafted specifically for the special Eid collection.

LuLu Hypermarket's commitment to be a part of every community celebration, and to offer customers the best shopping opportunities during festival occasions is once again reflected in the immense success of the ongoing Big Eid Deals promotion.



# Kuwait 'based' travel website dupes passengers

## MoCI inspects labor recruitment offices



The surge in demand for domestic workers witnessed during the holy month of Ramadan, as well as the continued scarcity of household helpers, and the availability of illegal part-time workers, most of whom are residency and labor law violators, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI) has activated its control over domestic labor recruitment offices. This also follows repeated complaints from citizens about the shortage of domestic workers, and against domestic labor recruitment offices that exploit the situation and raise the costs of labor recruitment.

Aiming to put an end to the fiasco, inspectors from the Commercial Control Department in MoCI carried out a monitoring campaign last week against the owners of domestic labor offices in the Hawally area. The campaign focused on checking the working of domestic labor recruitment offices and ensuring that they complied with ministerial decisions on prices to be charged for recruitment services.

The head of the emergency team Ahmed Al-Issa said "no owner of a domestic labor office has the right to take additional fees, other than the KD890 set by the ministry". He added that "if we receive any complaints from consumers, the company responsible will be dealt with immediately. The office will be sealed and license withdrawn, if it is found that the office is not committed to the decisions of the ministry".

Al-Issa added: "This is the first campaign of its kind, and it started in Hawally and will continue in all governorates, to ensure the commitment of the owners of those offices to ministerial decisions on labor recruitment, and to address any injustice or fraud to which any consumer is exposed." He also revealed that the first campaign in Hawally, resulted in the inspection of 40 domestic labor recruiting offices and the closure of some of these offices.

Al-Issa also noted that legal action will be taken against any holder of a domestic labor recruitment license if they rent out their license to another person, office or company. In addition, legal actions will also be initiated if an office fails to provide a domestic worker within three days of the period stipulated in their contract with the household sponsor, or if they refrain from entertaining requests for supplying domestic workers, as mandated in their operational license.

## Bank accounts of specific companies, individuals under scrutiny

Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) has requested commercial banks and financial institutions in the country to disclose the accounts of a company working in the field of marine equipment, as well as account details of seven Kuwaiti nationals for the past eight years.

The demand for account details from CBK reportedly comes following a demand to this effect from the Public Prosecution monitoring Public Funds Protection and Anti-Money Laundering activities. Sources say that the banks have been asked to provide details on the company and individuals for the period from 1 January, 2014 to 1 January, 2021, without attributing any reasons for the Public Prosecution's request.

An online travel booking website that provides a Kuwait landline number to contact for services, has allegedly been defrauding passengers booking airline tickets through its portal.

Travel bookings have soared in recent weeks ahead of the upcoming Eid Al-Fitr holidays. A large number of travel bookings are now done online through websites of airlines and local travel agencies.

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI), which is responsible among others for monitoring and regulating online trade in Kuwait, has reportedly been besieged by complaints about the travel website, not only from citizens and residents in the country but also from people in neighboring states. The ministry is being approached by irate passengers because the website's customer service number is a landline provided by Kuwait's Ministry of Communication. Landlines are provided to companies only if they possess a valid license from MoCI.

People who book airline tickets through the 'fake' website then have the option to pay through a number of booking platforms, including directly through the website which offers the cheapest rate. Customers who opt for the lowest available price fall for the bait and pay for the ticket. A few days before the travel date, the passenger receives a call from the website informing them that the price of the ticket has increased and the



passenger will need to pay the difference, which is often 10 to 30 percent higher.

Passengers have the option to cancel their reservation, but the refund is promised only after a week. Attempts to contact the website's customer service provided through the landline proves futile as there is no response.

Hundreds of people have reportedly lost their money through this swindle. Sources at MoCI have confirmed that the ministry is coordinating with the Communication and Information Technology Regulatory Authority (CITRA) to take measures against the platform, including shutting down the website.

**Nizammat Hyderabad Restaurant**

نظامت مطبخ حیدرآباد

عید مبارک

EID MUBARAK

The only Authentic Hyderabad Restaurant in Kuwait

Khaitan 91104439  
Fahaheel 98766808  
Salmiya Blk12 91104437



# Eid: A time to rejoice



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

of the COVID-19 crisis, and to pray for the souls of all those who did not make it through the global pandemic. It provides us with the opportunity to count our blessings, and to be grateful for all that we have been bestowed with.

The month-long period of fasting from dawn-to-dusk that culminates with the Eid-al-Fitr festival, is also a display of the resilience and buoyancy of the human spirit. Fasting daily for a month not only strengthens one's piety, it reinforces willpower and helps build endurance and ability to overcome challenges. Fasting also introduces people to what the poor and the deprived members of society experience daily in their lives.

It leads people to be thankful for their blessings and invokes a desire in them to help those less privileged. The immutable message reinforced by the Eid celebrations is that all of humanity is one family; helping one member helps build a stronger and more resilient society; and, causing harm to one individual leads to hurting everyone in the long-term.

As Muslims around the world bid farewell to the holy month of Ramadan and participate with joy in the Eid Al-Fitr festivities and family gatherings, let us also take a moment to think and relate ourselves with all those who do not have the means to celebrate; to identify ourselves with those who are far from their homes and family; with the millions of people who are without a home and living in refugee camps around the world. Let us take a moment this Eid to think about 'the others'.

For those not in the know, here is a refresher

on Eid al-Fitr, a festival that is traditionally celebrated over a period of three days in most Muslim-majority countries. Muslims worldwide celebrate Eid al-Fitr on the first day of the month of Shawwal in the Islamic calendar, which marks the end of month-long fasting from dawn to sunset during the month of Ramadan. Because the advent of Eid Al-Fitr is a lunar event, the date changes annually on the Gregorian calendar and varies from country to country depending on geographical location.

Just as the beginning of the holy month of Ramadan is identified with the sighting of the crescent moon — a day after the new moon — so too must Muslims wait until the evening before Eid to sight the crescent moon before announcing the start of Eid Al-Fitr. If the crescent moon is not visible, the month of Ramadan and the accompanying fasting from dawn to dusk continues for another day.

