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Saudi crown prince affirms unlimited support for Qatar

QNA
Riyadh

Saudi Crown Prince and Prime Minister Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz al-Saud strongly condemned the recent Israeli attack on Qatar, affirming the Kingdom's unlimited support for any measures Qatar deems necessary.

Speaking at the opening of the second year of the Shura Council's ninth session, the Crown Prince said that Saudi Arabia rejects and condemns the Israeli occupation's aggression in the region, including the latest brutal attack on Qatar.

This requires co-ordinated Arab, Islamic, and international action to confront such aggression and to impose international measures that can halt and deter the occupation's criminal practices aimed at destabilising regional security and stability, he added, affirming Riyadh will stand with Qatar without limits and place all its capabilities at its disposal.

The Crown Prince also reaffirmed the Kingdom's condemnation of the ongoing Israeli assaults



Prince Mohammed bin Salman

on the Palestinian people in Gaza, particularly the continued acts of starvation and forced displacement.

He stressed that Gaza is Palestinian land, and the rights of its people are inalienable. No aggression can strip them of those rights, nor can threats erase them. Saudi Arabia's position remains firm — to protect those rights and work seriously to prevent their violation, he added.

He reiterated Saudi Arabia's

commitment to the 2002 Arab Peace Initiative, launched by the Kingdom and later endorsed internationally as a framework for a two-state solution. He described the initiative as an unprecedented pathway toward the realisation of a sovereign Palestinian state.

He also noted that the Kingdom's diplomatic efforts have led to a growing number of countries recognising the State of Palestine. He highlighted the success of the recent High-level International Conference for the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution held in New York, calling it an unprecedented gathering that has significantly strengthened international consensus around the peace initiative.

On Tuesday, His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani received a phone call from Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

During the call, the Saudi crown prince affirmed the Kingdom's solidarity with Qatar and its strong condemnation of the blatant Israeli attack that targeted

the residential buildings housing members of the Hamas leadership.

PM receives phone calls from Saudi ministers

HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani received a phone call yesterday from Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Prince Faisal bin Farhan bin Abdullah al-Saud. During the call, the Saudi minister stressed Saudi Arabia's solidarity with Qatar and its strong condemnation of the blatant Israeli attack that targeted the residential headquarters of a number of Hamas leaders. He considered it a criminal act and a flagrant violation of all international laws and norms, and a threat to the security of Qatar and the countries of the region.

HE the Prime Minister also received a phone call from Minister of Defence of the sisterly Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Prince Khalid bin Salman bin Abdulaziz al-Saud. (QNA)



Amir, UAE president discuss implications of Israeli attack

● **Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed al-Nahyan extends UAE's full solidarity and support**

QNA
Doha

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani and President of the United Arab Emirates Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed al-Nahyan held a meeting at the Amiri Diwan yesterday, where they discussed the close fraternal relations between the two countries and ways to support them across various fields, in addition to discussing the regional and international developments and efforts to achieve peace and stability, which will benefit all peoples of the region.

At the outset of the meeting, His Highness the Amir welcomed the UAE president and the accompanying delegation, expressing his pleasure with this visit, which reflects the depth of relations between the two fraternal countries.

The president of the UAE reiterated the UAE's full solidarity with Qatar and its support for all measures it may take to preserve its sovereignty, territorial integrity, and people.

The UAE president stressed that the Israeli aggression constitutes a violation of Qatar's sovereignty and all international laws and norms, and undermines the security, stability, and prospects for peace in the region. In this context, he praised the efforts of His Highness the Amir to achieve peace and stability in the region.

In this regard, His Highness the Amir voiced his deep appreciation to the President of the UAE for his solidarity, sincere fraternal feelings, and his country's supportive stance toward Qatar and its people.

During the meeting, His Highness the Amir and the UAE president exchanged views on regional and international developments of mutual concern, mainly the current situation in the Middle East, particularly regarding the ongoing negotiations on a ceasefire in the Gaza Strip.

The two sides stressed the importance of strengthening dialogue and diplomatic solutions as the optimal way to overcome regional crises and maintain regional and global security. **To Page 12**

Jordan prince conveys condemnation of attack; solidarity with Qatar



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani met yesterday in his office at Lusail Palace, with Crown Prince of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan Prince Al Hussein bin Abdullah II, along with the accompanying delegation, on the occasion of his visit to the country. At the outset of the meeting,

the Jordanian crown prince conveyed to His Highness the Amir the greetings of his brother King Abdullah II bin al-Hussein of Jordan, and his affirmation of Jordan's rejection of any act that affects the security, stability, and sovereignty of Qatar. **To Page 12**

Crown prince reiterates Kuwait's full support and solidarity with Qatar



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani yesterday welcomed Crown Prince of the State of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah Khalid al-Hamad al-Sabah, at Lusail Palace. The meeting began with the

Kuwaiti Crown Prince conveying Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Mishaal al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah's greetings to His Highness the Amir, and his affirmation of Kuwait's strong condemnation of the recent Israeli attacks on Doha. **To Page 12**

More world leaders declare solidarity with Qatar

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani received phone calls yesterday from more world leaders including Sultan Haitham bin Tariq of the Sultanate of Oman, Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto, Indian PM Narendra Modi, Bulgarian President Rumen Radev, Spanish PM Dr Pedro Sanchez and French President Emmanuel Macron. During the calls, the leaders expressed solidarity with Qatar and their strong condemnation of the blatant Israeli attack that targeted the residences of several Hamas leaders, describing it as a criminal act and a flagrant violation of all international laws and norms, as well as a threat to the security of Qatar and the region. **Page 4**

Mol announces martyrdom of two more persons

Qatar's Ministry of Interior (MoI) has confirmed the identity of two more victims killed in Tuesday's Israeli strike on a residential building in Doha housing members of Hamas's political bureau. The identity of martyr Jihad Riyadh Hassan Labad has been confirmed "as part of the ongoing monitoring of developments related to the Israeli targeting and in light of the field operations carried out by the relevant security agencies to collect evidence and information". Earlier, the ministry announced the death of Moamen Jawad Hassouna Hassouna. The ministry said that it was confirmed that Moamen Jawad Hassouna Hassouna had died as a result of the attack. **Page 4**

UK PM, Israeli president clash during tense meeting

Israeli President Isaac Herzog said he had argued with British Prime Minister Keir Starmer in Downing Street yesterday during a "tough" meeting that covered deep disagreements over recent behaviour by each other's country. The meeting comes a day after Israel expanded its attacks on Hamas by launching an air strike aimed at killing the group's political leaders in Qatar, a British ally in the Middle East, which Starmer condemned.

Canada evaluating relations with Israel after Qatar attack

Canada is evaluating its relationship with Israel after the attack on Hamas leaders in Qatar, foreign minister Anita Anand said yesterday, in the latest sign of unhappiness with the Israeli government. Anand reiterated that Canada considered the attack to be unacceptable, especially given Qatari attempts to facilitate peace in the Middle East. "We are evaluating our relationship with Israel," Anand told reporters on the sidelines of a meeting of the ruling Liberal Party in Edmonton.

UN Security Council meeting on Israel's Qatar strike today

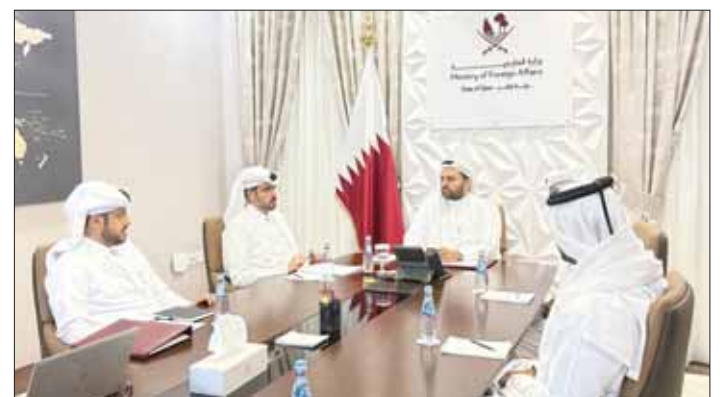
An emergency United Nations Security Council meeting in response to Israel's strikes on Qatar has been postponed to Thursday at Doha's request, rotating council president South Korea said. "The Security Council postponed today's emergency briefing on 'the situation in the Middle East' to tomorrow afternoon, at Qatar's request, so that the Prime Minister of Qatar can take part in the meeting," the South Korean presidency said in a statement yesterday. It was unclear if the Qatari prime minister would attend in person. (AFP)

Cabinet slams Israeli attack; security, legal teams formed

Doha, September 10 (QNA) - HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani chaired the Cabinet's regular meeting held yesterday at the Amiri Diwan.

Following the meeting, HE the Minister of Justice and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Ibrahim bin Ali al-Mohannadi stated the following: At the outset of the meeting, the Cabinet condemned in the strongest terms the criminal and cowardly Israeli attack, which constitutes state terrorism, and which targeted on Tuesday the residential headquarters of a number of members of the Political Bureau of the Hamas movement in Doha. This attack is a flagrant violation of the sovereignty of the State of Qatar, a serious threat to the security and safety of its citizens and residents, and a blatant breach of all international laws and norms.

The Cabinet reiterated that the State of Qatar will take all necessary measures to protect



The legal team formed based on the decision of the Council of Ministers.

its security, preserve its sovereignty, stand with its brothers and friends, and support the just causes of peoples. It will not tolerate this criminal attack, which came at a time when the State of Qatar is making its utmost efforts to establish peace in the region. This proves the aggressive tendencies of the Israeli government, the state terrorism it practices, its disregard for the United Nations

Charter and international laws, and its disregard for the sovereignty of states and the sanctity of their territories. This requires a firm stance from the international community and decisive measures to deter the reckless, irresponsible, and unanticipated consequences of Israeli practices, which are likely to undermine the foundations of regional security and world peace. **To Page 4**



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Afia Sunflower Oil
1.5ltr X 2pcs



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دائما ركيه 1 كيلو
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Cream Cheese 1kg



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Maggi Noodles Chicken/
Curry 77gm X 5pcs



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5 KG

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1.25 كيلو
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Powder 1.25kg



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تشيلي 1 كيلو
Apple Pink Lady
Chile 1kg



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اندونيسية 1 كيلو
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Indonesia 1kg



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South Africa 1kg



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QAR 3.75
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Oman 1kg



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Onion red, India

بصل أحمر، الهند



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Grapes white, Jordan

عنب أبيض، الأردن

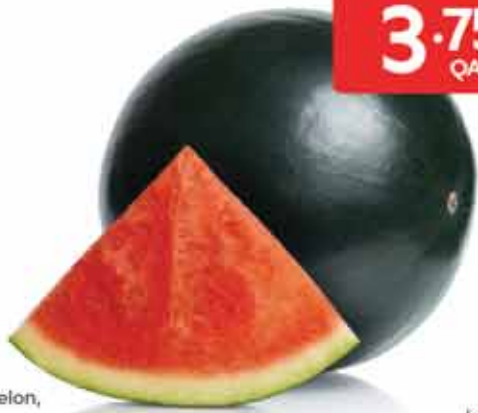


6.75
QAR

Per KG

Grapes red, Egypt

عنب أحمر، مصر



3.75
QAR

Per KG

Watermelon, Turkey

بطيخ، تركيا



7.00
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Per Pack

Baby spinach 125g, Kenya / Italy

سبانخ صغيرة 125 غرام، كينيا / إيطاليا



34.50
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Per KG

Feta cheese, Local

جبنة فيتا، محلية

Super Deals
أفضل العروض



6.75
OR

Per KG

يوسفي، جنوب أفريقيا
Mandarine, South Africa

Super Deals
أفضل العروض



10.75
OR

Per Pack

فراولة 250 غم جنوب أفريقيا
Strawberry 250g, South Africa

Super Deals
أفضل العروض



14.75
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2 Pieces

دجاج برديكس 1000 غم
Perdix whole chicken 1000g

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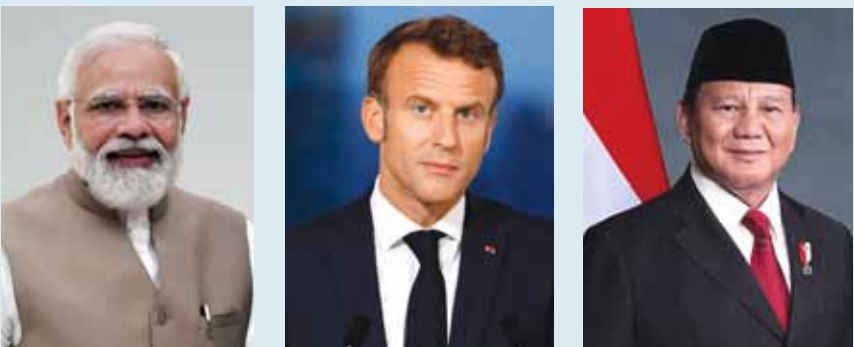


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World leaders slam Israel's blatant attack, offer full support to Qatar

Leaders express solidarity in phone call with Amir

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani received phone calls yesterday from HM Sultan Haitham bin Tariq of the Sultanate of Oman, Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto, Indian PM Narendra Modi, Bulgarian President Rumen Radev, Spanish PM Dr Pedro Sanchez and French President Emmanuel Macron.

During the calls, the leaders expressed solidarity with the State of Qatar and their strong condemnation of the blatant Israeli attack that targeted the residences of several Hamas leaders, describing it as a criminal act and a flagrant violation of all international laws and norms, as well as a threat to the se-

curity of the State of Qatar and the region.

They also reaffirmed firm rejection of any aggression that threatens the security and safety of the State of Qatar and undermines the security and stability of the region, emphasising that they stand with the State of Qatar in all measures it takes to protect its security and preserve its sovereignty.

For his part, His Highness the Amir affirmed that the State of Qatar will take all necessary measures to protect its security and preserve its sovereignty in response to the blatant Israeli attack. His Highness also expressed his thanks to the leaders for their sincere sentiments and valued solidarity with the State of Qatar and its people.

