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Three killed in Riyadh, Abha airport attacks

Attacks on international airports in the Saudi capital of Riyadh and the southern city of Abha killed three people and wounded dozens, the kingdom's civil aviation authority said yesterday.

"On Tuesday and Wednesday ... Abha International Airport and King Khalid International Airport were subjected to attacks targeting their facilities," the authority said in a statement. Saudi authorities did not specify who was responsible despite ongoing hostilities with Yemen's Houthi fighters, who claimed attacks on both airports yesterday. An Egyptian and an Algerian national were killed at Abha airport and a Sudanese national was killed at the airport in Riyadh, the agency said, with 36 people wounded in both attacks. The authority said the injuries "ranged from minor to severe" at both locations. "All injured individuals were immediately transported to hospitals to receive necessary medical care. The attacks also caused some material damage," it said. The Saudi-led coalition that backs the pro-government forces in Yemen said on X that it "destroyed the ballistic missile launch platform" used in the attack on Riyadh. **(AFP)**

PM fetes teachers for their noble mission

HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani has honoured 80 government teachers for their contributions to the country's education sector at an event marking World Teachers' Day yesterday.

The Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE) organised the celebration under the theme "giving that nurtures generations" at the Ritz-Carlton in Doha. The event was attended by Their Excellencies Shura Council Speaker Hassan bin Abdullah al-Ghanem, Minister of Education and Higher Education Lolwah bint Rashid AlKhater, and Civil Service and Government Development Bureau President Dr Abdulaziz al-Khalifa, along with senior education and academic officials.

"Today, I was delighted to honour 80 teachers, both male and female, from various government schools. This recognition is a tribute to their impact, which will extend to future generations, and to their giving



and distinguished efforts in the educational and teaching field. All thanks to them, and to all teachers, for what they have contributed in instilling values and principles, and

preparing future generations," HE the Prime Minister said on his X platform. "You have informed the most noble or the most exalted of those who build and create

souls and minds. To every teacher, on this Teacher's Day, we celebrate your selfless role in nurturing generations over the years, the importance of your noble educational and teaching mission, and your effective contribution to elevating the status of education and developing human competencies. So, thank you for your giving and dedication," he said in an earlier post.

School leaders, teachers, parents, students and local media representatives also attended the ceremony. The ministry said the honourees were recognised for their work in classrooms and their efforts to support the development of students' knowledge and skills. It added the teachers had also contributed to instilling values and principles intended to help students develop their character and prepare for the future.

World Teachers' Day has been observed annually since 1994 to highlight the support teachers need to deploy their talent and to develop the profession globally. **(QNA) Page 3**

Cabinet reiterates full solidarity with Saudi, slams Houthi attacks

QNA
Doha

HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani chaired the weekly Cabinet meeting at the Amiri Diwan yesterday. Following the meeting, HE the Minister of Justice and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, Ibrahim bin Ali al-Mohannadi, stated that at the outset of the meeting, the Cabinet renewed Qatar's strong condemnation of the Houthi group's attack on an electricity distribution station in Madinah, in Saudi Arabia, serving the Prophet's Mosque and civilian facilities. The Cabinet stressed that the attack constitutes a serious violation of the sanctity of Islamic holy sites, a clear provocation to Muslims, a reckless disregard for civilian lives and a flagrant violation of the kingdom's sovereignty.

The Cabinet reaffirmed Qatar's full solidarity with Saudi Arabia and its support for all legitimate measures taken to safeguard its sovereignty, security, territorial integrity and Islamic holy sites. It stressed that the kingdom's security is an integral part of the security of Qatar and the collective security of GCC states. On another note, the Cabinet highlighted Qatar's leading performance in the Global Innovation Index 2026, published by the World Intellectual Property Organisation

(WIPO). Qatar ranked first globally and regionally in the General Infrastructure and Tertiary Inbound Mobility indicators, and among the top three regionally in the Human Capital and Research, Institutions, Infrastructure, Market Sophistication, Business Sophistication and Creative Outputs pillars. Qatar maintained its position among the world's top 10 countries in the ICT Access indicator. The Cabinet affirmed that these regional and global achievements reflect effective planning, continued efforts to keep pace with rapid advances in science and technology, and the collective efforts of the State's various entities and institutions towards achieving Qatar National Vision 2030 and the objectives of the Third National Development Strategy (2024-2030). On the occasion of World Teachers' Day, the Cabinet expressed its appreciation to teachers across the State for their valuable efforts and national role in educating future generations, instilling noble values and fulfilling their educational mission. The Cabinet affirmed that education and its continued development remain a key priority for Qatar and a central objective of National Vision 2030. The Cabinet then reviewed the topics on its agenda and approved a draft decision of the Minister of Environment and Climate Change on the Management of Naturally Occurring Radioactive Materials Generated by the Oil and Gas Industry in the State. **To Page 2**

National campaign for flu vaccination begins

By A Staff Reporter
Doha

The Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) has announced the launch of the National Seasonal Influenza Vaccination and Awareness Campaign, running through March 2027, in collaboration with Hamad Medical Corporation al-Romaihi. (HMC), Primary Healthcare Corporation (PHCC), and public, semi-government, and private healthcare facilities.

The flu vaccine is available free of charge at PHCC centres, HMC health facilities, and more than 50 other private healthcare facilities nationwide. Eligible individuals can go directly to any PHCC centre for vaccination without a prior appointment. Fast-track protocols have been introduced to streamline the process, ensure efficient access, and minimise patient waiting times.

The campaign aims to safeguard public health and minimise influenza-related health complications ahead of the winter season, which typically sees a sharp rise in infection rates. This year's campaign specifically targets the most vulnerable populations, including individuals aged 50 and older, children aged 6 months to 5 years, pregnant women,



Dr Hamad Eid al-Romaihi

healthcare workers, and individuals with chronic diseases such as diabetes, asthma, and others.

Dr Hamad Eid al-Romaihi, director of the Health Protection and Communicable Diseases Control Department at MoPH, stated: "The launch of the annual influenza vaccination campaign underscores Qatar's unwavering commitment to public health and to achieving the objectives of the National Health Strategy by promoting proactive prevention of diseases through national vaccination campaigns."

Dr al-Romaihi added: "The flu vaccine is a safe and effective way to protect against seasonal influenza. Because influenza viruses evolve continuously, the World Health Organisation develops an annual vaccine that targets the most prevalent strains of the upcoming season.

It is vital to receive this new vaccine every year before winter begins, ideally in October or November. It takes approximately two weeks for the body to develop full immunity after vaccination. Influenza can lead to serious health complications, including pneumonia and critical aggravation of existing chronic conditions." More information is available from Qatar's Unified Call Centre for health at 16000.

Building on World Cup legacy, Qatar sets sights on 2036 Olympics

QNA
Doha

From the legacy of the World Cup to the horizons of the Olympics, Qatar is writing a new chapter in its sporting journey as it pursues its ambition to host the 2036 Olympic and Paralympic Games. This bid builds on accumulated experience in organising major global championships, as well as a robust network of sports facilities, infrastructure, and organisational expertise developed over years.

With Qatar's receipt of the flag for the 2030 Asian Games, a new milestone begins along this path. The upcoming Asian Games will serve as a practical test for the readiness of the country's facilities and organisational framework, and for their capacity to accommodate large-scale continental competitions and events.

Moreover, the upcoming hosting of the Asian Games carries significance that extends beyond the boundaries of competition. It

demonstrates the trust placed by the Olympic Council of Asia and the continent's sports community in Qatar's ongoing capability to host major sporting events. Qatar enters the race to host the 2036 Olympics – guided by its extensive experience in organising major global sports events – toward a new ambition: seeing Doha one day host the world's largest sporting event.

The International Olympic Committee's official inclusion of Qatar on the list of countries interested in hosting the 2036 Games provides a solid foundation for its bid. This step reflects the country's growing presence on the global sports map and opens the door to an Olympic project whose ambition transcends hosting a single sports event, aiming instead to deliver an exceptional experience that showcases Qatar's ability to turn aspirations into reality.

Qatar's ambition to host this event is not merely an attempt to enter the bidding race; rather, it is anchored in years of investment in sports, venues, and organisa-



tional expertise. This positions Qatar to present a bid centred on operational readiness rather than the construction of new infrastructure specifically for the event. Qatar's efforts to host the Olympic and Paralympic Games date back to July 2025, when the Qatar Olympic Committee, headed by HE Sheikh Joaan bin Hamad al-Thani, President of the Qatar Olympic

Committee and chairman of the bid committee, confirmed its participation in ongoing discussions with the International Olympic Committee regarding hosting the Games.

As part of its bid assets, Qatar boasts an advanced sports ecosystem. Estimates indicate that roughly 95% of the infrastructure required to host the Games is al-

ready in place, reflecting years of work to develop sports venues and supporting facilities to international standards, while leveraging the legacy left by Qatar's hosting of numerous major tournaments and sporting events.

This ecosystem includes modern stadiums and specialised facilities for various sports, alongside training and preparation centres, aquatic complexes, athletics and team sport facilities, and an integrated network of hotels, lodging, medical, and logistical services. These are supported by advanced infrastructure in transportation, roads, and transit, providing a comprehensive foundation to welcome athletes, delegations, and fans.

This readiness takes on special significance given the nature of the Olympic Games, which require hosting dozens of sports across multiple venues, alongside training, accommodation, transportation, and auxiliary services of the highest efficiency-requirements that Qatar has advanced far in fulfilling through its continuous sports and developmental investments.

The strengths of the Qatari bid are not limited to infrastructure. Qatar has also accumulated broad organisational experience by hosting global, continental, and regional sports events, contributing to the development of an integrated system for managing major competitions and enhancing related human, organisational, and technical capabilities.

Qatar's bid to host the 2036 Olympic and Paralympic Games has gained a pan-Arab dimension with the ministerial-level support of the Arab League Council, a stance reflecting regional backing that complements the bid's technical and organisational strengths.

This support, alongside the country's advanced readiness and expertise, underscores that competing to host the 2036 Games is not about building a new Olympic city from scratch. Instead, it relies on utilising and adapting an existing sports ecosystem to meet the event's requirements, while maintaining a long-term vision for sporting legacy after the competitions conclude.



MoI receives delegation from Ahmed Bin Mohammed Military College



The Penal and Correctional Institutions Department at the Ministry of Interior (MoI) received a delegation of officer cadets from Ahmed Bin Mohammed Military College on a field visit aimed at familiarising them with the department's work



and its rehabilitation and reform system, as well as the programs provided to inmates. The military delegation was received by Col Yousef Bilal al-Abdullah, assistant director of the Penal and Correctional Institutions Department, along

with a number of department officers. The visit included an introductory lecture outlining the department's duties, responsibilities and rehabilitation programs, which seek to strengthen inmates' behavioural, social and

vocational skills and prepare them for reintegration into society. The lecture was followed by a tour of several department facilities to observe the work, services and equipment supporting the rehabilitation process. (QNA)

Amir congratulates Saudi king, crown prince on Gulf Cup win

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, His Highness the Deputy Amir Sheikh Abdullah bin Hamad al-Thani and HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani sent cables of congratulations to Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz al-Saud and Crown Prince and Prime Minister Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz al-Saud on the occasion of the Saudi national football team winning the 27th edition of the Arabian Gulf Cup (Khaleeji 27), and the kingdom's success in hosting and organising the tournament. (QNA)

MoJ to launch AI-powered legal portal on Sunday

The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) is set to launch a new website of the Official Gazette and the Al-Meezan Legal Portal on Sunday, introducing what it describes as the country's first AI-powered comprehensive national system for legal knowledge. The new platform will provide legal information in Arabic and English, with enhanced search and categorisation tools to make laws easier to access and understand. The ministry stressed that AI tools were indicative of the law and do not replace the official legal texts, which remain the only approved reference.

Within the framework of strengthening transparency and community participation in coordination with the Council of Ministers Secretariat General, the portal will give its visitors and specialised individuals the opportunity to comment on the ongoing legislative tools and provide recommendations regarding law drafts presented for public discussion to support developing legislation that meets ongoing transformations. On the economic front, the move aims to strengthen business environment and investment in the State by providing clear and credible legal information for local and international investors to minimise time and effort and strengthen the investor's trust and the State of Qatar's attractiveness when it comes to investments. This project is the result of institutional cooperation and national partnership between the MoJ, the Supreme Judicial Council, the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, the National Planning Council, the Civil Service and Government Development Bureau, and the Council of Ministers Secretariat General. The initiative forms part of the the MoJ's Strategic Plan 2025-2030 and Qatar's wider digital agenda under Qatar National Vision 2030. (QNA)

Over 17,000 real estate-related transactions processed in Sept

By Ayman Adly
Staff Reporter

The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) processed 17,023 real estate registration and authentication transactions in September, as the country's real estate market continued to see significant trading activity. According to the ministry's September figures, 12,230 transactions involved real estate authentication, while another 4,518 involved real estate registration, with 275 transactions completed through Abshir service, a mobile office that provides easy access when needed. Authentication services accounted for the largest share of activity. The most frequently processed transactions were 4,400 foundation contracts, 2,575 general powers of attorney in cases, 815 special official authorisations, 429 transactions involv-

MoJ processed 17,023 real estate registration and authentication transactions in September

ing the sale of shares in companies or corporations, and 399 special official authorisations within companies or corporations. Together, these five categories accounted for 8,618 transactions, or roughly 70% of the authentication transactions reported. Real estate registration activity was led by the issuance of 1,752 property lists, followed by 483 sale contracts, 277 regulatory modification documents, 241 state gift documents and 190 replacement ownership documents. These five categories accounted for 2,943 transactions. The geographical distribution

of services showed particularly strong activity in the ministry's Western and Southern sectors. Within real estate registration, the West Sector handled 1,334 transactions, followed by the South with 458, Al Shamal with 230, and the East with 155. The ministry's headquarters processed a further 2,341 registration transactions. Authentication services recorded an even higher volume across the service network. The South Sector processed 3,049 transactions, followed by the West with 2,178, the ministry headquarters with 1,403, Al Shamal with 619, and the East with 604. A substantial 4,377 authentication transactions were completed online through the Single Window System, indicating the accelerating shift toward integrated digital government services. Meanwhile, Ministry of Justice data showed that real estate trading under registered sale

contracts reached QR1.291 bn in August, based on 424 property transactions. Doha accounted for the largest share at about QR435.5 million, followed by Al Rayyan at QR335.5 mn and Al Dhaayen at QR175.2 mn. September subsequently produced several strong weekly readings. Real estate trading reached QR387.9 mn during September 6-10, while the September 13-17 period recorded about QR371 mn. For September 20-24, trading surged to around QR583.1 mn, including QR516.4 mn in registered sales contracts and QR66.7 million in residential-unit sales. Further, the Ministry of Justice has been pursuing a broader digital transformation programme to make its real estate registration and authentication services increasingly accessible electronically, reducing the need for physical visits while improving processing efficiency and customer convenience.

Over 12,000 people in Qatar expected to apply for Haj '27

More than 12,000 people are expected to register for Qatar's 2027 Haj season, according to the Ministry of Endowments (Awqaf) and Islamic Affairs. Speaking to the Qatar News Agency (QNA), Ali al-Misifri, the ministry's director of Haj and Umrah Affairs Department, said registration had increased significantly since it opened on September 20. The deadline is October 20. Applicants will be selected electronically

through a draw expected to take place at the end of October, with the process designed to ensure transparency and equal opportunity. Those approved will be notified by text message and given one week to complete arrangements with an authorised Haj campaign and pay a QR10,000 advance payment, which will later be deducted from the total cost. Al-Misifri said technical problems affecting some applications — including adding a companion or male guardian and correcting

residency or age details — were being addressed. Applicants can contact the department's hotline on 132 during official working hours. He also said Qatar's Haj registration system is electronically linked to the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH), allowing medical fitness results to appear in the system within about 90 minutes. Saudi authorities have set six health-related restrictions on pilgrims as part of measures to protect public health, he added. (QNA)

Cabinet reiterates full solidarity with Saudi

From Page 1

The draft decision was prepared by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change in cooperation with QatarEnergy and in accordance with safety standards issued by the International Atomic Energy Agency. It establishes a comprehensive regulatory framework for managing such materials, setting out the requirements, controls and responsibilities governing their handling, storage, transport and disposal to protect workers, the public and the environment from radiation risks. The Cabinet reviewed proposals submitted by the Shura Council to strengthen the social, cultural and values-based role of sports clubs and their activities. The proposals focused on expand-

ing clubs' community and cultural programmes and strengthening their role in fostering national identity among children and youth. The Cabinet approved the outcome of the review and tasked the Ministry of Sports and Youth with implementing it in coordination with the relevant entities. Concluding its meeting, the Cabinet reviewed a report on the outcomes of HE the Minister of Municipality's participation in the 29th meeting of the GCC Ministers Responsible for Municipal Affairs (Kingdom of Bahrain - September 2026); and a report on the outcomes of HE the Minister of State for Foreign Trade's participation in the Policy Dialogue of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and meetings held with heads of economic organisations (Geneva - July 2026), and took the appropriate decisions thereon.