On the first day of Eid Al-Fitr, Muslims around the world partake in communal post-dawn prayers, followed by a short sermon. The prayers take place in mosques or large halls but in many countries, it is also held in the open to accommodate the large numbers. This is the first such congregation in two years in Kuwait, after the event was canceled by the authorities in previous years, as part of restrictions introduced to curb the spread of the global pandemic.

Following the congregational prayer, people congratulate one another with greetings of 'Eid Mubarak'. They spend the day visiting relatives and neighbors exchanging greetings and gifts, and sharing in feasts. Children, dressed in new clothes, are offered sweets, gifts and money to celebrate the joyous occasion.

## Each country has its own traditions when it comes to celebrating Eid Al-Fitr

**Saudi Arabia:** In Saudi Arabia, people decorate their homes and prepare sumptuous meals for family and friends. While celebrations vary culturally depending on the region, the one common thread in all celebrations is generosity and hospitality.



It is a Saudi tradition for families to gather at the patriarchal home after the Eid prayers. Before the special Eid meal is served, young children will line up in front of each adult family member, who dispenses money as gifts to the children. Family members will also typically have a time where they will pass out gift bags to the children. These bags are often beautifully decorated and contain candies and toys.

**Egypt:** Eid al-Fitr is a three-day feast and an official holiday in Egypt with vacations for schools, universities and government offices. The Eid day starts with a small snack followed by Eid prayers in congregation attended by men, women and children, in which the sermon reminds Egyptians of the virtues and good deeds they should do unto others, even strangers, during Eid and throughout the year.



Afterwards, neighbors, friends and relatives start greeting one another. Family visits are considered an essential practice on the first day of the Eid, with the other two days of the holidays spent in going to parks, cinemas, theaters or the beaches.

Children are given new clothes to wear for Eid. Women, particularly mothers, wives, sisters and daughters, are given special gifts by their loved ones. The family gatherings involve cooking and eating various kinds of Egyptian food, especially Kahk — cookies filled with nuts and covered with powdered sugar. Egyptians either bake it at home or buy it in the bakery.

**Indonesia:** Eid is known in Indonesia as Hari Raya Idul Fitri (or more popularly as Lebaran) and is a national holiday. Shopping malls and bazaars are usually filled with people to get things for Lebaran such as new clothes, shoes, sandals, and even food to serve days ahead of Idul Fitri. The entire country is infused with a distinctive festive atmosphere with many banks, government and private offices closed for the duration of the Lebaran festivities.



One of the largest temporary human migrations globally is the prevailing custom of the Lebaran where workers living in cities and towns return to their home-town or village to celebrate with their families and to ask forgiveness from parents, in-laws, and other elders. It is estimated that more than 30 million Indonesians travel to their hometowns during Lebaran holiday.

The night before Idul Fitri is called takbiran, it is filled with the sounds of many muezzin chanting the takbir in the mosques or musallahs, people usually fill the street and also chanting takbir. In many parts of Indonesia, especially in the rural areas, obor (torches) and damar/pelita (oil lamps) are lit up and placed outside and around homes. Also, during takbiran, people usually light various firecrackers or fireworks.

**KIECO**  
Built on your trust

**RAMADAN  
KAREEM**

Embrace the spirit of giving.

Remit with KIECO.

Available on the  
 App Store

GET IT ON  
 Google Play

EXPLORE IT ON  
 AppGallery





**India:** Celebrations in India and the rest of the Indian subcontinent share many similarities with regional variations. The night before Eid, called Chaand Raat, which means, 'Night of the Moon', will see Muslims visiting bazaars and shopping malls with their families for Eid shopping. Women, especially younger girls, often apply the traditional Mehndi, or henna, on their hands and feet and wear colorful bangles. Gifts are frequently given — new clothes as part of the tradition — and it is also common for children to be given small sums of money (Eidi) by their elders.

After the Eid prayers, many families visit graveyards and pray for the salvation of departed family members. Visits to neighbors, family members, especially senior relatives, and the sharing of food and sweets are customary. On Eid day before prayers, people distribute a charity locally known as fitra. Many people also avail themselves of this opportunity to distribute zakat, an Islamic obligatory alms tax of 2.5 percent of one's annual savings, to the needy. Zakat is often distributed in the form of food and new clothes.



greet one another with Bayramınız kutlu olsun ('May your bayram be blessed'). It is a time for people to attend prayer services, put on their best clothes (referred to as bayramlık, often purchased just for the occasion), visit their loved ones such as relatives, neighbors, and friends, and pay their respects to the deceased with organized visits to cemeteries, where large, temporary bazaars of flowers, water (for watering the plants adorning a grave), and prayer books are set up for the three-day occasion.



**South Africa:** In Cape Town, hundreds of Muslims gather at Green Point in the evening of the last day of Ramadan each year for the sighting of the moon. The gathering brings together people from all walks of life, and everyone comes with something to share with others at the time of breaking the fast. The Maghrib (sunset) prayer is then performed in congregation and the formal moon-sighting results are announced thereafter.

Children receive presents and money from elder members of the family, relatives and neighbors. Most people wear new clothes with bright colors, while biscuits, cakes, samosas, pies and tarts are presented to visitors as treats. Lunch is usually served in family groups. It is also customary to exchange gifts.

No matter how it is celebrated, Eid Al-Fitr remains an eternal celebration of the human spirit, its resilience and its desire to live virtuously, peacefully, creatively, and to help make life meaningful for all.

**Turkey:** Celebrations marking Eid Al-Fitr, referred to as both Seker Bayramı ('Bayram of Sweets') and Ramazan Bayramı ('Ramadan Bayram') are held nationwide. It is a public holiday, where schools and government offices are generally closed for the entire three-day period of the celebrations.

