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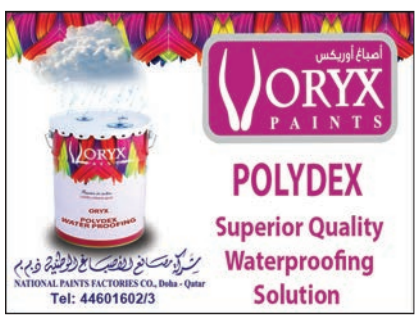
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Qatar condemns fresh storming of Al Aqsa Mosque

Qatar has condemned the storming of Al Aqsa Mosque by settlers led by Israel's national security minister, under the protection of the police, describing it as a flagrant violation of international law and international humanitarian law, and an unacceptable provocation to the sentiments of millions of Muslims around the world.
The Ministry of Foreign Affairs emphasised in a statement yesterday that Al Aqsa Mosque is a place of worship exclusively for Muslims, and that all unilateral measures aimed at altering the historical and legal status quo in Jerusalem and its holy sites are null and void under international law. (**QNA**)

Lula celebrates election win

World leaders congratulated Brazilian incumbent Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva yesterday on his election win. The leftist president, who turns 81 today, pulled off an improbable victory against the son of far-right ex-leader Jair Bolsonaro, securing 51.8% of the vote compared to his challenger's 48.2%.
Polls had predicted a slight advantage for the senator, who has refused to concede defeat.
The historic result hands Lula, already the longest-serving democratically elected leader in Latin America's largest country, an unprecedented fourth term.
Lula pulled around 4.4mn more votes than his rival, totaling over 64.2mn on his seventh go at the presidency – the highest proportion ever counted in Brazil. (**AFP**) **Page 9**

Sheikha Al Mayassa unveils Qatar Fashion and Crafts Council

By Joseph Varghese
Staff Reporter


Qatar Museums Chairperson HE Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani at the World Investment Forum yesterday.

Qatar Museums (QM) Chairperson HE Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani has announced the establishment of the Qatar Fashion and Crafts Council as Qatar steps up efforts to strengthen its creative industries and attract investment in culture, fashion and design.
Delivering a keynote address at the ongoing World Investment Forum 2026 (WIF 2026), HE Sheikha Al Mayassa said that the new initiative aims to connect local talent with global markets, spearheaded by Creative Hubs and supported by joint efforts from the public and private sectors.
"It is a joint effort between the public and private sectors," she said. "This will be an advisory council contributing to the strategic orientation of both sectors, enhancing investment partnerships, and opening new horizons for talents in Qatar and the region to reach global markets."
HE the QM Chairperson said that Qatar had spent over two decades developing a comprehensive cultural ecosystem spanning cinema, theatre, fashion, design, digital production and live arts.
She pointed to the country's fashion and design sectors as examples of how traditional heritage can be combined with contemporary creativity to produce distinctive work capable of competing in international markets.

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Amir in Moscow to take part in GECF summit


His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani arrived in Moscow yesterday to participate in the 8th summit of heads of state and government of the Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF). HH the Amir was welcomed upon arrival at Vnukovo International Airport by Russia's First Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov and Qatar's ambassador to the Russian Federation Sheikh Ahmed bin Nasser al-Thani. HH the Amir is accompanied by HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani, along with an official delegation. (**QNA**)

Qatar invests QR6.4bn in education through public-private programme

By Joseph Varghese
Staff Reporter


Minister of Education and Higher Education HE Lolwah bint Rashid AlKhater. **PICTURE:** Shaji Kayamkulam

Qatar has invested QR6.4bn in a public-private partnership programme to develop 20 schools, including two of the world's largest school buildings using 3D-printing technology, HE the Minister of Education and Higher Education Lolwah bint Rashid AlKhater said yesterday.

Speaking at the World Investment Forum 2026 (WIF 2026) in Doha, the minister said that investment in human capital remains the most important investment any nation can make, particularly amid growing geopolitical uncertainty, technological disruption, economic fragmentation and climate pressures.

"Among our most significant initiatives is a QR6.4bn public-private partnership programme for the development of 20 schools," HE AlKhater said. "Under this model, the ministry provides the land, supports the academy staff, while private sector partners are responsible for financing, constructing, and operating the schools."

"I am glad and proud to say that two of those schools will be the largest 3D-printed schools in the world," she added.

The minister stressed that investing in people remains essential to achieving sustainable development and lasting prosperity.

"We do not accept that circumstances should determine the limits of any child's educational journey," HE AlKhater said, emphasising the importance of ensuring every learner has the opportunity to develop their abilities, contribute to society and thrive.

The minister also announced that new agreements have been signed with private-school operators and investors to provide an additional 5,000 student places.

The agreements represent QR1.48bn in private investment and operating expenditure over 25 years.

HE AlKhater welcomed regional and international partners to participate in Qatar's education development initiatives, stressing that achieving ambitious educational goals requires sustained co-operation among governments, businesses, academic institutions and international organisations.

"We welcome regional and international partners in this endeavour as well," she said. "Our commitment to inclusive growth is also reflected in the social responsibility programme. Through this initiative, private partners have expanded free and reduced fee educational opportunities for students and mostly families with low income in general."

According to the minister, the initiative has grown from just 40 beneficiaries a year ago to 18,000 beneficiaries currently.

She added that the programme's corporate social responsibility partnerships are expected to exceed QR2bn over the coming decade.

HE AlKhater expressed appreciation for the private sector's contribution, noting that such initiatives help widen access to education and promote more inclusive growth.

"The world is increasingly shaped by technological advancement and artificial intelligence, and learning can no longer end at graduation," she noted.

"Through our lifelong learning initiatives and future skills programmes, we are supporting continuous upskilling and reskilling so that individuals remain adaptable, productive, and prepared for emerging opportunities throughout their lives."

HE AlKhater pointed out that investing in lifelong learning is not only an educational priority, but also an economic imperative that strengthens workforce resilience, enhances competitiveness, and supports sustainable development.

The minister further underlined the need to ensure that the benefits of artificial intelligence (AI), digital technologies and technology-enabled education reach all segments of society, noting that inclusive and accessible opportunities are essential to sustainable progress.

"Sustainable development cannot be achieved unless opportunities are inclusive and accessible to all," she emphasised. "It requires meaningful partnerships among governments, investors, educators, and international organisations, as well as the private sector, to identify solutions, expand opportunity, and address emerging divides, particularly in AI, digital technologies, and technology-enabled education."

HE AlKhater said that the true measure of investment should extend beyond financial and economic returns to include its ability to empower people, unlock human potential and create shared prosperity.

"We believe that investing in people remains the most effective pathway to sustainable development and lasting prosperity," she said. "Let us therefore work together to ensure that innovation serves all, opportunity reaches all, and that benefits of progress are also shared by all."

Makkah pact countries push for peace in Tehran

Reuters/AFP
Karachi/Cairo/Tehran

Senior officials from Saudi Arabia, Turkiye and Pakistan held talks with Iran in Tehran yesterday in an attempt to stop the Middle East war from resuming, as Egypt authorised military support for Riyadh as the kingdom faces attacks by Yemen's Houthis.
The talks were the first high-level contact between Iran and the three nations – which signed the Makkah mutual defence pact in August – since a war that began with US and Israeli strikes on Iran also spread to Saudi Arabia and Yemen.
Saudi Arabia, the world's top oil exporter, has suffered weeks of attacks by Yemen's Iran-allied Houthis, including a missile strike that killed 13 at Riyadh's international airport.
Regional tensions have risen ahead of Israel's pivotal elections today and next week's US midterms, where US President Donald Trump's Republicans are battling to keep control of both chambers of the US Congress.
As the talks in Tehran began, United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said it was "essential to stop any escalation" in the Middle East.
"The risk to have the combination of an overwhelming military attack on Iran, and an overwhelming military attack by Iran on the countries of the Gulf, needs to be avoided at all costs," he told a press conference in Cairo.
The Saudi foreign ministry said that the visit to Tehran was intended to open negotiating channels to "prevent the return of military escalation".
Saudi Arabia was represented by Defence Minister Prince Khalid bin Salman, younger brother of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman; Pakistan by army chief Field Marshal Asim Munir; and Turkiye by intelligence chief Ibrahim Kalin, Saudi and Iranian officials said.
Iranian state media published pictures of Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian, Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi and Mohsen Rezaei, secretary of the Supreme National Security Council, attending the meetings.
At the conclusion of the meetings, the four states agreed to continue talks with a view to strengthening co-operation, especially in peace and security, state media reported.
Pakistan and Qatar have led mediation efforts in the war.
Earlier efforts helped produce an interim peace agreement in June but fighting between Iran and the US soon resumed.
Conflict then flared between the Iran-aligned Houthis and US ally Saudi Arabia, opening a new front.
The wider fighting has restricted shipping through the energy chokepoint of the Strait of Hormuz, pushed up global oil and gas prices, left Gulf states facing missile and drone attacks, and caused a new humanitarian crisis in Yemen.
Responding to weeks of attacks, Egypt's parliament approved President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi's request to approve defensive military support for Saudi Arabia "if requested".

QATAR



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INTERIM CONDENSED FINANCIAL INFORMATION AND INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REVIEW REPORT
FOR THE NINE-MONTH PERIOD ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2026

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REVIEW REPORT

To the Shareholders

Damaan Islamic Insurance Company "BEEMA" (Q.P.S.C.) Lusail – Qatar

Introduction

We have reviewed the accompanying interim condensed statement of financial position of Damaan Islamic Insurance Company "BEEMA" (Q.P.S.C.) (the "Company") as at 30 September 2026 and the related interim condensed statements of policyholders' revenues, expenses and other comprehensive income, policyholders' surplus, shareholders' income statement and other comprehensive income, changes in shareholders' equity and cash flows for the nine-month period then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes. Management is responsible for the preparation and presentation of this interim condensed financial information in accordance with the FAS 41 Interim Financial Reporting issued by the Accounting and Auditing Organisation for Islamic Financial Institutions ("AAOIFI") ("FAS 41"). Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on this interim condensed financial information based on our review.

Scope of review

We conducted our review in accordance with International Standard on Review Engagements 2410, "Review of Interim Financial Information Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity". A review of interim condensed financial information consists of making inquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

Conclusion

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the accompanying interim condensed financial information is not prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the FAS 41, "Interim Financial Reporting".

Doha – Qatar
26 October 2026

For Deloitte & Touche
Qatar Branch
Joseph Khalife
Partner, License No. 433
QFMA Audit Registration 120156

INTERIM CONDENSED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
As at 30 September 2026

	Note	30 September 2026 QR (Reviewed)	31 December 2025 QR (Audited)
Policyholders' assets			
Cash and bank balances	3	**331,443,898**	229,079,245
Investments at fair value through equity	4 (a)	**595,886,731**	597,155,015
Investments at fair value through income statement	4 (b)	**-**	6,418,117
Re-takaful arrangement assets	5	**100,217,354**	92,010,715
Takaful arrangement assets	5	**402,353**	19,768
Property and equipment		**239,175**	1,875,947
Other receivables		**9,677,769**	9,938,772
Total policyholders' assets		**1,037,867,280**	936,497,579
Shareholders' assets			
Cash and bank balances	3	**96,325,741**	94,363,204
Investments at fair value through equity	4 (a)	**413,559,639**	413,682,993
Investments at fair value through income statement	4 (b)	**-**	9,134,785
Prepayments and other receivables		**6,990,566**	4,851,275
Due from policyholders		**159,418,208**	120,153,859
Right-of-use assets		**2,473,943**	2,597,641
Property and equipment		**104,085,243**	106,495,139
Total shareholders' assets		**782,853,340**	751,278,896
TOTAL ASSETS		**1,820,720,620**	1,687,776,475
Policyholders' liabilities			
Takaful arrangement liabilities	5	**666,458,333**	578,398,196
Re-takaful arrangement liabilities	5	**3,122,047**	1,001,388
Other payables		**13,272,405**	12,384,013
Due to shareholders		**159,418,208**	120,153,859
Distributable surplus payable		**78,077,359**	66,864,527
Total policyholders' liabilities		**920,348,352**	778,801,983
Policyholders' surplus			
Fair value reserve		**(22,836,588)**	(123,031)
Equalization reserve		**90,000,000**	90,000,000
Retained surplus		**50,355,516**	67,818,627
Total policyholders' surplus		**117,518,928**	157,695,596
Total policyholders' liabilities and surplus		**1,037,867,280**	936,497,579
Shareholders' liabilities			
Provisions and other payables		**123,691,774**	117,556,823
Due to related parties	6 (b)	**6,093,342**	6,093,342
Net Ijarah liability		**2,810,770**	2,865,558
Employees' end of service benefits		**5,983,303**	5,562,457
Total shareholders' liabilities		**138,579,189**	132,078,180
Shareholders' equity			
Share capital		**200,000,000**	200,000,000
Legal reserve		**200,000,000**	200,000,000
Fair value reserve		**(13,470,448)**	2,988,954
Retained earnings		**257,744,599**	216,211,762
Total shareholders' equity		**644,274,151**	619,200,716
Total shareholders' liabilities and equity		**782,853,340**	751,278,896
TOTAL LIABILITIES, POLICYHOLDERS' SURPLUS AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		**1,820,720,620**	1,687,776,475

Sheikh. Jassim Bin Hamad Bin Jassim J. Al Thani
Chairman

Nasser Rashid Al Misnad
Chief Executive Officer

INTERIM CONDENSED STATEMENT OF POLICYHOLDERS' REVENUES, EXPENSES AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
For the three and nine-month period ended 30 September 2026