Conference on recycling concludes

The Ministry of Municipality yesterday concluded the 6th Recycling and Sustainability Conference and Exhibition 2026, featuring broad participation from government entities, local and international companies, and experts in waste management. The event drew 1,020 visitors out of 1,464 registrants, alongside 127 exhibitors, 51 speakers, 6 embassies, and 16 school delegations from 10 schools. (QNA)



Qatar campaign promotes ethical values among pupils

QNA
Doha

A campaign promoting ethical values and positive behaviour among school students is expanding to schools across Qatar, organisers said. The campaign is being led by Qatar Social Work's Behavioral Health Support Center (Daam), in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education and the "My Values Shape My Identity" project. It is also being carried out in partnership with the Akhlaquna initiative and the Aman Social Protection and Rehabilitation Center. The campaign began last week in selected schools and is being extended to schools across Qatar's

municipalities. It includes educational lectures, interactive activities and a dedicated game designed to help students learn about values and how to apply them in everyday situations. Organisers said the interactive approach was intended to make discussions about ethics more relevant to students while encouraging participation, reflection and positive behavioural choices. The campaign focuses on values including responsibility, respect and co-operation, while highlighting the role of schools, families and the wider community in helping young people develop positive behaviour and ethical awareness. The organisers said the programme aims to turn ethical principles into practical behaviours that students can apply in their daily lives.

HMC launches human tissue biobank in collaboration with QPHI

The Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology (DLMP) at Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC) has announced the launch of the Human Tissue Biobank, implemented in collaboration with the Qatar Precision Health Institute (QPHI). This strategic step builds on the achievements of the project's first phase and expands the Biobank's capabilities to include the storage and management of freshly removed biological tissue to support clinical care and biomedical research. This advanced phase follows the successful establishment and operation of the first phase of the Human Tissue Biobank by HMC's Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology, which included the development of regulatory and operational frameworks and infrastructure required for the storage and management of tissue specimens in accordance with approved quality and governance standards. Human tissue biobanks are considered a fundamental component of modern healthcare and research systems. They provide

high-quality biological specimens and associated data within advanced governance and regulatory frameworks. These resources support disease diagnosis, the development of personalised treatments, biomarker discovery, understanding disease mechanisms, and the acceleration of applied and translational research, ultimately contributing to improved healthcare quality and patient outcomes. Dr Einas al-Kuwari, Chair of the Department of Laboratory Medicine and Pathology at HMC, said: "Since the launch of the first phase of the Tissue Biobank project, we have focused on establishing an integrated system for the storage and management of formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded (FFPE) tissue specimens to support clinical services and approved research projects. This phase has achieved significant results, with the Biobank currently housing at least 700,000 paraffin blocks and 2.6mn tissue slides, including at least 250,000 immunohistochemistry slides, and having supported at least 58 research applications during its first phase,



including approved projects and those that have undergone or are undergoing review by HMC's Medical Research Center." She added: "Having established this strong foundation during the first phase, we are now preparing for a new and more advanced phase of the Biobank's work, expanding its services to include the storage and management of freshly resected biological tissue. This will open up broader oppor-

tunities for advanced diagnostics, precision medicine, and biomedical and translational research." This phase represents a significant expansion of the Biobank's capabilities, enabling the handling of freshly resected biological tissue through clear and structured pathways for clinical and research use, while maintaining a clear separation between the clinical and research pathways and full adherence to approved ethical

and regulatory frameworks. Regarding the clinical pathway, Dr Einas al-Kuwari explained that the Biobank will enable the storage of freshly resected tissue based on clinical needs and physicians' requests, supporting advanced molecular and genomic testing, next-generation sequencing (NGS), precision oncology programs, specialised predictive assays, as well as modern cellular and tissue-based diagnostic technologies. She added that these capabilities will help improve the accuracy of treatment decisions, expand access to advanced molecular and genomic testing, and support access to more advanced diagnostic solutions as part of the evolving landscape of personalised healthcare and precision medicine. On the research end, the new phase provides advanced capabilities for storing freshly resected tissue specimens for approved research projects, offering researchers an advanced national platform to support biomedical and translational research. All studies will continue to undergo ethical and regulatory review through the Med-

ical Research Center, in accordance with the institutional policies and regulations in place at HMC. The Human Tissue Biobank continues to uphold the highest ethical and regulatory standards around informed consent, data privacy, specimen quality and integrity, and compliance with approved regulations and policies. The Biobank complements HMC's existing research governance framework and does not replace or bypass the established ethical approval and regulatory oversight managed by the Medical Research Center. The transition to this advanced phase reflects the close collaboration between HMC and QPHI in developing Qatar's national infrastructure for precision medicine and biomedical research. The new capabilities of the Tissue Biobank are expected to enable advanced diagnostic technologies, expand translational research, and accelerate the development and implementation of precision medicine solutions, addressing current and future healthcare needs and strengthening Qatar's position in biomedical research and personalised healthcare. (QNA)

PM honours 80 educators as Qatar celebrates World Teachers' Day



HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani honored 80 government teachers for their contributions to the country's education sector at an event marking World Teachers' Day 2026 yesterday. The Ministry of Education and Higher Education organised the celebration under the theme "giving that nurtures generations" at the Ritz-Carlton in Doha. School leaders, teachers, parents, students and local media representatives also attended the ceremony. (QNA)



Qatar participates in Gulf ministerial meetings, Made in GCC 2026 opening



The State of Qatar participated in the 71st meeting of the GCC Commercial Co-operation Committee, the 57th meeting of the GCC Industrial Co-operation Committee, and the 12th meeting of the Ministerial Committee for Standardisation Affairs of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) States, held on Tuesday in Manama.

The meetings brought together the Ministers of Commerce and Industry of the GCC member states, along with GCC Secretary-General Jassem Mohamed Albudaiwi.

Qatar's delegation to the meetings was headed by HE the Minister of Commerce and Industry Sheikh Faisal bin Thani bin Faisal al-Thani, with the participation of HE Dr Ahmed bin Mohammed al-Sayed, Minister of State for Foreign Trade Affairs at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

During the meetings, the ministers discussed a range of issues of common interest, along with recommendations and agenda items submitted by preparatory meetings of GCC undersecretaries of commerce and industry, and adopted appropriate decisions.

HE Sheikh Faisal bin Thani bin Faisal al-Thani also participated in the 15th Consultative Meeting between GCC Ministers of Commerce and Industry and Heads of the Federations of GCC Chambers. The meeting reviewed topics and recommendations submitted by the heads of GCC chambers and adopted appropriate decisions.



HE Dr Ahmed bin Mohammed al-Sayed participated in the sixth consultative meeting between GCC Ministers of Commerce and Industry and Gulf entrepreneurs. The meeting focused on exchanging expertise and addressing challenges facing the entrepreneurship sector across the GCC, while also reviewing initiatives to support small and medium-sized enterprises, foster innovation and strengthen the Gulf entrepreneurship ecosystem.

Dr al-Sayed also attended a ceremony honouring Gulf inventors, aimed at supporting innovators and encouraging ideas that contribute to economic development, enhance productivity and promote sustainable growth across the GCC.

Meanwhile, HE Sheikh Faisal participated in the official opening of the Made in the GCC 2026 Forum and Exhibition, alongside HE Dr al-Sayed. The event runs from Oct 6-8 at Exhibition World Bahrain.

Dr al-Sayed also participated in a session held on the opening day

of the forum titled "From Industry to Global Markets: Investment, Export and Growth." The session examined key drivers of industrial growth and access to global markets, including financing and investment, the development of productive capacity, export promotion and market access.

It also explored the role of industrial policies, trade agreements and international partnerships in enhancing industrial competitiveness, integrating industries into global value chains, and creating new opportunities for growth and expansion.

Qatar is participating in the Made in the GCC 2026 exhibition through a national pavilion bringing together the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Qatar Development Bank, Qatar Economic Zones Company (Manateq), and more than 20 Qatari manufacturers. The pavilion showcases the diversity of Qatar's industrial sector and highlights Qatari products and industries. (QNA)

Qatar's participation in GCC manufacturing forum enhances Gulf industrial integration

The inaugural "Made in the Gulf 2026" exhibition and forum, taking place in Bahrain through today, serves as a unified platform for GCC manufacturers and industrial stakeholders.

Qatar's participation highlights its commitment to fostering Gulf industrial integration, creating new partnerships, supporting non-oil exports, and building integrated, sustainable regional supply chains. Officials and business representatives emphasised to the Qatar News Agency (QNA) that the event offers an ideal venue to showcase Qatari products, boost their competitiveness, and expand their regional and international reach.

Through its participation in the 'Made in the Gulf' exhibition, Manager of Small and Medium Industries Zone at Manateq Meshaal Ahmed Mahjoob al-Hajjaji told QNA, the company looks forward to strengthening Gulf industrial integration and building new partnerships that contribute to

achieving the goals of joint industrial action initiatives and policies in the GCC countries.

He explained that Manateq's presence within the Ministry of Commerce and Industry pavilion aims to expand market reach for Qatari and Gulf goods globally. He noted that Manateq seeks to empower investors and facilitate their business in a way that supports the localisation of industries and the strengthening of supply chains, contributing to economic diversification and increasing the competitiveness of the national product inside and outside Qatar. At Economic Zones Company (Manateq), he said, they work to overcome difficulties and challenges and streamline procedures for the investor, adding that their goal is to provide an attractive and sustainable investment environment, support the industrial and logistics sector, and strengthen the national economy of the State of Qatar. Senior Director of Export

Development at Qatar Development Bank (QDB) Ali Sultan al-Kuwari noted that QDB is leading a delegation of 20 Qatari exporters to highlight the quality and diversity of national products, aligning with the bank's core mission to drive non-oil exports and open global avenues for Qatari businesses.

Assistant Director of the National Product Competitiveness Support Department at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry Jassim Ahmed al-Kuwari stated to QNA that the State of Qatar's participation in the 'Made in the Gulf' exhibition comes as a confirmation of its keenness to enhance Gulf industrial integration.

He added that they look forward to this participation contributing to opening new horizons for national factories and strengthening partnerships between private sectors in the GCC countries, thereby supporting the competitiveness of Gulf industry regionally and internationally. (QNA)

'Attracting top talent key to bolstering education sector'

QNA
Doha

HE the Minister of Education and Higher Education Lolwah AlKhater emphasised that attracting the wealth of talent in the nation, primarily citizens, those born in the country, and residents, is a foremost priority for the ministry so as to turbocharge the educational sector.

She noted that the ministry is working in lockstep with the appropriate authorities to deepen and expand this approach.

HE AlKhater was speaking during a ceremony held by the ministry to mark World Teachers' Day 2026 under the theme "Giving That Nurtures Generations." She added that the ministry and Qatar University (QU) have accomplished a thoroughgoing review of the Bachelor of Education programs across their various majors, including special education, ahead of launching updated academic pathways that meet the needs of the various educational stages and keep abreast of rapidly evolving developments in the education sector.

HE the Minister availed herself of this opportunity to extend assurances of her highest consideration to HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani for his persistent support for this sector, along with his keenness to draw the talent of both Qataris and residents to work in the educational profession, stemming from his belief in teachers and their role in nations' progress.

Qatar has held that elevating the teachers' standing is of paramount importance, as they are the lynchpin of the educational process and key partners in the path of national development, AlKhater noted.

She stressed that teachers are not measured by the knowledge they provide during the day, but by the enduring impact they leave in the hearts of students spanning many years, thereby demonstrating the profound responsibility they bear and the significant role they play in building generations and shaping the future.

AlKhater applauded the tremendous, combined efforts the state institutions have been making during the extraordinary circumstances that unfolded in the country throughout the past period. She recalled the role undertaken by male and female teachers to ensure the continuity of education and provide students with a secure



HE the Minister of Education and Higher Education Lolwah AlKhater addressing the gathering at the event yesterday.

and serene environment.

Teachers have been at the forefront of those who shouldered the responsibility during that phase, AlKhater acknowledged, noting that they continued to perform their educational mission and helped support students and train them in safety and evacuation measures, a gesture that confirms their standing as educators, role models, and guides, alongside their educational role.

She asserted that this resilience embodies what was confirmed by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani's address before the United Nations General Assembly, His Highness said that resilience is the outgrowth of planning, preparedness, and investment in people and national capabilities, considering teachers as a true model of this national investment.

She noted the high profile of teachers in Qatar, highlighting His Highness the late Father Amir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani's positive attitudes towards his teachers. This, the minister added, reflects a longstanding culture of honouring scholars and knowledge, passed down through generations in Qatari society.

Tumooch Program continues to play an effective role in supporting qualified national talent for the educational sector, AlKhater pointed out, highlighting that the programme has thus far graduated 1,766 male and female teachers, while 1,147 are pursuing their studies within the programme.

She noted that male enrolment in education majors has increased from 16 students three years ago to more than 300 over the past two years, alongside an expansion of access to the program to include the children of Qatari women, holders of Qatari identification documents, and permanent residents.

The ministry has worked to diversify pathways into the teaching profession through

the "Tamheen" program, which has given individuals from various academic disciplines an opportunity to enter the education sector, AlKhater pointed out, adding that to date, 197 male and female teachers have completed the program through seven training cohorts.

She also hailed the existing partnership with Teach For Qatar, which since its inception has helped recruit 575 participants from different academic backgrounds into public schools, including those with backgrounds in engineering, medicine, pharmacy, and Islamic studies.

In closing, the minister clarified that more than 33,000 teachers, school leaders, and support personnel have benefited from the ministry's Training and Development Center programs this year, while 1,466 professional licenses have been awarded to educators.

HE AlKhater noted that the Khibrat program has enabled teachers to gain exposure to myriad educational experiences and bring those lessons back to their colleagues through the Innovation Leaders program, which has yielded 105 innovative projects aimed at grappling with educational challenges within schools.

Speaking on behalf of recognised teachers on the occasion of this day, Khamis al-Kuwari, a Physical Education teacher at Yarmouk School, praised HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs for patronising the ceremony. He also lauded the ministry's unwavering support for the education workforce in the country.

He emphasised that the teaching profession goes beyond imparting knowledge to shaping the character of future generations and instilling in students the values of discipline, commitment, and sportsmanship, stressing that a teacher's lasting impact continues to shape generations of the nation for many years to come.

Qatar launches Doha Dialogue on Labour Mobility in Tanzania

QNA
Dar es Salaam

The State of Qatar launched the Second Doha Dialogue on Labour Mobility, hosted in Dar es Salaam in United Republic of Tanzania, on Oct 5-6, under the theme “From Commitment to Action: Advancing Fair and Sustainable Labour Mobility between Africa and GCC Countries.”

The second edition of the Dialogue was attended by Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi, President of Zanzibar, representing Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of the United Republic of Tanzania, with the participation of Ministers of Labour from more than 33 countries, including GCC, African and Arab countries, as well as the African Union Commission, the International Labour Organisation, the Arab Labour Organisation and the International Organisation for Migration, alongside experts, academics and civil society representatives.