The celebrations of bayram are infused with national traditions. It is customary for people to

## Feasting after fasting needs moderation

Eid al-Fitr is one of the most celebrated festivals among Muslims around the world. The festival marks the end of the holy month of Ramadan and the beginning of the month of Shawwal according to the Islamic calendar. During the month of Ramadan, people fast from sunrise to sunset every day and it is considered the holiest month for the Muslims. During this fast, Muslims have their first meal before the sunrise known as Suhoor and the next meal called Iftar is served only after sunset.

Eid Al-Fitr is traditionally celebrated over two to three days during which people meet their friends and relatives in their homes and distribute food and drinks among needy people. Eid Al-Fitr festivities also include relatives and friends joining the family in an elaborate lunch replete with several delicacies and savories, with many specialty dishes cooked for the occasion.

However, after spending an entire month fasting from dawn to dusk, indulging in a heavy feast on the first day of Eid celebrations could lead to stomach upsets and other gastrointestinal problems.

### Here is a primer on how to eat right this Eid Al-Fitr

During the month-long fasting period of Ramadan, our body slowly adapts to the fasting diet and breaking up this dining routine with a sudden intake of high-salt and oil-laden food during Eid Al-Fitr celebrations can lead to bloating and other digestive troubles. This is why it is important to follow certain precautionary steps to break your fast healthily and safely without wrecking your digestive system.

**Drink a glass of fresh juice:** To break your fast, we advise drinking a glass of freshly squeezed juice or drinking a glass of warm water with a dash of lemon juice added in the morning, rather than relishing on high-sugar packaged juices. Alternatively, you can also begin your day with a small portion of fresh fruits and salad.

**Start slow:** During the Eid feast in the afternoon, Instead of gorging on a plate of mutton korma and biryani, it is strongly recommended to break your fast with simple and light food items.

**Eat often and in small quantities:** As



tempting as the platter of delicacies may seem after the month-long fasting, we suggest eating in small portions, instead of filling yourself all at once. You may also reduce the interval between the meals. Make sure to include a variety of food items in your plate but keep the portion size less.

**Tone down the sugar:** While sweets, savories and other delicacies prepared for the occasion are no doubt enticing and an integral part of the festivities, make sure not to go overboard with the sweet dishes. If you cannot resist your sweet tooth and aim to gobble down a whole baklava, we have a piece of advice for you. Instead of reaching out for the traditional sweets, munch on dates or whole fruits.



**No junk food or packaged food:** Make sure that you eat a balanced diet after breaking your fast and include a variety of food items in the same. Additionally, try to include proteins, carbohydrates, fiber and fat in proportion to your meals and steer clear of junk food and packaged products.

Remember that after a month of fasting your body is currently adapted to a fasting diet, so including aerated drinks and packaged food items in your routine may actually lead to gastrointestinal issues like bloating.



# Ramadan Kareem

Do good and good will come to you.

Win WEEKLY with KIECO  
when remitting via our app in Ramadan.

T&Cs apply.\*









# Diplomats extend their Eid Greetings



**H.E. Sayed Javed Hashimi**

Ambassador of Afghanistan

His Excellency Sayed Javed Hashimi has the honor to extend his sincere congratulations to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, Sheikh Dr. Ahmed Nasser Al-Mohammed Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Foreign Minister and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, the government and the friendly people of the State of Kuwait on the blessed occasion of Eid Al-Fitr, praying to Almighty Allah to bless all Muslim Nations with progress and prosperity.



**H.E. Major General**

**Md. Ashikuzzaman, ndc, afwc, psc,**  
Ambassador of Bangladesh

On behalf of the Bangladesh community and my own behalf, I have the honor and privilege to extend our heartfelt Eid Greetings to the Amir of the State of Kuwait His Highness Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, to the Crown Prince His Highness Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, the Government and brotherly people of the State of Kuwait on the holy occasion of Eid-al-Fitr.

I wish and pray that His Highness be blessed with continued good health and peace. I would also like to take this opportunity to wish the friendly and welcoming citizens of the State of Kuwait further prosperity, good fortune, peace and happiness under His Highness's leadership, and for the solidity and stability for the State of Kuwait. I look forward to continually working with the Government of the State of Kuwait to carry forward the traditional friendships and relationships that exist between Bangladesh and the State of Kuwait.

I am extremely happy to see that after almost two years we are able to celebrate the festival of Eid-al-Fitr in a Corona-free situation. We pray to Almighty Allah for His continued blessing and Rahmat upon all of us.

May this joyous Eid-al-Fitr bring peace, happiness and prosperity to all of us.

May Allah bless us all. Eid Mubarak

**H.E. Claire Le Flécher**

Ambassador of France

On the occasion of Eid Al-Fitr and on behalf of the Embassy of France in Kuwait, I extend my greetings to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Misha'al Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, the government and the friendly people of the State of Kuwait.

Eid-Al-Fitr is one of the happiest occasions that Muslims celebrate around the world every year after a long month of fasting. I am happy to partake in this unique tradition related to Ramadan in Kuwait, as well as Eid celebrations with the people of Kuwait.

I wish Eid Mubarak to all of you, your families and your loved ones.

Happy Eid celebrations and holidays.



**H.E. Sibi George**

Ambassador of India

Eid Mubarak to All

On the occasion of Eid Al-Fitr, on behalf of the Indian community in Kuwait, I extend my greetings to His Highness Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Amir of the State of Kuwait, His Highness Sheikh Michael Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Crown Prince of the State of Kuwait and to the Government and the friendly people of the State of Kuwait.

I extend my warm greetings to all my Indian brothers and sisters in Kuwait.

Eid Al-Fitr is a special occasion as we reaffirm our resolve to abide by the universal values of peace, prosperity, compassion, commitment to the welfare of society, spirit of sacrifice and universal brotherhood. It is a festival to work together for unity and fraternity in an inclusive society. This occasion is also an important reminder to all of us that no matter who you are, we are all equal in humanity. I pray that this festival strengthens our belief in charity, our faith in fraternity and our commitment to compassion.

Eid Al-Fitr is a special festival in India, a land with abundant diversity of religions and beliefs, with more than 1.3 billion people from different socio-cultural, linguistic and religious backgrounds living in complete harmony. India, which has the second largest Muslim population in the world after Indonesia, celebrates this occasion with great fervor and enthusiasm. In complete consonance with India's age-old beliefs and values, people from different religions and faiths come together on this special day to celebrate this occasion.