	Notes	For the three-month period ended		For the nine-month period ended	
		30 September 2026 QR (Reviewed)	30 September 2025 QR (Reviewed)	30 September 2026 QR (Reviewed)	30 September 2025 QR (Reviewed)
Recognised takaful contributions	7	**188,441,604**	156,928,058	**513,651,823**	413,428,803
Recognised takaful costs	7	**(176,095,182)**	(150,060,237)	**(473,968,347)**	(337,226,044)
Re-takaful net results	7	**(3,985,087)**	(9,683,377)	**(25,883,966)**	(58,664,393)
Takaful gross margin	7	**8,361,335**	(2,815,556)	**13,799,510**	17,538,366
Amortisation of deferred cost (related to provision of takaful arrangements)	7	**(8,288,554)**	(9,165,582)	**(24,375,651)**	(24,047,075)
Amortisation of deferred income (related to retakaful arrangements held)	7	**515,063**	671,685	**2,926,014**	3,919,706
Net amortisation of deferred cost		**(7,773,491)**	(8,493,897)	**(21,449,637)**	(20,127,369)
Net takaful result	7	**587,844**	(11,309,453)	**(7,650,127)**	(2,589,003)
Depreciation of property and equipment		**(572,559)**	(572,560)	**(1,636,772)**	(1,636,773)
Fair value (loss)/gain on investment at fair value through income statement		**(12,349)**	132,656	**69,060**	159,378
Reversal of provision for impairment of investment at fair value through equity	4	**37,920**	77	**129,637**	78,895
Investment income		**10,717,806**	8,761,306	**30,890,688**	23,480,866
Investment expenses		**(466,182)**	(464,802)	**(1,390,257)**	(1,246,030)
Mudarib share		**(6,314,094)**	(5,493,666)	**(18,065,652)**	(14,820,849)
Other income		**404,613**	2,380,120	**3,572,686**	4,325,216
Other expenses		**(2,703,982)**	891,983	**(8,024,749)**	(5,218,842)
Net surplus/(deficit) for the period		**1,679,017**	(5,674,339)	**(2,105,486)**	2,532,858
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME					
Items that may be subsequently reclassified to statement of Policyholders' revenue and expenses					
Net change in fair value of debt-type instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income		**(15,725,243)**	6,820,661	**(22,713,557)**	12,132,388
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE (LOSS) / INCOME FOR THE PERIOD		**(14,046,226)**	1,146,322	**(24,819,043)**	14,665,246

INTERIM CONDENSED STATEMENT OF POLICYHOLDERS' SURPLUS
For the nine-month period ended 30 September 2026

	Retained surplus QR	Fair value reserve QR	Equalization reserve QR	Total QR
Balance at 1 January 2025 (Audited)	65,619,139	(13,847,169)	90,000,000	141,771,970
Net surplus for the period	2,532,858	-	-	2,532,858
Net change in fair value of investment at fair value through equity	-	12,132,388	-	12,132,388
Total comprehensive income for the period	2,532,858	12,132,388	-	14,665,246
Surplus distribution to policyholders during the period	(9,562,818)	-	-	(9,562,818)
Balance at 30 September 2025 (Reviewed)	58,589,179	(1,714,781)	90,000,000	146,874,398
Balance as at 1 January 2026 (Audited)	67,818,627	(123,031)	90,000,000	157,695,596
Net deficit for the period	(2,105,486)	–	–	(2,105,486)
Net change in fair value of investment at fair value through equity	--	(22,713,557)	–	(22,713,557)
Total comprehensive loss for the period	(2,105,486)	(22,713,557)	-	(24,819,043)
Surplus distribution to policyholders during the period	(15,357,625)	–	–	(15,357,625)
Balance at 30 September 2026 (Reviewed)	**50,355,516**	**(22,836,588)**	**90,000,000**	**117,518,928**

INTERIM CONDENSED SHAREHOLDERS' INCOME STATEMENT AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
For the three and nine-month period ended 30 September 2026

	Notes	For the three-month period ended		For the nine-month period ended	
		30 September 2026 QR (Reviewed)	30 September 2025 QR (Reviewed)	30 September 2026 QR (Reviewed)	30 September 2025 QR (Reviewed)
Income					
Income from shareholders' investments		**5,853,312**	5,130,415	**16,880,080**	15,002,763
Wakala fee		**37,970,821**	40,216,752	**115,459,135**	109,752,472
Mudarib share		**6,314,094**	5,493,666	**18,065,652**	14,820,849
Other income		**52,028**	315,000	**749,092**	1,041,397
Total income		**50,190,255**	51,155,833	**151,153,959**	140,617,481
Staff cost		**(12,788,787)**	(10,812,299)	**(35,451,536)**	(32,352,828)
Depreciation of property and equipment		**(1,810,104)**	(1,777,982)	**(5,194,830)**	(5,060,059)
Fair value (loss)/gain on investment at fair value through income statement		**(17,344)**	147,321	**138,025**	206,298
Reversal of provision for impairment of investment at fair value through equity	4	**45,190**	77	**113,013**	63,200
General and administrative expenses	8	**(5,160,906)**	(12,251,867)	**(17,985,452)**	(23,318,358)
Finance cost		**(79,511)**	(204,547)	**(165,887)**	(291,930)
Investment expenses		**(359,784)**	(350,444)	**(1,074,455)**	(997,609)
Total expenses		**(20,171,246)**	**(25,249,741)**	**(59,621,122)**	(61,751,286)
Profit before tax for the period		**30,019,009**	**25,906,092**	**91,532,837**	78,866,195
Tax expense		**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**
Net profit for the period		**30,019,009**	**25,906,092**	**91,532,837**	78,866,195
Basic/diluted earnings per share in Qatari Riyal	12	**0.150**	**0.130**	**0.458**	0.394
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME					
Net profit for the period		**30,019,009**	**25,906,092**	**91,532,837**	78,866,195
Items that may be subsequently reclassified to shareholders' income statement					
Net change in fair value of debt-type instruments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income		**(11,765,460)**	**4,901,730**	**(16,459,402)**	8,721,848
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD		**18,253,549**	30,807,822	**75,073,435**	87,588,043

INTERIM CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY
For the nine-month period ended 30 September 2026

	Share Capital QR	Legal reserve QR	Fair value Reserve QR	Retained earnings QR	Total QR
Balance at 1 January 2025 (Audited)	200,000,000	200,000,000	(5,448,602)	163,042,255	557,593,653
Net profit for the period	–	–	–	78,866,195	78,866,195
Net change in fair value of investment at fair value through equity	–	–	8,721,848	-	8,721,848
Total comprehensive income for the period	–	–	8,721,848	78,866,195	87,588,043
Dividends paid*	–	–	–	(40,000,000)	(40,000,000)
Balance at 30 September 2025 (Reviewed)	200,000,000	200,000,000	3,273,246	201,908,450	605,181,696
Balance at 1 January 2026 (Audited)	200,000,000	200,000,000	2,988,954	216,211,762	619,200,716
Net profit for the period	–	–	–	91,532,837	91,532,837
Net change in fair value of investment at fair value through equity	–	–	(16,459,402)	-	(16,459,402)
Total comprehensive income for the period	–	–	(16,459,402)	91,532,837	75,073,435
Dividends paid*	–	–	–	(50,000,000)	(50,000,000)
Balance at 30 September 2026 (Reviewed)	**200,000,000**	**200,000,000**	**(13,470,448)**	**257,744,599**	**644,274,151**

*Dividend declared amounting to QR. 50 million at the rate of QR. 0.25 per share (2025: QR. 40 million at the rate of QR. 0.20 per share) was approved by the Shareholders at the Annual General Assembly meeting held on 3 March 2026.

INTERIM CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
For the nine-month period ended 30 September 2026

	Note	For the nine-month period ended	
		30 September 2026 QR (Reviewed)	30 September 2025 QR (Reviewed)
OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Shareholders' profit for the period		**91,532,837**	78,866,195
Policyholders' (deficit)/surplus for the period		**(2,105,486)**	2,532,858
		89,427,351	81,399,053
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation of property and equipment		**6,831,602**	6,696,832
Amortization of right-of-use assets		**123,698**	61,849
Net reversal of impairment of financial investments		**(242,650)**	(142,095)
Realized gain from investments		**(47,770,768)**	(38,483,629)
Gain on disposal of property and equipment		**14,636**	109
Amortization of deferred cost		**147,872**	75,023
Fair value gain on investments at fair value through income statement		**(207,085)**	(365,676)
Provision for employees' end of service benefits		**630,560**	821,558
Operating profit before changes in working capital		**48,955,216**	50,063,024
Change in takaful and re-takaful arrangements		**81,591,572**	113,102,950
Change in prepayments and other receivables		**(1,878,288)**	421,218
Change in provisions and other payables		**7,023,343**	8,409,242
Net cash generated from operations		**135,691,843**	171,996,434
Employees› end of service benefits paid		**(209,714)**	(106,962)
Net cash generated from operating activities		**135,482,129**	171,889,472
INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Acquisition of property and equipment		**(171,431)**	(3,060,671)
Proceeds from disposal of property and equipment		**5,200**	1,825,935
Investment in fixed deposits		**(39,141,520)**	(78,879,800)
Acquisition of capital work in progress		**(2,633,339)**	-
Net movement in investments		**(21,778,684)**	(93,050,221)
Realized gain from investments		**47,770,768**	38,483,629
Net cash generated from investing activities		**(15,949,006)**	(134,681,128)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Policyholders' surplus paid during the period		**(4,144,793)**	(5,095,411)
Dividends paid		**(50,000,000)**	(40,000,000)
Repayment of gross Ijarah liability		**(202,660)**	(142,460)
Net cash used in financing activities		**(54,347,453)**	(45,237,871)
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents		**65,185,670**	(8,029,527)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		**46,200,649**	29,737,475
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT 30 SEPTEMBER (Note 3)		**111,386,319**	21,707,948

QATAR

Amir meets Uzbekistan president



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani met with the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, as part of His Highness' working visit to Uzbekistan. During the meeting, they discussed the relations of co-operation and friendship between the two nations and avenues for strengthening them, as well as regional and international issues of shared concern. Members of the official delegation accompanying the Amir, attended the meeting. (**QNA**)

Amir sends congratulations to Brazilian president Lula

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 the President of the Federative Republic of Brazil, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, on his re-election for a new presidential term, wishing him success in performing his duties and for relations between the two countries further progress and prosperity. (**QNA**)

Amir sends congratulations to Austrian president

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 the President of the Federative Republic of Brazil, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, on his re-election for a new presidential term, wishing him success in performing his duties and for relations between the two countries further progress and prosperity. (**QNA**)

PM holds phone calls with Saudi, Egyptian FMs

HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Prince Faisal bin Farhan bin Abdullah al-Saud held a phone call.

They discussed co-operation relations between the two countries and ways to support and strengthen them, as well as the latest regional developments, particularly ongoing diplomatic efforts and joint coordination aimed at de-escalating tensions and enhancing security and stability in the region.

During the call, HE Sheikh Mohammed affirmed the State of Qatar's full solidarity with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and its support for all legitimate measures taken by the kingdom to safeguard its sovereignty, security, territorial integrity, and interests, emphasising that the security of Saudi Arabia is an integral part of the security of Qatar and the collective security of the Gulf Co-operation Council states.

HE Sheikh Mohammed reiterated the State of Qatar's full support for all endeavours aimed at defusing tensions and reaching a comprehensive agreement that brings about sustainable peace in the region.

- HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Co-operation and Egyptian Expatriates of the Arab Republic of Egypt Dr Badr Abdelatty held a phone call

During the call, they discussed co-operation relations between the two countries and ways to support and strengthen them, as well as the latest regional developments, particularly ongoing diplomatic efforts and joint coordination aimed at de-escalating tensions and enhancing security and stability in the region.

HE Sheikh Mohammed affirmed Qatar's support for all diplomatic efforts and endeavours aimed at reaching a solution that ensures freedom of maritime navigation and paves the way for a comprehensive agreement that brings about sustainable peace in the region. (**QNA**)

PM offers condolences to Jordan counterpart

HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani and the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan Dr Ayman Safadi held a phone call. During the call, HE the Prime Minister offered his condolences to Dr Ayman Safadi over the victims of the attack that targeted a church in Karak Governorate, wishing the injured a speedy recovery. (**QNA**)

Al-Attiyah meets with Pakistani commerce minister

HE the Minister of Municipality Abdullah bin Hamad bin Abdullah al-Attiyah met with teh Minister of Commerce of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan Jam Kamal Khan during his visit to the State of Qatar. The meeting explored avenues for strengthening co-operation between the two countries, particularly in the areas of food security and supplies. (**QNA**)



Al-Khulaifi meets Japanese FM

HE the Minister of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Dr Mohammed bin Abdulaziz bin Saleh al-Khulaifi met in Tokyo yesterday with the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan Toshimitsu Motegi. During the meeting, the two sides reviewed the co-operative relations and ways to support and develop them. They also discussed the latest regional and international developments, as well as diplomatic efforts aimed at de-escalating tensions and promoting security and stability. Dr al-Khulaifi affirmed the State of Qatar's support for all diplomatic efforts and initiatives aimed at reaching a solution that ensures freedom of maritime navigation and sustainable peace in the region. For his part, Japanese Foreign Minister commended the State of Qatar's role in mediation and diplomatic efforts to de-escalate tensions, foster dialogue, and consolidate security and stability in the region. (**QNA**)

QCAA hosts Middle East civil aviation officials' meeting

The eighth meeting of Directors General of Civil Aviation in the Middle East region commenced yesterday. Hosted by the Qatar Civil Aviation Authority (QCAA) in collaboration with the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Middle East Regional Office, the conference will run through October 28.

The event brings together Directors General and senior officials from civil aviation authorities across the region and internationally, alongside representatives from various international and regional civil aviation bodies.

In his opening remarks, In Charge of Managing Qatar Civil Aviation Authority (QCAA) Mohammed bin Faleh al-Hajri highlighted the significance of the meeting as a vital framework to define strategic priorities for the coming period, given the rapid transformations currently shaping the global civil aviation sector.