HE the Minister of Labour Dr Ali bin Smaikh al-Marri welcomed participants in the second edition of the Doha Dialogue on Labour Mobility and expressed his appreciation to the United Republic of Tanzania, its leadership, Government and people, for hosting the Dialogue. He also commended the efforts of the African Union Commission, a partner in launching the Dialogue, the Executive



Bureau of the GCC Council of Ministers of Labour, the International Labour Organisation and the International Organisation for Migration, as well as all partners involved in preparing this edition.

In his remarks during the high-level opening session, HE Dr al-Marri said the Doha Dialogue on Labour Mobility was launched in Doha in May 2024, bringing together Ministers of Labour and representatives from African and GCC countries, as well as the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the Lebanese Republic, culminating in the adoption of the Doha Declaration on Labour Mobility.

Dr al-Marri explained that the Dialogue serves as a state-led consultative platform bringing together countries of origin and destination based on partnership and shared responsibility. He noted that labour mobility has a direct bearing not only on labour-market needs, but also on the

lives and livelihoods of millions of workers and their families and on wider economic and social development and stability. This, he said, requires addressing existing challenges, exchanging expertise and developing practical solutions that take account of the interests of all parties while upholding workers' rights.

He added that the second edition is being held under the theme “From Commitment to Action”, reflecting a shift from defining shared principles and priorities to implementing them, following up on them and measuring their impact on the ground. This includes regulating recruitment processes, ensuring greater transparency in employment contracts, protecting wages, developing skills pathways and ensuring workers' access to protection and justice.

Dr al-Marri highlighted Qatar's continued development of its legislative and institutional la-

bour framework through reforms including the abolition of the exit permit requirement, the abolition of the No-Objection Certificate requirement for changing employers, the introduction of a non-discriminatory minimum wage covering domestic workers, and the establishment of Labour Dispute Settlement Committees and the Workers' Support and Insurance Fund.

He stressed that developing legislation represents an essential step in strengthening the labour system, noting that the real impact of these reforms depends on effective implementation, continuous monitoring and stronger co-operation between countries of origin and destination.

The minister explained that this edition focuses on three key areas: skills and labour-market pathways; fair recruitment, decent work and access to justice; and social protection and the portability of entitlements. He stressed that



bilateral labour agreements and institutional co-operation are key tools for translating these priorities into practical measures.

He noted that Qatar looks forward to strengthening the implementation, review and monitoring of these agreements in a manner that respects national legislation, serves the interests of participating countries and upholds workers' rights.

Dr al-Marri expressed hope that this edition would culminate in a balanced and practical declaration that builds on the 2024 Doha Declaration, sets out clear priorities for co-operation and follow-up, and preserves the Dialogue's consultative and voluntary character while remaining consistent with applicable national, regional and international frameworks.

He affirmed Qatar's readiness to continue working with the United Republic of Tanzania, the African Union Commission, GCC countries and all other partners to implement the outcomes of the Dialogue and advance its shared objectives. He also reiterated his appreciation to the United Republic of Tanzania and to all partici-

pating delegations, organisations and partners in the Second Doha Dialogue on Labour Mobility.

He noted that the Doha Dialogue concludes today in Dar es Salaam having made progress towards narrowing differences and identifying areas of common ground, supporting the continuation of this process and efforts to build on what has been achieved, while preserving the Dialogue's voluntary, non-binding and state-led consultative character.

HE Dr al-Marri stressed that the value of the Dialogue would from now on be measured by the practical co-ordination and joint measures reflected on the ground. He reaffirmed Qatar's continued efforts in the areas of wage protection, labour justice and transparency in recruitment, alongside its continued work with partners in GCC countries, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Lebanese Republic and African countries, as well as its co-operation with the International Labour Organisation and support for the Dialogue Secretariat in a manner that serves the interests of all participating countries.

Shura takes part in IPU Assembly and Governing Council meetings in Tanzania

QNA
Dar es Salaam

Qatar's Shura Council is taking part in the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)'s 153rd Assembly and 218th Governing Council meetings in the city of Arusha, the United Republic of Tanzania.

The gatherings are being held under the theme “Enhancing good governance and empowering communities through inclusivity, trust and opportunities for all”.

The Qatari delegation is headed by HE the Deputy Speaker, Dr Hamda bint Hassan al-Sulaiti, who also serves on IPU's Executive Committee.

Speaking before the assembly, HE Dr al-Sulaiti reemphasised that the State of Qatar, led by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani, believes in good governance as a vehicle for achieving fair and sustainable development and a more tight-knit and stable community.

The State of Qatar is moving diligently toward advancing its legislative and institutional frameworks, reinforcing digital transformation, enabling various community segments to contribute to development and policy-making, in addition to supporting education and development initiatives, combating corruption, and promoting integrity on the regional and global stages, she said.

She added that the theme of the current session is closely tied to the core of parlia-



mentary work, noting that strengthening good governance, empowering local communities, advancing inclusion, building trust, and ensuring opportunities for all aren't standalone objectives, but rather an integrated framework that lays the groundwork for social justice and sustainable development.

HE the Deputy Speaker acknowledged parliaments as a linchpin in turning these tenets into reality through legislation, oversight, representation, and resource allocation, while ensuring the meaningful engagement of all segments of society, particularly young people, women, persons with disabilities, and those most in need.

Dr al-Sulaiti underscored the importance of ensuring that communities are partners in crafting decisions that affect their present



and future, explaining that this thrust aligns with Sustainable Development Goal 16 and the Doha Declaration adopted by the United Nations General Assembly during the Second World Summit for Social Development hosted by the State of Qatar.

The draft resolution on inclusive social development and the rights of persons with disabilities represents a consequential step toward turning international commitments into practical legislation and policies that advance social justice and social development, she underlined.

Her Excellency weighed in on the nexus between development, stability, security, and peace, reemphasising that protecting civilians, respecting international law, and preserving the ceasefire are key to development. She recalled the fallout from conflicts and escalation in the region and the ensuing risks to civilians, critical facilities, navigation, energy supplies, and humanitarian and food needs.

In addition, Dr al-Sulaiti underscored the importance of following up on the implementation of the emergency item submitted by the State of Qatar and the Arab Group, with the support and par-



ticipation of several geopolitical groups and parliaments and adopted by the 152nd IPU Assembly.

The item, she recalled, calls for combined parliamentary efforts to preserve ceasefire agreements and support peacebuilding in the Middle East and other regions, thereby strengthening the role of parliaments in protecting civilians, preventing the further escalation of conflicts, and supporting pathways toward just and lasting peace.

As part of the effective engagement of the Council's delegation in several meetings and committees held alongside the assembly, Her Excellency took part in the meetings of the IPU Executive Committee, the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians, the Forum of Women Parliamentarians, and the Governing Council.

The delegation also participated in the co-ordination meetings of the Gulf legislative councils and the Arab and Islamic Groups, while Shura Council Member Dr Sultan bin Hassan Aldosari participated in a closed informal consultation on pathways to peaceful coexistence in the Middle East, as well as meetings of the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights.



For his part, Engineer Ahmed bin Hitmi bin Ahmed al-Hitmi took part in the co-ordination meeting of the Asia-Pacific Group, the Forum of Young Parliamentarians, and meetings of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security, with Yousef bin Ali al-Khater participating in meetings of the Governing Council, the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, and the Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs.

Running until Friday, the assembly debates avenues for strengthening good governance, empowering local communities, advancing inclusion, building trust, and ensuring opportunities for all, along with an array of parliamentary and international issues, while the standing committees consider issues related to peace and international security, sustainable development, democracy and human rights, and United Nations affairs.

The agenda covers a draft resolution on inclusive social development for all, alongside parliamentary strategies to promote the rights and empowerment of people living with disabilities, as well as requests for the inclusion of an emergency item.



QatarEnergy LNG Tender Invitation

No.	TENDER NUMBER / DESCRIPTION	TENDER ISSUE PERIOD	TENDER FEE (QAR)	TENDER BOND (QAR)	TENDER CLOSING DATE
1	SUP/C/AKC/7704/26 FOR SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING & COMMISSIONING OF FIREFIGHTING SYSTEM, INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION OF A FIRE PUMP ROOM AND FIRE WATER TANK - QCD APPROVED	07/10/2026 to 15/10/2026	0	0	09/11/2026

Scope of Work:
To design, supply, install, and commission a firefighting system, including the construction of a fire pump room and fire water tank at Al Waha Club - Al Khor Community, in accordance with QCS 2014, Qatar Civil Defence regulations (MOI Approved) and NFPA standards. The details of the requirement are defined in the SCOPE OF WORK / SERVICES.

Bid Validity: Bid Offer should be valid for 180 calendar days from the Tender Closing Date.

Place for Tender Collection and Bid Submission:
ITT document for this tender will be available in QatarEnergy LNG website under Suppliers tab >Current Open Tenders. The bids shall be submitted through the QatarEnergy LNG online platform (SMART by GEP).

CMC reviews municipal services, winter camping preparations

By Ayman Adly
Staff Reporter

The Central Municipal Council (CMC) recently held its 59th meeting as part of the fifth and final session of its seventh term, chaired by Mohamed bin Ali al-Athba.

Throughout the session, CMC members reviewed a range of public and municipal services, as well as related infrastructure and regulatory issues that directly impact residents' lives. The agenda focused on practical municipal matters, including citizen housing, the naming of streets and districts, market services, and preparations for the upcoming winter camping season.

Accordingly, the session began by approving the minutes of its previous meeting and reviewing incoming correspondence before considering recommendations from the CMC Public Services and Facilities Committee on the amount of steel used in constructing citizens' homes. The issue was raised following a proposal by Dr Bader bin Sultan al-Rumaihi, member representing Constituency 4. Members also reviewed recommendations on the pro-



posed naming of several streets in Constituency 16, based on a proposal from the Committee for Naming Areas, Districts and Squares. The members also discussed a separate proposal to amend the names of certain areas in Constituency 2. The meeting also addressed another issue regarding the mechanism for cleaning fish inside markets, as the council reviewed the committee's response to an earlier CMC recommendation on the issue, submitted following a proposal by Jassim bin Najm al-Khulaifi, member representing Constituency 1.

The council also discussed the 2026-2027 winter camping season, as it hosted the Winter Camping Organising Com-

mittee to review preparations and address members' concerns and questions about the upcoming season. The discussion took place shortly before the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change launched this year's camping season, announcing that the 2026-2027 season will run from October 25 until April 20, 2027, while registration is scheduled to open on October 11 through the ministry's website and the Bee'ah application. Registration is being organised in phases according to the geographical distribution of camping areas. The first phase, covering central areas, is scheduled for October 11-13, followed by the southern region from October 14-16 and the northern region from October 17-21. Registration for all areas will subsequently reopen from October 22-31.

The council's engagement with the Winter Camping Organising Committee is an important initiative to address campers' inquiries and concerns, as citizens consider it a major seasonal outdoor activity, particularly as the concerned entities seek to balance public access to camping areas with environmental protection and responsible use of natural sites.

MoFA secretary-general meets Indian, Thai ambassadors



HE the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Dr Ahmed bin Hassan al-Hammadi met with the ambassador of the Republic of India to the State of Qatar Dr K Srikar Reddy. During the meeting, they discussed co-operation relations between the two countries and ways to support and enhance them, in addition to several topics of mutual interest. (QNA)



HE the Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dr Ahmed bin Hassan al-Hammadi, met with the ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand to the State of Qatar, Pensom Lertsithichai. During the meeting, they reviewed co-operative relations between the two countries and ways to support and enhance them, in addition to a number of topics of mutual interest. (QNA)

Singapore minister visits Tasmu Lab

The Minister for Social and Family Development of the Republic of Singapore Masagos Zulkifli has visited the Tasmu Innovation Lab of Qatar's Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT) to review projects and initiatives supported by the facility. During the visit, Zulkifli and his delegation were briefed on innovative solutions and projects developed through the lab, as well as its role in supporting new ideas and emerging technologies. The delegation also learned about the lab's efforts to foster co-operation between government bodies, the private sector, innovators and entrepreneurs. Officials said the visit highlighted Qatar's efforts to promote digital innovation and develop technology-based solutions aimed at addressing challenges and expanding the use of emerging technologies across different sectors. (QNA)



Qatar attends GCC security meeting



The State of Qatar participated in the seventh meeting of the Directors of Public Security of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) States, held at the headquarters of the GCC General Secretariat in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Director General of Public Security Maj Gen Mohammed Jassim al-Sulaiti led Qatar's Ministry of Interior delegation to the meeting. The meeting discussed a number of security-related issues on its agenda, reviewed the outcomes and recommendations of the joint security committees, and explored ways to strengthen cooperation and joint security efforts among the GCC states. (QNA)

Ooredoo Qatar, McKinsey & Company sign agreement to support tech, AI

Ooredoo Qatar, a subsidiary of Ooredoo Group, has signed a strategic agreement with McKinsey & Company to support the next phase of its transformation, with a focus on digital technologies and artificial intelligence (AI). The agreement was signed by Ooredoo Qatar Chief Executive Officer Sheikh Ali bin Jabor bin Mohammad al-Thani and McKinsey & Company Global Managing Partner Bob Sternfels. In a statement yesterday, Ooredoo Qatar said the collaboration will support its ongoing transformation by harnessing digital and AI capabilities, unlocking new opportunities for sustainable growth and creating long-term value. Sheikh Ali bin Jabor bin Mohammad al-Thani said the collaboration with McKinsey & Company would enable Ooredoo Qatar to harness digital technologies and AI to deliver lasting value for its customers, employees and partners. "Through this engagement, we aim to turn our goals into measurable impact and help shape Qatar's digital future," he said. Earlier this year, Ooredoo Qatar launched its Strategic Digital and AI Transformation Program to accelerate AI adoption across its



operations, customer engagement and enterprise services. The latest collaboration reinforces Ooredoo Qatar's role as a technology and digital transformation partner and underscores its commitment to supporting the objectives of Qatar National Vision 2030. (QNA)

QMC, Ooredoo sign agreement

Qatar Media Corporation (QMC) and Ooredoo Qatar have signed an agreement aimed at strengthening co-operation between the two organisations and supporting their shared objectives amid rapid technological advancements. The agreement was signed by Director of the International Co-operation and Agreements Office of QMC Abdulla Ghanem al-Binali al-Mohannadi, and Senior Director of Business Accounts at Ooredoo Qatar Sheikh Abdulaziz bin Fahad al-Thani. Commenting on the agreement, Sheikh Abdulaziz bin Fahad al-Thani told Qatar News Agency (QNA): "We are proud to continue our collaboration with Qatar Media Corporation. We are committed to delivering advanced digital solutions and modern infrastructure that enhance operational efficiency and support QMC's strategic objectives. As a trusted national partner, we reaffirm our commitment to enabling the digital transformation of national institutions in the State of Qatar, in alignment with Qatar National Vision 2030."