Here in Kuwait, this Eid is indeed a special occasion as it comes after the difficult period of the devastating COVID-19 pandemic. I am happy to partake in the Ramadan related unique traditions of Kuwait and also in the celebrations of Eid with the warm and generous people of the State of Kuwait.

Once again, Eid Mubarak to all Indian nationals and friends of India in Kuwait.

May you all be safe and stay blessed.

**H.E. Miguel Ángel Isidro**

Ambassador of Mexico

Ambassador of Mexico H.E. Miguel Ángel Isidro has the honor to extend his sincere congratulations and best wishes to His Highness Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Amir of the State of Kuwait, His Highness Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Crown Prince, His Highness Sheikh Sabah Khalid Al-Hamad Al-Sabah, Prime Minister, the Government and the people of the State of Kuwait, on the occasion of the advent of 'Eid-al-Fitr', wishing the friendly people of Kuwait further prosperity and stability.

Ambassador Isidro added, "In recent years, our two countries have enjoyed deepening bilateral relations, practical cooperation and cultural exchanges. Mexico stands ready to work with Kuwait to enhance dialogue, communication and cooperation, and continue to support each other on international and regional issues in a view to push our bilateral relations to new heights. Mexico is looking forward to enhancing high level exchanges and cooperation with Kuwait and strengthening coordination in international forums to further cement and promote the friendship between our two countries and peoples."

Eid Mubarak!



**Sanja Vidakovic,**

Minister Counsellor,  
Charge d'Affaires,  
Embassy of Serbia

On the occasion of Eid al-Fitr, I extend on behalf of the Embassy of the Republic of Serbia to the State of Kuwait to the leadership and friendly people of Kuwait, my sincere congratulations and wishes for every blessing from God.

In times of severe temptations for the entire human race, in times of illness, fear and anxiety, every person - more and stronger than ever - turns to God, family and those human and moral values that we all strive for.

From that source comes a great blessing in the form of forgiveness, solidarity, helping, a deep insight that only together and in harmony we can achieve everything.

I pay great tribute to Kuwait for all its selfless help to many countries during the troubles that have befallen them, that you have not forgotten those who need help, those who are sick and those who have nothing, that you have rightly shown the true essence of Ramadan fasting and Islam as a religion that nurtures the greatest human and moral values.

With the most sincere wishes for good health, happiness and well-being to you and your families, I once again congratulate you on the blessed Eid al-Fitr, wishing that you always celebrate it in peace and joy, good health, family happiness and spiritual well-being!

Eid Mubarak!





EXCLUSIVE to THE TIMES KUWAIT

# Stagflationary Storm is Gathering



**NOURIEL ROUBINI**  
*Professor Emeritus of Economics at New York University's Stern School of Business, is Chief Economist at Atlas Capital Team, an asset-management and fintech firm specializing in hedging against inflation and other tail risks.*

The new reality with which many advanced economies and emerging markets must reckon is higher inflation and slowing economic growth. And a big reason for the current bout of stagflation is a series of negative aggregate supply shocks that have curtailed production and increased costs.

This should come as no surprise. The COVID-19 pandemic forced many sectors to lock down, disrupted global supply chains, and produced an apparently persistent reduction in labor supply, especially in the United States. Then came Russia's invasion of Ukraine, which has driven up the price of energy, industrial metals, food, and fertilizers. And now, China has ordered draconian COVID-19 lockdowns in major economic hubs such as Shanghai, causing additional supply-chain disruptions and transport bottlenecks.

But even without these important short-term factors, the medium-term outlook would be darkening. There are many reasons to worry that today's stagflationary conditions will continue to characterize the global economy, producing higher inflation, lower growth, and possibly recessions in many economies.

For starters, since the global financial crisis, there has been a retreat from globalization and a return to various forms of protectionism. This reflects geopolitical factors and domestic political motivations in countries where large cohorts of the population feel 'left behind'. Rising geopolitical tensions and the supply-chain trauma left by the pandemic are likely to lead to more reshoring of manufacturing from China and emerging markets to advanced economies — or at least near-shoring (or 'friend-shoring') to clusters of politically allied countries. Either way, production will be misallocated to higher-cost regions and countries.

Moreover, demographic aging in advanced economies and some key emerging markets (such as China, Russia, and South Korea) will continue to reduce the



supply of labor, causing wage inflation. And because the elderly tend to spend savings without working, the growth of this cohort will add to inflationary pressures while reducing the economy's growth potential.

The sustained political and economic backlash against immigration in advanced economies will likewise reduce labor supply and apply upward pressure on wages. For decades, large-scale immigration kept a lid on wage growth in advanced economies. But those days appear to be over.

of bashing fossil fuels and demanding aggressive decarbonization has led to underinvestment in carbon-based capacity before renewable energy sources have reached a scale sufficient to compensate for a reduced supply of hydrocarbons. Under these conditions, sharp energy-price spikes are inevitable. And as the price of energy rises, 'greenflation' will hit prices for the raw materials used in solar panels, batteries, electric vehicles, and other clean technologies.

“ Climate change, too, will be stagflationary. After all, droughts damage crops, ruin harvests, and drive up food prices, just as hurricanes, floods, and rising sea levels destroy capital stocks and disrupt economic activity.

Similarly, the new cold war between the US and China will produce wide-ranging stagflationary effects. Sino-American decoupling implies fragmentation of the global economy, balkanization of supply chains, and tighter restrictions on trade in technology, data, and information, which are key elements of future trade patterns.

Climate change, too, will be stagflationary. After all, droughts damage crops, ruin harvests, and drive up food prices, just as hurricanes, floods, and rising sea levels destroy capital stocks and disrupt economic activity. Making matters worse, the politics

Public health is likely to be another factor. Little has been done to avert the next contagious-disease outbreak, and we already know that pandemics disrupt global supply chains and incite protectionist policies as countries rush to hoard critical supplies such as food, pharmaceutical products, and personal protective equipment.