He addressed key regional developments and their direct impact on the aviation industry, emphasising the imperative of strengthening regional cooperation and institutional coordination under current circumstances.

He expressed expectations that joint efforts and ongoing regional coordination will contribute to the restoration of operational activities to normal levels, thereby enhancing the stability of the civil aviation sector and supporting its growth in the period ahead. He added that the meeting serves as a platform to bolster collective regional readiness, building upon existing efforts and initiatives under the umbrella of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), to enhance the efficiency of air operations and build capacity to address current challenges.

The three-day meeting addresses a comprehensive agenda focused on sector development, including global advancements in aviation safety, air navigation, cybersecurity, environmental protection, and carbon sustainability. It also covers developments concerning air transport facilitation, mechanisms to expand regional implementation support, evolution of the Middle East Aviation Security Program, and operational challenges associated with unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs/drones). (**QNA**)

Doha Golf Club
Qatar

INVITATION TO TENDER

Doha Golf Club ("DGC") is pleased to announce the following tender:

Tender No.	Tender Title	Tender Bond (QAR)	Tender Fee (QAR)	Last Date to Issue RFP	Tender Closing Date	Email Address
DGC/TC/26/007	Consultancy Service for CCTV surveillance System – Phase II project	QAR 2000/-	QAR 200/-	08 Nov 2026	11 Nov 2026	**Doha Golf Club** To: tender@dohagolfclub.com

DGC is keen to invite reputable companies to provide Consultancy Services for review of documents, supervision and commissioning of MOI approved CCTV surveillance system.

Who should respond to this invitation?
Local companies that have relevant experience in the same scope.

Tender Process:

- Applicant/s should register and submit their Expression of Interest letter, along with accompanying copy of valid Commercial Registration and Computer Card by email to the relevant email address listed in the table above.
- Upon receipt, the applicant/s will receive an email with the attached Confidentiality Agreement (CA).
- The Applicant/s should then pay the non-refundable tender fee to below DGC Bank Account.

DOHA GOLF CLUB
Bank: Commercial Bank of Qatar
Account No.: 4580-583247-004
IBAN: QA24CBQA000000004580583247004

- Applicants will return a completed CA and Tender fee payment slip with bank stamp to DGC by email to the relevant email address, and submit a hard copy of the CA (in 2 copies) and Tender fee payment slip to the address below:

DOHA GOLF CLUB
West Bay Lagoon
P.O. Box 13530
Doha, Qatar

- Upon Receipt of a conformant CA and proof of payment of the tender fee, the applicant will be issued a copy of the Request for Proposal (RFP).
- Requests for RFP documents after ***08 Nov 2026*** will be rejected.
- The decision to issue RFP documents to an applicant rests solely with DGC.
- Technical and Commercial Offers should be submitted by hand in separate sealed envelopes with two (2) copies of each to Doha Golf Club as per the above mail address.
- Tender Bond must be included in a separately sealed envelope and submitted along with technical and commercial offers, otherwise Doha Golf Club will not consider documents for further review.
- Any queries in relation to this tender should be addressed in writing to the email addresses above.

Gulf Contracting Co. WLL Announces the Sale of,

Mobile Crane, Equipment & Vehicle Auction on As Is, Where Is Basis
Auction No: GCCA137/2026

Auction Documents Collection Date	Auction Documents Fee	Technical Submission Date	Commercial Submission Date	Auction Bid Bond	Auction Performance Bond
From 25/10/2026 to 28/10/2026	QAR1000 Non-refundable	On or Before 02/11/2026	04/11/2026 10:00 AM	QAR50,000	QAR100,000

1. Auction documents and the terms & conditions can be collected from Spacemaker Factory located in New Industrial Area, Building#64, Street#3, against a fee of QAR1000 paid in cash at the Company's Cashier. Auction Documents Collection Date is from 25/10/2026 to 28/10/2026, from 8:30am to 3:30pm - Auction documents can be reviewed prior to Purchasing.
2. Companies interested to participate in the auction has to collect the auction documents by submitting an authorization letter for the person who will collect the documents (should be under the bidder's sponsorship), along with copy of his QID, Company CR, Tax Card, Commercial License, Establishment Card, company's owner QID, National Address Certificate (all valid and newly Printed - 1 month) and an official email address for communication.
3. The auction items will be sold on As Is, Where Is Basis, and subject to the Auction's Terms & Conditions.
4. Technical submission, auction bid bond submission, and performance bond submission shall be submitted on or before 02/11/2026 as stated in the Auction's Terms & Conditions.
5. Commercial submission shall be on 04/11/2026 at 10:00AM. The commercial submission will be at Spacemaker Factory located in New Industrial Area, Building#64, Street#3.
6. Viewing of the auction items, which is limited to the companies who obtained the auction documents only and it will be from 25/10/2026 to 01/11/2026, from 8:30am to 3:30pm, except for Fridays. The location for viewing the items is specified in the Auction's Terms & Conditions.
7. No individuals or middlemen shall be allowed to participate in this Auction, which is restricted to registered companies only.
8. All communications/clarifications/follow-ups/updates related to this Auction is through this email: GCCA137@gulfcontracting.com. The bidders are strictly prohibited from communicating with Gulf Contracting and its staff through any other channels (visits, calls, SMS or WhatsApp messages…etc). Should a bidder fail to comply, this might lead to disqualification from this Auction.

Note: No offer will be accepted unless the Auction's Terms & Conditions are accepted, stamped and signed by the bidder as requested and by providing the required documents in full and strictly within the given date and time.

Doha Golf Club
Qatar

INVITATION TO TENDER

Doha Golf Club ("DGC") is pleased to announce the following tender:

Tender No.	Tender Title	Tender Bond (QAR)	Tender Fee (QAR)	Last Date to Issue RFP	Tender Closing Date	Email Address
DGC/TC/26/008	Renewing Doha Golf Club's 1) Public Liability, 2) Equipment & Machinery, 3) Property All Risk 4) Workmen Compensation 5) Motor insurance 6) Money Insurance	3% of RFP Value	QAR 1000	08 November 2026	11 November 2026	**Doha Golf Club** To: tender@dohagolfclub.com **Chedid & Associates Qatar** CC: cs@chedid-insurance.com

DGC is keen to invite reputable companies to Tender for renewing aforementioned insurances for Doha Golf Club through the appointed broker; Chedid & Associates Qatar.

Who should respond to this invitation?
Local companies that have relevant experience in aforementioned insurances.

Tender Process:

- Applicant/s should register and submit their Expression of Interest letter, along with accompanying copy of valid Commercial Registration and Computer Card by email to the relevant email address listed in the table above.
- Upon receipt, the applicant/s will receive an email with attached Confidentiality Agreement (CA).
- The Applicant/s should then pay the non-refundable tender fee to below DGC Bank Account.

DOHA GOLF CLUB
Bank: Commercial Bank of Qatar
Account No.: 4580-583247-004
IBAN: QA24CBQA000000004580583247004

- Applicants will return a completed CA and Tender fee payment slip with bank stamp to DGC by email to the relevant email address, and submit a hard copy of the CA (in 2 copies) and Tender fee payment slip to the address below:

DOHA GOLF CLUB
West Bay Lagoon
P.O. Box 13530
Doha, Qatar

- Upon Receipt of a conformant CA and proof of payment of the tender fee, the applicant will be issued a copy of the Request for Proposal (RFP) through the appointed broker; Chedid & Associates Qatar.
- Requests for RFP documents after ***8th Nov 2026*** will be rejected.
- The decision to issue RFP documents to an applicant rests solely with DGC.
- Technical and Commercial Offers should be submitted by hand in separate sealed envelopes with two (2) copies of each to Doha Golf Club as per the above mail address.
- **Tender Bond must be submitted in a separate envelope**, otherwise Doha Golf Club will not consider documents for further review.
- Any queries in relation to this tender should be addressed in writing to the email addresses above.

قطر للطاقة
QatarEnergy
LNG

QatarEnergy LNG
Tender Invitation

No.	TENDER NUMBER / DESCRIPTION	TENDER ISSUE PERIOD	TENDER FEE (QAR)	TENDER BOND (QAR)	TENDER CLOSING DATE
1	LTC/C/MNT/7915/26 Inspection and Maintenance of Metering Systems on Call-off Basis	21/10/2026 to 11/11/2026	0	250,000	16/11/2026

Scope of Work:
Company requires services for inspection and maintenance of metering systems installed across company facilities (and future installations) which are constructed by different manufacturers with various types of measurement systems, for a duration of Five (05) years.

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).

Note: Local Companies (established under the Laws of State of Qatar with local Commercial Registration) are advised to refer to the tender documentation and In-Country Value (ICV) Digital Portal: - https://icv.qa/en-US/ for details of ICV compliance that may be applicable.

Qatar turns priorities for environment into investment prospects



HE the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Dr Abdullah bin Abdulaziz bin Turki al-Subaie has affirmed that Qatar is working to foster integration between the protection of natural resources and the achievement of sustainable economic development.

This, he said, is being pursued through the development of innovative investment models that help transform environmental priorities into projects with economic and social value, in line with the Qatar National Vision 2030 and the National Development Strategy.

This came during HE Dr al-Subaie's participation in a session on "Partnerships for the Planet: Climate, Nature, and Prosperity", held as part of the 9th World Investment Forum 2026 (WIF 2026), hosted by Doha.

He indicated that the coastal and marine ecosystems in Qatar represent natural assets with promising economic and investment potential, emphasising the importance of adopting development models that strike a balance between preserving these resources and maximising their long-term economic and social benefits.

Discussing partnerships, he emphasised the importance of complementary roles among the public sector, the private sector, and research institutions.

The Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on Climate Action and Just Transition, Selwin Hart, noted that over the past 11 years, since the conclusion of the Paris Agreement, there has been tremendous development in key renewable energy technologies, such as solar and wind power, storage solutions, and electric vehicles.

Nevertheless, most countries around the world continue to lag behind; since the adoption of the Paris Agreement, only one out of every five dollars invested in clean energy has gone to developing and emerging economies (excluding China).

Hart said that these countries account for two-thirds of the world's population.

This inequality is clearly evident on the African continent, which possesses 60% of the world's best solar energy potential and 30% of the critical minerals required for the energy transition.

Yet, Hart pointed out, the continent attracts only 2% of global investment in clean energy.

He urged for effective support for countries in the Global South, to enable them to participate in the energy transition while simultaneously protecting their economies and societies from accelerating climate impacts.

Regarding how development banks can account for broader climate and nature-related benefits when making project financing decisions, acting Chief Economist at the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) Dr Jang Ping Thia indicated that these banks prioritise transparency by making all projects accessible to shareholders and the public for review and scrutiny.

He also pointed out that development banks rely on in-depth project analysis before providing financing.

In collaboration with entities such as the World Bank and the United Nations, they have developed robust methodologies for carbon pricing and assessing impacts on nature. (**QNA**)

Al-Misnad hosts panel on private-sector funding in developing countries



HE the Minister of State for International Co-operation, Dr Maryam bint Ali bin Nasser al-Misnad, yesterday hosted a panel discussion on the role of the private sector in funding development in developing countries as part of the World Investment Forum (WIF) in Doha.

Addressing the panel, HE Dr al-Misnad noted the mounting challenges facing development funding amid the deceleration of official development assistance and the widening financing gap for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), estimated at approximately USD4tn annually.

It is imperative to shift from dependence on government funding and traditional assistance to more effective partnerships capable of mobilising private capital to achieve an enduring development impact, HE the Minister underlined.

HE Dr al-Misnad stressed the importance of leveraging public funding to stimulate private investment, addressing impediments to investment flows, and underscoring the consequential link between investment, stability, and peacebuilding.

She elaborated that the State of Qatar's experience offers a practical model for integration among development co-operation, investment, and diplomacy.

HE the Minister propounded three practical suggestions to enhance development funding, centred on setting clear goals to mobilise private investment, supporting the development of investment-ready projects, and devising tailored financing instruments for fragile and conflict-affected countries.

Dr al-Misnad highlighted that the challenge today does not lie in providing additional financial resources, but in transforming available financing into productive investments, sustainable partnerships, and tangible economic opportunities.

Drawing on the State of Qatar's experience in mediation and conflict resolution, she acknowledged that stability is a sine qua non for attracting investment, while economic development and the creation of opportunities help consolidate peace and preclude the resurgence of conflicts.

She pointed out that Qatar views economic diplomacy as a vital tool for connecting peacebuilding efforts with the achievement of sustainable development.

HE Dr al-Misnad reiterated the State of Qatar's commitment to consistently pursuing its role as an effective partner in supporting international development through development cooperation, responsible investment, diplomacy, and efforts to enhance peace and stability. (**QNA**)

Minister meets UN officials



HE the Minister of State for International Co-operation Dr Maryam bint Ali bin Nasser al-Misnad met yesterday with the United Nations Assistant Secretary-General and Director of the UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States Dr Abdallah al-Dardari, on the sidelines of the ongoing World Investment Forum in Doha. During the meeting, the two sides discussed co-operation relations and ways to strengthen and develop them, as well as the evolving situation in the Gaza Strip and the Occupied Palestinian Territories, in addition to a number of other topics of common concern. Both sides emphasised the necessity of working with international partners to improve the humanitarian conditions of the Palestinian people. (**QNA**)



HE the Minister of State for International Co-operation, Dr Maryam bint Ali bin Nasser al-Misnad met yesterday with the Deputy Director-General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO), Fatou Haidara, on the sidelines of the World Investment Forum (WIF), held in Doha. During the meeting, they discussed cooperation relations and ways to enhance and develop them, in addition to several topics of mutual interest. (**QNA**)

Justice minister meets US charge d'affaires



HE the Minister of Justice and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Ibrahim bin Ali bin Issa al-Hassan al-Mohannadi met yesterday with the Charge d'Affaires at the US embassy in the State of Qatar Chris Hodges. During the meeting, they discussed legal and judicial co-operation between the State of Qatar and the United States of America, as well as ways to deepen and expand it. They also addressed a range of matters of mutual interest. (**QNA**)

NPC partakes in WIF



HE Dr Abdulaziz bin Nasser bin Mubarak al-Khalifa speaking at the World Investment Forum 2026.

