

Askerbii Gerbekov wins under-81kg gold and Azamat Chotchaev claims over-100kg silver in men's judo at third GCC Games in Kuwait | P12



JIF peanut butter contaminated with Salmonella seized



JIF peanut butter
TDT | Manama

Health Ministry food control inspectors have confiscated US-made JIF peanut butter products suspected of being contaminated with Salmonella.

The move was carried out during intensive inspection campaign at markets and hypermarkets, based on the warning of the Food and Drug Authority (FDA).

It was found that a small amount of JIF peanut butter was imported, according to the serial batch number specified in the International Risks and Warnings System, whose operational numbers start from 1274425 to 2140425.

The ministry stressed keenness to take the necessary measures to enhance health and safety and to follow all health and preventive measures in this regard, in order to ensure that food commodities conform to international standards, quality and safety standards.

Consumers who have such products bearing the aforementioned brand and batch number referred to in the warning are urged to return them to agents and retail stores.

Bahrain condoles with US over Texas school shooting

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, sent cables of condolences to US President Joe Biden over Texas school shooting.

The shooting resulted in deaths and injuries.

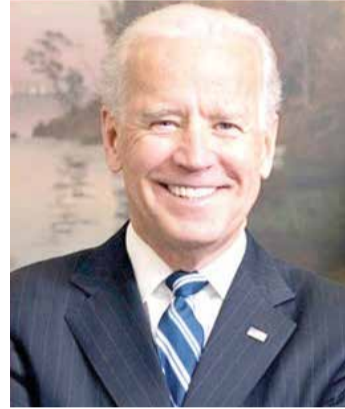
HM King Hamad and HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister wished mercy upon the victims and speedy recovery for the injured.



HM the King



HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister



President Biden

They affirmed Bahrain's condemnation of this criminal act, which targeted innocent, and which contradicts all human laws and values.

HRH Prince Salman sent a similar cable to US Vice President Kamala Harris.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs expressed its deepest condolences to the US government and citizens and to the families of the victims, and affirmed sympathy and solidarity with the US.

We work for peace

Bahrain prioritises dialogue as means to resolve regional and international issues amicably

Davos

Bahrain is committed to pursuing unwavering support to the Palestinian cause and working with its regional and international partners to achieve a just and comprehensive peace.

"Bahrain will remain committed to peace as an indispensable option for maintaining stability and development," said HM the King's Advisor for Diplomatic Affairs Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, reiterating the Kingdom's keenness on working towards achieving these noble goals.

He was addressing a session, themed "Future of Abraham Accords", on the sidelines of the annual meeting of the World Economic Forum (WEF-2022) being held in Davos, Switzerland.

Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed said



HM the King's Advisor at the forum

The peace declaration accord designed between the Kingdom and the State of Israel reflects the wise approach of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

"The signing of the peace declaration agreement between the Kingdom of Bahrain and the State of Israel, one of the important developments in the history of the entire region, ushers in a

new reality in which constructive collective action prevails," HM the King's Advisor said.

He highlighted the royal vision, based on openness and communication with all coun-

"Bahrain will remain committed to peace as an indispensable option for maintaining stability and development."

- SHAIKH KHALID BIN AHMED BIN MOHAMMED AL KHALIFA, HM THE KING'S ADVISOR FOR DIPLOMATIC AFFAIRS

tries worldwide, advocating progress, the values of dialogue, tolerance and understanding.

HM the King's Advisor affirmed the keenness of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, to build bridges and support relations with brotherly and friendly countries towards bolstering common interests.

Tax evasion

Legal measures taken against 18 VAT violators

40 trading outlets across Bahrain inspected

TDT | Manama

Eighteen trading outlets are facing fines and jail terms for possible Value Added Tax

(VAT) violations.

The Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism started the inspection clampdown in cooperation with the National Bureau of Revenue (NBR) ever since the amended VAT law took effect early this year.

Forty trading outlets have been inspected across Bahrain



An inspection of a trading outlet in progress

to ensure adequate implementation of the readjusted VAT, and violators could face fines of up to BD10,000.

Competent authorities are taking legal measures against the violating establishments as well as outlets which were found guilty of tax evasion.

Lawbreakers can be jailed for

five years and fined three times the amount evaded.

The Ministry and NBR stressed the importance of complying with readjusted regulations, urging customers to lodge complaints and report VAT violations via hotline 80008001 round the clock or email vat@nbr.gov.bh.

BAHRAIN COVID-19

TOTAL TESTED
9826906

NEW CASES
408

CRITICAL
3

220 fils (includes VAT)



6 084010 110021 >

AS GIFT VOUCHERS ON A MINIMUM SPEND OF BD 10 AND ABOVE*

على هيئة قسائم هدايا عند الشراء بـ 10 دينار وأكثر*

*تطبق الشروط والأحكام
*Terms and conditions apply

استرد النصف
HALF BACK

homesrus

City Centre 1755 6002 | Sehla 1755 6001

Special activities and games mark 'Innovation Day' at leading school

● Students analyse banking and financial applications cases

Staff Reporter
TDT | Manama

Students of Riffa Views International School dealt with cases of hypothetical FinTech applications while the school marked 'Innovation Day' on Tuesday.