We must also worry about cyberwarfare, which can cause severe disruptions in production, as recent attacks on pipelines and meat processors have shown. Such incidents are expected to become more frequent and severe over time. If firms and

governments want to protect themselves, they will need to spend hundreds of billions of dollars on cybersecurity, adding to the costs that will be passed on to consumers.

These factors will add fuel to the political backlash against stark income and wealth inequalities, leading to more fiscal spending to support workers, the unemployed, vulnerable minorities, and the 'left behind'. Efforts to boost labor's income share relative to capital, however well-intentioned, imply more labor strife and a spiral of wage-price inflation.

Then there is Russia's war on Ukraine, which signals the return of zero-sum great-power politics. For the first time in many decades, we must account for the risk of large-scale military conflicts disrupting global trade and production. Moreover, the sanctions used to deter and punish state aggression are themselves stagflationary. Today, it is Russia against Ukraine and the West. Tomorrow, it could be Iran going nuclear, North Korea engaging in more nuclear brinkmanship, or China attempting to seize Taiwan. Any one of these scenarios could lead to a hot war with the US.

Finally, the weaponization of the US dollar — a central instrument in the enforcement of sanctions — is also stagflationary. Not only does it create severe friction in international trade in goods, services, commodities, and capital; it encourages US rivals to diversify their foreign-exchange reserves away from dollar-denominated assets. Over time, that process could sharply weaken the dollar (thus making US imports more costly and feeding inflation) and lead to the creation of regional monetary systems, further balkanizing global trade and finance.

Optimists may argue that we can still rely on technological innovation to exert disinflationary pressures over time. That may be true, but the technology factor is far outnumbered by the 11 stagflationary factors listed above. Moreover, the impact of technological change on aggregate productivity growth remains unclear in the data, and the Sino-Western decoupling will restrict the adoption of better or cheaper technologies globally, thereby increasing costs.

In any case, artificial intelligence, automation, and robotics are not an unalloyed good. If they improve to the point where they can create meaningful disinflation, they also would probably disrupt entire occupations and industries, widening already large wealth and income disparities. That would invite an even more powerful political backlash than the one we have already seen — with all the stagflationary policy consequences that are likely to result.

**THE TIMES**  
KUWAIT'S PREMIER WEEKLY NEWS MAGAZINE

To receive your  
**FREE Pdf** copy every week  
directly to your inbox,  
send an email to  
**subscribethetimes@gmail.com**

For latest News Updates please visit  
**www.timeskuwait.com**



EXCLUSIVE to THE TIMES KUWAIT

# Applying COVID blueprint to Cholera



**FIRDAUSI QADRI  
AND MD. TAUFIQUL ISLAM**

*Firdausi Qadri is Senior Scientist and Head of the Mucosal Immunology and Vaccinology Unit at the International Center for Diarrhoeal Disease Research in Dhaka.*

*Md. Taufiqul Islam is Deputy Project Coordinator in the Mucosal Immunology and Vaccinology Unit at the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research in Dhaka.*

world, cholera outbreaks are proliferating.

Whereas the SARS-CoV-2 virus is 'novel', cholera — a water-borne diarrheal disease caused by the bacteria *Vibrio cholerae* — is ancient, as is its history of widespread devastation. The current cholera pandemic is the world's seventh since the early nineteenth century.

Despite their apparent differences, COVID-19 and cholera have much in common. Both are at least partly controllable by vaccination, and both spread most easily in crowded, unsanitary environments. Ensuring adequate shelter and strengthening water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) practices and infrastructure are therefore vital to limit transmission.

These commonalities explain why measures to limit COVID-19, such as decreased travel and increased vigilance regarding personal hygiene, brought about a decline in cholera cases. But as the world's governments roll back pandemic restrictions, cholera is returning with a vengeance. At the end of 2021, there were 16 active cholera outbreaks around the world. Yet the response to COVID-19 still

Since COVID-19 engulfed the world two years ago, 'unprecedented' has become something of a buzzword. But while the coronavirus has posed unique challenges at a time of deep global interconnectedness, pandemics are nothing new. The COVID-19 pandemic is not even the only one we are currently experiencing. In much of the developing



holds valuable lessons for bolstering the fight against cholera — beginning with the importance of research to combat disease outbreaks. The emergence of SARS-CoV-2 triggered a massive and largely coordinated global research push, which enabled evidence-based decision-making at all levels of prevention and control. Initiatives like the World Health Organization's Global Research Roadmap for COVID-19 helped guide this effort, ensuring that resources were channeled to the areas where knowledge and innovation were most needed.

Research is no less important in the fight against cholera. That is why, last year, the Global Task Force on Cholera Control (GTFCC) launched the Cholera Roadmap Research Agenda. Representing the collective vision of 177 global cholera experts and other stakeholders, the agenda identifies the highest-priority research questions. Getting the answers is essential to achieving the goals set out in the GTFCC's Ending Cholera by 2030 global roadmap.

Many of the questions could just as easily be found in a COVID-19 research agenda. For example, what is the fastest, most cost-effective way to deliver a limited supply of vaccines? How can we enhance the uptake and sustainability of response measures to prevent the disease from reaching epidemic- or pandemic-level proportions? How do we engage meaningfully with at-risk communities in designing and implementing interventions? Which disease surveillance systems are the most effective, and when and where should they be deployed?

The questions may be the same, but the effort devoted to answering them has been very different. With COVID-19, strong political will and massive investment enabled researchers to produce answers quickly. Though cholera has been around much longer, solutions remain elusive. A key reason is that, whereas COVID-19 ravaged developed and developing countries alike, cholera was eradicated from the Global North more than 150 years ago. It is much harder to mobilize resources to tackle a disease affecting the world's poorest and most marginalized people.

With just a fraction of the commitment underpinning the fight against COVID-19, lifesaving progress could be made in cholera research. Epidemiological surveillance would enable the mapping of transmission patterns. New and innovative diagnostic tests could increase the speed,

efficiency, and quality of detecting and confirming cases. And new or improved vaccines would strengthen the connection between emergency response and long-term control and prevention.

