

'Key to security and investments'

TDT | Manama

Interior Minister, General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdul-Lah Al Khalifa, has affirmed the Customs Affairs' key role in protecting national security and promoting investments to support the national economy.

In his speech on the occasion of the International Customs Day yesterday, General Shaikh Rashid hailed the Customs Affairs' efforts to develop high-quality services and strategy, as well as its affiliates for their competency and discipline in carrying out their role through dedication and expertise.

"Security and general safety protection come as part of various approaches, including coordination between security authorities and Customs Affairs

to reinforce border security. Preventative measures to limit trafficking and risks require full vigilance, law enforcement and strategic planning by determining goals and procedures," he said.

The Kingdom joined the rest of the world in celebrating the International Customs Day, which is marked annually on January 26.

The Minister emphasised that it is a good occasion to affirm the security role of Customs Affairs and efforts to reinforce trade, security and general safety.

"Customs Affairs is an essential part of the security strategy of the Interior Ministry through modern technology to protect borders and develop customs capabilities through the facilitation of travel, trade and society protection," he said.



General Shaikh Rashid

"The efforts meet the goals of the comprehensive development process, led by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, and

supported by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister."

Confiscations and violations

The total number of confiscations and violations registered by Customs Affairs in 2022 reached 6,230, an increase of 31% from 2021. This reflects the national capabilities and professionalism in the use of modern technology.

The launch of the Customs Affairs strategy of 2021-2024 and its strategic goals come to meet government action plans and the Economic Vision 2030, strengthening customs work and building capabilities in facing challenges.

It also includes strengthening partnerships with the business community, based on the Kingdom of Bahrain's Economic Vision 2030, which motivates government and private institutions to take practical steps to attract investments.

The Customs Affairs seeks to keep up advancement through signing international agreements and participating in conferences to benefit from international expertise and enhance the effectiveness of customs performance.

Future planning

"On International Customs Day, we assert the significance of future planning within the available potentials and ever-increasing challenges to look toward the best and overcome hinders to providing high-quality services through digital transformation expansion and development in the exchange of information and supervisory mechanisms," General Shaikh Rashid said.

"These efforts reinforce trade, security and general safety, and the role of Customs Affairs in supporting the national economy."

Through its outstanding performance in reinforcing the active role of Bahrain in international organisations, the President of Customs, Shaikh Ahmed bin Hamad Al Khalifa, earned the international trust by being elected as the Chairperson of the World Customs Organisation Council.

Bahrain Declaration to be highlighted in Rome today

Rome

The Kingdom of Bahrain Declaration will be highlighted in the Italian capital Rome today.

The Declaration that reflects His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa's vision and approach to promote coexistence, peace and tolerance and combat terrorism in the



Dr. Shaikh Khalid bin Khalifa

world was launched in the US in 2017.

"The Declaration, which was drafted by HM the King, is based on historical foundations about coexistence in Bahrain and the correct religious approach," King Hamad Global Centre for Peaceful Existence Chairman Dr. Shaikh Khalid bin Khalifa Al Khalifa said.

The Indian Fine Arts Society Executive Committee

The Executive Committee for 2023-2024, headed by Mrs Nisha Rangarajan of The Indian Fine Arts Society, the oldest organisation in the Kingdom of Bahrain promoting classical form of Fine Arts. Seated from left, Mr Ganapathy Narayanan (Hon. Treasurer), Mr Balasubramaniam (Hon. Vice President), Mrs Nisha Rangarajan (Hon. President), Mr Anand Subramaniam (Hon. General Secretary). Standing from left, Mr Boban Idiculla (Excom member), Mrs Kavita Srinivasan (Excom member) and Mr Prakash subramaniam (Excom member).



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