They were divided into various groups before being given attempts to resolve different cases involving banking and financial applications.

Students were seen coming up with valuable suggestions and solutions as they analyzed each and every case offered to them.

Speaking to The Daily Tribune, Aamir Janjua, Group Chief Product Officer at Aion Digital, who was the mentor at these sessions, said the day is all about imparting knowledge on financial services, banking and financial technologies to students. "Students have been asked to look into key areas of problems



Mr Aamir Janjua speaks to students at the event

after being offered different cases and they are given the opportunity to propose solutions and suggestions.

"One of the key areas we have been focusing here is as to how customer experience can be improved. For instance, somebody has a mobile app and he has many issues with its functions and he wants to call the executive, where there are long queues and long procedures like typing many numbers and so on. So the question is how to fix these problems while we make the technological route much easier for customers?"

Mr Aamir Janjua also intro-



Mr Aamir Janjua joins students to find a solution during a case study

duced the concept of Gamification to the students. Gamification in fintech means incorporating game elements and mechanics into a non-game solution to improve customer engagement. "In fact, the process generally includes setting objectives, monitoring progress, and completing tasks to unlock rewards such as bonuses, cash

incentives, and gifts."

"We will be highlighting some gamification methods used by leading companies such as Starbucks, McDonalds and others fixing various issues through the process."

Deena Moemen Alreefy, Marketing and Community Relations Specialist at Riffa Views International School, said the

day is being organised keeping in view that students must frequently update themselves as fast-paced technologies change the daily lives of every individual.

"We are keen on incorporating the latest technologies and innovations into the curriculum, thereby helping the students get a balanced view regarding



Ms Deena

where the technological world is heading. Today, we are focusing on the significance of Artificial Intelligence, financial technologies and other innovations."

She said the event also offers students a great chance to get exposed to top banking and technological executives, who are authorities in various aspects of banking and financial services.

Deena said the school promotes holistic education with special emphasis on specialization in areas of choice for all students, "very much in line with the motto of the school...ignite passions, personalize the journey and impact through action".

ANTENATAL PACKAGE

1st TRIMESTER (UPTO 12 WEEKS)	BD 80*
Consultation (4) CBC, Blood Group & RH, Thyroid Profile (T3,T4, TSH) , Rubella Screening, G6PD, Sickling, Urine Analysis, HIV, VDRL, HBsAG, Anti HCV, Ultrasound (NT SCAN), Diabetes screening	
2nd TRIMESTER (13-28 WEEKS)	BD 60*
Consultation(4) CBC, Thyroid Profile, OGTT, HbA1c, Urine Analysis, Ultrasound, Physiotherapy (one session)	
3rd TRIMESTER (29-40 WEEKS)	BD 80*
Consultation(6) Physiotherapy (one session), CBC, Thyroid Profile, Diabetes screening, Urine Analysis, HVS, Ultrasound (Growth scan), CTG(2)	

OUR DOCTORS



DR. FEKRIA EBRAHIM
Consultant
OB, Gynaecology & Infertility



DR. SHAISTA SARIWAL
Specialist OB & Gynaecology,
Cosmetic Gynecology

For Appointments, Segaya ☎ 1736 2233 3612 9777

MIDDLE EAST HOSPITAL & MEDICAL CENTERS

SEGAYA
☎ 1736 2233

HIDD
☎ 1746 4848

SALMABAD
☎ 1721 6056

ASKAR
☎ 1366 5588

Bahrain congratulates Georgian President

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown

Prince and Prime Minister, yesterday sent a cable of congratulations to the Georgian President, Salome Zourabichvili, on her country's National Day. HM the King and HRH the

Crown Prince and Prime Minister wished President Zourabichvili abundant health and happiness.

HRH Prince Salman sent a similar cable to Prime Minister Irakli Garibashvili.

Royal trust



Interior Minister, General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, received yesterday the newly appointed Capital Governor Shaikh Rashid bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa. He congratulated him for the royal trust and the honour to take the official oath in front of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa. The Interior Minister welcomed the governor and hailed his expertise in providing advanced services to citizens. He wished him all the best in his new assignments.



BBS holds majlis

Bahrain Businesswomen's Society (BBS), a grouping of businesswomen in the Kingdom, last night held a majlis, marking the 22nd anniversary of its establishment at its premises in Mahooz. US Ambassador to Bahrain Steven C Bondy and many other dignitaries were present at the event, where society president Ahlam Janahi welcomed guests.

Complete database for agri segment launched

AgroBH is an electronic database for collecting and unifying information related to the Kingdom's agricultural sector

Staff Reporter
TDT | Manama

The first comprehensive platform for the agricultural sector by establishing a national database was launched at an event held at Manama Hall of Four Seasons Hotel yesterday.

Initiated by the National Initiative for the Development of the Agricultural Sector (NIAD), AgroBH (www.agro.bh) is the result of joint efforts by the Information and e-Government Authority, the National Space Science Authority and a number of official institutions. It aims to achieve the Kingdom's economic, social and environmental development goals.

The initiative aims to collect relevant data and document the agricultural indicators, and environmental variables in the Kingdom to meet its food security, environmental and developmental goals.