Optimizing the timing and dosage of vaccines is essential, as is learning how to engage communities to ensure that the needs of marginalized populations are addressed. Transforming treatment for vulnerable communities requires studying the impact of antibiotics on cholera transmission, and understanding what enables, and blocks, integration of cholera treatment into case management by community health workers.

Equipped with this knowledge, countries and health partners would be better positioned to choose the most effective tools and approaches as they pursue their National Cholera Plans. This, in turn, would

“ Measures to limit COVID-19, such as decreased travel and increased vigilance over personal hygiene, brought about a decline in cholera cases. But as governments roll back pandemic restrictions, cholera is returning with a vengeance. ”

make it easier to attract additional funding, which would drive further progress.

We have learned so much during the COVID-19 pandemic. We have listened to our public-health officials and taken steps to limit the spread of the virus: wearing face masks, practicing social distancing, quarantining, getting vaccinated, and washing our hands more regularly. We must leverage this increased awareness and momentum to make further public-health gains, not just in our own communities, but worldwide. That means taking aim at other, much older scourges. We have the tools we need to defeat cholera, but we must still do the research that is required to identify how, when, and where to use them. Only then can we protect the world's most vulnerable populations from this old yet still virulent disease.



Join Us in Our New  
**Telegram Channel**

<https://t.me/thetimeskuwait>



For the latest news and updates please subscribe to our Telegram channel.

The Times Kuwait  
@thetimeskuwait

<https://t.me/thetimeskuwait>

Credible. Insightful.  
Accurate.  
The right news,  
right in time.



# Awareness, acceptance of Autism

The world commemorated World Autism Awareness Day on 2 April with the Member States of the United Nations once again reiterating their commitment to take measures to raise awareness about people with autism. Despite the passage of 15 years since it was adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2007, awareness of autism remains confined largely to the medical community, and among those involved in the well-being of the patient, including parents, relatives and caregivers.

## RAZIA NISSAR

Counseling Psychologist and  
Registered Behavioral Therapist (USA)

Autism rights advocates have long contested the naming of this day as World Autism Awareness Day, claiming that the emphasis on raising awareness in society tends to perpetuate discrimination against autistic people, and help feed the perceived notion that people suffering from this disorder are different from 'normal' people. The proponents of this view would rather have the day renamed as 'World Autism Acceptance Day', so as to encourage acceptance of autism and contribute to lessening prevailing prejudices against this lifelong developmental disorder, rather than merely raising awareness about it.

Irrespective of whether the UN day is named 'Autism Awareness', or 'Autism Acceptance', what is more important is for society to have more empathy and understanding on this debilitating disorder. Here we look into various aspects of autism, or autism spectrum disorder (ASD) as it is often referred to, and take a more in-depth look at what is now a widely recommended therapy to ameliorate this disability.

Autism is a lifelong developmental disorder that includes differences or challenges in developing social communication skills, thinking, speech and intellectual ability, as well as fine and gross motor skills — skills that most of us do without giving it a second thought, such as standing, running, eating or brushing one's teeth.

The symptoms of autism vary widely in type and severity and are usually seen in early childhood. Some common symptoms include repetitive movement, anxiety and atypical responses to sensory input like sound, smell or taste.

Early signs and symptoms of autism include:

- No babbling or pointing by age 1
- No single words by 16 months or two-word phrases by age 2
- No response to their name
- Loss of language and social skills
- Poor eye contact
- Excessive lining up of toys or objects
- No smiling or social responsiveness
- Unusual over or under responsiveness to sensory input such as touch, smell, taste, noise

It can be very tough for a parent to determine whether behaviors are symptoms of autism or just ordinary variations in development. How much is the lining up of toys excessive? How much desire for

repetition is normal? There is also the possibility that some developmental differences are caused by non-autism-related issues. For example, not responding to a name could very well be a symptom of hearing impairment. Late talking could be due to aphasia or apraxia of speech.

To properly diagnose autism, professionals like developmental pediatricians and clinical psychologists use a set of specific tests that actually measure a child's symptoms. They may also decide that the child should undergo further testing for hearing impairment or speech issues that are unrelated to autism.

Autism cannot be cured, so the goal is to help a person gain skills and better navigate daily life, including school, work, relationships etc. Every person with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) has different needs, so the treatment options will always be individual. Treatments might include, but are certainly not limited to, behavioral therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy.

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) is a relatively new type of therapy that teaches skills and proper behavior through reinforcement. It is commonly described as the gold standard for autism treatment and involves reinforcing desired behavior while discouraging unwanted behavior. To do this, therapists use rewards to encourage communication, language, and other skills.

In ABA, the therapist is not aiming to cure autism but to help parents empower their children to live fully and independently. ABA techniques not only focus on behavior but social and emotional skills as well, with the focus on teaching desirable behavior while reducing or extinguishing undesirable ones. For example, ABA may be used in autism to reduce tantrums, teach a child to sit quietly or use words to make requests. It can also be used to reward a child for simple and complex skills like brushing their teeth correctly or sharing a toy with a friend.

Some ways that ABA therapy can impact an individual's life includes;

- Acquiring and practicing social skills
- Decreasing problem behaviors
- Developing memory and cognitive abilities
- Improving emotional connection with other people
- Improving language and communication skills
- Improving attention and focus
- Learning daily living skills
- Managing feelings of aggression and anxiety

ABA therapy has become a widely used treatment approach in the treatment of autism and other conditions. It has been linked



ABA therapy. During this stage, the child or individual will meet with a therapist who observes, provides demands, and asks questions about strengths, weaknesses, needs and goals. Direct and indirect assessments will be implemented to come up with a holistic perspective that will identify the gaps that are needed to be worked on about the child. From this information, the professional will develop an individualized treatment plan.

Skills acquisition and behavior reduction plans use different techniques to work towards the individual goals. Treatment sessions can sometimes be as short as an hour, but they often last for several hours at a time based on the prescription of a certified ABA professional such as Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA).

to improvements in key areas including language, social skills and adaptive skills.

