

Air show cleared for take-off

Sixth BIAS 2022 returns in November next year under the patronage of HM the King

● Signs organising deal with UK-based Farnborough International

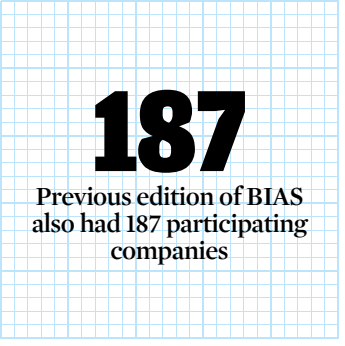
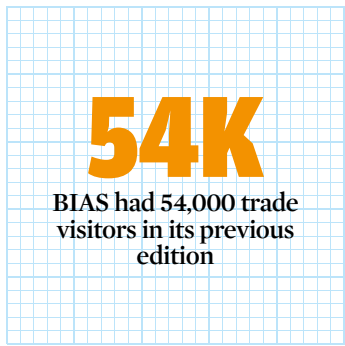
● Several cos already expressed readiness to participate

TDT | Manama

The sixth edition of the Bahrain International Air Show will take place next year at Al Sakhir Air Base, under the patronage of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa. The three-day show will be from the 9th to 11th of November 2022, said HH Shaikh Abdulla bin Hamad Al Khalifa, HM the King's Personal Representative. BIAS, in the past editions, had succeeded in attracting major civil and military aviation companies. BAE Systems (Britain), Lockheed Martin (USA), Leonardo Company (Italy), Bell Helicopter (USA), Thales (France) and Coleman (USA) are some of the companies that agreed to take part in BIAS 2022. HH Shaikh Abdulla is the



Kamal Ahmed signing a deal with UK-based Farnborough International for organising BIAS 2022 and 2024 events



Chairman of the Supreme Organising Committee of the Bahrain International Airshow. “2022 event will provide renewed opportunities and will turn Bahrain into an attractive destination for investment in this vital sector, which represents 8% of the global outputs,” said HH Shaikh Abdulla. The sector provides jobs to more than 200 million people

and contributes 3.5 trillion US dollars to the global output. Bahrain, Shaikh Abdullah said, looks forward to benefitting from this industry by creating a value-added work environment through the presence of these companies in this airshow. HH Shaikh Abdulla bin Hamad expressed thanks and appreciation to the government, led by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, for its support for the event. Shaikh Abdulla expressed hope that BIAS 2022 will achieve outstanding results through promoting the Kingdom as an international investment destination.

Deal signed

HH Shaikh Abdulla also said that the Kingdom is signing an agreement with UK-based Farnborough International for organising 2022 and 2024 events. Kamal bin Ahmed Mohamed, the Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications and Deputy Chairman of the BIAS Supreme Organising Committee signed the deal. Kamal Ahmed also held meetings with the Saudi General Authority for Military Industries



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HH SHAIKH ABDULLA BIN HAMAD AL KHALIFA

(GAMI), the British Department for International Trade (DIT-UK) and several other companies participating in DSEI 2021 as part of BIAS 2022 preparations.



In pictures are the happenings from the previous edition

India antitrust probe finds Google abused Android dominance: report

● Antitrust findings latest setback for Google in India

● Google also leveraged Play Store's dominance - report

● Google under antitrust investigation since 2019

Reuters | New Delhi

Google abused the dominant position of its Android operating system in India, using its “huge financial muscle” to illegally hurt competitors, the country’s antitrust authority found in a report on its two-year probe seen by Reuters. Alphabet Inc’s Google reduced “the ability and incentive of device manufacturers to develop and sell devices operating on alternative versions of An-



A man walks past the sign of “Google for India”, the company's annual technology event in New Delhi, India

droid,” says the June report by the Competition Commission of India’s (CCI) investigations unit. The US tech giant told Reuters in a statement it looks forward to working with the CCI to “demonstrate how Android has led to more competition and innovation, not less.” Google has not received the investigation report, a person

with direct knowledge of the situation told Reuters. The CCI did not respond to a request for comment on the report. Senior CCI members will review the report and give Google another chance to defend itself, before issuing a final order, which could include penalties, said another person familiar with the case.

Google would be able to appeal any order in India’s courts. Its findings are the latest antitrust setback for Google in India, where it faces several probes in the payments app and smart television markets. The company has been investigated in Europe, the United States and elsewhere. This week, South Korea’s antitrust regulator fined Google \$180 million for blocking customised versions of Android. **‘VAGUE, BIASED AND ARBITRARY’** Google submitted at least 24 responses during the probe, defending itself and arguing it was not hurting competition, the report says. Microsoft Corp, Amazon.com Inc, Apple Inc, as well as smartphone makers like Samsung and Xiaomi, were among 62 entities that responded to CCI questions during its Google investigation, the report says. Android powers 98% of India’s 520 million smartphones, according to Counterpoint Re-

search. When the CCI ordered the probe in 2019, it said Google appeared to have leveraged its dominance to reduce device makers’ ability to opt for alternate versions of its mobile operating system and force them to pre-install Google apps. The 750-page report finds the mandatory pre-installation of apps “amounts to imposition of unfair condition on the device manufacturers” in violation of India’s competition law, while the company leveraged the position of its Play Store app store to protect its dominance. Play Store policies were “one-sided, ambiguous, vague, biased and arbitrary”, while Android has been “enjoying its dominant position” in licensable operating systems for smartphones and tablets since 2011, the report says. The probe was triggered in 2019 after two Indian junior antitrust research associates and a law student filed a complaint, Reuters reported.

US banking lobby groups oppose tax reporting law
Reuters

The largest US banking lobby groups banded together on Friday to make another push to kill a proposed bank account reporting law being drawn up as part of the congressional reconciliation package. In a letter to US House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi and House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, the lobby groups said the proposal would create “reputational challenges” for large financial services firms, increase the cost of tax preparations for Americans and small businesses, and create serious “financial privacy concerns”. “We urge members to oppose any efforts to advance this ill-advised new reporting regime,” the groups said in the letter. “While the stated goal of this vast data collection is to uncover tax dodging by the wealthy, this proposal is not remotely targeted to that purpose or that population.”