It will support, encourage agricultural activities and programmes of NIAD in collaboration with the public and private sectors. The initiative will also propose the latest agricultural techniques as well as encourage and support scientific research studies in the agriculture field.

AgroBH is an electronic database for collecting and unifying agricultural information to serve the development of the agricultural sector in the Kingdom with the aim of stimulating investment in this sector,



Shaikha Maram honours Tamkeen Chief Executive Officer Husain Rajab



Shaikha Maram honours Export Bahrain Chief Executive Officer Safa Abdulkhalik



Shaikha Maram honours iGA Chief Executive Mohammed Ali AlQaed

stimulating scientific research in the agricultural field, and documenting agricultural activities and programmes that are held in the country.

During the inauguration ceremony, Shaikha Maram bin Isa Al Khalifa, NIAD Secretary-General, said the AgroBH platform comes in implementation of the supreme directives of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa on the need to establish an effective agricultural sector.

"It aligns with the objectives of the reform project and the Economic Vision 2030 and seeks to find solutions that contribute to achieving food security, and a translation of the government's vision headed by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister with regard to securing an environment that supports sustainable develop-



Shaikha Maram speaks at the event

ment and stimulates economic growth based on knowledge."

Shaikha Maram also thanked Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, Wife of His Majesty and President of the Supreme Council

for Women, through her presidency of the Advisory Council of the National Initiative for the Development of the Agricultural Sector and her unwavering follow-up to its efforts.

Shaikha Maram indicated that

the platform is very much in line to keep pace with the various changes and challenges that are now facing the agricultural sector and the initiative is part of comprehensive efforts to develop the agricultural sector.

She explained that the platform directly serves the agricultural sector and is linked to many other national projects by providing updated and accurate data. "It assists in the development process of the sector, supports the agricultural activities and programmes of the initiative and documents them in a public platform in cooperation with the public and private sectors."

Shaikha Maram said: "Through this platform, we have tried to work hard to be a central station for all comprehensive and diverse agricultural data and information and a reference for all those interested in the agricul-

tural sector, or those wishing to invest in this vital sector, which makes it easier for them to take a comprehensive vision of the sector and know the expected challenges, and market needs, which encourages investment and innovation in this sector."

The platform targets investors by providing a number of agricultural publications and research, in addition to information on climate, soil and water, along with investment procedures in the Kingdom.

It also caters to government agencies by providing a reliable and updated source of data related to the sector such as exporting companies, farms and farmers, in addition to individuals. It will also serve those who want to choose agriculture as a profession as well as those interested in gardening as well as other environmental affairs.

Bahrain-UK investment cooperation discussed



Al Zayani

TDT | Manama

Bahrain and the UK are committed to strengthening bilateral investment cooperation and exploring new opportunities to expand partnerships that serve the two countries, strategic and development strategies.

Industry, Commerce and Tourism Minister Zayed bin Rashid Al Zayani yesterday held a phone call with British Secretary of State for International Trade Anne-Marie Trevelyan as they discussed ways of boosting the volume of bilateral investments.



Trevelyan

Al Zayani affirmed the role of the UK as major global partners, stressing steadily-growing economic ties and long-standing historic relations between Bahrain and Britain.

He highlighted joint strategic visions which yielded key deals, particularly the free trade agreement between the GCC member states and Britain, which represents an historic turning point in trade and investment relations.

Al Zayani stressed Bahrain's keenness on expanding cooperation across all fields, commending the role of the private sector in achieving common goals.

Focus on curbing money laundering

TDT | Manama

The Committee for Combating Extremism, Terrorism and Its Financing and Money Laundering held a coordination meeting yesterday with the Egyptian Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Unit.

The meeting was aimed at boosting joint cooperation to fight terrorism and money-laundering crimes.

Woman sues husband for fake dowry cheque

TDT | Manama

The Shariat Appeals Court upheld the decision of obligating a Bahraini man to pay the dowry which he committed himself to give to his wife after attempts with him to do so throughout their nine-year-long marriage proved fruitless.

The defendant is said to have given his wife, who is in her 50s, an invalid cheque worth

BD1,000 which didn't have either his name, nor his signature. "My client was in her forties when she got married to the defendant who was in his fifties. They agreed on a dowry worth BD1,000, and he gave her a cheque which turned out to be fake," the woman's lawyer told prosecutors.

Two witnesses also testified in favour of the woman.

"After hearing the case, it's crystal clear that the man didn't fulfil his promise to give her a dowry of BD1,000 which was also stated in their marriage contract," the court ruling pointed out.

"The man didn't submit any evidence that states otherwise, therefore the Court rules that he is obligated to pay the amount to his wife."

Bahrain promotes role as 'active partner' for peace

TDT | Manama

Bahrain is keen to build bridges of peace and coexistence in the region, and promote its role as an active partner in establishing regional and international security and stability.

This was affirmed by Foreign Ministry Undersecretary for Political Affairs, Dr Shaikh Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, in a radio interview with BBC Arabic.

Dr Shaikh Abdullah said that Bahrain's diplomatic relations and economic, political, social,



Dr Shaikh Abdullah is interviewed by BBC Arabic

security and defense cooperation with Israel do not affect its unwavering support to the Palestinian people's cause and inalienable to establish their

independent state, on the June 4, 1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital, on the basis of the principle of the two-state solution, which is a consistent

and uncompromised position that has not and will not change.