Studies have shown that long-term comprehensive ABA intervention treatment could help children with autism improve their

daily living and real-life skills, as well as social skills, in addition to language development and cognitive skills. These interventions could also help reduce aggression and anxiety to children and adolescents.

Assessment is the first step of



Eid Mubarak

10 KD ONLY

Eid Holidays

CHECK YOUR H PYLORI

**Package Includes**

- ✓ CBC
- ✓ FBS (Fasting blood sugar)
- ✓ SGPT (Liver screening)
- ✓ H. Pylori
- ✓ Stool Routine Analysis

**Package Benefits**

✓ **FREE** Free 5 FBS Coupons

✓ **FREE** Free GP Doctor Consultation

✓ **FREE** Free Badr Health Card

✓ **20%** 20% Discount on further Lab Investigations.

✓ **5%** 5% Discount on Medicines

**Valid from 29th April to 7th May 2022**



**BADR AL SAMAA**  
MEDICAL CENTRE  
*More than healthcare... humane care*

FOR ENQUIRIES CALL OR WHATSAPP ON

60689323 60683777 60968777

Farwaniya Block No 4, Street -39, Near Farwaniya Garden - Kuwait Tel: 24759250/70/80



EXCLUSIVE to THE TIMES KUWAIT



# Climate Leadership Needs More Women



**YVONNE AKI-SAWYERS**  
Mayor of Freetown, Sierra Leone.

**T**he higher you go; the fewer women there are'. This observation by the Nobel Peace Prize laureate and environmental trailblazer Wangari Maathai, reflects a reality familiar to all women who have aspired to leadership positions, and it has gained a new meaning for me as the climate crisis has intensified. Though it is already clear that women and girls will face higher risks and greater burdens because of climate change, they remain significantly underrepresented in climate and environmental negotiations.

In 2019, the United Nations Gender Composition Report noted that the number of women represented in UN Framework Convention on Climate Change bodies was not in line with efforts to create gender balance. In response, member states adopted a gender action plan at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP25) in 2019. The plan recognized that 'full, meaningful, and equal participation and leadership of women in all aspects of the UNFCCC process and in national- and local-level climate policy and action is vital for achieving long-term climate goals.'

And yet, by the time COP26 rolled around two years later, little had changed. The United Kingdom's COP26 presidency was predominantly male-led, and just 11 of the 74 African national representatives were women. Moreover, the UN Convention on Biological Diversity appears to be exhibiting a similar tendency, with male negotiators outnumbering women negotiators by around 60.

The failure to ensure equal representation and women's participation in efforts to tackle climate change and biodiversity loss is short-sighted, at best, and potentially reckless. The problem is also increasingly urgent. Last month, delegates from around the world gathered in Geneva for one of the final rounds of negotiations to conclude the new UN Global Biodiversity Framework. With the aim of accelerating action to halt further species loss and tackle climate change, these gatherings will shape the global response to both crises for years to come.

The latest reports from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change have demonstrated the scale of these crises. The IPCC has documented unequivocally that human activities are warming our planet's surface, leading to rapidly changing weather systems, biodiversity loss, and increased resource insecurity. By 2100, around

“

Women bring not just ambition but also different perspectives and experiences to the table. As a result, their contributions ultimately lead to more nuanced and inclusive environmental policies.

”

50 percent of Africa's bird and mammal species could disappear. We are potentially entering a sixth mass extinction, and if the problem is left unchecked, our sources of food, water, and medicine will be increasingly at risk.

Women comprise the majority of the world's poor and are disproportionately affected by these crises. In the developing world, they are overwhelmingly responsible for sourcing food and water for their families, and they often take the lead in fuel collection and household management. Women also make up nearly half of the world's smallholder farmers, producing 70 percent of Africa's food.

As such, women and girls are often the first to experience the harsh realities of climate change. But, owing to pervasive inequalities that limited their access to education and health care, unequal employment rates, and low rates of representation in public office, they are less likely than men to be able to participate in decision-making processes.

If the last two years have shown us anything, it is that women's leadership is critical in tumultuous times. According to a recent study of 194 countries, the immediate responses to the COVID-19 pandemic were systematically better in countries with women leaders. Similarly, research has found that 'female representation leads countries to adopt more stringent climate-change policies', and that a high degree of female representation in parliament makes it more likely that a country will ratify international

carbon development. In Rwanda, Minister of Environment Jeanne d'Arc Mujawamariya has won praise for her inclusive rainforest conservation efforts. In Chad, the environmental activist Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim continues to champion Africa's local communities and indigenous peoples at the highest levels of the UN. And here in Freetown, we are planting one million trees over three rainy seasons to promote climate resilience and green job creation.

All these women, including me, have championed '30x30', the global campaign to protect 30 percent of the world's surface by 2030. Meeting this objective would prevent further ecosystem destruction, and the effort could lead to the first-ever global agreement to halt the destruction of nature.

Many more women are tackling biodiversity loss and climate change, including indigenous women who are using their unique knowledge of the land to farm more sustainably and protect fragile ecosystems, and aspiring politicians running on integrated policy platforms linking reproductive health, education, and environmental protection. Those who are already in leadership positions must ensure that these women are given a chance to contribute.

Much has changed since 2004, when Maathai won the Nobel Peace Prize for her contributions to sustainable development, democracy, and peace. Emissions have surged, and extreme weather events have increased in frequency and intensity. But much has also stayed the same: women continue to be excluded from leadership positions, and the world continues to pay the price for it.

As the final negotiations for the new Global Biodiversity Framework continue, and as we approach this year's UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP15) in Kunming, China, we have a duty to address these failures. If we do not bring more women to the table, a climate disaster is almost certainly guaranteed.





EXCLUSIVE to THE TIMES KUWAIT

# Mechanism for Sovereign Debt Restructuring



**ANNE O. KRUEGER**

*A former World Bank chief economist, she is Senior Research Professor of International Economics at the Johns Hopkins University School and Senior Fellow at Stanford University.*

When the economy is going well, the poor benefit more than others. But when things are going badly, it is the poor who are hurt the most. This is especially true in the case of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has hit poor countries — and the poorest people within them — especially hard.