The National Planning Council (NPC) participated in the 9th edition of the World Investment Forum (WIF 2026), hosted by Qatar in partnership with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). During a panel discussion on "Beyond GDP: Investing for Sustainable and Inclusive Progress", HE the NPC Secretary-General Dr Abdulaziz bin Nasser bin Mubarak al-Khalifa affirmed that, since the launch of Qatar National Vision 2030, Qatar has adopted a comprehensive concept of economic growth, reflected in its National Development Strategies through greater economic diversification. The session explored ways to reshape policies and investments, given that gross domestic product (GDP) alone is no longer sufficient to address mounting economic and environmental pressures. It also discussed mechanisms for translating the Beyond GDP agenda into practical steps that deliver prosperity. On the sidelines of the Forum, HE Dr al-Khalifa met with UNCTAD deputy secretary-general and acting secretary-general Pedro Manuel Moreno, and discussed avenues for co-operation between the two sides.

Minimum farm subdivision area lowered

By Ayman Adly
Staff Reporter

The Ministry of Municipality has approved new regulations governing the subdivision of local farms, reducing the minimum area of each subdivided plot from 100,000sq m to 50,000sq m to encourage agricultural investment, expand production, and strengthen the country's food security.

The revised regulations aim to balance optimising agricultural land use with preserving groundwater resources, while creating more opportunities for small and medium-sized agricultural projects. Further, the reduction provides greater flexibility for owners of productive farms wishing to subdivide their holdings, easing the restrictions imposed under the previous regulations, which required each resulting plot to cover at least 100,000sq m.

Accordingly, farm owners will have more opportunities to utilise the available agricultural land efficiently and invest in designated agricultural activities, subject to the approved terms and conditions. Meanwhile, the ministry expects the regulatory change to encourage new investors to enter the agricultural sector, particularly those with the technical expertise and financial resources needed to develop and operate the subdivided plots. By broadening access to agricultural investment, the revised rules aim to expand the number of productive agricultural holdings, increase the area of land actively used for farming, and boost domestic agricultural output.

The Ministry of Municipality has been enhancing its support for local farmers through financial assistance, modern farming technologies and improved access to agricultural inputs. Under its digital agricultural voucher programme, the Ministry covers nearly 75% of the cost of essential inputs, including seeds, fertilisers and pesticides, with more than 400 productive farms benefiting from the scheme. The programme lets eligible farmers choose inputs based on their production needs, with a focus on key vegetables such as tomatoes, cucumbers, eggplants, zucchini, and sweet peppers. In 2025, the Ministry also supported the conversion of 654,000sq m of open farmland into protected agriculture and distributed 1,864 insect-proof net houses, helping farmers protect crops and improve productivity.

Such initiatives have produced measurable results for domestic food production. According to figures published in early 2026, around 950 productive farms supplied local markets in 2025, while national vegetable output reached around 75,000 tonnes. The Ministry also helps farmers market their produce through seasonal agricultural markets in Al Khor and Al Thakhira, Al Wakra, Al Shamal, and Al Shahaniya, as well as the year-round Al Mazrouah market.

Judicial auctions record 36,638 bids in Q3-2026

Judicial auctions recorded 36,638 bids in the third quarter (Q3) of 2026, covering 2,645 items offered for sale, of which 1,508 sold, according to the latest statistics released by the Supreme Judiciary Council (SJC). The figures cover online auction activity during the July–September period. The SJC's quarterly statistics showed that 3,016 judicial cases were closed out of 5,284 during the period, representing around 57.1% of the total cases recorded.

ANNOUNCEMENT

I, VIVEKANANTHAN MURUGESU

holder of

SRILANKA Passport No. P0986407
QID No.30114400292

hereby change my name

from

VIVEKANANTHAN MURUGESU

to

VIVEKANTHAN MURUGESU

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

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT NOTICE

To all Ships, Fishermen, and Mariners

Pursuant to the directives issued by the Maritime Safety Department, Ministry of Transport, State of Qatar, this Public Announcement Notice is hereby issued to inform all vessels, mariners and fishermen that Halul Offshore Services Company W.L.L. intends to use the accommodation and ROV vessel Telford 25 (IMO No. 8770106) to conduct subsea mechanical plug isolations, survey works, and subsea and surface structures support services in QatarEnergy LNG North Field, South Field and Barzan Field for the North Field Production Sustainability (NFPS) Offshore and Pipelines Project (EPCOL), within the location bounded by the coordinates and map shown below.

Schedule: 01/11/2026 to 03/03/2027 (both dates inclusive). The schedule is subject to weather conditions and operational requirements.

The operations will be conducted within the area bounded by the following coordinates:

Point_ID	Easting (Qatar Nahrwan UTM Zone 39N)	Northing (Qatar Nahrwan UTM Zone 39N)	Longitude (WGS84) Degree Decimal	Latitude (WGS84) Degree Decimal	Longitude (WGS84) (DMS)	Latitude (WGS84) (DMS)
A	595,052.49	2,954,313.72	51.956574	26.710668	051°57′ 23.67″ E	26°42′ 38.4″ N
B	602,443.17	2,950,520.68	52.030557	26.675905	052°01′ 50.0″ E	26°40′ 33.26″ N
C	617,632.95	2,939,001.57	52.182122	26.570731	052°10′ 55.64″ E	26°34′ 14.63″ N
D	625,956.98	2,927,439.01	52.264543	26.465637	052°15′ 52.35″ E	26°27′ 56.29″ N
E	629,744.62	2,918,874.89	52.301663	26.387987	052°18′ 5.99″ E	26°23′ 16.75″ N
F	600,876.73	2,901,016.33	52.010906	26.229098	052°00′ 39.26″ E	26°13′ 44.75″ N
G	564,074.30	2,875,436.00	51.641222	26.000247	051°38′ 28.4″ E	26°00′ 0.89″ N
H	556,172.34	2,866,834.49	51.561898	25.922908	051°33′ 42.83″ E	25°55′ 22.47″ N
I	553,740.61	2,867,824.14	51.537657	25.931936	051°32′ 15.57″ E	25°55′ 54.97″ N
J	548,652.70	2,870,245.98	51.486938	25.953984	051°29′ 12.98″ E	25°57′ 14.34″ N
K	563,132.16	2,904,390.71	51.633216	26.261726	051°37′ 59.58″ E	26°15′ 42.21″ N
L	584,803.38	2,940,505.78	51.85262	26.586665	051°51′ 9.43″ E	26°35′ 12.0″ N



Important Notice:
All vessels, mariners and fishermen are advised to exercise caution and are required to keep well clear in any event at least 500m of the above-mentioned operational area for the duration of the activities. Following publication of this notice, Halul Offshore Services Company W.L.L. shall not be responsible for any loss or damage incurred by third parties in connection with this operation.
For more details contact: **+974 4494 9666**
For emergencies during operational schedule: **VHF CH16**

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QATAR

Shura hails outcomes of past week's events

QNA
Doha

The Shura Council held its weekly session yesterday at the Tamim bin Hamad Hall at its headquarters, chaired by HE the Speaker Hassan bin Abdullah al-Ghanim.

At the onset, the Shura Council welcomed the outcomes of the talks between His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani and French President Emmanuel Macron, during his recent state visit to Doha last week.

The council commended the shared commitment of the two nations to enhance bilateral relations and forge partnerships across sectors, including defence.

The council also hailed the outcome of two sides' discussions on regional developments, emphasising the importance of de-escalating regional tensions and prioritising diplomatic solutions, with the aim of bolstering security and stability.

The Shura Council also welcomed the outcomes of talks between HH the Amir and Singapore's Prime Minister Lawrence Wong, during his official visit to Doha last week, commending the strength of Qatari-Singaporean bilateral relations, and the shared commitment to elevating them to a strategic level, in a manner that serves the interests of peoples in both countries.

The council highlighted the US Foreign Policy Association (FPA)'s honouring of HH the Amir, in recognition of his pioneering role in mediation and international diplomacy.

The Shura Council affirmed that this honour recognises HH the Amir's pivotal role in advancing international peace and security — reflecting the burgeoning confidence of the world in Qatar as a trusted international mediator in resolving conflicts and supporting international peace and security.

This is achieved through a foreign policy rooted in dialogue and constructive diplomacy, grounded in the principles of international law and the UN Charter.

Then, HE the Shura Council Secretary-General Nayef bin Mohammed al-Mahmoud read out the meeting's agenda, after which the council approved the minutes of its previous meeting.

During the meeting, the council reviewed the government statement regarding a proposal submitted by the council concerning the enhancement of parental care and the promotion of family cohesion.

The council decided to refer the matter to its Social Affairs, Labour and Housing Committee for study and to be apprised of the committee's findings.

The council also reviewed a report on the participation of its members in the Arab Parliament, which was held in Cairo in June 2026, in addition to a report on the participation of its delegation in the 20th session of the Parliamentary Union of the Organisation of Islamic Co-operation (OIC) Conference and its associated meetings, hosted by Baku, Azerbaijan.

Public Prosecution receives officer candidates from Ahmed Bin Mohammed Military College



The Public Prosecution, represented by the Criminal Studies Institute, received a delegation of officer candidates from Ahmed bin Mohammed Military College as part of efforts to strengthen co-operation between the judicial and military institutions and promote the exchange of legal knowledge.

The visit programme, organised as part of the candidates' practical training, began with an introductory meeting in the institute's lecture hall.

During the session, the candidates learned about the Public Prosecution's organisational structure, the nature of its work, and its central role in the country's justice system.

They were also introduced to key laws and procedures governing the Public Prosecution's work in its pursuit of justice.

The visit included a field tour of several partial prosecution offices, where the candidates learned about daily operations and observed first-hand the procedures for receiving and examining reports, preparing investigation records, and referring case files to the competent courts.

The tour provided an opportunity to connect their academic and theoretical knowledge with practical, real-world experience.

The programme further included a visit to the Public Prosecution's library, an important resource for researchers and legal specialists in the country.

The candidates explored its collection of legal references, periodicals, and specialised books on criminal law.

DOMASCO GAC Launches the All-New 2027 GS7 PHEV in Qatar



The all-new 2027 GAC GS7 PHEV has officially been launched in Qatar by DOMASCO GAC, introducing a premium hybrid SUV that combines thrilling all-wheel-drive (AWD) performance with exceptional luxury, advanced technology and intelligent connectivity.

Designed for adventure-seeking drivers and modern families, the GAC GS7 PHEV blends advanced plug-in hybrid technology with next-generation intelligence and smart connectivity. Its distinctive exterior features a continuous smart headlight strip stretching 2.618 metres across the front, complemented by intelligent lighting animations that enhance its bold and futuristic appearance.

Commenting on the launch, Mr. Sakib Eltaf, Managing Director of DOMASCO, said:

"The launch of the all-new GAC GS7 PHEV marks an important milestone for DOMASCO GAC in Qatar. We extend our sincere gratitude to the people of Qatar and our valued Qatari customers, whose trust and loyalty continue to inspire us to raise our standards and deliver excellence.

The GS7 PHEV has been introduced with our customers in mind, reflecting their lifestyles, family values and aspirations for the future. Combining innovation, premium luxury and exceptional performance, this vehicle represents an exciting new chapter for GAC in Qatar.

We are honoured to serve this community and proud to contribute to Qatar's vision for progress and innovation. As we look ahead, we remain committed to delivering exceptional mobility experiences and being part of our customers' journeys."

Thrilling AWD Performance

A third-generation triple-motor electric AWD system powers the GS7 PHEV, delivering responsive performance and confident handling.

The GS7 PHEV offers up to 150 km of pure-electric driving rangeand a combined cruising range of up to 1,020 km (CLTC), providing flexibility for both daily commutes and long-distance journeys.

Drivers can seamlessly switch between plug-in hybrid and Super Range Extender modes while driving. For outdoor enthusiasts, the GS7 PHEV also supports 3.3 kW of external Vehicle-to-Load (V2L) power output, allowing compatible electrical devices to be powered during outdoor activities.

The high-tech cockpit is powered by the Qualcomm Snapdragon 8155, supporting seamless connectivity with Apple CarPlay, Android Auto and Spotify.

A five-screen system and a 27-inch HD head-up display place essential driving information within easy view. Additionally, a four-zone voice-recognition system enables passengers to control windows, climate settings and entertainment functions hands-free.

Indulgent Luxury

The spacious GS7 PHEV cabin is thoughtfully designed with premium leather and suede finishes, creating a sophisticated and comfortable interior environment.

Its 10-layer cloud-sensing sofa seats provide exceptional comfort, while the second-row seats electrically recline by up to **137 degrees.

Electric leg rests, an eight-point massage system and a one-touch king-size bed configuration further enhance passenger relaxation, making every journey a premium experience.

Double-layer laminated soundproof glass contributes to a peaceful cabin environment, while a 22-speaker premium audio system delivers an immersive listening experience.

The GS7 PHEV is available in Qatar in eight exterior colours and three interior colours, offering customers a range of personalisation options.

All-Round Safety

The GS7 PHEV prioritises passenger protection through a steel-reinforced armoured body structure and a comprehensive 10-airbag protection system.

Level 2 driver assistance comes as standard, supported by multi-scenario active safety functions designed to enhance driver confidence.

A 540-degree camera system provides an expanded view around and beneath the vehicle, improving visibility when navigating challenging terrain or confined spaces.

An automated parking feature assists drivers in manoeuvring the GS7 PHEV into different parking spaces using a convenient one-touch command.