He added that relations with Israel will contribute to establishing peace and resolving the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, and are not directed against any country in the region, including Iran.

"Iran is a neighbouring country geographically, but the historical fact is that over recent decades it has not adhered to the most important principles under international law, which are respect for the sovereignty of states," he said.

Invest in education

Bahrainis 'most valuable resources' and Kingdom's partners in progress

TDT | Manama

Creating quality educational opportunities for Bahrainis will support them in realising their potential and playing a key role in the Kingdom's development.

This was emphasised by His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Isa bin Salman Charity Educational Endowment, as he chaired yesterday the Board of Trustees meeting at Riffa Palace.

HH Shaikh Isa noted that Bahraini citizens are the Kingdom's most valuable resources and stressed the importance of continuing to invest in their educa-



HH Shaikh Isa chairs the Board of Trustees meeting

tion in support of the Kingdom's comprehensive development goals, led by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

HH Shaikh Isa highlighted His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister's continued support to the Kingdom's education

sector, which has experienced significant development in recent years.

His Highness expressed his appreciation for the Royal Order issued by HM the King restructuring the Board of Trustees, and His Highness congratulated the new members of the Board on their appointment, wishing

them every success in their duties.

His Highness highlighted that the Isa bin Salman Charity Educational Endowment was established to provide Bahrainis the opportunity to continue their academic journeys and fulfil their ambitions through higher education.

Bahrain-Saudi defense relations



Bahrain Defense Force (BDF) Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa received Saudi National Guard Eastern Sector Major General Faisal Muqed Al Robaiaan. BDF Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Theyab bin Saqr Al Nuaimi was present. The Commander-in-Chief praised the strong bilateral relations in all fields.

Career Day inaugurated



Minister of Labour and Social Development, Jamil bin Mohammed Ali Humaidan, inaugurated yesterday the 9th Career Day symposium and expo for the academic year 2022, which was organised by the Applied Science University in the presence of the university's Board of Trustees Chairman Dr Wahib Ahmed Al Khajah, President Dr Ghasan Foued Awad, as well as businessmen and their representatives. The Career Day, in which 60 private sector establishments are taking part, aims to introduce the students to the employment opportunities in the private sector and rationalise the youth's choice of the required specialties in the labour market. The event also serves as a platform bringing together the graduates with the participating parties.

Bahrain-Egypt cooperation



Interior Minister, General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, received yesterday Egyptian Ambassador to the Kingdom of Bahrain, Yasser Mohammed Shaban. He welcomed him, hailing historical fraternal relations between both countries and mutual keenness to develop bilateral cooperation, mainly in the security fields.

Promoting Bahrain-UK relations in education



Higher Education Council (HEC) Secretary General and Board of its Trustees Vice-Chairperson, Dr Shaikha Rana bint Isa bin Dajj Al Khalifa, met UK Minister for International Trade Ranil Jayawardena and UK Minister for Skills Alex Burghart in London. Dr Shaikha Rana praised the friendship between Bahrain and the UK and the continuous progress of cooperation in various fields in support of the common interests of the two countries and peoples. She affirmed HEC's aspirations to strengthen cooperation with its counterpart. The UK ministers expressed their appreciation of the Bahraini-UK friendship and highlighted Dr Shaikha Rana's efforts in developing higher education in Bahrain.

Insurance project deal



The Supreme Council of Health (SCH) signed an agreement with (Aon) Insurance Company. The agreement came to implement the insurance project for foreign residents within the framework of the implementation of the National Health Insurance Program. President of the Supreme Council of Health (SCH) Lieutenant General Dr Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Khalifa stressed Bahrain's efforts to ensure the sustainability of providing comprehensive health coverage to foreign residents, in accordance with the best global standards. The project aims to ensure coverage of basic health services for all foreign residents by providing a package that includes primary and secondary health services, and emergency and accident coverages ensured by private health insurance companies.

Security coordination



Interior Minister, General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, received yesterday the Head of the Egyptian Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Unit, Chancellor Ahmed Said Khalil Al Sisi. Minister of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments, Chief of Public Security and Director of Financial Intelligence attended the meeting. The Interior Minister welcomed the Egyptian official, hailing the strong ties between Bahrain and Egypt. He valued highly the level of coordination between the two countries in many fields, including security.

Filipino dressmaking training program



Filipino organisation Pinay Ikaw Na! (PIN), in collaboration with the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) Bahrain, is currently holding a dressmaking training program at the Arman Hotel in Juffair. Thirty Filipinos are taking part in the six-Friday training session program, which started on April 29 and will run until June 3. The course prepares trainees to be qualified dressmakers that will enable them to draft and cut pattern, lay out pattern on the material or fabric, sew and apply finishing touches on ladies casual apparel, which consist of casual dress, blouse, skirt, set of pajama, trouser and shorts. Apart from dressmaking training lined up activities include baking, food processing and hair cutting. The graduation ceremony has been set on June 10 at the Cultural Hall of Bahrain Museum.

