



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa yesterday received the credentials of four new ambassadors during a ceremony held at Al Sakhir Palace. The new envoys are Vladimir Kohut of Serbia, Shahin Sakir Oglu Abdullayev of Azerbaijan, Cosbert Themba Rubushe of South Africa and Ole E Moesby of Denmark. HM the King exchanged expressions of welcome with the new ambassadors and hailed strong bilateral relations and steadily-growing ties binding the Kingdom and their respective countries. HM King Hamad wished them success in performing their diplomatic duties to consolidate relations of co-operation and friendship with Bahrain.

Bolstering Arab-China ties

Bahrain's unwavering support for the Belt and Road initiative stressed at Arab-China Co-operation Forum

Abu Dhabi

The Kingdom participated in the 16th session of the Senior Officials Meeting of the Arab-China Cooperation Forum, held yesterday in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. The session was attended by the Director of the Arab Affairs Directorate at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Abdulaziz Al Eid.

Ambassador Al Eid asserted in his speech the keenness of the Kingdom in supporting the Arab-China Cooperation Forum, pointing out that the Kingdom hosted a number of events such as the third session of the Ministerial Meeting of the Arab-China Co-operation Forum in 2008, the Arab-Chinese media co-operation symposium in 2010 and the Chinese Arts Festival in March 2012.

He also reiterated the King-



Delegates from Arab countries and China at the forum.

dom's unwavering support for the Belt and Road initiative (BRI), noting that a memorandum of understanding was signed in 2018 to promote BRI between the Kingdom and the People's Republic of China.

He expressed his pride and appreciation for the current

friendly relations between the two countries, pointing out that this year marked the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

The two sides reviewed the most significant achievements made during the Eighth Minis-

terial Meeting of the Arab-China Co-operation Forum held in Beijing, July 10, 2018.

The meeting welcomed the launch of the Bahrain Declaration and the establishment of the King Hamad Global Centre for Peaceful Coexistence" in March 2018.

It also discussed the latest

developments in the Arab and Chinese political arena.

Separately, the Kingdom took part in the meeting of the Fifth Session of the Arab-China Strategic Political Dialogue.

Mr Al Eid stressed that the Iranian interventions have become crystal clear in more than

an Arab country, including Bahrain, by planting terrorist cells, recruiting armed militias and spreading of sectarian divide in Arab societies.

He said the Iran-backed Houthi militias are still striking Saudi Arabia with Iranian-made ballistic missiles and is occupying the three UAE islands (Greater Tunb, Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa).

Mr Al Eid affirmed that the Kingdom stands by its brothers against all those targeting their security and stability, and fully supports the Saudi efforts to eliminate all forms of violence, terrorism and extremism.

He called on the international community to assume their responsibility in full towards these practices that aim at undermining the security and stability of the region and the world.

Sruthilayam 2019, a special treat for musical fans

TDT | Manama

Sruthilayam 2019, a cultural show organised by Palakkad Arts and Cultural Theatre along with Interads was a big hit with over 1,000 in attendance.

The event was held at Indian School's Jashanmal Auditorium. Renowned Carnatic musician Padmasree K G Jayan inaugurated the Chembai Sangeetholsavam as part of the event. Over 100 children took part in the 'Sangeetha Archana', which followed.

A special performance by Mr Jayan left the audience spellbound.

The highlight of the evening, 'Jnanappana', took the audience to the highest levels of devotion, beauty and dance.

Indian movie stars and dancers



Vineeth and Lakshmi Gopalswami perform on stage.

Vineeth and Lakshmi Gopalswami along with their teams performed the dance.



Mr Jayan inaugurates Chembai Sangeetholsavam.

Bahrain Chamber of Commerce Vice-Chairman Mr Mohammed Abduljabbar Al Kooheji, Indian Embassy

Second Secretaries Renu Yadav and P K Chaudhary, Bahrain's leading industry icon Rashid Al Sinan, Bahrain

Keraleeya Samajam President P V Radhakrishna Pillai and General Secretary M P Raghu attended.