

Airport Blast Survivor Thanks Kuwaiti Rescuer

A panic swept through Kuwait International Airport following the June 3 attack, Egyptian expatriate Mamdouh Abdel Aleem said survival became his only focus.

"I didn't feel any pain," Mamdouh recalled from his hospital bed. "I was only focused on surviving. Later, I discovered I had been bleeding from the injury without even noticing."

In the immediate aftermath of the explosion, a Kuwaiti citizen rushed to help him, providing first aid and securing his injured arm until emergency responders arrived.

"I will never forget what he did for me," Mamdouh said. "He stood beside me from the very beginning and even visited me later in the hospital to check on my condition."

Mamdouh, who has under-

gone three surgeries since the attack, praised the support and medical care he has received during his recovery.

"I have not experienced any shortcomings from any side," he said. "The medical care has been exceptional, and the support I received from Kuwait, both the government and the people, has meant a great deal to me."

He also denied rumours circulating on social media claiming that his arm had been amputated as a result of the injuries. While confirming that he sustained serious shrapnel wounds requiring multiple operations, he described the reports as inaccurate.

Beyond the physical injuries, Mamdouh said the attack left a deep psychological impact on many workers at the airport.



Kuwait Airport situation after the attack on June 03

One of his colleagues escaped without physical harm but suffered severe emotional distress after witnessing the scenes unfold.

As he continues his recovery, Mamdouh said he remains

grateful for the care and solidarity shown to him in the aftermath of the attack. His experience reflects the human cost of conflict, where ordinary lives can be permanently changed in a matter of moments.

India, Kuwait discuss expanded sports and youth cooperation



India and Kuwait discussed ways to deepen cooperation in sports and youth engagement during a high-level meeting between Indian Ambassador Paramita Tripathi and Kuwait's Minister of State for Sports and Youth Affairs, H.E. Dr. Tareq Al-Jalal.

The talks focused on strengthening bilateral collaboration through the implementation of the Executive Programme on Sports Cooperation, which was signed during the visit of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Kuwait in December 2024.

Both sides explored future

opportunities for exchanges, training programmes, sporting events, and youth-focused initiatives aimed at enhancing people-to-people ties and professional development in the sports sector.

The discussions also included cooperation on the International Day of Yoga (IDY) 2026 in Kuwait, highlighting a shared commitment to promoting sports, holistic health, and wellness initiatives.

Officials from both countries reaffirmed their interest in expanding collaboration in areas that support youth empowerment and strengthen cultural and sporting connections.

Youth are "pillar of Gulf future"

GCC stresses long-term investment in youth empowerment

● Youth seen as key to sustainable development goals

● Initiatives aim to boost skills, entrepreneurship and participation

● GCC Secretariat continues coordination of youth-focused policies



ple in driving development across member states.

He said the day represents an important opportunity to recognise the contributions of Gulf youth in various fields, describing them as key partners in the region's comprehensive development journey.

Al-Budaiwi noted that GCC countries, guided by

their leaders, continue to place strong emphasis on empowering young people through laws, policies, and national initiatives aimed at developing skills and strengthening capabilities.

He added that these efforts are designed to prepare youth to respond to emerging chal-

lenges while taking advantage of opportunities across different sectors, including economic and social development.

The GCC Secretariat, he said, is continuing its work to support joint Gulf youth initiatives by improving coordination between member states, sharing expertise, and organising programmes that encourage innovation, entrepreneurship, and community engagement.

He also pointed to significant achievements across GCC countries in the youth sector, saying they reflect the leadership's commitment to investing in young people as a driving force for sustainable development.

The Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) has said that young people across the region are a "fundamental

pillar" in shaping the future of Gulf states and achieving their national visions.

Speaking on the occasion of Gulf Youth Day, observed annually on 6 June, GCC Secretary-General Jassim Mohammed Al-Budaiwi highlighted the growing role of young peo-

UAE, South Africa discuss regional tension

Abu Dhabi's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, held a phone call with South Africa's Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Ronald Lamola, to review recent regional and international developments.

According to official sources, the two ministers discussed the broader implications of Iranian attacks targeting civilian sites

and infrastructure. The conversation highlighted concerns over the potential impact on maritime security, global energy supplies, and the wider international economy.

Both sides reportedly expressed concern about rising tensions and their possible effects on international shipping routes and stability in the Gulf region and beyond.

The call also included a re-



importance of continued cooperation and dialogue between the two countries across political and economic fields.

Officials said the discussion reflected shared interest in

maintaining regional stability and supporting global efforts to reduce escalation risks.

view of bilateral relations between the United Arab Emirates and South Africa. The two ministers reaffirmed the

Lebanon launches redevelopment of Qlayaat airport in north

● First aircraft lands at airport as rehabilitation work officially begins

● Initiative comes amid ongoing regional security tensions

Lebanon has officially launched the redevelopment of Rene Mouwad Airport in Qlayaat, a long-unused facility in the country's north, as authorities move towards reopening it as a second civilian airport.

The project is seen as an effort to reduce reliance on Beirut's Raf-

ic Hariri International Airport, which has long been Lebanon's only operational passenger gateway amid years of political instability and security concerns.

Officials say the reopening of the northern airport could improve connectivity and restore some of Lebanon's regional aviation standing, which declined sharply following the outbreak of the civil war in 1975.

Prime Minister Nawaf Salam attended the launch ceremony in Akkar, arriving at the airport alongside Public Works and Transport Minister Fayez



Prime Minister Nawaf Salam aboard the flight to Rene Mouwad Airport at Qlayaat. (Photo: Lebanese Government)

Rasamny. Government media said their aircraft was the first to land on the runway as part of the inauguration of rehabilitation works.

Interior Minister Ahmad Hajjar and Defence Minister Michel Menassa also attended the event, arriving separately by military helicopter.

The redevelopment comes at a sensitive time for Lebanon, as the country continues to face security tensions linked to the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hezbollah, although large-scale strikes have recently subsided in the capital.

Beirut airport itself has remained operational but is located near southern suburbs that have been repeatedly targeted in past conflicts, raising long-standing concerns over vulnerability and disruption.

Kuwait foils new drug trafficking method using A4



Kuwait's General Department for Drug Control arrested an Egyptian national after seizing 140 A4 sheets soaked in psychotropic substances and narcotic materials, which authorities described as a new drug trafficking method.

Security officials said the operation is part of ongoing efforts to combat drug promotion and distribution using unconventional techniques aimed at evading

detection. According to authorities, the suspect possessed the sheets, which were prepared for trafficking and consumption. The case is now being referred to the relevant legal authorities for further action.

Officials said the operation reflects continued vigilance against emerging drug smuggling methods and reiterated their commitment to dismantling narcotics distribution networks.

Qatar condemns Israeli strike on Lebanese Army patrol

The State of Qatar strongly condemned an Israeli attack that targeted a Lebanese Army patrol on the Khardali-Nabatieh road in southern Lebanon, killing two officers and a soldier.

In a statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Qatar described the strike as a "dangerous escalation" and a "flagrant violation" of Lebanon's sovereignty, as well as a breach of international law.

The ministry urged the international community to assume its responsibilities and pressure Israeli authorities to halt what it called repeated attacks on Lebanon. It also called for accountability in line with international agreements and



full implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1701.

Qatar reaffirmed its support for Lebanon's unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity, and expressed solidarity with the Lebanese government and people.

It also extended condolences to the families of those killed in the incident.