The activities of the Saudi-Thai Business Forum were held in Bangkok, the capital of Thailand, organized by the "Riyadh Chamber" and in the presence of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand Don Pramodinai, in order to discuss ways to develop the trade and investment relationship between the two countries, and work to enrich trade exchange through the outcomes of the forum.

Thai Minister of Commerce Jo Lin noted that the Saudi-Thai Business Forum is a strong start to support the growth of trade between the two countries and achieve the desired goal faster. For his part, the President of the Federation of Saudi Chambers and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Riyadh Ajlan Ben Abdulaziz Al-Ajlan, "What Saudi Arabia is witnessing in terms of movement, development, and unprecedented economic and development growth through the paths of Vision 2030, which enjoys the patronage and attention of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and the Crown Prince, has made the Saudi economy the subject of great interest from business sectors in brotherly and friendly countries, and great aspirations are for establishing investment partnerships." He pointed out that "there are wide opportunities for partnership with Thailand in many commercial, industrial, technical, service, tourism and agricultural fields."

The Saudi-Thai Business Forum aims to provide an opportunity for the business sectors in the two countries to discuss how to work together and ways to enhance the volume of commercial cooperation and to introduce joint investment opportunities between the business sectors in the two countries.

Source (Al-Sharq Al-Awsat Newspaper, Edited)
أظهرت تقديرات جهاز الإحصاء والتخطيط في قطر، ارتفاع الناتج المحلي الإجمالي بنسبة 33.4 في المئة خلال الربع الأول من عام 2022 مقارنة بتقديرات الربع الأول لعام 2021. في حين ارتفع الناتج المحلي الإجمالي الربعي خلال الربع الأول لعام 2022 بنسبة 2.5 في المئة، مقارنة بتقديرات الربع الأول عام 2021. وانخفاض إجمالي القيمة المضافة للاشتكاك في التحدي واستغلال المخاطر بالأسعار الثابتة بنسبة 1.7 في المئة خلال الربع الأول من عام 2022 عند مقارنتها بالربع الأول له في عام 2021. بينما ارتفع إجمالي القيمة المضافة للأنشطة غير التعدينية بنسبة 5.2 في المئة خلال الربع.

**Qatar's GDP Increased by 33.4 percent**

Estimates of the Statistics and Planning Authority in Qatar showed an increase in gross domestic product by 33.4 percent during the first quarter of 2022 compared to the estimates of the first quarter of 2021. While the quarterly GDP increased during the first quarter of 2022 by 2.5 percent, compared to the estimates of the first quarter of 2021.

The total value added of mining and quarrying activities at constant prices decreased by 1.7 percent during the first quarter of 2022 when compared to the same quarter in 2021. While the total value added of non-mining activities increased by 5.2 percent during the first quarter of 2022 when compared to the same quarter in 2021.

Estimates of the quarterly GDP at current prices amounted to about (197.74 billion riyals) in the first quarter of 2022, compared to the revised estimates for the first quarter of 2021, which amounted to (148.28 billion riyals), which resulted in an increase of 33.4 percent. Compared to the revised estimates for the fourth quarter of 2021, amounting to (174.65 billion riyals), there was an increase in GDP by 13.2 percent.

Source (Al-Raya Qatari Newspaper, Edited)
IMF Warns of Risks of Global Economic Recession

The Director of the International Monetary Fund, Kristalina Georgieva, warned that the outlook for the global economy has "worsened greatly" since last April, noting that the possibility of a global recession next year cannot be ruled out in light of the huge risks that exist. Georgieva pointed out that "the fund will reduce in the coming weeks its forecast for 3.6 percent growth in the global economy for the third time this year."

The International Monetary Fund is expected to publish its updated forecasts for 2022 and 2023 in late July, after trimming its forecast by nearly 1 percent in April. While the global economy had achieved a growth rate in 2021 of 6.1 percent.

Georgieva stressed that "the outlook since the last update in April has become significantly bleak." Noting "greater spread of global inflation, more significant increases in interest rates, slowing economic growth in China, and escalating sanctions related to the Russian war in Ukraine," she explained that "recent economic data showed that some large economies, including the economies of China and Russia, contracted in the second quarter, and in this sense, the risks may be higher in 2023, while 2022 will be difficult, but 2023 may be more difficult." And the risks of a recession will increase in 2023.

Source (Al-Arabiya.net Website, Edited)