"Through this partnership," Abdulla Ghanem al-Binali al-Mohannadi said: "Ooredoo is committed to providing its advanced services and digital solutions to QMC, enhancing workplace efficiency and delivering a modern digital infrastructure that supports both organisations' aspirations and contributes to the ongoing digital transformation of national institutions." He added: "The partnership reflects QMC's commitment to expanding its collaborations with national companies in line with its development strategies." (QNA)



QC launches humanitarian bridge from Qatar to Sudan

Qatar Charity (QC) has launched a humanitarian bridge from the State of Qatar to the Republic of Sudan, in partnership with Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD), Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC) and Aspetar, a specialised orthopaedic and sports medicine hospital. The initiative comprises 50 trucks carrying essential medicines and medical supplies as part of an urgent response to the growing health needs caused by the continuing conflict in Sudan. The launch ceremony was held yesterday at the headquarters of Gulf Warehousing Company (GWC) in Doha, in the presence of the ambassador of the State of Qatar to the Republic of Sudan Mohammed Ibrahim al-Sada, the ambassador of the Republic of the Sudan to the State of Qatar Badreddine Abdul-

lah, along with Chief Executive Officer of Qatar Charity Yousuf bin Ahmed al-Kuwari and representatives of partner entities in the health and relief sectors. The humanitarian bridge aims to deliver essential medicines and medical supplies and strengthen the capacity of health providers in Sudan to meet rapidly growing needs. Qatar Charity is coordinating the operational and logistical arrangements for their transportation to Sudan. The launch of the humanitarian bridge comes as Sudan faces extremely difficult humanitarian and health conditions. World Health Organisation estimates indicate that more than 20mn people require health assistance, 21mn face severe food shortages, and approximately 33.7mn people are expected to need humanitarian assistance in 2026. The initiative builds on Qatar Char-

ity's health and humanitarian program in Sudan for 2026. Qatar Charity implemented a series of specialised health initiatives, including cardiac medical camps, surgical operations and cardiac catheterisation procedures, as well as cochlear implant and cataract treatment programmes. Valued at more than QR1.3mn, these interventions provided patients with specialised medical care and strengthened the health sector's capacity to respond to growing needs across the targeted areas. The total value of Qatar Charity's humanitarian projects and interventions in Sudan in 2026 has reached approximately QR17mn to date. This figure does not include the assistance being delivered through the newly launched humanitarian bridge. (QNA)

الشارع التجاري
THE COMMERCIAL AVENUE
Umm Al Seneim
أم السعيد

NOTICE OF OPEN TENDER

The Management of **The Commercial Avenue W.L.L. ("TCA")**, a subsidiary of Qatari Diar Real Estate Investment Company (QDREIC), hereby invites competent and experienced Service Providers to participate in the following Open Tender:

Tender Reference No.: TCA-CONT-OPR-26-012			
Tender Title: Design and Implementation of IP CCTV System at Building Types 01, 02, 04 and 05 at The Commercial Avenue			
Tender Bond (QAR)	Tender Fee* (QAR)	Tender Fee Receipt Submission Deadline	Tender Closing Deadline
1,000,000.00	3,500.00	15 October 2026 12:00 PM (AST)	17 November 2026 12:00 PM (AST)

* Tender Fee is non-refundable & non-transferable.

CONDITIONS

➤ **Tender Fee Payment:** Interested tenderers **holding valid accreditation by Ministry of Interior- Security Systems Department (MOI-SSD)** shall deposit the Tender Fee amount in Cash (cheques will not be accepted) into TCA's below specified Bank Account at any branch of Masraf Al Rayan Bank:

Account Holder Name	: The Commercial Avenue Company
Account Number	: 0003-103008-203
IBAN Number	: QA40 MAFR 0000 0000 0003 1030 0820 3
SWIFT Code	: MAFR QA
Currency	: QAR

Tenderers shall ensure that their registered **Company Name** and **TCA's Tender Reference No.** are clearly stated on the bank's payment Receipt.

➤ **Submission of Tender Fee Receipt and Supporting Documents:** The Tender Fee Receipt issued by the bank shall be submitted by email to tenders@tca.qa, together with the following mandatory documents:

- Copy of the company's valid Commercial Registration (Arabic and English)
- Authorization Letter in Company letterhead with the Name, Telephone and E-Mail ID of the focal point for this tender; duly signed by Authorized Signatory as per CR

The deadline for receipt by TCA of the required documents as prescribed above shall be 12:00 PM on 15 October 2026. TCA shall update all Tenderers with instructions for electronic access to the Tender Document by 18 October 2026.

➤ **Tender Submission and Tender Validity:** Technical and Commercial Bid submission guidelines are specified in the Tender Document and shall be strictly adhered to by all Tenderers. Any submissions after the Tender Closing deadline shall not be considered. Tenders shall be valid for **180 Days** from the Tender Closing date and shall be submitted at the following address:

The Chairman
General Tenders & Auctions Committee (GTAC)
Lusail Real Estate Development Company
TCA Tender
P.O. Box 23175
Doha, State of Qatar

➤ **Tender Bond:** Tenderer shall submit their Tender together with the stipulated Tender Bond, that shall be valid for **210 Days** from the Tender Closing Date. Further details regarding submission of the Tender Bond shall be available in the Tender Document. **Bids submitted without the Tender Bond shall not be considered in the Tender process.**



Qatar urges global solidarity for sustainable development

QNA
New York

The State of Qatar has reaffirmed that sustainable development is not merely a national responsibility, but a shared global endeavour requiring strengthened international co-operation grounded in solidarity and partnership. Qatar underscored its readiness to continue working with all Member States and the UN system to strengthen collective action and foster more resilient economies and societies.

Addressing the general debate of the Second Committee of the 81st session of the UN General Assembly, Third Secretary at Qatar's Permanent Mission to the UN Mohamed Hassan al-Emadi said the session is taking place amid an increasingly challenging global development landscape, with developing countries confronting a complex and interconnected set of pressures, including shrinking fiscal space, widening financing and investment gaps, mounting debt burdens, the escalating impacts of climate change, disruptions to trade and supply chains, and the far-reaching consequences of conflicts and geopolitical crises.

He said Qatar continues to implement Qatar National Vision 2030, which provides a comprehensive framework for sustainable national development built around four interconnected pillars: human, social, economic and environmental development.

He stressed that Qatar's national experience demonstrates that



investing in people is fundamental to advancing inclusive, comprehensive and sustainable development.

Al-Emadi said artificial intelligence represents a far-reaching technological and economic transformation with considerable potential to accelerate development, while cautioning that it could also exacerbate existing inequalities if developing countries lack the infrastructure, capabilities and resources necessary to harness its benefits.

Against this backdrop, he said Qatar attaches particular importance to strengthening international co-operation on digital capacity building, expanding access to digital infrastructure, and promoting the safe, inclusive and equitable use of artificial intelligence.

He reaffirmed Qatar's firm commitment to international co-operation and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, noting that the country translates

these commitments into concrete partnerships and practical contributions through projects undertaken by the Qatar Fund for Development in co-operation with UN agencies, international financial institutions, governments and humanitarian organisations.

He said these efforts reflect Qatar's commitment to advancing effective multilateral co-operation through financing, innovation, knowledge-sharing, capacity building and long-term partnerships.

Al-Emadi said Qatar attaches particular importance to the least developed countries (LDCs), reaffirming its commitment to implementing the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for 2022-2031 and strengthening international partnerships to support these countries in addressing structural challenges and accelerating sustainable development.

In this context, he highlighted Qatar's readiness to host the Com-

prehensive High-Level Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Doha Programme of Action from March 25-27, 2027, in Doha, pursuant to UN General Assembly Resolution 80/150.

He said Qatar looks forward to the review serving as a key milestone in assessing progress, identifying gaps and challenges, and strengthening international partnerships to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Doha Programme of Action throughout the remainder of the decade.

Turning to UN reform, al-Emadi said Qatar views the UN80 Initiative as an opportunity to strengthen the United Nations' capacity to fulfil its mandates with greater efficiency and effectiveness and to better serve its Member States.

He stressed that the reform process should be grounded in intergovernmental ownership and should contribute to reducing duplication, strengthening coherence across the UN development system, and enhancing the Organisation's efficiency and effectiveness in responding to global challenges.

Al-Emadi said Qatar looks forward to the draft resolutions to be considered by the Second Committee during the session reflecting a spirit of consensus and partnership, with a focus on tangible outcomes, in line with the objectives of UN reform, the outcomes of the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development, and the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals.



Abu Sidra Mall launches 'Drive the Dream' promotion

Abu Sidra Mall has announced the launch of its new 'Drive the Dream' promotion, giving shoppers the chance to win two Toyota Land Cruisers, QR100,000 in cash prizes and 10 iPhone 18 Pro Max devices.

Running until March 16, 2027, the promotion will give customers one raffle coupon for every QR100 spent at Abu Sidra Mall, subject to the official terms and conditions.

Purchases made at any participating tenant at Abu Sidra Mall, including LuLu Hypermarket, will qualify for raffle coupons. Purchases from telecommunications and exchange outlets are excluded from the promotion.

The campaign will feature five draws throughout the promotional period, with prizes including iPhone 18 Pro Max devices and cash awards, before culminating in the Grand Prize Draw in March 2027.

The first draw, taking place on November 1, will award five iPhone 18 Pro Max devices. A further five iPhone 18 Pro Max devices will be awarded during the second draw on December 6.

The third draw, scheduled for January 10, 2027, will see five winners each receive QR10,000. This will be fol-

lowed by the fourth draw on February 14, 2027, when another five winners will receive QR10,000 each.

Following the conclusion of the campaign participation period on 16 March 2027, the Grand Prize Draw will take place on March 18, 2027, with two winners each receiving a Toyota Land Cruiser.

Commenting on the campaign, a spokesperson for Abu Sidra Mall said: "Drive the Dream is our way of rewarding our customers and the wider community for their continued support of Abu Sidra Mall. Their loyalty has played an important role in our journey, and we look forward to welcoming shoppers throughout the campaign and celebrating with all our winners."

The campaign forms part of Abu Sidra Mall's wider programme of promotions, entertainment and community activities planned throughout the season. It reflects the mall's commitment to providing a convenient and engaging destination for shopping, dining and everyday experiences for families and residents across Doha.

Further information, campaign updates and draw announcements will be shared through Abu Sidra Mall's official social media channels.

QIIB launches 0% profit financing campaign for Toyota, Lexus vehicles

QIIB has launched a new auto financing offer for 2026, offering customers the opportunity to purchase Toyota and Lexus vehicles at a 0% profit rate.

Combining outstanding value with flexible financing, the campaign is part of QIIB's continued efforts to introduce innovative banking solutions that respond to customers' needs and deliver tangible benefits.

Running until December 31, 2026, the campaign is designed to make owning a Toyota or Lexus more accessible, attractive and rewarding for a wide range of customers.

It offers a comprehensive package of competitive benefits, including financing at a 0% profit rate, one year of comprehensive vehicle insurance, and flexible repayment terms of up to five years for Qatari customers and four years for resident expatriates.

QIIB head of Banking Products Talal al-Jaidah said, "This exclusive offer has been designed around our customers' evolving needs and aspirations, while reaffirming our commitment to rewarding them with innovative financing solutions aligned with the latest banking standards."

He said: "At QIIB, our customers' aspirations remain at the heart of everything we do. We continually develop products and offers that deliver meaningful added value. Today, our strong partnership with the Toyota and Lexus dealers enables us to bring one of the most attractive auto financing campaigns to the local market, carefully designed to suit different lifestyles.



QIIB head of Banking Products Talal al-Jaidah.

"The campaign combines a 0% profit rate with a comprehensive range of benefits and flexible features, including complimentary comprehensive vehicle insurance for a full year."

Al-Jaidah said: "We have designed the offer to provide customers with greater choice through a range of financing options tailored to the needs of both Qatari citizens and residents.

"Customers can choose from a wide selection of models, including Lexus, Land Cruiser, Land Cruiser Hybrid and Prado, as well as other Toyota models. The campaign also offers flexible down payment options, with either no down payment or a 20% down payment, alongside repayment terms of up to five years. Competitive packages are available across all vehicle models included in the campaign."

Al-Jaidah encouraged customers to take advantage of the campaign and explore the Toyota and Lexus models that best suit their needs.

Customers can contact Toyota showrooms directly on 800 1800 or Lexus showrooms on 800 2929. QIIB customers can also contact 4484 0000 for further information and assistance.

Qatar communities come together to go 'Beyond the Ribbon' and raise breast cancer awareness

Breast cancer awareness took on a deeply personal and community-focused dimension in Doha as Qatar Cancer Society, Doha Women Forum, Golden CMC Events & Management, and Grand Hyatt Doha brought people together for "Beyond the Ribbon: Awareness, Stories & Wellness."

Held at the Majlis at Grand Hyatt Doha Hotel & Villas, the gathering brought together healthcare professionals, breast cancer survivors, a man currently living with breast cancer, wellness advocates, and community members for an afternoon centred on awareness, early detection, personal stories and emotional well-being.

The event was built around a simple message: awareness should go beyond the ribbon and breast cancer is not just a women's conversation.

A key moment was the participation of a male breast cancer patient who shared his personal experience of living with the disease. His presence helped challenge the common perception that breast cancer only affects women and highlighted the importance of recognising changes and seeking medical advice regardless of gender.

The programme opened with a welcome from Dr Afraa al-Noaimi, cultural strategist and visionary entrepreneur, followed by an interactive breast cancer awareness session and live quiz led by Nour Makkia, Health Educator at Qatar Cancer Society.

The roundtable discussion, moderated by Sundus Adam,



brought together four perspectives: Raghida Sobh, breast cancer survivor and educator; Dr Tamara Alshokor, Obstetrics & Gynaecology Specialist at Premium Naseem; Irina Duisimbekova, Founder of SympathiQ, a mental wellness platform; and Musleh Abuazab, a male breast cancer patient.

The discussion was structured as one connected conversation, moving from awareness and early detection to personal experiences, misconceptions, stigma, emotional well-being and support.

Early detection was a central message throughout the discussion. Speakers encouraged attendees to pay attention to changes in their bodies, seek medical advice when something feels unusual and make regular health checks part of their overall approach to well-being.

Dr Alshokor also highlighted the importance of accessible healthcare and regular check-ups, including the role of women's

healthcare in supporting early detection and overall health.

"Breast cancer awareness is not only about information. It is about creating a community where people feel comfortable asking questions, getting checked and supporting one another," said Conchita Ponce, founder of Doha Women Forum. "By bringing different voices into one room, we wanted to remind people that every diagnosis comes with a human story, and every person deserves to be heard, supported and cared for."

The event also reflected the importance of partnerships in creating spaces for health awareness and community engagement.

"Grand Hyatt Doha was pleased to support an initiative that brings people together around such an important conversation," said Shady El Zomor, director of Sales & Marketing, Grand Hyatt Doha Hotel & Villas. "We believe venues can play an important role in supporting community initia-

tives, and we were happy to provide a welcoming space for people to learn, connect and share their stories."

As Breast Cancer Awareness Month continues, the organisers hope the conversation will continue beyond October: to see the people, hear the stories, honour the courage and hold on to hope.

"Beyond the Ribbon was created to make awareness personal," said Marivie Alabanza, event organiser, Golden CMC Events & Management. "When you hear a survivor share her story, listen to a healthcare professional talk about early detection, or hear a man speak openly about living with breast cancer, the conversation becomes real. That is what we wanted to create: a community that listens, learns, supports and gives people the courage to speak up."

The afternoon also included a Q&A, gifts and interactive activities, giving attendees opportunities to connect and engage beyond the main programme.

ANNOUNCEMENT

I, MUSAMMIL MOHAMMED MASEES

holder of

SRILANKA Passport No. N6814275
QID No. 27635601539

hereby change my name

from

MUSAMMIL MOHAMMED MASEES

to

MUZAMMIL MOHAMMED MAZEEZ

Any objection, please contact
THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE FOR
NATIONALITY AFFAIRS
within 15 days from the publication of this notice.

CRA highlights key outcomes of ICT Competition Framework Review, Update

QNA
Doha

The Communications Regulatory Authority (CRA) hosted a workshop to highlight the key developments and outcomes achieved under the current 2024-2026 cycle of the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Competition Framework Review and Update, launched by CRA in October 2024.

The workshop brought together representatives from government entities, licensed telecommunications Service Providers, companies and institutions using ICT services, as well as representatives from the wider ICT and digital transformation ecosystem, including technology providers, small and medium-sized IT enterprises (SMEs), system integrators, digital platforms and industry experts.

During the workshop, CRA presented the updated market definition methodology and the finalised list of Candidate and Relevant Markets applicable to the current Market Definition and Dominance Designation (MDDD) review.

CRA also provided an overview of the updated ex-post Competition Policy and outlined the next steps for completing the MDDD review, including con-



sultation on dominance designations and proposed regulatory remedies.

Since launching the current review cycle in October 2024, CRA has conducted a comprehensive, evidence-based process, including public consultations and direct engagement with stakeholders. Their contributions have informed the review and supported CRA's analysis of competitive conditions and market developments.