Central Bank of Bahrain



مصرف البحرين المركزي

NOTICE

With regard to Invita Claims Management Company B.S.C. (closed) (Ceasing the provision of all Services Regulated by the Central Bank of Bahrain)

Pursuant to the provisions of Article (50) of the Central Bank of Bahrain and Financial Institutions Law No. (64) of 2006 as amended, **Invita Claims Management Company B.S.C. (closed)** registered under **CR. No. 110039-1**, as an Ancillary Service Providers – Third Party Administrators (TPA) licensed by the Central Bank of Bahrain, hereby declares its intention to cease providing all services regulated by the Central Bank of Bahrain.

Written representations regarding the aforementioned cessation must be submitted to the Director of Insurance Supervision Directorate at the Central Bank of Bahrain within 30 days from the date of publishing this notice to the following address:

Mrs. Elham Ebrahim Taleb
Director of Insurance Supervision Directorate
Central Bank of Bahrain
P.O. Box: 27
Manama – Kingdom of Bahrain
Tel: 17547302/17547303
Fax: 17530399

Tamkeen, AIAC kick off Business Turnaround Programme

● AIAC will provide advisory support

● AIAC portfolio consists of 78 manufacturing and distribution sites in 24 countries in North America, Europe, and Asia

● Business Turnaround aims to empower enterprises to transform their business models in response to major organisational, market, technology and financial challenges and opportunities

TDT | Manama

The Labour Fund (Tamkeen) announced signing a new strategic cooperation agreement with the American Industrial



The deal signing. AIAC will provide advisory support as part of Tamkeen's recently launched Business Turnaround programme

Acquisition Corporation (AIAC). AIAC is a global organisation in company turnaround, mergers and acquisitions, private equity as well as improving non-performing enterprises and enter-

prises performing below their full potential.

AIAC will provide advisory support as part of Tamkeen's recently launched programme Business Turnaround that aims

to empower enterprises to transform their business models in response to major organisational, market, technology and financial challenges and opportunities.

Husain Mohamed Rajab, Chief



The Business Turnaround programme is among the 16 programmes Tamkeen launched as part of an organisation-wide strategic transformation plan, which focuses on creating impact for the national economy in response to market needs.

Executive of Tamkeen, emphasised Tamkeen's commitment to empowering enterprises in Bahrain and helping them become key contributors to the national economy. He said: "The outcome of these services will enable enterprises to get on a path of recovery and growth, enhancing their competitiveness both locally and internationally, and helping them reaching their full potential."

Peter Graham, Managing Di-

rector COO, Asia, AIAC, said, "It is a great initiative by Tamkeen to tailor programmes and build partnerships for enterprises in all sizes and through all their development stages. AIAC portfolio consists of 78 manufacturing and distribution sites in 24 countries in North America, Europe, and Asia across different sectors such as manufacturing, health-care and renewable energy. We look forward to deploying our group's expertise across many sectors with the objective of turning around Bahraini businesses that would contribute significantly to the Kingdom of Bahrain's economy."

Earlier this year, Tamkeen embarked on a strategic transformation journey that encompassed the entire organisation and resulted in the launch of a line-up of objective-driven support programs and a transparent and enhanced assessment process. The new programmes were developed following a series of consultation sessions with representatives from various sectors and cater to the market requirements.

Saudi finalising extension of \$3 billion deposit to Pakistan

Reuters | Davos

Saudi Arabia is finalising the extension of the kingdom's \$3 billion deposit to Pakistan, Saudi Minister of Finance Mohammed al-Jadaan told Reuters.

"We are currently finalising extending the \$3 bn deposit to Pakistan," he said on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum in Davos.

Last year, Saudi Arabia deposited \$3 bn in Pakistan's central bank to help support its foreign reserves.

Jadaan did not offer further details, but on May 1 the two countries said in a joint statement that they would discuss the possibility of supporting the deposit by extending its term "or through other options." Pakistan is in dire need of external finances, hurt by high inflation, reserves declining to as low as less than two months' of imports, and a



Saudi Finance Minister, Mohammed al-Jadaan

fast-weakening currency.

Jadaan said Pakistan was an important ally and the kingdom would stand behind the South Asian nation.

Uncertainty over the revival of an International Monetary Fund programme has compounded volatility in the economy and markets amid a political crisis since a new government took over last month from ousted Prime Minister Imran Khan.

The IMF is likely to conclude ongoing talks over a 7th review in Doha.

National Bank of Bahrain



Saikh Khalid bin Abdullah bin Ali Al Khalifa, Ambassador of Bahrain to the United Arab Emirates, welcomed a delegation from the National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) on the 19th of May 2022 at the Dubai-based Consulate of the Kingdom of Bahrain. The meeting discussed plans and possible expansions for NBB within the UAE market. The Ambassador praised NBB's achievements and endeavours, which have always actively contributed to the banking sector and the Kingdom's economy. NBB's delegation was headed by Yogesh Kale, Chief Executive Officer at NBB UAE, alongside members from NBB Bahrain, including Hisham Abu Alfateh, Head of Corporate Communications, Mohamed Alqassimi, Business Marketing and Partnerships Manager and Dana Abul, Corporate Communications Assistant Manager at NBB Bahrain. Ambassador Saud Hassan Al-Nusuf, Consul General of Bahrain in Dubai, Tariq Khalid Ebrahim, Consulate Adviser, and Fatima Abdulrahman Al-Maloud also attended the visit.