Additionally, GAC's Magazine Battery technology is engineered for enhanced durability and safety, with resistance to extreme conditions, including bending, water immersion and puncture.

Experience the All-New GAC GS7 PHEV

Combining powerful hybrid performance, premium comfort, advanced technology and comprehensive safety features, the all-new GAC GS7 PHEV introduces a compelling new choice for customers seeking a premium plug-in hybrid SUV in Qatar.

DOMASCO GAC has announced introductory pricing starting from QAR 129,900, offering exceptional value within the premium hybrid SUV segment.

Customers are invited to experience the GS7 PHEV firsthand through a test drive at the DOMASCO GAC Showroom in the Industrial Area, Doha.

For added convenience, a Home Test Drive service is also available, allowing customers to experience the vehicle from the comfort of their preferred location.

The all-new GAC GS7 PHEV is also on display at Place Vendôme Mall, where visitors can explore its distinctive exterior design, luxurious interior and advanced intelligent features up close.



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QATAR

Qatar Charity honors talabat for seven years of partnership



Qatar Charity (QC) has honored **talabat** to mark seven years of strategic partnership, recognizing the company's role in providing a virtual charity store on its platform to facilitate donations, as well as its contribution to community and humanitarian initiatives.

The collaboration has helped harness digital solutions to make giving more accessible and encourage wider community participation in charitable projects, underscoring the value of cooperation between humanitarian organizations and the private sector.

JOINT INITIATIVES

Commenting on the occasion, Mr. Amer Mohammad AlBesiri, Director of Donor Relations at Qatar Charity, expressed his appreciation to talabat.

"We are proud of what this partnership has achieved over the past seven years. It has provided an effective model for harnessing digital platforms to support charitable giving and has created more opportunities for members of the community to contribute to humanitarian initiatives. We look forward to expanding our joint efforts in ways that strengthen their impact and reach more beneficiaries," he said.

Mr. Moaiad Aqel, Managing Director of talabat Qatar, said: "At talabat, our role is to connect people to what matters to them, and giving is one of the most meaningful ways we do that. We are grateful to Qatar Charity for this recognition and for seven years of trust, and we look forward to reaching more donors and bringing more humanitarian initiatives closer to the local community. We are also proud that our customers have embraced giving through the app, making it a place where people come together."

VIRTUAL CHARITY STORE

The partnership started 2019, when Qatar Charity and talabat signed an agreement to establish a virtual charity store on the company's platform, providing a digital channel for donations to the organization's charitable projects and relief activities worldwide.

Over the years, the joint initiatives have included distributing food baskets to workers and families affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, converting part of the value of grocery orders into donations that helped provide meals to people in need, and enabling users to donate Iftar meals and support other humanitarian projects during Ramadan.

Qatar Charity continues to maintain a presence on talabat, offering giving back options that include general charity, water assistance and food support, making it easier for users to contribute to humanitarian causes through the platform.



Qatar Charity and Jotun Paints Qatar Sign 'Charity Partner' Agreement



Qatar Charity (QC) has signed a cooperation agreement with **Jotun Paints Qatar** under its **'Charity Partner' (CP)** Program to promote corporate social responsibility and support humanitarian and community initiatives in Qatar and abroad.

Under the agreement, Jotun Paints Qatar joins the program in the bronze category, reflecting both parties' commitment to expanding their cooperation and strengthening the private sector's contribution to humanitarian and community action.

AREAS OF COOPERATION

Jotun Paints Qatar will provide financial support for several projects, including support for Assalam School in Qatar through the Back-to-School Campaign, the full funding of a water purification plant in Nepal, assistance for Yemeni refugees in Djibouti, food baskets for families in need in Chad, and bread for low-income families in Syria.

The agreement also grants the company the right to use the (CP) trademark in accordance with the program's terms, highlighting its community contributions and support for humanitarian work.

PROMOTING CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

On this occasion, Mr. Amer Mohammad Al Besiri, Director of Donor Relations at Qatar Charity, welcomed Jotun Paints Qatar to the 'Charity Partner' Program and expressed his hope that the agreement would lead to a long-term partnership encompassing Qatar Charity's seasonal campaigns and humanitarian and community initiatives. He also welcomed ideas proposed by the company and opportunities to develop them into initiatives with tangible impact.

Mr. Besiri invited companies and institutions in Qatar to join the program and contribute their resources and expertise to humanitarian and development projects that serve communities and support vulnerable groups worldwide.

For his part, Mr. Shovan Das, General Manager of Jotun Paints Qatar, said: "As a Norwegian company with four decades of presence in Qatar, we believe that supporting the communities where we operate is part of our responsibility. We are pleased to strengthen our cooperation with Qatar Charity and contribute to humanitarian initiatives that make a meaningful difference in people's lives, both in Qatar and abroad. We value Qatar Charity's work and look forward to building a meaningful and lasting partnership."

قطـــر الخيرية
QATAR CHARITY



Mannai Home showcases home solutions at Build Your House Exhibit '26

Mannai Home is showcasing its comprehensive range of home solutions at the Build Your House Exhibition 2026, running until October 28 at the Qatar National Convention Centre (QNCC).

Designed to support homeowners in creating modern, comfortable, and connected living spaces, the Mannai Home showcase brings together an extensive selection of TCL products and home solutions under one roof.

Visitors can discover TCL's latest entertainment and display solutions, ranging from 55-inch TVs to an impressive 163-inch TV, alongside soundbars and gaming display screens.

The showcase also features a broad portfolio of home appliances, including washing machines, dryers, chest freezers, and single- and double-door refrigerators, offering practical solutions for everyday living.

For homeowners looking for reliable climate solutions, Mannai Home is presenting a comprehensive air-conditioning portfolio covering split, ducted, cassette, floor-standing and VRF systems, suitable for a variety of residential requirements.

Selected air-conditioning products are offered with a 10-year compressor warranty, providing homeowners with added confidence and peace of mind.



Visitors can also explore smart door lock systems, bringing greater convenience and enhanced security to the modern home.

Through its participation in Build Your House Exhibition 2026, Mannai Home brings together entertainment, home appliances, air-conditioning and smart home security solutions, giving homeowners the opportunity to explore multiple solutions for their dream home in one convenient destination.

Visit Mannai Home at Counter I-14, Exhibition Halls 7, 8 and 9 at QNCC, running until October 28, and discover complete solutions designed for today's modern home.

Russian strikes on Ukraine's Kharkiv kill 2, injure 4

Russian forces launched strikes yesterday on Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, killing two people and injuring four, Mayor Ihor Terekhov said on Telegram.
Terekhov said there had been three strikes on a city district.
A high-rise apartment block and private homes had been damaged.
Regional Governor Oleh Syniehubov said Russian forces had launched missiles at the city, a frequent target of Russian attacks about 30km from the Russian border. (**Reuters**)

Mannai Corp strives to bolster Qatar's security

By Shaima Sheriff
Staff Reporter


Sumanta Roy

Mannai Corporation is exploring advanced radar, counter-drone technologies and AI-powered threat detection to strengthen Qatar's homeland security, public safety and critical infrastructure, Group ICT president Sumanta Roy has said.

Speaking to *Gulf Times* on the sidelines of the recently concluded Milipol Qatar 2026, Roy said, "Our approach is centred on building integrated security ecosystems rather than deploying technologies in isolation," Roy said, adding that combining these capabilities could support more proactive and resilient security operations.

Mannai ICT showcased a portfolio of technologies at the exhibition, including advanced visualisation systems, AI-powered enterprise solutions, resilient digital infrastructure and intelligent analytics designed for security and other mission-critical environments.

The solutions are intended to improve situational awareness, strengthen operational readiness, and support decision-making across areas from critical infrastructure protection to traffic management and urban security. Roy said secure connectivity, data centre technologies and intelligent infrastructure management were essential to maintaining reliable operations as organisations became increasingly dependent on digital systems.

"At Mannai, we combine AI, cybersecurity and systems integration expertise to help organisations protect essential services and critical assets," he said.

"AI is also being used maliciously, through deepfakes, and sophisticated automated attacks. We are, in effect, using AI to counter AI," Roy added.

He said Mannai's data, intelligence and cybersecurity offerings were designed to identify suspicious patterns and provide early warnings, while integrating security into digital infrastructure to protect sensitive information and maintain critical systems. He said the company's approach aligned with Qatar National Vision 2030.

He added that Mannai's long presence in Qatar, combined with international technology partnerships, aids organisations translate security priorities into practical solutions.

Lula wins historic fourth term

AFP
Brasília


President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva celebrates his win with his wife, Rosangela and Vice-President Geraldo Alckmin in Sao Paulo. (**Reuters**)

Brazil's leftist President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva pulled off a dramatic comeback on Sunday as he clinched a re-election victory, but his rival Flavio Bolsonaro refused to accept the loss and said he would seek to annul the vote.

With Lula's victory, Brazil staved off a conservative wave that has seen numerous countries — such as Argentina, Chile, Colombia, and Peru — all shift right, backed by US President Donald Trump.

The leftist icon, who turns 81 today, defied projections to win an unprecedented fourth term.

According to official results, he won 51.8% of the votes to 48.2% for Flavio Bolsonaro, with Lula pulling around 4.4mn more votes.

The senator is the son of former far-right president Jair Bolsonaro, who is serving a 27-year jail term for attempting a coup after his loss to Lula in the country's last election in 2022.

Sunday's vote was marked by confusion after a Supreme Court ruling extended voting by two hours as some polling stations had already closed. The move came at the request of Lula who complained that buses had been pulled from circulation in various cities, barring citizens from voting.

Flavio Bolsonaro also requested an extension in some regions due to heavy rains, but he described the decision as "unacceptable" and a "dirty trick"

"It is impossible to recognise the results. I am going to request the annulment of these elections," he said, stone-faced, in a brief speech in Brasilia.

No candidate who lost the first round has gone on to win the second in Brazil since 1989, the first direct election after the end of the country's military dictatorship.

"People went to vote because we managed to convince them that voting was very important for ensuring democracy in the country," Lula said in his first comments after the win.

Fireworks and vuvuzelas rang out in Rio de Janeiro, while thousands of people dressed in red, the color of Lula's Workers' Party, streamed into the streets of Sao Paulo to celebrate.

After the first-round defeat, the left swung into action with massive rallies, declaring "Never Again Bolsonaro" and revamped their social media strategy. During Sunday's voting, the abstention rate decreased from the first round, falling from 21% to 19%.

Julio Canelo, 42, a lawyer celebrating in Rio de Janeiro hailed a victory for "the entire democratic spectrum."

"It was the result of the people mobilising, in the streets and online," he told AFP.

A fierce social media battle drew in Meta, parent company of WhatsApp, Facebook and Instagram, which Lula's campaign accused of favoring his opponent with "algorithmic manipulation."

Meta denied this but acknowledged that some of Lula's campaign ads had been mistakenly deactivated due to technical errors.

"We are going to have to regulate them," Lula said of social media companies after his win.

A bitter campaign marred by scandals and mudslinging laid bare the deep divisions that have plagued Brazil over the past decade. Lula heads into a fourth term with almost half of the nation having rejected him, desperate for change.

He rose from poverty to become president in 2003 and was re-elected in 2006.

Lula made a dramatic return to office in 2022 elections after a corruption scandal saw him jailed for over 18 months. The charges were annulled on procedural grounds.

In his third term, Lula oversaw a drop in inflation and unemployment, and lifted millions out of hunger, but many voters felt gloomy about the high cost of living and crime.

Flavio Bolsonaro, 45, pitched himself as more moderate and jovial than his father and managed to galvanise conservatives as well as less ideological voters wanting something new. "We're in a deep hole, things are dire. People can barely afford to eat — buying meat is out of the question," said Tereza Cristina Ramos, a 68-year-old retiree, who voted in Rio de Janeiro. Already one of the world's oldest leaders, Lula will be 85 by the end of his new term in 2030.

He is also facing a hostile Congress dominated by the right.

Lula's campaign leaned heavily on the theme of sovereignty in the face of commercial and diplomatic pressure from Trump's US. "This country will not accept being anyone's backyard," he said Sunday.

Lula received congratulations from Chile's far-right president, Jose Antonio Kast, and Ecuador's right-wing Daniel Noboa — both close Trump allies.

Mexico's left-wing President Claudia Sheinbaum wrote on X, saying "Long live democracy, the people of Brazil won."

Qatar embassy in Mauritania honours Qatar Charity's medical teams



Qatar's ambassador to Mauritania, Shaheen bin Ali al-Kaabi, hosted a ceremony to honour doctors and healthcare professionals who took part in Qatar Charity's medical campaigns in the country, recognising their efforts to provide specialised care for children.
Attendees included Cheikh Baye Ould M'Khaitrate, acting secretary-general of Mauritania's Ministry of Health; Ibrahim Abdulrahman al-Janahi, director of Development Operations at Qatar Charity; Ahmed Ould Ebe, director-general of the National Cardiology Centre; Omer Abdelaziz Mohamed, country director of Qatar Charity's Mauritania Branch; and Mohamed Ould Sidi Ahmed, acting director-general of the Specialities Hospital.
The ambassador thanked Qatar Charity and donors in Qatar for supporting the initiatives. He praised the campaigns' results in treating children with heart defects and providing cochlear implants, highlighting their impact on children and their families.
He also commended Mauritania's Ministry of Health for its co-operation and support, and thanked the National Cardiology Centre and the Specialities Hospital for helping ensure the campaigns' success. He praised the medical teams, consultants and healthcare staff for their dedication and humanitarian efforts.
Al-Janahi said the ceremony recognised exceptional efforts that went beyond medical treatment. The campaigns gave some children the chance to hear the voices of loved ones and friends, while others gained the opportunity to lead healthier, safer lives.
He said Qatar Charity views investment in health as an investment in communities' future.
Outlining the results, Omer Abdelaziz Mohamed said the heart defect treatment campaign provided care for 43 children, while 12 children benefited from the cochlear implant campaign.