PM receives phone calls from Gulf, Arab counterparts

HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani received a number of phone calls yesterday from Gulf and Arab prime ministers, deputy prime ministers and foreign ministers. They included:

Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan bin Abdullah al-Saud, Saudi Defence Minister Prince Khalid bin Salman bin Abdulaziz al-Saud, UAE Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed al-Nahyan, Omani Foreign Minister Sayyid Badr bin Hamad bin Hamood al-Busaidi, Egypt's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Emigration and Egyptian Expatriates Dr Badr Abdelatty, Jordan's Prime Minister Dr Jafer Hassan, Jordan's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates Dr Ayman al-Safadi, Lebanese Prime Minister Dr Nawaf Salam, Lebanese Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates Youssef Rajji and French Foreign Minister Jean-Noel Barrot.

During the call, they all expressed solidarity with Qatar and their countries' strong condemnation of the blatant Israeli attack that targeted the residential headquarters of a number of Hamas leaders in Doha. They considered the attack a criminal act and a flagrant violation of all international laws and norms,

All the ministers expressed solidarity with Qatar and their countries' strong condemnation of the blatant Israeli attack that targeted the residential headquarters of a number of Hamas leaders in Doha

and a threat to the security of Qatar and the countries of the region. They also stressed that their countries stand with Qatar in the measures it may take to protect its security and preserve its sovereignty.

Foreign Minister Barrot stressed France's solidarity with Qatar, condemning the Israeli attack, describing it as unacceptable regardless of its motive. In turn, HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs affirmed that Qatar will take all necessary measures to protect its security and preserve its sovereignty against the blatant Israeli attack. (QNA)

Shura Council: Israel's attack a gross violation of Qatar's sovereignty and international law

QNA
Doha

The Shura Council strongly condemned the treacherous, cowardly, and criminal attack launched by the Israeli occupation state against Qatar, which targeted the residences of a number of members of the Political Bureau of the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) in Doha.

In a statement, the Council described the assault as a flagrant violation of Qatar's sovereignty and security, and a grave threat to the safety of its people, both citizens and residents. The Council expressed its deepest condolences over the martyrdom of a member of the Internal Security Force (Lekhwiya) and two others as a result of this brutal attack, praying to Allah Almighty to have mercy on them, grant their families pa-

tience and solace, and bestow recovery upon the injured.

The Shura Council affirmed that this terrorist act constitutes a flagrant and ongoing violation of all international laws and norms. It called on the international community, the UN, human rights and humanitarian organisations, and parliaments worldwide to shoulder their moral responsibilities, hold the occupying state accountable for this heinous aggression and its blatant disregard for innocent lives, and halt its persistent violations that undermine security and stability in the region and the world.

The Council warned that the international community's failure to hold the occupying power accountable for its repeated crimes – most notably the war of genocide it has been waging against the Gaza Strip and the rest of the occupied Palestinian territories for nearly two years – has only emboldened it to

expand its attacks and commit further atrocities across the region.

The Council further denounced the threat made by the Speaker of the Knesset following the cowardly attack on Qatar, in which he declared it a message to the entire Middle East. It urged the Inter-Parliamentary Union and regional parliamentary organisations to suspend the Knesset's membership in response to such threats.

The Shura Council reaffirmed Qatar's firm and principled stance in support of the Palestinian cause, and its rejection of all attempts aimed at liquidating it, whether through displacement projects, settlement expansion, or imposed solutions that undermine the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. It also praised Qatar's constructive and resolute role in efforts to halt the brutal Israeli aggression against the Gaza Strip and the occupied Palestinian territories.

Ministry announces martyrdom of two more persons in Israeli attack

QNA
Doha

The Ministry of Interior announced that the Israeli attack on residential compounds in Doha, where several members of the Hamas political bureau reside, resulted in the deaths of Moamen Jawad Hassouna Hassan and Jihad Riyah Hassan Labad.

In its statement, the ministry said that, as part of the ongoing follow-up to the aftermath of the Israeli strike and after fieldwork and evidence gathering

by the relevant security authorities, it was confirmed that Moamen Jawad Hassouna Hassouna and Jihad Riyah Hassan Labad had died as a result of the attack.

The ministry expressed its sincere condolences and sympathy to the families of the martyrs, praying for mercy upon them and a speedy recovery for the injured.

It added that field investigations and verification efforts are still underway to identify the remaining missing individuals, using disaster victim identification (DVI) techniques through the specialised departments, including forensic and

criminal information units, the forensic laboratory, and the medical examiner's centre. It added that any new developments would be announced as soon as they become available.

On Tuesday, the Ministry of Interior had also reported the death of a member of the Internal Security Force (Lekhwiya), as well as Hammam Khalil al-Hayya, the son of Hamas political bureau chief Khalil al-Hayya, along with injuries among several civilians, following the Israeli strike on one of the residential compounds where members of the Hamas political bureau were staying.

Cabinet slams Israeli attack; security, legal teams formed

From Page 1

The Cabinet voiced its sincere condolences and sympathy for the martyrdom of Lance Corporal Badr Saad Mohammed al-Humaidi al-Dosari, who was martyred while performing his duties at the Israeli target site, asking Allah to have mercy on him and to inspire his family with patience and solace.

The Cabinet also voiced its sincere condolences to the families of the martyrs who were killed in the treacherous Israeli attack, which also resulted in a number of injuries among security personnel and civilians, wishing them a speedy recovery.

The Cabinet expressed its deep gratitude and appreciation to the fraternal and friendly countries, and the regional and international organisations and bodies that rushed to condemn and denounce the treacherous Israeli attack and declared their support for the State of Qatar.

This was in a global consensus that embodied the spirit of brotherhood and solidarity with Qatar and its people, and its firm stances for peace, justice, and the rights of peoples.

The Cabinet then listened to a briefing from HE the Minister of Interior and Commander of the Internal Security Force (Lekhwiya) Sheikh Khalifa bin Ha-

mad bin Khalifa al-Thani on the facts of the Israeli attack, the security measures and procedures that were taken, and the efforts made to contain its repercussions. The Cabinet decided to assign HE the Minister of Interior to form a team headed by His Excellency to review all measures taken in such cases.

The Cabinet also decided to form a legal team headed by HE Minister of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Dr Mohammed bin Abdulaziz bin Saleh al-Khulaifi to take all legal measures against the treacherous Israeli attack, considering it an assault on the state's sovereignty and a flagrant violation of international law, conventions, and norms.

Qatar affirms criminal Israeli attack constitutes flagrant violation of international laws, norms

QNA
Geneva

Qatar said that the Israeli violations and crimes did not stop at the brotherly Palestinian people, but rather extended to the cowardly targeting of residential buildings housing several members of the Hamas movement's political bureau in Doha, stressing that this criminal attack constitutes a flagrant violation of all international laws and norms, and a serious threat to the security and safety of Qatar and its people.

This came in a statement delivered by HE the Permanent Representative of Qatar in Geneva Dr Hend bint Abdulrahman al-Muftah, during her participation in the General Debate with the High Commissioner for Human Rights, for item No 2, within the framework of the 60th session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva.

HE Dr al-Muftah said that the brutal Israeli bombardment of the Gaza Strip, the massive destruction of infrastructure and homes, the starvation and deliberate murdering of civilians, journalists, and humanitarian aid workers, as well as the forced displacement and migration of the population, and the planning to occupy the entire strip, is not self-defence.

It is a crime of genocide committed by the Israeli occupation forces (IOF) against the Palestinians, in flagrant



'It is a crime of genocide committed by the Israeli occupation forces against the Palestinians, in flagrant violation of all international laws'

violation of all international laws and agreements, and a blatant challenge to international appeals, resolutions, and rulings of the International Court of Justice (ICJ), Dr al-Muftah continued.

HE Dr al-Muftah said that history records everything, pointing out that all nations must ask themselves how they will justify their positions, inaction and inability to stop this genocide, to future

generations. She called on the international community to take serious and urgent measures to compel Israel to end the occupation, halt its crimes and grave violations against the Palestinian people, hold all those responsible accountable, and support the establishment of an independent Palestinian State on the 1967 borders, with East Jerusalem (Al-Quds) as its capital.



QatarEnergy LNG Tender Invitation

No.	TENDER NUMBER / DESCRIPTION	TENDER ISSUE PERIOD	TENDER FEE (QAR)	TENDER BOND (QAR)	TENDER CLOSING DATE
1	LTC/P/OOS/7288/25, B55 SUPPLY OF HEAT EXCHANGERS	10/09/2025 to 17/09/2025	0	1,310,000	07/10/2025

Scope of Work:
SUPPLY OF HEAT EXCHANGERS

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.

Global condemnation of Israeli attack on Qatar

Several countries strongly condemned Israel's strikes on a residential compound in Doha that targeted several Hamas leaders, describing the attack as a threat to Qatar's sovereignty and regional security.

Spokesperson of Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs Lin Jian said that China is deeply concerned that the strike will further escalate regional tensions, and is dissatisfied with the actions of relevant parties that deliberately undermine the ceasefire negotiations in Gaza, stressing that force cannot bring peace to the Middle East, while dialogue and negotiation are the main way out of the crisis.

He added that China urges some major countries to prioritise peace and stability in the region, adopt a just and responsible stance, and work with the international community to play a constructive role in promoting a ceasefire, ending the war, and de-escalating tensions in the region. European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen announced yesterday that she will push for sanctions against Israel and a partial suspension of trade over its ongoing war in the Gaza Strip.

Her remarks, delivered before the European Parliament, come amid deep divisions within the 27-member bloc regarding its



stance on Israel and the Palestinians. It remains unclear whether there is sufficient support among member states to approve the proposed sanctions and trade restrictions. She added that the man-made famine must never be used as a weapon of war and that what is happening in Gaza is unacceptable. She acknowledged that the EU's failure to respond decisively to Israel's actions in Gaza has been deeply troubling.

To break the current political deadlock, von der Leyen proposed suspending bilateral aid to Israel and halting all payments to Gaza — except for those directed toward civil society projects. She also

called for a partial suspension of the EU-Israel Association Agreement, specifically in regard to trade measures.

Also, the European Commission President pledged to impose sanctions on Israeli extremist ministers and violent settlers. Japan's Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshimasa Hayashi said the attack represented a "hindrance to diplomatic efforts" aimed at securing a ceasefire in Gaza and the release of hostages. He expressed Japan's solidarity with Qatar and urged Israel to return to negotiations.

Hayashi underlined Qatar's pivotal role in mediation efforts to achieve a ceasefire and facilitate



the release of hostages, warning that the Israeli strikes could undermine the negotiating process and further complicate efforts to achieve peace in the region.

Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong said that the strikes would complicate efforts to reach a peace agreement and risk further escalation of the conflict in the Middle East. Wong underlined that the attack undermines Qatar's role in supporting ceasefire efforts and the release of hostages. "The Australian government believes this was the wrong thing to do. Qatar, as you know, has been one of the parties seeking an immediate ceasefire. It has been working with

the US on the return of hostages," Wong told ABC News yesterday.

Swedish Foreign Minister Maria Malmer Stenergard said that the Israeli strikes constitute a violation of Qatar's territorial integrity and international law. In a post on the X, she said: "Any escalation of violence in the region must now be avoided. Sweden will continue to support all efforts to ensure the release of hostages, unhindered humanitarian access and a ceasefire in Gaza."

The government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo expressed deep concern over the Israeli attack on Doha, adding that it threatens to worsen an already

fragile regional situation. Tunisia expresses its solidarity and support for Qatar and backs its efforts to defend its sanctity, sovereignty, national security, the integrity of its territory, and the safety of its citizens, extending sincere condolences to the families of the victims of this cowardly attack.

The Iraqi Presidency said the attack constitutes a clear breach of international legal norms and UN charters, and a blatant infringement on Qatar's sovereignty. It warned that such actions pose a serious threat to regional peace and stability. The Presidency also stressed that the attack reflects Israel's continued policy of violence and intimidation against the Palestinian people.

The Council of the League of Arab States reaffirmed its absolute rejection and strongest condemnation of this aggression, describing it as a serious violation of the sovereignty of an Arab state, a dangerous escalation, and an unacceptable breach that threatens international peace and security. The Presidency of the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) said it strongly condemns Israeli attack on Doha and called on the international community to take urgent action to halt such acts and to work toward restoring peace and stability in the region. (QNA)

Qatar, Philippines to expand co-operation in labour sector

HE the Minister of Labour Dr Ali bin Saeed bin Smaikh al-Marri held a meeting with the visiting Philippine Secretary of Migrant Workers Hans Leo Caedac. The meeting focused on strengthening and expanding bilateral co-operation in the labour sector, particularly regarding the recruitment of Filipino workers to Qatar.



HE Dr al-Marri emphasised the importance of developing robust frameworks and procedures to ensure the smooth recruitment of Filipino workers, fully in line with applicable laws and regulations, while safeguarding the rights of both workers and employers. He also urged prior co-ordination between Qatar and the Philippines on all labour matters, stressing that the domestic laws and policies of both countries must be fully respected.

HE the Labour Minister conveyed the concerns of GCC countries regarding requirements recently announced by the Philippine Government for recruiting

domestic workers, which were introduced without prior consultation. He highlighted that the GCC region remains the primary destination for Filipino workers. HE Dr al-Marri further emphasised the GCC countries' disapproval of the absence of consultation, despite established communication channels and bilateral agreements designed to regulate labour recruitment. HE the Minister reaffirmed that labour laws and regulations across the GCC provide protection for all workers without exception, noting that all member states have strengthened legislation to safeguard the rights and dignity of all categories of workers, while

ensuring balanced protection for employers.

Following in-depth discussions, Hans Leo Caedac confirmed that the minimum wage for Filipino domestic workers will not be imposed and will remain subject to supply and demand. He added that the process for determining the minimum wage will be reviewed to achieve a fair balance between the interests of both parties. The secretary clarified that the newly introduced annual medical examination in the Philippines will be voluntary and fully funded by the Philippine side, ensuring GCC employers incur no additional costs. (QNA)

Qatar delivers message to UN chief and Security Council on Israeli attack on Doha

Qatar delivered yesterday a message to UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and to Sangjin Kim, the Charge d'Affaires at the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the UN and President of the Security Council for September, regarding the cowardly Israeli attack that targeted residential buildings housing several members of the Hamas Political Bureau in Doha.

The message was delivered by HE the Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to the UN Sheikhha Alya Ahmed bin Saif

al-Thani. Qatar requested that a message be circulated to the members of the Security Council and issued as an official document of the Council. It was issued under number S/2025/563.

In the message, Qatar expressed its strongest condemnation of this criminal assault, describing it as a blatant violation of all international laws and norms, and a serious threat to the security and safety of Qataris and residents on its soil.

