

To feature  
your brand

Call: 444 666 21



PRUDENT APPROACH | Page 4

Aamal plans new investments this year; growth prospects 'very bright' across sectors

WANT TO  
SHOWCASE YOUR  
BRAND/SERVICES HERE?

CALL: 444 666 21

Wednesday, April 22, 2026  
Dhul-Qi'dah 5, 1447 AH

# GULF TIMES BUSINESS

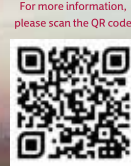


CUSTOMER FOCUS: Page 3

Nakilat achieves net profit of QR439mn in the first quarter

Save and  
Become a Millionaire

5,000,000 QAR IN CASH PRIZES



البنك التجاري  
COMMERCIAL BANK

Shop with Confidence  
16001  
19 April 2026 to 19 July 2026  
5 October 2026 Mega draw  
This campaign is valid from 19 January 2026 to 30 September 2026  
Terms and conditions apply

## UDC posts QR71mn profit on QR459mn revenues in Q1

United Development Company (UDC) reported a net profit of QR71mn on revenues of QR459mn in the first three months of 2026.

The net profit attributable to the equity shareholders stood at QR73mn with basic earnings per share of QR0.021.

UDC chairman Ahmed bin Ali al-Hammadi said, "UDC's performance in the first quarter reflects the consistency of our long-term strategy and a disciplined approach to value creation. We continue to advance Gewan Island as a fully integrated destination, enhancing its appeal through a carefully curated mix of residential, retail, and leisure offerings, while also reinforcing the infrastructure and long-term positioning of The Pearl Island." He added: "The commencement of works on the Perlitia Villas project marks a strategic step in optimizing our portfolio and enhancing future returns. As market expectations evolve, our focus remains on delivering high-quality, future-ready developments that offer both resilience and long-term potential.

"Real estate continues to stand out as a stable and dependable asset class, and UDC is well-positioned to deliver sustained value through its proven track record and strategic direction." UDC President and CEO Yasser Salah al-Jaidah said, "Our first-quarter results reflect solid operational delivery and a stable commercial performance across our portfolio. Demand across our residential and retail offerings remains healthy, supported by steady progress across key developments on both The Pearl and Gewan Islands.

"At the institutional level, we have introduced a 'Framework of Excellence' to guide our next phase of growth - one that is more disciplined, scalable, and resilient. This framework strengthens our ability to deliver consistent performance while remaining agile in a changing market environment." He added: "We have also enhanced our commercial approach by introducing more flexible and customer-focused sales solutions. These initiatives are designed to improve



Ahmed bin Ali al-Hammadi, UDC chairman, and Yasser Salah al-Jaidah, President and CEO.

accessibility, support investor confidence, and reinforce our overall value proposition, combining prime

locations, quality developments, and integrated lifestyle offerings with tailored financial flexibility. As we

move forward, our priority remains to sustain momentum and deliver long-term value to our shareholders."

In Q1, UDC continued to advance its development pipeline across The Pearl Island and Gewan Island. At The Pearl Island, the company completed the initial demolition phase of the Perlitia Villas project and awarded the final phase covering 144 villas, alongside ongoing infrastructure enhancements, including road widening works. At Gewan Island, development activity remained on track, with the award of the car park project adding 385 parking spaces alongside the ongoing construction works at the Corinthia Gewan Island Hotel. On the commercial front, UDC maintained steady momentum, supported by continued demand across its portfolio. The company completed the handover of the remaining villa at Costa Malaz, alongside the continued sale of completed units at The Pearl Island and Crystal Residence at Gewan Island. Retail leasing activity also remained strong, with over 2,500sq m leased to a range of established brands, further strengthening the retail and lifestyle offering across The Pearl Island.

# Dome Agribusiness LLC Qatar's New Global Platform for Physical Agricultural Trade



Dome Agribusiness LLC - a Qatar Financial Centre (QFC) - licensed holding company headquartered in Doha - is positioning itself as the country's first international physical agricultural commodity trading company, operating across global origination, logistics, processing and value-added production. Founded by Sedat Andic, a veteran of the international commodities sector with more than 20 years of physical trading experience in Dubai, Singapore and Geneva, the company brings a global network of producers, processors, logistics partners and financial institutions into Qatar's expanding food-security ecosystem.

Today, Dome Agribusiness LLC trades around 500,000 tons of grains and oilseeds annually, connecting surplus-producing regions with high-demand markets. The company plans to triple this volume to 1.5 million tons within the next two years, supported by expanded origination, stronger logistics capabilities and new processing investments.

Aligned with Qatar's National Food Security Strategy 2030, Dome Agribusiness LLC operates through trading offices in Doha, Geneva, Dubai and Singapore, supported by origination networks across Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Moldova and Canada.

In this interview, Founder & Managing Director Sedat Andic discusses why Qatar is the ideal home base, how agribusiness offers unique advantages and what the company's five-year vision looks like.

