

Politics



High Council of State rejects budget approved by HoR



The Head of the High Council of State, Mohammed Takala, expressed his complete rejection of the House of Representatives' (HoR) approval of the general budget worth 179 billion dinars, calling on all stakeholders to appeal the budget before the law, adding in a letter to the Speaker of the HoR on Thursday, that the budget approval session witnessed serious violations, which were expressed by the members of the HoR themselves on various media outlets. Takala said that the violations reduce the actions issued by the HoR in that closed session to the point of nonexistence - meaning that passing the budget law wouldn't be approved. He also said that there was a lack of commitment to

refer the draft budget law to the High Council of State, to express a binding opinion on it, in accordance with what is specified in the texts of the Libyan Political Agreement of 2015. "The House of Representatives' persistence in its unilateral measures and arrangements to manage public affairs will only lead to further division and waste of public resources and capabilities," Takala said, warning of the seriousness of this matter and its repercussions, and holding those responsible for it and its negative effects on society and the future of the country totally accountable for the results. He stressed that the HCS did not take into account the decisions that resulted

from the last session of representatives, and considered them to have no legal effect because they did not meet the rules for approving the budget law. Two days ago, Takala asked HoR Speaker to refer the draft state budget law for the year 2024 to the HCS to study it and provide him with an opinion on it. In a letter addressed to Saleh, he indicated his intention to object to the law and appeal it if it is approved without consulting the HCS. On Wednesday, the House of Representatives voted in favor of adopting the largest budget in the history of Libya, worth 179 billion dinars, after adding an allocation of about 88 billion dinars to it.

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HoR approves Libya's general budget for 2024 worth 179 billion dinars



The House of Representatives (HoR) voted unanimously to approve the state budget for the year 2024, worth 179 billion dinars, submitted by the parallel government. According to HoR sources, the approved budget included 88 billion as an additional budget, which the members voted on in Tuesday's closed session in Benghazi. The HoR session to approve the budget sparked widespread local controversy, which began with 6 members of the High Financial Oversight Committee, representing the Presidential Council, the High Council of State, and the Government of National Unity, announcing their reservations about not having been informed of the proposed budget law, stressing that they were not responsible for this proposal. The Head of the Presidential Council, Mohammed Menfi, called on the Head of the High Council of State and the Governor of the Central Bank of Libya to work on unifying the country's general budget, stressing the importance of adhering to the consti-

tutional reference and respecting the legislation in force. He pointed out to the necessity of binding consultation from the executive authority with the High Council of State before submitting the draft law to the House of Representatives for approval, noting that the approval of the House of Representatives must be by the constitutional majority prescribed for the draft budget law. The Head of the High Council of State, Mohammed Takala, also had reservations about the steps taken by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Aqila Saleh, demanding that the draft state budget law for the year 2024 be referred to the High Council of State for study, stressing that they would reject the budget law and appeal it if it was approved without consultation. Saleh discussed, last Saturday, with the Governor of the Central Bank of Libya, during their first meeting in years, in the Egyptian capital, Cairo, steps to approve the budget.



Politics

Bodies of 12 Syrians who set off on EU quest from Libya found in Algerian desert

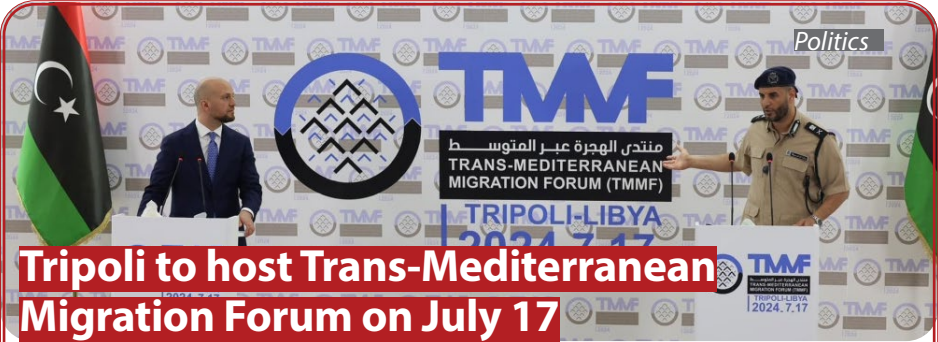
The Algerian authorities found the bodies of 12 Syrians and two Algerians in the desert near the border with Libya, after they had illegally entered the country in the hope of later immigrating to European countries.