The State also pointed out that security, civil defence, and rel-

evant authorities immediately responded to the incident and took the necessary measures to contain its consequences and ensure the safety of the residents and surrounding areas.

While strongly condemning this attack, Qatar stressed that it will not tolerate this reckless Israeli behaviour and ongoing disruption to regional security, nor any act targeting its security and sovereignty. Investigations are underway at the highest level, and further details will be announced as soon as they become available. (QNA)

Saudi reaffirms full solidarity with Qatar at UN rights council

Saudi Arabia has reiterated its condemnation and denunciation in the strongest terms of the brutal Israeli aggression and blatant violation of the sovereignty of the State of Qatar. In a statement delivered by the Kingdom's Permanent Representative to the UN and other international organisations in Geneva, ambassador Abdulmoheem bin Khothaila, at the Human Rights Council, Saudi Arabia affirmed its full solidarity with the State of Qatar, and its support for it in

all measures it takes, warning of the dire consequences of the actions of the Israeli occupation, its criminal aggressions, and its blatant violation of the principles of international law and all international norms. Saudi Arabia also renewed its strong condemnation of continuous Israeli violations against the Palestinian people, including policies of displacement, blockade, and starvation in clear violation of international laws and the most basic humanitarian standards.

Furthermore, in its statement to the Human Rights Council, Saudi Arabia expressed its condemnation of continued Israeli violations within Syrian territory, most recently the bombardment of several areas in the Homs and Latakia governorates. The kingdom called on the international community to take action to stop the Israeli violations and hold the occupation authorities accountable for their crimes, which undermine the security and stability of the region. (QNA)

NHRC: Israel's attack on Doha a blatant breach of international law

QNA
Doha

THE National Human Rights Committee (NHRC) strongly condemned and denounced the Israeli attack that targeted Hamas political leaders present in Doha for an internationally recognised negotiation process aimed at securing a ceasefire in the Gaza Strip and advancing a peaceful settlement of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.


In a statement, the NHRC affirmed that the assault constitutes a blatant violation of international law and a direct undermining of mediation and negotiation mechanisms, in clear contravention of the UN Charter and its purposes. The committee noted that the attack resulted in the martyrdom of a member of Qatar Internal Security Force (Lekhwiya) while carrying out his national duty to protect security and stability, in addition to several injuries among security personnel at the scene. It stressed

that this adds a tragic humanitarian dimension to the violation, underscoring Israel's disregard for the right to life and human dignity.

The NHRC emphasised that the attack is not merely a violation of international law, but constitutes an act of aggression under the UN Charter and international criminal law, and a grave breach of Article (2/4) of the Charter, which prohibits the use or threat of force against the independence or territorial integrity of any state.

The committee warned that this act undermines confidence in peaceful mediation as enshrined in international conventions and sets a dangerous precedent that threatens the entire international legal order. In this context, the NHRC held Israel fully responsible under international law for the aggression, stressing that the international community must go beyond verbal condemnation to adopt deterrent and binding measures, whether through the UN Security Council or competent international courts.

The committee further recalled Qatar's inherent right, under Article (51) of the UN Charter, to defend itself and safeguard its sovereignty and the security of its citizens and residents by all political, legal, and diplomatic means, including resorting to international judicial mechanisms to hold the perpetrators accountable. The NHRC affirmed that, by virtue of its mandate, it will continue documenting violations resulting from the Israeli aggression and presenting them to the relevant international forums to ensure accountability, prevent impunity, and safeguard victims' rights to justice and redress. The statement concluded by calling on the international community to shoulder its responsibilities in protecting international peace and security, restoring respect for international law and the role of the UN, and confronting attempts to legitimise the use of armed force at the expense of peaceful solutions and human rights, in order to preserve the future of the region and safeguard global stability.



قطر للطاقة
QatarEnergy

Invitation for contractors Expression of Interest (EOI)

QatarEnergy invites Expression of Interest and pre-qualification submission from building construction/contracting companies that can demonstrate experience and expertise to serve as the main contractor for the construction of Business Park in Mesaieed.

PQ reference: GP25109300	Title: EOI – PRE-QUALIFICATION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF MIC BUSINESS PARK
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Brief scope:
The scope comprises of the construction of Mesaieed Industrial City (MIC) Business Park at Mesaieed. It includes, but not limited to procurement, demolition, earthworks, vendor engineering, construction, installation, testing, modification, pre-commissioning, commissioning, arrangement with authorities for inspection, approvals, permitting and certifications, producing operation and maintenance documents, as well as coordinating with the various stakeholders.

The proposed MIC Business Park is a new building and civil infrastructure project that will be located in Mesaieed in close proximity to the existing community area. It will be located on a plot area of Approx. 125,000 m² with a total built-up area of approximately 119,000 m².

The project comprises of five (5) office towers (G+M+10 floors minimum), designed to accommodate a range of business and commercial activities.

The project also includes a podium comprising of a ground and mezzanine floor, connecting all towers, which will house supporting functions, such as an auditorium, canteen, ballroom, coffee shops, training centers, etc. The site shall include a dedicated energy center to support the infrastructure and operational needs of the development.

The project will include roads, shaded surface parking, utilities, services, soft and hard landscaping including all internal fit-out works and external works. It shall also include for all services such as foul sewage network, surface water drainage network, electrical network, mechanical network, HVAC systems, security systems, ELV networks, CCTV network, telecoms, Wi-Fi broadband network, etc.

Instructions to prospective bidders:

- Interested prospective bidders are hereby requested to send their Expression of Interest (EOI) with the following minimum information:
 - Name and nationality of the prospective bidder, as registered in their valid Qatar Commercial Registration
 - Commercial/Legal Registration (provide attested English translated copy)
 - Contact name and details, such as email address, telephone and fax number, of the authorized person to whom the pre-qualification package to be issued
 - Confirmation that the prospective bidder meets the minimum pre-qualification criteria as specified below
- The EOI, along with the information, as requested herein, shall be submitted by the prospective bidder to the email address: micpq@qatarenergy.qa quoting the abovementioned reference number and title
- The EOI shall be submitted no later than ten (10) calendar days from the date of publication of this advertisement
- On receipt of the prospective bidder's response, QatarEnergy shall release the pre-qualification package, including the instructions on how to submit the response to a name

Minimum pre-qualification criteria:
In order for QatarEnergy to release the pre-qualification package to prospective bidders, they must confirm their ability to meet the following as part of their EOI:

- Good financial standing in the past three (3) years, with an average annual turnover of a minimum QR. 350 million
- Availability of adequate manpower, expertise and resources to execute as the main contractor for the construction of a minimum 100,000 m² (of a single contract) of commercial projects
- Experience in all aspects of construction disciplines, e.g. heavy structural works, including steel and concrete construction, and all aspects of building projects including heavy utilities
- Have successfully executed projects of similar nature and size within last 10 years in the State of Qatar
- ISO-certified and willing to comply with QatarEnergy's HSE and QA/QC requirements
- Proven track record of working on major projects within challenging timelines

All documentary evidence supporting bidders' competence shall be requested through pre-qualification package once released by QatarEnergy.

Indian voices condemn Israel's attack on Qatar

Indian community members have strongly condemned the blatant attack by Israel on Qatari soil, disregarding the sovereignty of the nation and in a flagrant violation of international conventions.

Vipul, Indian ambassador

We were deeply shocked by the unprecedented strikes in Doha, yesterday (Tuesday). Our Prime Minister spoke with His Highness the Amir of Qatar today (Wednesday) and conveyed India's concern at the attacks. India has condemned the violation of the sovereignty of Qatar and called for resolving issues through dialogue and diplomacy, and avoiding escalation. We remain firm in support of peace and stability in the region and are against terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. India and the Indian community in Qatar stand in solidarity with our Qatari brothers.



Qatar, a country that is putting all its efforts in negotiations to solve the conflict in Gaza. It is very difficult to imagine that this type of state terrorism happens in 21st century. A huge mistake started from the day, innocent Palestinians' homeland was forcefully taken from them and given to foreigners. At this stage we all stand in complete solidarity with the people and leadership of Qatar. The international community must take necessary steps to stop the genocide in Gaza, and ensure that Israeli aggression is brought to an end.

John Gilbert

Longtime resident, socio-cultural activist

Qatar is one of the most peaceful countries globally and it believes in peace and dialogue to solve any crisis. This blatant aggression on the sovereignty of the nation by Israel is totally unacceptable and a gross violation of International treaties and conventions. Qatar is a country that takes care of about 2.5m expatriates including over 800,000 Indians and looks after their well-being, a great sign of its willingness to accept various cultures. We all stand in solidarity with Qatar in condemning this dastardly act. Israel's act of aggression is a proof of its reckless behaviour and the world must come together to protest such cowardly acts.



we stand in solidarity with the nation in this hour of crisis. The recent incident in Qatar is truly unfortunate, and we offer our heartfelt prayers and stand in solidarity with the country and its leaders. We have witnessed Qatar's remarkable humanitarian initiatives and its noble role in peaceful mediation across the globe. Qatar is the second home for us and people of all ages recognise and value Qatar's humanitarian contributions. The strong and positive responses from global leaders reaffirm the dignity and powerful impact of Qatar on the world stage.

Ziad Usman

Executive director - Al Muftah Rent A Car, past president, Indian Community Benevolent Forum

Qatar has been home to my family for the past 60 plus years since my father's arrival in 1961, a country where I was born and have lived most of life. Qatar has always supported the peace negotiations in the region and a blatant attack on its soil while trying to help end the war in Gaza should be seen as blatant disregard Israel has for the International community, and is to be condemned for the same. The Indian community has always been supported by Qatar and we stand by the people of Qatar through this tumultuous time and I pray that renewed efforts will be taken by the entire international community to ensure the conflict reaches a resolution at the earliest.



CV Rappai, Prominent entrepreneur

Indian entrepreneur and longtime resident, CV Rappai has condemned the Israeli aggression on Qatar, terming it "totally unacceptable". Qatar has been working very hard as a mediator to find a peaceful solution to the crisis in Gaza. "I have been in Qatar for the last 45 years. Qatar is very peaceful and among the most peaceful countries in the world. The aggression on Qatar is totally unacceptable. I hope countries around the world will protest the flagrant violation of Qatar's sovereignty and a blatant breach of international laws and norms," Rappai said.



Indian Business and Professionals Council

Expressing solidarity with Qatar, the Indian Business and Professionals Council (IBPC) yesterday said Doha will emerge stronger as it has the natural ability to overcome challenges with strength.

"We express our profound sorrow and condemn the recent attack on Qatar's sovereignty and territorial integrity. We stand in unwavering solidarity with the people and the visionary leadership of Qatar," **Thaha Muhammed Abdul Kareem**, president, IBPC Qatar said. Highlighting that Qatar has been a beacon of peace and a welcoming second home for the expatriates, where shared dreams have flourished; he said the Indian diaspora in Qatar holds a deep love and affection for this country, its culture, and its people.

Qatar's commitment to global peace and mediation efforts has been exemplary, facilitating dialogue in regional conflicts and promoting humanitarian aid worldwide, he said. "Qatar's resilience during difficult times has always been truly commendable, showcasing its ability to navigate complex challenges and emerge stronger. We have full faith in Qatar's ability to overcome this challenge with grace and strength," he said, adding "the Indian business and professionals community in Qatar is dedicated to contributing to Qatar's growth, strengthening bonds of friendship and commerce between our nations. Together, we champion peace and build a prosperous future for all."



Sanjiv Arora

Former secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, former ambassador to Qatar

Israel's shocking and reckless attack on members of the Hamas Political Bureau in Doha, Qatar must be unequivocally condemned by the international community. The Israeli aggression is a brazen violation of Qatar's sovereignty, UN Charter & international law, and once again demonstrates that Israel treats a rule based international order with contempt and continues to jeopardise the ongoing efforts towards a ceasefire with Hamas, and peace and stability in the region. At a time when Hamas leaders were deliberating in Doha upon President Trump's latest ceasefire proposals, with the State of Qatar continuing its earnest and active mediation, Israel's attack has further imperilled peace and security in the region.



P N Baburajan

Former president of various apex bodies under Indian embassy

The Israel's attack on Qatar is cowardly and a gross violation of the international framework of laws and regulations and the world must come together to condemn such an act. What Israel has committed is sheer attack on a sovereign nation without any concern for international laws. The world should view it as Israel's attempt to encroach on the sovereignty of a nation. I have had the opportunity to participate in and support many of Qatar's national charitable activities. This heinous act by Israel against a peace loving nation is utterly deplorable.



S A M Basheer

World Kerala Muslim Cultural Centre vice-president

Israel's attack against Qatar is a terrorist act and assault against a sovereign country that has done valuable services to broker peace, World Kerala Muslim Cultural Centre vice-president and longtime Qatar resident S A M Basheer, said yesterday. "Israel's blood thirsty government continues to slaughter, commit genocide, eviction and siege against Palestinians. Women and children are being killed with even those who are in queue for aid not being spared. These all are done with impunity. It's high time the world stands against Israel and restrain it. We stand firm with Qatar and express our solidarity," Basheer added.



Kerala Business Forum

The Kerala Business Forum (KBF) has expressed its deepest condolences and heartfelt solidarity with the leadership, government, and people of Qatar, following the tragic incident in Doha on September 9, 2025.

"We stand firmly with the wise leadership of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani and the Government of Qatar during this difficult time. Qatar has consistently upheld its role as a beacon of peace, dialogue, and mediation in the region and such an attack represents not only a grave loss of innocent lives but also a violation of Qatar's sovereignty and its peace-building mission." KBF general secretary **Abdulgafoor Makkatter**, said. "On behalf of the KBF and its members, we extend our deepest sympathies to the bereaved families and pray for strength and comfort for them. We also reaffirm our unwavering support to the State of Qatar in its continued efforts to promote peace, stability, and security in the region," he added.



