

Alba showcases agro initiatives



Alba team at the Bahrain International Garden Show 2017

DT News Network Manama

Aluminium Bahrain A.B.S.C. (Alba), the Bahrain-based international aluminium smelter, underlined its commitment towards Bahrain's green initiatives by supporting and participating in the Bahrain International Garden Show (BIGS), which will

conclude on February 26 at the Bahrain International Convention & Exhibition Centre.

Wife of His Majesty the King & Supreme Council for Women Chairwoman HRH Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa was welcomed by Alba's Chief Operations Officer Amin Sultan, Chief Marketing

Officer Khalid A. Latif and Administration Director Waleed Tamimi at Alba's Stand, which highlighted agricultural initiatives and projects introduced recently at Alba's HRH Princess Sabeeka Oasis.

"Bahrain International Garden Show has become one of the most outstanding garden shows in the world,

whilst having a huge impact on the people of Bahrain. We are proud of our association with this premier event over the years. Our support for BIGS is an expression of the Company's corporate social responsibility towards sustainable development in the Kingdom of Bahrain," Alba's Chief Executive Officer Tim Murray said.

Ex-IMF chief jailed for fraud

Madrid Former IMF chief Rodrigo Rato was handed a jail sentence of four years and six months Thursday for misusing funds when he was the boss of two Spanish banks.

Spain's National Court, which deals with corruption and financial crime cases, said he had been found guilty of "embezzlement" when he headed up Caja Madrid and Bankia, at a time when both groups were having difficulties.

Rato, who is also a former Spanish economy minister, was on trial with 64 other former executives and board members at both banks accused of misusing 12 million euros (\$12.7 million) between 2003 and 2012 -- sometimes splashing out at the height of Spain's economic crisis.

They were accused of having paid for personal expenses with credit cards put at their disposal by both Caja Madrid and Bankia, without ever justifying them or declaring them to tax authorities.

According to the

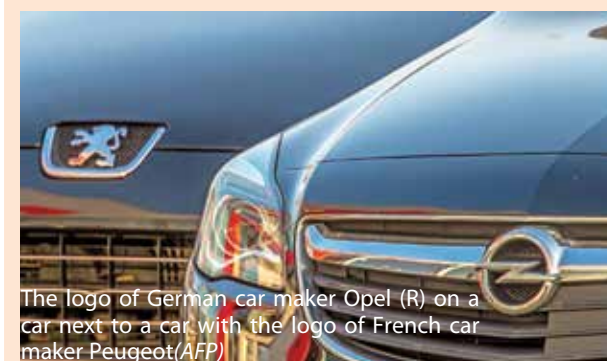


Rodrigo Rato indictment, Rato maintained the "corrupt system" established by his predecessor Miguel Blesa when he took the reins of Caja Madrid in 2010.

He then replicated the system when he took charge of Bankia, a group born in 2011 out of the merger of Caja Madrid with six other savings banks, prosecutors said.

Blesa was sentenced to six years in jail. Rato had always denied any wrongdoing and said the credit cards were for discretionary spending as part of executives' pay deal. (AFP)

PSA eyes 'Euro champion' rank



The logo of German car maker Opel (R) on a car next to a car with the logo of French car maker Peugeot (AFP)

Paris PSA said yesterday its takeover of Opel would create a "European champion" in the auto industry, as the French carmaker pursued its acquisition plans armed with soaring fresh profit numbers.

PSA, which owns the Peugeot and Citroen brands, said net profit for 2016 nearly doubled as the group pushes plans to buy General Motors' European brands Opel and Vauxhall.

Chief executive Carlos Tavares said the bid to acquire GM's European brands presented an "opportunity to create a European automobile champion". Net profit for the full year rose 79 percent to 2.15 billion euros (\$2.27 bn) with the auto giant pledging to pay shareholder dividends for the first time since 2011 to the tune of 0.48 euros per share. If the planned takeover is successful, it would see PSA regaining its position as the second-biggest car manufacturer in Europe after Germany's Volkswagen group. That position is currently held by rival French automaker Renault.

Unauthorised U.S. immigrant populations

Most of the United States' 11.1 million unauthorised immigrants live in just 20 major metropolitan areas, according to new estimates

AREAS WITH LARGEST NUMBER OF UNAUTHORISED IMMIGRANTS



BY THE NUMBERS

1	New York-Newark-Jersey	1,150,000
2	Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim	1,000,000
3	Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land	575,000
4	Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington	475,000
5	Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach	450,000
6	Chicago-Naperville-Elgin	425,000
7	Washington-Arlington-Alexandria	400,000
8	Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell	250,000
9	Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario	250,000
10	Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale	250,000
11	San Francisco-Oakland-Hayward	240,000
12	Boston-Cambridge-Newton	180,000
13	San Diego-Carlsbad	170,000
14	Las Vegas-Henderson-Paradise	170,000
15	Philadelphia-Camden-Wilmington	160,000
16	Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue	150,000
17	Denver-Aurora-Lakewood	130,000
18	San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara	120,000
19	Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford	110,000
20	Austin-Round Rock	100,000



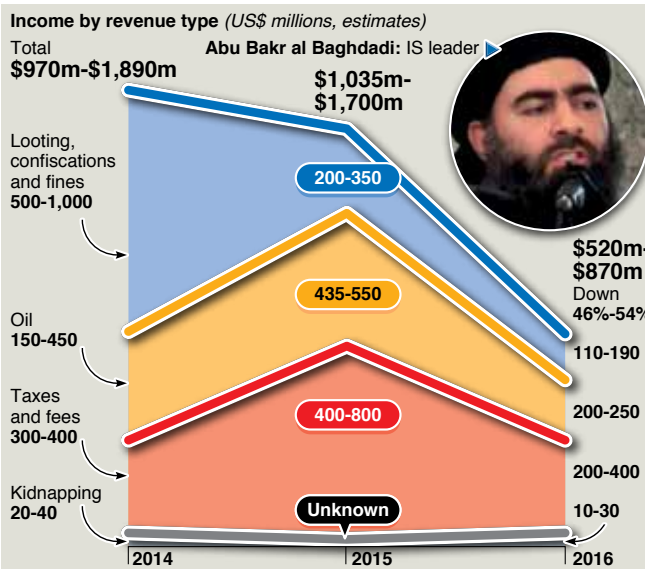
Picture: Associated Press

Source: Pew Research Center (based on 2014 American Community Survey)

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Terror group's finances cut by half

A study of the finances of so-called Islamic State reveals that the group's loss of territory, coupled with an increasingly effective anti-IS coalition, has led to a dramatic decline of income since 2014



- Jun 2014: IS captures Mosul and Tikrit in Iraq. IS leader announces formation of caliphate stretching from Aleppo in Syria to Diyalah in Iraq
- Aug: U.S. President Obama launches air strikes against IS in Iraq
- Sep: U.S. launches air strikes against IS in Syria
- 2015: IS-linked attacks in Australia, France, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Tunisia and U.S. kill at least 227 people
- Sep 2015: Russia begins airstrikes in Syria
- Oct: U.S.-led coalition launches Operation Tidal Wave II against IS-controlled oil transport, refining and distribution facilities and infrastructure
- 2016: IS-linked attacks in Belgium, France, Germany and U.S. kill 185 people
- Oct: Iraqi and Kurdish forces backed by U.S.-led air support launch operation to liberate Mosul

Source: International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation Picture: Associated Press © GRAPHIC NEWS