The non-governmental Relief Search and Rescue Association in the Algerian city of Tamnasset revealed the details of the incident after publishing a list of names and data of the victims, saying that a four-wheel-drive vehicle was found in the Hassi-Belfour area last Friday, with a number of bodies next to it, after it was reported missing last Tuesday, pointing out that the main cause of death was loss and thirst under harsh weather conditions.

The organization said that it had identified the victims as two Algerians and 12 Syrians, including a 10-year-old and a 16-year-old boys, saying that among them were people born in 2003, 2006 and 2008, adding that the Syrian victims were recovered from the area, which is about 70 kilometers from Burj Omar Idris, which is near Libya. Details of the victims' data indicated that all of them were males.

The Syrian embassy assigned Bassam Farroukh, a human rights activist, member of the International Organization for Human Rights, and member of the Syrian community in Algeria, to follow up on the procedures. He explained that the victims set off from Libya last Tuesday toward Algeria, but the driver lost his way, and they were found on Saturday after they got lost in the Sahara Desert.

According to Farroukh, the number of Syrians on the trip was 17 people, so the search is still underway for five missing people who are believed to have also died, noting that the bodies of the victims are in Burj Omar Idriss Hospital (1,300 km southeast of Algiers), adding that the Syrian embassy in Algiers informed the families of the deceased and said that it was ready to facilitate the transportation of the bodies if they decided to bury them in Syria.



Politics

Tripoli to host Trans-Mediterranean Migration Forum on July 17

The Libyan Minister of State for Communication and Political Affairs in the Government of National Unity, Walid Al-Lafi, has said that the Trans-Mediterranean Migration Forum (TMMF) would be held on July 17 in the capital, Tripoli, with the participation of heads of state and ministers of interior of different countries.

Al-Lafi added during a press conference with Interior Minister Emad Al-Trabelsi that the TMMF would take place for one day with the aim of coming up with practical solutions to the immigration file. He considered the TMMF a strategic vision on the immigration issue in cooperation with European and African countries. Italy, Malta, Niger, Chad, Spain, Greece, the Czech Republic, Sudan, Algeria, Tunisia, and the Netherlands will participate in the forum, in addition to the League of Arab States, the African Union, and the European Union.

Meanwhile, Interior Minister Emad

Al-Trabelsi said that the immigration crisis had worsened in Libya over the past 10 years and reached its peak in 2024. He said the number of illegal immigrants in Libya, according to Al-Trabelsi, reached 2.5 million, indicating that Libya had turned from a transit country to a country of settlement for immigrants. Al-Trabelsi expressed his categorical rejection of the resettlement of immigrants, considering the issue a matter of national security in Libya. He stressed that the state would not take any action in the immigration file unless it was in the interest of Libya, calling on the "army forces" in the east to cooperate with the Interior Ministry in securing the southern border. The Interior Minister also said that the Ministry would issue official residency identification cards for workers in Libya in the next stage, considering that "the time has come to solve the immigrant problem."



Politics

Menfi says passing public budget law requires threeun separated constitutional conditions

The Head of Presidential Council Mohammed Menfi said that approving a general budget law requires three inseparable constitutional requirements: the first there is a draft proposal for the law submitted to the jurisdiction of the executive authority, the second is a binding consultation with the High Council of State, and the third is the approval of the budget by 120 members of the House of Representatives.

This came in a post on X by Menfi, who reiterated the importance of consensus between representatives of national institutions concerned with determining public spending priorities.

Meanwhile, six members of the joint fi-

ancial committee formed by the House of Representatives announced that they had not been informed about the draft unified budget law, stressing that they were not responsible for the proposal scheduled to be discussed in the parliament session on Tuesday.

These developments came after the Governor of the Central Bank of Libya, Al-Siddiq Al-Kabir, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Aqila Saleh, discussed on Saturday the steps to adopt the unified budget for the year 2024. This discussion was during a meeting held in Cairo in the presence of the Deputy Governor of the Central Bank, Marie Miftah Raheel.



Indonesian embassy holds meeting with Libyan businesspeople

The Indonesian embassy in Tripoli organized Sunday a business dinner, inviting the President of the Tripoli Chamber of Commerce and Industry and businesspeople interested in the Indonesian market, to introduce the "Expo Indonesia 2024" event, which will be held in the capital, Jakarta, next October.

In a speech he delivered at the opening of the meeting, the Consul General of Indonesia to Libya, stressed Indonesia's desire to strengthen cooperation with Libya in all fields, especially the economic and commercial ones, noting that this event, which was launched 35 years ago, began to witness participation by an increasing number of Libyan businesspeople interested in exploring the Indonesian market, which is characterized by its diverse fields and products.