**Our mission is to build long-term partnerships with Qatari institutions and private-sector stakeholders, while using Qatar as a platform to expand our global footprint and deliver reliable, efficient, and transparent supply-chain solutions.**

**Why choose Qatar - and why now?**

"Qatar today offers one of the most strategically compelling environments for building a global agribusiness platform," Andic says.

"The Qatar Financial Centre provides a transparent, internationally recognised legal framework that gives confidence to global counterparties."

He adds that Qatar's geographic position - between major production regions in the Black Sea and Central Asia and high-demand markets across the Middle East, Africa and South Asia - makes it an ideal coordination hub. "This is the right moment to anchor a global trading platform here and contribute to the country's long-term strategic goals."

**What makes agribusiness attractive for Qatar and investors?**

Agribusiness is one of the world's most resilient sectors. Regardless of economic cycles, populations need food, feed and raw materials. For Qatar, the sector aligns directly with national priorities - ensuring reliable supply chains, reducing vulnerabilities and strengthening global partnerships.

"Unlike many industries, agricultural commodities are essential goods," Andic notes. "They move in every market condition, and that stability is attractive for investors and for national strategies."

**Agribusiness as a sanctions-free sector**

Agricultural commodities are classified as humanitarian goods.

Even in periods of geopolitical tension, sanctions regimes typically exempt food, feed and essential raw materials.

"Being in a sanctions-free sector allows us to operate across diverse geographies without the disruptions seen in other industries," he says. "It enables long-term planning and stable relationships with producers and buyers."

**Why pursue a future listing on the Qatar Stock Exchange Venture Market?**

A public listing is not just a financial milestone - it is a governance milestone. For Dome Agribusiness LLC, the goal is to build a company that meets institutional standards from day one.

"Going public signals our commitment to Qatar's financial ecosystem," Andic explains. "It positions us to attract strategic partners, expand our asset base and scale our operations globally." The company's medium-term targets include ship owning, maritime logistics, processing facilities, warehousing and silo infrastructure, equity stakes in milling, farming assets and port-related investments - all of which benefit from access to capital markets.

**How does your background shape Dome Agribusiness LLC?**

Andic's career spans two decades in Dubai, Singapore and Geneva - three of the world's most important commodity trading hubs. During this time, he built a global network of producers, processors, logistics partners and financial institutions.

"Qatar is the perfect place to bring this network together," he says. "My experience across continents allows us to build a company that is globally connected but locally anchored."

**Physical merchants vs. paper traders**

"Paper traders move numbers. We move goods," Andic states. "Our value comes from reliability, operational discipline and the ability to deliver under any conditions."

This physical-first approach is also what enables Dome Agribusiness LLC to scale its volumes from 500,000 tons today to 1.5 million tons in the near term. "We are building the operational backbone to handle larger flows efficiently and responsibly," he adds.

**What is your five-year vision for Dome Agribusiness LLC?**

The company aims to become a mid-sized global trading house with integrated processing assets in multiple countries, including milling, feed production, oilseed processing and other value-added facilities.

"We are building a platform that combines trading, logistics and processing," Andic says. "In five years, we aim to operate a diversified portfolio of assets that strengthens our global footprint and supports Qatar's food-security objectives."

**How do Qatar's 2030 Vision, Islamic trade finance and artificial intelligence (AI) fit into your strategy?**

Qatar's 2030 Vision emphasises economic diversification, global integration and sustainable development - all of which align with Dome Agribusiness LLC's mission.

The company is developing internal software using AI to scale operations rapidly, integrating trade finance, logistics, risk management and compliance into a unified digital platform. Islamic trade finance, including commodity murabaha structures, plays a key role in supporting Sharia-compliant growth.

"Ultimately, we want to be one of the ambassadors of Qatar's name in the global arena," Andic concludes. "Our goal is to build a company that reflects Qatar's values: reliability, excellence and long-term vision."