The review forms part of CRA's ongoing efforts to develop the sector's regulatory frameworks in a man-

ner that promotes sustainable competition, provides greater regulatory clarity and transparency for market players, and supports investment and innovation.

The review also strengthens CRA's ability to protect consumer interests and respond to changing market conditions, supporting greater choice and access to high-quality and reliable ICT services.

It aligns with the objectives of the Digital Agenda 2030, the Third National Development Strategy 2024 - 2030, and Qatar National Vision 2030.

QSE to organise 2026 Conference on 3D Printing, Smart Manufacturing

QNA
Doha

The Qatar Society of Engineers (QSE) will organise the 2026 Conference on 3D Printing and Smart Manufacturing on Nov 8, as part of its efforts to promote knowledge of modern technologies and support the transition toward more efficient, innovative, and sustainable manufacturing systems.

The conference aims to provide a professional platform bringing together institutions, experts, engineers and specialists to discuss the opportunities and challenges associated with adopting modern industrial technologies, promote the exchange of knowledge and expertise, and showcase practical applications that can support innovation and the development of a more advanced and sustainable engineering and industrial ecosystem in Qatar.

The conference will focus on a range of topics reflecting rapid



advances in 3D printing and smart manufacturing technologies, foremost among them the use of these technologies in construction and sustainable infrastructure.

The first panel discussion on the conference programme will address 3D printing in the construction sector as a strategic shift in building and construction engineering. It will also feature a research paper on the field development of smart concrete mixes using locally recycled materials.

The conference will also devote

a session to energy and heavy industries, with a discussion on smart manufacturing and digital warehouses in the oil, gas and petrochemical sectors, alongside a research paper on the future of spare parts, supply chains and industrial localisation.

Under the theme of policies, legislation and human capital, the conference will discuss developing a national framework for smart manufacturing, including codes, industrial localisation and empowering engineers. A research paper will also examine the future of 3D printing and smart manufacturing in Qatar.

The discussions will also cover the integration of digital twins and artificial intelligence into smart manufacturing systems, as well as a research paper on advanced industrial data engineering and securing digital twins in smart factories.

Chairperson of the Qatar Society of Engineers, Engineer Amna Mohammed al-Namaa, said the conference is part of QSE's ef-

forts to strengthen the presence of modern technologies in the engineering sector and provide engineers and specialists with opportunities to explore advanced applications that are helping reshape the future of engineering and industrial sectors.

She described the conference as an opportunity to exchange expertise and discuss the potential of these technologies to improve efficiency, optimise resource use, support industrial localisation and develop engineering capabilities.

QSE is keen to ensure that the conference programme combines practical applications with a forward-looking vision and addresses a range of sectors, including construction, energy and heavy industries, policies and legislation, digital twins and artificial intelligence, she said. Al-Namaa added that this will help enrich the professional discussion and produce ideas and recommendations that support the future of 3D printing and smart manufacturing in Qatar.

QCB issues instructions for financial inclusion for elderly, customers with disability

Qatar Central Bank (QCB) has issued new instructions for insurance companies, exchange houses and financing companies to enhance access to financial services for persons with disabilities and the elderly, reinforcing its efforts to advance financial inclusion across Qatar.

The instructions are aligned with the Third Financial Sector Strategy and the Financial Sector Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) and Sustainability Strategy, QCB said in a post on X. They build on regulatory measures introduced in 2025 to strengthen financial inclusion, promote equal opportunities and ensure that financial services are accessible to all segments of society.

The new requirements focus on improving accessibility and streamlining procedures and service channels. They require financial institutions to raise employees' awareness of the needs of persons with disabilities and elderly customers, give priority to these groups when



they conduct transactions at financial institutions, and train employees to identify and respond appropriately to signs of financial exploitation.

The instructions also require branches to train a number of customer service employees in basic sign language, further strengthening their ability to serve customers with disabilities.

QCB said it would continue to develop its regulatory framework and promote financial inclusion and accessibility, supporting the development of a more sustainable and inclusive financial sector. (QNA)



Qatar military officer candidates visit QNA to explore AI-powered media operations

QNA
Doha

Officer candidates from Ahmed bin Mohammed Military College have visited the Qatar News Agency (QNA) as part of efforts to strengthen co-operation between government agencies and the country's official media organisations.

During the visit, the candidates watched a presentation outlining QNA's work and recent developments across its various departments. They were also introduced to the agency's use of artificial intelligence technologies and how these tools have contributed to its day-to-day operations.

HE QNA Director-General

Ahmed bin Saeed al-Rumaihi said technology had become an important tool for improving services across different sectors, particularly in the media industry.

He said QNA was continuing to cope with technological developments to improve its services, with the agency planning to expand its use of artificial intelligence applications in the coming period.

Al-Rumaihi said QNA was developing its services by using technology throughout the news-production process, from monitoring and analysis to production, publication and follow-up.

He added that AI technologies used by the agency allowed new features to be introduced, as part of a broader development programme that has expanded both

the format and content of QNA's output.

The agency has also significantly expanded its news coverage of local, regional and international events, while developing its digital platforms and news services, including photography, infographics and video content.

The officer candidates also visited QNA's Training Center, where they learned about specialised training programmes for Qatari media professionals and graduates of journalism and media departments seeking careers at QNA or other Qatari institutions.

The candidates praised QNA's development in recent years and its adoption of artificial intelligence and other modern media technologies in its operations.

Authorities remove unauthorised camps ahead of winter camping season

The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change's Wildlife Protection Department, in co-operation with the Environmental Security Group of the Internal Security Force (Lekhwiya), has removed several camps set up in wild desert areas before the scheduled start of the 2026-2027 winter camping season.

Accordingly, the Winter Camping Affairs Regulation Committee stressed the importance of adhering to the season dates and refraining from setting up any camps before the announced date. The Committee also confirmed that inspection campaigns and field



monitoring will continue across various areas, and that it will take

necessary measures against any violations detected.

Foodhall opens at Msheireb Galleria as a new social dining destination

Msheireb Properties opened Msheireb Foodhall at Msheireb Galleria yesterday, dubbed Qatar's first internationally operated food hall.

The event, organised in partnership with TGP International, the award-winning concept creators and operators, drew a select group of prominent figures and representatives from various entities.

Msheireb Foodhall introduces a premium dining format that is the first of its kind in Qatar, bringing nine cuisines together under one roof through a curated selection of restaurants, six of them homegrown concepts and three international brands.

The venue spans four integrated zones and accommodates up to 320 guests. The Main Dining Hall and Terrace offer a relaxed setting for everyday visits. Meanwhile, the Mezzanine brings guests closer to the live culinary experience, allowing them to watch signature dishes being prepared and engage in interactive experiences.

The Food Lab and Interactive Experiences Space hosts workshops, guest chefs, masterclasses, tasting sessions and pop-up restaurants as part of a rotating programme throughout the year. The Business Community Area is a semi-enclosed private space tailored to business needs, providing a setting for events that require greater privacy away from the main dining area.

Positioned as an ever-evolving dining destination, Msheireb Foodhall is designed to offer a different experience throughout the year through new dishes, concepts, partnerships, and diverse events. Its interiors and experience reflect the identity of Msheireb Downtown Doha, blending contemporary character with the location's cultural and architectural privacy.

This opening marks a major milestone in Msheireb Galleria's evolution toward cementing its position as an integrated destination, adding a new dimension to the vibrant social and cultural



fabric at the heart of Msheireb Downtown Doha. As the city continues to consolidate its position as a leading model for smart and sustainable cities globally, Msheireb Galleria is advancing into a new phase, expanding its ecosystem of dining, entertainment, retail, and wellness experiences to align with community aspirations and modern lifestyles.

Hassan al-Emadi, Chief Commercial Officer at Msheireb Properties, stated: "From its inception, the vision for Msheireb Downtown Doha was based on building an integrated city that brings together living, working, culture, and leisure. The opening of Msheireb Foodhall, the first internationally operated food hall in Qatar, is an extension of this vision, adding a new experience that enhances the diversity of destinations in the city within Msheireb Galleria's journey, bringing together local brands and international concepts to enrich the experience of

the Msheireb community and its visitors."

Simon Wright, founder and chairman of TGP International, said: "Msheireb Foodhall provided us with the opportunity to create a destination where concept, design, storytelling, and service standards come together in one unified format. From the mix of local and international brands to the interior designs, guest journey, and service levels, every element was carefully considered to reflect the ambition of Msheireb Downtown Doha, giving the city a distinctive new dining destination."

The opening of Msheireb Foodhall enhances the growing Msheireb Galleria ecosystem, following the launch of the indoor Family Entertainment Centre, which includes integrated global concepts featuring the social entertainment destination 'Ground Control'; the interactive challenge arena 'NERF Action Xperience'; and the 'Play-Doh Fan Factory' lab dedicated to children's discoveries.

HMC to hold Qatar International Neonatal Congress 2026 in Nov

By Joseph Varghese
Staff Reporter

Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC) will hold the Qatar International Neonatal Congress (QINC) 2026 from November 4 to 7.

The conference has two parts: pre-conference workshops on November 4 and 5 at the ITQAN Clinical Simulation and Innovation Centre, and the main conference at Pullman West Bay on November 6 and 7.

The conference will include many participants from medical facilities across the country, as well as delegates from across the region and beyond. Attendees will have several workshop options, especially during the pre-conference programme.

According to the chairperson of the congress, Dr Mai Abdulla

al-Qubaisi, senior consultant and director of NICU, chair of the Corporate Neonatal Perinatal Medicine Department, Women's Wellness and Research Centre (WWRC) HMC, the event aims to explore the frontiers of neonatal medicine and redefine the standards of care for the smallest and most vulnerable patients.

"This year's scientific programme is meticulously curated to address the most critical pillars of our field. We will delve into advanced strategies in neonatal neurology, optimise precision nutrition, and refine our approach to sepsis management. Furthermore, we will highlight the indispensable role of POCUS (Point-of-Care Ultrasound) as a bedside diagnostic cornerstone," said Dr al-Qubaisi.

According to the official, a key highlight of this edition will be the exploration of the Integration of Artificial Intelligence, ensuring



that technology augments clinical expertise.

"Beyond the clinical sessions, this conference remains a premier platform for global networking. It is an opportunity to engage with world-renowned experts, share transformative research, and foster collaborations that transcend borders," added Dr al-Qubaisi.

Neonatology is a rapidly evolving frontier, where staying current with evidence-based practices is not just a professional requirement but a clinical imperative. This year's conference aims to bridge the gap between foundational care and the cutting-edge technologies that are redefining newborn outcomes. A central focus of this

event is the transformative role of Artificial Intelligence in personalising treatment and enhancing diagnostic precision.

The conference and associated workshops, according to the organisers, aim to equip participants with emerging concepts and skills in the field.

One of the conference's primary

goals is to recognise and understand the basic concepts of recent mechanical ventilation strategies to enhance respiratory support in neonates. It also focuses on understanding and applying high-frequency ventilation techniques in appropriate and safe settings to improve respiratory outcomes.

Advancing understanding of the neonatal brain remains a top priority, and the Congress focuses on integrating advanced neuro-monitoring and management with long-term neurodevelopmental follow-up strategies to protect the fragile developing brain.

Furthermore, the Congress aims to implement the best practices to achieve optimal growth and developmental outcomes for neonates through evidence-based nutritional strategies. The Congress offers an enriching experience that promises to be both scientifically rigorous and deeply inspiring.

Ashghal re-awards delayed infrastructure projects

QNA
Doha

The Public Works Authority ‘Ashghal’ announced the re-awarding of delayed infrastructure projects, with the remaining eight projects re-awarded to new contractors, in preparation for the resumption of work. This follows the resumption of work on 13 projects since April 2025.

As part of the transition towards tangible progress and intensive field monitoring, President of Ashghal, Engineer Mohammed bin Abdulaziz al-Meer, accompanied by a number of the Authority’s senior leaders and officials, conducted field inspection visits to several roads and infrastructure development projects in the country to monitor implementation and review the latest work updates.

In this context, al-Meer stated: “Ashghal has re-awarded the remaining works on a number of delayed roads and infrastructure projects in residential areas and neighbourhoods to new contractors to accelerate progress and improve delivery efficiency.”

He added: “Our current focus is on accelerating the remaining works to improve traffic flow and ease travel for residents and road users, while continuously monitoring progress and adherence to approved schedules to



ensure projects are completed as planned.”

During the visits, al-Meer reviewed the latest updates on roads and infrastructure projects in several areas, including completion rates and remaining works. He also inspected progress at several sites and sections that had been developed or opened to traffic.

Al-Meer directed teams to intensify work in vital areas most affected by project delays and accelerate works that deliver a direct and immediate benefit to residents. He also emphasised the importance of opening roads or vital sections to traffic, providing safe access to homes and public facilities, and completing infrastructure networks while adhering to quality and safety standards.

Engineer Khaled al-Khayareen, Director of Projects Affairs at Ashghal, stated that work is proceed-

ing at an accelerated pace on the re-awarded projects, with the first package scheduled for completion in Q3-2027.

Additionally, a number of other remaining projects have been awarded to new contractors to complete the work in accordance with approved programmes and timelines.

He added: “Our objective was not limited to restarting work at project sites, but also included accelerating implementation through updated execution programmes, continuous field monitoring, and priorities focused on works with the greatest impact on residents and traffic.”

The 13 projects on which work had resumed since April 2025 serve a total of over 11,500 plots for citizens in the Northern, Southern and Western areas, as well as Doha City. The eight recently re-awarded

projects include roads and infrastructure development projects in Al Kharaitiyat and Izghawa (Package 4), Al Kheesa North and East – Rawdat Al Hamama (Package 2), Al Meshaf West (Package 9), Al Mearad and Muaither South-west (Package 6), West Umm Slal Ali, Umm Ebairiya Village, South Umm Al Amad and North Bu Fessela (Package 1), and Al Sheehaniya (Package 1). Together, these projects serve around 6,360 residential plots.

The projects also include the Construction of a Main Sewer Connecting Al Shalhaniya to the Doha North Sewage Treatment Works, and Construction of a TSE Pipeline along the Orbital Highway between Dukhan Road and the Doha North Sewage Treatment Works.

Roads and infrastructure projects aim to improve services and enhance residents’ quality of life by developing road networks to ease travel within residential areas and improve their connections to roads and vital facilities, while enhancing road safety through the provision of lighting systems, parking spaces, pedestrian and cycling paths, and other features.

The projects also include the construction and development of sewage, stormwater drainage and treated sewage effluent networks to meet residents’ needs and improve the areas’ readiness for the rainy season.



Doha Design District launches Azal innovation programme

Doha Design District, powered by Msheireb Properties, has launched Azal, an innovation programme and open call inviting start-ups, entrepreneurs, companies, universities, research teams, creatives and practitioners to present ready or near-ready solutions to real urban, environmental, economic and social challenges within Msheireb Downtown Doha (MDD). Solutions will be recognised across two award categories: innovation and sustainability. Winners will receive funding and support, as well as the opportunity to test and deploy their projects at MDD.

Azal will be a continuous innovation programme that evolves each year through challenges, competitions, pilots and collaborations aligned with Msheireb Properties’ strategic priorities and smart city needs. It is built on Doha Design District’s vision that innovation is greater than technology; it is about changing mindsets, shaping the way we live and creating lasting value. Azal is supported by Qatar Science & Technology Park and Siemens in Qatar as Strategic Partners.

Ali al-Hetmi, manager of Smart City Innovation, Corporate Planning and Strategy Department at Msheireb Properties, said: “Azal reflects our belief that meaningful innovation happens when ideas move beyond concepts and are given the opportunity to work in the real world.

By opening Msheireb Downtown Doha as a platform for testing and implementation, we are inviting innovators and problem-solvers to contribute practical solutions to the challenges cities face today. We look forward to discovering ideas that can create tangible value and help shape a smarter, more sustainable urban experience.”

Azal targets solutions across two award categories: the Best Smart City Innovation Award and the Best Smart City Sustainability Award.