The Consul revealed that the volume of trade exchange between Libya and Indonesia increased by (200%), jumping from 53.4 million dollars in 2022, to about 174.2 million dollars in 2023, as the areas covered by the trade exchange focused on importing (vehicles, food, stationery and paper, and spare parts).

The Head of the Tripoli Chamber of Commerce and Industry stressed the importance of consolidating trade cooperation between the two countries, stressing the existence of a number of agreements awaiting activation, especially in the field of trade exchange in the field of fishing.

Expo Indonesia 2024, in its 39th edition, will be held in the capital, Jakarta, on October 9-12, and many events will be held on its sidelines, including the Indonesia-Africa Forum.



Economy

Tunisia, UNECA discuss Tunisian-Libyan continental trade corridor

Tunisian Minister of Trade, Kalthoum Ben Rejeb, held talks with UNECA's Assistant Executive Secretary, Hanan Morsi, and North Africa Regional Director, Adam Elhiraika, on the progress of the Tunisian-Libyan continental trade corridor project.

The meeting, held in Tunis, focused on enhancing partnerships between Tunisia and UNECA and reviewing the project aimed at promoting economic integration and regional cohesion.

The corridor, starting from the Ben Guerdane Free Trade and Logistics Zone and the Ras Jedir border crossing -the largest land crossing in the continent- will link Tunisia and Libya with five landlocked African countries, including Chad, Niger, Mali, Burkina Faso, and the Central African Republic, fostering increased trade exchange across the region.



Economy

CBL publishes expenditure and revenue of state institutions in first half of 2024

The Central Bank of Libya published the expenditure of state institutions for the first six months of 2024, saying that the House of Representatives and its affiliated bodies spent 496 million, the Presidential Council 230 million and the Government of National Unity 1 billion dinars.

The Central Bank of Libya revealed that it distributed 5.3 billion dinars to banks in July, and the total cash liquidity it distributed during the first half of the year reached 32 billion dinars.

The Central Bank issued the monthly statement of public revenues and expenditure last Thursday, and it covered the period extending from 01/01/2024 to 06/30/2024. It said revenues amounted to 45 billion dinars and spending to 43 billion.



Economy

Al-Waha Oil Company's production reached 322,000 bpd

The National Oil Corporation (NOC) announced on Tuesday, that Al-Waha Company oil production reached 322,000 barrels of oil per day, compared to 280,000 barrels per day last year.

The NOC indicated that this comes within the framework of its plan to increase production rates, according to a statement on its Facebook page.

According to the Central Bank of Libya recent data, Al-Waha Company will lead the list of oil producing companies in Libya during the year 2023. The company produced 102.2 million barrels during this year, an increase of 8.5 million barrels (9%) over the year 2022.

Economy

The **INDEPENDENT**

Libya denies bankruptcy rumors, accuses "The Independent" of bias

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Government of National Unity refuted claims of impending bankruptcy, criticizing The Independent newspaper for bias towards one political faction in Libya.

In a statement Monday, the ministry highlighted inaccuracies in the The Independent report, noting the absence of official statements and reliance on unverified analyses. It emphasized Libya's strong economic position and projected growth of 8% for 2024, citing international reports from institutions like the IMF.

The ministry also questioned the impartiality of The Independent, accusing it of political bias.

It indicated that the newspaper's association with a prominent media organization and the author's ties to a political party-affiliated channel suggested a partisan agenda, rendering the content of the article as unsubstantiated political accusations.

It highlighted the newspaper's association with a prominent media organization and the author's ties to a political party-affiliated channel, hinting at a partisan agenda and rendering the content of the article as unsubstantiated political accusations.

Economy

CBL reviews with European ambassadors approving Libya's unified budget

The Governor of the Central Bank of Libya, Al-Siddiq Al-Kabir, discussed with a number of European ambassadors to Libya the issue of approving a unified budget and developments in unifying the Central Bank.

This discussion came during a video meeting on Wednesday with the ambassadors of the European countries to Libya: Sweden, Austria, Belgium, Germany, Denmark, Spain, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Malta, the Netherlands, Hungary, according to a statement published by the Central Bank on Facebook.

The statement added that the meeting came within the framework of periodic meetings to discuss the latest developments in the economic and financial situation and ways to support Libyan institutions in maintaining financial sustainability as well as financial and monetary stability.

The meeting tackled the role of European Union countries in supporting reconstruction and economic development projects in all fields, and building the human and institutional capabilities of the Central Bank of Libya as well as the rest of state institutions.