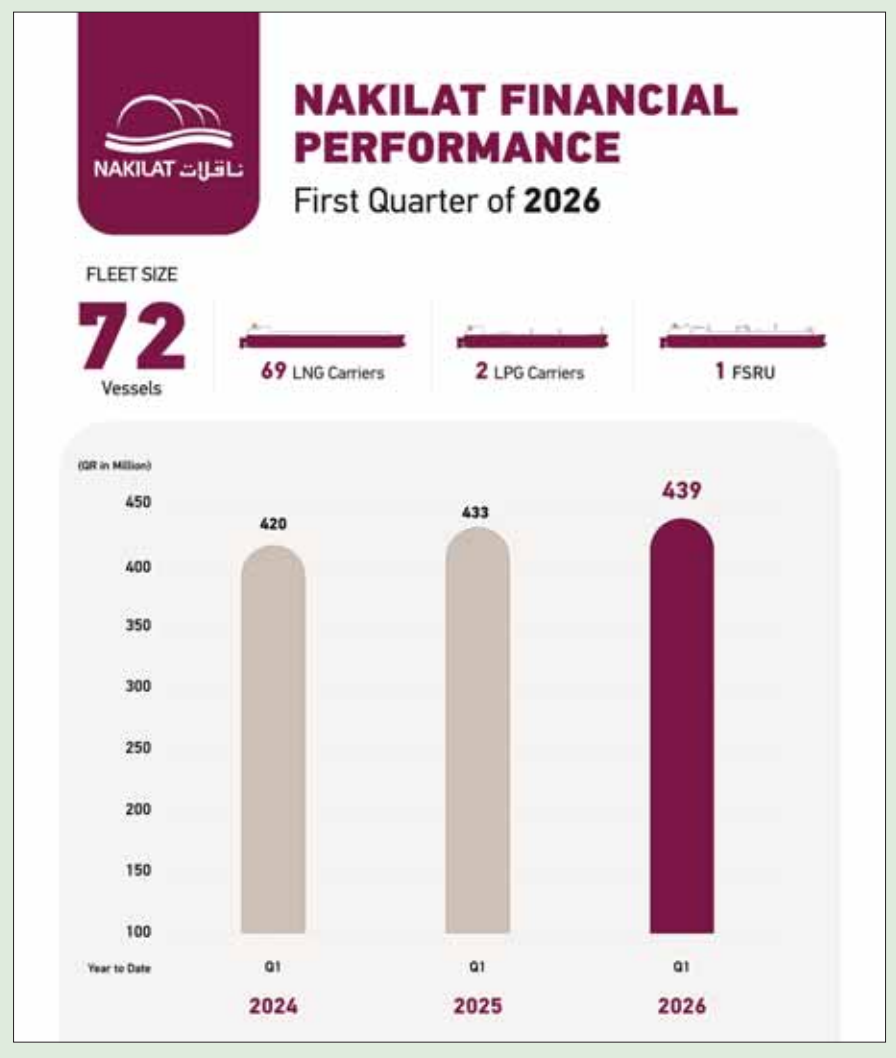
**If a Qatari organisation wants to work with you or learn more about your plans, how can they reach you?**

"We welcome like-minded partners in Qatar who share our ambition to grow this business on a global scale. Interested institutions or investors can reach us at [info@dome-agri.qa](mailto:info@dome-agri.qa) or visit [www.dome-agri.qa](http://www.dome-agri.qa)."

## Nakilat records Q1 net profit of QR439mn

Nakilat achieved a net profit of QR439mn in the first quarter (Q1) compared to QR433mn the previous year. "Despite the geopolitical challenges faced by Nakilat during Q1 2026, the company was able to maintain its operational performance and take immediate and effective measures to rationalise expenses and reduce negative impact across its various business sectors, especially in dry dock facilities, quality services, and towing services, which witnessed a noticeable decline in their operating rates," said Nakilat chief executive officer Abdullah

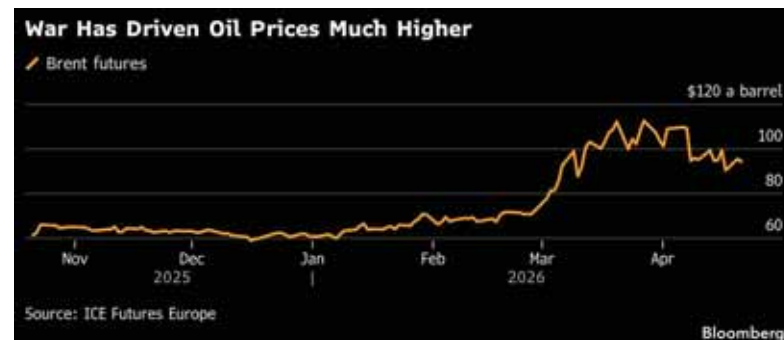
al-Sulaiti. The company also continued to work around the clock to ensure high levels of reliability for its fleet, establish a culture of safety, and focus on providing services to customers at all times and under all conditions, he said. Nakilat incurred total expenses of QR766mn in the first three months of this year. The company's fleet size stood at 72, including 69 liquefied natural gas carriers, two liquefied petroleum gases carriers and one FSRU (floating storage and regasification unit) at the end of three month ended March 2026.



## Oil traders warn of recession impact as Hormuz closure hits demand

**Bloomberg**  
London

The world's top oil traders warned that the ongoing closure of the Strait of Hormuz is increasing the risk of a global recession as fuel-demand takes a hit. The vital energy channel has been largely closed to non-Iranian shipping since war began at the end of February, choking off hundreds of millions of barrels of supply. Consumer nations have been using up buffer inventories that they hold for emergencies to cope with the shortfall. While international forecasters already acknowledge that conflict is sapping economic growth and oil demand, merchants including Vitol Group, Gunvor Group and Trafigura Group warned on Tuesday that the situation will get even worse if Hormuz doesn't open up soon. "We've borrowed supply," Vitol Group Chief Executive Officer Russell Hardy said at the FT Commodities Global Summit in Lausanne, pointing to drawdowns of inventories from a variety of sources. "But you can't do that forever. There are recessionary consequences from having to ration that demand." Benchmark oil futures rallied about 30% since the war began. They spiked to almost \$120 a barrel in early March but have since subsided, trading near \$95 on Tuesday amid tentative hopes the US and Iran can reach some kind of peace deal. Hardy said the war so far eliminated about 4mn barrels a day of demand, a figure that will rise if Hormuz stays shut. Tracking the electronic signals of tankers suggest that only a few are passing through Hormuz, including some that are linked to Iran but aren't leaving the region. Some carriers are sneaking through with their transponders off. Gunvor's head of research, Fred-eric Lasserre, told the FT event that the amount of lost consumption may need to double next month to 5mn barrels a day — roughly 5% of global supply — in order to balance markets, and that a three-month closure of the waterway could trigger a worldwide recession. Crude oil and refined product supplies from the Arabian Gulf have been slashed by roughly 13mn barrels a day since the war started, according to the International Energy Agency. While the agency projects



