The data of the UAE Central Bank showed that the bank’s total assets decreased by a slight 0.1 percent in the first quarter of this year to 470.02 billion dirhams, compared to 470.53 billion dirhams at the end of 2020.

The reason for this is a 22 percent decline in the value of liquidity and bank accounts to 259.19 billion dirhams, and a 38.5 percent decrease in central deposits to 27.57 billion dirhams, while the increase in the Central Bank’s investments by 172 percent compensated for this decrease, as the value of the Central Bank’s investments at the end of last March reached about 135.83 billion dirhams, compared to 49.92 billion dirhams at the end of last year.

On the other hand, the value of commitments made by banks to the Central Bank during the first quarter of this year amounted to about 5.23 billion dirhams, which reflects the improvement in the level of liquidity at banks and the start of their recovery from the consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic.

According to the balance sheet data of the UAE Central Bank, the value of central bank loans decreased by 17.3 percent in the first quarter of this year to 25.02 billion dirhams at the end of last March, compared to 30.25 billion dirhams at the end of December 2020.

Source (Al Khaleej Emirati Newspaper, Edited)
The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has achieved advanced positions in a number of global competitiveness indicators related to the financial market, according to what was included in the annual report for the fiscal year 2020.

The Global Competitiveness Center report of the International Institute for Administrative Development for the year 2020 showed that Saudi Arabia advanced two places compared to last year, despite the economic conditions resulting from the effects of the Corona epidemic, to become 24th on the index, which includes several main axes.

The Kingdom advanced in six indicators, the most prominent of which is the stock market capitalization index as a percentage of GDP, as it jumped to second place last year from the 26th place a year ago. In the index of easy access to financial markets, Saudi Arabia jumped from 33rd to 20th place, and in the IPO index, it advanced from 36th to fourth place.

The report is considered one of the most comprehensive indicators of the competitiveness of countries, as it compares 63 countries on the basis of four main axes: economic performance, government efficiency, business efficiency and infrastructure.

Source (London-based Al-Arab Newspaper, Edited)
Bahrain achieved a surplus in its commodity balance of 134 million dinars during the first quarter of 2021, its total exports of oil and non-oil commodities amounted to about 1.67 billion dinars, while its imports of oil and non-oil goods amounted to about 1.54 billion dinars.

Bahrain’s oil exports jumped during the first quarter of this year to about 807 million dinars, compared to 582 million dinars during the previous quarter, and a growth rate of 38.65 percent, as a result of the rise in oil prices in global markets to more than $ 60 since the beginning of this year.

Non-oil exports reached 869 million dinars during the first quarter of 2021, compared to exports of 755 million dinars for the preceding quarter, with a growth rate of 15 percent. As for oil imports, they reached 362 million dinars during the first quarter of this year, compared to 235 million dinars for the preceding quarter, and a growth rate of 43 percent due to the increase in oil prices in addition to the increase in the volume of barrels of oil imported from Saudi Arabia for the benefit of the Bahrain Petroleum Company "Bapco".

Source (Elnashra Newsletter Site, Edited)