

Kingdom's senior men's national team defeats Gulf rivals by 14 goals to make winning start in main round of 2022 Asian Men's Handball Championship in Saudi Arabia | P16



Saudi-led coalition denies targeting detention centre in Yemen's Saada

Reuters | Cairo

The Saudi-led coalition fighting Iran-aligned Houthis in Yemen denied targeting a detention centre in Yemen's Saada province, saying the facility hit was not a site restricted from strikes, the Saudi official news agency SPA reported yesterday.

"The coalition will inform the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in Yemen (OCHA) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) on the facts and details," the state news agency said, citing a coalition spokesman.

He said the target in Saada was not on no-targeting lists agreed upon with the OCHA, was not reported by the ICRC and did not meet the standards stipulated by the Third Geneva Convention for Prisoners of War.

Kuwait foreign minister visits Beirut

Reuters

Kuwait's foreign minister visited Beirut on Saturday in the first trip by a senior Gulf Arab official since a diplomatic rift last year, saying he had delivered confidence-building proposals to Lebanon in a message coordinated with Gulf states. Speaking after meeting Lebanese Prime Minister Najib Mikati, Sheikh Ahmad Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah said ties with Beirut had not been severed and relations were now in a phase of confidence-building measures.

For a better tomorrow

Bahrain rolls out strategies and initiatives to enhance Kingdom's long-term competitiveness

TDT | Manama

New strategies and initiatives aimed at developing the economy and creating quality opportunities for citizens were released yesterday by the Kingdom following the directives of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

The ambitious plan revolves around five key pillars, as announced by the Cabinet chaired by HRH Prince Salman in October 2021.

These include creating quality



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jobs for Bahrainis to make them the 'employee of choice' in the labour market, launching major strategic projects, developing strategic priority sectors, simplifying and increasing the efficiency of commercial procedures and achieving fiscal sustainability and economic stability.

Sector-wise, the strategy focuses on Oil and Gas, Tourism, Logistics, Industrial, Financial Services, Telecommunications, IT and Digital Economy.

The plan introduces several initiatives and strategies to enhance the Kingdom's long-term competitiveness,

for which the concerned authorities are launching work strategies. The focus is on making citizens the first choice in the labour market, facilitating commercial procedures and increasing their effectiveness to attract investments, implementing major development projects,

and developing promising sectors with the aim of non-oil GDP growth.

The strategy also focuses on enhancing endeavours for financial sustainability and economic stability by achieving financial balance by 2024.

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Is my money gone for ever?



Victims of online banking scams 'hardly get their money back' amid rising number of online heists

Staff Reporter
 TDT | Manama

No one knows what to do now! It seems the fraudsters targeting the online banking and financial transaction networks in the Kingdom are on a rampage; scores continue to lose money from their bank accounts daily. The victims say banks and money wallet applications are not owning up the responsibility to safeguard their online accounts while attempting to engage in a blame game. And most interestingly, among those who lost money is an IT manager of a financial institution.

The Daily Tribune office has,

What has happened is hard to believe. One fine day I woke up to see that BD860 was robbed from my account through ten online transactions, mainly of BD99 and lesser amounts

until now, received tens of calls from the victims, who are at sea after losing bucks from their accounts. The hackers have also managed to steal from the accounts of many companies and organisations. It is high time the authorities take serious steps to contain the fraudsters and their seemingly vast networks

As the process to block the account was ongoing, the robber struck once again. Twenty-five transactions of BD99 were carried out by the robber, leaving the bank officials clueless as to what to do next

spreading worldwide. Speaking to *The Daily Tribune*, Ajeesh P K, a resident in the Kingdom, who and his employer lost BD4,500 to scammers, said he has yet to come to terms with the "nightmare". "What has happened is hard to believe. One fine day I woke up to see that BD860 was robbed from

my account through ten online transactions, mainly of BD99 and lesser amounts. I also saw two missed calls from a WhatsApp number not in my contacts.

"I could also see that 100 fils had been transferred to my account using an online payment app carrying the same number, from which the stranger had made WhatsApp calls. I suspect him to have hacked my account and stolen money and have filed a complaint against him with the local police.

"On the same day, I visited my bank branch to block my account. Suddenly, my employer called me, saying BD310 had been robbed from the company account. Since my account and

company account were with the same bank, I asked the branch manager to block both of them.

"As the process to block the account was ongoing, the robber struck once again. Twenty-five transactions of BD99 were carried out by the robber, leaving the bank officials clueless as to what to do next. Subsequently, both accounts have been blocked and are not being used now for any transactions."

Ajeesh said he has filed a complaint with Sitra Police and the CID Department but is unsure about getting the robbed money back, which is the case with most of the victims, who contacted *The Daily Tribune*.

(Continued on page 5)

BAHRAIN COVID-19

TOTAL TESTED
8544661

ACTIVE CASES
26939

DEATHS
1399

DISCHARGED
299128

NEW CASES
3162

CRITICAL
11

220 fils (includes VAT)



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