Cargo ships in the Gulf, near the Strait of Hormuz, as seen from northern Ras al-Khaimah, near the border with Oman's Musandam governance, amid the US-Israeli conflict with Iran. The world's top oil traders warned that the ongoing closure of the Strait of Hormuz is increasing the risk of a global recession as fuel demand takes a hit.

a sharp drop of 1.5mn barrels a day in demand this quarter, it anticipates a recovery in the second half of the year. The consumption hit is so far most concentrated in Asia, but will spread as global prices react, according to Trafigura Group. "Demand destruction is happening in places that are not visible pricing centers," Chief Economist Saad Rahim said at the event. "People are underestimating that loss of supply that then has to be met with some loss of demand somewhere else." Petrochemical producers in China, Japan and South Korea have scaled back operations, reining in output of plastics used in everything from bottles to electrical ap-

pliances. Airlines in nations from Vietnam to the Netherlands are canceling flights or drawing up contingency plans to do so. Across Southeast Asia, harvest-ready rice fields are lying idle as fuel and fertilizer costs bite. "That adjustment is already happening, but if this continues it has to get larger and larger," Rahim said of the need for demand to recalibrate in response to lower supply. "We're at a critical inflection point." The US was still in the dark on whether Iran will take part in fresh talks to end the war before a ceasefire expires on Wednesday, with the sides deadlocked on issues including access to Hormuz.

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

### SITUATION WANTED

**INDIAN SALES REPRESENTATIVE** with 8 years of experience in Qatar, seeking a suitable opportunity. +97450655336, ajeayooob@gmail.com

**ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE** professional with 15+ yrs of experience in gulf looking for a challenging opportunity. Experienced in managing large team of accounts, internal controls, all kind of reporting, audit. Suitable for group companies with various activities, Trading, investment companies, real estate and Facility management companies. Experienced with large holding companies. Contact 51876917, yazhkuhal@gmail.com

**INDIAN FEMALE SEEKING JOB** for post of teaching kg level Qualification degree(B.Com), Montessori (pg) Assistant teacher, office management. Or any appropriate position languages known English, malayalam. Contact number: 70299467, Email id: fouziyashajeer95@gmail.com

**EXPERIENCED QUANTITY SURVEYOR** / Commercial Professional with 8+ years GCC experience in Qatar, Saudi Arabia, UAE & Sri Lanka seeks suitable opportunity. Expertise in Cost Control, Tendering, BOQ, Claims, Final Accounts & FIDIC Contracts. BSc (Hons) QS. Transferable QID. Immediate Joining. Contact 71478533, kalaamsalman@gmail.com

**ADMINISTRATION & HR PROFESSIONAL:** Having more than 15 years (Qatar & GCC) working experience in Administration & HR management with MNC's of large scale projects. Well versed in all Administration, HR policies and procedures, Employee relations, compensations & benefits, Payroll & Budgeting, Facility Management etc. Looking for any suitable placement. Contact: Mob. 66565477, Email: kas.asim@gmail.com

**HR ADMINISTRATION:** Indian Female. BBA In Business Administration. Proven experience in administration. Diploma in Inspection and metrology, with 4 year experience in QC. Valid Qatar ID. Contact no: 66512133. Email: dilna123saseendran@gmail.com

**INSTRUMENTATION TECHNICIAN** with 3 years of Oil & Gas experience, skilled in calibration, loop checking, and industrial maintenance. Strong knowledge of field instruments and control systems. Arabic native, fluent in English. Valid QID and NOC. Ready to join immediately. Contact 74467840, mahdi.baghdad03@gmail.com

**AM A QUICK LEARNER** and have worked in various areas, currently have 2 years of work experience in Qatar and can work in all these departments accordingly which is office assistant/ CCTV security officer/ store keeper/ cashier or other related. Contact 72052490, azizawal19@gmail.com

**ADMIN ASST/HR ASST/DOC CONTROLLER** Filipino Male, Bachelor's degree holder with 4+ years of experience in HR and administrative operations. Recently worked in Qatar as an Admin Assistant. Skilled in basic reception operations, coordination, documentation, and office administration. Highly organized, fast learner, and motivated. Available to join immediately with a valid QID, NOC, and transferable visa. Contact: 30297461, Email: dzncdo13@gmail.com

**BBA GRADUATE** with 3+ years in B2B, Real Estate, and Tele-sales. CRM expert (Salesforce/Bitrix24) focused on high-ticket deals. Doha-based, Transferable Visa/NOC. Contact 71968727 / irfan1997b@gmail.com. Seeking high-growth sales roles and Admin Roles.