Some poor countries were facing economic difficulties before the pandemic, which intensified their troubles. Others were reasonably well managed, but suddenly faced the need for unanticipated expenditures. International support for this latter group can be highly productive. But for countries that already had big problems, financial assistance must be accompanied by economic-policy reforms if it is going to have any success.

Among heavily indebted countries with ill-advised economic-policy frameworks, Sri Lanka, a middle-income country, may currently be in the most trouble. Despite rapidly growing fiscal deficits and a foreign-exchange crisis that has caused severe shortages of food, medicine, and fuel, Sri Lankan authorities long continued to insist that they would service their debts at all costs, rather than approach the International Monetary Fund for support.

Sri Lanka's policy distortions date to 2019, when President Gotabaya Rajapaksa's new government enacted a large tax cut without making any corresponding cuts to expenditures. When foreign-exchange inflows became scarce last year, imports of pesticides and fertilizer were prohibited, and the harvest failed. COVID-19 sharply reduced revenues from tourism and drove up the prices of major imports, leading to critical supply shortages and large-scale street protests. Conditions have deteriorated to the point that, earlier this month, Sri Lanka finally suspended its debt service payments and approached the IMF.

Like many other highly indebted countries, Sri Lanka needs debt restructuring and policy reforms to ensure that the economy will not simply be crushed under some new



debt burden once the immediate crisis has passed. The international community has been dealing with debt restructuring on a case-by-case basis. Sovereign creditors, cooperating through the Paris Club, have followed the IMF's framework for policy reform, providing poor indebted countries with feasible roadmaps for improving their economic performance and achieving debt sustainability through restructuring. This approach is sound, but its ad hoc nature makes it incomplete.

The experience following the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Initiative earlier this century shows why debt

be met. Among the earlier HIPC countries, there are many that borrowed heavily again even before the pandemic. Ghana, for example, currently has a debt-to-GDP ratio of 62 percent, even though it received HIPC relief in 2001-05 and again in 2015-18.

Looking ahead, informal efforts to address debt distress are likely to be more cumbersome and time-consuming than in the past, because lending to sovereigns has increased — both absolutely and as a percentage of total indebtedness — and because there are so many more creditor countries now. China, in particular, has emerged as a major creditor outside the

them. While they would take a haircut, India and China might still insist on being repaid in full out of funds lent to Sri Lanka by the international community.

To address this collective action problem, all creditor countries (including China) will need to come together to agree on an arrangement that delivers both improved economic performance and future debt sustainability in debtor countries. This should be done in cooperation with the IMF. The international financial architecture has always lacked a mechanism to facilitate such arrangements. But in the past, private creditors and those in the Paris Club could meet and agree to a restructuring (in the context of an IMF program).

That is no longer the case today. With many countries in imminent need of financial resources and debt restructuring, all major creditor countries urgently need to come together to launch a new facility to oversee debt restructurings in close coordination with IMF reform programs. Such an agreement would benefit debtor countries, creditor countries, and the world economy.

Yes, the international community has much on its plate. Multilateral institutions such as the World Trade Organization also desperately need reform. But a well-functioning international mechanism for debt restructuring is by far the most urgent need. It should be at the top of the international agenda.

“ Sovereign creditors have followed the IMF's framework for policy reform, providing poor indebted countries with feasible roadmaps for improving their economic performance and achieving debt sustainability through restructuring. ”

restructuring must be made conditional on carrying out a robust reform program. The HIPC allowed for the cancellation of sovereign obligations to bilateral and multilateral creditors once a country had followed its agreed reform program for at least a year. If it was judged to have made 'sufficient progress' toward the program's goals, no further conditionalities needed to

Paris Club.

In Sri Lanka's case, it is estimated that 20 percent of outstanding debt is held by China and India, neither of which is a member of the Paris Club (though India is an observer). Without these two large creditors' participation, all the other government and private creditors would be running a big risk if they agreed to reduce the debts owed to

## Awareness, acceptance of Autism

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

Therapists may use different methods of ABA in treating patients. Some examples of ABA strategies include:

**Discrete Trial Training (DTT):** Also known as Lovaas Program, it breaks down lessons into simple tasks. Each task is rewarded with positive reinforcement for correct behavior. Three components of this process include:

An instruction; The response; and a corresponding Consequence

**Early Intensive Behavioral Intervention (EIBI):** This approach may be used in young children to teach social adaptive, communication, and functional skills. It is

usually highly individualized, intensive, and comprehensive.

**Early Start Denver Model (ESDM):** This technique is based on ABA and is often used for children with autism between the age of 48 months to age 12. It utilizes play activities to help foster cognitive, social and language skills.

**Natural Environment Teaching:** After people have acquired skills through DTT, they then begin learning and practicing those skills in a more natural environment. For example, a child may learn a specific skill and then begin practicing it at home or in school.

**Caregiver Training:** Involves offering support and training to parents and other caregivers and family members. Therapists teach parents and family members skills and strategies that



will help maintain desirable behavior in the home, school, and community settings.

ABA Therapy can be used for a variety of condition including:

- Anxiety disorders
- Attention difficulty hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)
- Autism spectrum disorder
- Borderline personality disorder (BPD)
- Developmental disorder
- Obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD)
- Post-Traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)

A wide variety of activities are being pushed across the world to promote care, welfare, and inclusivity for children and adults with autism. By lighting it up blue on each World Autism Day, we can spark a ray of hope and promote awareness and acceptance of society towards individuals with autism.



# THE TIMES

KUWAIT'S PREMIER WEEKLY NEWS MAGAZINE



**More Insight**  
Just the right amount of news

THE WHOLE WEEK IN ONE MAGAZINE



Send an email to  
**subscribethetimes@gmail.com**  
to receive your free copy every week directly to your inbox

For latest News Updates please visit  
**www.timeskuwait.com**



Join the Conversation



@timeskuwait



@thetimesq8



@thetimeskuwait



@thetimeskuwait