K C Abdul Latheef

Vice-chairman, Radio Malayalam 98.6 FM

Israel's cheating attitude is clearly exposed and has reached its extreme by the attack on

Mashood V C

Chief co-ordinator, Pravasi Co-ordination Committee, founder president, Chaliyar Doha

As expatriate Indian community members,



Dr Amanulla Vadakkangara

The recent attack by Israel on Qatar is both unjustifiable and strongly condemnable. Qatar, a peace-loving nation, has consistently demonstrated its commitment to ensuring peaceful coexistence and stability across the world. "The country's commendable efforts in resolving international disputes have been widely recognised and appreciated by the

global community," noted Dr Amanulla Vadakkangara, prominent Indian expatriate, writer, and CEO of Media Plus. This unfortunate incident occurred while Qatar was actively engaged in negotiations for a ceasefire in Gaza, in line with the recommendation of the US president. At such a critical juncture, the attack underscores a blatant disregard

for Qatar's constructive role in promoting peace. Qatar's stance against aggression remains exemplary. While affirming its legitimate right to defend itself, Qatar reiterates that it will pursue all available legal and diplomatic measures in response to this attack. This principled approach reflects the true hallmark of a civilised and cultured society,

one that believes in resolving international disputes through lawful frameworks and diplomatic engagement rather than violence. "Particularly noteworthy is that Qatar has reaffirmed its unwavering commitment to peace, justice, and the rule of international law," pointed out Amanulla, who has been a Qatar resident for the last 31 years.



Officials with students.

Aman, Dadu launch 'Light Exhibition' for social protection, rehabilitation

The Protection and Social Rehabilitation Center (Aman), one of the centres affiliated with the Qatar Foundation for Social Work, in co-operation with the Dadu, Children's Museum of Qatar, opened the Light Exhibition. Awareness workshops were presented to students in public and private schools and kindergartens, to increase awareness and educate the community on

issues related to social protection, to strengthen child protection mechanisms, and provide children with new skills. The two entities collaborated to develop a plan to train Aman staff on how to use the 'Light Exhibition' to present awareness workshops. It is also used as an initial diagnosis for social and psychological specialists in dealing with some of the cases

benefiting from the centre's services in the inpatient care department. In this context, Fadh bin Mohammed al-Kaib, acting executive director of Aman, emphasised the importance of co-operation with Qatar Museums, represented by Dadu, Children's Museum of Qatar, given the latter's vision and mission of educating children through play.

Ministry launches educational guide for private schools and kindergartens

The Ministry of Education and Higher Education announced the launch of the first edition of a guide for educational systems in private schools and kindergartens for 2025 during a press conference held yesterday. The guide aims to standardise administrative and educational procedures in private schools, ensure compliance with national standards, enhance transparency in accreditation and evaluation processes, and support educational diversity by offering multiple systems, such as the British and American curricula, the International Baccalaureate, and others, to meet the needs of the local and international community.

Director of the Ministry's Private Schools and Kindergartens Department Dr Rania Mohamed said that the launch of this guide reflects Qatar's commitment to developing an integrated educational environment in private



schools, based on quality, transparency, and excellence. She emphasised that it represents a regulatory and procedural reference that helps schools, parents, and students make informed educational decisions.

Dr Rania added that the guide reflects the ministry's strategic direction in supporting Qatar National Vision 2030 by building an educated generation capable of creativity, innovation, and global competitiveness. She noted that the philosophy of education in Qatar is based on providing equal

opportunities for all students, developing critical thinking and analytical skills, and promoting the values of responsibility and openness to other cultures.

She explained that the preparation of the guide went through a meticulous process that extended from December 2023 to June 2025. The review included a review of national policies and relevant legislation, a study of the various educational systems applied in private schools, and an examination of international best practices. Education experts, educational supervisors, and private schools, were also involved before being subjected to final review and approval by the ministry's specialised committees.

Dr Rania explained that the guide includes a comprehensive definition of the approved educational systems, their accreditation requirements, and their assessment mechanisms. (QNA)

Company closed for a week

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry has issued Administrative Decision No. (29/2025) ordering the administrative closure of Talabat Services Company (Talabat delivery platform), for a period of one week. The company was found in violation of Articles (7) and (11) of Law No. (8) of 2008 on Consumer Protection and its executive regulations. The decision was made due to repeated violations and multiple

substantiated complaints against the company, including the display or description of goods with false or misleading information, which deceived consumers and unlawfully obtained their money, as well as failure to provide guaranteed service. These practices constitute an infringement of consumer rights and a breach of the applicable laws and regulations in the State of Qatar. The ministry affirmed that this

measure falls within its ongoing efforts to strengthen market oversight and ensure compliance by service providers with laws and regulations. It stressed that it will not tolerate any violations that may harm consumer rights or negatively affect the business environment in the country. The ministry urged all citizens and residents to report any violations through the following channels: Call Centre: 16001, Social Media Accounts: @MOCIQATAR

Baghdad Int'l Book Fair opens with Qatar as guest of honour

The 26th Baghdad International Book Fair kicked off yesterday under the theme "Baghdad Is More Beautiful, When We Read".

Interestingly, Qatar is participating as guest of honour this year in a cultural showcase highlighting its heritage, history, arts, and culture.

The fair was inaugurated by Prime Minister of Iraq Mohammed S al-Sudani, Qatar's Minister of Culture HE Sheikh Abdulrahman bin Hamad al-Thani, and Minister of Culture, Tourism and Antiquities of Iraq Dr Ahmed Fikak al-Badrani.

It was attended by Undersecretary of the Ministry of Culture Dr Ghanem bin Mubarak al-Ali, Qatar's ambassador to Iraq Sultan bin Mubarak al-Kubaisi, and ministers and ambassadors in Iraq. Running until Sept 21, the Ministry of Culture is participating with

a booth that showcases Qatari intellectual production, promotion of the ministry's e-library, as well as cultural and intellectual engagement.

Dr al-Ali expressed his pride in Qatar's participation as guest of honour at this event, emphasising that it embodies the depth of cultural, historic, and brotherly ties between the two sisterly countries and their peoples.

Director of the Libraries Department at the Ministry of Culture Jassim Ahmed al-Buainain, underlined that the ministry has been committed to having a strong participation in this fair through showcasing intellectual production. The participation includes showcasing the ministry's various releases, both old and new, in a wide diversity of knowledge fields, such as novels, law, as well as social and human sciences, in addition to outstanding releases

of children's and youth books and initiatives that encourage reading, al-Buainain highlighted.

He explained that the Qatari booth is characterised by a design inspired by Qatari traditional architecture that embodies national identity, expressing the connections between the past and present with a style that fuses authenticity with the spirit of innovation.

Al-Buainain further added that the booth showcases photographs capturing Qatar's modern landmarks, along with its traditional architecture, scenes of daily life, and the splendour of the land and marine environment.

Finally, he noted that alongside this participation, the ministry is holding intellectual seminars, lectures, and evening poetry sessions, as well as a variety of events devoted to children at the children's zone. He highlighted that the programme also features



performances by the Qatari folk troupe, presenting Al Arda alongside other folk arts.

The booth further showcases traditional crafts such as goldsmithing and wooden shipbuilding, allowing visitors to watch artisans at work and engage directly with them. (QNA)



QLC honours Young Leaders Programme participants



Qatar Leadership Centre (QLC) has honoured the participants in the second Young Leaders Programme at a ceremony attended by HE Vice-Chairman and Managing Director of QLC, Sheikh Dr Abdullah bin Ali bin Saud al-Thani.

The programme engaged 75 male and female students and included an international fellowship with the UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), along with a summer camp in collaboration with the American University of Beirut (AUB).

The ceremony was interspersed with the screening of a film documenting the key landmarks of the participants' educational experiences, along with the skills they had earned in strategic thinking and collective work, in addition to reviewing the best global leadership and entrepreneurship practices and promoting their awareness of global issues and sustainable development.

Addressing the event, Director of QLC Programmes, Sheikh Al Jawhara Faisal al-Thani, emphasised that the programme fea-



tured extensive sessions in Doha, followed by field training in the US, which included high-level meetings with Qatari and UN officials, as well as participation in the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) of the UN.

The summer camp, held in collaboration with AUB, targeted secondary school students and comprised workshops, lectures, and practical activities designed to hone their leadership skills and enhance their capabilities in critical thinking

and collective work, in addition to broadening their overture to various academic and cultural experiences, Sheikh Al Jawhara said. QLC's administration emphasised that the programme represents an incredible opportunity for young people, affirming that it looks forward to enlarging the scope of this programme, thereby contributing to investing in humans and preparing a generation capable of effectively contributing to the path towards national development. (QNA)

Digital security in spotlight as workshop ends

By Kamran Rehmat
Doha

A three-day cybersecurity awareness workshop under the aegis of the National Cyber Security Agency on the premises of Qatar Press Center concluded here with emphasis on essential tools and practices to strengthen digital safety.

Cybersecurity trainer Farhan Alsadi guided the participants through real-world solutions. The sessions addressed a range of everyday risks and offered practical measures to counter them.

Password Managers: The first line of defence

Participants were advised to adopt password managers such as LastPass, Bitwarden, or Passwordly to generate and securely store complex passwords. Alsadi stressed that reusing the same password across multiple accounts exposes users to cascading risks if one account is compromised. Regular password updates and refraining from sharing credentials were underscored as best practices.

Using apps you don't fully trust

The trainer explained safe ways of using applications that may not be fully reliable. A cautious approach includes separating sensitive information from general use, enabling additional security layers like two-factor authentication (2FA), and when necessary, using tools such as VPNs or encrypted platforms like Signal to reduce exposure.

HTTPS vs HTTP: Spotting the difference

Alsadi highlighted the importance of recognising the "s" in https. Websites that use HTTPS ensure encrypted communication, making them significantly safer



Sadiq Mohammed al-Amari, general manager of the Qatar Press Center (right) making a speech at the end of the workshop. With him is cybersecurity trainer Farhan Alsadi.

for transactions or entering personal data, compared to standard HTTP sites which leave data vulnerable to interception.

Encryption as a shield

The workshop also outlined how encryption protects data in transit. Whether through secure communication apps like Signal or e-mail platforms such as Proton Mail, encryption ensures that only intended recipients can access messages and files, safeguarding sensitive exchanges from prying eyes.

Securing accounts: Gmail and beyond

Practical guidance was given on setting up accounts like Gmail securely. Key steps included:

- Creating strong, unique passwords for each account.
- Enabling multi-factor authentication (MFA/2FA).
- Registering a recovery phone number and alternative recovery e-mail to prevent lockouts.
- Keeping software and applications updated to plug potential vulnerabilities.

Setting up a Password Manager

Alsadi provided a step-by-

step guide for first-time users of password managers. The process begins with choosing a reputable tool, installing it on devices, and creating a master password that is both memorable and secure. From there, the tool generates and auto-fills complex passwords, reducing reliance on weak or repeated ones.

In his concluding remarks, Sadiq Mohammed al-Amari, general manager of the Qatar Press Center, expressed gratitude to trainer Farhan Alsadi and the participants for their active engagement in what he described as a timely and highly relevant workshop on cybersecurity.

He underscored that the digital realm is increasingly shaping the trajectory of modern life and the future of societies. In this context, he urged participants to continue investing in expanding their knowledge and skills in cybersecurity, emphasising that strengthening digital awareness is no longer optional but an essential safeguard in today's interconnected world. The ceremony ended with the media professionals and other attendees being awarded certificates of participation.

QC, Islamic Relief Worldwide sign agreement

Qatar Charity (QC) and Islamic Relief Worldwide (IRW) signed a three-year partnership agreement, valued at \$15m, aimed at strengthening co-operation in humanitarian work and sustainable development.

The agreement, which will be equally funded by both organisations, is designed to support humanitarian response initiatives, joint development programming, localisation efforts, and collaborative research.

The agreement was signed in London by QC CEO Youssef bin Ahmed al-Kuwari and IRW CEO Waseem Ahmad. The partnership will centre around four strategic areas of collaboration.

First, Joint Development Programming will support long-term solutions to transform people's lives, particularly through projects that tackle climate change, provide Islamic microfinance, and use the 'graduation model' of programming that helps people lift themselves out of poverty.

Second, Humanitarian Response will provide timely, life-saving assistance during emergencies around the world. Third, Localisation will strengthen the capacity of local and national actors to lead humanitarian and development work, with particular focus across Africa. Finally, Joint Research will generate knowledge and evidence to improve impact, inform policy, and share best practices.



The memorandum outlines the establishment of an institutional framework for co-operation in designing and implementing programmes, setting performance indicators, exchanging technical experience and knowledge, organising joint workshops, and facilitating staff exchanges – all aimed at building capacity and enhancing institutional efficiency for both parties.

Al-Kuwari said: "This agreement marks a significant milestone in our journey of international co-operation. We are proud of this partnership with Islamic Relief Worldwide, with whom we share a common vision for professional and transparent humanitarian action. It reflects our commitment to expanding the impact of our humanitarian and development efforts, strengthening global partnerships, and developing innovative intervention models that respond to contemporary challenges and ensure aid

reaches those most in need efficiently and effectively."

Ahmad said: "This partnership reflects our commitment to going beyond providing life-saving aid and to truly transforming people's lives and futures. Impoverished families know how best to lift themselves out of poverty, they just need support and a fair opportunity to do so. Together with Qatar Charity we aim to address the root causes of poverty and conflict and deliver innovative solutions that help communities live in dignity, move from crisis to stability, and strengthen the foundations of lasting peace." The agreement expands the long-standing collaboration between QC and IRW, such as supporting communities to recover from the devastating 2022 floods in Pakistan. It strongly aligns with the international development priorities of both the UK and Qatar – supporting the UK's commitment to humanitarian diplomacy, effective aid delivery and locally led development, while advancing Qatar's global vision for solidarity, innovation and sustainable humanitarian impact.

The collaboration is designed to contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – particularly SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

GU-Q's Qalam Series launches new season

Georgetown University in Qatar (GU-Q)'s flagship Qalam Series is opening its new season with conversations at the crossroads of literature and global affairs.

British-Palestinian novelist Isabella Hammad, one of the most acclaimed literary voices of her generation, will engage in a conversation with celebrated GU-Q Writer-in-Residence Kamila Shamsie on September 23 at 5.30pm.

Hammad's works – *The Parisian*, *Enter Ghost*, and *Recognising the Stranger* – unpack exile, colonial entanglements, and memory with searing clarity, offering tools for empathy and critical thought that no policy brief or data set can provide.

The discussion at GU-Q auditorium promises to reframe how history and the present moment are viewed.

On September 24 at 1pm, dean Safwan Masri will offer another opportunity to connect with the author during a fireside chat in the GU-Q Library.