**SALES EXECUTIVE** Indian Male with 7 years Experience in FMCG market strong communication skills, dynamic and result driven, Valid Qatar id, Driving license and NOC available can join immediately. Contact: 33826408, Email: younusfzal1@gmail.com

**INDIAN FEMALE BORN** and educated in Qatar. Graduated with B.Com Finance from Christ University (Bangalore) and MSc International Management from University of Galway (Ireland). Experience in accounting support, banking operations, AML-KYC, administration and customer service. Skilled in MS Office & Reporting, Excellent Communication. Immediate joiner with valid Qatar residence permit and driving license. Seeking suitable opportunity. Contact: annmary.a2354@gmail.com, 66057203.

**SR. STRUCTURAL ENGINEER** or QA/QC Engineer with MMUP Grade A, 22+ years project experience. Skilled in project supervision and QA/QC works. Available immediately with NOC. Contact: 33600541, email: mbjavier232003@gmail.com

**CIVIL PROJECT ENGINEER** with 8 years of experience in residential and commercial projects. UPDA/MMUP certified with valid Qatar driving license. Skilled in civil, MEP and architectural works, site execution, coordination and supervision. Proficient in AutoCAD, planning and estimation. Strong in managing teams, subcontractors, and ensuring quality and timely delivery. Available immediately. Contact: +974-70231052, Email: varunvikasrai@gmail.com

**SENIOR-PLANNING ENGINEER:** CERTIFIED MMUP/UPDA (A), PMP & PSP Civil Engineer. Consultancy and Contracting experience over 18 years in Qatar. Infrastructure, pumping station (Ashgal Projects), buildings & roads. Experience in tendering, project control, cost control and claims. Expert in Primavera P6 & MS Project. Contact No: 55720618, Email: binupjoy@hotmail.com

**SEASONED HR & OPERATIONS** Manager (8+ years, construction Oil & Gas and hospitality). MSc, PHRI, and Data Analytics certified. Expert in full-cycle HR, labor laws, and ERPs. Immediate joiner with Qatar Driving License. Contact 30402955 | engwanui@gmail.com

**OPERATIONS & FACILITIES MANAGER** with MBA 18 yrs experience in hard&soft services in Malls, Commercial, presidential buildings, airports. Knowledge in FM Auditing, consultancy, MEP Maintenance, Housekeeping, Security, contract management, procurement&tender, Projects & Fitout, Leasing, Marketing, Events, Retail Tenant Relationship, Energy Savibg, Preopening of Malls, Renovations etc. Contact 77476611, email: ranjithravindran@live.com

**3D VISUALISER & AUTOCAD** Female Draftsman with 6+ years experience in interior fit-out, 3D modelling, rendering and detailing drawings. Skilled in Autocad, SketchUp, 3DS max, Lumion. Available in qatar with valid work visa, ready to join immediately. Contact : 71262739, raheeshavalan@gmail.com

**SENIOR PROCUREMENT OFFICER** with 7+ years GCC experience. Expertise in procurement, purchasing, tendering, and contract management. Strong in vendor management, negotiation, cost control, and supply chain operations including import/export. Experienced in handling domestic & international projects with solid ERP and commercial knowledge. Holds valid Qatar driving license. Contact 55563067, shiham.siddique@hotmail.com

**ADMIN/DOCUMENT CONTROLLER /PROCUREMENT:** Indian female with over 10 years' experience in Procurement, Office Administration, Document Control, and HR Support across diverse industries. Graduate from Mumbai University. Holds valid Qatar driving license. Under husband sponsorship with valid Qatar visa. Available for immediate joining. Mob: +974 77958575, Mail: supraunmesh@gmail.com

**HSE ENGINEER/ SUPERVISOR/ Sr. Safety Inspector,** 13 years of working experience in Road infrastructure work, Tunnel construction, Building construction, having BS.c, PGD., CMIOSH, NVQ Level 6, NEBOSH, IOSH, OSHA-30, ISO 45001 Lead auditor. Seeking a job offer. Contact:: 74430778, email: dipospe1@gmail.com

**SR. MECHANICAL ENGINEER,** UPDA (A), BTech, PMP, RMP, CEng, 20yrs GCC experience in MEP: HVAC, Fire Fighting, Fire Protection, Plumbing & Drainage. Large projects incl. HIA/PWA. Skilled design-supervision, T&C, handover in Consultancy/Client/Contracting firms. Transferable visa, NOC, license, immediate joining. Mob: 31610555, email: engrkb05@gmail.com

**UPDA CERTIFIED PROJECT MANAGER** with 8 years of experience in Interior Fit-out Projects including Retail, F&B, Fashion outlets, High end Offices, Residential buildings and Exhibitions. Skilled in Project Management, Execution, Estimation, Procurement and Quality Control. Proficient in AutoCAD, MS Office, and MS Project. Available immediately with valid visa and driving license. Contact through 55149329 or noufalothupurayil@gmail.com