MOT participates in IMO 2026 WMDPE in Korea

A Ministry of Transport (MOT)) delegation is in Busan, the Republic of Korea, for the 2026 World Maritime Day Parallel Event, running till today.

Attended by leaders of 169 countries, the 2026 WMDPE in Busan focuses on the theme ''From Policy to Practice: Powering Maritime Excellence."

MOT's participation is part of Qatar's preparations to host the event in 2028. The International Maritime Organisation Council recently approved Qatar's bid to host the World Maritime Day Parallel Event in 2028. Qatar's offer to host the event was accepted at the Council's 137th regular session.

The World Maritime Day Parallel Event was first celebrated in Lisbon, Portugal, in 2005, and is hosted in a different country each year. The WMDPE promotes the World Maritime Day theme, highlights the International Maritime Organisation's work, and brings together key actors and stakeholders in the maritime community to discuss relevant matters.

Ooredoo sponsors Cityscape Qatar, 4th Real Estate Forum

Ooredoo has announced its sponsorship of Cityscape Qatar 2026 and the 4th Real Estate Forum, taking place from October 27 to 29. The sponsorship reflects Ooredoo's continued support for initiatives that advance Qatar's economic growth, urban development, and digital transformation.

As Qatar advances its smart city ambitions, digital infrastructure plays an increasingly important role in developing and managing connected communities.

Reliable connectivity supports more efficient operations, better experiences, and smart services across the real estate sector, aligning with Ooredoo's commitment to enabling innovation across key industries.

Sabah Rabiah al-Kuwari, senior director, Marketing Communications at Ooredoo Qatar, said: "Real estate plays an important role in Qatar's economic development and in shaping how people live and work. We are proud to support Cityscape Qatar 2026 and the 4th Real Estate Forum, bringing together the expertise and diverse perspectives to support the sector's continued development."

"Through this sponsorship, we aim to encourage collaboration and highlight the role of connectivity in building smarter, more sustainable communities," he added.

Woqod receives two RoSPA Gold Awards for 2026

Qatar Fuel Company announced it received two prestigious Gold Awards from the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) for 2026, recognising its commitment to high standards of occupational health, safety, and road safety across its operations.

Woqod received the 2026 RoSPA Gold Achievement Award for Occupational Health and Safety for the third consecutive year, as well as the 2026 RoSPA Gold Fleet Safety Award for the second consecutive year, reflecting the company's ongoing efforts to improve its safety performance.

The RoSPA Awards are among the world's most recognised health and safety award programmes, attracting approximately 2,000 entries from over 60 countries across 34 industry sectors. The awards recognise organisations that demonstrate strong safety management practices, effective risk prevention, and continuous improvement.

Receiving the Gold Achievement Award for the third consecutive year highlights Woqod's effective occupational health and safety management systems, strong safety culture, and commitment to minimising workplace risks and incidents.

Similarly, achieving the Gold Fleet Safety Award for the second consecutive year reflects Woqod's continued efforts to improve road safety, promote safe driving practices, and maintain high safety standards across its fleet operations.

Woqod's managing director and CEO, Saad Rashid al-Muhannadi, stated: "We are proud to receive these prestigious RoSPA Gold Awards, which reflect our continued commitment to health, safety, and road safety. Receiving these awards for consecutive years highlights the dedication of our employees and our ongoing efforts to maintain a safe working environment. We will continue to strengthen our safety practices and improve performance across all operations."

almeera, Ooredoo Qatar partner to connect wafa, Nojoom

Through its new partnership with Ooredoo Qatar, almeera enables its members to connect its wafa loyalty programme with Nojoom and giving them more ways to benefit from the rewards they earn.

Through the partnership, wafa members can convert their wafa points into Nojoom points, extending the value of their rewards across the wider Nojoom ecosystem.

To mark the launch, members will benefit from an enhanced conversion rate for the first three months, receiving 200 Nojoom points for every 1,000 wafa points converted.



Following the promotional period, the standard conversion rate will be 200 Nojoom points for every 1,200 wafa points.

The partnership also creates additional value for Ooredoo customers.

Nojoom members can redeem their points for almeera gift cards, giving them greater flexibility to use their rewards when shopping across almeera stores in Qatar.

Jassim Mohammed al-Ansari, CEO of almeera, said: "wafa is becoming an increasingly important part of how we build stronger relationships with our customers. Our ambition is to create an ecosystem that gives members greater choice and allows the value they earn with almeera to extend further into their everyday lives.

Hassan Ismail al-Emadi, Chief Business Officer at Ooredoo Qatar, said: "Our partnership with almeera wafa is an important addition to the Nojoom programme, giving our members greater choice and flexibility in how they use their rewards. As we continue to expand our network of partners, we are creating more opportunities for our members to enjoy meaningful value from Nojoom across their daily lives."

The introductory conversion offer will be available for the first three months following the launch of the partnership. wafa members can convert their points into Nojoom points, while Nojoom members can redeem their points for an almeera gift card, available for use at almeera branches across Qatar.

OPINION

How can the EU minimise the impact of China Shock 2.0?

European Union ministers said last week that the bloc should press ahead with its discussions with Beijing and expand a deal struck to limit imports of hybrid vehicles from China to other sectors.

The ministers stressed the importance of dialogue, although the EU has other options to deal with a surge in Chinese exports, dubbed China Shock 2.0, which industry groups say are causing factory closures and job losses.

European Trade Commissioner Maros Sefcovic struck an agreement with Beijing earlier this month for the EU to cut imports of hybrid vehicles from China by more than half.

The EU trade chief acknowledged that this was merely a first step in the bloc's efforts to rebalance its trade relations with China.

The EU's goods trade deficit swelled to more than €370bn ($414.25bn) in 2025 and is on course to break well past €400bn this year.

China has also agreed to cut import tariffs on €4bn of EU exports, including car parts and olive oil, and to ease the issuing of export licences for rare earths.

Sefcovic and Chinese Commerce Minister Wang Wentao have agreed to meet again in March, when further steps could be unveiled.

The European Union has adopted a large number of anti-dumping and anti-subsidy measures, principally in the form of tariffs, against China.

Of 25 new such EU investigations currently underway against all countries, 22 target China either alone or with other countries.

The investigations cover tyres, some steel products and a wide range of chemicals.

The EU's highest-profile recent case, against Chinese electric vehicles, resulted in additional tariffs of up 35.3% being imposed in 2024.

The European Commission is opening around 30 investigations a year into China, up from a historical average of about 12.

Critics say that there is still a backlog of complaints and that the cases are very specific, meaning Chinese producers can easily shift to exports of similar products or goods one step up or down the value chain.

Another existing option is safeguards, which set import quotas, with tariffs typically applying for volumes beyond the quota limits.

The EU has tended to shy away from them, feeling they are protectionist, and so far they have only been applied to steel products and ferro-alloys.

Through a safeguard, the EU can target a broader range of products.

The hybrid vehicle agreement with Beijing will be put in place as a safeguard, covering plug-in and non-plug-in cars.

Safeguards are also blunter instruments, with quotas set for all trading partners.

Safeguard requests can only be submitted by EU members.

They also vote on final measures, which require support from a "qualified majority" of EU members – at least 15 representing 65% of the EU's population – a threshold that until recently was considered out of reach.

However, a new geopolitical climate, with US tariffs and a burgeoning trade deficit with China, has changed EU thinking as industries warn that surging imports are putting European jobs at risk.

Safeguard cases look to be pending for PET, the plastic often used in packaging, and chemical composites.

Other chemicals and machinery cases are also possible.

France and Germany proposed earlier this month a series of measures the EU could take against China, including a new rapid-action measure to strike back against countries that harm the bloc by limiting or cutting off their access to the EU's single market.

The European Commission has agreed to propose such a measure, which has been dubbed a 'kill switch', although it is not clear when.

It will propose in December a 'diversification instrument' that would seek to limit companies' reliance on single sources for certain critical supplies.

The EU executive will also put forward a "solidarity package" to support EU members or sectors that are hit by trade measures from outside. – Reuters

People power



An aerial photo shows supporters of the Students' List gather late on Sunday at the Slavija square in Belgrade as they celebrate their victory in the Serbian parliamentary elections. Voters cast ballots in record numbers on Sunday, with the country recording its highest parliamentary election turnout in more than three decades. Celebrations erupted on the streets of the capital; passing cars honked their horns as crowds began to party at the news that Serbia's ruling party had lost parliamentary snap elections. (**AFP**)



How purchases of sanctioned Iranian jet fuel were disguised by Myanmar

- **Myanmar broker signed contracts for South African diesel but received Iranian jet fuel, documents show**
- **Junta regulator said in confidential letter it would label $15.8mn cargo as diesel 'instead of jet fuel'**
- **Payment for shipment was directed to a Thai bank account, according to contract**
- **Junta airstrikes have killed thousands in Myanmar since 2021 coup, UN says**

In December 2025, the US-sanctioned tanker Reef arrived in Myanmar waters with some 113,000 barrels of fuel backed by sham paperwork.

Myanmar-based energy broker Dynamic Wave ordered the shipment, agreeing in a sales contract inked with Thailand's Tawan-Oil Trading to supposedly take delivery of a similar amount of South African diesel.

However, the $15.8mn agreement, which Reuters viewed, was a charade: there was no such trade between South Africa and Myanmar in 2025, according to data from the United Nations and Vortexa, a shipping and energy data provider.

In reality, Reef carried jet fuel from Iran to Myanmar, according to records of fuel shipments to Myanmar, as well as satellite images and analysis by SynMax Intelligence, which tracked the tanker's journey from the Iranian port of Bandar Abbas to Southeast Asia.

The deception was needed because the US in 2023 imposed targeted sanctions on Myanmar's jet-fuel industry.

The US did so citing the deadly bombing campaign waged by the Southeast Asian country's military on civilian targets as part of an effort to crush a rebel-led insurgency.

All purchasers of Iranian oil and fuel are also exposed to sweeping American sanctions.

Details of how Myanmar disguised purchases of Iranian jet fuel, as well as the entities involved in the transactions, are reported here for the first time.

Myanmar's military junta was involved in the ruse.

Days before Reef arrived, Myanmar's foreign exchange regulator told the client of Dynamic Wave that it would issue import documentation that labeled the delivery as diesel "instead of jet fuel", according to a copy of the agency's November 30 letter seen by Reuters.

The document, which was provided to Reuters by the activist group Justice for Myanmar, did not explain the purpose of the mislabeling.

The letter from the regulator also authorized Dynamic Wave and its client, National Energy Prime Aviation Services Company, to pay Tawan for the shipment.

Neither Dynamic Wave nor its client, which is part-owned by Myanmar's military-backed government, responded to questions about the fuel shipment.

Spokespeople for Myanmar's military-backed government and foreign exchange regulator, as well as the Iranian foreign ministry, also did not return requests for comment.

Tehran was the Myanmar military's primary supplier of jet fuel between October 2024 and December 2025, with much of the trade carried out by the tankers Reef – since renamed Maris – and Noble, a Reuters report revealed in January.

The scheme uncovered by Reuters underscores both the reach and limits of Washington's power.

The lengths taken to disguise the trade suggest US sanctions are biting.

However, Iranian jet fuel has continued to flow, earning Tehran valuable foreign currency and providing Myanmar with the means to conduct both commercial aviation and air raids.

The US Treasury did not respond to questions about jet-fuel shipments between Iran and Myanmar.

Myanmar's generals seized power in 2021 from the democratically elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi.

The coup sparked a civil war, during which the military has killed thousands – including many civilians – in aerial assaults, the United Nations said in August.

Myanmar's foreign ministry said in response to the UN allegations that the military "exercises maximum restraint to avoid civilian harm".

Justice for Myanmar, which also shared the fuel sales contract with Reuters, published a report yesterday concluding that Myanmar's junta was importing jet fuel mislabeled as diesel.

The organisation, which supports further sanctions on Myanmar's jet fuel imports, said that it obtained the documents from a junta-run server that was briefly publicly accessible.

Reuters found a dead link to one of the documents on the DuckDuckGo search engine, indicating it had once been hosted on that server.

Delivery dates and fuel quantities in the documents also match Iranian jet fuel shipment records that were separately reviewed by the news agency.



This picture taken in 2021 shows fighter jets flying during a parade on Armed Forces Day in Naypyitaw, Myanmar. (**Reuters**)

The sales contract for Dynamic Wave's fuel shipment stipulated that the payment be transferred into Tawan's account at Siam Commercial Bank (SCB), Thailand's oldest bank.

Tawan was identified by UN experts in a 2024 report as a jet-fuel supplier to Myanmar's military.

The firm has not commented on those allegations.

SCB was described as a major facilitator of Myanmar military procurement in that report.

The bank said after the report's release that it adheres to anti-money-laundering laws and that its Myanmar-related transactions were legitimate and not connected to the arms trade.

Reuters could not determine whether SCB was aware of the nature of Tawan's business.

Thai regulators in 2024 ordered banks to closely scrutinise transactions involving Myanmar in order to comply with sanctions and anti-money-laundering laws.

SCB did not respond to repeated requests for comment about its commercial relationship with Tawan.

Tawan and the Bank of Thailand, which supervises the kingdom's financial industry, also did not respond to questions.

The December shipment was not the first time jet fuel arrived in Myanmar disguised as diesel.

Dynamic Wave in May 2025 agreed to buy from Tawan 202,000 barrels of what a second contract, also obtained from the junta server, described as South African diesel.

The agreement stipulated that the diesel should arrive at Yangon within a month and that Dynamic Wave would pay $26mn into Tawan's SCB account.

The invoice for that contract contained discrepancies suggesting the tanker actually contained jet fuel.