Qalam is described as Qatar's window to the world's most urgent stories. Following an inaugural season featuring Nobel and Pulitzer Prize winners, this platform continues to spark dialogue at the crossroads of literature, politics, and lived experience, and inspire a new generation of storytellers.

To learn more and register, visit <https://www.qatar.georgetown.edu/event/kamila-shamsie-in-conversation-with-isabella-hammad/>

Safari launches '1980: A Southern Nostalgia - Travancore Food Festival'

Safari Hypermarket group has launched a unique promotion titled '1980: A Southern Nostalgia - Travancore Food Festival'. Safari group chairman Hamad Dafar al-Ahbab and deputy chairman and managing director Zainul Abideen jointly inaugurated the event yesterday in the Bakery & Hot Food section of Safari Mall, Abu Hamour.

'1980: A Southern Nostalgia - Travancore Food Festival' is described as a feast of traditional delicacies. The entire setting is designed to transport customers back to the memories of the 1980s. Special decorations have been arranged to recreate the atmosphere of that era, and staff have been dressed in costumes reflecting the 1980s, which has already attracted public attention.

A wide variety of homely dishes are being prepared in the Safari Bakery & Hot Food section, including chicken fry,



angadi kizhi, fried squid, mutton curry, Vizhinjam chicken fry, southern-style chicken biryani, Killippalam chicken fry, chicken liver roast, grilled fish and many more nostalgic items. In addition, several combo meals such as tapioca with squid and beef curry with porotta are available. This promotion, available in all Safari outlets, is designed in such a way that it gives the younger generation an opportunity to learn more closely about the flavours of the past, while for the older generation it evokes fond memories of earlier days. As part of the Onam promotions, Safari has also launched a mega raffle offering prizes worth QR200,000 or equivalent to more than Indian Rs5mn. The raffle draw will take place on October 7 at Safari Mall. With every purchase of QR50, customers will receive a coupon to participate in the draw.

The prizes: First prize of QR25,000 for one winner, second prize of QR15,000 each for two winners, third prize of QR10,000 for three winners, fourth prize of Samsung 660-litre refrigerators for two winners, fifth prize of Samsung washing machines for two winners, sixth prize of iPhone 16 Pro Max (256 GB) for five winners, seventh prize of Rado watches for five winners, eighth prize of Apple MacBooks for six winners, ninth prize of Tissot watches for six winners, tenth prize of 65-inch LG TVs for ten winners, and eleventh prize of Safari vouchers worth QR1,000 each for 10 winners. Safari is also offering another mega raffle through which customers who spend QR50 at any outlet will receive a coupon that gives them the chance to win 25 Toyota Raize cars through a lucky draw, a statement added.

UDST organises Clubs Fair 2025 to celebrate student engagement, creativity

University of Doha for Science and Technology (UDST) welcomed the 2025 edition of the Clubs Fair, turning the university's courtyard into a vibrant hub of creativity, leadership, and student-driven innovation.

Organised by the Student Engagement Department under the Student Affairs Directorate, the event stands as a key milestone in campus life that continues to expand in both reach and impact.

This year, the fair was held under the theme 'The Time of the Century', inviting students to journey through different eras and moments in time.

Each student club represented a distinct period, creating unique setups that allowed attendees to explore and interact with the cul-

ture, energy, and personality of that era.

The E-Gaming Club, for example, transported visitors into the future, while the Music Club revived the colourful and dynamic vibe of the 1980s.

With over 32 student clubs participating, the fair featured a wide range of interests and passions, including photography, art, music, film, entrepreneurship, sports, health, and more.

The new additions this year included the Fan Club, Podcast Club, Healthcare Management Club, and International Students Association, providing students with fresh opportunities to discover new hobbies, connect with peers, and engage in university life.

The fair also reinforced UDST's philosophy of being "by stu-

dents, for students" with students conceptualising, designing, and managing their booths, thereby promoting ownership, leadership, and accountability.

Dr Salem Al-Naemi, president of UDST, stated: "At UDST, student engagement is a key pillar of our educational philosophy. The Clubs Fair is a celebration of our students' creativity, leadership, and passion. Events like this enrich the student experience and help shape responsible, innovative graduates who contribute meaningfully to society."

To recognise student efforts, UDST presented awards including "Best Booth Design" and "Most Engaging Club", encouraging healthy competition and inspiring continued creativity and collaboration.

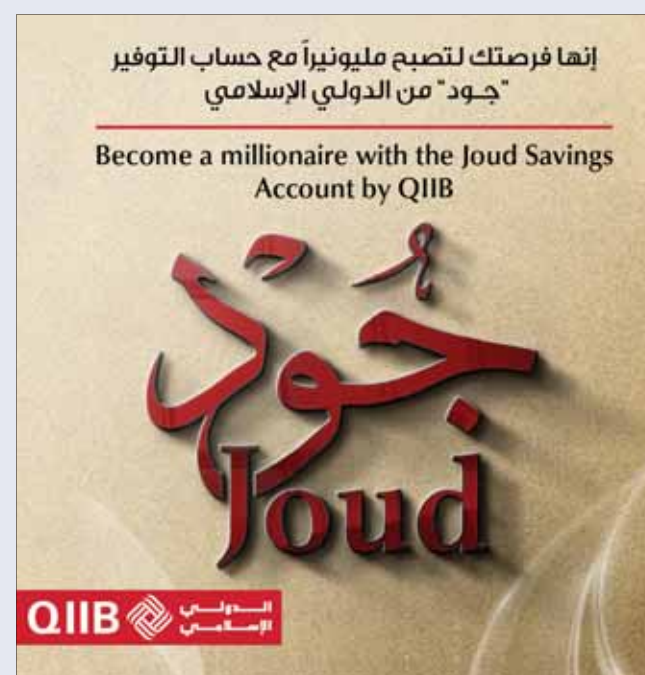
QIIB names prizewinners of 'Joud' Savings Account August draw

QIIB has announced 10 prizewinners of 'Joud' Savings Account's August draw. 'Joud' savings account is a unique product that offers customers opportunities to win a variety of cash prizes throughout the year, including monthly, quarterly, and annual draws, with a grand prize of QR1mn.

The August prize draw took place at the QIIB headquarters, in the presence of senior bank officials and a representative from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

The winners of the QR10,000 prizes for the August draw are: Mohammad Sharif Abdullah Karimi, Ahmad Nasser A M al-Mohannadi, Mubarak Hamad M A al-Muhammadi, Hend Ghanim M A al-Mohannadi, Fahad Abdulla A L al-Musafri, Hamad Rashid E R al-Marri, Ibrahim Sultan A A al-Abdulla, Rabaah Ismail A A al-Musleh, Ibrahim Rasheed Abdulrashid and Saleh Ali M al-Kubaisi.

According to QIIB, 'Joud' Savings Account stands out as a competitive product, offering a wide range of benefits to QIIB customers. Among the most attractive features is the chance to win significant cash prizes. In addition to these opportunities, account



holders benefit from quarterly dividends, as well as the flexibility to make deposits and withdrawals based on their needs.

The total number of prizes for the 'Joud' Savings Account from QIIB is 141 throughout the year. This includes the annual grand prize of QR1mn, 20 quarterly prizes (five per quarter) each

valued at QR50,000, and 120 monthly prizes (10 per month) each worth QR10,000. Every QIIB customer with a 'Joud' Savings Account is eligible to participate in these draws. For every balance of QR10,000 maintained, customers receive an additional entry into the prize draws conducted throughout the year.



Vodafone Qatar to open iPhone 17 pre-orders

Vodafone Qatar will offer Apple's latest products including iPhone 17, iPhone Air, iPhone 17 Pro, iPhone 17 Pro Max, Apple Watch Series 11, Apple Watch SE 3, Apple Watch Ultra 3, and AirPods Pro 3. Customers will be able to pre-order the latest iPhone models online, or at the following retail stores: Villaggio, City Center Doha, Doha Festival City, and Mall of Qatar



from September 12 at 3pm, with expected availability beginning September 19, at 4pm.

The new Apple Watch lineup and AirPods Pro 3 are available for customers to pre-order, with expected availability beginning September 19. Vodafone will also be offering its customers a two-year extended local warranty on the recently announced Apple products (terms and conditions apply), a statement added.

Qatar and Uganda discuss enhancing labour co-operation

Assistant Undersecretary for Migrant Labour Affairs at the Ministry of Labour Hamad Faraj Dalmouk, and Uganda's Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development Aggrey David Kibenge yesterday discussed strengthening bilateral co-operation in the field of labour.

Hamad Faraj Dalmouk participated in a regional workshop convened by the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) Regional Office for East and Southern Africa, titled "Knowledge Exchange and Consular Co-operation Workshop".

Discussions spanned a wide array of topics, including contractual frameworks governing labour in the Gulf, wage protection, working conditions, and the legal and administrative challenges of providing consular assistance during recruitment and deployment.

The workshop also highlighted the contribution of migrant as-



sociations and civil society organisations as key partners in advancing fair and safe migration.

Dalmouk emphasised the workshop's importance as a regional platform bringing together representatives of labour and foreign ministries, consular officials, and civil society actors. He stressed that such exchanges offer an invaluable opportunity to share practical experiences and to deepen partnerships in the field of migration governance.

He further noted that the workshop reflects the enduring partnership between Qatar and the UN Migration Agency and underscores the Ministry of

Labour's central role in shaping labour policies, promoting fairness in the labour market, and fostering a leading model for safeguarding workers' rights and ensuring decent and safe working environments.

Dalmouk reaffirmed Qatar's commitment to working closely with regional and international partners to strengthen cooperative frameworks and exchange best practices.

He emphasised that these joint efforts are crucial to reconciling the needs of labour markets with the protection of workers' rights, thereby translating shared aspirations into concrete policies and tangible outcomes. (QNA)

Event planners key to Qatar's accessibility goals

By Joey Aguilar
Staff Reporter

While Qatar possesses a strong will from decision-makers to create accessible spaces, the 'missing link' for more inclusive events lies with event planners embedding accessibility into their on-the-ground culture, according to Supreme Committee for Delivery & Legacy's senior media content specialist Ahmed Habib.

Speaking to Gulf Times, Habib said the nation's commitment to accessibility is evident in its legal framework, which significantly impacts the creation of accessible spaces, events, and experi-

ences. However, he pointed out that government regulations are only part of the equation.

"In the same way or similarly as important, event planners, organisers also have a huge responsibility themselves. Regardless of what the laws and regulations say, they need to implement best practices and the latest thinking in accessible design," he said.

Habib stressed that inclusivity must be woven into the fabric of event planning from the very inception, rather than being an afterthought. He said the user journey for any attendee, including those with disabilities, begins long before the physical event.

"It begins when a person is interacting with your digital

content, social media website, registration forms, etc. Going back and trying to make something accessible after it's been designed will be costly, more difficult, but doing so from the beginning, involving disabled people in the design of the event, is the best approach," he said.

The success of the FIFA World Cup in Qatar, Habib noted, served as a model of how accessible events can create long-lasting legacies and societies. He added that following the tournament, Qatar has become more accessible and is now recognised as one of the more inclusive countries in the region.

He attributed this positive transformation to the foresight of

event planners and designers who prioritised accessibility during the tournament's organisation.

Habib cited the existing culture of accessibility in Qatar and the broader region, driven by the constant advocacy of disabled individuals seeking greater inclusivity.

He highlighted a strong will among decision-makers to foster accessible spaces. However, he reiterated that the key factor for future progress rests with the individuals directly involved in executing events.

"If they also embed accessibility into their culture," then I'm sure that I will see much more accessible events and experiences in the country," he said.



Ahmed Habib in conversation with Gulf Times. PICTURE: Thajudheen

COMMENT

Containing China 'futile', minister tells US counterpart

China's defence minister yesterday warned the US that "containing, deterring, or interfering with China will be futile" in talks with his US counterpart, state broadcaster CCTV reported. The two strategic rivals also discussed the fraught issues of Taiwan and the South China Sea, according to CCTV. "Any attempt or interference to use force to support independence or use Taiwan to contain China will be thwarted", Dong Jun told US Secretary of Defence Pete Hegseth during a video call. China considers Taiwan part of its territory and has not ruled out the use of force to take it.

DECISION

China to establish nature reserve at disputed reef

China yesterday said it would establish a national nature reserve at the contested Scarborough Shoal in the South China Sea, where it has repeatedly clashed with rival claimant the Philippines. In a statement, China's State Council said establishing the reserve at Scarborough Shoal was "an important measure for maintaining the diversity, stability, and sustainability of the natural ecosystem of Huangyan Island". It also urged "intensifying supervision and law enforcement of all illegal activities involving the nature reserve". The reserve's boundaries would be announced by the National Forestry and Grassland Administration, it said.

WEATHER

Floods in Indonesia's Bali kill nine, say officials

Floods on Indonesia's holiday island of Bali have killed at least nine this week and affected 600 people, blocking off major roads in the capital and disrupting a busy travel destination, officials said. Continuous heavy rains between Tuesday evening and yesterday caused the floods and killed five people in Bali's capital Denpasar, Abdul Muhari, the spokesperson of the country's disaster mitigation agency said. Four more people were killed in the regions of Jembrana, Gianyar, and Badung, Abdul added. Two people were still missing. Out of 600 people affected, nearly 200 have been evacuated to schools and mosques because their houses were still flooded.

TRAGEDY

Lions maul zookeeper to death at Thai safari park

A zookeeper was killed in a lion attack in Thailand, officials said yesterday, raising questions over safety and the legitimacy of the safari park's lion ownership. The mauling happened at Safari World Bangkok, which calls itself one of Asia's largest open-air zoos and offers lion- and tiger-feeding trips for around 1,200 baht (\$37) per person. "The deceased is a zoo staff member who usually fed the lions," Sadudee Pungpuddee, wildlife protection director of the department of national parks, wildlife and plant conservation, said. The man was apparently mauled by six or seven of the big cats when he stepped out of his car, he said.

US, India eye trade reset as Trump plans talks with Modi

Reuters
Washington/New Delhi

US President Donald Trump said his administration is continuing negotiations to address trade barriers with India and that he would talk to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in a sign of a reset after weeks of diplomatic friction. Trump, in a marked shift of tone, said he looked forward to speaking to Modi in the "upcoming weeks" and expressed optimism that they could finalise a trade deal. "I feel certain that there will be no difficulty in coming to a successful conclusion for both of our Great Countries," he said in a post on social media.