**PROCUREMENT AND LOGISTICS** professional with over 12 Yrs experience in Qatar, Saudi Arabia & India. Industry experience in Oil & Gas, EPC and FMCG. Experience with ERP & MS Office. Skilled in Vendor Mgt, Sourcing, Contract Negotiation, Cost optimization and Logistics. Proven Ability to streamline operations and improve supply chain. MBA in Finance & Marketing Bachelor Business Mgt (Marketing). Available to join immediately with NOC. Contact 50085468, yaqubmohdmba@gmail.com

**AN EXPERIENCED QCHP** licensed Registered Nurse with over 17 years in practice (clinical and inpatient). Seeking for an opportunity in a hospital or clinical healthcare facility. Ready for immediate employment. Contact 50230293, ifystar01@gmail.com

**DATA ANALYST/ IT** With 1+ years of experience transforming raw data into actionable insights. Skilled in Excel, PowerBI, SQL, Python, Tableau. Mtech in Computer Science, NASSCOM certified. Resident visa holder. Available at Qatar. Mob: 51235241, akhila.jan27@gmail.com.

**SALES EXECUTIVE FEMALE,** with 7 years experience in outdoor sales in Qatar and having a valid drivers license and transferable Visa. Great communication skills and well versed in CRM. Contact 77942287, sangphidea@gmail.com

**SENIOR/CHIEF ACCOUNTANT/Finance Manager.** With MBA Finance, M.Com, B com. Exp GCC 20+ yrs. Accounts upto finalizations. Proficient in financial strategies, MIS reporting, Cash-Fund Flow, budgeting, forecasting & Auditing. Exp with different nature of business accounting & ERP softwares. With NOC. Email: mafazeel@yahoo.com, contact: 31645319.

**EXPERIENCED FILIPINA RECEPTIONIST** and Administrative Assistant with 5 years of hands-on experience. veterinary/animal clinic setting. Expertise includes front desk management, document control, and finance/admin support. Demonstrates strong communication skills, professionalism, and proficiency in MS Office (Excel, Word, Email). Immediate joiner with transferable visa and NOC. Contact: derdreinamac@gmail.com, Contact 55271109.

**AGRICULTURAL ENGINEER** with 3 years' experience, including 1 year in Qatar in crop production and hydroponics, with background in arboriculture, field crops, and Saharan systems. Skilled in sustainable farming practices. Arabic native, fluent in English and French. Holds NOC and QDL. Available immediately. Contact 33167441, abdallah.h.keddari@gmail.com

STOP PLASTIC POLLUTION



REUSE  
CYCLE

Shop with reusable bags and help protect the environment

Issued in public interest by GULF TIMES

## QNB Group head office achieves Gold Level certification under GSAS

QNB Group has announced that its head office building has achieved the Gold Level certification under the Global Sustainability Assessment System (GSAS).

Coinciding with Earth Day, the achievement reflects the group's continued commitment to advancing environmental sustainability, in line with sustainable development priorities of Qatar National Vision 2030.

The certification was awarded by the Gulf Organisation for Research & Development (GORD) under GSAS Operations, recognising the head office's sustainable day-to-day operations. Yousef Ali al-Darwish, senior executive vice president of General Services, said:

"The Gold GSAS certification is a testament to our unwavering commitment to integrating sustainability into every facet of our operations, as

well as our ongoing responsibility to our community, our employees, and our nation.

"Since our establishment in 1964, QNB has evolved alongside Qatar's development, and today we continue to build on that legacy by embedding sustainability at the core of our operations. On this Earth Day, we are proud to continue to be a leader for sustainable operations in the financial sector, directly aligning with the goals of the Qatar National Vision 2030."

Dr Yousef al-Horr, founding chairman of GORD, said: "By opting for GSAS Operations, QNB Group has shown a clear understanding that the long-term operational carbon footprint of a building far exceeds the embodied carbon of its initial construction. This milestone reflects the organisation's forward-looking leadership that recognises the impor-



The achievement reflects QNB Group's continued commitment to advancing environmental sustainability, in line with sustainable development priorities of Qatar National Vision 2030

and accountability." GSAS is a comprehensive system developed spe-

cifically for the climatic and cultural context of the Mena region, making it the ideal standard for assessing the environmental impact of buildings in the Gulf region. Achieving Gold certification underscores QNB's strong operational performance across key areas, including energy and water efficiency, enhanced indoor environmental quality and effective waste management practices.

GSAS Gold-certified buildings can achieve reductions in energy and water consumption of between 20% and 30% compared to conventional buildings, contributing to lower operational costs and improved resource efficiency. GSAS Operations certification moves beyond design, validating the effectiveness of daily operational practices managed by QNB's Facilities Management team. Building on this achievement,

QNB Group has also attained a 4-Star GSAS Design & Build certification for its Lusail headquarters development and is advancing GSAS Design for Fit-Out certification. This reflects a holistic approach to sustainability – extending environmental performance beyond core infrastructure into interior spaces, with a focus on energy efficiency, responsible material selection, indoor environmental quality, and the comfort and well-being of employees and visitors.