Bahrain Financing Company



Bahrain Financing Company (BFC), a specialist in worldwide money transfers and currency exchange, opened its new branch in Askar yesterday to cater to the Remittance and FX needs of customers. The branch was inaugurated by BFC's CEO Deepak Nair along with other BFC officials. The new branch is located near Nesto Supermarket in Askar and is open seven days a week from 10am to 9pm. The first 200 customers to make a transaction at the branch received a gold coin each. Above, BFC officials opening the new branch.

Oil edges higher on tight supply, surge in US refining activity

Reuters | New York

Oil prices rose yesterday, buoyed by tight supplies and as US refiners drove processing activity to their highest level since before the coronavirus pandemic started.

Brent crude futures for July rose by 48 cents to \$114.03 a barrel by 10:50 a.m. EDT (1450 GMT). US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude for July delivery rose 49 cents, or 0.4%, to \$110.26 a barrel.

"Brent crude is trading in a very convincing upwards trend aided by very tight product markets again leading to a hunt for light sweet crudes which are naturally rich in easily refined gasoline and diesel products," Swedish bank SEB said in a note.

US crude stockpiles fell 1 mil-



This upcoming weekend's US Memorial Day travel is expected to be the busiest in two years, causing fuel demand to rise as more drivers hit the road and shake off coronavirus pandemic restrictions despite high fuel prices. Global crude supplies continue to tighten as buyers avoid oil from Russia, the world's second-largest exporter, after the invasion of Ukraine, which Moscow calls a "special military operation".

ernment said, with gasoline inventories also sliding modestly. Distillate stocks rose by 1.7 million barrels. Refiners picked up the pace of processing, boosting capacity use to 93.2%, its highest since December 2019.

Refiners have had to keep facilities running at full-tilt to deal with heavy demand, especially from overseas, as refined product exports rose to more than 6.2 million barrels per day last week. High exports and a reduction in refining capacity means gasoline stocks have dwindled in the United States.

"Refiners are going to continue to burn the crude as much as they can," said Phil Flynn, senior analyst at Price Futures Group. "The market should be concerned going into this holiday weekend because gasoline supplies are still very tight."

lion barrels last week, the gov-

Riders praise HH Shaikh Nasser's support for the team at Windsor International Championship

TDT | Manama

The riders of the Royal Endurance Team in the Windsor International Endurance Championship confirmed that HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa's leadership enabled them to achieve common objectives and win top places to confirm the Royal Endurance Team's high-class in European events.

The great achievement of HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Representative of HM the King for Humanitarian Works and Youth Affairs, Captain of the Royal Endurance Team in the Windsor International Endurance Championship, represented a milestone in Bahraini sport as it's a unique accomplishment confirms the



Riders of the Royal Endurance Team with their awards

development of the Bahraini endurance sport abroad in the bright era of HM King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the King of the Kingdom of Bahrain, and in light of the interest of HRH Prince

Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

This great success was a catalyst for the Royal Endurance Team by confirming its strong



Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex, with the riders during the awarding ceremony

presence in the prominent festival as His Highness played a major role in allowing the team's riders to occupy top places, including in the 120 km race which was deservedly won by Abdul-

hameed Al Hashemi, while his teammates Shahad Al Ahmad and Nasser Al Qahtani finished second and third respectively. Additionally, Abdulrahman Al Zayed of the Royal Endurance

Team came third in the 160 km race.

On behalf of HM Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland, Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex, son of HM the Queen crowned the riders of the Royal Endurance Team.

Dr Khalid Ahmed Hassan, Director of the Royal Endurance Team received the first place award of the 160 km race on behalf of HH Shaikh Nasser. He was accompanied by trainers Ahmed Janahi and Jaffar Mirza. Abdulrahman Al Zayed received the third place award from Prince Edward, who also crowned Mohammed Al Hashemi, Shahad Al Ahmad and Nasser Al Thawadi who won the top three places of the 120 km race respectively.

Djokovic beats former coach's new pupil at French Open

Novak Djokovic
Reuters | Paris

World number one and defending champion Novak Djokovic eased into the French Open third round on Wednesday by defeating the new pupil of his former long-time coach.

Top seed Djokovic saw off Slovakia's Alex Molcan, who is coached by Marian Vajda, the man who inspired most of his 20 Slam titles, 6-2, 6-3, 7-6 (7/4).

Djokovic fired 10 aces and 40 winners past his 38th-ranked opponent and will next face Slovenia's Aljaz Bedene for a place in the last 16.

"It was a real pleasure to play on Court Suzanne Lenglen. I don't have a lot of opportunities to play here," said the 35-year-old.

"I could feel the support. There were tricky conditions today with a lot of wind coming in different directions.

"So I had to stay focused and stay patient."

"I have a lot of respect for Alex, he's a specialist on this surface."

Riffa, East Riffa advance from AFC Cup group stage

Riffa secure place in next round following 3-1 win over Shabab Al Khalil of Palestine in their final Group B match, East Riffa go through with 2-2 draw against Hilal Alquds, also from Palestine, in Group C

● **Adnan Fawaz, Komail Alaswad and Hashim Sayed Isa all on target for Riffa in win**

● **Jasim Khelaif and Brazilian Luiz Fernando Correa Sales score for East Riffa in draw**

TDT | Manama

Bahrain clubs Riffa and East Riffa both advanced past the group stage of the AFC Cup 2022.