Modi reciprocated the optimism in a social media post yesterday, saying Washington and New Delhi "are close friends and natural partners."

He said teams from both countries are working to conclude the trade discussions at the earliest.

"I am also looking forward to speaking with President Trump. We will work together to secure a brighter, more prosperous future for both our people," Modi said. The latest comments from both leaders drove India's shares up over 0.5%.

Trump had promised for months that the two sides were close to clinching a trade deal, only to double new tariffs on Indian imports to 50%, sparking questions about the future of the US-India relationship, which had strengthened

EU unlikely to hike tariffs on India and China at Trump's request

The European Union is very unlikely to impose crippling tariffs on India or China, the main buyers of Russian oil, as US President Donald Trump has urged the bloc to do, EU sources said. An EU delegation, including the EU's Russia sanctions chief, flew to Washington this week to discuss how the two sides can co-ordinate on sanctions against Russia over its full-scale invasion of Ukraine. Officials said Trump urged the EU to hit India and China with up to 100% tariffs in order to put pressure on Russian

President Vladimir Putin, who relies on energy revenues to fund his country's war in Ukraine. The EU is in the midst of finalising a trade deal with India, which the bloc is unlikely to want to jeopardise. Meanwhile Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni hailed her country's "excellent" relationship with India in a phone call yesterday with her counterpart Narendra Modi, making no mention of US requests for the EU to impose tariffs of up to 100% on Indian imports.

in recent years, including during Trump's first term.

Over the past few weeks, Trump and his top officials have criticised India for buying oil from Russia and said that India was funding the war in Ukraine, a charge New Delhi denies. The discord with the US has coincided with India warming up to China. Late last month, Modi made his first visit to China in seven years for a summit hosted by Chinese President Xi Jinping and was seen holding hands with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

"While the social media statements by Trump and Modi signal a potential rapprochement between the US and India, it is still premature to assume that a resolution will arrive swiftly," Madhavi Arora, economist at Emkay Global, said. "With Trump, we will need to

wait for more concrete signals that a deal is in the offing." Indian and US trade officials are likely to plan visits to restart in-person trade talks in September, CNBC-TV18 reported, citing sources. A planned visit by US trade negotiators to New Delhi from August 25-29 was cancelled, after trade talks hit major roadblocks.

India's trade ministry declined to comment on the report of a new round of meetings between trade negotiators.

US-India two-way goods trade totalled \$129bn in 2024, with a \$45.8bn US trade deficit, according to US Census Bureau data.

Trump last week said India had offered to reduce its tariffs on US goods to zero, adding that the proposal was late and the South Asian country should have lowered its duties years ago.



Charred vehicles lie amid the remains of the torched Ncell headquarter building, Nepal's leading mobile service provider, a day after it was set ablaze by protesters in Kathmandu yesterday.

Soldiers guard Nepal parliament, patrol streets after deadly protests

Reuters
Kathmandu

Soldiers guarded Nepal's parliament and patrolled deserted streets yesterday with the capital Kathmandu under a curfew, after two days of deadly anti-corruption protests forced prime minister K P Sharma Oli to resign.

The upheaval in the country was unleashed by a social media ban that was announced last week, but was rolled back after 19 people were killed on Monday as police fired tear gas and rubber bullets to control crowds.

The death toll from the protests had risen to 25 by yesterday, Nepal's health ministry said, while 633 were injured.

Nepal's army said that relevant parties were co-ordinating to tackle the situation after the protests and resolve the issue. Media also said preparations were being made for authorities and protest-

ers to hold talks, without giving details.

Most of the protesters were young people voicing frustration at the government's perceived failure to fight corruption and boost economic opportunities, leading to the demonstrations being dubbed the "Gen Z protests". The young agitators want former chief justice Sushila Karki as the interim prime minister, said Raman Kumar Karna, the secretary of the Supreme Court Bar Association, who was consulted by the protesters.

"When they requested me, I accepted," Karki told Indian TV news channel CNN-News18.

"Gen Z" representatives told reporters that they met army officials later and proposed Karki as their choice to head an interim government.

Burnt-out vehicles and twisted metal littered the area around parliament, where army firefighters battled to douse a blaze in the main hall, while the building's

exterior was charred after protesters set it ablaze on Tuesday.

TV footage showed youths cleaning up some damaged buildings and clearing debris from roads and the areas near parliament.

Several other government buildings, from the Supreme Court to ministers' homes, including Oli's private residence, were also set ablaze in the protests, with the unrest subsiding only after the resignation.

Armoured vehicles kept vigil in streets that were largely deserted, with shops and markets shut. Firefighters were engaged at different locations, while the process of clearing roads was also under way, army spokesman Raja Ram Basnet said.

"We are trying to normalise the situation first. We are committed to protect the life and property of people," Basnet said, adding that prisoners had set Kathmandu's Dilli Bazar Jail on fire before the army controlled the situation.

10 hurt in blast at S Korean military base

At least 10 soldiers were injured in an explosion during a live-fire simulation drill at a South Korean military base yesterday, the defence ministry in Seoul said. The explosion happened at a military base in the northern border city of Paju, the ministry of defence said in a statement, where an artillery unit was conducting a drill simulating live-fire procedures but without real ammunition. "At approximately 3.24pm (0624GMT) yesterday, a mock training round designed to simulate artillery fire and smoke unexpectedly exploded," the statement said. The ministry said that at least 10 soldiers were injured, including two who suffered serious burns to their arms and thighs. Military medics provided first aid at the scene, while fire and rescue authorities sent six ambulances, according to the ministry's statement. It did not provide any further details but said the cause of the explosion was being investigated.

S Korea overturns 60-year ruling on woman's self-defence case



Choi Mal-ja (centre), who was convicted 61 years ago for biting off the tongue of her attempted rapist, reacts with her supporters after her retrial at the Busan District Court in Busan yesterday. A South Korean court yesterday acquitted her after she challenged the ruling inspired by the country's 'MeToo' movement.

Australia senator sacked from shadow ministry

Reuters
Sydney

Australian opposition leader Sussan Ley sacked a senator from her shadow ministry yesterday, for making "deeply hurtful" comments about Indian immigrants and then refusing to endorse her leadership.

Jacinta Nampijinpa Price, a senator for the Northern Territory in the centre-right Liberal party, singled out Indian immigrants during a radio interview last week.

Price, who held the portfolios of defence industry and defence personnel in the shadow cabinet, refused to apologise for the comments despite condemnation by Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and members of her own party and the Indian community. Ley said she had sought

Price's resignation because she "failed the test" of high standards expected of a shadow minister.

"Senator Nampijinpa Price made comments that were deeply hurtful to Indian Australians," she told a press conference yesterday. "The comments were wrong and should not have been made. And despite being given the time and space to apologise, senator Jacinta Nampijinpa Price did not offer an apology."

In a statement, Price said she had accepted Ley's decision and emphasised that she did not intend to disparage the Indian community but raise concerns over "the magnitude of migration". Price's comments about one of Australia's largest minority groups followed nationwide anti-immigrant protests that in part blamed Indian immigrants for cost-of-living pressures.

Harry donates \$500,000 to help wounded children in Gaza, Ukraine

Reuters
London

Prince Harry's foundation is to donate \$500,000 to projects including the World Health Organisation to help develop prosthetics and provide other support for children from Gaza and Ukraine, his office said yesterday. The announcement came on the third day of the prince's visit to Britain, where he visited the Centre for Injury Studies (CIS), part of Imperial College London, to learn more about its work, especially its

focus on injuries suffered by children and those sustained in natural disasters.

"No single organisation can solve this alone," he said in a statement.

"Gaza now has the highest density of child amputees in the world and in history. It takes partnerships across government, science, medicine, humanitarian response and advocacy to ensure children survive and can recover after blast injuries."

The CIS said children were seven times more likely to die from blast injuries than adults.

The three grants announced by Harry and his wife Meghan's Archewell Foundation include \$200,000 to the World Health Organisation to support medical evacuations from Gaza to Jordan, and \$150,000 to the Save the Children charity to provide ongoing humanitarian support in Gaza.

The third grant of \$150,000 was to the Centre of Blast Injury Studies, part of CIS, to help its efforts to develop prostheses that can support injured children, particularly those injured from the conflicts in Ukraine and Gaza.

The Duke of Sussex, 40, opened

laboratories of the Centre for Blast Injury Studies in 2013.

Harry himself spent 10 years in the British military, during which he served two tours in Afghanistan, and he has made campaigning for veterans a priority, founding the Invictus Games for military personnel wounded in action.

He was joined yesterday by WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus for a tour of the CIS, where he met with research teams working on a number of world-leading projects.

"I'm really pleased about what he's doing, especially for the chil-

dren of Gaza," Ghebreyesus said. "It's not the money, it's also the passion and commitment I think I see."

Showing him round was double leg amputee Dave Henson, a CIS ambassador, who has known Harry for more than a decade and was the first captain of the British Invictus team in 2014.

"It's been hugely important for raising the profile of the centre," Henson, who lost his legs in an explosion in Afghanistan in 2011, said of Harry's involvement.

Harry, who now lives in California after stepping down from

official royal duties in 2020, has spent the week visiting charities, including one in Nottingham, central England, where he announced a £1.1mn (\$1.49mn) donation to help young people in communities blighted by violence and knife crime.

However, in a sign of his estrangement from his family, much of the media focus of the trip has been on whether he will meet his father King Charles, whom he last saw 20 months ago, shortly after it was announced that the 76-year-old monarch was undergoing treatment for cancer.



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GULF TIMES

Milei must look to alliances after electoral defeat

A resounding electoral defeat for Argentine President Javier Milei in the country's most populous province could force him to build political alliances, casting doubts on the government's ability to carry out its programme of fiscal austerity. Sunday's Buenos Aires provincial election saw the centre-left Peronists crush the ruling La Libertad Avanza party with 47% of the vote to a distant 33%, as voters sided with the socially focused opposition over Milei's strict austerity.

Buenos Aires' main stock index fell some 12% in afternoon trading on Monday, while the wholesale peso tumbled 5% and over-the-counter bonds slid 4%.

The vote in Buenos Aires province – which accounts for nearly 40% of the South American nation's total electorate – is widely seen as a bellwether for October's mid-term elections. Sunday's vote is, however, separate, deciding local legislative seats and not national-level representation.

Although the province is a historic stronghold of the Peronist party, the scale of its victory raised doubts about the minority government's ability to reach a majority in Congress and pass laws to carry out its political agenda. Although Milei's government has brought down inflation from triple digits since he entered office in December 2023, his popularity has been hit in recent weeks by corruption allegations and the impacts of his austerity measures, which have triggered regular protests in the capital.

Analysts at Morgan Stanley predicted that uncertainty would remain high until the October 26 vote

consulting firm Management & Fit.

Sunday's vote happened after Milei vetoed popular moves from the opposition to increase payments to pensioners and people with disabilities, and raise healthcare funding – measures he says would jeopardise the fiscal balance.

Federico Aurelio, who heads consulting firm Aresco, said the ability of Milei's party to govern would be determined by its ability to form alliances, especially with provincial governors. If Milei is unable to reach deals with governors – many of whom are Peronists – to influence federal legislators from other parties to support the president's agenda, Aurelio warned that the government would struggle to pass its bills and reforms.

Milei's chief of staff, Guillermo Francos, has confirmed there will be a cabinet reshuffle starting in December, when newly elected deputies are set to take their seats in Congress. "It is time for self-criticism, analysis, and seeing where we went wrong," he told local radio after the vote. "We need to see why the macroeconomic results are not reaching the people."

Axel Kicillof, governor of Buenos Aires province and a former economy minister under the administration of Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner, stood out as the victor in Sunday's election, boosting his chances of running for president in 2027.

"There is another path, and today we begin to walk it," Kicillof said at a rally on Sunday night.

Kicillof, however, faces opposition within his own Peronist coalition, notably from political heavyweight Fernandez de Kirchner, with whom he clashed over his push to hold the Buenos Aires election ahead of the national mid-term vote.

Political analyst Sergio Berensztein said Kicillof – who is more left-leaning than most Peronist governors – is unpopular with Peronists outside of Buenos Aires province, warning the win does not guarantee his candidacy in 2027.

Peronism, a broad political movement based on the ideology of Juan Domingo Peron and for many years dominated by the Kirchnerist faction, emphasises social justice with substantial welfare programs and a strong economic role for the state. "This is an important victory, but it may be a fleeting one for Peronism," Berensztein said, while analysts at Morgan Stanley predicted that uncertainty would remain high until the October 26 vote.