The certifications collectively form a key component of QNB Group's broader Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) strategy. By embedding sustainability across its operations and developments, QNB continues to support efficient resource management and contribute to the environmental pillar of Qatar National Vision 2030.



Sheikh Mohammed bin Hamad bin Jassim bin Jaber al-Thani, GWC Group chairman.



Sheikh Abdulla bin Fahad bin Jassim bin Jaber al-Thani, GWC Group managing director.



Matthew Kearns, GWC Group CEO.

## Aamal Company plans new investments this year; growth prospects 'very bright' across all sectors

By Santhosh V Perumal  
Business Reporter

Aamal Company is making new investments this year as it finds growth prospects across all its business divisions as "very bright"

"Given the relative stability of Qatar's economic landscape and the prudent approach of our management team in making new investments, the growth prospects for Aamal in 2026 across all the business divisions are very bright," said its board report presented before shareholders at the annual general assembly meeting that approved 5% cash dividend.

"It is no secret that the region, including Qatar, has recently faced a number of challenges. Nevertheless, we have full confidence in the state's ability to overcome these challenges," said Aamal Company chairman Sheikh Faisal bin Qassim al-Thani, who presided over the general assembly, which also voted Sheikh Ali Abed al-Rahman al-Thani and Ibrahim Abdulla al-Derbasti as two independent members for the remaining two years of the current term (2026 and 2027).

Highlighting that the recent global trade disruptions have not had any meaningful negative impacts on the ongoing development projects in Qatar and the larger Middle East and North Africa region; the report said Qatar has managed to be one of the strongest performing economies in the region in 2025 and the "outlook is positive for 2026 and the longer term."

Infrastructure and building projects valued at QR11.5bn announced by Ashghal for road networks, buildings, drainage and public facilities generates demand for concrete, pipes



Aamal Company chairman Sheikh Faisal bin Qassim al-Thani presiding over the annual general assembly meeting yesterday.

and cables manufactured by Aamal in 2026, according to the report.

"Aamal will take advantage of the investment opportunities in the localisation programme - Tawteen, for the energy sector," it said.

Ongoing projects such as the multi-phased expansion of Hamad International Airport City, Development of Ports, Rail network expansion and Development of coastline facilities across Qatar, will keep the industrial manufacturing sector active, it said.

Projects in the oil and gas sector, such as the expansion of LNG (liquefied natural gas) facilities, will be drivers for the local manufacturing sector, it said.

New trading partners will help ensure demand for bulk cargo freight services offered by Aamal Maritime, it added.

On opportunities for its trading and distribution, it said the government investment in healthcare continues to underpin the growth of the division, particularly Aamal Medical and Ebn Sina Medical activities.

Qatar's government has given special attention to sports and community well-being activities by setting up facilities across Qatar, thereby increasing the demand for products and services related to sports and healthcare.

It said allocation of QR25.4bn for healthcare sector will boost the demand for medical equipment, medicines and related services provided by Aamal.

Arrival of new passenger vehicles brands to supplement demand for tyres and lubricants offered by Aamal. Finding that the property

segment is expected to see regular demand from the ever-growing population, and from new business activities being set up across Qatar; it said City Center mall continues to benefit from its strategic location and from the completion of renovation and expansion works, including connectivity to Doha Metro.

"With a new and trendy digital façade, and addition of several new branded outlets, the footfall at the mall is expected to grow significantly in 2026, enhancing mall revenue," it said.

"The impetus given to the tourism and hospitality sector by the government, by developing several tourist attractions and organising several events attracting international travelers, will support the growth of Aamal Travels," it said.

## GWC reports QR33.7mn net profit in first quarter

Gulf Warehousing Company (GWC) reported net profit of QR33.7mn on gross revenues of QR318mn in the first quarter (Q1) of this year.

The group's operating plan saw January and February record net profit above plan, before the onset of regional disruption in March. Earnings per share for the quarter stood at QR0.058.

March saw significant geopolitical turmoil that resulted in an 86% drop in vessel traffic in the Strait of Hormuz and no large carriers calling at Hamad Port, GWC said.

Qatar's airspace was suspended between February 28 and March 4, eliminating over 3,000 tonnes of daily air freight capacity, while offshore oil and gas projects were also halted, it added.

Despite far-reaching impacts of the severe supply chain stress the GCC (Gulf Co-operation Council) has experienced, and a rapidly changing landscape, GWC Group continued to focus on ensuring the safety of its people, fulfilling its commitments to its customers and safeguarding the continuity of supply chains in Qatar and the region.

In Q1 2026, the group responded across three distinct corridors. In partnership with the Qatar government to safeguard strategic food supplies, GWC Group arranged dedicated vessel capacity to the GCC, with goods distributed onward through its warehousing assets in Oman and Jeddah to Qatar, the UAE, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia.

The group also activated an air-land corridor via Riyadh, connecting air freight with its bonded cross-border land transport network to move essential food cargo into Qatar. Separately, for the first time, GWC Group operationalised a fully TIR-powered air-to-land corridor at Hamad International Airport, enabling Doha to serve as a regional redistribution hub for supply chains across all five GCC markets.