The Best Smart City Innovation Award recognises solutions that enhance Msheireb Downtown Doha through technology, services, operations, visitor experience, mobility or data. Potential areas include smart mobility, AI and digital solutions, smart buildings, customer and visitor experience, urban technology, safety and security, smart services and operational efficiency.

The Best Smart City Sus-

tainability Award is for solutions that reduce environmental impact, enhance resource efficiency, support circular economy principles, or create positive social and community value. Potential areas include energy efficiency, water conservation, waste reduction and recycling, circular economy, sustainable mobility, green spaces and urban agriculture, carbon reduction and climate resilience.

The innovative programme is open to start-ups and entrepreneurs, companies, universities and research teams, and creatives and practitioners.

Submissions should address a smart city or sustainability challenge and be ready, or nearly ready, for testing or implementation. Applicants must have the right to submit and present their solutions and may submit multiple proposals.

Submissions are accepted in Arabic or English through the online submission form from 4 October to 4 November 2026. A special jury will assess applications and select qualified applicants for the final shortlist. Winners will be announced at the Downtown Tech and “The Best Business” Award Gala Dinner in Barahat Msheireb. Implementation of the winning proposals is scheduled for 2027.

Siemens and Qatar Science & Technology Park (QSTP) support Azal as Strategic Partners, reflecting collaboration between leading entities committed to advancing innovation across sectors and bringing complementary expertise in technology, smart infrastructure, sustainability, and Qatar’s innovation ecosystem.

Siemens will contribute technical expertise, support the evaluation and selection of proposals, and mentor shortlisted teams on technical feasibility, scalability and deployment, while exploring opportunities to support pilots through its technologies and expertise. QSTP will bring its experience and networks across Qatar’s innovation and start-up ecosystem, supporting proposal evaluation and shortlisting and helping the Top 10 refine their pitches ahead of Downtown Tech.

Doha Design District invites innovators and problem-solvers with practical, ready-to-implement solutions to join Azal and help shape the future of smart and sustainable urban living in Msheireb Downtown Doha.

MoECC, Earthna to organise 11th Qatar Sustainability Week

The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MECC), in collaboration with Earthna Centre for a Sustainable Future, a member of Qatar Foundation (QF), has announced the 11th edition of Qatar Sustainability Week (QSW), taking place from October 31 to November 7.

The week aims to raise awareness of sustainability and encourage individuals and organisations to adopt sustainable practices and participate in community initiatives through events and activities across Qatar.

Launched in 2016, Qatar Sustainability Week engaged more than 1mn participants in 3,400 events from 2016 to 2025, with the involvement of approximately 2,000 partners.

The week aligns with Qatar’s national sustainability priorities and the objectives of Qatar National Vision 2030, while supporting efforts to achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

MECC and Earthna invite organisations and institutions across Qatar to take part by hosting their own events, including workshops, panel discussions, exhibitions, community activities, and educational programmes on sustainability. These activities will encourage individuals and organisations to take practical steps to protect the environment



and use resources responsibly.

Ahmed Mohammed al-Sada, assistant undersecretary for Climate Change Affairs at MECC, emphasised that Qatar Sustainability Week strengthens participation by individuals and organisations in environmental protection and encourages sustainable practices in daily life.

He noted that the collaboration between the Ministry and Earthna supports cross-sector action to raise environmental awareness and strengthen community engagement.

He said that achieving the objectives of Qatar National Vision 2030 requires collective efforts to balance development needs with environmental protection. Conserving resources, reducing waste, and promoting recycling are practical steps individuals and organi-

sations can take to support sustainability and efforts to address climate change.

He noted that the range of activities planned for the 2026 edition, from workshops and panel discussions to exhibitions, community activities, and educational programmes, will support the exchange of knowledge and experience and help participants adopt sustainable practices at home and in the workplace. He called on institutions, organisations, and individuals to participate in the week and undertake initiatives that help protect the environment and natural resources.

Dr Gonzalo Castro de la Mata, executive director, Earthna, said: “As Earthna, we are delighted to organise this national campaign once again and to see the strong response and participation from

communities across Qatar. The enthusiasm and commitment we see each year demonstrate how sustainability is increasingly becoming a shared priority and a collective effort across our society.”

He noted that the 11th edition brings together diverse perspectives to exchange ideas, share solutions, and spotlight approaches that can drive a more sustainable future, while linking local initiatives to the wider global conversation.

Dr Castro de la Mata added that the event showcases solutions people can apply in daily life and encourages broader dialogue on Qatar’s sustainability priorities.

The 2026 edition will bring together partners from a wide range of sectors. QSW 2026’s strategic partners are the Ministry of Sports and Youth, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, the Ministry of Municipality, Qatar Free Zones Authority, Doha Bank, United Development Company, Qatar Museums, Teen Hub by Qatar Museums, Nestlé, Qatar Science & Technology Park, Msheireb Properties, Msheireb Museums, Seashore, the Tarsheed programme of Qatar General Electricity & Water Corporation, Visit Qatar, Enbat Holding, Green Island, DHL, and LuLu Group.

15 films from four continents set for DFF’s 2026 International Feature Competition

Doha Film Festival (DFF) announced yesterday (October 7) its 15-film lineup of world cinema titles for its 2026 International Feature Film Competition, featuring bold and distinctive voices from across the Arab world, Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas.

Eleven films in the competition were supported through Doha Film Institute’s (DFI) Grants programme, while women direct seven. The selection reflects the festival’s commitment to supporting important voices in independent cinema, with particular emphasis on stories from underrepresented regions. It includes films recognised at some of the world’s leading festivals.

Fatma Hassan Alremaihi, CEO of DFI and director of DFF, said: “This year’s features competition reflects great ambition. The 15 films from across the world are united by the courage, imagination and urgency of their filmmakers. Each has travelled a remarkable journey, and it is deeply meaningful that Doha is a part of that journey, ensuring that these powerful works are seen, shared and remembered.”

Four Palestinian films in the



Tin Castle

competition reflect the strength and range of contemporary Palestinian filmmaking. *Thirteen in Gaza* (Palestine/Qatar) by Hosam Abu Dan; *Sama* (Palestine/France/Qatar) by Rabab Khamis; *In Conversation with the Sea* (Palestine/Netherlands/KSA/Qatar) by Muayad Alayan; and *Revolutionaries Never Die* (Palestine/Belgium/Qatar) by Mohamad Yaqubi.

Other titles from the Arab world include *Concrete Land* (Jordan/Palestine) by Asmahan Bkerat;

In Bardi (Morocco/France/USA/Qatar) by Tala Hadid; and *The Station* (Yemen/Jordan/France/Germany/Netherlands/Norway/Qatar), the debut feature by Yemeni-Scottish filmmaker Sara Ishaq.

Two films in the competition represent sub-Saharan Africa. *In House of the Wind* (Cameroon/France/Belgium/Benin/KSA/Qatar) by director Auguste Bernard Kouemo Yanghu; and *My Semba* (Angola/Qatar) by Hugo Salvaterra.

Three films from Asia include: *9 Temples to Heaven* (Thailand/Singapore/France/Norway/China/Hong Kong/Indonesia/Qatar) by Sompot Chidgasornpongse; *In A Girl Unknown* (China/France) by Zou Jing; and *Filipiñana* (Singapore/UK/Philippines/France/Netherlands/Qatar) by Rafael Manuel.

Films from the Americas and Europe include: *The Meltdown* (Chile/USA/Spain/Mexico) by director Manuela Martelli; *The Illusion of an Everlasting Summer* (USA/Argentina) by Alessandra Sanguinetti; and *Tin Castle* (Ireland/France) by Alexander Murphy.

The International Feature Film Competition invites narrative and documentary features for their Middle East and North Africa premieres. A jury of five international film professionals will recognise the Best Narrative Award (\$75,000); Best Documentary Award (\$50,000); Best Artistic Achievement Award (\$45,000); and Best Performance Award (\$15,000). The International Federation of Film Critics joins DFF 2026 with a three-member jury to award its prize to the film considered to have the most significant



A Girl Unknown



My Semba

achievement in the competition.

Key Partners of DFF include Katara, Media City Qatar I Film Committee and Visit Qatar. Taking place from November 19–27,

DFF brings together filmmakers, audiences and industry voices from the region and beyond to honour original storytelling and important voices in film.

PHCC marks Ergonomics Month with campaign on making workplaces safer



QNA
Doha

Primary Health Care Corporation (PHCC) is marking Global Ergonomics Month throughout October, with a campaign focused on creating safer workplaces, preventing musculoskeletal disorders and improving employee wellbeing and performance.

This year's international campaign encourages workers to make ergonomic principles part of their daily routines, particularly in physically and mentally demanding environments such as healthcare.

The campaign is focusing on manual handling and patient transfers, with the aim of reducing the risk of work-related musculoskeletal injuries among Primary Health Care Corp staff.

Practical sessions are being held at three health centres, giving employees the opportunity to practice safer techniques for manual handling and patient transfers in real workplace settings.

The PHCC is also developing an online training module through its learning management system and an e-learning lecture as part of its continuing professional development programme.

Dr Maryam al-Muslemami, director of occupational health and safety at the Corp, said a safe and

supportive workplace was an investment in employees and the quality of healthcare provided to patients.

She said workplaces designed around employees' physical needs and job requirements could help reduce pain and fatigue while improving concentration, job satisfaction and productivity.

The campaign also promotes practical measures including safe handling techniques, stretching and movement during the working day, and appropriate workplace organisation.

Dr Sameera al-Hajri, director of occupational health, said musculoskeletal disorders, including back, neck, shoulder and wrist pain, were among the most common work-related health problems.

She said simple adjustments to working methods and workplace design could significantly improve working conditions and reduce the risk of injury.

The campaign also highlights the cognitive aspects of ergonomics, including mental workload, clear information and task organisation, alongside physical workplace safety.

Officials said training and awareness were central to preventing workplace injuries and helping employees identify risks, adapt their work environments and adopt safer working practices.

Qatar renews support for counter-terrorism efforts

QNA
New York

The State of Qatar reaffirmed its commitment to continuing to support international efforts to combat terrorism and strengthen multilateral co-operation in a manner that contributes to addressing emerging threats and achieving international peace and security.

This came in the State of Qatar's statement delivered today by Deputy Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to the UN Mohammed Khalifa al-Nasr before the Sixth Committee of the UN General Assembly during its 81st session, under agenda item 112 "Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism" at the UN Headquarters in New York.

Al-Nasr stressed the importance of continuing consultations under the agenda item on measures to eliminate international terrorism in a manner that contributes to the progressive development of international law in this field.

He reiterated Qatar's unequivocal condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, regardless of its motives or causes, as well as its absolute rejection of any attempt to associate terrorism with any religion, culture or people.

He affirmed Qatar's position that confronting this scourge required a sincere collective commitment to the principles of international law, respect for human rights, refraining from selectivity or politicisation in counter-terrorism efforts, and ensuring that the fight against terrorism was not used as a pretext for vio-



Deputy Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to the UN Mohammed Khalifa al-Nasr

lating rights or discriminating against peoples under occupation whose legitimate right to self-determination is guaranteed under international law.

Al-Nasr welcomed, on behalf of Qatar, the outcome reached by the General Assembly in its Resolution 80/286 on the implementation of the ninth review of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, reiterating Qatar's full commitment to implementing the Strategy's provisions, objectives and principles.

The Deputy Permanent Representative of Qatar to the UN stressed the importance of completing the international legal framework for combating terrorism. He noted that Qatar called for intensified efforts to reach consensus on the draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism in a manner that addresses outstanding issues in accordance with the

principles of international law.

Al-Nasr said that, at the national level, Qatar had adopted a comprehensive and multidimensional approach to combating terrorism, combining national legislation, capacity-building, and international and regional co-operation.

He noted that Qatar continued to strengthen its legislative and institutional framework, including measures to combat terrorist financing. It had also adopted a comprehensive national strategy to combat terrorism and violent extremism, aligned with the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and centred on prevention, protection, prosecution and recovery.

The strategy is implemented by the National Counter-Terrorism Committee in co-ordination with the relevant national authorities.

At the international level, al-Nasr said Qatar was proud to be

a key partner of the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) and the largest contributor to the UN Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism since 2019, with contributions exceeding \$142mn and accounting for approximately one-third of contributions to the Fund.

He noted that this support had enabled the Office to implement long-term projects and distinguished global programmes covering the various pillars of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

Al-Nasr expressed Qatar's pride in hosting one of the five programme offices of the UNOCT. He said work was underway to expand the Doha Programme Office to include several programmes and activities, making it the Office's largest field presence outside UN Headquarters and helping improve the delivery of capacity-building assistance and bring the Office's activities closer to beneficiaries.

He noted that Qatar actively co-operated with other entities contributing to the implementation of the UN counter-terrorism mandate, particularly the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team.

Al-Nasr said Qatar attached importance to multilateral counter-terrorism forums, continuing its role as an active member of the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS. He added that Qatar also supported regional efforts within the framework of the League of Arab States and the Gulf Co-operation Council through information-sharing and close co-ordination to address common terrorist threats.

Qatar University holds Fifth Student Forum on Human Rights

QNA
Doha

Qatar University (QU), represented by the Department of Social Sciences at the College of Arts and Sciences, held the Fifth Student Forum on Human Rights in collaboration with the Qatar National Commission for Education, Culture and Science (QNCECS), under the theme "Human Rights: A Daily Practice and Social Responsibility."

The forum brought together faculty members, students, specialists and representatives of relevant organisations to discuss ways of translating human rights principles into everyday practice and strengthening students' awareness of their individual and social responsibilities.

The forum forms part of QU's efforts to strengthen partnerships with community institutions and encourage students to engage with issues affecting society. It also supports Qatar's national development priorities and the objectives of Qatar National Vision 2030, while reflecting the university's commitment to sustainable development through education, capacity building and social responsibility.



Since its launch, the forum has sought to bridge the gap between knowledge of human rights and their practical application in daily life. The fifth edition places particular emphasis on raising awareness among university students and highlighting their role in promoting and upholding human rights.

Head of the Department of Social Sciences at the College of Arts and Sciences Dr Mohamed Faraj said the fifth edition under-

scored QU's role in raising community awareness and deepening understanding of human rights and their importance.

He said the forum reflected the State of Qatar's efforts to uphold human dignity, adding that it was being held at a time when the world faces major challenges that require greater awareness of human rights and stronger efforts to translate their principles into practice.

Consultant at the Office of

the Assistant Undersecretary for Family Affairs at the Ministry of Social Development, Dr Sama al-Hajri said the forum provided an opportunity to engage with students, faculty members and specialists while highlighting students' skills in presentation, discussion and debate.

Her participation focused on "Digital Protection of the Rights of Students and Employees in Educational Institutions," an emerging area that requires clos-

er co-operation between educational institutions and relevant organisations to raise awareness of rights and responsibilities related to digital protection and data privacy.

The forum concluded with the recognition of participants and the announcement of the competition winners.

The Best Poster award went to Jawaher Abdullah Darban, Al-Dana al-Juhani and Reem al-Shahrani.

The Best Campaign award was presented to Ghalia Awad, Alya al-Marri, Nada Hamza, Moza al-Mohannadi, Al-Jouri Shuaib, Marwa Ali and Safaa Abu Zaid.

The Best Presentation award went to Layla Arslan, Samiha al-Marri, Masa Ghazal and Sara Fakhro, while the "Human Rights Are an Individual Responsibility" team, comprising Lina Suleiman, Mai al-Naimi and Mohsena al-Sharqi, won the debate category.



Qatar Red Crescent Society distributes 89,000 hot meals to IDPs in Gaza

Qatar Red Crescent Society (QRCS) is launching a new project to prepare and distribute 88,912 hot meals to displaced families in camps across Gaza, at a total cost of \$489,016.

Dr Akram Nassar, head of QRCS' representation office in Gaza, said: "The ultimate goal of all our relief projects in Gaza is to actively help alleviate the impact of the worsening humanitarian disaster, notably the severe food crisis."