On Wednesday, the House of Representatives approved the largest budget in the history of Libya, worth 179 billion dinars, after additional budget of approximately 89 billion dinars was added to it, in light of an expected deficit that could reach 33 billion dollars, according to economic experts.



Health

Al-Kabir, Abu Janah discuss localizing oncology treatment at home

The Governor of the Central Bank of Libya (CBL), Al-Siddiq Al-Kabir, has held talks with the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Health, Ramadan Abu Janah, on the latest developments in localization of oncology treatment at home.

The CBL media office explained that the meeting discussed several issues related to the health sector, including improving the services of dialysis centers.

The meeting also touched on coordinating efforts to ensure the provision and distribution of medicines according to the actual need.



Health

PM Dbeibeh stresses urgency in public tender execution

Prime Minister Abdulhamid Dbeibeh has emphasized the urgent need to implement all provisions of the public tender, focusing on direct contracts with pharmaceutical manufacturers and streamlining documentation processes to ensure timely completion.

During a meeting with Acting Health Minister Ramadan Abu Jinnah and key health and financial officials, Dbeibeh addressed the progress and challenges of the public tender and reiterated the importance of the national project, which has been stalled for years.

He highlighted the necessity of completing the installation of the drug distribution system by the General Information Authority and mandated that distribution and monitoring be conducted exclusively through this system.

The PM also directed the National Cancer Control Authority to coordinate with relevant bodies to ensure the provision of necessary medications for cancer patients.

Meanwhile, the Chairman of the Public Tender Committee confirmed significant progress, especially in cancer, diabetes, and kidney medications, and assured commitment to contracting with global manufacturers to ensure product quality.



Health

1st Libyan International Pharmacy Conference kicks off in Tripoli

The first Libyan International Pharmacy Conference, organized by the Ministry of Health, commenced on Saturday in Tripoli under the theme "Economics and Challenges of the Pharmaceutical Industry."

The conference aims to enhance cooperation and exchange experiences in the field of pharmacy among local, regional, and international stakeholders.

Over the course of two days, the conference will address various issues related to the development of the pharmacy sector, including opportunities for localizing drug manufacturing, local pharmaceutical manufacturing experiences, the suitability of pharmaceutical economics for decision-makers, medical supply chains, pharmaceutical product registration, the application of "GS1" standards in the pharmaceutical supply chain, and the European model for developing generic pharmaceutical products.

The event also features panel discussions where experts and decision-makers will discuss various topics related to the challenges of local drug manufacturing.





Sports

Al-Nasser, Al-Ahly Tripoli remain on top of six-team league' standings

Al-Nasser won the derby match of Benghazi, after beating Al-Ahly Benghazi 2-1 in the second round of the six-team league to win the Libyan Premier League on Wednesday at the Partigno Lombardi Stadium in the city of Avellino.

Sudanese defender Bakhit Khamis scored Al-Nasser's first goal in the 79th minute, and in the 87th minute, Sudanese Al-Jazouli Noah made it 2-0. Al-Ahly Benghazi put back one goal in stoppage time of the match.

The win was Al-Nasser's second in a row and thus it achieved six points on top of the standings behind Al-Ahly Tripoli on goal difference, while Al-Ahly Benghazi's score remains at one point from two matches.

Al-Ahly Tripoli also won its second match and secured the first spot with six points beating Al-Sweihli 3-1. Al-Sweihli took the lead with a goal in the last minute of the first half by Mohammed Al-Mangoush, but the second half witnessed a comeback from Al-Ahly Tripoli, as Ahmed Karwa scored the equalizer in the 55th minute, while in the 63rd minute, Al-Ahly took the lead with the second goal from the penalty spot, scored by goalkeeper Mohammed Nashnoush, before Ahmed Karwa sealed Al-Ahly's win with a goal from another penalty kick in the 72nd minute. Al-Sweihli remains with zero points in two matches.

The last match of the second round was a 0-0 draw between Al-Madina and Al-Hilal, bringing Al-Hilal to two points and Al-Madina to one point in the standings.

Education

Tripoli Teachers Union condemns accusation of all teachers in exams cheating



The Tripoli Teachers Union has expressed rejection over the statements of the Director of the National Center for Examinations, Ahmed Masoud.

In a statement issued on Thursday, the union confirmed that they condemn the phenomenon of cheating in all its forms, and demands that the harshest penalties be taken against those proven to practice it, but it refuses to generalize it to all teachers.

The statement explained that the success rate in the exams, which does not exceed 60%, is evidence that a large number of committees and teachers are performing their duties to the fullest extent, suggesting to provide solutions for combating cheating such as installing cameras in exam halls.