The density of the fuel listed in the document matched the specifications for jet fuel rather than diesel sold in Southeast Asia, according to Joshua Heyne, a jet-fuel expert at Washington State University, and data from Platts, the energy-industry information provider.

In addition, the price of the fuel was more than 50% higher than a global diesel benchmark.

Noble called at Yangon on June 17 carrying just under 200,000 barrels of jet fuel earmarked for Dynamic Wave, shipment records show.

Like Reef's December shipment, Noble's cargo was loaded at Iran's Bandar Abbas according to SynMax's analysis of satellite imagery.

As it made its way to Myanmar's commercial capital, Noble transmitted location signals that made it appear as though its destination was the port of Chittagong in Bangladesh, according to SynMax.

The manager of the Reef and Noble tankers did not respond to questions sent via its listed website.

Shipments of jet fuel between Iran and Myanmar have continued this year, Reuters reported in October, citing SynMax analysis and satellite imagery. – Reuters



This picture taken late last month shows vessels in the Strait of Hormuz near the beach of Bandar Abbas, Iran. (**Reuters**)

GULF TIMES

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CNN expands footprint in Qatar with Media City partnership

By Peter Alagos
Business Editor

CNN is expanding its operational presence in Qatar through a strategic partnership with Media City Qatar, serving as the host partner for its Global Perspectives summit, according to Ellana Lee, Group senior vice-president, GM APAC, and Global head of Productions at CNN.

In an interview with *Gulf Times*, Lee said that the collaboration forms part of the network's commitment to maintaining local reporting capabilities worldwide at a time when many international media organisations are reducing their global footprint.

"As you know, the media landscape is changing quite aggressively," she said. "And a lot of other media organisations are cutting back on their footprint across the world. I think I'm very proud to be part of CNN, where we are actually committing ourselves to staying on the ground across the world. We have over 20 bureaus around the world."



Ellana Lee, Group senior vice-president, GM APAC, and Global head of Productions at CNN.

Highlighting the importance of direct reporting from the region, Lee emphasised that physical presence is crucial for accurate international coverage.

"You can't accurately capture what's happening today without having boots on the ground, especially in the Middle East," she pointed out. "Establishing a presence in Qatar gives us another channel and opportunity to tell this story, not only because it matters locally, but because its implications matter to viewers worldwide."

"I don't want to report on the Middle East from cities elsewhere; I want to tell its story from here," Lee added.

CNN has operated in the region for over 25 years, maintaining a presence in the UAE alongside CNN Arabic. The network recently launched a bureau in Doha focused on digital content creation, according to Lee.

"We're excited to have launched a bureau here in Doha alongside these creators," she said. "They're young, energetic, and engaging, offering a fresh perspective on the Middle East. Through their work, audiences will experience the region in a new way."

"This bureau represents another expansion of our presence and reinforces our commitment to the region," Lee said.

"It's really an extension of what we're already doing: having people report from the ground. I think that's essential because it allows us to be authentic," she noted. "We don't want to rely on Google searches to understand a country."

Beyond reporting, the partnership includes media training initiatives for aspiring journalists through CNN Academy and student internships tied to the summit.

"We're doing that through the internship we launched with Global Perspectives," Lee explained, noting that the academy is running a two-week intensive training programme for 30 young journalists in Qatar alongside 10 student interns.

She added that Global Perspectives will cover technology, artificial intelligence, geopolitics, and business, with a major focus on cultural dialogue.

As part of the programme, Christiane Amanpour will conduct an interview with HE Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani.



MoCI opens 7th Build Your House 2026

Under the patronage of HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani, HE the Minister of Commerce and Industry Sheikh Faisal bin Thani bin Faisal al-Thani opened the 7th edition of Build Your House 2026, which runs from October 26-28 at the Qatar National Convention Centre (QNCC), with more than 250 exhibitors from over 10 countries taking part.

Following the opening ceremony yesterday, HE Sheikh Faisal toured the exhibition halls, where he reviewed the latest products and services offered by participating local and international companies in construction, building and interior design, as well as smart and sustainable solutions for residential development. (**QNA**)

MoPH designates 4 health centres 'Baby-Friendly'

The Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) has designated four health centres as "Baby-Friendly" under the "Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative", as part of its ongoing efforts to promote maternal and child health, encourage breastfeeding, and provide a supportive health environment for it.

The designation includes Leabaib, Umm Slal, Al Thumama, and Muaither health centres, which fall under the Primary Health Care Corporation. The centres received the designation in recognition of their commitment to implementing the initiative's standards approved by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef), and providing the necessary care and support for mothers and children.

The designation followed the completion of comprehensive and thorough evaluations conducted by a team of specialists from MoPH, accredited by WHO, to verify the extent of compliance with the standards and steps of the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative.

This brings the total number of healthcare facilities designated as "Baby-Friendly Hospitals" in the State of Qatar to nine, following the previous designation of five healthcare facilities under the initiative.

Director of the Health Promotion Department at MoPH, Dr Salah Abdulla Alyafei, said the designation of these healthcare facilities reflects the Ministry's efforts to promote maternal and child health and support breastfeeding. (**QNA**)

ABP and WCM-Q to host higher education forum

The Academic Bridge Programme (ABP), part of Qatar Foundation's (QF) Pre-University Education, in collaboration with Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar (WCM-Q), a QF partner university, is to host the 'Building Bridges to Higher Education: Advancing STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Readiness and Global Competence' forum.

The forum will take place on November 14, under the patronage of Qatar's Ministry of Education and Higher Education, and in partnership with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco). Registration is open until November 7 at https://qatar-weill.cornell.edu/event/fpf

The one-day forum will explore practical strategies to help teachers and academic counsellors guide students toward educational pathways that align with their abilities and aspirations, while encouraging greater interest in STEM, as well as medical and healthcare fields.

Participants will also gain insights into university admission requirements, preparatory programmes, and the skills needed to succeed in higher education. The forum will address challenges students may face during their transition to university and explore ways to prepare them academically and personally for this important stage.

Doha Film Festival 2026 announces Int'l Feature Film Competition Jury

Doha Film Festival (DFF) 2026, today announced acclaimed Japanese filmmaker Naomi Kawase as Head of its International Feature Film Competition Jury, bringing together an exceptional group of cinematic voices whose work challenges perspectives, transcends borders and illuminates the human experience. Joining Kawase on the jury are celebrated French Tunisian actor Adam Bessa, influential Tunisian producer Dora Bouchoucha, award-winning Palestinian filmmaker and artist Kamal Aljafari and visionary Italian documentary filmmaker Gianfranco Rosi. (**QNA**)

PHCC to hold 8th PFAG meeting

The Primary Health Care Corporation (PHCC) will hold its eighth Partners and Family Advisory Group (PFAG) meeting via video conference on October 29, under the theme "Together We Shape Digital Transformation in Primary Healthcare."

The meeting will focus on two main topics.

The first will address virtual consultation services, while the second will highlight "Nar'aakom" digital services.

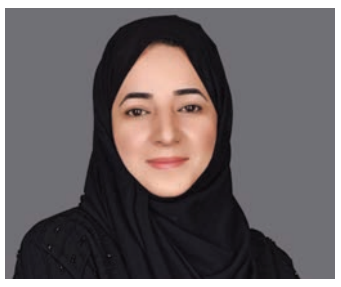
The aim is to hear partner patients' experiences, views, and suggestions on developing digital services, improving access, and enhancing the overall user experience.

PHCC emphasised that engaging patients and their families represents a genuine partnership in its development journey, noting that the success of digital transformation extends beyond providing modern technologies and depends on their ease of use, safety, effectiveness, and responsiveness to the needs of different segments of society.

The meeting aims to turn participants' feedback and suggestions into practical opportunities for continuous improvement, support the development of more efficient and flexible digital services, enhance the patient experience, and strengthen the partnership between PHCC and the community in shaping the future of primary healthcare in Qatar.


Dr Mariam Ali Abdul Malik


Dr Samya Ahmad al-Abdullah


Dr Amal Abdullah al-Ali

Dr Mariam Ali Abdulmalik, managing director of PHCC, said: "The theme of the eighth meeting addresses both the present and future of healthcare: digital transformation in primary healthcare services. Digital services are becoming an increasingly important part of the patient experience. It is therefore essential to ensure that this transformation is easy to use, clear, safe and accessible to everyone, and that it genuinely responds to the actual needs of patients and their families."

Dr Samya Ahmad al-Abdullah, assistant managing director for Operations and Clinical Affairs, and executive director of Operations Directorate at PHCC, said: "The quality of healthcare services is measured not only by how efficiently they are delivered; it begins with understanding patients' needs and expectations and identifying the challenges they may encounter at different stages of their healthcare journey."

Dr Amal Abdullah al-Ali, executive director of Quality, Patient Safety and Innovation at PHCC, said: "Quality in healthcare begins with people: understanding their needs, listening to their experiences and responding to their expectations. From this perspective, PHCC believes that involving patients and their families in service development goes beyond listening to their views and feedback."

Huda Mohsen al-Wahedi, executive director of Corporate Communications Directorate at PHCC, said: "The eighth meeting of our PFAG comes at a time when digital services have become an essential part of everyday life and of the healthcare experience. Our responsibility therefore extends beyond introducing these services to understanding how people experience using them, identifying the needs of patients and their families, and ensuring that digital communications and services reach them clearly, easily and reliably.

"From a corporate communications perspective, patients' voices must be treated with respect, accuracy and care. Their experiences and contributions must be communicated responsibly in ways that reflect their realities and safeguard their privacy and dignity."

32 WCM-Q students complete summer research projects

Thirty-two second-year medical students from Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar (WCM-Q) completed biomedical summer research projects at elite international institutions in Qatar, the US and the UK.

The projects are part of the college's Advanced Biomedical Sciences Research (ABSR) elective course, which offers students who have completed the first year of the medical curriculum the opportunity to pursue a personal scholarly experience in biomedical science.

The elective is open to students who wish to graduate with honours in research or who otherwise are interested in developing their scientific investigation and clinical research skills.

This student-initiated programme invites students to submit research proposals for consideration, develop working relationships with prospective mentors and secure invitations to visit and collaborate on research projects.

The eight-week programme offers a variety of experiences, including clinical research, laboratory research, social science projects, public health projects, and other translational projects.

The majority of this year's cohort of participating students were awarded the Medical Student Research Award (MSRA), which is provided by the WCM-Q Research Division, to support their travel.

The students spent the summer working on research projects in orthopaedics, neurology, oncology, haematology, immunology, and endocrinology, among others, with placements at specialised centres at Weill Cornell Medicine in New York, New York-Presbyterian, the University of Oxford, and WCM-Q.

Student Abdulla al-Mutawa spent the summer at Weill Cornell Medicine in New York in the laboratory of Dr Shahin Rafii, founding director of the Hartman Institute for Therapeutic Organ Regeneration, the Arthur B Belfer Professor of Genetic Medicine, chief of the Division of Regenerative Medicine in the Department of Medicine and director of the Ansary Stem Cell Institute, learning how to preserve the diverse phenotype of mesenchymal stromal cells through modulation of TGF-ß signalling.

Student Luai Hommos joined Dr Mootaz Salman, associate professor of neurobiology, in his lab at the University of Oxford to investigate blood-brain barrier (BBB) integrity in mouse models of induced synucleinopathy.

Parkinson's disease and other synucleinopathies are increasingly linked to early breakdown of the BBB, which may serve as a diagnostic marker before clinical symptoms appear.

Dr Nayef Mazloum, associate professor of microbiology and immunology, and associate dean for student research at WCM-Q, said: "This year's cohort of students has shown a consistent commitment to strengthening their research skills, and I am extremely proud of everything they have achieved over the summer."



MoU signed to promote innovation, sustainability in municipal services

Al Wakrah Municipality and Doha University of Science and Technology (UDST) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to strengthen co-operation in innovation, sustainability, applied research, and modern technology, supporting the development of municipal operations and improving services for the community.

Al Wakrah Municipality signed the MoU on behalf of UDST, with Jaber Hassan al-Jaber, Director General of Al Wakrah Municipality, and Dr Salem Al-Naemi, President of the university, present.

The agreement covers co-operation in developing smart, sustainable solutions; utilising artificial intelligence applications and modern technologies; supporting scientific research and student initiatives; and implementing joint training and awareness programmes and activities.

Al-Jaber said the MoU reflects the municipality's commitment to strengthening partnerships with academic institutions and leveraging scientific expertise and modern technologies to improve municipal performance and enhance service quality.

Dr Al-Naemi highlighted the MoU's importance in strengthening integration between scientific research and municipal operational needs, while applying innovation and modern technologies to develop practical, sustainable solutions.

UDST launches novel platform augmenting online applied learning

The University of Doha for Science and Technology (UDST) has launched eUDST, a new online learning platform offering courses, programmes, and micro-credentials designed to substantially bolster professional development and skills growth.

The platform provides users with plenty of opportunities to access online learning at their own pace and from anywhere, under the guidance of the university's experienced faculty and e-learning specialists.

It also extends UDST's applied learning approach into the digital environment, bridging knowledge and practical skills while unlocking new prospects for continuous learning and professional growth.

UDST President Dr Salem Al-Naemi said the platform is not merely an electronic tool but an applied learning platform, noting that applied learning is not simply an added merit of UDST but the essence of its identity.

Every single course has been designed around one question: What would learners apply tomorrow if they had been unable to apply what they learned yesterday, Al-Naemi remarked, adding that this is a standard to which the university has invariably remained committed and that every single user deserves.



Academic Director of the Applied and Experiential Learning Department at UDST Dr Hiba Sabri said the university's approach to developing eUDST grew out of its commitment to unlocking new avenues for professionals to internalise the skills increasingly demanded by the job market, respond to the evolving needs of industrial sectors, and substantially advance their careers.

By extending learning well beyond the confines of traditional campuses, the university is making professional development more accessible and helping bolster lifelong learning across a wide range of sectors, Sabri added.