Riffa secured their place in the next round by defeating Shabab Al Khalil of Palestine 3-1 in their final Group B match played in Kuwait.

East Riffa, on the other hand, drew 2-2 with Hilal Alquds, also from Palestine, to earn enough points in Group C to march through.

Riffa finished as runners-up in Group B but were the best-ranked second-placed team in all three West Asian groups. East Riffa finished first in Group C to earn their automatic berth.

Both teams have now progressed to the West Zonal Semi-finals, where they will face off against one another.

Group A winners Al Seeb from Oman will take on Group B winners Al Arabi



Riffa's Jassim Al Shaikh, left, in action against Shabab Al Khalil

from Kuwait in the other final four clash.

Both semis pairings will be played over two legs.

In Riffa's win last night, the Bahrainis were the first to get onto the score sheet through Adnan Fawaz in the 22nd minute. That was enough to put them in the lead by half-time.

Komail Alaswad then doubled their advantage in the 71st, but Shabab Al Khalil were given a lifeline when Mohamad Darwish scored just five minutes later.

Riffa then made sure that there would be no surprises before the final whis-

tle, with Hashim Sayed Isa's goal in the first minute of stoppage time sealing the victory.

Great performance

"The players had a great performance again today, just like they did in the previous two matches. We had good mental strength and the players were determined to get a win despite the circumstances that we faced," said Riffa head coach Ali Ashoor.

"We now need to improve and get ready for the new season as we have an important match against East Riffa in the next round. It will be a big derby for the two teams and hopefully we can continue winning and advance to the West Zonal Final," said Ashoor.

Riffa completed their Group B campaign with two wins and one loss in three matches for six points in second place.

Meanwhile, in East Riffa's draw, the Bahrainis needed to battle back from a two-goal deficit in a fantastic comeback.

Mohammed Maraaba scored two goals for Hilal Alquds in the 24th and 38th minutes to give the Palestinians a 2-0 lead. But then after the half-time break, East Riffa were able to find their way out of the two-goal hole, first through Jasim Khelaif in the 50th minute. Brazilian Luiz Fernando Correa Sales then supplied the definitive equaliser in the 73rd,



Riffa and East Riffa have now progressed to the AFC Cup's West Zonal Semi-finals, where they will face off against one another over two legs

and managed to hold on for the share of the points.

After the match, East Riffa head coach Florin Motroc commented: "I had expected this match to be difficult, and it needed a lot of concentration from my players, Hilal Alquds are a good team, and they play with high spirit, and they fought hard, especially after the result of first match, as they had a chance to qualify.

"My players were under pressure, but in the second half we showed that we have high spirit, and played as a team to come back and we were close to scoring the winning goal in the final minutes."

East Riffa finished atop Group C with five points, from one win and two draws.

Burnout set for sixth round of thrills at BIC tomorrow

TDT | Manama

Burnout thrills continue for another weekend as Bahrain International Circuit (BIC) hosts the sixth meeting of its current season tomorrow in Sakhir.

After attracting a packed crowd to "The Home of Motorsport in the Middle East" last week, the widely popular event is expected to once again see a large number of speed enthusiasts and spectators enjoying a full night of high-octane action.

Participants come from far and wide to put on a fantastic show of rising white smoke at BIC's Vehicle Dynamics Area for the throngs in the stands.



A car in action during a burnout event at BIC

Registration for those taking part and the scrutineering of their vehicles will be held from 4pm to 6pm this Friday.

Given the recent popularity of BIC's Burnout events, those interested in participating are advised to register early to avoid disappointment.

The participation fee is BD8 for each driver and those who would like to join in on the excitement as a passenger can do so for BD5.5. All entrants' vehicles must meet specific eligibility criteria before being permitted to take part.

Spectators will be able to watch each event for BD2, with tickets available to buy on arrival.

Gates will open to the public at 5pm, and then the Burnout action starts at 6pm and continues until 11pm.

For more information on Burnout or other events and activities at the circuit, visit bahraingp.com or call the BIC Hotline on +973-17450000.

Zayani Motors sponsors Bahrain team in GCC Filipino volleyball championship

TDT | Manama

Zayani Motors, one of the leading automotive dealerships in the GCC region, has recently supported the 6th Inter-GCC All Filipino Volleyball Tournament, which was hosted in the Kingdom of Bahrain on May 3.

The event, which witnessed the participation of several teams from Bahrain and neighbouring GCC states, was organised by the Filipino Club Volleyball Group (FCVG); a core group under the Filipino Club Bahrain umbrella, since 2013.



Bahrain team celebrates after the event

Zayani Motors sponsored Bahrain's women team, which won the tournament for the Women's division, after beating the Riyadh Team by two sets in the final match.

The activity was held at Mu-

harrag Sports Club and was attended by representatives of the Embassy of the Philippines in the Kingdom of Bahrain and members of the Filipino community in Bahrain and GCC countries.