He highlighted QRCS' commitment to delivering hot meals directly where they are needed most, to ensure better food security and humanitarian conditions for the population. Asaad, a beneficiary of the project, stood outside his tent at a camp of internally displaced people (IDPs) in central Gaza City, gazing at the pale faces of his children, as they gathered around a hot meal that they had for months been desperate for.

As the head of a family of eleven, mostly children, the father described the camp's living conditions as "totally catastrophic". He said his children had not eaten rice or chicken since last Ramadan be-



cause of food shortages and skyrocketing prices in Gaza's markets.

With a look of relief, the 43-year-old added, "This hot meal will meet my family's minimum needs, at a time when we cannot even secure our day-to-day sustenance. It will save my children

from the bitter hunger that we feel every single day at the IDP camp".

Asaad's story is one of many stories of suffering lived by thousands of families under blockade.

Amid a serious humanitarian crisis affecting two million people in Gaza, QRCS stands out as one of

the biggest humanitarian service providers, working hard to bridge critical gaps in health care, food, shelter, water and sanitation, livelihoods, and other essential needs.

Focusing on food security, QRCS is determined to continue supporting that vital sector by

restoring and operating bakeries, distributing food parcels and ready-to-eat meals, and providing therapeutic nutrition for malnourished children.

The total cost required to implement these interventions exceeds QR 16.5mn. Donors can make these

plans a reality by paying their Zakat and charities via QRCS's website (www.qrcs.org.qa), mobile app (QRCS), donor service hotline (66666364), home donation collection hotline (33998898), or donation collection desks/agents at malls and shopping centres.



What’s next on India-US trade talks?

Senior officials in India and the United States have indicated long-running efforts to finalise a bilateral trade agreement have stalled, again. Both nations had agreed to a framework for the deal in February which brought down to 18% from 50% the punitive tariff on most Indian goods imposed in August last year after a previous round of talks collapsed.

In the meantime, the Supreme Court invalidated US President Donald Trump’s use of emergency powers to impose sweeping tariffs globally, leading to a 10% baseline rate. But a final deal between two of the world’s biggest economies remains elusive. Trade talks have reached a “plateau” with little room for manoeuvre, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said earlier this week, following United States Trade Representative Jamieson Greer’s comment that a deal is not “imminent.” Neither side has detailed reasons for the delay in finalising the deal.

But talks in the past months have met with complications, most recently a new US law that paves the way for up to 100% tariffs on Indian goods because of New Delhi’s purchase of Russian oil. Those purchases have not been significantly reduced. The potentially stiff levy goes against New Delhi’s efforts to secure tariff terms better than peer economies, including Vietnam and China.

A deal has also been held back because Washington is yet to complete a Section 301 trade investigation on several nations over alleged excess industrial capacity. The probe is to evaluate whether such overproduction is hurting or undercutting American industries.

Unless this probe is completed, it is hard to tell what final tariff Indian goods will attract.

Overall, bilateral ties between India and the US have been rocky this past year, casting a shadow on efforts to stabilise their trade partnership.

Events including a US military attack on a ship off Oman that killed three Indian seafarers and India rejecting Trump’s repeated claim of brokering a ceasefire with Pakistan have hurt relations. The US is India’s largest export market and exports have so far been resilient. India’s goods exports to the United States rose to \$42.79bn in April-August from \$40.39bn a year earlier. In the fiscal year 2025/26, India enjoyed a nearly \$34bn trade surplus with the US. India says many of its largest export categories to the US, including generic pharmaceuticals and smartphones, are not subject to the current 10% levy.

But analysts say that in the absence of a trade deal, India risks higher US tariffs from the ongoing trade probe and purchase of Russian oil, even if it could negotiate for waivers under the sanctions law.

— Reuters



Setting strategic priorities

By Rory Miller

Strategy is one of the most frequently used, and misunderstood, terms in geopolitics. Yet a clear understanding of the motivations behind national strategies helps us to analyse how and why states behave the way they do in international affairs. Even experts do not agree on what constitutes a strategy.



It has been subject to numerous definitions including: “the art of creating power” and a way to “secure one’s state in world where war is possible”. At its most fundamental, a strategy is a deliberate and calculated plan that draws on a nation’s available instruments of power – economic, diplomatic, military, and informational – to overcome threats and make the most of new opportunities in an unpredictable and dangerous world.

Decisionmakers need to have a clearly defined end goal before drawing up a strategy. Or to put it another way, it is impossible to have a successful strategy if you do not know what you want to achieve. Without clarity on ultimate objectives, a strategy is meaningless. This is a critical point because a clear understanding of goals allows policymakers to decide on which threats and opportunities need to be prioritised. It also enables them to choose the right policies and to deploy the required resources.

Strategies can be defensive or offensive. A defensive strategy is adopted when there is a threat to core interests – for example, to national identity or sovereignty. An offensive strategy is intended to take advantage of new opportunities – for example, new security alliances or trade deals. This multi-stage process underscores the point that strategy is not an abstract exercise. It is a plan to turn goals into policy action.

To take one example, the EU’s Energy System Integration Strategy, also known as the “EU Green Deal” is a strategic vision articulated by the EU for a decarbonised energy system that would reduce dependence on fossil fuels and foreign suppliers. The end goal of this strategy is a sustainable, integrated energy system in Europe. The policies adopted to achieve this include regulatory reform and the phased integration of electricity, gas, heating, and transport sectors. While the resources allocated to support these policies include investment in renewables, and the strengthening of cross-border collaboration in building transnational renewable infrastructure.

A smaller, but no less telling, example, is Indonesia’s evolving strategy to deal with high levels of maritime crime. In 2004, Indonesia ranked as the world’s second-highest victim of maritime crime. This was a significant challenge for a nation made up of over 17,000 islands and deeply dependent on maritime trade.

Over the next two decades, through sustained investment in naval and coast guard capabilities, regional co-operation frameworks, and international partnerships, Indonesia transformed itself into a global leader in combating maritime crime. Strategies have an important political, as well as practical function.

They not only address policy design or the allocation of resources. More importantly, they

also serve as a way to signal national priorities and overarching national goals to constituents, allies and adversaries. The US National Security Strategy (NSS) is the highest-level strategy document produced by the US government. It is published every four years (or once in every presidential term). It sets the context for military, economic, diplomatic, and intelligence policy and planning and, as noted above, signals and signposts American national security priorities to the world.

It can also define the administration’s vision for American leadership not only in terms of its priorities and focus but in its ambition and approach to dealing with allies and adversaries, and its promotion of values and institutions far beyond its borders (for example, human rights, climate change, international law and the UN). The most recent US National Security Strategy was released by the Trump administration in December 2025. The strategy, which President Trump described as “realism guided by our national interests and rooted in our timeless values”, outlined three main threats: “rogue regimes”, “rival powers”, and “transnational terrorist organisations”.

Complicating matters further, no strategy can be formulated – or sustained – without a clear understanding of the environment within which it will be executed. A change in the geopolitical environment require changes in strategy. The 2025 US National Security Strategy is responding to a strategic environment far different from the bipolar reality of the Cold War and the strategies of containment and deterrence that dominated thinking from the 1940s until the early 1990s.

It is also true that your own strategy does not exist in a vacuum. The US strategic approach under President Trump has forced long-time American allies to adapt their strategies as well. Speaking at the World Economic Forum in Davos in January 2026 and again during the opening week of the UN General Assembly last month, Prime Minister Mark Carney of Canada encapsulated this. In both speeches, he laid out a new strategy of value-based realism to deal with rising great power rivalry, geopolitical instability and the erosion of the rules-based international order.

Strategy is not just about identifying what you want to achieve or adapting to a changing environment. It is also about matching ambitious goals with a realistic assessment of existing capabilities. A strategy is only as effective as the capabilities available to implement it. Ultimately strategic priorities drive resource allocation and capability development. This is why the US military budget that supports the 2025 US National Security Strategy is estimated at US\$850bn. But resources other than money also matter.

The availability of technological expertise is an important reason why the EU, in 2026, reversed its long-time strategy of reducing reliance on nuclear power and announced a new strategy to incorporate small modular nuclear reactors into its energy mix by the early 2030s.

In other words, a good strategy requires knowing your end goals and having the necessary capabilities and resources. But it also requires a clear understanding of the external environment and a willingness to adapt to political, military, economic, social, and technological change in a timely fashion.

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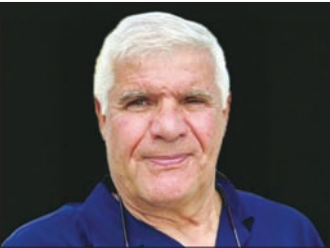


The US strategic approach under President Trump has forced long-time American allies like Canada to adapt their strategies as well. (AFP)



Canadian PM Mark Carney. (Reuters/File Photo)

Lebanon: We see leaders. But where is leadership?



By Jamil K Mroue

Five thousand years ago, a scribe in Sumer pressed a reed into wet clay and recorded what entered the granary and what left it. That is where government began: not with a flag or an army, but with a count. The Persians turned the count into a system. Darius fixed the tribute of every satrapy, and the clerks of Persepolis logged the rations of thousands of workers.

Their diwan, the register of revenue and pay, passed to the caliphs and then to Europe, where customs houses still bear its name: douane, dogana, aduana. The rule has not changed in five millennia. A government that counts can be held to account. One that stops counting cannot.

Lebanon stopped counting. It has not held a census since 1932. Parliament passed no state budget for 12 years, from 2005 to 2017, and, as Reuters reported at the time, the state’s annual accounts had not been formally closed since 1993. Money flowed without a ledger, and much of it went where a ledger would have exposed it.

Count, then, what the country endured while no one kept the books. The Cairo Agreement of November 1969 opened the south to armed Palestinian factions. That was 20,790 days ago. Since then Lebanon has lived through a 15-year civil war, 29 years of Syrian troops on its soil, 22 years of Israeli occupation in the south, and two decades in which Iran, through Hezbollah, held the decision of war and peace.

Israel has launched seven major military campaigns, the latest this year. A president-elect, a sitting president, two prime ministers and a grand mufti were assassinated. Four times the presidency fell vacant; together, the palace at Baabda stood empty for 2,282 days, more than six years.

Caretaker cabinets ran the country for about a third of the two decades after 2005. Beirut’s airport closed at least 16 times during the civil war, once for more than six months. And the Taif Agreement, negotiated in 23 days in 1989 as a new beginning, was bent by Damascus into an instrument of control. The state went through a shredder. It is in tatters.

That is why President Joseph Aoun and Prime Minister Nawaf Salam brought a dim light into the tunnel. Their CVs are the strongest the country has seen at the top. Their record, against

Beirut’s new rulers are the most capable the country has had at the top. Capability is not the same as leading, and the clock is running

the low bar of the past, is real: bank secrecy amended in April 2025, a bank restructuring law that July, and a cabinet decision in September 2025 that put the state’s monopoly on arms on the official agenda.

But they stand on five decades of rubble, and the rubble has owners. War did not pile it up by design. In the chaos, factions seized the taps of electricity, water, hospitals, schools and security, and built client bases around them. The deep state still controls the valves, even with capable hands on the levers.

Bankers who act as patrons to politicians have stalled the law that would allocate more than \$70bn in losses; without it there is no IMF programme, and the 2022 preliminary deal is void. The state power company has for years lost about four of every 10 kilowatt-hours it generated to leaking wires, theft and unpaid bills. Gulf capitals, living with the fallout of the war between Washington, Israel and Tehran, are in no mood for open-ended largesse.

Nor is territory in Beirut’s hands. Israeli troops hold ground in the south. Iran holds the only key to Hezbollah’s disarmament. The framework agreed in June works only if the warring parties comply, and they have not, while Washington remains unpredictable.

Yet sovereignty is not only territory. It is people. If the security file sits in a diplomatic pipeline between Tehran and Washington, popular sovereignty sits in Beirut, and this leadership already holds it. The Lebanese overwhelmingly want this government to succeed. Half of those living in Lebanon are under 30. Around that hub turn the spokes: a diaspora of engineers, financiers, doctors, legislators and technology founders with real reach in the politics, trade and culture of the world.

That force has not been called. Nostalgia will not call it; it has been tried, and it is spent. People with options move for a plan: dated, costed, with targets anyone can check. A plan is only as strong as the leaders who champion

it, and here is the conundrum. We see leaders. We do not see leadership.

The president, the prime minister and their ministers work in silos. Each performs well by yesterday’s standards and is quietly congratulated for it. But their feet have sunk into the very sectarian silt the Lebanese want drained for good. They have not faced the failures head-on, in public, with numbers. They have not built the professional coordination a plan demands, regardless of sect and sentiment. And they have not spoken to the constituency that is waiting to be asked.

The clock is not kind. UNIFIL ends operations on 31 December, 87 days from now. Parliamentary elections are due in May 2028. A leadership without a base will meet that vote facing the old client machines intact.

So what is to be done? Go back to the tablet. Publish the ledger. First, a national plan with dates, costs, owners and targets, published in full and reported on every quarter. Second, one joint delivery office for Baabda and the Grand Serail, so the president and the prime minister answer for the plan together, to citizens rather than to sects. Third, a call to the Lebanese at home and abroad that comes with tasks attached: engineers drawing free house plans for the rebuilding south, lawyers advising for nominal fees, the young clearing rubble, diaspora professionals each adopting a reform target and putting their networks behind it.

The Sumerian scribe did not need to be loved. He needed to be accurate, and to be read. Lebanon’s new leadership is respected. To be followed, it must be counted on; to be counted on, it must first count. The Lebanese are ready to put their shoulder to the wheel. They are waiting for leaders to show them where to push.

• Jamil K Mroue is a Lebanese writer and previous editor of Al Hayat newspaper in London and The Daily Star in Beirut.



Houthis attack Aden airport as fighting intensifies in Yemen

Reuters
Aden

Yemen's Houthi attacked Aden's international airport with ballistic missiles and explosive-laden drones yesterday, the country's Transport Ministry said. Battles have focused in recent days on areas around the Bab el-Mandeb Strait, a shipping route that has become

more crucial for energy exports since the conflict between the US and Iran restricted trade through the Strait of Hormuz.

This week, Yemeni government forces with Saudi-led coalition air support launched a counter-offensive to recapture strategic territory near the strait and around the town of Mocha that the Houthis had captured in September, but it is unclear if their advance will hold.

The fighting has revived a complex 12-year war in Yemen that led to one of the worst humanitarian crises globally and fragmented the Arab world's most impoverished country. The number of people displaced since the latest round of fighting began has risen to more than 200,000, the International Organisation for Migration said yesterday.

"People are running for their lives and finding nowhere safe to

go," said IOM Director General Amy Pope, who called for more funding. Both sides allege that hundreds of people have been killed in fighting, without providing details. The UN says three in four families are going hungry in parts of Yemen.

The Houthis have repeatedly targeted infrastructure including airports, oil refineries and pipelines in Saudi Arabia, a US ally.

Yesterday, the Saudi-led coalition

said it had intercepted and destroyed a Houthi ballistic missile north of the Saudi capital Riyadh. It said it was tracking the launch platform over Houthi-controlled Sanaa and would destroy it, but gave no details of casualties or damage.

Houthi military spokesperson Yahya Saree said in a statement that the group had targeted King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh with several drones.

Nine wounded in stabbing spree at Polish school

A 19-year-old yesterday stabbed nine people with a knife at his vocational school in Poland, north of the capital Warsaw, wounding students, teachers and others. The teen was arrested after the rampage at a school in Ostroleka, 120 km from Warsaw, said police, who released a blurred photo following his arrest.

Mariusz Frankowski, the top local official, said five students, two teachers and two passers-by were injured. (AFP)



A damaged private house in Pryluky following a Russian strike. (AFP)

Children among casualties of Russian strikes in Ukraine

AFP
Pryluky, Ukraine

At least 24 people were killed in Russian strikes across Ukraine yesterday, including four children who died when a missile slammed into an apartment block in the north of the country as they slept.

Windows shattered in the powerful blast in Pryluky, in the Chernigiv region, reducing one half of the five-storey building into a smoking pile of charred concrete and twisted metal.