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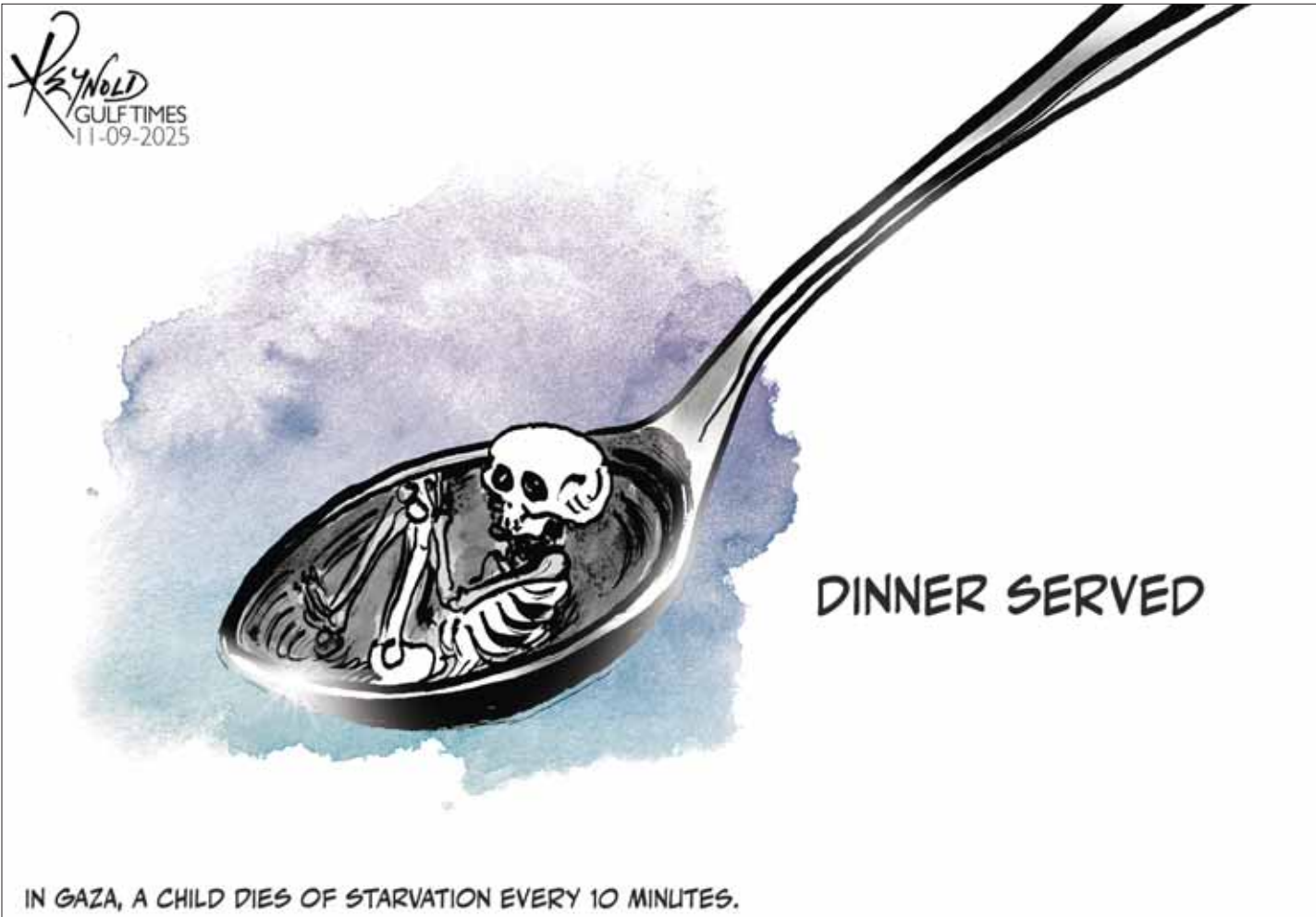
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Veterans lead Europe's defence tech revolution as Ukraine war fuels investment boom

By Michael Kahn and Supantha Mukherjee
Prague/Stockholm

When former German army officer Matt Koppers evaluated an Austrian startup's anti-drone weapons system, his military eye spotted what the young civilian founders had missed: the heated gun barrel lost accuracy after repeated firings.

That insight exemplifies how military veterans are reshaping Europe's defence technology landscape, bringing their experience to boardrooms and development labs, as the Ukraine war drives unprecedented investment in the sector.

"They did not realise a weapon barrel heats up during prolonged firing and can subtly skew [its targeting accuracy] due to the heat," said Koppers, a co-founder of venture capital firm Defence Invest, comprising former German and British soldiers, which is testing the technology with the Austrian military.

"This is something an experienced infantry soldier would instinctively account for by adjusting their aim."

Veterans lead a quarter of Europe's 80-plus defence startups, a Reuters analysis shows, while the CEOs of the region's top 10 defence contractors tend to have no military background.

The war in Ukraine and Nato's spending push have driven defence investment to record levels for both established firms like Germany's Rheinmetall and a startup ecosystem that has long lagged the United States.

These emerging companies are attracting record funding, with VC investment hitting

\$5.2bn in 2024, up over 500% from pre-war levels, according to Nato Innovation Fund and Dealroom data.

Reuters spoke to more than two dozen veterans, start-up founders, VC firms and soldiers on the ground in Ukraine to shed light on the critical advice, know-how and investment that former military personnel bring to the defence technology sector.

On the battleground, their role has helped satisfy demand for tested technology, ranging from kamikaze drones to AI-powered battle-planning software.

'Can't solve a problem you don't know'

Efforts to support Ukraine have compressed development timelines to weeks or months, from years, with veteran-led startups able to make rapid refinements based on frontline experience in Ukraine since Russia's 2022 full-scale invasion.

"You can't solve a problem you don't know – one you've never felt yourself," said Marc Wietfeld, a former German officer who founded unmanned ground vehicle maker ARX Robotics.

At the same time, rising Nato defence budgets are creating further opportunities for soldier-entrepreneurs across Europe.

Emmanuel Jacob, president of the European Organisation of Military Associations and Trade Unions, said he was witnessing long-serving soldiers joining defence startups at the fastest pace he has seen in his 40 years in the industry.

Some veterans also bring along knowledge of military procurement vital to a new product's success and underlining their value to startups new to navigating these processes, former soldiers and investors say.

"I see people who spent their life in the military in Europe really seeing opportunities now for the first time," said Ragnar Sass, founder of Estonian unicorn Pipedrive who now backs defence startups through the Darkstar consortium.

Battle-tested solutions

Three factors have helped drive the soldier-entrepreneur boom: Ukraine creating billions in new defence markets, record venture capital investment, and AI tools that accelerate product development.

Florian Seibel, a former German helicopter pilot, co-founded drone maker Quantum Systems, now valued at \$1bn, and launched another drone company, Stark, last year.

Other veteran-led companies include Arondite, founded by a British Army officer making battle-planning software, and BlinkTroll, run by former Norwegian soldiers producing military training equipment.

The low barrier to entry for drone technology, unlike fighter jets or submarines, has enabled rapid startup formation.

Francisco Serra-Martins, an ex-Australian Army combat engineer who co-founded Ukraine-based Terminal Authority in 2022, said veterans brought an edge beyond development.

"Veterans see firsthand what solutions are missing on the battlefield, and... have a deep understanding of what works, and what is hype and marketing," Serra-Martins told Reuters.

"You understand the user, the constraints, and what will or will not be adopted. It is also a credibility builder with customers."

His firm has expanded from kamikaze drones into cruise

missile development and now supplies drones to German defence AI startup Helsing.

Startup investment soars

A McKinsey analysis shows European defence tech startup investment skyrocketed over 500% between 2021-2024 compared to 2018-2020, with military veterans playing key roles as founders, advisors and investors.

Veterans say starting a defence company is easier than joining established contractors, as technology has lowered barriers to entry and offered those with specialised skills the opportunity to become entrepreneurs rather than employees.

"Soldiers on the front line don't have time to figure out technology while being shot at," said Jan-Erik Saarinen, founder of Double Tap investments and former Finnish soldier who served in Bosnia and Afghanistan. "You need actual combat soldiers in your company if you're providing technology to Ukraine."

Dymytro Kuzmenko, head of the Ukrainian Venture Capital and Private Equity Association, told a conference startups sending technology to Ukraine need battlefield-tested solutions, not prototypes requiring extensive trial and error.

The expertise gap also becomes critical when lives depend on the technology.

Viktorija Honcharuk, a Ukrainian soldier with the 3rd Assault Brigade, described how one unmanned vehicle looked great on paper but failed at the front lines, wasting 300,000 euros.

"I wish more companies were founded by military people," she said. – Reuters



Artillery shells are lined up in an open storage room at the Loading of Ammunition and Packaging hall of the new artillery plant of ammunition maker Rheinmetall, as the media tours the facilities on the day of its inauguration, in Unterlüss, Germany, last month. (Reuters)

New French PM vows 'profound break' with past

AFP
Paris

France's new Prime Minister Sebastian Lecornu promised a "profound break" with the past yesterday as he faced the thorny task of trying to build a government with enough parliamentary support to pull the country out of a political crisis.

Lecornu's first day on the job coincided with street protests across France in a show of grassroots opposition to President Emmanuel Macron, which resulted in clashes with police and dozens of arrests, as well as a fire that broke out at a restaurant in central Paris.

But the protests, called by a collective without a clear leader, had an uneven impact across the country.

The president appointed Lecornu — a close Macron ally and defence minister for the past three years — late on Tuesday, only 24 hours after his predecessor Francois Bayrou lost a confidence vote in parliament over his attempt to implement austerity measures to reduce France's debt.

Taking over from 74-year-old Bayrou, Lecornu, who is 39, promised to find "more creative" ways than before to work with opposition parties to try to build a stable government.

"We will get there," he said during a handover ceremony.

Lecornu is the seventh prime minister since Macron took office

in 2017 — and the third within the space of a year.

He faces the urgent challenge of giving France a budget for 2026 without suffering the same fate as Bayrou, who lasted just nine months and fell when opposition parties joined forces to push him out.

Lecornu said he would address the nation "in the coming days" to explain his approach, which he insisted would be different from the past, and "not just in method".

Since Macron dissolved parliament last year, successive governments have lacked a majority in the National Assembly, putting them in constant danger of being voted out.

The hard-left France Unbowed (LFI) party has already announced a no-confidence motion against Lecornu in parliament, for now with no backing from other parties.

The far-right National Rally (RN) party, which senses its best ever chance to come to power and has urged Macron to call snap elections, indicated it does not want to unseat Lecornu immediately. But RN party leader Jordan Bardella warned that the far-right expected Lecornu to turn away from the policies of his predecessors.

"Either there will be a break, or there will be censure," said Bardella, 29.

Authorities deployed tens of thousands of police nationwide to face the demonstrators.



France's newly-appointed Prime Minister Sebastian Lecornu shakes hands with outgoing prime minister Francois Bayrou at the end of the handover ceremony at the Hotel Matignon in Paris yesterday. (Reuters)

Some 175,000 protesters participated in the movement as of late afternoon, according to interior ministry figures.

Demonstrators in and around Paris built barricades from rubbish bins, blocked schools and roads and pelted police with garbage early in the day.

A restaurant caught fire in the French capital, which prosecutors said could have been caused involuntarily by police intervention. Interior Minister Bruno Retail-

leau warned demonstrators that there would be "zero tolerance" for violence, praising police and criticising protesters.

"On one side, the France of courage — the men and women in blue," he said, referring to police. "On the other, the France of sabotage in black."

Despite a call by a loose left-wing coalition of organisers to "block everything", that target appeared to be only partly achieved. Most high-speed trains ran on

schedule, and disruption to the Paris metro was minimal, operators reported.

But many schools were blocked, and protesters occupied roads and railway stations across the country.

In Lyon, demonstrators blocked a road running through the south-eastern city and set bins on fire, while in the western city of Nantes the police used tear gas to disperse protesters. Nearly 500 people were arrested

nationwide by 5:45pm yesterday.

Macron's decision to name a close ally as prime minister was a "slap in the face", said Florent, a protester in Lyon who gave only his first name.

"We need change," he said.

The decentralised nature of the protests was reminiscent of a previous anti-government movement — the Yellow Vests, which emerged in 2018 without clear leadership and became a major test for Macron during his first term.

Paris police chief Laurent Nunez said he suspected the "radical left" was running the protests.

Cedric Brun, a 46-year-old auto worker and local union boss in the northern city of Valenciennes, said he was disappointed to see protesters easily kept at bay by police.

"I thought there'd be more of us," he said. "It's unfortunate that there are more revolutionaries on Facebook than in real life."

Bayrou had insisted €44bn (\$52bn) of spending cuts were needed to tackle France's debt and stabilise the public finances.

Opponents accused him of trying to achieve this at the expense of wage earners and pensioners while sparing the wealthy.

"Without measures to boost purchasing power, without taxing the very wealthy, the same causes are likely to produce the same effects, namely censure," Boris Vallaud, the head of Socialist lawmakers, told broadcaster RTL.

Poland warns of 'open conflict' risk after Russia drone intrusion

AFP
Wryki-Wola

Poland warned yesterday that Russia and Europe are inching towards an "open conflict" after Warsaw shot down what it said were Russian drones in Polish airspace, drawing vows of support from the United States and other Nato members.

Russia denied targeting Poland, while US President Donald Trump called out the Kremlin for "violating" the Nato ally's territory as Moscow unleashed its latest attack on Ukraine.

Footage posted by local media showed the army in Wryki-Wola, a village in eastern Poland, inspecting a house with its roof ripped open and debris littered nearby.

"We were just sitting there, and this plane flew over... I said to my husband: 'Why is this plane so loud today?' And suddenly, a bang, and that was it," Alicja Wesolowska, 64, whose house was destroyed, told AFP in Wryki-Wola.

Authorities said nobody was harmed after Poland's airspace was violated 19 times. Prime Minister Donald Tusk said at least three drones were shot down after Warsaw and its allies scrambled jets.

Tusk also warned the situation — three-and-a-half years into Russia's invasion of Ukraine, which has killed tens of thousands of people — risked boiling over and called urgent talks with Nato.

Trump, who warned at the weekend that he was ready to impose more



Alicja Wesolowska and her husband Tomasz Wesolowski seen in front of their damaged house destroyed by debris from a shot down Russian drone in the village of Wryki-Wola, eastern Poland, yesterday. (AFP)

sanctions on Moscow, wrote on his Truth Social platform: "What's with Russia violating Poland's airspace with drones? Here we go!" without elaborating.

Poland's Foreign Minister Radoslaw Sikorski said the intrusion was not accidental and branded it "an unprecedented case of an attack" on Poland, Nato and the European Union.

But Russia's defence ministry denied targeting Poland, while Moscow's foreign ministry accused Warsaw of spreading "myths" to escalate the war in Ukraine. The Russian embassy in Warsaw separately told AFP that "Poland has failed to provide evidence" that "the objects that entered Polish airspace" were Russian.

Russian drones and missiles have entered the airspace of Nato members, including Poland's, several times, but

a Nato country has never attempted to shoot them down. Tusk said he had invoked Nato's Article 4, under which a member can call urgent talks when it feels its "territorial integrity, political independence or security" are at risk — only the eighth time the measure has been used.

"This situation... brings us closer than ever to open conflict since World War II," Tusk told parliament.

He however said that there is "no reason today to claim that we are in a state of war".

The incident came as Russia unleashed a barrage of strikes across Ukraine.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said the airspace violation was a "dangerous precedent" and urged a strong response from Kyiv's allies.

Obese surpass undernourished youths in a first

Obesity has skyrocketed among children and adolescents bombarded by "unethical" marketing of junk food, outpacing undernourishment to become the leading form of malnutrition worldwide for the first time among those age 5-19, Unicef warned on Tuesday.

In a dire report, the United Nations children's agency projected that nearly one in 10 individuals within that age group will be living with the chronic disease in 2025, fuelled by easy availability of ultra-processed foods "even in countries still grappling with child undernutrition." Today "when we talk about malnutrition, we are no longer just talking about underweight children," Unicef chief Catherine Russell said in a statement on the report's release. "Ultra-processed food is increasingly replacing fruits, vegetables and protein at a time when nutrition plays a critical role in children's growth, cognitive development and mental health."