The Tripoli Teachers Union indicated that exam conditions pose dangers to teachers, as they are exposed to attacks, verbal abuse, and destruction of their property.

The Director of the National Center for Examinations, Ahmed Masoud, submitted his resignation from his position on Wednesday, due to the spread of cheating in exams.

Education

Examination Center launches service for reviewing answer sheets for preparatory certificate exams

The National Examinations Center announced Sunday, launching a service for displaying answer sheets for the first round of preparatory certificate exams through the exam results website.

The center explained that students and their parents can now review their answer

sheets and verify the grades they obtained in the exam.

It pointed out that any students can contest the results through the Examinations Office of their Education Monitoring Office, from Sunday 7 July until the end of work next Thursday, July 11.

Sports

Libya Championship for Optimist and Windsurfing concludes 1st round in Zuwara

The first round of the Libya Championship for Optimist and Windsurfing classes wrapped up in Zuwara, west of Tripoli, on Sunday.

The championship, hosted by the Rimal Club in Zuwara, saw the participation of 12 clubs from various Libyan cities.

The three-day event, organized by the Liby-

an Sailing and Marine Sports Federation, is part of the Libya Sailing Championship series for the 2023-2024 sports season.

The Libyan Sailing and Marine Sports Federation has yet to announce the date for the second and final round of the championship, which is expected to take place before the end of 2024.

Opinions

Tripoli: A City of Potential and Progress Amidst Challenges

By **Mohamed Abaid**, Independent Libyan Analyst

Tripoli, the capital of Libya, often ranks low on global livability indexes, but this perspective doesn't capture the full story. Significant improvements and positive developments have taken place in recent years, demonstrating the city's resilience and potential. This comprehensive report will highlight the progress made in infrastructure, economic growth, security, and other vital areas, illustrating why Tripoli is not as bad as commonly perceived.

Infrastructure Improvements

One of the most notable advancements in Tripoli is the substantial improvement in its power infrastructure. The General Electricity Company of Libya (GECOL) has successfully increased the city's power generation capacity, effectively eliminating blackouts. This achievement is pivotal for both residents and businesses, ensuring a more stable and reliable power supply.

Additionally, Tripoli is witnessing significant road construction projects aimed at improving urban mobility and reducing traffic congestion. The Third Ring Road Project, located within the Abu Salim municipality, is a monumental step towards bolstering urban development and facilitating smoother transit across the city. This project, part of the "Return of Life" initiative, promises to enhance connectivity and pave the way for socio-economic opportunities.

Moreover, the Bab Qargaresh marine road project is another key development designed to alleviate congestion in the capital. This new road, extending from the Souq Al-Thulatha crossroad to the Oil Institute, is expected to be a vital alternate route, easing traffic flow and improving accessibility within Tripoli.

Economic Potential and Growth

Tripoli serves as the economic hub of Libya, with substantial potential for economic growth driven by its vast oil and gas reserves. The city's strategic location enhances its role as a critical player in the regional economy. Recent political stability has led to increased oil production and economic activities, with

the National Oil Corporation (NOC) playing a crucial role in boosting oil output and providing significant revenue for the country's development.

The reconstruction of Tripoli International Airport, set to be completed in 2024, is a landmark project that will further enhance the city's connectivity to the Mediterranean and the world. Once completed, the airport will serve over six million passengers annually, significantly boosting Tripoli's economic and tourism prospects.

Security and Stability

In terms of security, Tripoli has made considerable strides in ensuring a safer environment for its residents. The improved political stability following recent agreements has reduced conflicts and increased efforts towards maintaining law and order. These advancements have fostered a more secure environment, encouraging both local and international investments in the city's infrastructure and economy.

Cultural and Social Vibrancy

Despite the challenges, Tripoli remains rich in culture and history, home to numerous historical sites, museums, and cultural institutions. The city's vibrant social life is evident in its bustling markets, festivals, and social gatherings. This cultural richness not only enhances the quality of life for its residents but also attracts tourists and scholars interested in Libya's heritage.

Conclusion

While Tripoli faces significant challenges, particularly in infrastructure and political stability, it is a city with immense potential and ongoing improvements. The strides made in power generation, road construction, economic growth, and security paint a more optimistic picture of its livability. Tripoli is not as bad as it is often portrayed; instead, it is a city on the path to recovery and development, with the potential to become a vibrant and thriving urban center.

Cartoon

We need power Mr. Dbeibah



Tripoli Weather Forecast



Photo of the Week