"What unfolded in March tested

every part of our organisation, and our people rose to meet it. Since our founding, GWC Group has held to one clear principle: to be present, reliable and responsible for Qatar and the region when it matters most," said Sheikh Mohammed bin Hamad bin Jassim bin Jaber al-Thani, GWC Group chairman.

Sheikh Abdulla bin Fahad bin Jassim bin Jaber al-Thani, GWC Group managing director, said when disruption struck, it worked with the government to secure strategic food supplies through a dedicated sea corridor into the GCC alongside new land and air routes.

"We activated three corridors simultaneously and built end-to-end supply chains in real time – leveraging our warehousing in Oman and Jeddah, our bonded land network through Saudi Arabia, and our regional reach into the UAE to move essential goods into Qatar and onward across the GCC," said Matthew Kearns, GWC Group CEO.

GWC Group continued its regional expansion with a focus on Saudi Arabia, where its Jeddah facility is already supporting its operations.

The group is progressing additional near-term leasing in Riyadh and Dammam and evaluating longer-term, demand-led options to expand its Saudi footprint in step with client demand.

Its global divisions more than doubled their contribution to group net revenues over the past two years, reflecting the strategic progress of GWC's regional expansion.

The group handles ocean freight volumes of up to 60,000 TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units) per year and air freight of up to 14,000 tonnes annually, while extending its global reach to more than 120 countries through a network of 550 freight offices and partners worldwide.

These capabilities resulted in a 95% client retention rate and logistics parks occupancy averaging 90% across its three locations in Q1-2026.

## QICCA discusses extension of arbitration agreements to third parties

The Qatar International Centre for Conciliation and Arbitration (QICCA) at Qatar Chamber recently organised a webinar on the 'Extension of the Arbitration Agreement to Third Parties in Construction Contracts', with the participation of judges, lawyers, and legal experts from Qatar and abroad.

The webinar was attended by QICCA vice-chairman Sheikh Dr Thani bin Ali al-Thani and secretary general Ibrahim Shahbek, who opened the event by emphasising the centre's commitment to organising specialised seminars and webinars. He noted that the construction sector represents a fundamental pillar of the country's ongoing economic development.

Sheikh Dr Thani highlighted that the session's topic is particularly relevant to parties involved in com-



QICCA vice-chairman Sheikh Dr Thani bin Ali al-Thani.

plex construction contracts. He stressed the centre's commitment to shedding light on such issues in a manner that enhances transparency, ensures the stability of legal positions, and fosters an attractive and stable arbitration environment.

QICCA's general legal adviser moderated the session. The speakers included Dr Yassin el-Shazly, dean of the Faculty of Law at Ain Shams



QICCA's general legal adviser moderated the session. The speakers included Dr Yassin el-Shazly, dean of the Faculty of Law at Ain Shams University and chairman of the Ain Shams Arbitration Centre, and Hanan Badawi, lawyer and partner at Daoud & Daoud Law Firm.

University and chairman of the Ain Shams Arbitration Centre, and Hanan Badawi, lawyer and partner at Daoud & Daoud Law Firm.

Discussions addressed several key topics, most notably the circumstances under which an arbitration agreement may be extended to third parties, cases allow-

ing third-party joining the arbitration proceedings, and practical challenges arising from multi-party arbitration.

Participants also reviewed practical applications from prominent international arbitration cases in which the issue of extending arbitration agreements to non-signatories was examined.

## MoCI organises training courses on anti-illicit financing programmes and mandatory reporting

QNA  
Doha

In co-operation with Qatar Academy for Finance and Business, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI) organised specialised online training courses on preparing anti-illicit financing programs and mandatory reporting in the field of combating money laundering and terrorist financing, with the participation of a number of trust and company service providers, auditors, and precious metals and gemstone traders.

According to MoCI statement, the courses aimed to clarify the mechanisms for preparing mandatory reports and required annual declarations, which contributes to enhancing the level of compliance with relevant regulatory requirements and raising the efficiency of compliance in these sectors.

The courses focused on enabling participants to understand the legal and regulatory frameworks, developing their capabilities in preparing institutional programmes to combat financial crimes, as well as introducing the requirements of mandatory reports and the mechanisms for preparing and submitting them in accordance with the approved controls.

The courses addressed the practical application mechanisms of the risk-based approach, ways to classify clients according to risk levels, the requirements for preparing business risk assessment reports and their consistency with the anti-money laundering programme, in addition to mechanisms for reporting suspicious transactions, the practical challenges associated with them, and the role of independent auditing in monitoring shortcomings and enhancing the effectiveness of the compliance system.

The courses witnessed remarkable interaction from the participants, reflecting an advanced awareness of the importance of establishing a culture of compliance, building institutional capacities, and enhancing the efficiency of workers in these vital sectors, which contributes to supporting national efforts aimed at protecting the state's economic system from the risks of financial crimes.

MoCI organises these courses as part of its efforts to raise awareness among the entities under its supervision regarding the legal and regulatory requirements related to combating illicit financing crimes, and to improve the efficiency of their internal control systems, in line with best practices and relevant national and international standards.