The fight to reduce world hunger is bearing fruit in some areas, with prevalence of underweight youths on a downward trend, falling from 13% to 10% between 2000 and 2022 among 5- to 19-year-olds, according to data collected in 190 countries. But over the same period, overweight numbers in the age range have soared, doubling between 2000 and 2022 from 194 to 391mn.

The spike is even more pronounced for obesity, a more serious form of overweight associated with metabolic disorders such as diabetes, certain cancers, anxiety and depression.

In lawsuit, 3 former FBI leaders allege they were fired for 'insufficient loyalty'

Reuters
Washington

Former FBI acting director Brian Driscoll and two other former senior officials who were fired without cause last month sued the Trump administration yesterday, alleging they were dismissed in a "campaign of retribution" that targeted officials viewed as insufficiently loyal.

The lawsuit alleges that FBI Director Kash Patel said he had been ordered to fire anyone who had worked on a criminal investigation against President Donald Trump, and that his own job depended on their removal.

"The FBI tried to put the president in jail and he hasn't forgotten it," Patel told Driscoll, according to the lawsuit.

Steve Jensen, the former assistant director of the Washington field office, and Spencer Evans, the former top official in the Las Vegas field office, are also plaintiffs in the lawsuit.

The FBI did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Driscoll, who temporarily served as the bureau's director early this year, was viewed as a hero by some in the bureau after he sought to shield them from being targeted by Justice Department leadership for their role in investigating people who stormed the US Capitol on January 6, 2021, in a failed bid to overturn Trump's election defeat.

Driscoll alleges that while he was being vetted ahead of Trump's January 2025 inauguration, he asked by a White House transition staffer, Paul Ingrassia, about "when did you start supporting President Trump" and whether he had voted for Democratic candidates in the last five elections. He said he refused to answer those questions.

Driscoll says he was told later that evening by Emil Bove, a former Trump defence attorney who was due to take a top position in the Justice Department, that he had "failed" the vetting interview and that Ingrassia had reported that he was not "based out" enough — a term he understood to mean loyalty to Trump's political ideology.

Nasa rover finds potential sign of ancient life in Martian rocks

A sample obtained by Nasa's Perseverance rover of reddish rock formed billions of years ago from sediment on the bottom of a lake contains potential signs of ancient microbial life on Mars, according to scientists, though the minerals spotted in the sample also can form through nonbiological processes.

The discovery by the six-wheeled rover in Jezero Crater represents one of the best pieces of evidence to date about the possibility that Earth's planetary neighbor once harboured life.

Perseverance scientist Joel Hurowitz of Stony Brook University, lead author of the study published in the journal *Nature*, said a "potential biosignature" was detected in rock that formed at a time when Jezero Crater was believed to have been a watery environment, between 3.2bn and 3.8bn years ago.

Acting Nasa Administrator Sean Duffy told a news conference that the US space agency's scientists examined the data for a year and concluded that "we can't find another explanation, so this very well could be the clearest sign of life that we've ever found on Mars — which is incredibly exciting."

Nasa released an image of the rock — a very fine-grained, rusty-red mudstone — bearing ring-shaped features resembling leopard spots and dark marks resembling poppy seeds. Those features may have

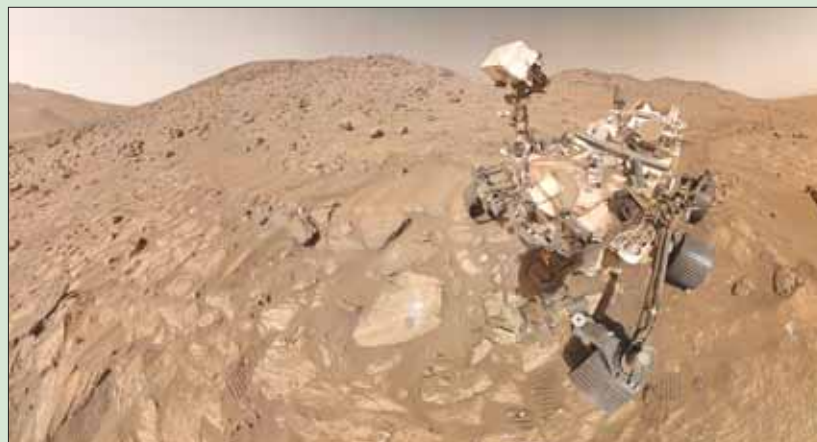
been produced when the rock was forming by chemical reactions involving microbes, according to the researchers. A potential biosignature is defined as a substance or structure that may have a biological origin but needs more data or further study before a conclusion can be made about the absence or presence of life.

Nicky Fox, associate administrator for Nasa's Science Mission Directorate, noted that the scientists were not announcing the discovery of a living organism. "It's not life itself," Fox told the news conference.

The rover since 2021 has been exploring Jezero Crater, an area in the planet's northern hemisphere that once was flooded with water and home to an ancient lake basin. Scientists believe river channels spilled over the crater wall and created a lake.

Perseverance has been analysing rocks and loose material called regolith with its onboard instruments and then collecting samples and sealing them in tubes stored inside the rover.

It collected the sample named Sapphire Canyon in July 2024 from a rock called Cheyava Falls in a locale known as Bright Angel rock formation. The sample came from a set of rocky outcrops on the edges of Neretva Vallis, an ancient river valley about a quarter of a mile (400m) wide carved by water rushing into the crater.



A "selfie" taken by Nasa's Perseverance Mars rover, made up of 62 individual images, on July 23, in this image released yesterday. A rock nicknamed "Cheyava Falls", which has features that may bear on the question of whether the Red Planet was long ago home to microscopic life, is seen to the left of the rover near the centre of the image. (Reuters)

Two minerals were detected that appear to have formed as a result of chemical reactions between the mud of the Bright Angel formation and organic matter present in that mud, Hurowitz said. They are: vivianite, a mineral bearing iron and phosphorus, and greigite, a mineral bearing iron and sulfur.

"These reactions appear to have taken place shortly after the mud was deposited on the lake bottom. On Earth,

reactions like these, which combine organic matter and chemical compounds in mud to form new minerals like vivianite and greigite, are often driven by the activity of microbes," Hurowitz told Reuters.

"The microbes are consuming the organic matter in these settings and producing these new minerals as a byproduct of their metabolism," Hurowitz said.

The rover's instruments found that the rock was rich in organic carbon, sulfur, phosphorus and iron in its oxidised form, rust. This combination of chemical compounds could have offered a rich source of energy for microbial metabolisms, Hurowitz said.

But Hurowitz offered some words of caution. "The reason, however, that we cannot claim this is more than a potential biosignature is that there are chemical processes that can cause similar reactions in the absence of biology, and we cannot rule those processes out completely on the basis of rover data alone," Hurowitz said.

Mars has not always been the inhospitable place it is today, with liquid water on its surface in the distant past. The sample collected and analysed by Perseverance provides a new example of a type of potential biosignature that the research community can explore to try to understand whether or not these features were formed by life, Hurowitz said, "or alternatively, whether nature has conspired to present features that mimic the activity of life."

"We can make a lot of progress on this question with laboratory experiments and fieldwork here on Earth to try to understand the various pathways that might create features like the ones we observe in the Bright Angel formation.

Crown prince reiterates Kuwait's full support and solidarity with Qatar

From Page 1

The crown prince of Kuwait reiterated his country's full support and solidarity with Qatar in the face of these assaults. Meanwhile, His Highness the Amir entrusted the crown prince of Kuwait with his greetings to the Amir of Qatar, expressing his appreciation and gratitude to the Kuwaiti leadership for its genuine fraternal sentiments and its support. His Highness the Amir wished continued success and prosperity for the leadership and people of Kuwait. The meeting also included discussions on bilateral relations and ways to further strengthen them, as well as an exchange of views on the latest regional and international developments. Attending the meeting were His Highness the Deputy Amir Sheikh Abdullah bin Hamad al-Thani, HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani, HE Chief of the Amiri Diwan Abdullah bin Mohammed al-Khulaifi, along with senior Qatari officials. From the Kuwaiti side, the meeting was attended by Minister of Amiri Diwan Affairs Sheikh Hamad bin Jaber al-Ali al-Sabah, HE Chief of the Crown Prince's Diwan Sheikh Thamer bin Jaber al-Ahmad al-Sabah, along with other senior officials. (QNA)



Jordan prince conveys condemnation of attack; solidarity with Qatar

From Page 1

He also conveyed the king's condemnation of the cowardly Israeli aggression that targeted Doha, which constitutes a violation of international law, affirming Jordan's support and solidarity with Qatar and its people. His Highness the Amir entrusted the Jordanian crown prince with his greetings to his brother, the king of Jordan, expressing his thanks and appreciation to him for his sincere fraternal sentiments and the support of Jordan for Qatar, wishing continued success and prosperity to the king and the Jordanian people. During the meeting, they discussed the bilateral relations and ways to support and develop them, in addition to exchanging views on the most prominent regional and international developments. The meeting was attended by HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani, HE the Minister of Interior and Commander of the Internal Security Force (Lekhwiya) Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, HE Chief of the Amiri Diwan Abdullah bin Mohammed al-Khulaifi and a number of senior officials. It was also attended from the Jordanian side by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates Ayman Safadi and a number of senior officials. (QNA)



Amir, UAE president discuss implications of Israeli attack

From Page 1

The meeting was attended by Personal Representative of His Highness the Amir, His Highness Sheikh Jassim bin Hamad al-Thani; HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani; HE the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Defence Affairs, Sheikh Saud bin Abdulrahman bin Hassan al-Thani; HE the Minister of Interior and Commander of the Internal Security Force (Lekhwiya), Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani; HE Chief of the Amiri Diwan, Abdullah bin Mohammed al-Khulaifi, and a number of senior officials.

On the UAE's side, the meeting was attended by Crown Prince of Dubai, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid al-Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Abu Dhabi and National Security Adviser of the United Arab Emirates Sheikh Tahnoon bin Zayed al-Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Lieutenant General Sheikh Saif bin Zayed al-Nahyan, Deputy Chairman of the Presidential Court for Development and Martyrs' Families Affairs Sheikh Theyab bin Mohamed bin Zayed al-Nahyan, Deputy Chairman of the Presidential Court for Special Affairs Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohamed bin Zayed al-Nahyan, HE Adviser to the UAE President Sheikh Mohammed bin Hamad bin Tahnoon al-Nahyan, HE Secretary-General



of Supreme Council for National Security Ali bin Hammad al-Shamsi, HE Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology Sultan bin Ahmed Sultan al-Jaber, HE Chairman of the President's Office for Strategic Affairs and Chairman of the Abu Dhabi Executive Office Dr Ahmed Mubarak al-Mazrouei, and a number of members of the accompanying delegation. Following the meeting, His Highness the Amir and the UAE president held a bilateral meeting during which they exchanged views and opinions on a number of issues of mutual interest. His Highness the Amir hosted a luncheon banquet in honour of the president of the UAE and his accompanying delegation. His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani led the farewell of the UAE president upon his departure along with the accompanying delegation from

the Doha International Airport after concluding a fraternal visit to the country.

The UAE president was also seen off by the Personal Representative of His Highness the Amir, His Highness Sheikh Jassim bin Hamad al-Thani.

Also present were HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani, HE the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Defence Affairs Sheikh Saud bin Abdulrahman bin Hassan al-Thani, HE the Minister of Interior and Commander of the Internal Security Force (Lekhwiya) Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, HE Chief of the Amiri Diwan Abdullah bin Mohammed al-Khulaifi, and a number of senior officials.

The president of the UAE was accompanied by Crown Prince of Dubai, Deputy Prime Minister and

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani said yesterday that he discussed with President of the United Arab Emirates Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed al-Nahyan the repercussions of the blatant Israeli aggression on Qatar's sovereignty and the security of the region. In a post on his official X account, His Highness the Amir said that he welcomed his brother Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed al-Nahyan in his fraternal solidarity visit, in which they discussed the repercussions of the blatant Israeli aggression on Qatar's sovereignty and the security of the region, reiterating the condemnation of this serious violation of all international norms and laws, which calls for concerted international efforts to put an end to this reckless behaviour.

Minister of Defence of the UAE Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid al-Maktoum, and a number of ministers.

Earlier, His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani led well-wishers to welcome President of the United Arab Emirates Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed al-Nahyan upon his and the accompanying delegation's arrival at Doha International Airport, on a fraternal visit to the country.

Also present to welcome the president of the UAE was the Personal Representative of His Highness the Amir, His Highness Sheikh Jassim bin Hamad al-Thani and other dignitaries. (QNA)

Dubai crown prince visits S'hail 2025

On the sidelines of the visit of the UAE President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed al-Nahyan to Qatar, Qatar Olympic Committee President HE Sheikh Joaan bin Hamad al-Thani and Dubai Crown Prince and the UAE's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid al-Maktoum yesterday visited the 9th Katara International Hunting and Falcons Exhibition - S'hail 2025.

A statement from Katara Cultural Village explained that the dignitaries toured the exhibition halls, viewing the latest displays in traditional hunting alongside advanced falcon care technologies and equipment, and listened to presentations from exhibitors on key local and international contributions.

Katara stressed that this visit reaffirms the deep fraternal ties between Qatar and the UAE and underscores the importance both leaderships place on supporting shared cultural and sporting heritage, including falconry, a practice deeply rooted in the identity and traditions of the region.



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5 QR.50
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5 QR.75
عنب احمر مصري 1 كجم
Grapes Red Egypt 1 kg



6 QR.50
فاكهة التنين فيتنام 1 كجم
Dragon Fruit Vietnam 1 kg



4 QR.00
موز اكوادور 1 كجم
Banana Ecuador 1 kg



6 QR.00
رمان اليمن 1 كجم
Pomegranate Yemen 1 kg



4 QR.50
بابايا سريلانكا 1 كجم
Papaya Fruit Sri Lanka 1 kg



9 QR.75
الريشة البيضاء دجاج بنوابة 1400 جم - احدى
Pena Branca Whole Chicken 1400 gm x 1 pc



18 QR.00
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Kohinoor Everyday Basmati Rice 4.5 kg



9 QR.00
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