President Volodymyr Zelensky said three of the 18 victims of the strike were just 12 months old while another was aged eight.

Seven other children were among dozens wounded and one child was among 15 rescued, he wrote on social media, accusing Russia of knowingly striking "ordinary cities, ordinary life".

"The continued use of missiles against Ukraine, against our people, our children, is an absolutely deliberate choice of terror," he said.

"We were at home, sleeping," Olena Sayun, a 40-year-old massage therapist, told AFP at the scene of the blast.

"Our windows blew out. Thank God, we covered the child with our bodies. My husband got a few cuts on his back and I did too..."

"The child just had a nervous breakdown, got very scared. We immediately ran to the bathroom and then, while everything in the apartment was being blown apart, we stayed in there."

"All our kids are about the same age - 10, 8, 14, 11," she added. "They all

played in our courtyard, on the playground, every single day. We knew them all very well."

The strike, which locals said happened at about 6:30am, came after Zelensky on Tuesday warned of a "massive" Russian attack, particularly targeting energy infrastructure.

Two people were killed when missiles slammed into high-rise buildings in Dnipro and Kremenchuk in central Ukraine, while two others lost their lives in Oleksandriya, he added.

In the capital, Kyiv, two people died in a fire caused by a strike in the densely populated Darnytskyi neighbourhood, the city's mayor Vitali Klitschko said. Worried residents hunkered down for the night in subway stations overnight, hauling duffel bags, sleeping mats and blankets.

"We grabbed our things and came here, we live right next door," Iryna Rybalchenko, who works in a bank, told AFP, sitting on the platform wrapped in a dark hoodie and surrounded by bags.

"The whole of Kyiv is in a state of fear. We were stuck at work today and everyone - our group chats, our bosses - were messaging us to be careful."

Russia launched at least 50 missiles and 130 drones overnight against several regions including Dnipropetrovsk, Kyiv, Kharkiv, and Poltava, Ukraine's air force said.

Zelensky, who called it "one of the most vile strikes" in the nearly five-year conflict, said some were shot down but ballistic missiles were "the greatest challenge" and new air defences were essential to help Ukraine defend itself.

Reuters
Fairbanks, Alaska

US Vice President JD Vance said that Iran must make a "meaningful" reduction in its nuclear enrichment capacity to satisfy US demands and end the countries' seven-month war.

Vance, a longtime skeptic of US involvement in foreign wars, has taken a leading role in negotiating a settlement to the conflict and brokered a provisional peace agreement in June that quickly fell apart. The war has jolted global energy markets and become a political liability for US President Donald Trump and fellow Republicans ahead of November midterm elections.

Vance said that any agreement would require Iran to reduce its nuclear enrichment capacity, than merely offer assurances of future nuclear drawdowns. "If you don't want a nuclear weapon, then why do you need 60% enriched fuel? And if you want to show commitment to not building a nuclear weapon, don't build highly enriched fuel. That's a very basic threshold issue," Vance said.

"I think if they want to show a commitment to not building a nuclear weapon, they would do something meaningful on their enrichment capacity."

Washington's "requests and ideas" about Iran's nuclear program are at odds with Tehran's demands, a senior Iranian official told Reuters yesterday when asked about Vance's comment that Tehran must cut enrichment to end the war.

Iran and the US have exchanged proposals in recent weeks aimed at ending the war and reopening the Strait of Hormuz, a vital global energy shipping route. Trump rejected Tehran's latest offer and has warned that military operations



VP JD Vance with members of the military at Elmendorf Air Force Base on Tuesday. (Reuters)

could intensify after the midterms.

Vance said the US remained open to an agreement but would require concrete Iranian nuclear concessions.

"We're not going to trade words for actions," Vance said.

The message has been less clear on whether Iran, under a possible peace deal, might be permitted to maintain some enriched uranium, at levels below what would be necessary to quickly build a weapon.

The senior Iranian official said no negotiations had taken place with the US about Iran's nuclear program, and Washington must first meet Tehran's conditions before nuclear talks can start.

The official said US recognition of Iran's right to nuclear enrichment is Tehran's red line, which he said "it will not show flexibility on in any way." However, he said details of enrichment can be discussed later.

"Vance's comments are Washington's ideas and requests.... Americans are free to make requests and have ideas, but they are at odds with Iran's demands," said

the senior Iranian official, who is involved in indirect negotiations with the US.

Israel, the US and other Western states have long accused Iran of seeking nuclear weapons, including pointing to its move to enrich uranium to 60%, far higher than needed for civilian uses and closer to the 90% needed for a weapon. Iran denies seeking nuclear weapons; Iranian authorities have said that Tehran could agree to dilute its most highly enriched uranium.

Complicating matters, Vance said Washington is uncertain who makes decisions in Tehran.

Vance said the US was in talks with Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian and Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi. But it was unclear, he said, how much authority they wield within Iran's power structure. "One of the things we picked up on is it's not totally clear how their country makes decisions," Vance said. Separately, Trump said on Tuesday that his "biggest problem" is no one knows who is running Iran.

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesperson said on Sunday that US officials are well aware

Israel strikes on Gaza kill 5 Palestinians

AFP
Gaza City, Palestinian Territories

Israel carried out new strikes in Gaza yesterday in which Palestinian officials reported five people were killed. Loud bangs across the border in Gaza were audible from the site of the Nova music festival just as family members gathered at dawn to mourn the more than 300 revellers killed three years earlier.

In Gaza City, Al-Shifa hospital

reported two people killed in an Israeli strike overnight.

Gaza's civil defence identified one of the dead as Mohamed Tamous and said he was a volunteer for the agency, which serves as an emergency rescue service under Hamas. The Israeli military said it struck and killed "two Hamas fighters who had exited Kamal Adwan Hospital in the northern Gaza Strip," adding that one had "planted explosives... in the area of the Yellow Line with the intention of harming IDF troops."

The military identified one of those killed in the strike as Tamous, whom it said was a sniper in Hamas's military wing while simultaneously working for the civil defence agency. In the southern city of Khan Yunis, Nasser Hospital said that a 60-year-old man, Hisham Ibrahim Abu Mustafa, was killed in an Israeli strike and that others were injured.

The hospital also reported receiving the body of Ziad Zaarab, who it said was killed in an Israeli airstrike south of Khan Yunis.



A Palestinian man works amid the rubble of a building damaged during the war, in Gaza City. (Reuters)

Kagan, Soai win Nobel for solving 'chemistry mystery'

Reuters
Stockholm

Scientists Henri Kagan and Kenso Soai won the 2026 Nobel Prize in Chemistry yesterday for solving a long-standing riddle of asymmetric "mirror image" molecules, a discovery hugely important for pharmaceutical manufacturing.

Soai, 76, is Japanese, and Kagan, 95, is French, and their work built on a discovery by the 19th-century French chemist Louis Pasteur.

"This is the most exciting day in my life, I am very glad to share this prize with Professor Henri Kagan," Soai said, speaking by phone to the Nobel Prize press conference, adding he had been out grocery shopping when he received the news.

Reuters was unable to reach Kagan, the third-oldest person to be awarded a Nobel Prize, but his daughter, Veronique Le Deunff, said she was "very happy" and that "the creativity and originality of his work have opened up new avenues for research".

Kagan's work has long been seen as influential on the field and the then-French research minister complained to the Nobel Foundation in 2001 when Kagan was left out that year. The prize instead went to two American and one Japanese scientist.

Hezbollah gets \$200mn from Iran to help displaced families

Reuters
Beirut

Hezbollah has received \$200mn from Iran to help Lebanese displaced by this year's war with Israel, two people with direct knowledge of the transfer said, the first significant aid from the group to supporters who bore the brunt of the conflict.

Hezbollah received the cash last month despite a tightening US economic chokehold on Iran and increasing difficulties in getting funds to Tehran's Lebanese ally, said the people. Intermediaries who moved the money charged a 20% fee, reflecting the risks of dealing with the group, they said. One said this was four times the normal fee.

Asked for comment, a Hezbollah official said an amount had been secured and a plan for distributing it would be announced in the coming days, without elaborating on the source of the funds.

Israel's bombardment and in-



A photograph shows the aftermath of Israeli airstrikes in the southern city of Tyre, Lebanon. (AFP/FilePhoto)

vasion of Lebanon uprooted hundreds of thousands of Hezbollah's constituents. But those displaced have so far received little to no assistance from Hezbollah, an armed group founded by Iran's Revolutionary Guards in 1982.

Hezbollah would use the funds

to pay an initial \$3,000 per family, and priority will go to those whose villages have been destroyed or are inaccessible due to Israeli occupation, the sources said. These number around 50,000 families, one of the sources said.

Iran has maintained financial

support to Hezbollah through years of crippling US sanctions: it transferred \$1bn to the group in the first 10 months of 2025, according to the US Treasury Department.

Tehran has never acknowledged financing Hezbollah. Iran's policy of funding regional proxies has stirred domestic protester anger against the clerical rulers in the past and could prove particularly sensitive at a time of worsening hardship in Iran.

Iran had promised Hezbollah more funding after Tehran signed an interim deal with Washington in June that allowed Iran to sell its oil, Reuters reported at the time. That agreement collapsed in July.

Washington has since intensified economic pressure on Iran, tightening sanctions and imposing a naval blockade to block Iranian oil exports. Hezbollah leader Naim Qassem said last month that the group would soon contribute to a project aimed at housing thousands of people displaced by the war, using "available resources and

donations", without elaborating.

Hezbollah's ability to fund local services and provide post-conflict aid has helped shore up its support in the past. Following a war with Israel in 2006, the group immediately handed out large cash payments to those impacted and moved swiftly to help rebuild Beirut's southern suburbs, a stronghold.

But this time there has been little sign of reconstruction. Lebanese Prime Minister Nawaf Salam said last month that the total reconstruction costs from the two wars since 2024 could exceed \$27bn.

A source said it was increasingly difficult for Hezbollah to move funds via financial companies that once processed such transfers. Such firms based in Iraq and Dubai were no longer an option, and they were also now under pressure in Turkey, this source said.

Hezbollah's foes believed money was currently the group's "oxygen", the source added. Despite the difficulties, the group had not stopped paying its fighters.



Doha Marathon aims to serve as platform for Qatari running heroes

By Shaima Sheriff
Staff Reporter

The Doha Marathon by Ooredoo aims to strengthen Qatar's running culture by spotlighting local athletes and creating Qatari sporting heroes who inspire wider participation.

Wissam Terro, Chief Business Officer of Suffix Events, said the initiative to give Qatari runners greater prominence was part of a wider effort to build awareness of running as a growing sport in the country.

"It's a growing sport first. You need to create heroes of this country," Terro told *Gulf Times*.

The organisers have introduced special recognition for leading Qatari runners, including presenting them to the community during the marathon's press conference and giving them priority positions at the start on race day.

"We call everybody, we will introduce them in the press conference," Terro said, explaining that the leading Qatari runners would be introduced alongside the international elite athletes.

He stressed that the recognition was not necessarily based on their international running calibre, but on their position as leading athletes within Qatar.

"It doesn't mean they have a high standard running calibre, but they are the elite of the country," he said.

For Terro, creating visible local role models is essential if running is to develop beyond an individual sporting activity and become part of the country's wider sporting culture.

"So Qataris, they should have heroes and Qatari heroes. So this is how we build the culture, we build the awareness around the running in general in the country," he said.

The approach is part of a series



Chief Business Officer of Suffix Events, Wissam Terro.

of changes introduced by the marathon organisers as they seek to build on the previous edition.

Terro said the last edition established the foundations for the event, including greater recognition for Qatari runners, award ceremonies covering different age categories and race distances, and wave starts based on runners' expected finishing times.

This year, the event will also feature an Arab category, inviting runners from across the region to compete for prize money.

"We introduced the Arab category, which is we invite most of the Arabs to come and participate and they will have prize money at the end," Terro said.

He said the initiative would help bring more people to Doha while connecting the city with participants from across the region and beyond.

"This is the idea," he said.

The marathon will also feature

international elite runners, building on the strong international participation seen during the previous edition.

Terro said the organisers wanted the event to bring together participants from different backgrounds, from elite and amateur runners to children and families.

"This year you will feel the difference, the experience will be different for all participants from different backgrounds," he said.

The ambition is ultimately to make running more visible and accessible within the community while giving local athletes a platform to inspire others.

"If you don't have heroes, people will not follow," Terro said.

He added that the organisers hoped to build on this year's edition with further initiatives in future.

"I hope that next year also we will create more ideas for the participants," he said.

Pink October at Lusail International Circuit brings the community together for Breast Cancer Awareness Month

By A Staff Reporter
Doha

Lusail International Circuit (LIC) hosted a special Pink October edition of its Mixed Training Day yesterday, bringing together sport, fitness, and healthy living in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month as part of its social responsibility efforts.

The circuit was illuminated in pink as community members gathered to run, walk, and cycle, alongside a range of health- and awareness-focused activities.

The occasion reflected what LIC stands for beyond the racing calendar. Lusail International Circuit is more than a home for motorsport. It is a place for the community, and a place that stands with it. Pink October reminds us that health is a shared responsibility, and LIC was proud to use its platform to help spread the word, standing with Qatar's national efforts to raise awareness of breast cancer.

That purpose shaped the event, which centred around a single message, "One Track, One Cause". A lineup of partners and vendors also joined in, bringing pink-themed activations and experiences to the circuit, including food and beverages, awareness activities, and sports recovery experiences.

The Pink October edition builds on the Mixed Training Day format, part of LIC's community engagement programme that opens the circuit to the public for three hours of track access.

Runners, walkers and cyclists take to the 5.38km track, the same asphalt that hosts Formula 1, MotoGP and WEC. Open to all ages and fitness levels, the sessions give the community a place to stay active, enjoy an evening of fitness and experience one of the world's most celebrated motorsport venues from a different perspective.

The special edition reflected



Lusail International Circuit's commitment to creating meaningful community experiences, using sport as a platform to promote awareness, encourage

healthy lifestyles and bring people together, while reinforcing its role as more than a motorsports hub with an impact that extends beyond race weekends.

WEEKEND PRICE

٨-١٠-٢٠٢٦ في جميع منافذ سفاري
08-10-2026 at All Safari outlets



لحم ضاني هندي ١ كجم
Indian Mutton 1 kg



لحم بقري بدون عظم باكستان ١ كجم
Pakistan Beef Boneless 1 kg



جمبري وسط الإمارات ١ كجم
Fresh Prawns Medium UAE 1 kg



سمك دنيس تونس ١ كجم
Fresh Sea Bream Tunisia 1 kg



سمك بومفريت اسود الإمارات ١ كجم
Fresh Black Pomfret UAE 1 kg



بيض ابيض ٣٠ حبة
Fresh White Egg 30 pcs Set



بروكلي عمان ١ كجم
Broccoli Oman 1 kg



تفاح جالا إيران ١ كجم
Apple Gala Iran 1 kg



يوسفي نادوركوت جنوب أفريقيا ١ كجم
Mandarin Nadorcott South Africa 1 kg



موز اكودار ١ كجم
Banana Ecuador 1 kg



أناناس الهند ١ كجم
Pineapple India 1 kg



كمثري فلورا أفريقيا ١ كجم
Pear Forelle Africa 1 kg



خوخ الأردن ١ كجم
Peach Jordan 1 kg



كيوي إيران ١ كجم تقريبا ١ عبوة
Kiwi Iran (Approx 1 kg) 1 Box



برديكس دجاج شواية ١٤٠٠ جم ١ حبة
Perdix Chicken Griller 1400 gm x 1 pc



لاكتو فارم حليب مجفف ١.٨ كجم ١ حبة
Lactofarm Milk Powder 1.8 kg x 1 pc



سلوي سكر ٥ كجم ١ حبة
Salwa Sugar 5 kg x 1 pc



صن فلو زيت دوار الشمس ١.٥ لتر ١ حبة
Sunflow Sunflower Oil 1.5 Ltr x 1 pc



كوهينور تشارمينار أرز بسمتي ٤ كجم
Kohinoor Charminar Basmati Rice 4 kg