HH Shaikh Isa receives Saudi Ambassador to Kuwait, women's futsal gold-medallists



HH Shaikh Isa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, right, with Prince Sultan bin Saad Al Saud

TDT | Manama

Bahrain Olympic Committee vice-president and the Kingdom's delegation head at the third GCC Games, His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, yesterday

received Saudi Arabia Ambassador to Kuwait Prince Sultan bin Saad Al Saud, in the presence of Bahrain Ambassador to Kuwait Salah Al Malki.

HH Shaikh Isa welcomed Prince Sultan and hailed the close relations between Bahrain and Saudi, which is a reflection of



HH Shaikh Isa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa with women's futsal team members

bilateral growth in various fields. HH Shaikh Isa also praised the positive results by Saudi teams at the Gulf Games, and wished their athletes further progress.

During the reception, HH Shaikh Isa and Prince Sultan also met with Bahrain's women's futsal team, who on Tues-

day captured a gold medal in their tournament.

Also during the day, HH Shaikh Isa met with judokas Ramazan Kodzhakov and Mohamed Nayef, who won a gold and bronze medal, respectively, on Tuesday night, and congratulated them on their achievements.

Bahrain handball post comeback win over Kuwait

TDT | Manama

Bahrain battled back from a six-goal deficit in the second half to defeat hosts Kuwait 30-29 in their opening match of men's handball yesterday at the third GCC Games in Kuwait.

After falling behind 14-19 at the half, the nationals faced a 15-21 hole early in the final 30-minute period.

But they came alive just in time and went on a 7-1 rally to tie the pro-

ceedings at 22-apiece, and then Ahmed Almaqabi gave them the lead for good at 24-23.

The Bahrainis did well to hold on to the advantage from there and close out the narrow triumph.

Almaqabi was the nationals' top scorer with seven goals, while Ali Eid added six and Abdulla Ali, Mahdi Habib and Mohamed Mohamed each contributed four.

Bahrain are back in action only on Saturday when they face off with the UAE.



Ahmed Almaqabi in action for Bahrain during their game yesterday against Kuwait

Bahrain judokas add to medal tally at GCC Games

Askerbii Gerbekov wins under-81kg gold and Azamat Chotchaev claims over-100kg silver in men's judo at third GCC Games in Kuwait

● Bahrainis lost out on bronze medals in men's basketball

● Men's volleyball team suffer first loss in their competition

● Bahraini pairing of Rashed Rashed and Sayed Ali Mahdoofdh advance to men's doubles semi-finals in table tennis

TDT | Manama

Judokas Askerbii Gerbekov and Azamat Chotchaev were both on the podium yesterday in their respective men's judo weight classes as Bahrain continued to raise their medal tally in the third GCC Games in Kuwait.

Gerbekov struck gold in the men's under-81kg category while Chotchaev claimed a silver in the men's over-100kg class.

It was the final day of the judo competition and Bahrain's judokas came away with four total medals, including two gold, a silver and a bronze.

Their haul yesterday brought Bahrain's overall tally to 55, including 20 gold, 20 silver and 15 bronze medals.

That put the nationals in second on the six-nation medal table, with Kuwait still on top. Behind Bahrain in third through sixth were the UAE, Qatar, Oman and Saudi Arabia.



Bahrain judokas Askerbii Gerbekov, right, and Azamat Chotchaev, left, celebrate their medal victories with their national team coach

In yesterday's men's judo competitions, Gerbekov defeated Mohamed Rebahi of Qatar in the men's under-81kg final. He had earlier beaten Mohammed Alharbi of Saudi to book his place in the medal round.

For Chotchaev, he lost to Magomedomar Magomedomarov of the UAE in his opening contest, but then beat Rakan Aldossary of Saudi and Abdullah Taleb of Kuwait to secure his silver.

Bahrain could have added another two bronze medals in judo yesterday, but their judokas could not win their final matches.

Osama Alosbhan lost to Hamad Alrased of Kuwait in the men's under-100kg bronze medal contest, while

Abdulla Alkawari lost to Yousef Dashti of Kuwait in their men's under-90kg bronze medal clash.

Meanwhile, Bahrain's senior men's basketball team missed out on the bronze medals of their tournament after losing to their counterparts from Saudi 57-65 in the game for third place.

The nationals were in



Bahrain's Ali Ebrahim looks to score against Qatar yesterday



Bahrain's Hussain Shaker in action against Saudi yesterday

contention for the victory in the first three quarters, but in the fourth, were outscored 15-22.

Ahmed Salman and Hussain Shaker were the only Bahraini players in double figures, finishing with 11 points apiece. Mohammed Ameer had nine and Hasan Nowrooz and Wayne Chism each contributed eight.

Ayman Almuwallad spearheaded Saudi with 18 markers.

It was a disappointing ending to the men's basketball tournament for the nationals, who had a bolstered team for the competition. It was also their first under newly signed head coach Mindaugas Lukosius from Lithuania.

Also losing yesterday were Bahrain's senior men's national volleyball team, who were swept by Qatar 0-3 (21-25, 19-25, 23-25).

It was the first loss for the Bahrainis after posting three straight wins.

Mohammed Abdulla was the top scorer with 11 points, while Mohamed Aldwairi added nine and Naser Anan had eight.