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P15

Readjusted bills by September
 Manama

The Electricity and Water Authority (EWA) has announced that the readjusted bills for June, July and August would be issued with the September bills retrospectively.

The readjustment followed directives issued by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier to re-issue the June, July, and August electricity and water bills for citizens at their primary residence (single account), based on last year's issued amount, given that the amount is lower compared to bills issued in 2019 for the same period.

"HRH the Crown Prince's directives are part of a drive to ensure the sustainability of Bahrain's resources and in order to meet the aspirations of citizens and the Kingdom's comprehensive development goals."



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03 Nature lovers call for action after six turtles found dead

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'Bahrain duty-bound' to secure maritime routes

Manama

The Kingdom is duty-bound to join the global efforts to secure maritime routes, said His Majesty yesterday.

This came as His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the Supreme Commander, visited the Royal Bahrain Naval Force yesterday.

Upon arrival, His Majesty was received by Lieutenant General Abdullah Bin Hassan Al Nuaimi, Minister for Defence Affairs, General Dhiyab Bin Saqr Al Nuaimi, Chief-of-Staff, as well as the Commander of the Royal Bahrain Naval Force and a number of senior officers.

Also present were US Amba-

sador Justin Siberell, Vice-Admiral James Malloy, Commander of the US Naval Forces Central Command and Commander of the US Fifth Fleet, and Commodore Dean Basset, United Kingdom Maritime Component Commander and Deputy Commander of the Combined Maritime Forces.

His Majesty the King commended the efforts of the brave personnel of the Royal Bahrain Naval Force in carrying out their noble duty, alongside their courageous brothers from the Bahrain Defence Force, to defend their country and its civilisational gains.

His Majesty praised their important participation in guaranteeing the freedom of interna-



His Majesty

Global security and stability depends on the free flow of commerce and ultimately its security depends on what happens in this critical region.

HIS MAJESTY

tional maritime navigation and combatting piracy in the region, expressing appreciation for the fruitful efforts of the Commander and personnel of the Royal Bahrain Naval Force.

His Majesty also met a number of officers from the Bahrain Defence Force, the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, the US Naval Support Activity, and the UK Maritime Component Command.

"We are witnessing continued success in the coordination and cooperation initiatives between us, which reaffirms our sound security and defence directions, and is a source of satisfaction and pride in the vital and constructive role of our forces working together to enhance

our security and defend our interests.

"We also find in these efforts an honourable example of responsibility and professionalism in carrying out all tasks with determination and dedication.

"The most important of these is the duty to preserve the safety of maritime navigation and secure international corridors for trade and energy, the protection of which is a responsibility we all bear out of our duty to the stability of the region and the world as a whole."

His Majesty then visited the Naval Support Activity headquarters in Bahrain, where he was received by Vice Admiral James Malloy and Ambassador Siberell.

Tanker row persists

Iran warns US against seizure attempt

Iran said on Monday any US attempt to seize the tanker would have "heavy consequences."

Switzerland represents US interests in Iran, which has no diplomatic relations with the United States.

Dubai

An Iranian tanker sailed through the Mediterranean towards Greece yesterday after it was released from detention off Gibraltar, and Tehran said that any US move to seize the vessel again would have "heavy consequences."

The Grace 1, renamed the Adrian Darya 1, left anchorage

off Gibraltar about 11 pm on Sunday. Refinitiv ship tracking data showed on Monday that the vessel was heading to Kalamata in Greece and was scheduled to arrive next Sunday at 0000 GMT.

The seizure of the tanker by British Royal Marines near Gibraltar on July 4 on suspicion of carrying oil to Syria in violation of European Union sanctions led to a weeks-long stand-off between Tehran and the West. It also heightened tensions on international oil shipping routes through the Gulf.

Gibraltar, a British overseas

We are happy this ordeal has ended and I hope this will lead to less escalation.

MR ZARIF



An Iranian flag flies on Iranian oil tanker Adrian Darya 1, previously named Grace 1.

territory, lifted the detention order on Thursday but the next day a federal court in Washington issued a warrant for the seizure of the tanker, the oil it carries and nearly \$1 million.

Gibraltar said on Sunday it could not comply with that request because it was bound by EU law. Washington wanted to detain the tanker on the grounds that it had links to Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), which it has designated a terrorist organisation.

"We are happy this ordeal has ended and I hope this will lead to less escalation," Iranian

Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif said while visiting Finland.

He also said the US warrant had no legal basis and was politically motivated to "make more escalation."

Greek authorities had no immediate comment on the situation.

Iran said on Monday any US attempt to seize the tanker would have "heavy consequences."

Asked whether the United States could renew its seizure request after the tanker sailed from Gibraltar, Foreign Ministry spokesman Abbas Mousavi said: "Such an action, and even the talk of it ... would endanger shipping safety in open seas."

"Iran has issued the necessary warnings through official channels, especially the Swiss embassy, to American officials not to commit such an error because it would have heavy consequences," Mousavi said in remarks broadcast on state television.

Switzerland represents US interests in Iran, which has no diplomatic relations with the United States.

MYSTERY BOTTLE

50-year-old message discovered

Alaska

A man discovered a 50-year-old letter in a bottle from the Russian Navy on the shores of western Alaska.

Tyler Ivanoff found the handwritten Russian letter early this month while gathering firewood near Shishmaref about 600 miles

(966 kilometers) northwest of Anchorage, television station KTUU reported.

"I was just looking for firewood when I found the bottle," Tyler Ivanoff said. "When I found the bottle, I had to use a screwdriver to



The bottle carrying the message.

get the message out."

Ivanoff shared his discovery on Facebook where Russian speakers translated the message to be a greeting from a Cold War Russian sailor dated June 20, 1969. The message included an address and a request for a response from the person who finds it.