This forward-looking approach seeks to bridge the gap between knowledge and practical skills, enabling professionals to keep abreast of evolving industry demands and remain well-positioned for future opportunities, she said.

The platform targets professionals across various sectors, alumni, and current students, providing flexible learning opportunities tailored to their diverse academic and professional needs.

Its launch marks another step in UDST's efforts to substantially expand access to flexible, applied learning and develop a platform capable of serving individuals and institutions across Qatar while further bolstering the country's workforce development.

HEC Paris, Doha to explore the future of AI and human intelligence

How can leaders combine artificial intelligence and human intelligence to make better decisions and navigate an increasingly complex business environment? HEC Paris, Doha will explore this question during an online masterclass, "AI and Human Intelligence: The Future of Thinking and Decision-Making," on November 9. Designed for professionals and business leaders, the session will examine how artificial intelligence is reshaping leadership, critical thinking and decision-making as it becomes increasingly integrated into organisations and everyday life. Led by Mohammadamin Yousefi, assistant professor of Organisation Theory at HEC Paris, the masterclass will explore: How AI and human expertise can complement one another in problem-solving and decision-making; The opportunities and challenges of integrating AI into professional practice; and How to leverage AI to strengthen leadership capabilities and create meaningful impact in an evolving digital landscape.

QATAR

QM opens exhibition tracing ancient Chinese maritime trade

HE Sheikha Al Mayassa led the inauguration of 'Boats Floating Afar' exhibition at NMoQ

Qatar Museums (QM) Chairperson HE Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani inaugurated yesterday the 'Boats Floating Afar: The Maritime Trade of Ancient Chinese Ceramics' exhibition at the National Museum of Qatar (NMoQ).

The exhibition explores how Chinese ceramics travelled thousands of kilometres by sea, shaping artistic traditions, trade and daily life far beyond the places where they were made.

Organised in collaboration with the National Museum of China and presented in Temporary Gallery 13, the exhibition follows more than 1,000 years of ceramic production and maritime exchange from the Tang to the Qing dynasties (618-907 CE to around 1900 CE). The exhibition shows more than 100 objects from the National Museum of China alongside selected material from Qatar Museums' collections.

Boats Floating Afar: The Maritime Trade of Ancient Chinese Ceramics places Qatar within broader histories of exchange that connected the Gulf with communities and trading centres across Asia centuries before modern global networks emerged. It will be on view until February 15, 2027.

In a press statement, NMOQ director Sheikh Abdulaziz bin Hamad al-Thani said: "The sea has shaped Qatar's history for generations, sustaining communities through pearling, fishing and trade and connecting the country with ports and cultures across the region and beyond. Boats Floating Afar: The Maritime Trade of Ancient Chinese Ceramics places Qatar's history within a far wider narrative of maritime exchange, revealing how objects, skills and ideas travelled across great distances. The objects on view offer tangible evidence of the networks that linked the Gulf with China and Asia centuries ago."



HE Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani and Chinese ambassador to Qatar Cao Xiaolin at yesterday's inauguration of Boats Floating Afar: The Maritime Trade of Ancient Chinese Ceramics exhibition at NMOQ. **PICTURES**: Qatar Museums

Luo Wenli, director of the National Museum of China, said: "Through Boats Floating Afar: The Maritime Trade of Ancient Chinese Ceramics exhibition, we hope to further advance exchanges and co-operation between the National Museum of China and the National Museum of Qatar. By reflecting together on the history of the Maritime Silk Road and appreciating the beauty of our respective cultures, we hope to deepen mutual understanding, enhance our friendship, and continuously consolidate and strengthen the friendly relations between our two peoples."

Visitors can see ceramics produced at some of China's best-known kiln centres, including Jingdezhen, Longquan, Dehua, Changsha and Yue. Celadon, bluish-white wares, Ming blue-and-white porcelain and richly decorated Qing pieces illustrate evolving techniques and tastes across successive dynasties. Several objects demonstrate how Chinese makers responded to overseas markets, adapting forms and decorative styles for customers far from China.



The exhibition unfolds across four thematic chapters, tracing the development of Chinese ceramic trade from the Tang Dynasty (618–907 CE) to the Qing Dynasty (1644–1911 CE). The first chapter, Endless Shores, introduces the beginnings of maritime trade and the influence of Chinese kilns beyond China. Sea of Sails traces the expansion of maritime networks during the Song and Yuan dynasties (960–1368 CE), when rising overseas demand drove new ceramic wares and trade systems. The third chapter, Expanding Waves, charts the rise of Chinese porcelain in global markets during the Ming and Qing dynasties (1368–1911 CE). The final chapter, Across the Seas, looks at the influence of Chinese ceramics on pottery traditions worldwide, with particular attention to Qatar.

Among the highlights are objects connected to the wreck of the Cirebon, a 10th-century ship discovered off the coast of Java, Indonesia, which illustrate the scale of ceramics transported along maritime trade routes. Chinese pottery fragments excavated in Qatar provide further evidence of these connections to the Gulf.

Complementing the objects on view are films documenting the history and production of Chinese ceramics alongside footage of Chinese pottery being excavated at archaeological sites in Qatar. Both are subtitled in Arabic and English. Visitors can also see maps illustrating major Chinese kiln centres, cities and ports, as well as maritime trade routes extending as far west as the Red Sea, while accessibility features include Braille information, tactile ceramic models and a hands-on activity.

Boats Floating Afar builds on the legacy of the Qatar–China 2016 Year of Culture and forms part of an ongoing exchange between NMoQ and the National Museum of China. Earlier this year, NMoQ's exhibition On the Move opened in Beijing, tracing the creativity and lifestyles of Qatar's nomadic and semi-nomadic communities. Together, the two projects deepen the relationship between the two institutions, strengthened through the exchange of collections, research and scholarship.

The exhibition opened as part of the Qatar Creates Fall/Winter 2026–27 season, a programme of exhibitions, public art, performances and cultural events across Qatar.


HE Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani tours the exhibition.

Sheikha Al Mayassa unveils Qatar Fashion and Crafts Council

From Page 1

"Initiatives and institutions such as Fire Station, Fashion Trust Arabia and M7 have played a role in supporting emerging talent by providing platforms for guidance, professional development and creative collaboration," HE Sheikha Al Mayassa noted.

These programmes, she said, support nearly 200 designers and artists annually, helping Qatari and regional creators showcase their work.

She noted that museums worldwide now exhibit works by homegrown artists from Qatar and the region, while designs by Qatari and Arab creatives have reached international markets.

HE Sheikha Al Mayassa also highlighted the cultural sector's economic contribution, saying that the QM supports nearly 7,000 full-time jobs.

She added that data from Qatar University indicates 40% of students are interested in pursuing careers in creative businesses.

"These figures demonstrate the potential of creative industries to generate employment, encourage entrepreneurship and attract investment," she highlighted.

"In the age of AI, creative skills and the capacity for innovation are increasingly important for future jobs," HE Sheikha Al Mayassa said.

"However, talent alone cannot build a sustainable economy; creators need support, guidance, production, and distribution, which requires the integration of cultural institutions with the private sector."

Speaking at a panel discussion at the WIF 2026 on "Investing in Art and Civilisation", she noted that Qatar possesses the necessary assets to lead the creative industries, including high-end infrastructure and museums that inspire generations, foster creativity, and open up opportunities for learning and engagement with the world, alongside the nation's wealth of creative professionals and promising talent.

"It has been five decades since Qatar opened its first national museum, but really in the last 25 years perhaps, there has been a big shift from culture becoming an investment to culture becoming a necessity in human development," HE Sheikha Al Mayassa stated. "And, the results speak for themselves."

She underscored that there has been significant investment in cultural infrastructure, collections, and architecture over the years.

"I would say, the next 10 years, I will be focusing on creative house and the talent incubation in order to really build the creative economy and create resilience to AI and the technology that goes with that," HE Sheikha Al Mayassa said.

"We contribute about QR3.6bn a year to the local economy," she continued. "We also create lots of jobs. So we look at cultural infrastructure as the hardware and the software are the people that we are very much invested in."

Sheikha Al Mayassa added that, in the age of artificial intelligence (AI), creative skills and the ability to innovate are becoming increasingly significant for the jobs of the future.

'Giuseppe Penone: The Inner Flow of Life' opens



QNA
Doha

HE the Chairperson of Qatar Museums (QM) Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani yesterday opened Giuseppe Penone: The Inner Flow of Life, a major survey exploring Penone's enduring interest in the synergies between artistic and natural processes, at the National Museum of Qatar (NMoQ).

The exhibition, co-curated by Hans Ulrich Obrist, Artistic Director, Serpentine, and Issa al-Shirawi, Head of International Exhibitions, Qatar Museums, presents 25 artworks made between 1970 and 2026, revealing the Italian artist's sustained fascination with the forces that shape both the natural world and the human body.

The exhibition brings together works from early in Penone's career, including Rovesciare i propri occhi (Reversing One's Eyes) (1970), with those created just this year, such as Vene di bronzo (Bronze Veins) (2026), to trace how the artist has articulated themes such as touch, growth, pressure, memory, and transformation. In addition, Qatar Museums will install a new public sculpture by the artist, Idee di Pietra, at the Old Doha Port.

Giuseppe Penone: The Inner Flow of Life is organised across five custom-built pavilions in NMoQ's Baraha, each dedicated to a material that has been at the centre of Penone's practice (leaves, porcelain, thorns, marble, and leather). Putting works from different periods in conversation, the exhibition includes sculptures, drawings, installations, photographs, and moving-image works to reveal Penone's continued attention to the physical qualities of matter and to the marks produced by the human body upon its surroundings.

Issa al-Shirawi, co-curator of the exhibition and Head of International Exhibitions at Qatar Museums, said: "It is an honour to open Giuseppe Penone: The Inner Flow of Life, a milestone exhibition for the Mena region that brings Penone's practice to audiences here for the first time."

Presented as part of the Qatar Creates Fall/Winter 2026-27 season, Giuseppe Penone: The Inner Flow of Life joins a wider programme of exhibitions and events that reflect Qatar's ongoing commitment to cultural exchange, creative dialogue, and global connection.

Technology can strengthen human connections through sports, culture and entertainment: Hassan al-Thawadi

By Joseph Varghese
Staff Reporter

Technology should be used to strengthen human connections and expand access to shared experiences through sports, culture and entertainment, HE Hassan bin Abdulla al-Thawadi, managing director of the Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy, has said.

Addressing a gathering ahead of a session titled "Investing in Tourism and Culture," at the ongoing World Investment Forum 2026, al-Thawadi highlighted the transformative potential of artificial intelligence (AI), digital platforms, social media and immersive technologies in reshaping how people experience live events and interact across cultures.

"We are living through a remarkable period of technological transformation. Artificial intelligence, digital platforms, and social media are changing how we create, communicate, and experience the world. But one of the greatest opportunities of this transformation is how we can harness technology to bring people together through shared human experiences," he explained.

He said the rapid development of technology presents an unprecedented opportunity to extend the reach of sporting events, concerts, cultural festivals and artistic performances, enabling people around the world to participate in collective experiences beyond geographical boundaries.

"Technology is and must serve as a bridge for human connection, not a substitute for it," al-Thawadi said. "Digital innovation should complement rather than replace the atmosphere and emotional impact of attending live events in person."

"The excitement of stadiums, the shared emotions of concerts and the appeal of cultural festivals are examples of how collective experiences create lasting memories and bring people from diverse backgrounds together," he explained.

According to al-Thawadi, virtual reality, augmented reality and AI could open new possibilities for audience participation, allowing fans across continents to gather in shared digital environments, interact with performers and athletes, and become part of global communities connected by sports, music and culture.

"The objective of technological advancement should go beyond increasing audience numbers to fostering a deeper sense of participation, belonging and shared identity," he highlighted.

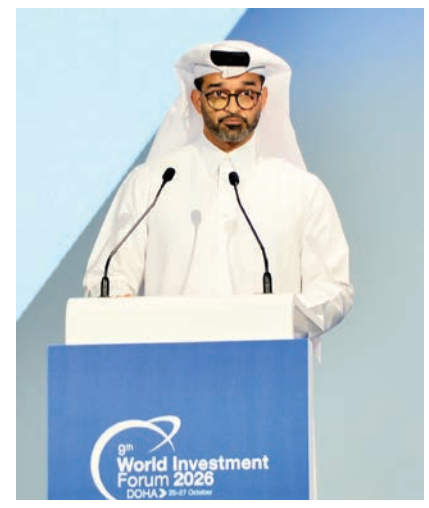
Reflecting on Qatar's experience of hosting the FIFA World Cup 2022, al-Thawadi said the tournament demonstrated the extraordinary ability of major sporting events to unite people across nations and cultures. He noted that the World Cup's legacy highlights the power of shared experiences to unite people across borders.

"The tournament's impact extended beyond the matches, creating friendships, conversations and moments of collective celebration that transcended borders. The memories generated by the event also encouraged visitors to return to Qatar and share their experiences with friends and family, helping inspire further interest in the country," he underlined.

He said it requires investment in creative talent, world-class infrastructure, and digital capabilities that enable artists, performers, athletes, and technology specialists to collaborate.

"For governments, investors, industry leaders, this means recognising the power of collective moments of shared humanity, supported by the creative and entertainment industries as a strategic asset for accelerating and enhancing economic growth, innovation, and international understanding. It means investing in creative talent, world-class infrastructure, and digital capabilities that allow artists, performers, athletes, and technologists to collaborate," he highlighted.

"AI can support creative processes and improve event delivery, while digital broadcasting can connect international audiences. Immersive technologies and digital platforms can also create new ways for audiences to engage with performances and enable creators to reach wider markets," he underlined.



HE Hassan bin Abdulla al-Thawadi.
PICTURE: Shaji Kayamkulam